

### Soccer team wins sectional crown

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood boys soccer team beat Middletown South, 4-1, last week to capture their 12th sectional championship. See the story in Sports, Page C-1.



### Halloween project **at School One**

Students at School One in Scotch Plains recently took part in a service project in which they helped distribute Halloween goodie bags to local welfare organizations. See the picture on



### Gift guide inside

See the special 16-page insert in this week's paper, featuring ads from many local retailers and news about holiday events across the area.

### **Donate turkeys** at Franklin

Volunteers will be on hand from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday to collect frozen turkeys and other Thanksgiving foodstuffs at Westfield's Franklin School on Prospect St. The items collected will be donated to the Community FoodBank of New Jersey.

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# Recurd-Hress

Serving Westfield, Scotch Plains and Fanwood

Friday, November 19, 2004

# Wf. board approves condominium projects

THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD - A twopronged plan that aims to add condominium units to the downtown was approved by the Planning Board Monday night.

Developer Irwin Ackerman, a principal of Westfield A&R Broad Street, intends to convert the upper floors of the PNC Bank building on North Avenue, near the intersection with East Broad Street, into luxury condominium

across Broad Street, Ackerman will construct a three story mixed-use building that includes enclosed parking spaces, retail space and more condomini-

Board members approved both projects unanimously and praised the developer for his willingness to adjust building and parking plans to meet the town's preferences.

Chairman Jay Boyle said the twin projects represented appropriate uses for the downtown sites and added the project was not likely to exacerbate the town's well-documented parking crunch.

"I don't think we're solving it, but I don't think we're creating an additional problem, either," Boyle said at the conclusion of Monday's public hearing.

The 40-foot tall mixed-use building on Broad Street will contain I1 on-site parking spaces, about 950 square feet of ground-floor retail, and eight condominium units. The residential space will be divided evenly between one- and two-bedroom

Currently, a privately owned 18-space parking lot occupies the site slated for construction of the new building. The developer's planner testified that the majority of those parking spaces are likely being used by downtown residents. At the hearing, experts said most cars in the parking lot occupied spaces for three or four hours during the day - and

many remained in the lot overnight illegally. Downtown residents can purchase a \$360 annual permit to park in municipal lots overnight.

The new building will be accessible by a 10-foot wide easement running to the rear of the property from Prospect Street. The parking lot, which will be concealed behind a retractable garage door, will have a right turn-only exit onto Broad Street. By approving the projects, the

(Continued on page A-2)

# Run raises funds for track, field





PHOTOS BY BROOKS CRANDALL/CORRESPONDENT

The Community Fun Run event held Sunday at Kehler Stadium in Westfield gave local kids a chance to show off their speed and also raised more than \$1,400 in cash and pledges for the construction of a new synthetic track and artificial turf field at the facility. Pledges to Friends in Turf and Track new total \$190,000, nearly the pledge goal of \$200,000. Substantial pledges have come from local soccer, lacrosse, track and foetbell organizations, and from the Boosters Club. Above right, kids burst off the starting line. At left, Andrew Hay catches his breath after a race.

# Scotch Plains woman wins \$2M in lottery

By BRAD BISHOP THE RECORD-PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — A pile of ping-pong balls and a cardboard box were the key to two million dollars for a township

Sue Lettera, who lives and works in Scotch Plains, matched all six "Pick Six" numbers to win a \$2 million jackpot last month. The assistant bank manager will now receive a \$57,000

annuity for the next 26 years. "It's a nice boost in income," joked Lettera, who won the Oct. 19 drawing, "It's not enough to change your life or quit your job, but it's enough to make things

Lettera purchased the ticket at Wallis Stationary, which receives a percentage of the ticket. Lettera said the store is eyeballs," Lettera said. now displaying a yellow cardboard check; a store employee said the money and attention "means a lot for our business."

The Cranford native said she had been playing the lettery for about 10 years, and had

jackpot for selling the winning again, and I couldn't believe my crystal ball.

Three weeks prior to purchasing the winning ticket, Lettera filled a cardboard box with numbered ping-pong balls and removed balls bearing the numbers 9, 28, 42, 43, 46, and 48. Those six numbers paid a

"I couldn't believe it — I kept checking the paper again and again, and I couldn't believe my eyeballs."

— Sue Lettera

matched as many as four numbers on several occasions. She didn't find out she'd won the jackpot, however, until the night after the drawing.

"I couldn't believe it - I kept checking the paper again and significant dividend a short

time later. Now, the box and ping-pong balls are displayed at her bank. Lettera said bank employees and customers are free to try their luck with her makeshift

"It's really been like a circus a lot of people have come in and shook my hand for luck, she said. Lettera said winning the lot-

tery probably won't change her life in a significant way. Still,

she said the money would go a long way toward eventually paying for her 3-year-old daughter's college education. "There won't be any new cars,

or new vacations," she said. "I have a small ranch house, and my husband and I want to be able to buy a nicer house... but even that's going to wait for a year or so," she said.

The chances of winning a Pick Six ticket are one in 13,983,816, according the New Jersey Lottery's website.

# Board outlines case for Kehler upgrade

By BRAD DISHOP

THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — The upcoming public referendum over an artificial turf field and new running track at the high school was the focus of a presentation before the Board of Education on Tuesday night.

At the meeting, board member Alice Hunnicut outlined the need for the nearly \$1.4 million plan, which would be paid for by issuing a 10-year bond. If the project is approved by voters on Dec. 14, the referendum would cost the average homeowner \$18

per year. Though board members were unanimous in their support for the undertaking at the meeting. it remains to be seen if voters

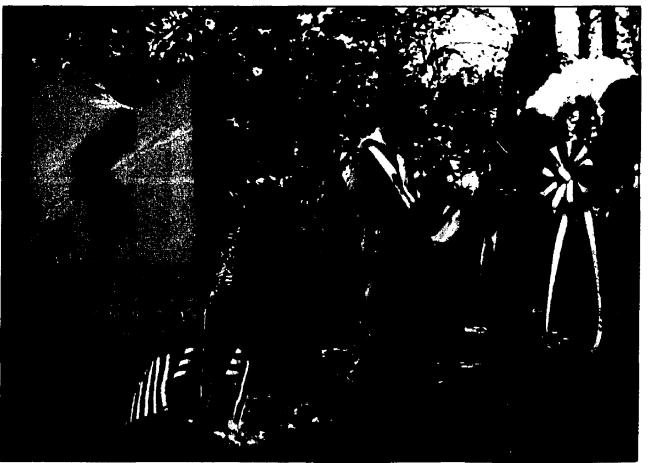
have the appetite for the capital project. The project would be financed at about 4.5 percent interest over the life of the bond, requiring annual debt service pay-

ments of \$177,000, which amounts to less than one cent per \$100 of assessed property value. But taxpayers' obligation may also be limited by the private contributions now being collected (see photo section on this

More than \$1 million of the total cost is expected to be incurred by installation of a new. turf field at Kehler Stadium; Hunnicut said Kehler is currently under-utilized because of the delicate nature of the grass field. A turf field, she said, would

(Continued on page A-2)

# **Westfield dedicates memorial to Korean War vets**



KEN VAN PELT/CORRESPONDENT Eagle Scout Kevin Devaney speaks at the dedication of the Korean War memorial in Westfield.

### By BRAD BISHOP THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — On a grassy hillside a stone's throw from the orange cones and ubiquitous roadside machinery that have overrun the Route 28 traffic circle, North Avenue pedestrians probably didn't notice the steady progress of a deceptively smaller project.

But in the coming years, a newly installed war memorial might become a great source of pride for a community that is already well known for its prominent World War I monument.

On Veterans Day, statewide and international leaders assembled in Westfield to officially unveil a new Korean War memorial and to honor those who have served the nation in uniform.

 The memorial was planned and constructed by Westfield High School senior Kevin Devaney, who undertook the enterprise as his Eagle Scout project. Throughout 2004, Devaney worked with the town government and several local businesses on the memorial, which honors the three Westfield

soldiers who died in the Korean conflict.

Project is fruition of Scout's effort

At the well-attended ceremony, the 17-year-old Devaney thanked the community for supporting his plan to honor veterans of the "forgotten war." He pointed out that six million Americans served in the Korean War, which lasted between 1950 and 1953. He added that 37,000 of those soldiers were killed during the conflict and 150,000 were wounded.

"They never received the same enthusiastic welcome home as the soldiers who fought in World War II." Devaney said at the cer-

The stone monument memorializes three Westfield residents more than 50 years after they were killed in Korea. Speakers described the life and times of Richard R. Wilson, Charles A. Lipphardt, and Griswold M. Hill Jr. during the hour-long ceremo-

Wilson, who lived on Dorian Road, was one of three siblings killed in action. Lipphardt was married and lived on Summit

(Continued on page A-2)

# Wf. board approves condo projects

(Continued from page A-1)

board granted variances for rear yard setback, habitable floor area devoted to residential space and other minor non-conformities.

The PNC Bank building component will convert the second and third floors of the property — which had been zoned as office space into eight condominium units. The developer's professionals argued that the residential use would be less intensive than an office use, thereby easing the parking demand on the central business district.

At a hearing last month, board members were troubled by a parking lot configuration that required variances for narrow and shallow parking spaces. But a revised plan submitted by the developer's engineer removed one driveway aisle from the bank building's parking

This fall, the students of

Maureen Willis' second grade

class at Wilson Elementary

fundraiser to raise money for

the American Red Cross, All

profits from this event were

earmarked for the victims of

the recent Florida hurricanes.

the children became aware of

Kids Care Club. This club inspired the children to create

the school. The fundraiser.

with all profits donated to the

Westfield aided tremendously

carnations sold on the day. At

(908) 232-8855

dren a fair price for the 450

a unique fundraising project for their school; they sold orange carnations during the

lot, allowing for a total of 33 conforming parking spaces.

You've probably done about as good as you can with that site," said board member Bruce Long.

Board members haggled with the developer to reconfigure lighting plans for both projects. They also lobbied the developer to step the new building forward one foot in order to minimize the size of the rear vard variance the project required for approval.

The two projects were heard concurrently because the two sites were connected by a 1975 Planning Board ruling that included spaces from the Broad Street lot as part of the bank building's parking calculations. The board essentially dissolved the planning connection between the two sites, which are both owned by Westfield A&R Broad

Street, LLC.

Approval of the two projects constructed by Ward & O'Donnell

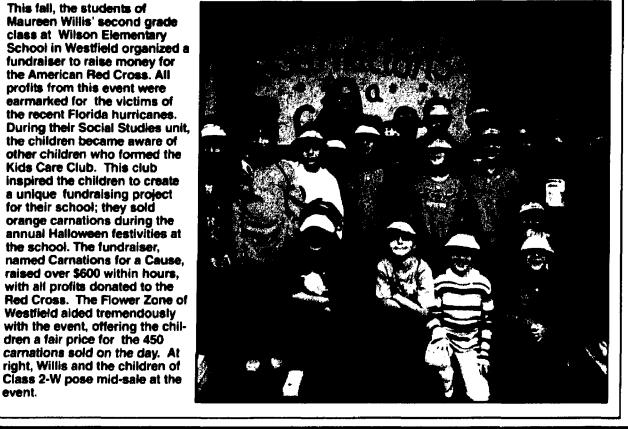
That 35-unit project took

The Town Council is expected

will add 16 condominum units to the downtown. Those units will ultimately complement an adjacent age-restricted condominium project on Prospect Street to be Property Development.

another step forward Monday, when the board endorsed an ordinance and Master Plan amendment creating a conditional use specifically tailored toward the Ward/ O'Donnell proposal.

to introduce the ordinance shortly, perhaps as soon as its next public meeting at the end of the month. Once the measure is adopted, the project will be formally submitted for consideration before one of the town's land use boards.



# Board outlines case for upgrades

(Continued from page A-1)

require little maintenance, be resistant to wet weather conditions, and increase safety for ath-

While the field is a major part of the project, the running track actually drove the timing behind the bond referendum, which the board has been discussing throughout 2004. The 18year old facility is in terrible condition and can no longer be repaired, Hunnicut explained. She portrayed the track as a deteriorated surface that has become a safety hazard.

"It has outlived its useful life," she said. and replacing the track is too large a cost to be included in the annual school budget.

According to the presentation. Westfield's demand for field use is escalating. In 1983, 670 students participated in sports; in 1993, the number rose to 867; currently, 1,226 students use district-owned athletic fields. In 20 years, demand for fields has increased by 83 percent, Hunnicut said.

Officials hope a new synthetic track field will last longer than the previous facility. Business Administrator Bob Berman said inexpensive, routine maintenance should allow the school district to get more mileage out of a new track.

There were things that were not done over the last several years that contributed to the deterioration of the track," Berman said.

The board also outlined a marketing strategy for securing approval of the referendum that includes a letter-writing campaign, presentations before parent groups, and fundraising efforts in conjunction with town-wide athletic

Currently, the district has secured \$190,000 in pledges for the project from local athletic organizations, approaching Superintendent William Foley's goal of reaching \$200,000 to \$250,000 in contributions. Donors may be honored on a plaque that would be installed at one of the sites to recognize their contributions.

The board may also try to partner with the Town Council on its separate turf field projects at Houlihan and Syd Fave fields, located off Lamberts Mill Road. If both projects are concurrently approved and construction on both begins next summer, the board and council may be able to save money by partnering on redundant costs. The town initiative will not be subject to a public referendum.

At the beginning of Tuesday's meeting, a group of high school athletes gave their pitch for the projects to the community. They described some of the field conditions as "embarrassing" and described facilities riddled with potholes, divots, and cumbersome sprinkler heads.

"As the season goes on, (Kehler) field gets torn up and is unsafe," said football player Mark Harbaugh.

We ask the citizens of Westfield to take action to ensure the continued success and growth of the high school track program," said Annie Onishi, a member of the cross country

The polls will be open from 2-9 p.m. Dec. 14. Absentee ballots must be postmarked by Dec. 7: applications for absentee ballots are available at www.westfieldnj.com/lwv/absenteebal.html.

# Korean War memorial dedicated

(Continued from page A-1)

Avenue. And Hill was described as a "fine young man" who was engaged to be married at the time of his death.

Many of the materials and design plans for the memorial were provided by local residents and professionals. A granite staircase and the base for the monument come courtesy of Weldon Concrete. The physical design was drawn by resident

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and ice Meiters.

Tim Doerr, and much of the logistical and design work was provided by resident Craig Stock.

Several benches surround the memorial, which includes plants native to the Korean peninsula. At a podium inside the memorial, speakers shared their sentiments about the faraway Cold War-era conflict as a brisk wind carried the last remaining leaves down the once-barren hillside.

"I would ask each person pres-

ent not to forget the many sacrifices made on the battlefield of Korea so that the American way of life could be preserved," said Richard Alexander of the Union County Korean War Veterans' Association.

Alexander described the war as a harrowing conflict that was often fought in subzero temperatures. More than 50 percent of American prisoners of war died in captivity, and more than 20,000 atrocities were reported but never documented, he said. During a two-week period in

1950, Alexander said more than 6,000 American soldiers were killed attempting to repel a massive Chinese offensive.

"I saw mankind at its lowest state," he said.

Assemblyman John Bramnick (R-21) presented Devaney with a certificate of recognition from both houses of state government. He was joined at the podium by Sen. Tom Kean Jr. (R-21); the two legislators were flanked by a representative from the Korean Consulate General, members of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the Westfield Town Council and numerous municipal officials.

"I want to thank Kevin for the tireless effort he put into the project," said Mayor Greg McDermott. "It's very important that all veterans know they will not be forgotten."



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# **Approvals** are sought to build new homes

By BRAD BISHOP

THE RECORD-PRESS

Planning Boards in Scotch Plains and Fanwood will examine several large-scale residential building projects at public meetings next week.

On Cushing Road in Scotch developer Joseph Buontempo has applied to subdivide four large lots into seven new building lots. Two existing houses would be demolished, two houses would remain, and five new single family homes would be constructed if the board approves the plan, which will be heard Monday night.

The subdivision conforms to the township's land use ordinance, so no variances are acquired to secure approval. The developer would provide access to the tract of land by building a 400-foot long cul-de-sac into the property off Cushing Road.

The five newly constructed homes would stand at about twoand-a-half stories tall and would be built on lots ranging in size between 40,000 square feet and 72,000 square feet.

Much of the nearly eight acres of land now consists of forest and rolling topography, according to materials submitted as part of the application. Several areas of wetlands have been identified on the property.

Water runoff from the new development would be channeled into a swale across the street, flowing onto property that is within the border of Plainfield. The project is not expected to cause drainage problems, according to attorney Robert Kraus.

"The stormwater management plan is designed to reduce flow off the site," Kraus said. "It runs into a ditch in Plainfield, and our calculations actually show a decrease in runoff."

A memorandum submitted by Police Chief Mark Zyla says the proposal must include a traffic plan for the excavation and construction phase of the project. The memo notes that Cushing Road is narrow and also points out large construction vehicles could create safety hazards.

In Fanwood, the Planning Board will evaluate a major subdivision proposal at 7 Beverly Avenue and 33 Ginder Place. Two existing lots would be subdivided into a total of six building lots if the board approves the plan,

According to an application filed by developer Woodcliff, Inc., the surrounding area is dominated by single-family residences. The project site is partially forested and does not include wetlands.

The new development would be accessible by a newly constructed extension off Beverly Place.

Also on Tuesday, the Fanwood board will consider two minor subdivisions. On First Street, owner Stephen Guggenheim proposes to subdivide one lot into two new building lots. The project requires bulk and setback variances to

secure approval. And at Woodruff Place, Churchill Asset Management proposes to subdivide one lot into two new single-family residential lots. The subdivision requires a variance for lot width to gain the goahead from the borough's

Planning Board.
The Scotch Plains meeting will be held at the municipal building at 8:00 p.m. Monday. In Fanwood, the board hearings will be held at Borough Hall and will begin at 7:30 pm. Tuesday.



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# An extremely good day for teens in Westfield



PHOTOS BY KEN BUNIEWSKI/CORRESPONDENT

Extreme sports enthusiasts brought a blend of punk rock, wallet chains, baggy jeans and musical and skating skills to Westfield Sunday, as the Westfield Area YMCA sponsored the sixth annual TeenXtreme event at Gumbert Park. The day featured live music and skateboarding, BMX, and rollerblading talent. Above, the Diehards bring the noise; at right, a skateboarder takes flight with the help



# A search for historical treasure at the Frazee House

By BRAD BISHOP

THE RECORD PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS - Advocates for the restoration of the Frazee House are hoping that 18th-century trash will become the 21st century's treasure.

According to Richard Bousquet, president of the Historical Society of Scotch Plains and Fanwood, a group of archaeological experts will be examining the area around the historic property in the near

Portions of the Frazee House date back to 1668. The property has long been the subject of Revolutionary War lore; legends hold that the house's owner Betty Frazee encountered General Lord Cornwallis as his army marched toward the Battle of Short Hills in 1777.

When Cornwallis sought a loaf of bread from "Aunt" Betty, she reputedly assented to the request "out of fear, not out of love."

The purpose of the excavation is to unearth historical artifacts that may be present in the immediate vicinity of the

anything ranging from discarded buttons the Miller-Cory House in Westfield or the and shoe buckles to tools actively used by the Frazee family, which occupied the house during the eighteenth century.

Part of the challenge is knowing where to look. Bousquet said heavily traveled sections of the property are likely to yield artifacts, as are former privy pits, garbage areas, and composting sites.

If the archaeological dig results in the discovery of artifacts, they will be professionally cleaned and temporarily stored at the Osborne Cannonball House, the township's museum. If the Frazee House is ultimately renovated, as the Historical Society hopes, artifacts rescued from the site will likely be put on display at the

"Ideally we'll be able to show the areas where things were found," Bousquet said. "Sometimes that is indicative of their use... (former owner) Gershon Frazee was a master carpenter, so it's very likely that we could find some of his tools."

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club is attempting to restore the house site, Bousquet said. The sweep could yield and convert it into a museum similar to

Drake House in Plainfield. They have embarked on a fundraising drive to restore the Frazee House, which is in extremely poor condition. Repairs will carry a cost that has been estimated to run into the hundreds of thousands of dol-

Bousquet said any meaningful discoveries yielded in the archaeological digwould be helpful in assisting the fundrais-

These kinds of findings spark the public's interest, and ideally that sparks their pocketbooks, too," he said.

Dan Sivilich, an engineer and archaeologist, will be conducting the search in the coming months. He heads Battlefield Restoration and Archaeological Volunteer Organization (BRAVO), a group that has done extensive research throughout the

BRAVO has done excavations at the Monmouth Battlefield State Park, the Buckaloo Mansion in New Brunswick, and the Miller-Cory House in Westfield. At Miller-Cory, Sivilich said the group

unearthed shoe buckles, period coins, and buttons with high-tech remote electronic equipment.

The group will analyze aerial photographs to assess the area around the Frazee House, and will also consult old maps of the property. Sivilich said the older the maps they can find, the easier it will be to determine the most likely places where artifacts can be found.

"We try to locate pieces on the properties and measure what we find accurately," Sivilich said. "Unless you relate it to where you found it, it's just another artifact," he said.

About 15 to 20 BRAVO volunteers will participate in the Scotch Plains project. When they have finished the excavation and cleaning of any artifacts they find, the group will issue a report evaluating the history of the site.

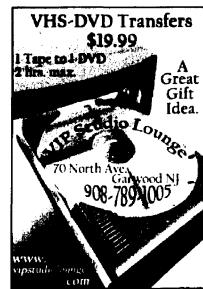
BRAVO will be featured in an upcoming episode of Battlefield Detectives, which airs on the History Channel. The episode, which will discuss the Battle of Monmouth, will air at 9 p.m. Friday, Nov.

# Donors can drop off which will be heard Tuesday night. According to an application turkeys for the needy

WESTFIELD — It's a tradition most American families take for granted — a big turkey with trimmings the Thanksgiving Day. But not all families have the means to put such a feast on their holiday

That's why local volunteers are helping the Community FoodBank of New Jersey collect donated frozen turkeys. To help, drop off a frozen (never thawed) turkey at Franklin School, 700 Prospect St, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Volunteers will collect turkeys, as well as non-perishable foods including canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, gravy, and fruit juices (Donations should not be enclosed in glass or

The FoodBank hopes to collect 15,000 frozen turkeys to help ensure that the less fortunate -



Free consultation

including the elderly, military veterans, and working poor families — in the state's communities can celebrate Thanksgiving this

Those who prefer to make a financial donation, allowing the food bank to buy turkeys at wholesale prices, may send a check to the Community FoodBank of New Jersey, 31 Evans Terminal Road, Hillside, N.J. 07205. Donors should write "turkey drive" in the memo portion of the check.



in the Tree Business



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# Commentary

# **Educate all** Westfield's students

An observer at the Westfield Board of Education's recent discussion about the achievement gap between African-American students and the rest of the school population had good reason to be both discouraged and encouraged: discouraged that administrators had to admit they don't yet have enough information to fully address this longstanding problem, but encouraged that the district is now taking a methodical, analytical, targeted approach to the issue.

During the discussion, several members of the board pointed out that the small black population in the district makes worthwhile statistical analysis more challenging, and that black students in the district do better than black students statewide. These are both true statements, but they're less significant than one might think.

When a consistent, measurable discrepancy between the scores of black students and the total population exists in both math and English statewide assessments at the elementary, middle and high school levels, we can have confidence that there is a gap in achieve-

And Westfield students will always outperform the state average; that's why the district is one of the best-regarded in the state. The issue isn't whether black students are meeting state standards, it's whether they're meeting Westfield standards — and they're not. In fact, the gap between black students and the total population in Westfield is essentially the same as the gap statewide. By that measure, the district is doing no better than average in educating its black

Test scores aren't the only indicator of a racial achievement gap. In a district that sends more than 90 percent of its graduates on to higher education, only 10 of 19 African-American seniors in 2004 took the SAT. And in Westfield, as elsewhere around the nation, black students are much more likely to be classified for special education instruction (The relationship between higher levels of classification and low test scores, and which way the arrow of causality points, deserves serious

It hardly needs to be said that this is unacceptable. The federal No Child Left Behind law deserves much of the criticism it has received, but it was right to inscribe the principle that school districts have a responsibility to educate each of their students. Bolstering the performance of black students will have other benefits, too — one of the best ways to counteract our society's persistent racism is to demonstrate to all our children that their peers, regardless of race, class, or any other category, are expected to excel in school.

To their credit, the school board and administrators have acknowledged the problem, and have made addressing it a priority if only after federal legislation forced the issue. Steps have been taken to bolster programs that affect low-performing students. And while it's disheartening that the district does not have more data about the performance of its black population -- it shouldn't have taken NCLB to make clear there is a performance gap — it is admirable of school officials to admit they need to know much more about their students in order to craft an effective plan. Westfield's black population is not a mirror of America's black population, and any solutions should be tailored to local circumstances. That will take detailed, longitudinal data, and it

We'll leave it to the experts at the schools to come up with pedagogical strategies for the classroom. But any successful strategy will necessarily go beyond the classroom and reach out to the community. During the board's discussion, it became clear that, for whatever reason, there is not a natural overlap between the "school community" and the "black community" within Westfield. That is, the informal networks that bind school leaders and staffers to other parents don't seem to exist in this case; more formal means of communication have also proven lacking. Both Superintendent William Foley and the black parents in attendance at the meeting — who, we can infer by their presence at a school board meeting at 10 p.m. on a Tuesday night, are more active than most --- talked about the failure in communication between schools and black parents.

The connection between parental involvement, and parental knowledge about what's going on in the classroom, and student achievement is well-established. As district officials review their teaching strategies, they should also reach out to institutions in Westfield's black community, working to build relationships, encourage feedback, and learn more about their students. And it will be up to parents and community leaders to make sure this outreach is recip-

The schools, and the students, have a challenging task ahead of them. But with true commitment, and the resources Westfield can bring to bear, it's one they should overcome.

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Call Editor Gregory Marx at (732) 396-4219 with story

suggestions, questions or comments. For sports, call Chad Hemenway at (732) 396-4202.

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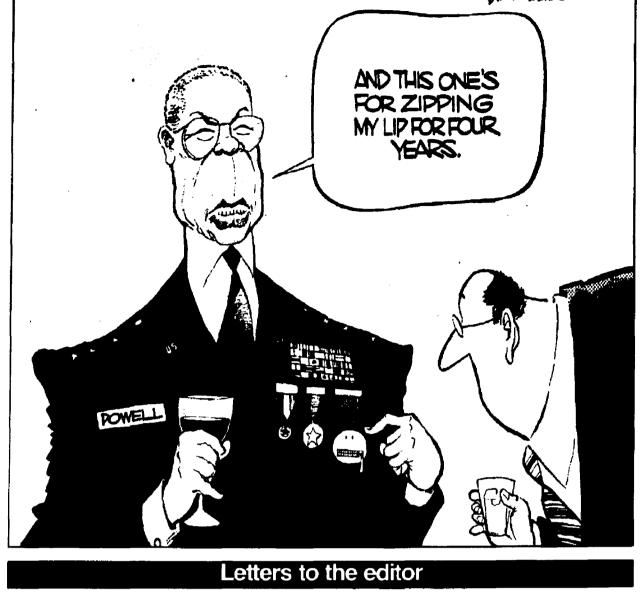
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# An update on activity in the schools

To The Record-Press:

Nov. 14-20 marks the 83rd annual observance of American Education Week. This year's theme, "Celebrating the American Dream," reflects our commitment to all students.

Education is central to the pursuit of many goals and aspirations. We encourage these pursuits in Westfield and congratulate our students on attaining so many of their goals.

A total of 94 percent of last year's graduates are continuing their higher education. Our high school guidance department has expanded the college research process for students and parents with a new software program that provides an overview of actual college admission statistics for Westfield's graduates. The first-ever Sophomore Parents Night was held last month, and this week, more than 200 colleges and universities will be represented at the high school's annual College Night. Continuing to improve guidance services is one of many important goals in the district's new strategic plan.

In Westfield, we continue to train our teachers in so that every child's bring more classified special education students, 21st century. who are currently in out-of-district programs, back into the district. We are also addressing the

achievement gap within the district's classified and African-American student populations. Our gifted and talented program has been restructured to provide needed services for those students identified as profoundly gifted. And, we're working hard to adhere to our five-year curriculum review cycle, to ensure that every course meets both state and Westfield standards.

Our efforts to improve learning are further strengthened through the district's new 2004-2007 Technology Plan. The plan expands the use of technology within the curriculum, provides resources and training to teachers, and improves communication with students, parents and the community. We are excited about the new district web site that is under development along with expanded plans for use of Channel 36.

Earlier this year, the district approved a new strategic plan for 2004-2008, which was developed with the participation of community members, teachers, students, administrators and board members. Through the support and energy of this partdistrict is tne potential can be reached. We are exploring ways to Westfield's children to meet the challenges of the

**ANNE RIEGEL** President, Westfield Board of Education

# Work harder to find school savings

Recently there have been articles about the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education expressing displeasure with state bill S-1701. This bill acts, to some degree, to protect the taxpayers from some of the funding increases that the school board finds that they need year after year.

The school board has indicated that this will be a loss of \$250,000 out of a budget of \$63.5 million. This results in a loss of 0.4 percent from the budget. This leaves one with the impression of the board generating fear. It was further mentioned that this will amount to about \$20 per taxpayer and implied, was it worth it? The board has indicated this resulted in limiting the free balance from 3 percent to 2½ percent or the Consumer Price Index, whichever is greater. One has to keep in mind that tax levy increases for the last four years of 7.45 percent, 8.68 percent, 8.28 percent and 8.01 percent were granted to the schools.

From my perspective, I would like to save \$20, since many of us are unable to afford things like vacations, dinner out, etc. as a result of the board's neverending need for our money. At least the \$20 would allow me to buy a pizza!

It seems to me that this budget restriction is well timed and can be used as a negotiation topic with the education association in December. This of course assumes that the people representing us in the negotiations want to protect our interests. In looking at the Mission Statement for the school board, there are no references to taxes and/or costs — makes one wonder if we have the "wolf guarding the chicken coop"? In fact, during the October 25, 2004 PTA meeting on this bill it was stated that the major expenses of the school system consisted of salaries and benefits. This is to be expected. In addition, several options were presented to cut costs, but none touched these two items. This is remarkable with the contract negotiations taking place in the near future.

As another option, considering that the school district's web site is updated daily, perhaps they could post the detailed budget for taxpayers' and parents' information. Along with the existing budget, the draft budget for next year could also be posted. This being the case, the public can assist in and easily participate in the budget practice and perhaps identify additional areas to pair down some costs.

Perhaps Mayor Marks, with his re-election and professed concern about taxes in our municipality, could you take the lead in this openness to the pub-

It was mentioned that this bill overrules the will of the tax payers. This is true, the vote for the budget was 1,576 and against 1,153. This is a majority of those that voted, but is small in comparison to the approximately 20,000 local residents. This is a result of the vote taking place in April, in lieu of November.

**AL MULLER** Scotch Plains

The statements above are personal observations and in no way reflect the views of any other individ-

# Pass on good cheer this holiday season

To The Record-Press:

Why can't we all try to make someone else's day a bit brighter during this hectic holiday season? I am currently selling my home by myself and caring for four small children. My day is always full with unexpected surprises and consistent lateness, and absolutely nothing is ever planned. My family and I have stopped "living" in our home. The home is just a house now, and everything must be put away

We have given bags and bags to the Westfield Thrift Shop to minimize our lifestyle. This gesture has taught us a great lesson on helping others in need. The treasured items are nuisances now, and the minute someone wants to see the house, I pile the "I don't have a home stuff" into my truck in the driveway — please don't look under any of the comforters. When the phone rings, the children are silenced and I put on the gracious "phone voice," never knowing when the next buyer will ring. My weekend was filled with phone calls and visitors as

well as soccer games for two of my children. From the curious observers to the "not sure if we are moving or adding on" ones, everyone has their motives.

When it all calmed down by midweek, I received a beautiful card from one of the weekend onlookers. Her daughter lives on a busy street and she would love to see them move to my quiet street. She could tell there was good karma in my home. She also filled her note with kind words about my family,

This lovely woman made me feel so special and cared for with just a few kind words. We may have all offered to write a letter to someone thanking them but how many have we really written? Let's "pass it on." Today, go out of you way to really thank someone. Imagine if all our local citizens wrote letters or made phone calls in appreciation of someone's hard work — our quality of life would surely perk up. Please share your kindness this holiday season, and it will come back to you.

MAUREEN B. O'CONNOR Westfield

# Jersey Boy Mike Deak Great moments in fashion

About a year ago I wrote a column about the 10 stupidest things I have done in my life. On the list was the time when I spent \$72 for a pair of jeans almost 20 years ago. The money came from the first and only time I hit four numbers in the Pick-6 lottery and the pair of jeans already had multi-colored paint splattered on them. They were from France.

history

So it was not unusual that the other night I was tempted to add something to the stupid list. I was cruising the second floor of the Bridgewater Commons when I passed Abercombie & Fitch and saw something that stirred the muck and mire of nostalgia. For \$79.50, you can buy a pair of jeans at Abercombie & Fitch that already has holes. Fortunately, I had received my auto insurance bill the day before so the temptation to buy a pair just for entertainment purposes vanished as quickly as a bad dream.

The label on the jeans, which looked like they had been beaten by outsourced apes on rocks in a Kenyan stream, contained the most audacious marketing hooey I've ever read: "Inconsistently scarred to preserve true vintage nature." I have to remember that phrase the next time anybody rudely notices any one of my acne scars, the medals of those losing adolescent wars against the hormones of mass destruction. This is the same store that features an amusing, yet disturbing oxymoron - "casual luxury" — to accompany the traditional homo-erotic pictures in its Christmas ad cam-

Another label on the jeans was equally linguistically ingenious -"inconsistent destruction on every pair." If I were ever to start a band of punk geezers, its name would be "Inconsistent Destruction." It's a great phrase applicable to many situations, including my romantic assignations since the last time I bought what I thought were sexy

But a check of the Abercombie & Fitch website discovered the pair of Saranac jeans in the store was only the tip of this holey iceberg. For \$148, you can buy a pair of Ezra Fitch jeans made out of "Japanese salvage denim" with "handcrafted destruction details." ("Handcrafted Destruction" is a good name for a band, too.) a good Unfortunately, the largest size is 34 by 34, which means I have to practice holding my breath for hours, and they come with a button fly; a man my age needs the speed and ease of a zipper.

However, for a relatively reasonable \$59.50, you can get a pair of jeans with "inconsistent wear and tear" while for \$69.50, you can buy a pair with "blown-out" knees with "oil and bleach stains."

My first instinct was to check to see if these icans were in the dictionary next to the word "deca-These jeans are probably part of the uniform of our national Hell in the Handbasket flight

My second instinct was to check my closet to see if I could place any of my old jeans on eBay or go to Wal-Mart, K-Mart or Kohl's, buy a \$20 pair, desecrate them myself with a pair of scissors, a bottle of Clorox and a pint of Quaker State 10-40, then sell them on eBay, size 36-32.

It's always been a source of amusement how much money people will spend to achieve the illusion of being poor. I keep on thinking about Versailles, where Marie Antoinette had a peasants' village constructed so the elite nobility could vicariously experience the life of the masses. I don't know what good it did; it didn't stop the Revolution. And I really don't see the point of spending \$148 for "handcrafted destruction," unless of course it's a radical and ironic comment on the growing division between the rich and poor in this

But that's hoping for too much.

### SHOULD NEW JERSEY RAISE GAS TAXES TO CURB CONSUMPTION AND FUND TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS?



**JOHN SHEEHAN** Cranford

The already steep prices of gas. I'm not very happy about it, but I. The cost of gas is too high right people — I'm not opposed to (all) taxes, but I would have to see some pretty hard and fast reasons to support a gas tax.



**JAMES STIVALE** Cranford

are getting out of hand for most don't know if another 10 or 15 cents would matter that much.



**SUSAN PETERSON** Cranford

now...We do need more types of public transportation other than people always using cars. But because of where people work, there's often no other way to get to their jobs.



**ROBERT SPRINGSTEAD** Cranford

If there were a new fuel tax with prices as high as they are now, I think a lot of people would be against it.



JIM SURGENT Westfield

feel like we're being taxed like crazy already.



**ERIKA MCLAUGHLIN** works in Westfield

I'm opposed to a gas tax — I just I think it is a good idea — gas prices are out of hand, but I would support it if the money was used to improve mass transit.

Students at Mt. St. Mary's Academy in Watchung recently sorted and packed

toiletries and games for troops in the Persian Gulf. Yvonne Salavarrietta Zirrith, class of 1990, contacted the

school and requested holiday decorations for her unit of 160 stationed overseas. The Senior Service Leadership

Team and their moderators decided to

make two shipments to Yvonne and her

colleagues. Toiletries and games donat-

ed by the students, staff and faculty will be shipped along with Thanksgiving notes and cards written by students; the Christmas shipment will include small

Christmas trees, lights, electrical

Skutnik, one of the moderators,

adapters, homemade ornaments, and

'Compassion and service are values we

our troops. We hope to soften the impact of their spending the holidays so

far from home." Shown at left are Kayla

Lissette Casas, Dana Cranden, and Mary

Flynn, Mary Jo Skutnik of Fanwood,

teach and live. Yvonne reached out to us and we are happy to support her and

cards and more notes. Said Mary Jo

### Letters to the editor

# Give thanks this season by giving to United Way

To The Record-Press:

Thanksgiving is a distinctively American holiday, set aside for giving thanks for the blessings of health, food, shelter, family, friends and community. During the Thanksgiving season, many Westfielders, who recognize how much they have to be grateful for, say "thank you" by giving to the United Way of Westfield, which helps maintain the quality of life for all in our community.

We are grateful to all who have generously responded to the 2004 United Way campaign, and we urge all who have not yet sent in a pledge card to do so now, as a sign of "thanks-giving." By sharing their blessings, Westfielders can extend the spirit of Thanksgiving throughout the coming year.

A past edition of the "Friendly Place," a newsletter for Westfield Community Center Senior Citizens (one of the 20 member agencies supported by our United Way), contained the following inspirational message, titled "Be-Thankful," which we would like

to share again this year: "Even though I clutch my alarm rings each morning, thank you, Lord, that I can hear. There are those who are

We would like to take this

opportunity to thank all of our

supporters and volunteers for the

help, encouragement and hard

work they gave us throughout

living rooms to us, made phone

calls, sent postcards or did other

things that resulted in a strong

vote count, we won in other ways,

including bringing in many new

Many of you opened up your

To The Record-Press:

the campaign.

Even though I keep my eyes tightly closed against the morning light as long as possible, thank you, Lord, that I can see. There are many who are blind.

Even though I huddle in my bed and put off the effort of rising, thank you, Lord, that I have the strength to rise. There are many who are bed-ridden.

Even though the first hour of my day is hectic, when socks are lost, toast is burned, tempers are short, thank you, Lord, for my family. There are many who are lonely.

Even though our breakfast table never looks like the pictures in the magazines, and the menu is at times unbalanced, thank you, Lord, for the food we have. There are many who are

Even though the routine of my job is often monotonous, thank you, Lord, for the opportunity to work. There are many who have no job.

Even though I grumble and bemoan my fate from day to day, and wish my circumstances were not so modest, thank you, Lord, for the gift of life."

On behalf of all of us at the United Way of Westfield, let me blanket and growl when the wish everyone a most happy Thanksgiving season.

CAROLYN FLEDER President, Board of Trustees United Way of Westfield

supporters who were involved in

pouring of support and encourage

all of you to remain involved in

We are humbled by the out-

Thank you and enjoy the holi-

The authors, both Democrats,

Council in the November elec-

**BARBARA BALDASARRE** 

**ANDY BARON** 

**Scotch Plains** 

a campaign for the first time.

the community.

Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi has filed a letter of complaint with the U.S. Postal Service calling for an investigation into why more than 40 Union County voters did not receive their absentee ballots for the Nov. 2 presidential election.

Rajoppi called the poor postal service "an appalling, inexcusable state of affairs."

The absentee ballots were sent from the clerk's office anywhere from 28 to 17 days prior to the Nov. 2 election. Many were sent to addresses within the state of New

"It's intolerable that any voter who requests an absentee ballot cannot vote because the Postal Service fails to deliver their ballot in a timely fashion," Rajoppi said.

In all, 45 voters in Union County reported they never received their absentee ballots either through regular mail or express mail.

One voter, who is attending school out of state, requested a ballot on Sept. 10, the clerk said. Once the ballots were printed one was mailed to her on Oct. 4. She never

received it. After the voter contacted the clerk's office, a second ballot was express mailed to her on Oct. 28. She never received that ballot either, Rajoppi said. As of last Friday, the voter had yet to receive either ballot.

"The Postal Service must demonstrate a reliable and accountable commitment to the electoral process if absentee voting is to work," Rajoppi said.

## **County news**

This is the second complaint the clerk has lodged with postal authorities in 2004. In the primary election held in June, the Postal Service failed to deliver ballots by Global Express mail within the three to five business days it guarantees, Rajoppi said. In that election, American citizens in Switzerland, Greece and Sweden were unable to vote.

### **Nominations sought** for women's awards

Nominations are now available for the 13th annual "Women of Excellence" awards program sponsored by the Union County Commission on the Status of Women.

The commission seeks outstanding women nominees from Union County who have distinguished themselves in one or more of the following categories: arts and humanities; business/entrepreneur; community service; education; government; law; law enforcement: medicine/health care; and women's advocacy. The commission will accept nominations until Jan. 5, 2005.

The women selected from the nominees will be honored at The Westwood, 438 North Ave. in Garwood at 7 p.m. Friday, March

For an official nomination norm,

### County clerk files complaint with Postal Service call Sean Faughnan at (908) 527-6:30-8:45 p.m. Nov. 30 in the 4107 or go to www.uenj.org to

Once the form is completed, it should be mailed to Mrs. Joan Abitante, 322 Dietz Street, Roselle,

download the form electronically.

Due to the strong interest in this annual event, the Union County Commission on the Status of Women is encouraging all nominations to be submitted as soon as possible. For additional information, call Abitante at (908) 241-

### Oral history workshop upcoming at UCC

Howard L. Green, research director of the New Jersey Historical Commission and former Association, will present "Setting Up An Oral History Project: A Beginner's Workshop," sponsored by the Union County Board of Freeholders

The workshop will take place

Executive Education Center at Union County College, Cranford.

Green, author and editor of numerous books including Words that Make New Jersey History, will explore the areas of planning an oral history project: educational training for staff, board members and community volunteers; selecting the interviewees; developing questions for the interview; preparing and creating transcripts and archives of tapes; special problems including legal and archival issues; and developing oral history products such as pamphlets, books and media productions. He will also discuss project funding oppor-

The deadline for registration is Nov. 19. The registration fee is \$5. To register or to request a workshop brochure, contact the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs at 633 Pearl St., Elizabeth, NJ 07202, by telephone at (908) 558-2550, or via e-mail at culturalinfo@ucnj.org.

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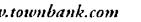


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# Candidates say 'thanks'

Though we did not win the ran for mayor and Township

Dems thank supporters

To The Record-Press:

showing at the polls.

for Union County Freeholder would like to thank the voters who recognized the problems with county government and went out and supported us in trying to change the system for the better.

We may not have had enough The Republican candidate team time to educate all the voters during our campaign, but we tried. Thanks for your vote.

BRUCE PATERSON. JOE RENNA, PAT QUATTROCCHI and FRANK ARENA

## Attend Tonight!

## THE BIGGEST MISTAKES **WOMEN INVESTORS MAKE** AND HOW TO IDENTIFY THEM

THE FINANCIAL SEMINAR FOR **SERIOUS WOMEN INVESTORS** 

Hosted By:

Stewart A. Ritter

Senior Vice President-Investments

When:

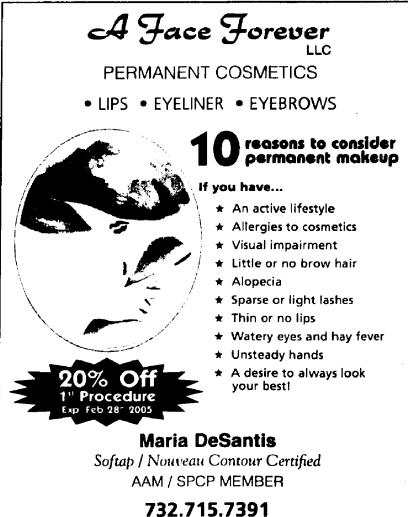
Where:

Wednesday, November 17, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.

The Westwood 438 North Avenue Garwood, NJ 07027

Admission is free, but space is limited. For tickets, please call Rosie DeSimone at (908) 789-7827 or (800) 265-5736

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# Guidance department to launch website Obituaries

By BRAD BISHOP

THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD -- The high school guidance department reviewed its procedures and vision before the Board of Education Tuesday night. Included in the presentation was a preview of the department's website, which will link students to valuable information and serv-

The guidance department continues to function without a supervisor following the resignation of Cas Jakubik. Superintendent William Foley said attempts to fill the position have been unsuccessful so far, but the department will be testing the marketplace again this spring.

Earlier this year, the department was the subject of two independent reports, which found that the department is solid overall

but needs to upgrade its college selection and application process, particularly for 10th grade students. Other findings indicated the district should build a stronger relationship with elite colleges and universities.

To that end, the guidance department's new website which should be online early next year - will include a treasure trove of information to assist students as they prepare for college. The site will provide news, a calendar of events and downloadable forms, and will increase access to staff and link users to Family Connection, a career and college planning program.

Among other functions, Family Connection compares student indicators like GPA and SAT results with past applicants to any given college, giving students and parents a realistic assessment of a student's chances of

"This gives us a base to compare with our students who are now applying," said guidance counselor Paul Smith.

Counselor Noah Tenet, who led the presentation, said upcoming visits by representatives of different colleges will be readily available on the new website.

"Many students make their ultimate connections with schools during these visits... We try to have a wide assortment of schools because we want students to find the one that fits them best," Tenet

The department has established goals of improving communication with students through TV-36, computer-based information and increased personnel training. Another focus area is improving access with students; each guidance counselor is responsible for 220 students.

In response to another of the internal report's criticisms, the department is developing clearer policies and procedures. A manual is under development to make all personnel aware of the department's overall vision.

"It will bring uniformity to our practices without stifling the diversity of approaches that make our department so strong," Tenet

Board members praised the department for implementing improvements in a short time. But they also said expressed concerns over scheduling conflicts that required some students to drop elective classes they wanted to

Tenet said the department wants to schedule more elective classes during the first and ninth periods of the day, so students can schedule core academic classes between those periods.

## Joseph Mangan

SCOTCH PLAINS — Joseph F. Mangan, 61, died Nov. 4, 2004 at Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston.

He was born in New York state and lived in Jersey City before moving to Scotch Plains in 1983.

Mr. Mangan was a managing editor of The Insurance Advocate, a weekly trade publication for the insurance field, and a consultant on underwriting operations. He wrote a number of textbooks on underwriting commercial property and casualty insurance.

He also worked for the A.M. Best Co. in Oldwick, the Greater New York Insurance Companies, Chase Communications Inc. and the College of Insurance at St. John's University. Mr. Mangan received a bachelor's degree in business administration from St. John's in 1974; he earned a master's degree in economics from New York University and took doctorate

courses at NYU. A member of the New York Chapter, Charter Property Underwriters, Mr. Mangan was a lecturer at the Rutgers Graduate School of Management on the New Brunswick campus of Rutgers University. He was selected for the 1992-93 edition of "Who's Who in Finance and Industry."

As well he was an emergency medical technician with Monoc in Wall and with the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad. He was an Army veteran of the Vietnam War and spent time in the Army Reserve.

Surviving are his wife, R. Elizabeth Donaldson Mangan; a son, David Webb-Mangan; a sister, Monica M. Wheaton; two brothers, Charles V. and Thomas J.; 17 nieces and nephews; and 13 great-nieces and great-nephews.
A funeral Mass was held Friday

at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church, following services at the Rossi Funeral Home. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery.

I. Bahr Spence, with whom Mr.

Spence celebrated their 60th wed-

ding anniversary in May; a son, Jeffrey of Sparks, Nev.; four daughters, Nancy G.S. Breon of

Bethlehem, Pa., Janet DeVeau of

Burlington, Mass., Kim Honig of

White Plains, N.Y., and Susan Garcia of Richmond Hill, Queens;

### Sydney P. Spence

SCOTCH PLAINS — Sydney P. Spence, 82, died Nov. 11, 2004 at the Old Orchard Health Care Center in Palmer Township, Pa.

Born Dec. 30, 1921 in Yonkers, N.Y., he was a son of the late Payton W. and Jocelyn Stebbins

Mr. Spence had lived for many years in Scotch Plains and was a retired chemical engineer with Union Carbide Corp. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Rochester.

A past president of the Westfield Art Association, Mr. Spence was with the Navy in the Pacific during World War II. Surviving are his wife, Gladys

a sister, Anne O'Connor of Hellertown, Pa.; and 10 grandchildren. Private arrangements were by the Connell Funeral Home in Bethlehem, Pa. Donations may be sent to Alzheimer's Association, 617A Main St., Hellertown, PA 18055 or the First United Methodist Church of Westfield.

# Ralph J. Wojtech

WESTFIELD — Ralph J. Wojtech, 70, died Nov. 14, 2004 at the Veterans Affairs New Jersey Healthcare System, East Orange

He lived in his native Berkeley Heights and in Plainfield before moving to North Plainfield in

Mr. Wojtech retired after 45 years as a barber at the Towne Barber Shop in Westfield. He was in the Navy during the 1950s and a member of American Legion Post

209 in Scotch Plains. Surviving are his wife,

Elizabeth Aug Wojtech; two sons, Ralph W. of Bedminster and William T. and wife Lori of Green Brook; two sisters, Natalie Blazek of Conestoga, Pa., and Marilyn Ford of Whiting; and three grandchildren.

Services were held yesterday at the Memorial Funeral Home in Fanwood. Burial was in Graceland Memorial Park, Kenilworth.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to ADARF Amaranth Diabetes Fund, 1701 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria, VA 22311 or a charity of your choice.

## Samuel Ciardi Jr.

SCOTCH PLAINS - Samuel Joyce Twaskas; a son, Danny; a Ciardi Jr., 63, died Nov. 11, 2004 at Overlook Hospital in Summit. Born in Newark, he lived in Bloomfield and Toms River before moving to Scotch Plains in

Mr. Ciardi was a contractor in Newark, Bloomfield and Toms River, self-employed. He was in the Army from 1957-59 and more recently a school crossing guard in Scotch Plains.

Surviving are his fiancée,

daughter, Dana Pirrella; two stepsons, James Twaskas and Jeffrey Twaskas; two brothers. Pasquale and Vincent; seven grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass was held Monday at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, Bloomfield, following services at the La Monica Memorial Home in Bloomfield. Burial was in Glendale Cemetery, Bloomfield.

### Walter Butenas

WESTFIELD — Walter L. Butenas, 95, died Nov. 13, 2004 at Genesis ElderCare-Westfield Center.

Born in Maspeth, Queens, he was a son of the late Michael and Elizabeth Butenas.

Mr. Butenas lived in Elizabeth and Union before mov-

ing to Westfield in 2002. He Home in Linden.

retired after 30 years as a phar-A brother, Dr. Joseph, is deceased.

Graveside services were held Tuesday at St. Gertrude Cemetery Colonia; in Arrangements were by the Krowicki McCracken Funeral

### **Fay Tessitore**

Fay WESTFIELD Tessitore, 90, died Nov. 9, 2004 at her home.

Mrs. Tessitore was born in Brooklyn and lived in Westfield for 45 years.

Surviving are a daughter, Linda Hickey; a son, Joseph; six

grandchildren and seven great- NJ 07834.

grandchildren.

Dooley Colonial Home, Westfield. Interment was in Fairview Cemetery. Donations may be made to the

Arrangements were by the

Alzheimer's Association, 400 Morris Ave., Suite 251, Denville,

Surviving are her mother, Pearl

of Plainfield; a son, Demetrius of

Philadelphia, Pa.; her twin brother,

Edward of San Bernardino, Calif.

another brother, Walter Jr. of

Cincinnati, Ohio; a sister, Brenda

Hardy of Plainfield; two aunts; and

Services were held yesterday at Brown's Funeral Home in

Plainfield. Burial was in Hillside

several nieces and nephews.

### Edna Brown

SCOTCH PLAINS - Edna Brown, 53, died Nov. 10, 2004 at the Roosevelt Care Center in Edison.

She was born in Plainfield and lived in that city before moving to Scotch Plains in 1999.

Ms. Brown was a former insurance clerk with Chubb Corp. in

Warren. Her father, Walter Sr., died in

WESTFIELD - Joseph G.

Cemetery.

## Joseph McMahon

McMahon, 75, died Nov. 13, 2004 at the home of his daughter, Linda McMahon Egidio of Summerfield, N.C.

Mr. McMahon was born Dec. 8, 1928 in Cranford. He lived in Cranford and Westfield before moving in 1996 to Leesburg, Fla. He retired in 1992 from the

Airtron division of Litton

Industries in Morris Plains.

Also surviving are a sister, Mary Kelly of Loudon, Tenn.; a grandson, Benjamin-Joseph Egidio, and a granddaughter, Alexandra Lynn Egidio, both of Summerfield.

Private arrangements were by the Forbis & Dick Funeral Service, North Elm Chapel, in Greensboro, N.C.

# Coles student gives boost to bobsledder's dream of Olympics

When an athlete has a dream to go to the Olympics, sometimes things just fall into place to help

make it happen. Clark resident Mariana Banic's vision to go to the 2006 Winter Olympics in Torrino, Italy as part of the U.S. women's bobsled team recently became a little clearer, thanks to a donation of \$4,777.50 from two sources stemming from a brainstorm from the Hyatt Hills Golf Complex in

The complex partnered with the Clark Kiwanis Club to run a helicopter "Ball Drop" at its allcommunity anniversary celebration in September, in which half of the prize money raised would go to the winning golf ball owner. while the other half would to go to the Olympic athlete.

At the Hyatt Hills anniversary event, Scotch Plains resident Sandy Haas purchased a ticket for the "Ball Drop" at the urging of her 8-year-old son, Tyler. Her name was on the winning ball, so she was entitled to half of the \$6.370 that was raised.

But when Haas realized that Mariana Banic was a trainer at Personal Best, the gym she attends on South Avenue in Garwood, she felt it was right to give half of her winnings to Banic. "We just thought it would be nice to give it to help her go to

the Olympics," she said. "My son was the reason we bought the ticket in the first place," said Haas, "so I agreed with him that maybe we should

donate to her dream.' Len Glassman, part owner of Personal Best, was thrilled at the generosity of the Haas mom and son. "(Banic) is part of the family here. We want her to succeed like a daughter. We will support her all the way to the finish line!" he said of her goal.

He and the gym have been trying to raise money for their star athlete. "She's a great role

model," Glassman said. This summer, Banic and other hopefuls trained in Calgary, Canada. "We did well on ice," Banic said. Team trials took place in Lake Placid, N.Y. at the end of

Banic is one of the 12 women vying for the spot to be on the American team, each of whom has to fund herself.

"It's a challenge to see what your body can do. Also, it's a fear factor," she said of the sport.



PHOTO BY SUSAN DOUGHERTY Tyler Haas, 8, a student at Coles Elementary School in Scotch Plains, donates to bobsted brakeman Mariana Banic's training fund for the 2006 Olympics. In early fall, Tyler urged his mother to buy a \$10 ticket for the Hyatt Hills Golf Course's helicopter "Ball Drop" sponsored by the Clark Kiwanis Club. When his mother, Sandy Hass, was announced the winner of contest, she and her son decided to donate half of their winnings to Banic.

# ditor: School district's finances in solid shape

SCOTCH PLAINS — An annual audit of Scotch Plains-Fanwood schools indicates the district's books are in order, according to a report submitted to the Board of Education last week.

The audit was performed by accountants Barre and Company of Springfield. The report analyzed the district's financing for the fiscal year ending June 30,

Accountants combed through the district's finances, examining tax returns, payroll accounts,

insurance, treasurer's records and recommendations. other expenses. At the board's ecting accountant Rich Barre praised the management of **Business Administrator Anthony** Del Sordi, declaring that "internal controls were good at the adminis-

trative end.' Del Sordi said the district's free balance was now up to about 3 percent, the highest rate allowed under newly enacted state regula-

Veteran board member Edward Saridaki said the district's financial report was vastly improved over past years, when

"It's been a combination of that number, Rich's company and (Del Sordi's) diligence in addressing problems he found when he came in," Saridaki said. "The district is far better managed now than it was seven or eight years ago."

As formal suggestions, the auditors recommended district administrators advise banks not to impose service charges on accounts larger than \$15,000. Also, an unrelated non-profit organization was using the board's Federal Identification Number for their bank account; accountants advised the board that only the district should use

being issued with one signature instead of two. Auditors also found two checks improperly written for "cash," but in both cases the checks were written for under

The district's total assets were listed at \$46.5 million for 2004, nearly \$1 million higher than the year before. Liabilities were down about \$600,000, to a total of \$28.7 million. The report indicated the district's net assets were \$17.8 million, about \$1.5 million higher

in the beginning of December to

discuss possible changes to the

residency requirements. Any

recommendations that emerge

from the meeting will be dis-

cussed before the full council

before a decision is made, he

a volunteer fire department

you can never have too many

volunteers," Marks said. "We're

always looking for ways to bol-

department is in need of more

personnel, Ellis said residents

shouldn't be worried about

and we've never missed a call,'

We're completely staffed,

Though he said the fire

ster our fire department."

"The bottom line is that with

## auditors routinely issued serious SP fire department may loosen residency rules

By BRAD BISHOP

THE RECORD PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS Township officials are considering changes to the rules governing residency requirements



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At a conference session earlier this month, the Township Council briefly discussed the possibility of allowing non-residents from nearby communities to join the fire department, whose ranks are made up almost entirely of volunteers.

According to Chief Jonathan Ellis, the fire department currently has about 34 volunteers and is hoping to increase that number. He said during his 27 years as chief, the number of volunteers has typically ranged from 35 to 40 members.

The current residency rules require all new volunteers to be Scotch Plains residents; existing volunteer firefighters can

WESTFIELD

On Nov. 12, officers arrested

Jennifer Melchione and Jason

Lotz, both of Elizabeth, for bur-

glarizing two homes in Westfield.

of Roselle was arrested for

shoplifting from a business on

South Avenue. Clay was

A Coolidge Street resident

reported fraud on Nov. 12. The

resident reported her ex-husband

received a \$100,000 home equity

processed and released.

On Nov. 10, Bashira Clay, 38,

they live in a community that borders the township and live within five miles of the firehouse.

Ellis said the township could

consider adopting a similar pol-

icy for new volunteers, as some fire departments around the state may be doing. The biggest logistical problems for the change would be caused by the department's required training schedule for

volunteers. Ellis said training takes place once per week, and firefighters need to live close enough to the township to attend training — and respond to emergencies.

Mayor Martin Marks said he would be meeting with the remain in the department if department's superior officers

Pair arrested on charges of burglary

A Beverly Drive resident reported Sunday that the windshield of his 1996 Honda was smashed out, possibly with a baseball bat.

Officers arrested Patrick Vahey of Cranford Monday for driving while intoxicated on the 200 block of Twin Oaks Terrace. Vahey posted blood-alcohol content readings of .21 percent and .22 percent, police said; he was released to the custody of a responsible adult.

# his 2000 Oldsmobile on Sunday.

their safety.

line of credit by forging her name on bank documents.

Police Log

The Downtown Westfield Corporation reported Nov. 12 that someone had vandalized three wooden planters and two park benches. The items were valued at \$3,500.

A Pierson Street resident reported a rock was thrown through the rear windshield of

# LDA talk addresses planning. for travel

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Learning Disabilities Association of Scotch Plains-Fanwood invites parents and caregivers to attend special Saturday program titled "Traveling with a Special Needs Child."

At 2 p.m. Dec. 4, Claudette Bardwil, a special needs travel consultant, will lead the group through the challenging aspects of traveling short or long distances with a special needs child. The program is designed to help participants:

 Learn valuable strategies to help children with en-route transitions when traveling;

- Find out how to respond to onlookers, questions or insensitive remarks:

 Learn how to handle the unexpected by packing an appropriate emergency bag; Hear how to assimilate

assistive devices to where ever you are going; - Learn what pre-planning

should be done for hotels, restaurants, museums, pools, airlines, car rentals, trains, buses, other activities, and more to ensure your trip is smooth and enjoyable for child and family alike.

The public is welcome to attend this free program, which will be held at the Scotch Plains Library, located at 1927 Bartle

Seating is limited; participants should register to guarantee a seat and materials by calling (908) 322-4020 ext. 5. For more information about LDA or its upcoming events, go to the website at www.ldaspf.org.



Members of Troop 384 pose with Matt Lauer of "The Today Show."

# Scouts featured on 'Today Show'

SCOTCH PLAINS - Eight girls representing Troop 384 from Park Middle School left the township at 5 a.m. Nov. 4 on a quest to earn their communications badge.

Armed with extra clothes, bagels, hot chocolate and a box of Girl Scout cookies, they headed to New York City. Accompanied by leaders Linda Grimm and Gina Fawcett and two more Troop moms, Kim Stefanik and Debbie Palozzolo, the girls - Allison Grimm, Kendall Fawcett, Katherine Fletcher, Kerri Killeen, Rebecca Maioriello, Kristina Palozzolo, Cassandra Segulin and Emily Stefanik — arrived outside the studios for "The Today Show" at 6:15 a.m. The girls displayed their posters, telling everyone they were working on their communications badge and hoped to make

The show's hosts, Al Roker, Ann Curry, Matt Lauer and Katie Couric, all stopped to talk with the girls. The Scouts learned that Matt loves Girl Scout cookies, especially thin mints, and has been known to eat a whole sleeve at one sitting. Katie, who was once a Girl Scout herself,

recited on-air the Scouts promise with the girls. Altogether, the girls were seen on television four

Afterwards, the girls toured Democracy Plaza and took turns debating with one another at the podium. They an original copy of Declaration of Independence, sat at a replica of the president's desk in the Oval Office and walked through a model of Air Force One.

Dickens Wright of WNBC's ad sales team arranged a tour of NBC studios for the troop, during which they learned everything isn't what it seems to be on television. Through the magic of wide-angle lenses, everything appears much larger on TV than it really is; the girls also learned about "green screen" technology.

The girls will now work on the final phase of earning their communications badge, for which they will design and present an advertising campaign for a product or service of their choice.

In an effort to give back to the community, Troop 384 will prepare and serve lunch to the Habitat for Humanity workers in Plainfield on

# Boutique set to open at the Thrift Shop

annual Christmas Boutique will open Tuesday, Nov. 30 at the Thrift Shop, 1730 E. Second Street.

Brand-new items, including holiday decorations, toys, bric-abrac and clothing will be on sale. The sale will continue throughout December with stock replenished daily until supplies run

A Christmas drawing will be held on December 14. Winners need not be present.

A three-storied Victorian dollhouse, with wraparound porch and complete furnishings, will be offered as a holiday prize to the winner of our essay contest. The contest, for children only, consists of a written essay of 50 words or less on the subject "I would love to win this dollhouse because..."

Residents are invited to come in to the shop for further contest details or call the dollhouse chairman, Susan Citrano, at (908) 322-8496. Entries must be submitted by Dec. 18 and the winner will be selected the following week. The winning entrant must be available for publicity photos.

Store hours are 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m.Tuesday through Thursday and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Donations are accepted during regular shop hours. All Thrift Shop profits go to local charities.

The Thrift Shop will close after 1 p.m. Dec.r 18 for the remainder of 2004. The shop will re-open Jan. 4, 2005.

For more information, call the shop at (908) 322-5420.

### **PEO** members hold potluck dinner

The PEO Chapter U of Westfield, a philanthropic educational organization, held a potluck supper on Oct. 2 at the home of Cindy McCrackin in Warren. Following the business meeting members participated Summer Souvenir Exchange.

Chapter U delegates attending a reciprocity meeting at the Presbyterian Church Chatham on Oct. 23 included Chapter U President Lee

### **Briefs**

Mumford of Scotch Plains and Cindy McCrackin of Warren.

The sisterhood is a network of friends, and the organization is all about women helping each other. For more information, log onto www.peointernational.org.

### **JCC** offers variety of classes for seniors

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Senior Adult Program at the Jewish Community Center of Central NJ, located at 1391 Martine Ave, meets every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

The JCC indoor pool is available from 10:30-11:30 a.m. for swimming and light exercise, and the fitness room is also open for supervised use at the same time. Lunch is prepared each day in the JCC kosher kitchen.

A schedule of classes follows: Monday: 10:30 -11:30 a.m., art with Lillie Bryen; 10:30 -11:15

a.m., current events with Salo Enis; 11:15 a.m.-noon, exercise with Anne Baker; 12:30-1:15 p.m., Jewish culture with Salo

Tuesday: 10:30 a.m.-noon, biology with Prof. Bill Dunscombe, offered in conjunction with the Union County College L.I.F.E. program, and open to all residents of Union County over the age of 60 free of charge; 11:15 a.m.-noon, exercise with Claire Lazarowitz; 12:30-1:15 p.m., music with Rhonda Riesenberg.

Wednesday: 10:30 -11:15 a.m., therapeutic exercise with Betty Rosman, R.N.; 10:30-11:15 a.m., short stories with Barbara Buettner; 11:15 a.m.-noon, exercise with Betty Rosman, R.N.; 11:15-noon, personal histories with Barbara Buettner; 12:30-1:15 p.m., theater games with Robin Wong.

The Senior Adult Department is supported by the Union County Division on Aging. For more information call Nan Statton, Director of Adult & Senior Services at (908) 889-8800, ext. 207.

### Rev. Benton to address Westfield Rotary Club Wilkerson's Teen Challenge. central regional marketing direc-

Westfield Rotary Club will feature the Rev. Jim E. Benton at its Nov. 23 luncheon from 12:45-1:30 p.m. Benton will speak to the 90member club about the Goodwill Rescue Mission.

Benton. native Washington State, comes to Goodwill from Springfield, Mo., where he has been located for the past 15 years. His wide experience in the urban environment began at the age of 5, when his parents moved to Brooklyn, N.Y. to start the first program for girls developed by David unteers. He then served as the

YMCA volunteers

Chice Sundstrom and Joe

Duff (center,) the 2004 Youth

and Adult Volunteers of the Year for the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA, are joined by

Ellen Buckley, president of

the YMCA's board of direc-

tors, and Karin Dreixler,

executive director of the

YMCA, at a recent awards

dinner sponsored by the

New Jersey YMCA State

Alliance.

are honored

As an adult, Benton worked

with drug addicts and alcoholics for more than 10 years through Teen Challenge. After serving as chief operations officer and then executive director of Teen Challenge programs in New York and Missouri, he was asked to serve as the Midwest representative for the National Teen

Challenge office in Springfield. In the fall of 1992, he was invited to join the ministry of Compassion International as the central regional manager of vol-

tor before becoming the national director of volunteers. Benton was responsible for overseeing all of the volunteer activity for more than 800 volunteers in the

While working Compassion International, he traveled extensively in the United States and overseas. He has spent time in Bolivia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, Mexico, Peru and Uganda.

A graduate of Evangel University in Springfield, Mo., Benton holds two bachelor's degrees in business administration and Biblical studies.

The Westfield Rotary Club seeks to build a better world through service activities that enhance the quality of life and human dignity, encourage high ethical standards and create greater understanding among all peoples.

The club meets every Tuesday from 12:15-1:30 p.m. in the Westfield Area YMCA at 220 Clark St. The public is invited to the \$11 weekly luncheon and weekly programs.

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pal building on Springfield

Avenue. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Supplies

are critically low; residents are

encouraged to come out and

**COLONIAL THANKSGIVING** 

**DEMONSTRATION** — present-

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Museum and featuring Ellen and

Zoe Hess of Cranford. 2-4 p.m. 614

Mountain Ave., Westfield. (908)

WEST NILE VIRUS: THE

FACTS' - a program for nurses

and guests, presented by LEARN.

7:45 p.m. All Saints Church, 559

Park Ave., Scotch Plains. \$10 for

MAKE YOUR OWN TREE

**DECORATIONS** — with the Historical Society of Scotch Plains

and Fanwood. 8 p.m. Fanwood

train station, North and Martine

avenues. Open to the public. For

more information, call (908) 232-

non-members. (908)272-7239.

TUESDAY

**MONDAY** 

**NOV. 22** 

**NOV. 23** 

Westfield. (908) 233-3535.

**SUNDAY** 

**NOV. 21** 

### This week

### THURSDAY **NOV. 18**

HOLIDAY GIFT SALE - presented by Congregation Beth Israel. 6:30-10:30 p.m. At the temple, 18 Shalom Way, Scotch Plains. GREAT AMERICAN SMOKE-OUT DAY -- National effort to challenge smokers to cut down or quit. Sponsored locally by Prevention Links; for information on how to volunteer call (732) 381-

4100 or visit www.prevention-**PETER GENOVESE** — the popular food columnist for The Star-Ledger will visit the Westfield Memorial Library, 7 p.m. Registration is now ongoing; call-

(908) 789-4090. VIOLET SOCIETY MEET-ING — monthly gathering of the Union County Chapter of the African Violet Society, 1 p.m. Scotch Plains Public Library, 1927. Bartle Ave. Bob Kurzynski will give a program on "Tips on

Trailers," Open to the public,
PAID-UP MEMBERSHIP EVENT --- annual gathering hosted by the National Council of Jewish Women, Union County chaper, 7:30 p.m. Residence of Lauren Falk, in Westfield, RSVP at (908) 233-4878.

### FRIDAY **NOV. 19**

MENTAL HEALTH PLAY-ERS — educational performance presented by the Youth Partnership of the Family Support

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Organization of Union County. 7:30 p.m. First Baptist Church, 170 Elm Street, Westfield. Free, but reservations preferred at (908) 789-7625.

THE ARAB WORLD AND THE UNITED NATIONS' — a lecture by Dr. Hussein Hassouna, ambassador to the United Nations and the Arab League of Nations. 7:30-9 p.m. Roy Smith Theater, Union County College, 1033

Springfield Ave., Cranford,
HISTORICAL EVIDENCE FOR THE STAR OF BETHLE-**HEM?** — a lecture by Dr. Michael Molnar for Amateur Astronomers, Inc. Following the 8 p.m. business meeting. Union County College, 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford. Free and open to the public, followed by viewings from Sperry Observatory. (908) 276-STAR.

COMMANDER EDWARD **ELLSBERG** — part two of the program on the Westfield resident and World War II veteran, presented by former Westfield mayor Bud Boothe, Hosted by the Westfield Historical Society, 7:30 p.m. Community Room of the Westfield municipal building, 425 East Broad St. Free and open to the

# **SATURDAY**

TURKEY DROP-OFF donate frozen turkeys and other Thanksgiving foodstuffs to the Community FoodBank for distribution to needy families, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Franklin School, 700 Prospect St., Westfield. (908) 355-3663.

'FANWOOD: IMAGES OF

THE GOODWILL RESCUE **MISSION** — a talk by the Rev. Jim E. Benton for the Westfield Headturner4 Rotary Club. 12:45-1:30 p.m. Westfield Area YMCA, 220 Clark St. Open to the public for an \$11

> 'FEED' — a discussion of M.T. Anderson's dystopian book with the Teen Group of the Fanwood Memorial Library. 6:15-7:30 p.m. at the library. (908) 322-4377.

# **FRIDAY**

NOV. 26 CAMP YACHAD EVENT—a day of fun for camp alumni and staff. 1-4 p.m. Wilf Jewish Community Campus, 1391 Martine Ave., Scotch Plains. \$8 per camper, no charge for staff. Register in advance at (908) 889-8800, ext. 253.

### **SATURDAY** NOV. 27

VENDOR SALE — sponsored by the Scotch Plains Junior Woman's Club. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Scotch Hills Country Club, Jerusalem Road, Scotch Plains.

AMERICA' — a presentation and Tables available for \$35; contact signing of the new historical book Jessi@worldnet.att.net by Oct. 25.

### SUNDAY **NOV. 28**

TREE-LIGHTING CEREMO-NY — Santa Claus will ride in on a fire truck to join Westfield Mayor Greg McDermott in lighting the tree at the train station lot on North Avenue. 5 p.m. Residents are asked to bring non-perishable food items for the pantry at First United Methodist Church. For more information, call the Westfield Chamber of Commerce at (908) 233-3021.

GARDEN CLUB TRIP Green Thumb Garden Club of Cranford sponsors a bus trip to the New York Botanical Garden. Bus leaves Orange Avenue pool 10 a.m.; return trip begins 4 p.m. \$26. To reserve a spot, call (908) 276-5077.

### **COMING UP** ORAL HISTORY WORK-

SHOP — hosted by Howard L. Green of the New Jersey Historical Commission and sponsored by Union County. 6:30-8:45 p.m. Nov. 30. Executive Education Center, Union County College, 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford. \$5; register by Nov. 19 at (908) 558-2550 or culturalinfo@ucnj.org.

INVESTING SEMINAR — on the topic "Using Exchange-Traded Funds to Enhance Sector Trading, hosted by the American Association of Individual Investors. 6 p.m. Nov. 30. The Westwood, North Avenue, Garwood. To register, call (908) 276-

COOKIE **EXCHANGE** MEETING -- swap recipes with the Union County chapter of Mothers & More. 7:30 p.m. Dec. 1. Westfield Area YMCA, 220 Clark St. (908) 789-8626 or (908) 889-

**CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE** at the Thrift Shop in Scotch Plains, with proceeds benefiting local charities. Opens 10 a.m. Nov. 30; open Tuesday-Saturday mid-days through Dec. 18. 1730 East Second St., Scotch Plains. (908) 322-5420.

TRAVELING WITH A SPE-CIAL NEEDS CHILD' - program hosted by the Learning Disabilities Association of Scotch Plains-Fanwood. 2 p.m. Dec. 4. Scotch Plains Library, 1927 Bartle Ave., Scotch Plains. Register at (908) 322-4020, ext. 5.

YOUTH CHOIR PERFOR-MANCE — a Hanukkah celebration featuring youngsters from three local Jewish congregations. 2:30 p.m. Dec. 5. Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim, 338 Walnut Ave., Cranford. \$7 in advance, \$10 at the door, (908) 276-9231.

TREE-LIGHTING — holiday day event sponsored by Union County 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 5. Lane, Mountainside. (908) 527-

**HOLIDAY CRAFT NIGHT** make a candy wreath at the Fanwood Memorial Library. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Dec. 7. \$7.50. Registration is required; call (908) 322-8113.



The School One Service PTA Committee recently sponsored a Halloween Treat Bag Project. Students decorated brown bags and filled them with treats; the bags were then distributed to Hearts for Humanity, Union County Welfare, the NIA Community Habitat of South Plainfield, and the Interfaith Council for the Homeless. Pictured above are students from School One with the collection basket.

# McTamaney will lead Mt. St. Mary's board

Amelia Alonso McTamaney of Scotch Plains was elected chairwoman of the board of trustees at Mount Saint Mary Academy in Watchung at the board's October meeting. It is the first time an alumna has served in this position.

McTamaney said, "I am thrilled to be the first alumna to serve as the board's chair. It is with great honor that I assume the duties of the chair.

Serving on the board of any institution brings with it the opportunity to share in that program's success. My responsibilities are far overshadowed by my excitement in singing the praises of this community."

McTamaney is no stranger to education. A graduate of Georgian Court University, she taught school before becoming the Head of School for Christopher Academy in Westfield and Scotch Plains nearly 30 years ago.

Christopher Academy is the oldest Montessori school in New Jersey and serves 200 children from the age of 2 to first grade. She is also a graduate of the Montessori Nicholas College in London. England. She is a certified early child and elementary teacher in New Jersey and a Montessori teacher.

McTamaney also serves on the board of the National Montessori Center for Education; she is past presi-



**AMELIA McTAMANEY** 

dent and board member of the International Association of Montessori Educators and the Accreditation Montessori Council for Teacher Education. She is a founding member and past officer of the New Jersey Montessori Administrator's Council and a frequent presenter at Montessori conferences.

Mount Saint Mary Academy has been an independent college preparatory day school offering education for young women for more than 95 years. The school is administered by the New Jersey Regional Community of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas.

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"Gift coins available only white supplies last. Offer may be withdrawn without notice Tax liability is responsibility of the account holder

# Camp Yachad event planned

SCOTCH PLAINS Yachad is organizing a one day event for camp alumni and staff on from 1-4 p.m. Nov. 26 at the Wilf Jewish Community Campus, 1391 Martine Ave.

Visitors can hang out with camp friends and many of the Yachad staff for movies at the JCC during the Thanksgiving break. Participants can watch a movie, play games, reminisce about last summer and get excited for camp

Movies screened will be "Shrek 2" for Chaverim, Yeladim, Sabra campers and "Harry Potter, The Prisoner of Azkaban\* for all Travel campers. Movies will be followed by a camp activity for each unit.

All campers viewing "Shrek 2" must be accompanied by a parent. Refreshments will be sold.

Advance registration is \$8 per camper, \$5 with a camp shirt. There is no charge for staff.

For more information contact Randi Zucker, Camp Yachad administrator, at (908) 889-8800,



# Community Life

### **Briefs**

# Colonial Thanksgiving at Miller-Cory House

WESTFIELD — The Miller-Cory House Museum will feature its annual colonial Thanksgiving feast demonstration over the open-hearth from 2-4 p.m. Sunday. The museum is

located at 614 Mountain Ave.
Visitors will experience the
warmth and atmosphere of a
traditional colonial

Thanksgiving dinner. Ellen and Zoe Hess of Cranford and Allison Clancy of Westfield will prepare the feast using authentic recipes and cooking methods. Visitors may enjoy taste treats as prepared by the cooks.

Also, a program on colonial table customs will be presented by Kathy Dowling of Clark.

The last tour of the house is scheduled to begin at 3:30 p.m. Visitors can begin their holiday shopping at the museum's gift shop, which is stocked with colonial reproductions, cookbooks and educational materials.

The museum will be closed on Nov. 28. The next event, "Christmas...All Through the House," is scheduled for Dec. 5.

Admission to the museum is \$2 for adults and 50 cents for students. Children under 6 are admitted free. For more information, call (908) 232-1776.

# Stender's office collects donations to food bank

SCOTCH PLAINS —
Assemblywoman Linda Stender
has urged all residents to join
the fight against hunger by
donating non-perishable foods to
the Community FoodBank of
New Jersey.

"By all accounts, New Jersey is a wealthy and prosperous state. Unfortunately, many families are not able to make ends meet," said Stender. "By donating nonperishable food items from your pantry to our dropoff site, you will be helping less fortunate residents in our community."

Non-perishable items such as peanut butter, canned meats, jellies, and soups may be dropped off at Stender's office, located at 1801 East Second St., from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Financial contributions may be made payable to The Community FoodBank of New Jersey and mailed to Assemblywoman Stender, Attn: Community Food Drive, 1801 East Second St., Scotch Plains, NJ 07076.

All donations will be taken to the Community FoodBank of New Jersey, located in Hillside. The food bank is one of the largest providers of groceries to charities, soup kitchens, and thousands of food pantries throughout the state.

To learn more about the food bank, visit www.njfoodbank.org.

# **Create tree decorations** with Historical Society

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Historical Society of Scotch Plans and Fanwood host a "make-your-own tree decoration" session at its meeting 8 p.m. Tuesday.

The society will provide pinecones and shells to decorate with various ribbons, flowers, fruits and birds.

The meeting will be at the Fanwood train station at North and Martine avenues. The program is open to the public, and refreshments and fellowship follow the meeting.

Further information can be obtained by contacting Richard Bousquet at (908) 232-1199.

# Library collecting books for children in need

WESTFIELD — Babies, preschoolers and children through age 14 will be able to experience the joy of reading their very own books, thanks to the generosity of Westfield Library users who donate new and "like-new" books.

Through Dec. 4, the library will collect these donations as part of a statewide program sponsored by the New Jersey Library Association. Needy children in Union County will receive these gifts in time for the holiday season

A collection box is available at the library, located at 550 East Broad St.

# Westfield, county plan tree lighting ceremonies

The Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce sponsors the town's annual tree lighting ceremony at 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28 in the North Avenue train station lot.

"Santa" will arrive in Westfield on a fire truck to join Mayor Gregory McDermott in lighting the holiday tree.

On this evening, residents are encouraged to help neighbors in need by donating non-perishable food items to the First United Methodist Church for its food pantry. The church's Youth Group will be on hand to offer a warming cup of hot chocolate and to accept donations.

The evening festivities will include a sing-along of favorite traditional Christmas carols with the Westfield Community Band. Children young and

old are invited to meet with Santa, who will hand out candy cane treats and Christmas activity books.

The ceremony is made possible by local sponsors, including the Town Bank, Burgdorff Realtors, Haven Savings Bank, and Drug Fair. For further information about the Westfield tree lighting, call the Chamber at (908) 233-3021.

Then, on the following Sunday, Dec. 5, Union County will hold its tree lighting and nature craft show from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Watchung Stable, located at 1160 Summit Lane in Mountainside.

"This event will offer a day filled with fun for the entire family. Santa will hear holiday wishes and the day will culminate with the lighting of Union County's holiday tree," said Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, liaison to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

"At the craft show, everyone will find those special gifts to be given this holiday season. Stop by and visit the venders to purchase handcrafted, quality gifts that are either made from natural materials or are nature-themed."

The tree lighting and craft show will be held rain or shine.

Throughout the afternoon, visitors can enjoy barn tours, a petting zoo, horseback riding demonstrations by the Watchung Mounted Drill Team and strolling holiday singers. There will also be horse rides and children's crafts. Also, the Union County Police Department will be available for children's fingerprinting throughout the

afternoon.

Santa Claus will arrive at 1 p.m., and children can visit with Santa from 1-5. The afternoon's festivities will culminate with the tree lighting at 5 p.m.

There is no admission fee; however, residents are encouraged to bring a donation of a dry or canned food item, or a new, unwrapped toy. All items collected at the event will be distributed through local charities. Refreshments will be available for purchase throughout the afternoon.

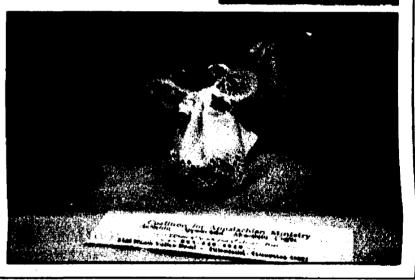
For additional information or directions, call the Trailside Nature and Science Center at (908) 789-3670; Watchung Stable at (908) 789-3665; or the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation at (908) 527-4900.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY BROOKS CRANDALL/CORRESPONDENT Above, organizers Susan Devaney, Liz Dwyer and Ann Fontana (from left) proudly display hand-made dolls for sale at the Silver Snowflake Boutique held last Saturday at the Presbyterian Church of Westfield. The Silver Snowflake sale is the annual mission sales sponsored by the church. The organizers were pleased to offer a varied selection of gifts made by members of their own congregation, while also presenting another outlet for the sale of gifts made by domestic and international artisans. These items — some of which are pictured at right — came from Appalachia, Pakistan, Mexico, India and the Philippines. The funds raised will go to support local mission projects to sup-







# County honors Trailside director, seeks donations

Union County Freeholder Chairman Angel G. Estrada recently presented a resolution to Holly Hoffman, former director of Trailside Nature and Science Center, for more than 20 years of service to the county. The resolution was presented during a retirement celebration sponsored by Trailside's volunteer organization, the Trailside Museum Association.

port people in need

The Trailside Museum Association dedicated a holly tree and stone plaque to recognize Hoffman's 25 years serving as director of Trailside Nature and Science Center, located in Mountainside. Co-workers, former staff members and long-time friends gathered in front of Trailside's backyard wildlife habitat to highlight memories and achievements of her career. Appropriately enough, a holly tree was planted, and said to symbolize the giving nature that Holly Hoffman has demonstrated over her many years of service.

Formed in 1956, the Trailside Museum Association has provided funding for the construction of the classroom below the museum and donated money towards displays, classroom furnishings and equipment for the center. The most recent purchases include a spotting scope for nature programs, two computerized kiosks in the museum and funding for an assessment of

Trailside's extensive taxidermy collection. The Trailside Museum Association is also working in anticipation of the new Trailside Visitors Center, currently under construction. Under the guidance of copresidents Margaret Heisey (Scotch Plains) and Anne Dyjak (Warren), Vice President Nelson Dittmar (Cranford), Treasurer Dorothea Hoffman (Westfield). Secretary Joyce Laudise (Berkeley Heights), board members Betty Ann Kelly (Cranford), Mary Sudiak (Cranford), Kay Miller (Fanwood), and Patricia Bertsch, current Director of Trailside, the association has been pursuing new members and financial support with enthusiasm and

"The TMA Board would like the public to be aware it is conducting a fundraiser through Parker Gardens of Scotch Plains. If you mention the TMA when you check out at Parker Gardens from now through Dec. 30, 10 percent of your sale will be credited to TMA," said Heisey. "Your purchase of mums, trees, shrubs or yard



Former Trailside director Holly Hoffman was recently recognized for her many years of service to the nature center.

accessories can help Trailside."

"A similar fundraiser held during the spring raised over \$400 for Trailside," said Dyjak. "The public can help us to raise funds for the exciting, new interactive exhibits currently being created for the new Trailside Visitors Center that will provide numerous environmental education opportunities for our community.

To join the association or to make a donation, contact Trailside at (908) 789-3670, ext. 221.

# Film show, storytimes on tap at the library

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Memorial Library is hosting several programs for children and adults during the week of November 22.

The events include the "TGIF" movie screening. At 1:30 p.m. Nov. 26, the library will screen the classic movie It Happened in Brooklyn, starring Frank Sinatra and Jimmy Durante. Light refreshments will be served.

Also on tap are storytimes for children. All storytimes are dropin, but attendance is limited, so families should arrive early and sign in at the Children's Desk. Children must have a valid Westfield Library card to participate. Storytimes include:

Little Listeners, ages 2–3½. From 10:30-11 a.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, children must be accompanied by an adult to attend this program. Infants will be permitted, but older siblings will not due to size limitations of the group. The library requests that children attend this program only once per week so that as many children can participate as possible.

Time for Tales, ages 31/2-5. In this program, held 1:30-2 p.m. Mondays and 10:30-11 a.m. Fridays, children go into the story room without an adult to listen to stories and watch a video of a picture book. Adults are not permitted to accompany the child, but are asked to stay in the library during the program in case of emergencies.

To mark the holiday, the library will close at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 24, and remain closed all day on Thanksgiving, Nov. 25. It will resume normal hours on Nov. 26 (9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and

Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday.
For more information about the library's programs, call (908) 789-4090, visit the library's website at www.wmlnj.org, or stop by the library for a copy of the quarterly newsletter.

# Teddy bears on balance beams

Young gymnasts at the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA brought their Teddy bears to class recently to share the fun with new friends. The Y's progressive preschool gymnastics program focuses on age-appropriate activities using the vault, uneven bars and balance beams, as well as spe-cial mats and equipment to help refine gross motor skills. The Y also offers parent/toddler and kindergarten classes, a progressive program for girls in Grades 1-12, and competitive teams for girls. For more information about gymnastics at the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA, call (908) 889-8880.





### Cindy Smith students take part in Six Flags' Dance Fest

Each autumn, dancers from the Cindy Smith Dance Studio of Garwood and Kenilworth participate in Six Flags' Fall Dance Fest. On Oct. 17, 25 young ladies from ages 5-15 performed in Great Adventure's Showcase theater. Grace Aronds, Jane Aronds, Taylor Cummings, Morgan Maloney, Stephanie Oliveira, Kayleigh Pender, Katie Piscitelli, Samantha Ronan, Sarah Russo, and Katherine Seery performed a jazz dance to "Double Dutch Bus"; Alina Chabus, Rita Della Valle, Jenna Lloyd, and Jessica Oliveira also performed a jazz routine to "Loveshack." Tap dancing to "Sea Cruise" were Kathryn Ahern, Stephanie Bagniewski, Amber Chabus, Jackie Close, Devin Loh, Kira Loh, and Mave Maloney. The girls received a Participation Ribbon for their hard work and great job. For information on the studio's fall 2005 classes in tap, jazz, ballet, modern, hip hop, Pointe, competition, pre-school, and adult classes, call (908) 789-9123.



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Saturday, Nov. 20 • 8PM

# IERSEY SHORE REUNION

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Sunday, Nov. 28 • 3PM **Gregory Popovich Presents** 

# COMEDY PET THEATRE

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Friday, Dec. 3 • 8PM **BOBBY VINTON** 



Sunday, Dec. 5 • 3PM **SAIL Productions Presents** 



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lighting for this classic

Holiday film

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# 'Conscience' series double bill includes Wyers and Lamotte

The Coffee with Conscience Concert Series of Westfield will present a double bill featuring Juliet Wyers of Portland, Ore. and David LaMotte of Asheville, N.C. Saturday night at the First United Methodist Church, 1 East

Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. and the concert begins at 8 p.m. Admission is \$14. All net proceeds from the evening's concert will be donated to Habitat for Humanity.

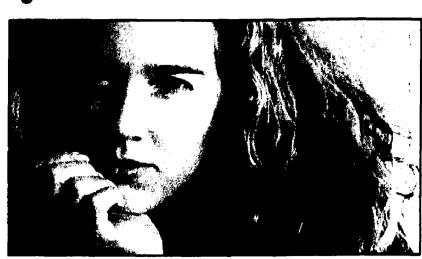
Wyers brings a voice to her songwriting that is at once unique, quirky, flirty and brave. Lyrically driven, her songs shine with melodies that reflect the words' meanings, and hop with rhythmic life, reflecting her roots in soul music, 1960s folk, and Broadway musicals.

Part Shawn Colvin, part Bruce Cockburn, Wyers blends science and spirit together in pieces about honeybees and a metal detector man, then puts her guitar down to breathe and belt out a sexy, silly cover of Billy Jonas' song "Late."

Though she is relatively new on the singer/songwriter scene, Wyers has received quite a bit of attention. Several national songwriting competitions, all based at major music festivals, invited her to perform on their main stages or in songwriter showcases - among the 2003 Kerrville New Folk Songwriter Competition, the 2003 Falcon Ridge Emerging Artist Showcase, and the 2003 Telluride Troubadour Songwriter Competition.

LaMotte was born in Norfolk, Va. He is the son, grandson and brother of Presbyterian ministers, and the fourth of four children.

It's been over 13 years since LaMotte has had a "real job" or a real haircut. In that time he has released eight albums and performed more than 1,600 shows in 45 states and 10 countries, sharing stages along the way with artists like Arlo Guthrie, Shawn Mullins, Buddy Miles, Gillian Welch, John Gorka, Jez Lowe and



A relative newcomer to the singer/songwriter scene, Juliet Wyers has already been featured at major songwriting festivals and competitions.



David LaMotte has shared the stage with the likes of Arlo Guthrie and Gillian Welch.

A typical evening of performance with LaMotte includes everything from lyrically challenging, high-energy percussive songs in strange alternate tunings to more traditional songs of home, hope and inspiration. He weaves the evening together in a fabric of vivid stories and throws in an occasional instrumental piece.

LaMotte was also featured along with Bruce Springsteen, Aimee Mann, Ray Manzarek, Grace Slick and Suzanne Vega on Songs Inspired by Literature, Vol. 1," a project to benefit adult literacy campaigns.

For more information about Wyers and LaMotte, visit http://www.julietwyers.com or http://www.davidlamotte.com.

The Coffee with Conscience Concert Series is a 10-show series running from September through June at the First United Methodist Church. The concerts are also being recorded for broadcast by Westfield's TV-36. Residents of Westfield, Scotch Plains, Fanwood and Mountainside can catch each month's concert at 10:30a.m., 3:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday and at 9:30 p.m. Sundays.

The series supports the following charities: The Eric Johnson House in Morristown, the Interfaith Council for the Homeless, the Central Jersey Chapter of the Names Project (more commonly known as the AIDS Quilt), Habitat for **Humanity and the Community** Food Bank of NJ. Each concert benefits one of these charities.

For more information about the series, the upcoming performance or ways to get involved, call (908) 522-1501 or visit www.coffeewithconscience.com. Volunteers are

# Yarrow brings 'deep folk' to WAC

An eclectic mix of traditional American folk and blues, with an occasional influx of dulcimers and slide guitars, has become the earmark of Bethany Yarrow, who will bring her melodies to the Watchung Arts Center at 8 p.m.

In her debut album, "Rock Island," Yarrow borrows from the deep river of American song and creates a contemporary sonic landscape with her haunting voice at the forefront.

The daughter of Peter, of the legendary folk trio Peter, Paul & Mary, Yarrow spent plenty of time trying to escape her folk background before embracing the music with a new enthusiasm.

"Folk music may be in my blood, but I spent a lot of time running away from it," she said. "By the time I was 14, I had green hair, 11 piercings, was listening to hardcore, and spent my weekends at Danceteria and my Sundays down at CBGBs... Singing these old tunes was the last thing I

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**BETHANY YARROW** 

thought I'd end up doing."

But folk music is in her blood indeed, and sometimes there is no escaping it. So Yarrow decided to return to her roots and the music she grew up with by recording an album of traditional American

"I guess you can run, but you can't hide," she said. "So, I've been

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re-recording traditional slave lullabies, prison songs, and murder ballads, turning them into a kind of grooving electronic pop that I call 'deep folk' music, as in 'deep house' or 'deep soul'. "These may be old songs, but

this CD doesn't really sound at all like folk music, and that was kind

Yarrow's brand of folk has certainly struck a chord across the country. Reviewers have been knocked out by her "fascinating" and "dramatic" interpretations. Her voice has been called, "mesmerizing", "intense", "powerful", "spell-binding" — "A cross between PJ Harvey and Annie Lennox... Dido and Grace Slick.'

In a year of great political activity, Yarrow has emerged as a powerful musical voice. As a performer who has spent a lifetime with these songs, she literally stopped the crowd in their tracks when she sang at the March for Women's lives in April 2004 for more than one million people. She also sang at the Million Mom March, the Take Back America Conference in Washington, D.C. and the World Peace Music Awards in Vietnam, and she will appear on VH1 Classic this summer with her father talking about her musical and political heritage.

Tickets for the Dec. 4 show are \$15. Reservations can be made by calling (908) 753-0190. The Watchung Arts Center is located on the circle at 18 Stirling Rd., Watchung.

## Get Jewtopia tickets at JCC of Central NJ

Jewtopia, one of the hot hits in the theater scene, is now on stage in New York City. Residents can buy tickets for the Nov. 20 performance at New York's Westside Theatre now through the JCC of Central NJ, located at 1391 Martine Ave. in Scotch Plains.

The New York Times hailed the play as "One of the biggest theatrical hits in Los Angeles" and Joel Hirschhorn from Variety magazine described the play as "entertaining, wild, and raucous."

Tickets are \$60 per person though the JCC, which includes an opportunity to meet the actors. Registration is required. To purchase tickets, contact Susan Lemerman at (908) 889-8800, ext. 205.

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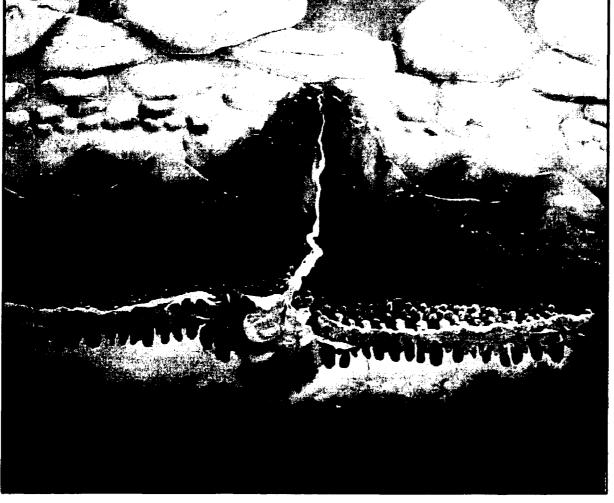
# Exhibit of Murphy's paintings upcoming at UCC

From Dec. 2 through March 17 Union County College will be host to artist Tim Murphy's exhibition, "Paintings," a solo show of large-scale, semiabstract, wall-mounted paint-ings, which will be hung in the Commons on the college's Cranford campus at 1033 Springfield Ave.

Due to extensive renovations being made to the Mackay Library, the next several shows will move from the gallery space to various venues on the Cranford campus.

The exhibition is a collection of paintings of landscapes, figures, creatures, and events. Murphy describes them as semiabstract and psychedelic. The paintings are made of poured paint on aluminum; some of the works took more than 50 gallons of paint to complete.

In explaining how he came to create these pieces, Murphy said, "For years I've been experimenting around with paint. I have thrown it, poured it, spit it, crawled in it, and rolled in it all to just figure out a different way to make a picture. I began to move in a linear direction from the abstract, towards representation. It started with three blobs of paint becoming a snowman. Then more blobs became an igloo. I started to embed bristles and hair into the paint. Character and narrative crept in. As I started to plot my way towards narrative, portrait, and landscape, I created forms that



"Panorama" by Tim Murphy is among the paintings to be featured in a new exhibit in the Commons at Union County College, 1033 Springfield Ave. in Cranford.

"For years I've been experimenting around with paint." I have thrown it, poured it, spit it, crawled in it, and rolled in it — all to just figure out a different way to make a picture."

— Tim Murphy

resembled places and beings. Some are grotesque and some are beautiful. Most are both.'

Murphy holds a bachelor's degree from Rutgers University and a M.F.A. from the School of Visual Arts in New York City. He has taught at the Museum of Modern Art, been a visiting artist at the University of Iowa and was part of the design/installation team for

Planet Hollywood in London, Prague, Amsterdam, and Vancouver.

He has exhibited regularly in the past 10 years in New York and Jersey City. Murphy is a Montclair resident and recently relocated his studio to Montclair from Jersey City.

In addition to being a painter, sculptor and teacher, Murphy is also a 19-year veteran and currently serves as a Captain in the United State Marine Corps Reserve. He is a marine infantry officer and currently commands a weapons platoon consisting of machine gunners, mortarmen, and assault teams. He also serves as the company fire support coordinator. He is a member of the G Company in Dover.

The exhibit will debut on Dec. 2 with a reception from 6-8 p.m. in the Commons. Official gallery hours are from 1 to 4 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays and on Saturdays. Evening hours are from 6 to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays through Thursdays.

For more information, call (908) 709-7155.



The paintings of Westfield resident Bernice Shah will be on view at Union County's gallery space at Pearl St. in Elizabeth.

# **Pearl Street features** work of Bernice Shah

The Union County Board of Freeholders will present an exhibit of paintings by Bernice Shah of Westfield in the gallery space at the offices of the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, located at 633 Pearl St. in Elizabeth.

"The new exhibit in the Pearl Street Gallery features the work of award-winning painter Bernice Shah," said Freeholder Chairman Angel G. Estrada. "Ms. Shah has titled her exhibit 'A Poucos Passos' (A Step from Here). She lived and worked in Brazil for many years, and that experience continues to inform her paintings. We are honored to display her inspiring artwork."

Shah earned her B.F.A. from Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University. She also studied at the Fashion Institute of Technology, the Art Students League, the New School, the School of Visual Arts in New York City, and the Summit Art Center for Visual Arts. Her paintings have been exhibited extensively throughout New Jersey and have won numerous awards in juried exhibits. Her work is held in many private collections.

"My recent work has dealt with formal issues of color, composition and space within the framework of the canvas. I enjoy working with oils for their intensity and richness, but also like to vary my work with mixed media, which allows for endless exploration," said

The non-representational larger oils are examples of problem solving on the canvas. Rather than calling them a series, a better description would be to call them sets, whereby one painting will generate a response from the next painting.

"The smaller mixed-media paintings on paper exhibited here are explorations in form, color and texture with the final varnish layer giving an enamel-like sheen to the surface."

Shah's paintings will be on display at the Pearl Street Gallery through January 14, 2005. Gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

We are proud to see the work of one of Westfield's talented artists shown in the beautiful and historic St. John's Parsonage on Pearl Street," said Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski, liaison to the Union County Cultural and Heritage Programs Advisory Board.

For more information about the Pearl Street Gallery, contact the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs at 633 Pearl St., Elizabeth, NJ 07202, via telephone at (908) 558-2550, or via e-mail at culturalinfo@ucnj.org.



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Welcome!

# Busy schedule ahead at county arts center

The Union County Arts Center in Rahway has a busy schedule planned heading into the holiday season.

At 8 p.m. Saturday, Asbury Park's John Eddie, Glen Burtnik, and Vini "Maddog" Lopez come together at the center.

John Eddie is one of Asbury Park's most famous adopted working class heroes. Although he has been compared to Bruce Springsteen, his approach to music has always been more Memphis than Asbury Park. His music features strong country influences, plus elements of soul, folk,

Glen Burtnik, born and raised in New Jersey, became a regular part of the Asbury Park music scene during the early 1980s. Burtnik is a master of the Asbury Park sound, telling a story and capturing the listener with memorable hooks and melodies. In the 1990s he joined the multi-platinum rock group Styx as a singer, writer, and guitarist. Today Burtnik tours in support of his solo album, Welcome to Hollywood.

Vini Lopez, the original drummer for Springsteen's E Street Band, was born in Neptune. He has continued to play a major role in the Asbury Park music scene for over three decades. Now touring with his band, Steel Mill Retro, Lopez performs unreleased Bruce Springsteen material from the early days, taking audiences back to Asbury Park.

Tickets for the show are \$30. At 3 p.m. Nov. 28,, the center will present Gregory Popovich's Comedy & Pet Theatre. The show follows a 12 p.m. holiday pet adoption program, sponsored by Friends of Linden Animal Shelter along with other

A star of the Moscow Circus and a world-class master of juggling, Popovich has created a remarkable show in which animals he rescued from shelters become the performers.

A strong advocate for pet adoption, Popovich has a compelling theory through which he develops "the natural traits" of each animal according to what they like to do bet. Popovich has rescued all of the animals in his show from Las Vegas animal shelters, and the furry co-stars have been featured on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno and the Late Show with David Letterman.

Tickets for the show are available for \$20 or \$15. Then, at 8 p.m. Dec. 3, the center presents Bobby Vinton, whom Billboard Magazine has called "the most successful love singer of the

rock era." Vinton has been a top-rated performer for much of the last 20 years and continues to enjoy success today, performing his classic hits "Roses

Are Red, "Blue Velvet," and "Mr. Lonely. Tickets for this show are available \$65 or \$50.

Then, at 3 p.m. Dec. 5, the center will present a production of the Charles Dickens classic, A Christmas Carol.

This version follows closely to the original, complete with the four spirits - Marley's ghost and the spirits of Christmas Past, Present, and Future. British comedic actor Micky O'Donoughue joins the production as Scrooge, with local theatre students appearing in various roles.

Tickets for this show are \$15. Tickets for all three shows may be purchased by calling (732) 499-8266, online by visiting <a href="https://www.UCAC.org">www.UCAC.org</a> or at the box office at 1601 Irving St. in Rahway. Group discounts and handicapped-accessible seat-

The theater is located within walking distance of the NJ Transit station in Rahway and can be accessed from Exit 135 of the Garden State Parkway and Exit 12 off the NJ Turnpike.

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# Local drama instructor to join Klugman in professional production

Megan Muckelmann, drama director of Stars of Tomorrow and program director of Encore in Cranford, will appear in the Helen Hayes Theatre Company's production of The Value of Names, by Jeffery Sweet.

Muckelmann is playing the part of Norma, daughter of Benny, played by Jack Klugman. Also performing in the production is Louis Zorich. Opening night is March 4 in White Plains, New York

The cast of three will then be performing in Queens beginning March 18, and will conclude the show at the Helen Hayes Theatre in Nyack, N.Y. in April. The show is directed by James Glossman.

Klugman appeared on Broadway and in television from the 1950s through the 1990s and is best known for playing sportswriter Oscar Madison in the TV comedy series "The Odd Couple" and a crime-fighting medical examiner on "Quincy, M.E."

Zorich, a familiar presence in feature films, television, and theater spanning five decades is perhaps best recognized for his recurring role as Paul Reiser's father on the television series 'Mad About You.'

A resident of Roselle Park, Muckelmann has appeared in various independent films and off-Broadway productions, and her voice has been featured in radio commercials, video games, and an audio series.

Muckelmann has studied voice with Sharon Reynolds, dance with Cindy Smith, and Shakespeare at The National Shakespeare Conservatory. She is a member of Actor's Equity Association

Muckelmann has been a member of the drama department at Stars of Tomorrow for five years, just completing her third as drama director for the main camp. She was the director for the Encore program for the last four



**MEGAN MUCKELMANN** 

summers. Some of the elective classes that Muckelmann teaches are acting/scenes, Shakespeare. dialects, yoga, and voiceovers.

Stars of Tomorrow, located in Cranford, is summer theater program for campers ages 3 through high school. The first open house for the summer of 2005 is on Jan. 16 from 6:30-8 pm. at the Cranford United Methodist Church, Lincoln and Walnut avenues. In case of inclement weather, call (908) 276-5053 or visit www.StarzofTomorrow.com for additional information.

### this week at NYC's Lincoln Center Company of New Jersey, Opera at Two vocal music teachers on the Rutgers, the American Chamber

staff of the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts Music Studio will perform on separate occasions at Lincoln Center this week.

Luis Cabrera will appear at 8 p.m. Saturday at Alice Tully Hall in the role of Lapo in the Teatro Grattacielo's production of Umberto Giordano's La Cena delle Beffe. The Teatro Grattacielo Orchestra will be conducted by Maestro Alfredo Silipigni, principal conductor and Artistic Director of the New Jersey State Opera.

Cabrera, who studied at the Boston Conservatory of Music and is a graduate of Rutgers University's Mason Gross School of the Arts, has performed professionally with the Cosmopolitan Symphony Orchestra of NYC, The American Chamber the Little Opera

Opera, the Paper Mill Playhouse, Carnegie Hall and the PNC Bank Arts Center.

NJWA's Cabrera, Pineda perform

Juan Pineda will perform in the Fourth Annual Concert of Excellence at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Jazz at Lincoln Center, Frederick P. Rose Hall.

Pineda will be singing several numbers including "One Day More," "Putting It Together," and "Aquarius/Let the Sun Shine In."

This will be Pineda's third appearance in The Concert of Excellence, which recognizes Asian American artists who have made an impact in America.

At the NJWA Music Studio, Pineda is a vocal music instructor, co-founder of the Little Opera Company of New Jersey, director of the Musical Theater Workshop and director of the Westfield Summer Workshop theater pro-

He was a long time member of the Broadway cast of Miss Soigon and has extensive opera, film and

recording experience.
Dr. Theodore K. Schlosberg, founder and executive director of NJWA, remarked that "We are so proud to have faculty members with this type of experience guiding our students at the Music Studio. Both men are outstanding performers, creative teachers and true professionals in their field."

The Music Studio offers private vocal and instrumental music lessons for children and adults at 150-151 East Broad St. and 361 South Ave. East, both in Westfield. For additional information on any of the NJWA programs, call (908) 789-

# Foundation launches piano contest

The Union-based Andrew De Grado Foundation, Inc. has launched a new contest for piano soloists and piano accompanists, ages 23 and over The competition seeks to challenge, recognize and promote adult pianists who are U.S.-born or naturalized citizens residing in one of 15 states on the Eastern seaboard.

The semifinals and finals will be held at Kean University in June 2005, and the two winners - one piano soloist and one piano accompanist — will have the opportunity to perform in a New York City debut concert in the prestigious

Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. The foundation was established in 1998 by Libby De Grado-Condo in the memory of her son, Andrew

May 9, 2005, is the entry deadline. Applicants are advised to obtain official rules and applications as soon as possible from the website foundation www.andrewdegrado.org.

For further information, call (973) 467-1348.

# Pianist Spassov joins teaching staff

Among the new staff members at the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts Music Studio in Westfield is pianist Michael Spassov.

Spassov holds both a bachelor's and master's degree in music from the Julliard School in New York. While studying there, he was the recipient of the school's Richard Rodgers, Piser and Henry Mancini Scholarships. He was also a teaching assistant at Julliard, as well as at the Royal Conservatory Summer School in Ottawa, Canada.

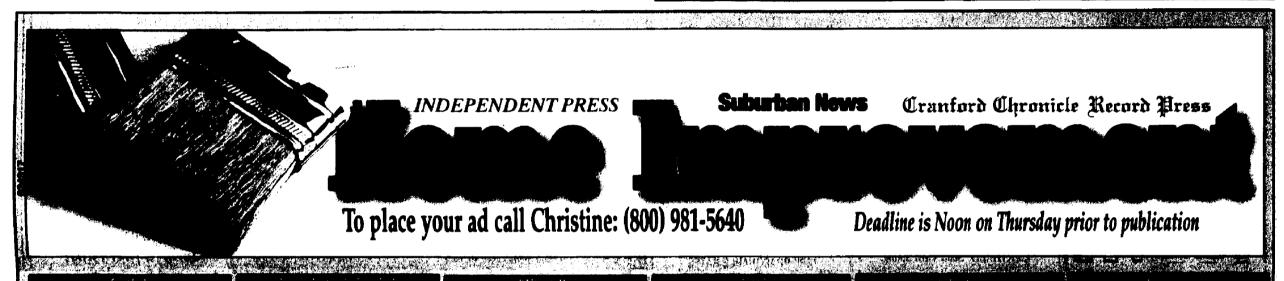
A composer who has premiered his work at the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Alice Tully Hall and Murray Hall, Spassov has written commissioned works for Toronto's Continuum Ensemble and Ottawa's Espace Musique.

The multi-talented musician is also a conductor who has experience in both the United States and Canada. In addition, he is an accomplished organist who studied at Canada's McGill University and holds a certificate from the Royal Canadian College of Organists. He is the organist and choir director at All Saints Church in Scotch

The Music Studio instructs approximately 470 students, from ages pre-school through adult, in 30-, 45- or 60- minute private instrumental and vocal lessons. It also offers group lessons and provides opportunities for musicians to perform in several ensemble, band and orchestra venues.

For more information on the Music Studio, call

Other NJWA programs include Kids 'n' Arts, Creative Arts Workshops, the Westfield Fencing Club, The Little Opera Company of New Jersey, the Musical Theater Workshop, Kids on Keys and the Westfield Summer Workshop.



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# Club hosts holiday sale

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Scotch Plains Junior Woman's Club will host a holiday shopping-extravaganza 10 a.m.-2 pm. Nov. 27 at the Scotch Hills Country Club, on the corner of Westfield Avenue Jerusalem Road.

There will be more than 25 crafters and vendors with a variety of products including brands such as Home Party Products, Creative Memories, Pampered Chef and Usborne Books, as well as women's purses. fewelry, knit baby items, personal trainers and organizers and more.

For a full list of vendors, send an e-mail to jessi@world-

In addition to the sale, there will be a bake table, product raffles and a 50/50 raffle.

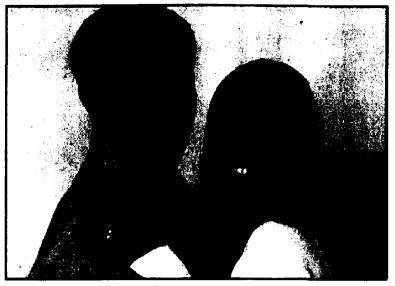
Purchases will help support local charities in the community. In the past, charities that have benefited include Heart for Humanity, Tiny Tim Fund, Interfaith Council for the Homeless, Learning Disabilities Association, Education Enrichment Foundation of Scotch Plains, local fire, rescue squad and police force.

## **Augustyn enters Coast Guard**

Coast Guard Reserve Seaman toms and courtesies, seamanship Apprentice Edward M. Augustyn III, son of Kathy A. Motyzaka of Garwood and Edward M. Augustyn of Westfield, graduated the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May over the summer.

During his eight-week training program, Augustyn completed a vigorous training curriculum consisting of academics and practical instruction on water safety and survival, military cusskills, first aid, firefighting and marksmanship.

Augustyn and other recruits also received instruction on the Coast Guard's core values of honor, respect and devotion to duty and how to apply them in military performance and personal conduct. The recruits also received training in sexual harassment prevention, drug and alcohol awareness and civil



David Christopher Schaller and Megan Diane Weiss

# Weiss, Schaller to wed

Irene and William Weiss of Cranford announce the engagement of their daughter, Megan Diane, to David Christopher Schaller, son of Peg and Gary Schaller of Westfield.

The bride-to-be is a third grade teacher for the Los Angeles Unified School District. A graduate of Cranford High School, she earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pa. She is now pursuing a master's degree in education at California State University-Long Beach.

Her fiance is the head men's lacrosse and soccer coach at Whittier College in Whitter, Calif. A graduate of Westfield High School, he earned a bachelor's degree in journalism at Rutgers University. An August 2005 wedding is planned.

# Nurses' group to hold program on West Nile

SCOTCH PLAINS - LEARN. the League for Educational Advancement for Registered Nurses is offering an educational program for registered nurses and interested guests titled, "West Nile Virus (WNV): Current

The two hour program will begin 7:45 p.m. Monday at the parish house, All Saints Church, 559 Park Ave. The speaker will be Marie Kassai.

Kassai, a graduate of Jersey City Hospital School of Nursing, received her bachelor's degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University and her MPH from Columbia University.

Kassai is certified in infection control, as well as an HIV counselor, by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services. She has worked as an infection control professional since 1961. Currently she is consulting for several agencies and institutions.

Upon completion of the presentation, participants will be able to define West Nile Virus. The history of the disease prior to 1996 and since will be reviewed. Treatment modalities will be discussed, as will prevention ted niques.

Each LEARN program offers continuing education contact hours through the New Jersey State Nurses Association, accresited as an approver of continuis education in nursing by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission Accreditation. This program has been approved for 2.4 contact

In addition, for school nurses, the New Jersey Department Profession Education, Standards Board, has granted this program professional development hours.

Annual membership for registered nurses is \$40. Interested parties are welcome to attend at a guest fee of \$10 per program.

The next program, on Jan. 24, is titled "Differential Diagnoses: Depression vs. Dementia in the Elderly Population." For membership application and/or information about upcoming pregrams, call (908) 272-7239 & (908) 754-9499.

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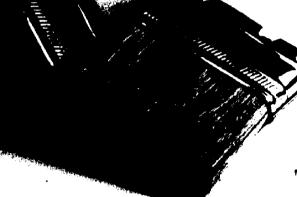
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Campus notes

Several area residents received degrees from Bucknell University

They include: Jacqueline Klock, daughter of John and Connie Clock of Scotch Plains, chemistry,

cum laude; Karli Perrine, daughter of Daniel and Julliet Perrine of

earlier this year.

agement.

# **Typing** skills now introduced at early age

By BRAD BISHOP

SCOTCH PLAINS — At its open agenda meeting last week, the Board of Education was given a demonstration of a pilot program designed to teach district students typing skills at an earlier age

Fourth grade students from Brunner and McGinn schools demonstrated the Alpha Smarts program before the board at the Nov. 11 meeting.

The students are learning to type with the Alpha Smarts keyboards, which are small, portable keyboards containing miniature 6-inch by 4-inch monitors. Over the course of 12 weeks, fourth grade students are given a crash-course in typing, honing their skills about three days per week.

It's an accelerated strategy, given that in the third grade, students learn to write in cur-

According to Merrie Snow, math and science supervisor for Grades K-5, district administrators expect to train all fourth graders on the equipment by February. And for the rest of the year, students will reinforce those skills on classroom desktop and laptop computers, she explained.

In the fifth grade, students will continue to develop computer skills, which are heavily emphasized beginning in the

sigth and seventh grades. Snow said numerous studies have shown that students can be successfully introduced to computers as early as the third grade. And newly released state guidelines recommend that students learn to type during the fourth grade. Scotch Plains-Fanwood school officials believe tha Alpha Smarts program will mave the district ahead of the statewide curve.

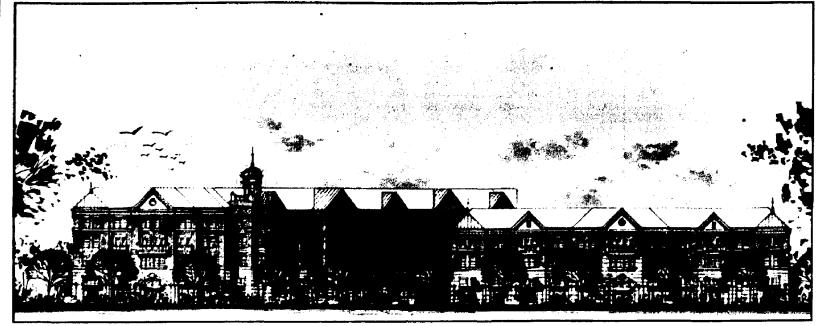
At the board meeting, Superintendent Carol Choye said school officials were interested to see if the program would improve students' writing skills. "One of the issues we were

discussing instructors...was Would writing come more fluently because the students are no longer hunting and pecking?" Choye said.

Teachers said students are experiencing the typical struggles most beoble experience when learning keyboard fundamentals. Students have to learn to reach for unfamiliar keys, memorize positions and, of course, to sit up straight.

But the initial reports from the classroom appear to indicate that fourth grade keyboarding may become a mainstay in elementary school education.

"It's a pilot program, so when we finish this year, we'll evaluate how well it works. But my informal assessment is that so far it's being greeted with enthusiasm by the students --- they're taking it seriously and demonstrating more proficiency." Snow said.



The Cranford Crossing project will consist of two buildings in South Avenue, in the heart of downtown.

# **Work gets underway on Cranford Crossing**

Construction got underway Monday on Cranford Crossing, a new transit-oriented in downtown Cranford, at the intersection of South, South Union and Walnut avenues.

The project will be the largest redevelopment project undertaken in the township's downtown business district in a century, said Sam M. Gershwin, president of Westminster Communities, the propertymanagement arm of developer Kushner Companies.

Located one block from the train station, the \$16 million project will feature approximately 22,000 square feet of ground-floor retail space and 50 luxury condominiums in two buildings. In addition, the company will build Cranford's first municipally-owned parking garage, providing 310 spaces to be shared by commuters, shoppers, retailers and residents.

The buildings' traditional brick facades will highlight a neo-classical clock tower and faux stone accents. The 50 condomini-

um homes will cater to commuters and are 10,525 square feet of retail space fronting expected to be priced from about \$250,000-300,000. Of the units, 46 will be two-bedroom, while four will be one-bedroom.

Completion of the garage is expected in about 18 months, with the full project expected to be completed within 24 months.

According to Gershwin, Cranford Crossing will showcase the 'transit village' model that New Jersey Transit and the State Department of Transportation promote. "Transit villages incorporate passenger rail stations as a focal point," he said. The goal is to return the stations to their historical stature as places where growth, recreation, opportunity and access convene to foster commerce and economic redevelopment."

The East Building, located at the corner of South Avenue East and Walnut Avenue, will offer 10,595 square feet of retail space; the West Building, which adjoins the new municipal parking deck, will include on South Avenue West and South Union Avenue.

Each building will feature wide archways providing pedestrian access to a covered walkway, all-glass storefronts and storefront canopies with façade signage. Available retail units will be offered from 800 to 8,700 square feet.

Elizabeth Arden Red Door Spa recently signed a long-term lease to anchor the retail portion. The spa will occupy more than 7,000 square feet at the East Building. No other companies have yet signed on, but the developers have discussed gourmet coffee shops and national fashion retailers as desirable tenants.

"Our goal at Cranford Crossing is to augment the established retailers and create a tenant mix that will attract even more shoppers to the downtown area," said Brian Silbert, real estate broker from the

# Local residents can claim undelivered tax refunds

Internal Revenue Service is looking for New Jersey taxpayers who can claim their share of 2,955 undeliverable refund checks totaling nearly \$2.6 million. The IRS can reissue the checks, which average \$873, after taxpayers correct or update their addresses with the IRS.

The names of local residents who can claim refund checks are listed below.

Nationally, there are 87,485 undeliverable refund checks, totaling more than \$73 million with an average refund amount of \$836.

"If we owe you money, we'd like to get it to you," said IRS Mark Commissioner Everson. "All you have to do is tell us where you are. Our Web site makes it easy for taxpayers to track their undelivered refund checks.'

taxpayers enter information that includes their Social Security number, filing status (such as single or married filing jointly) and the refund amount shown on their 2003 tax return. When the information is submitted online, taxpayers see Web pages that show the status of their refund and, in some cases, instructions to resolve potential account issues.

'Where's My Refund?" was developed through the IRS Systems Modernization program and delivered in the summer of 2002. Taxpayers used the online tool nearly 24 million times to track their refunds in 2004.

In New Jersey, the number of undeliverable checks decreased this year by 181, but the average refund, \$873, increased compared with last year's aver-"Where's My Refund?" on age of \$825. Nationally, the IRS.gov provides information number of undeliverable checks to the IRS. about refunds and is available decreased this year by 5,325,

on the IRS home page. To use it, but the average refund, \$836, increased compared with last year's average of \$722.

Taxpayers can avoid undelivered refund checks by having their refunds directly deposited into a personal checking or savings account. Direct deposit also guards against theft or lost refund checks. The option is available for both paper and electronically filed returns. More than 49 million taxpayers chose to direct deposit almost \$120 billion in refunds during 2004. The number of direct deposit refunds was up 10.8 percent from last year.

Refund checks go astray for reasons that can vary with each taxpayer. Often, it's because a life change causes an address change. If taxpayers move or change their address and fail to notify the IRS or the U.S. Postal Service, a check sent to their last known address is returned

Taxpayers who have moved

since filing their last tax return can ensure the IRS has their correct address by filing Form 8822, Change of Address, with the IRS. Download the form or request it by calling (800) TAX-

Taxpayers without access to the Internet who think they may be missing a refund should first check their records or contact their tax preparer before calling the IRS toll-free assistance line at (800) 829-1040 to

Local residents who can claim undelivered checks include:

Amy Myers O'Brien, Jeffrey Green, Raymond Craft, Therese Druckrey and William Daly.

Scotch Plains — Mohamed Elawdi, Erica Robinson and

Fanwood - Kristen Wuest. Altogether, 202 Union County residents can claim 215 checks totaling \$199,743.

Boothe believes current resi-

dents will be amazed at some of

the alternatives and sites that

were considered. He will discuss

Ellsberg's fight with the board on

a site that finally went to the vot-

Using slides and visual aids,

Boothe will show some of the

sites discussed by the board. As it

finally turned out, none of the

sites discussed were where

Westfield High School is now

tional system that was used in

that period as compared with the

public at no charge. Light

refreshments will be served at

system in use today.

the end of the program.

He will also talk of the educa-

The program is open to the

located.

ers, who sided with him 4-1.

FORM.

update their address.

Westfield — Desmond and

Taffarie Lang.

Matthew Fenichel, the son of Isabel Fenichel of Scotch Plains, is

Scholarship at the University of Rochester in New York, Fenichel entered the university this fall. The scholarship is given to stu-

the SAT. Fenichel is a graduate of Solomon Schechter Day School in West Orange.

Christine Milazzo of Westfield is a recipient of a Dean's Scholarship at Elizabethtown College in Elizabethtown, Pa.

Milazzo is one of more than 400 incoming first-year students to receive the merit scholarship, which can be up to \$9,000.

Larissa Curlick of Westfield has been named a Sarah and James Bowdoin Scholar at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine.

To win the designation, students must be in the top 20 percent of their class for the previous academic year. Curlick is a member of the Class of 2007.

Westfield residents Cristina Nodar and Craig L. Woehr matriculated at Fordham University in New York City this fall as members of the Class of 2008,

Nodar is a member of the Fordham College at Rose Hill, while Woehr is a member of the university's College of Business Administration.

Another Westfield resident, Jeremy Mackechnie, also matriculated at Fordham's College of Business Administration. Mackechnie is the recipient of a Dean's Scholarship at the univer-

Westfield resident Mei Chin, daughter of Fung Chin band Christina Neff, recently graduated cum laude from Carleton College in Northfield, Minn.

Several Westfield residents are members of the Class of 2008 at Colgate University in New York. They are Sagiv Edelman, Jourdan Loffredo, Michael Sheflin and Benjamin Bogen.



WESTFIELD - Garland (Bud) Boothe, former mayor of Westfield, will present the second part of his program on Commander Edward Ellsberg to the Westfield Historical Society at 7:30 p.m. Friday at the Community Room of the Westfield municipal building, 425 E. Broad St.

In the first part of his pro-

role on D-Day. He showed how Ellsberg's knowledge of salvage techniques led to the construction of the Mulberry Harbors, which made it possible to effectively land the troops, supplies and equipment of the Allied

while serving on the Board of Education from

1935-39. Although he says he couldn't find any discussion of what Ellsberg did on the board during that period, Boothe said that during the Depression the school board was struggling over many problems



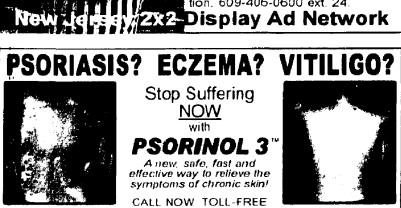


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# Rojas ends basic training

SCOTCH PLAINS - Air Force Airman Andres M. Rojas has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Rojas is the son of Maria Ray of Orlando, Fla., and Andres Roias of Scotch Plains. He is a 2004 graduate of University High School, Orlando.

### Scotch Plains, management; Joseph Potian, son of Marcelino and Amalia Potian of Fanwood, biology; Sean Joffe, son of Edward and Patricia Joffe of Westfield, civil engineering; and Judy Mathew, daughter of Annie and Joseph Mathew of Westfield, man-

Sarah Round, a junior at Colgate University, is spending her fall semester in Wollongong, Australia on a geography pro-

studies is in neuroscience, is the daughter of Dr. Philip and Dr. Elizabeth Round of Westfield. Steve Krakauer of Westfield, a

Round, whose main course of

junior majoring in broadcast journalism at Syracuse University, was inducted into the "University 100" at a September ceremony. University 100 is a selective

group of student volunteers who work with the Chancellor's Office and the Office of Admissions and serve as ambassadors for the uni-

Amanda Marie Gennova, a resident of Westfield, was among the more than 150 student in the Class of 2008 at Providence College who spent their first days at the college participating in the Urban Action program.

The first-year students and 25 upperclassmen leaders volunteered more than 3,000 hours to improve the aesthetics and safety of the East Bay Bike Path and the River Woonasquatacket Providence.

Tracey Ryan of Westfield has been designated a Clare Booth Luce scholar at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken.

Ryan was one of two Stevens students to win the merit-based scholarships, which are awarded to engineering majors interested in academic careers. Now in her junior year, she has a 3.66 gradepoint average while studying biomedical engineering. She is on track to receive both a bachelor's and master's degree from Stevens within four years.

The scholarship provides a \$3.500 stipend and on-campus housing should Ryan choose to participate in the Technogenesis Summer Scholars Program during the summer of 2005.

Lilva Shuster of Westfield qualified for the dean's list during the spring 2004 semester at Babson College in Wellesley, Mass.

the recipient of a Rush Rhees dents who scored at least 1350 on

# Internet can be a great way to find product information

tips on how to decorate to sell your house — keep colors neutral, get rid of clutter, and arrange furniture to make rooms appear more spacious. But what if you don't want to sell your home — you want to stay? How do you decorate with that in mind? Luckily, there are no rules when it comes to decorating your own home. Here, find advice and resources that will help you add your own personal touches to your decorating endeavors.

Do Your Homework The first step to successful design is figuring out what you like in décor. Flip through design books and magazines and pay attention to which types of styles you enjoy, cutting out pictures of things you like. Watch the wide variety of design shows on television and visit model homes. Jot down lots of descriptive notes to help you capture everything you like. Ask yourself questions like: "Is this room too formal or casual for me? Are the colors too light or too dark? Is it too busy or is there too much empty space?" These are great ways to figure out what al style. Also, check out their

sorts of design elements you

You always hear about creating a 'need versus want' list when looking to buy a home," says Patricia Olson, president of Patrician Group, Inc., a design firm based in the Chicago area. "The same rings true when decorating a home you plan on living in for years. If you've decided you want to live in your home for years to come, do you want to spend your budget on new furniture or flooring? Do you need to spend that money elsewhere on decorative items? What items do you want, but aren't necessary? Making these decisions will help you move forward with your design plans." Use the Web for Resources

The Internet has made research and planning easier than ever. If you're not sure whether you are more casual or formal in your decorating tastes, you can take quizzes online to find out. Visit "Better Homes and Gardens" online at www.bhg.com to take their decorating attitude quiz and hone in on your person-

"Arrange-a-Room" page to use their home designer software. This program allows you to redecorate without ever leaving your chair. You can lay out rooms and decide how many pieces of furniture you can fit and try different ways of arranging them.

There are lots of ways to find out what you like in a product by using the Interent, too. Glidden Paints, on the web at www.glidden.com, offers a Color@Home Paint Visualizer feature. And the Lowe's "How To Library" at www.lowes.com offers project ideas and strategies.

If you're looking to make product choices, turn to the online world and spend your time making decisions from the comfort of your own couch instead of spending hours debating in the aisles. Many manufacturers have put their entire product offerings online for customer viewing. For instance, Creative Specialties International, a division of Moen Incorporated that makes accessories for the bath, recently launched a web site at www.csi.moen.com where consumers can browse all of their

styles in different finishes and learn where they can purchase these items.

**Designer Tips** 

When you want to live in your home for years, the design options seem to expand exponentially. Here are some additional tips from Olson on decorating to stay and giving your home a dose of personality.

"A great way to personalize a space is to design around a theme. Whether it's a sports theme for the den, Tuscan luxury for the living room, or Asian simplicity in the bath, choosing a theme and sticking with it helps personalize the decorating and find your favorite color on process," says Olson.

Don't overlook the details when decorating to stay -- it can be the little touches that make a house your home. To make the space your own. look into accents like crown molding, wainscoting/bead board, tiling and stenciling. Even small touches like installing a decorative tank lever in the bath to match your accessories can make a big difference. Hanging more items on the walls also makes a room cozier. Mirrors are an excellent way to open up a small space and lengthen a room.

Take a look at your flooring options as well. When you're only concerned about what will suit you, you can make a jovial kitchen or bath by featuring bright tiles and unique color pairings. Don't be afraid to make a fun statement in black and white or purple and yellow. If you're replacing carpeting, skip the neutral browns and beiges

And don't forget about windows and fixtures. You can skip basic blinds and layer fabrics in your favorite hues for personalized window treatments. Also consider replacing basic lighting fixtures with dangling chandeliers in striking finishes.

Whatever your choices, don't ... be concerned with what's trendy at the moment or what seems to please others. If you're planning to live there for a good amount of time, make decorating choices that will make you happy for years to come.

This article is courtesy of ARA Content.

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# New technology offers security, style

(ARA) — Those concerned with home security will be intrigued by new door and glass technology that can help make homes safer without the "iron bar" look.

Combining several design innovations and a remarkable new glass similar to the security glass being used in U.S. government buildings, Larson Manufacturing has developed what may be the world's toughest and most beautiful storm door. Marketed under the name SecureElegance, this door just became available to consumers this year.

Secure Elegance doors are made with a special type of security glass that is reinforced with a KeepSafe plastic interlayer, which is invisible to the eye. The tough plastic interlayer is produced using heat and pressure to bond a polyvinyl butyral (PVB) plastic interlayer between two panes of tenipered glass thereby creating a glass sandwich.

Similar to the glass found in front windshields in cars, the glass doors may crack upon impact, but the glass tends to remain in its frame continuing to offer protection even after repeated blows from an intruder. This strong glass can withstand repeated blows from blunt objects such as crowbars, baseball bats and sledgeham-

In addition to incorporating a tough plastic interlayer, SecureElegance doors utilize a tough metal frame, hidden hinges and a triple locking system that is unique to the industry. Combined, they are as good for security as the traditional "barred" storm doors but infinitely more attractive.

Jeff Rief of Larson Manufacturing explains that the company's objective was to make these doors look like conventional full glass models, so they don't appear to be an obvious barrier from inside out. According to Rief, "We wanted people to be able to open their homes and let in light without compromising their safety, or the look of their

The glass used in the design of the SecureElegance doors provides additional benefits, including helping to significantly reduce exterior sound, blocking 99 percent of UV rays and improving insulating qualities.

Larson moved quickly to perfect this line of doors, which is currently available at Lowe's stores nationwide. As the concept continues to catch on, Larson intends to broaden the line. For information about SecureElegance doors. www.lowes.com/larson.

This article is courtesy of ARA

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# Podence off to good start

her real estate license in October, Jacqueline Podence is already aiming to set some records. After only about a month, clients are complimenting Podence on her dedication to her work.

President Donald Company President Donald Lamástra said, "It's as if she's a natural. Jackië's professionalism will award her much success. The enthusiasm she displays will be a key factor and she's set on educating herself with any and all information needed to satisfy her clients.

Podence was born and raised in Allentown, Pa. She holds a B.F.A. degree from the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University, where she was awarded the University Dance Works scholarship and the Dance Express Choreographers Prize for her talent in dance and choreography.

Podence was a solo performer with the Dodge Dance Company in New York City and has worked with the Julia

After obtaining Ritter Performance Group and John Evans and Dancers.

Podence has always had a strong interest in real estate, which finally lead her to make the strategic move to becoming a real estate sale representative. She will use her work ethic, ability to communicate professionally, and desire to assist her clients to help in locating and marketing single family and investment properties.

Now residing in Scotch Plains with her husband Jay and their chocolate lab, "Mocha" and cat "Ghira," Podence looks forward to becoming involved with her community, along with her involvement as an active member of the Metropolitan Real Estate Investors Association and the National Association of Realtors.

Podence can be reached at (908) 322-4434, ext. 143. ERA Suburb Realty Agency is located at 1773 East Second St. in Scotch Plains and on the web at http://www.erasuburb.com/.



**JACQUELINE PODENCE** 

APR

www.amtednite.com

# Craco is again named the region's top agent

Stefan Oppermann, CEO of Real Estate Consultants, LLC, announced that for the fourth consecutive month, Marisa Craco has been named the Top Listing Agent for October in the Cranford region.

Craco has over a decade of real estate experience in the local market. She is a Montelair State University graduate.

With state-of-the-art technology, including virtual tours of all homes listed with the company, and centralized Real Estate services. Consultants is able to offer options and flexibility with commission as low as 2 percent. The agency currently serves 13 counties in Northern and Central New Jersey.

To learn more about Real Estate Consultants, contact Craco at 908-276-3331 or 908-464-5590 or log on to its web site at www.recnj.com.

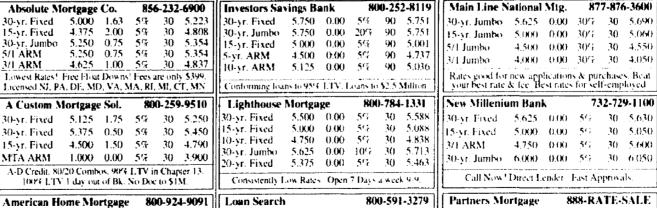
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Information provided by The National Financial News Services. Rates are valid as of November 12, 2004. Contact lenders directly for APR's, additional fees and services. Conforming quotes based on \$120,000 loan with 20% down with no PMI; Jumbo quotes based on \$350,000 all applicable loan fees included. Loan amounts may affect rates. Lock-in period in days. Horrowers should compare the specifics of various loan arrangements. Check rates daily on the Internet at www.nj.com. € 2003 NFNS. LENDERS WISHING TO PARTICIPATE PLEASE CALL 800-939-NFNS.

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I-vr. ARM	1.250	0.00	10G	30	1.740				

Penn Fed. Sa	908-719-2468										
30-yr. Fixed	5.625	0.00	5%	60	5.680						
30-yr. Jumbo	5.750	0.00	100	60	5.770						
30-hiwkly ibo	5.500	0.00	10%	60	5.510						
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15-yr. Fixed	4.750	0.00	20%	75	4.809		
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# CHAMPIONS!

# SP-F wins section title; group finals today

THE RECORD-PRESS SCOTCH PLAINS — Last year Middletown South took

Scotch Plains-Fanwood to penalty kicks before losing in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group III championship match to the Raiders.

Saturday, the Raiders never

junior Matt Fleissner scored once pionship.

"They never get bad," Scotch



Scotch Plains warms up on cold, windy day Saturday by celebrating their 4-1 victory over Middletown South to give the Raiders its

let Middletown South think Plains' head about revenge.
Senior Greg Leischner and

each off Jeff Bell assists for and junior Sean Young knocked in a goal in the first and second half to earn the Raiders the 4-1 victory and the state sectional cham-

Breznitsky said of the school's 12th sectional title. This one is rewarding. We thought last year was a fluke."

Monday Scotch Plains avenged a loss last year by defeating Ramapo Raiders 1-0 in the Group III semifinals. The Raiders lost a shootout to Ramapo in the same game in

Throw-in specialist Jeff Bell threw a ball toward the net with about 13 minutes remaining in the game and Sean McNelis kicked it in to ensure there would be no shootout this year.

Scotch Plains (23-3), ranked No. 5 in the state's Top 20, will meet Wall at 6 p.m. at The College of New Jersey tonight for the Group III championship. Wall was a 2-1 winner over Ocean City

"We've been waiting for Ramapo," said Breznitsky after the match against Middletown South. "We've been thinking about how we lost to them last year all this year."

The trip to the group finals is the Raiders' 11th, of which they have won seven. Scotch Plains last won the crown in 1998.

On Saturday the scoring began with another Bell throw-in with just five minutes into the match. Bell's throw reached the front of the net and Leischner



Senior Jeff Bell (#4) heads the ball across the net off a corner kick from senior Billy Albizati. The ball was subsequently headed in for a goal by junior Matt Fleissner during the Raiders' 4-1 North Jersey. Section 2, Group III championship match.

sent it in for a quick 1-0 lead.

"That has worked for us all year," Leischner said of Bell's throws. "There was a scramble in the box and I just hit it in. That's how it happens.

Middletown South scored the equalizer about 13 minutes later but at 15:54 Bell again was

involved in setting up another Raiders goal. Off Billy Albizati's corner kick, Bell went up in the box and headed the ball to the left side of the net, where Matt Fliessner was waiting to head the ball in himself for a 2-1 lead.

"I think the first goal was huge but getting the second one right after they tied it really seemed to take a lot out of them, said Sean McNelis. "They started to get really frustrated after that.

We got in their heads.' At about 10:30 Scotch Plains was again applying pressure as

(Continued on page C-2)

# Raiders shutout Streaks to reach semifinals

By CHAD HEMENWAY

THE RECORD-PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS - It didn't look good after last week's 27-20 uninspired

loss to Union. But the Raiders (5-4) snuck onto the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 football playoffs brackets with the last remaining seed and went to work developing a game plan against Warren Hills (7-3). the second seed.

What a difference a week makes. Saturday in Washington, Scotch that had been lacking in previous contests and proceeded to shut out a Warren Hills offense that had scored over 200 points this year, 21-0, to earn a place in the sectional semifinals tonight at 7 p.m. against sixth-seeded West Morris (5-5) in Chester.

"Everyone knows we haven't quite been consistent this year but what impressed me during this game is how hard we played for all 48 minutes," said Scotch Plains head coach Steve

"I wasn't happy with out performance

### FOOTBALL

good team," Ciccotelli continued. "They are their conference champs. We needed a great defensive effort to shut them out and that's what we got. I think it says a lot about our team and hopefully we carry the lessons we learned on to West Morris."

The defense limited Warren Hills' star runner, Dexter Bullard, to just 50 vards on 16 carries and limited the Blue Streaks' offense to less than 150 total yards. Defensive back Colin Weber inter-Plains came out of the gate with a fire against Union and Warren Hills is a cepted two passes, it was the second

time in a row the Raiders have shut out Warren Hills in the playoffs.

The Raiders got a boost from running back, junior Rashawn Strong, who scored three touchdowns of nine, three and six yards while churning out 144 yards on 26 carries filling in for Lakiem Lockery

"It seems every year we have a kid that steps up," Ciccotelli said. "Last year it was Lakiem. This year it's Rashawn. The thing that impressed me was his on almost every run he found a way to get us positive yards. I like that."

once more against West Morris tonight. The Wolfpack is coming off a 13-7 win over third seeded Shabazz - a team Scotch Plains lost to 31-20.

"They are a good football team - a good program," said Ciccotelli.. "We're going to have to stop the run and control

"The big thing is I don't know the outcome of the game. That's what keeps coaches up at night. But if you can walk off the field even in defeat and say we played our best, then that's fine with me. I think that attitude leads to more

# Lady Blue Devils drop section finals

By CHAD HEMENWAY

THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD Thursday the Westfield Ladv Blue Devils had their season ended in the North Jersey Section 2, Group IV tournament final to Watchung Hills, 3-0, at Kehler Stadium in Westfield.

It was Watchung's third sectional title in four years.

We were excited to be in this position," said first-year head coach Katie Egan after the match. "This was similar to the Gov. Livingston game (a 3-0 loss in the Union County Tournament final). We dug ourselves a hole early."

Westfield finished the year with an impressive record of 13-6-3, with appearances in the Union County and state sectional finals.

Last Thursday Watchung Hills got off to a fast start by luring goalie Lauren Sinnenberg out of the net and scoring at 5:16. Controlling much of the first half action with physical, aggressive play,

Watchung converted their second goal at 18:04 for a 2-0 halftime lead.

"They were physically bigger than us," Egan said," but we have a lot of scrappy, tough girls that did their best today."

Westfield took control of the second half pace and worked some very good scoring opportunities. Emily MacNeil passed the ball up to Erin McCarthy in the corner to force a corner kick. Watchung cleared the kick put Westfield came right back to get off an excellent shot by Alv Ludmer, which hit the cross bar and bounced to Stephanie Brigdman. Brigdman attempted a shot that was saved by

Watchung's goalkeeper. "This is an emotional team," said senior forward Danni Fried. "If we could have gotten a little luckier and got that goal, things might have been different. But everyone tried as hard

as they could." Just minutes later the Blue Devils earned another corner kick taken by senior Gio

(Continued on page C-2)



JOHN FEI/CORRESPONDENT Junior Abby Chazanow of the Lady Blue Devils attempts to take the ball away from Watchung Hills' Jackie Byrnes in the state

Ridge in finals, 3-1 By CHAD HEMENWAY

BASKING RIDGE - The Scotch Plains Lady Raiders' soccer season ended last week after a 3-1 loss in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group III

**SP-F** girls lose to

finals to Ridge.

Coming off a crushing upset loss in the Union County Tournament, Scotch Plains impressively regrouped to make a run at the sectional finals but fell short to Ridge (21-1), the state's second-ranked team last Thursday.

Scotch Plains finishes the season with a very respectable (17-3-2) and was ranked No. 19 in the state's Top 20 coming into the match against Ridge.

Ridge went on to beat Ramapo 2-1 in a Group III semifinal match Tuesday and was to have played Moorestown for the overall title yesterday at The College of New Jersey. Rodge has lost just one game over the last two years.

Scotch Plains got off to a good start against Ridge when the 2004 campaign.

Jessie Sapienza tied the match 1-1 in the first half of play but just 40 seconds later Ridge countered with the go-ahead score by Nicole Longosz in the 43rd minute to give Ridge a 2.1 advantage.

The insurance goal was scored midway through the second half as Abbey Sumas scored her second goal by chipping a shot over Raiders goalie Lauren Mains' head in the top left.

Head coach Kevin Ewing and assistant coach Michelle Tobier guided the girls through a successful winning season.

The goaltending of Mains and the defense of Lauren Perrotta, Allie Zazalli, Bridget Cornwell, Allie Hambleton and Kristen Zyla were forces that many opponents had a tough time with this year.

Up front and in the middle, Jenna Balestriere, Alana Bencivengo, Hallie Mintz, Kelly Rigano, Jessie Sapienza, Carly Wells, Kim Appezato and Carlene Bronikowski provided many exciting moments during

# Wildcard Westfield boys run to get in Meet of Champions

section finals Nov. 4. Westfield lost 3-0.

By DAVID LAZARUS THE RECORD PRESS

Two seconds between five runners is an incredibly minute difference, but that is what enabled the Westfield boys cross country team to continue their season

tomorrow at the Meet of Champions. Saturday at Holmdel Park, the Blue Devils edged section rival Bridgewater-Raritan at the boys' Group IV championship meet for the coveted final wild

card spot. senior Rob Broadbent, the Blue Devils

averaged a season best 17:12.24 per runner to finish fifth in Group IV behind top ten state powers Old Bridge, Toms River North, Cherokee and Ridgewood.

We ran well but I believe we have the potential for a faster team average," said veteran coach Jack Martin. "Rob (Broadbent) was huge. Michael Gorski continues to be a very consistent performer. Kagan ran well early but twisted his ankle.'

Perrella overcame physical problems Led by junior Jeffrey Perrella and to finish ninth in 16:36.87, one of his slower times this fall.

### **CROSS COUNTRY**

"It just seemed like my legs were tired for the whole race," said Perrella. "Then, to make matters worse, I cramped up in the middle of the second mile. I wasn't about to let evervone

down and give up," said Perrella. The star of the day was Broadbent, who has been setting one personal best after another and was only two places behind Perrella in an astonishing

"Rob's time and place speak for themselves," said Martin.

Gorski followed in  $46^{\rm th}$  in 17:21.13 and Kagan  $63^{\rm rd}$  in 17:37.58. Although the fifth and sixth Westfield runners Jay Hoban and Ameer Rodgers were three places apart, they were separated by .76 of a second meaning either time would have been good enough to edge Bridgewater. The difference between exhibaration and frustration was that

And though Perrella would have qualified for the Meet of Champions as an individual (the top ten runners in each group make it), he is happier to have his whole team there.

"It also motivates me to run faster because I'm not just running for me, I'm running for my teammates too, and I have no intention of letting them down again," said Perrella.

Adding to the Blue Devils' incentive is one last chance to beat their rivals, Cranford. The Blue Devils actually ran faster than the Group II champion Cougars.

"We have wanted to beat them for a few years now," said Martin. "Hopefully in next week's head to head we can turn the tide. They are a good team so it won't be easy."

### Klimowicz signs letter of intent with St. Joe's U.

SCOTCH PLAINS - All-State center Hillary Klimowicz has signed a National Letter of Intent to attend St. Joseph's University and join its basketball team beginning in the fall of

Scotch Plains' all-time leading scorer, Klimowicz chose St. Joe's over Lehigh, Dartmouth, Boston University and William & Mary.

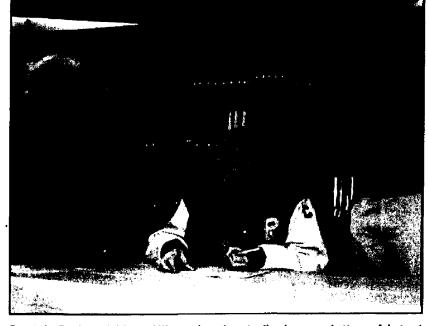
She is the first girls' basketball player from Scotch Plains to sign a national letter of intent and the first athlete since Ray Williams signed on to play football at Purdue in 2001 to receive a full, athletic scholarship.

Last season, Klimowicz, an All-State selection by the Star Ledger and Associated Press as a junior in 2003-2004, led the Raiders to its first ever Union County Championship and to the NJSIAA North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 title game for the third straight year.

She averaged 17.1 points, 12 rebounds and six blocks per game during a 22-6 season in 2003.

In the state tournament last year, Klimowicz elevated her play, averaging 19.5 points and 13.5 rebounds per game in four contests.

"(SJU head coach Cindy Griffin) is very down to earth, and willing to help in any way possible to make me the best ath-



Scotch Plains' Hillary Klimowicz (seated) signs a letter of intent Nov. 10 to attend St. Joseph's University on a full scholarship. By her side is her mother, Judith, and Raiders head coach Lori McBride.

lete and the best person I can be," said Klimowicz, "She has a very family-like atmosphere surrounding her and the rest of the team. I like the size of the school and the programs it offers.

"It's an A-10 school, which is a very good conference," Klimowcz added. "Compared with other schools I visited officially, St. Joe's offered me the most challenging competition during open gyms, so I know in a competitive field, I can only get better."

A four-year varsity starter, Klimowicz was a preseason All-America selection (honorable mention) by Street and Smith's and will enter her senior year with 1,451 career points. Klimowicz also participates in highly-acclaimed Moonglowers Jazz Band at SPFHS, serving as the second chair, trombone.

Plains-Fanwood, Scotch ranked eighth in the state at the end of the 2003-2004 campaign, returns four starters under new head coach Lori Gear McBride and will begin its season on Dec. 17, when it hosts defending state champion Malcolm X. Shabazz at

# Blue Sharks beat Cosmos, 3-0

Only three weeks after they had won their most significant game of the season, the Scotch Plains Blue Sharks U12 Girls intercounty team returned to the scene of that triumph to play an even bigger game Saturday.

In a near instant replay of the 4-0 triumph of October 23, the Sharks once again used two first half goals and sparkling defense and goal keeping to shutout the Mountainside Cosmos 3-0 on a cold blustery

Mountainside. The victory moves Scotch Plains into the championship game Nov. 20 against the winner of Rahway and Clark.

Jessica DiGiacomo, elusive again with her dribbling and passing, gave the Sharks the only goal they would need when her hard shot over a maze of players was deflected into the goal. Alyssa Young added some insurance with a hard shot from short range and in the second

day at Sheffield School in half, Erin Brown provided the clincher with a thundering blast from ten yards.

Melissa McKenna was once again brilliant in goal, making several diving stops and vocally leading the defense. Other contributors included Lauren Berk, Amanda Rodriguez, Jessica Feeley, Kara Gaynor, Sarah Weber, Toni Ann Capece, Lauren Buckley, Emily Cohen, Rebecca DiGiacomo, Annie Rubin, Sarah Lazarus and Desli DeMarsico.

# Westfield, SP-F girls miss MOC

By DAVID LAZARUS

THE CHRONICLE

In the first few strides of the girls Group III state championship race, Scotch Plains' chances for extending their magical season took a nasty spill as star runner Mary Shashaty lost her footing and rolled her ankle.

She bravely got to her feet and limped through the race in 21:11, well over a minute slower than expected. The Raiders wound up eighth out of 20 teams and missed the coveted first three places that would have enabled them to run in tomorrow's Meet of Champions.

The area's other cross-country power, Westfield also finished their season with a 13th

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### **CROSS COUNTRY**

place finish in a loaded Group IV

"We were expecting to have (Shashaty) place very low in the race, and at the very worst, qualify individually as a wild card for the Meet Of Champions (MOC) if she didn't qualify automatically by finishing in the top ten," said Raiders' head coach Jeff Koegel.

Shashaty has been on crutches since the race to keep her weight off and accelerate the healing. X-rays were negative, so she should be ready for the indoor season.

Westfield assistant coach Jen Buccino was satisfied with the teams' efforts.

"Five of our seven girls ran their personal bests so overall

we're pretty pleased," said Buccino.

Senior Annie Onishi led the team, followed closely by rising sophomore Kim Legones in

Junior Rachel Barret, senior Anne Siwulec were next followed by freshman Rose Driscoll and two sophomores, Jen Danielsson and Ayn Wisler, all in personal hests.

Scotch Plains senior Laura Harrison ran 20:52.35, which puts her second on the all-time performance list. Sophomore. Sam Gates ran 21:11.51, which is third all-time and a sophomore class record.

Scotch Plains freshman Cathy Harley and sophomore Allie Hoynes-O'Connor both ran with injuries, which hampered their performances.

### SP-F wins section title HOURS: MON.-THURS. 9AM - 9PM FRI. & SAT. 9AM - 10PM (Continued from page C-1) think they got off a quality shot Sun. 10am - 6PM

freshman Brian Hessemer loft-

ed a ball toward the net. Middletown's goalie came out to catch it but the ball was misplayed. Young took the loose ball and punched it in for the easy goal and a 3-1 halftime advantage.

In a second half that saw many yellow cards and even a red card, Scotch Plains settled in to protect the lead with defense from Terrence Charles, Joe Jacobi, Albizati, Leischner and Bell.

"We were still about last year," said Charles. "I don't and that took them out of the

Breznitsky said he and the team were able to scout Middletown South during the Eagles' semifinal match against Montgomery since Scotch Plains was awarded a free shot into the finals when their opponent, Colonia, forfeited due to allegations of hazing within their soccer team.

"We knew how to shut them down," Breznitsky said. "We used the flanks and changed direction. Our kids really did a great job carrying out the game

# **Devils drop section finals**

(Continued from page C-1)

Palatucci. But the curving kick skimmed on top of the cross bar

and out of bounds. "I'm proud of the way we kept on fighting," Egan said. "This match was a tale of two

After the match, Egan separated the seniors for what was an emotional post game talk for both.

"I was a brand new coach

the team's bench to reflect on a

halves.'

this year and I asked a lot from them but they gave me everything they had to make this year really memorable," Egan said. "The seniors were awesome and supplied a lot of leadership for the rest of the team."

Seniors Brigdman, Fried. Ludmer, MacNeil, Palatucci, Justine Palme, Lauren Campo, Megan Kealy and Tara O'Donahue gathered behind

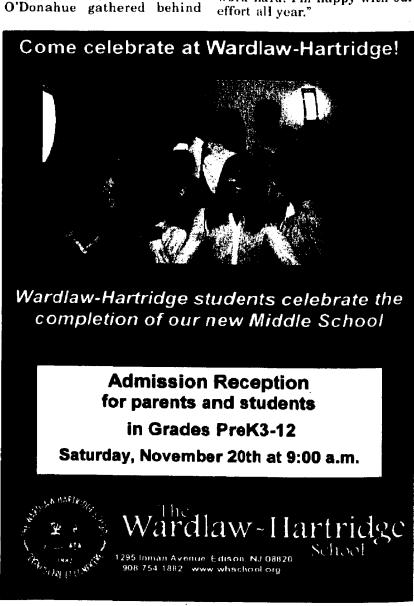
fine season.

"We were just joking about continuing to have captains'

practices even though the season is over," said Fried. "It's hard to believe. But this was awesome year and I think we'll all remember it that way. It could have been easy for

Egan to make excuses this year. Palme and junior Alison Bridgman suffered season-ending knee injuries at the beginning of the year. Both premier players needed surgery. The Lady Blue Devils got off to a 2-4-2 start.

"We basically could have packed it in right there and I don't think anyone would have blamed us with the injuries we had," Egan said. "But we knew we could win and continued to work hard. I'm happy with our effort all year."





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# Groundbreaking Ceremony Held At Hillside Suzuki

Suzuki, a division of the Hillside Auto Mall, broke ground on its new state of the art Suzuki showroom.

and CEO. Other franchises, located at the site, include Isuzu and Kia.

Hillside Suzuki's rapid growth since 1991 helped Liebler decide to build Suzuki its own 3,600-square-foot showroom. When asked why, Liebler stated the following: Since 1991 we have been selling Suzukis out of our other showrooms, but now with all of coming out it was time for us to

HILLSIDE - Hillside chise. Suzuki sells the luxurious Verona midsize sedan, premium compact Forenza, sporty Aerio sedan and SX models, combined with updated ver-Hillside Auto Mall was sions of the Grand Vitara and founded in 1974 by Rich XL-7 SUV's. The Wagon will be Liebler, its current president available in late fall of 2004. All Suzuki models offer an unusually high level of fea-Ford, Lincoln Mercury, Subaru, tures and amenities for the money such as seven-passenger seating with rear air conditioning in the XL-7; heated seats and outside mirrors in several models' rear four wheel drive capabilities on Suzuki's SUVs and standard power windows and door locks on all trim levels of the Verona and Forenza. Plus, every vehicle in the products that Suzuki has the line is covered by America's #1 Warranty, Suzuki's industry treat Suzuki as a major fran- leading, 100,000-mile seven-

year, fully transferable, nodeductible powertrain limited warranty. Suzuki's vehicles get great gas mileage, are of high quality and are priced below the competition. The franchise is ready to take off in a big way.

The Automotive Operations of American Suzuki Motor Corporation was founded on 1985. ASMC markets automobiles in the US through 500 dealerships. Its parent company Suzuki Motor Corporation, based in Japan, was founded in 1909 and has 139 distributors in 125 countries.

The new Suzuki Showroom was designed by Architect Alan Feld from Jersey City and the General Contractor will be Brian Goldstien Goldstien and Sons Contractors, also from Jersey.



GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY-Pictured, from left, (front): Joe Yobbi, director of operations, John Stefanidis, vice president of sales, Jeff Liebler, vice president, Rich Liebler, president and CEO, Dave Lapansky, parts and service director, Hillside Mayor Karen McCoy Oliver, Phil Castle, Suzuki regional general manager, and John Kulish, councilman.

# To Remain 'Merry' This Holiday Season, AAA Urges **Motorists Not To Become Another Breakdown Statistic**

motor club is forecasting nearly five million motorists will require some form of emergency road service during this year's holiday travel season. During the months of November and December, the most common roadside problems will involve a tow, a flat tire change, a battery jump-start replacement, lockout service or fuel delivery.

While AAA believes most types of breakdowns will increase this winter, its innovative approach to assisting motorists with battery related problems will help reduce the number of jump starts needed. This trend should keep the total number of road service problems approxiand December, when AAA handled 4.9 million calls for assistance.

In 1998, AAA began deploying a mobile battery service using specifically equipped vans and light trucks. Last year, the service - which augments the organization's well-known fleet of tow vehicles in most metropolitan areas of the United States (including New Jersey) and Canada

 helped reduce the number of requests for battery related calls from 923,000 to 879,000 last year.

"This decrease," said Marilyn Milstein, vice president of automotive services for the AAA New Jersey Automobile Club, "is due to AAA's

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AAA. North America's largest mately the same as last November for battery failure at the roadside. and get motorists on the go by installing a new battery, if needed and requested."

Of the 879,000 battery related calls AAA handled last year, the AAA Battery Service replaced more than 36,000 batteries during the months of November and December. In the upcoming November and December holiday season, AAA anticipates the growing availability of its Battery Service will result in a 60 percent increase (to 50,000) in the number of batteries replaced.

In November and December 2003, AAA affiliated service personnel in the U.S. towed 2.1 million cars and unique ability to diagnose the reason trucks; serviced 879,000 battery

calls: unlocked 830,000 doors: changed 660,000 flat tires; provided fuel to 71,000 motorists that had run out of gas; and extracted 96,000 stuck vehicles. Another 197,000 motorists required miscellaneous roadside assistance from AAA.

In Essex, Morris and Union Counties alone, 42,203 of the 297, 644 emergency road service calls were taken during November and December 2003. Of these calls, 7,194 were for flat tires, 9,374 were battery related problems with 63 batteries needing replacement; 466 were fuel related calls, 19, 013 members needed vehicle towing; 3,949 needed lockout service; 439 calls were for extrication, and 1,768 were miscellaneous

problem calls.

To avoid becoming a road service statistic this holiday season, AAA recommends consumers have their vehicles inspected and maintained by a qualified automotive technician.

Motorists can request emergency road service from AAA anywhere in North America, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, by calling 1-800-AAA-HELP or logging onto www.aaa.com.

The AAA New Jersey Automobile Club, through offices in Clark, Florham Park, Randolph, Springfield and West Orange, provides automotive, travel, insurance, financial and educational services to residents of Essex, Morris and Union Counties.



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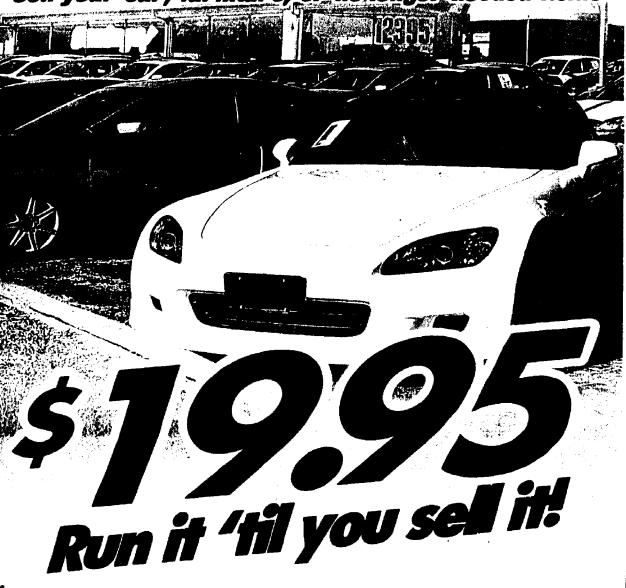
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Individual will ensure building & grounds are maintained & in full compliance w/ regulations.
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Lips 908-232-0999

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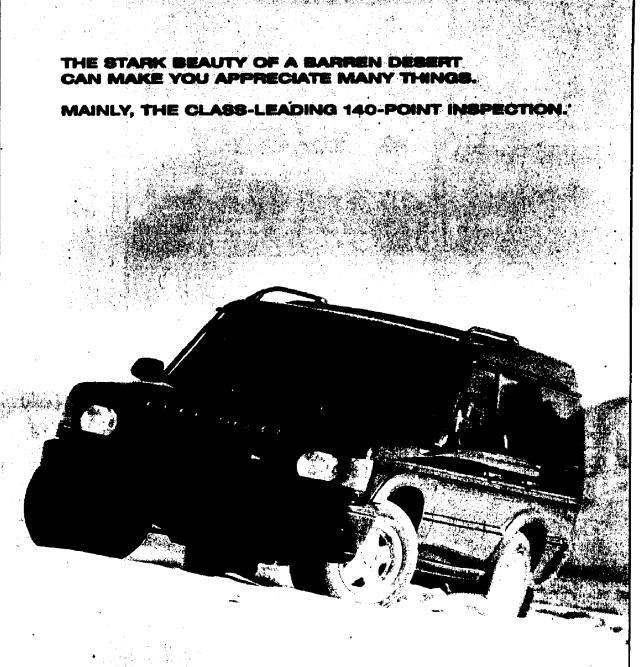
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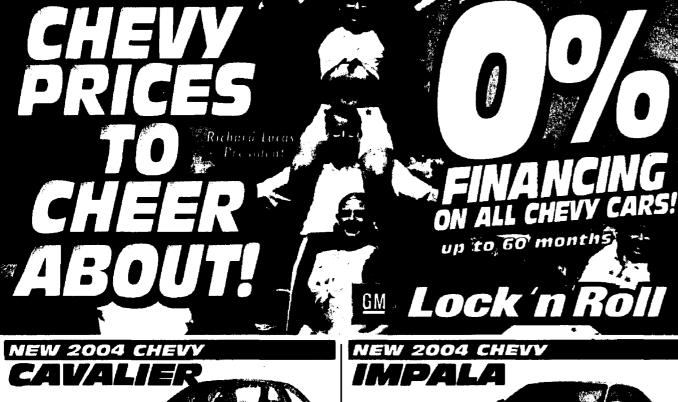
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'97 YW Cabrio Convertible क्रियास प्रदेश हो। अप्रताम इन्युक्त BEK 10 工程( 旅 )图 1 提集 '03 Chevy Cavaller LS **增长工作产力的定任。由 解于注户数** •9699 maz ic il dan anti filida

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king and in the said '02 Pontice Grand Prix GT ACCOMMANDER STO. 999 CHECK OF THE CALL BANK AND A COLUMN '04 Pontice Sunfire Coupe Aнгеранате и инстант \$10,499 '03 Chevy Impala AND STANSFAMENTINES \$10.999

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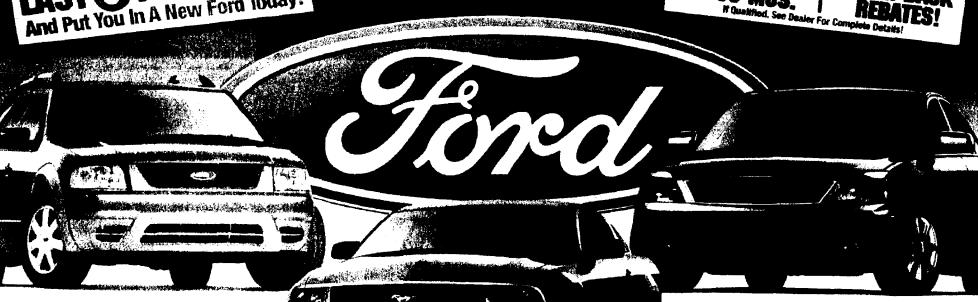
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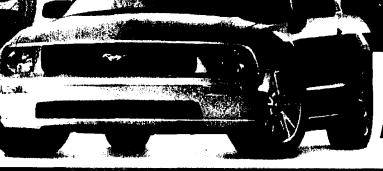


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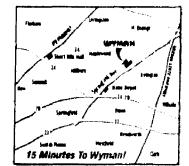
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House: Mediterranean Dining Room Set. 2 Sofas, 2 Bedroom Sets. Refig erator, Liones Trains, HO Train Village, Costume &

Fine Jewelry, Prints Lamps, Tables, Mirrors, 3

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MOUNTAINSIDE 1082 Sunny Slope Drive off Summit Rd. Fn & Sat 11/1920, 9am-3pm, Tod-dier toys & books, a large variety of surprises, some-thing for everyone. ANTIQUES PIANOS ★Jacob Doll Turn of the gen try 1800's good conflorineeds work Best Offer Brambach Grand Piano Bar New York style 12 thing for everyone. stools. Could be a great

NEW PROVIDENCE MOVING SALERI 48 Columbus Ave., Sat., 11/20, 10-3, Refrig., \$200, Washer, \$75, Dyer, \$75; Sofa Bed, \$50; Kit. Thi & 4 carie ciris. Lg. Class Cocktal Tbt, other furn. Art.

shell camer, Much more! SCOTCH PLAINS 2283 WOODLAND TERM., SAT. 11/20 10-4pm Cloths, Baskets, Christmas, Furni-

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MOVING

5COTCH PLAINS - 4 Pastime Pi. (In Sterling Chase) Sat., 11, 20 9am 3pm; Furni-ture, dishes, curtains, toys, onca-brac. Rain or Shine

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Lamps, Craft, Amas Items. JNION - SATURDAY 11/20

9:00 - 4:00
Vintage Refrigerator
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UP TO 60 MOS.

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V8\_auto-00\_trans\_pwr.str/brks/wind/loks/\_

2004 Lincoln

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RED

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**Navigator** Verauto CD trans this stripks/wholekert at AMEM/blasc CD discrete whe manys virtue for thouse this moon if MSHF 16a flag cik. #4N58 VN #4LJ22677 38 Mo Fed Carbet Opten W12,000 myr 201 thereafter Pyrombit and of \$3000 Customer Cash \$4500 Customer Fishers

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1997 Ford TAURUS

1999 Mercury

GRAND MARQUIS

4 dr. V8, auto OD trans, air, pwr.str/brks/wind lekstrunk saat. t/gls. ridet.tilt, cruise, AM/FM stereo-cass, 41,052 m, Stk. #4P75A, VIN #XX653226

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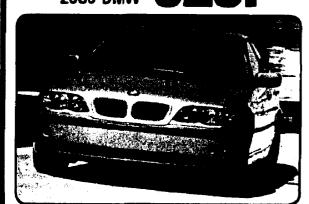
Wagon, 4 cyl, auto OD trans, air, pwr.str/ABS/wind lcks, AM/FM stereo CD w/MP3, cgls, r/def, tilt, cruise, 17,761 mi, Stk. #4P92, VIN #3W326886

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24 HOURS A DAY

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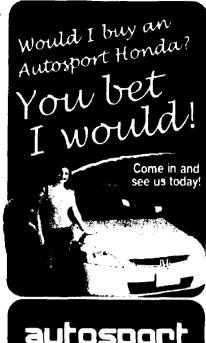
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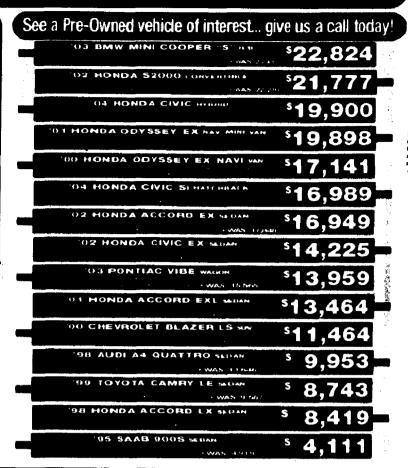
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(18) Chevrolet Monte Carlo SS 2 dr. 6 dyl, eu/o bane, er, per str. ABS (brahendseethaunt, \$15, 185) stereo cristi str. elloys, rispolen, lithir int. sec. bys. OnStar. trac. cntrl., 24,277 mi., Stc., 4583P, Vrill, e19253981

22 TO Cherrolet 518 LS Est. Cab 4 cyl, auto trans, air, pwr str/ABS, AMFM stereo, CD, bug shield, aloys, tigls, sec sys, traser hach, cloth inti, 7657 mi, Stk. #639P, VIN #38114072 

84 Chowrelet Impale LS
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stereo critri in steering rads, r/spooler, alloys, thy int,
sec sys. 9586 mi. Stik #658P, VIN #49159314 '81 ford Mustang ST Convertible

8 oyl, auto 00 hinns, air, pur str ABShousvandhumbur seascoon, \$1.9,555 top, CO drings, alloys, insposes fibr int. sec sys. 16,574 m, Str. 型 TI ME Sem 1別 証 44

Prolupt 8 cyt. auto OO trans, air pwr str ABS loks wind, CO, alloys, crusse, lithir init, keyless early, sec sys, graphics, 29,985 mi, Stk. 9595P, VIN #1E207154 2 11 Chorelet liber 1580 | 44

22 '82 Chevrolet Tabos LS 4u4 8 cyl. auto OD trans, dual air per str'ABS/cks/seat/wind, alloys, AMFM stereo. CD, keyless entry, sec sys. trgit. bis midgs, numing bris. 20,753 m. Sts. 9644U; VN s2R145888.

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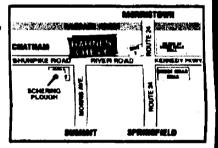


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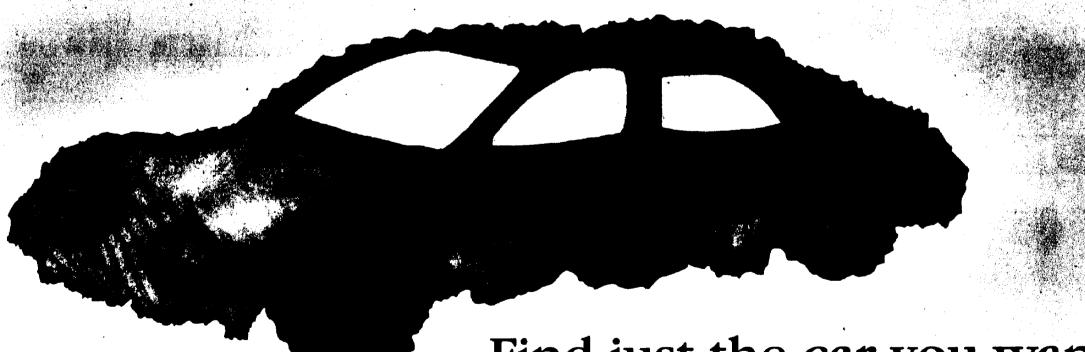
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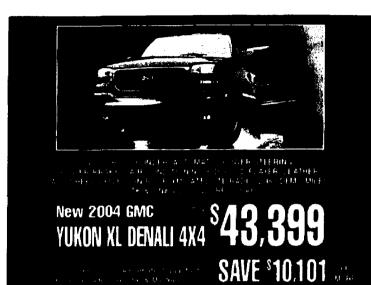
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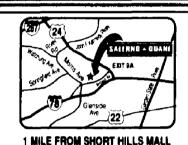








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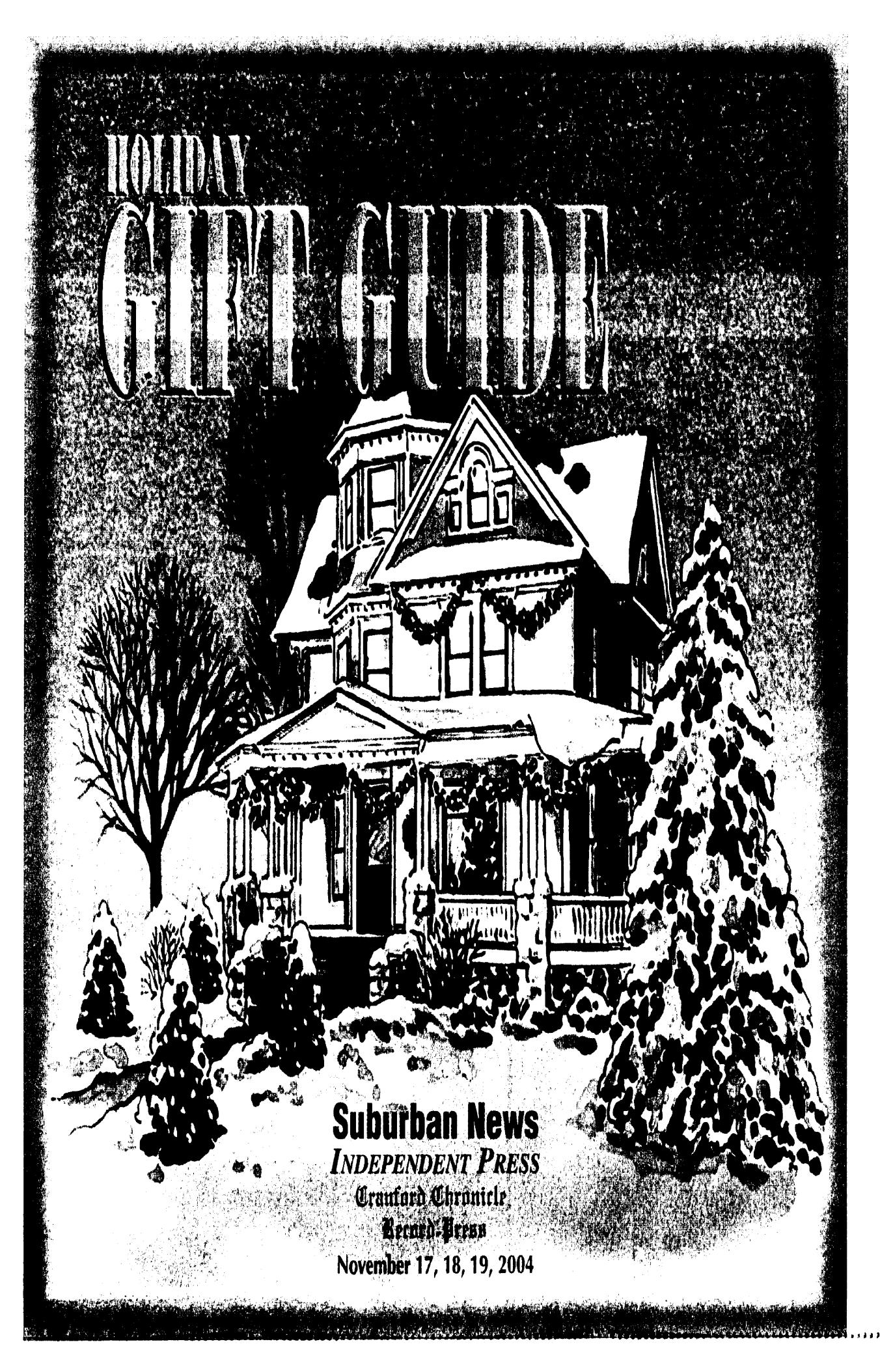
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# Morris Museum Lights Up With Annual Holiday Tree Festival

AREA — The Morris Museum, 6 Normandy Heights Road, Morristown, will hold its annual Holiday Tree Festival from Friday, Dec. 3 through Saturday, Dec. 11.

As a gift to the community, admission to the museum is free during this week-long event.

Hours will be 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 3 and Saturday, Dec. 4; noon to 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday, Dec. 6; Tuesday, Dec. 7; Wednesday,

Dec. 8; Friday, Dec. 10 and Saturday, Dec. 11; and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9.

For information, call 973-971-3700, or visit www.morrismuseum.org.

Held in the Morris Museum's main gallery, the Holiday Tree Festival will showcase wreaths, garlands, table centerpieces, gift items and themed seven-foot community trees, which are sponsored by local corporations and donated to charities at the end of the festival. Original hol-



TREE FESTIVAL — The Friends of the Morris Museum have been busy creating beautiful decorations for the museum's upcoming Holiday Tree Festival, Dec. 3 to 11. All handmade items created by the Friends will be sold during the Festival. From left are Museum Friends, LaVerne Washburne and Simone Shelby, both of Chatham. Call the Morris Museum at 973-971-3700.

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# Holiday Shopping at the New NJCVA Gift Gallery!

NJCVA's Gift Gallery is at our new downtown location. The Gift Gallery Will feature handcrafted works of art In a variety of media from selected artists. From glassware for the home to unique jewelry and one-of-a-kind handbags, The Gift Gallery will offer a wide array of items that will delight you and your family and friends. Whether it's shopping for the holidays, special occasions or just for fun, make sure you stop by the new Gift Gallery at NICVA!

AUMI



Lace applique handbag by Tatiana Wans of Edo Designs, one of many items in the NJCVA Gift Gallery

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iday items are designed by members of the Friends of the Morris Museum or donated by local designer businesses.

Museum visitors can not only admire these one-of-a-kind creations, but also purchase them as gifts or for their own homes.

This year's Holiday Tree Festival at the Morris Museum is one of several historic stops on the annual Holly Walk Tour organized by the participating historic sites and the Morris County Visitors Center. Throughout the week, local community and school music groups will perform for visitors, and a Tea Room will offer patrons soup, sandwiches and desserts.

During the week, there will be several special events. These include a "Northern Lights," Holiday Tree Festival Party, 6 to 10 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, where guests will be able to purchase original, hand-made holiday items including trees, wreaths, garlands and centerpieces. The evening's festivities include cocktails and a buffet dinner featuring specialties from Poland, Russia and Ukraine. Guests will enjoy live entertainment, a raffle and a live auction.

On Saturday, Dec. 11, the museum will provides three seatings for its Teddy Bear Tea at 10 a.m., noon and 2:30 p.m. The Tea is for families with children ages three to eight. The Teddy Bear Tea provides an opportunity for a family holiday photo. Entertainment includes a magic show by Dikki Ellis The Magician and a special visit by Santa, who brings a gift for each child. Tickets are \$18 per person. Reservations are required. Call 973-971-3706.



# 'Pipes Of Christmas' Schedules Three Holiday Performances

SUMMIT — The Pipes of Christmas, Clan Currie's holiday concert returns to Summit for three performances on Friday, Dec. 17, at 8 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 18, at 2 and at 8 p.m.

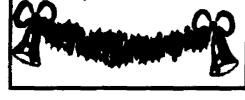
Performances will be held at Central Presbyterian Church, 70 Maple St., Summit.

The program will feature the music of Christmas accompanied by a selection of readings taken

# Carolers Sought For Tiny Tim Carol Night

FANWOOD — The Tiny Tim Fund, a non-profit organization that provides financial assistance to children in Fanwood and Scotch Plains who are in need of medical care and cannot afford it, is seeking carol groups to participate in the annual Tiny Tim carol night, to be held on Dec. 9.

If interested in forming a carol group, call Mari McDevitt, 233-6513 or Anne O' Brien at 756-3079.



from Celtic literature and scripture,

Since making its debut in 1999, Pipes of Christmas has played to standing room only audiences. Given the popularity was added in 2001 to accommodate the high-demand for tickets.

That same year, Clan Currie began an award-winning partnership with TV-36, Communities On Cable, broadcasting concert highlights on Christmas Eve.

The last two productions were both recipients of the prestigious Telly Award for production excellence.

The 2003 concert was broadcast live on TV-36 as a fundraiser for the community access station.

Something of a holiday institution in Summit, the concert has provided audiences with a celebration of the Christmas season and the Celtic spirit.

Audiences return year after of the program, a second concert year to experience the program, many reporting that the Pipes of Christmas has become part of their family's annual Christmas tradition.

> The concert is kept fresh each year with new selections and performances. While steeped in Christmas tradition, the program also strives to remain relevant to the contemporary world. The 2001 edition was dedicated to the

formed especially for the concert.

The 2002 concert was designated an official Golden Jubilee event by Buckingham Palace to commemorate the 50th anniversary of HRH Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the throne.

That same year, Pipe Major Blandford also premiered a pipe solo commissioned by Clan Currie in memory of the late Queen Mother who had died earlier that year. The 2003 concert was dedicated to Blandford, who died

Lost" was composed and per- earlier that year of brain cancer.

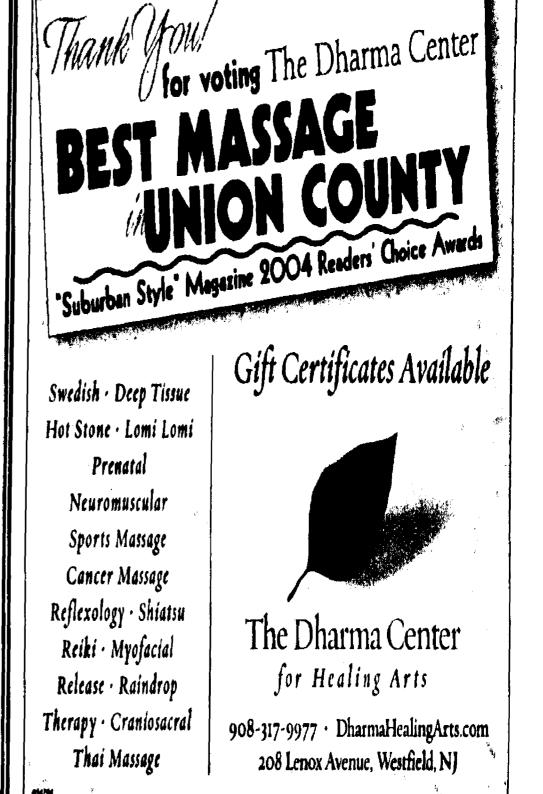
Tickets will only be sold in advance of the concert. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Clan Currie has also set the date for its fourth annual Burns Supper. The dinner-dance commemorating the life and contributions of Scotland's bard will be held on Saturday, Jan. 22, 2005 at the Grand Summit Hotel.

For further information on these events, visit the Society's website at www.clancurrie.com or call 908-273-3509.







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# Find Unique Treasures At The Muddy **Boot Antiques**

SUMMIT - No, you are not in Greenwich Village or Soho, however you feel like it when you step into the five-room antique shop on the top floor at 44 Maple

The Muddy Boot, Inc., Antiques and Objects, owned and operated by long-time Summit resident Lorie A. Combias, contains many wonderful and unusual treasures. The shop is open only on Mondays and Tuesday so Ms. Combias can spend the rest of the week hunting for antique art, light fixtures, mirrors, small occasional furniture and much more.

As you walk from room to room you think you are in someone's home, so a shopper can easily imagine how something would look in their own home.

Ms. Combias said that, for as long as she can remember, she has been trekking through flea markets, (in her muddy boots, of course), buying and collecting anything and everything that caught her keen eye. After spending many years working for Polo Ralph Lauren Home Collection in New York City, Ms. Combias said she learned that customers wanted more than just sheets and towels, fabric and furniture. The wanted all of the things and decorations that make a house a home.

Ms. Combias invited interested shoppers to visit The Muddy Boot, open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, or by appointment. Phone 908-598-0990.

# Make A Candy Wreath

FANWOOD-The Fanwood Memorial Library will host a holiday craft night on Dec. 7 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. making a candy wreath. There is a materials fee of \$7.50 and everyone will go home with a beautiful five-inch candy wreath to celebrate the holidays.

Registration is required and seating is limited. Call Nancy at the library at (908) 322-6400 for more information.



### Residents Reminded To Avoid Holiday Rush And Get Passports Early

WESTFIELD — Union County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi would like to remind county residents planning on traveling abroad this holiday season to apply for their passports as early as possible to avoid any complications that may disrupt travel plans.

"Families and individuals who plan to travel over the December holidays and New Year should apply for, or, if necessary, renew their passports before the Thanksgiving rush." Rajoppi said. "We experience a crush of applications in late

November and don't want to disappoint anyone planning on traveling in December."

Union County residents interested in obtaining a U.S. Passport for foreign travel are required to complete an application form and provide the following items:

An original birth certificate issued by Vital Statistics/city hall with a raised seal and date of issue; a naturalization of citizenship certificate, if applicable; an old U.S. Passport, if any, is preferred over any of the above;

Two recent professional 2" x 2" photographs, front facial pose (available at office for \$7); Total fee is \$85, of which \$55 must be by check or money order payable to U.S. Department of State, and a \$30 execution fee payable by cash, check, or money order to the County Clerk.

For parents, a new federal law applies for children under 14, call for requirements; For children under the age of 16, the fee is \$40 plus \$30 execution fee; A valid driver's license or three types of identification and a wit-

Passport applications may be submitted in person at the County Clerk's Office in the Union County Courthouse at 2 Broad St. in Elizabeth or at the satellite office in the Veneri Building at 300 North Ave. East in Westfield.

The Westfield office has convenient night hours and an experienced, helpful staff members ready to assist customers in any way they can. The Elizabeth office opens at 7:30 a.m. and is fully staffed also.

The County Clerk's office in

Elizabeth is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The passport office in Westfield is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. The Westfield office is open from 8 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday.

For more information about obtaining a U.S. passport, call (908) 527-4966 or www.geng orgety elerk passport.html on the internet.

All passport applications are available for download online.

## Crafts '04 Opens Dec. 2 At Fellowship

AREA — Crafts '04, the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship's 39th annual juried exhibit and sale of fine crafts, opens at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 2. The show, which features 100 artists, will run through to Sunday afternoon, Dec. 5, at the Fellowship's home, the historic Thorne Mansion, at 21 Normandy Heights

Road, Morristown. While all exhibitors have been chosen for the high caliber of their artwork, the variety of items accommodates all budgets. Items starting at under \$20 make appealing presents for the holidays. Works of beaded, gold and silver jewelry, stained and blown glass, pottery, inlaid and carved wood, carved wood spoons, ceramics, leather, hand-woven fiber, toys, Christmas decorations, Hanukkah gifts, handpainted silk scarves, candles, baskets and dried flower wreaths will be displayed.

The museum-style ambiance of the Thorne Mansion and the ongoing tradition of the Fellowship attracting the most outstanding artists have earned this annual craft show a superb reputation.

Another unique feature of the Show is the Crafts Café. Homemade soup, bread, quiche, chili and dessert are served in the dining room. Also, on Thursday evening, the wine and cheese reception is a warm and pleasant opening to the Crafts '04 weekend.

Show hours are 6 to 10 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, noon to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5.

The daily donation is \$3, \$2 for seniors and \$5 for the opening night wine and cheese reception.

There is ample on-site parking. Call for directions at 973-540-



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### Madison YMCA Holds Holiday Craft Fair

MADISON — The Madison Area YMCA will hold a Holiday Craft Fair on Sunday, Nov. 21, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the YMCA Family Center, 111 Kings Road.

Featured will be a wide variety of lovely handmade crafts, gifts, holiday decorations, scented candles, Longaberger baskets & pottery, handcrafted jewelry, wrapping paper, homemade

jams and jellies and wreaths.

Admission is free and so is parking.

For further information, call 973-377-6200, ext. 2241.



Saturday, Nov. 20th

and

Sunday, Nov. 21st

9am - 5pm



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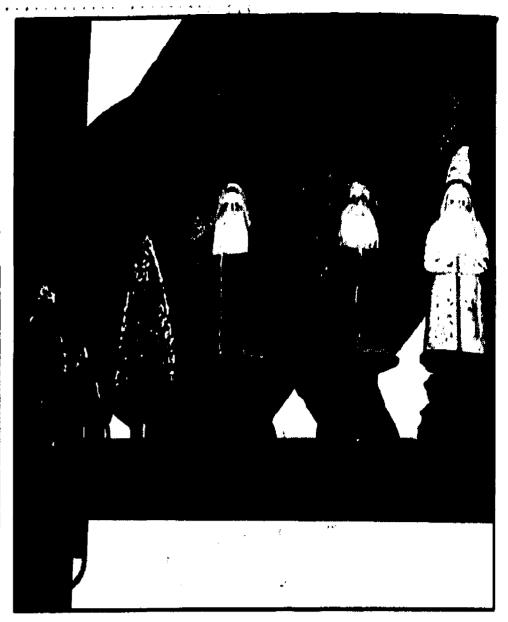
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### **FMBA** #30 To Hold Holiday Food Drive

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Firemen's Mutual Benevolent Association (FMBA) Local No. 30 will conduct its ninth annual holiday food drive for needy area residents throughout November and December. Non-perishable food items will be accepted at Fire Headquarters, 405 North Ave., West, concluding at 9 p.m., Dec. 17, and will be distributed the morning of Dec. 18.

The food baskets will be distributed to those in need through local churches and civic organizations in time for the holiday season.

In its first food drive in 1996. FMBA Local 30 distributed meals to approximately 75 families in Westfield, with the number increasing to 135 families in 2003. Contributions from local citizens make up approximately 50 food baskets with FMBA Local 30 making up the additional baskets required. Local No. 30 also completes every food basket by donating one turkey to each meal distributed; one smoke alarm detector is also placed in each basket.





SPELLBOUND BY THE SNOW QUEEN — The Hudson Vagabond Puppets perform "The Snow Queen," for children ages three to 12, Wednesday, Dec. 29, as part of the Bayer Children's Theatre series at the Morris Museum, 6 Normandy Heights Road, Morristown. Performances are at 11 a.m. and at 1:30 p.m. Through narration, dance and puppetry, performers interpret the classic tale of two friends who look into a demon's magic mirror, and meet the beautiful Snow Queen. She teaches them a valuable lesson about holding onto their beliefs. Tickets are \$8.50 and include admission to the Morris Museum's galleries. Call the box office at 973-971-3706.

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## St. Bart's Rosary Altar Society Christmas Party

SCOTCH PLAINS - St. be refreshments, prizes and Society will hold the annual Christmas party on Dec. 6, after the 7:30 p.m. Mass.

All the women of the parish (908) 322-5409. are invited to attend. Thre will

Bartholomew's Rosary Altar entertainment by St. Bartholomew's youth group.

Bring a friend. For further information call (908) 322-5046 or

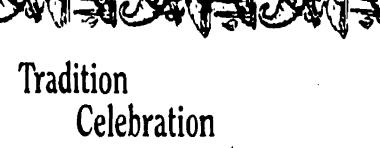


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# Milburn HOLIDAY SHOPPING EMERGE





## Paper Mill Playhouse Opens Box Office For Fall Season

MILLBURN — The Paper Mill Playhouse winter season features "She Loves Me," through Dec. 7, and continues with "Harold & Maude: The Musical," "The Drawer Boy," "The Baker's Wife," and "Ragtime."

Tickets to all productions are \$31 to \$68, \$15 student rush. The Paper Mill has subscription packages. Call 973-376-4343; visit the Paper Mill Box office on Brookside Drive in Millburn, or www.papermill.org.

formances Wednesday through Saturday evenings at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 7:30 p.m.; Thursday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.; and Saturday matinees at 2:30

Song and dance man James Brennan directs the musical "She Loves Me," a romance about two 1930s shop clerks who seem to dislike each other, and don't realize they are actually pen pals.

The book is by loe Masteroff, who also wrote "Cabaret." The The Paper Mill schedules per- music and lyrics are by Jerry

Bock and Sheldon Harnick, who also wrote "Fiorello!," "The Apple Tree," "The Rothschilds," and "Fiddler on the Roof."

"Harold & Maude" is the story of an unlikely romance between an eccentric young man morbidly obsessed with suicides and an equally eccentric old woman who is as much in love with life as he is death. Based on the 1971 cult film, this world premiere musical at Paper Mill which will run Jan. 5 through Feb. 6. is the collaboration of veteran writer Tom Jones of "The Fantasticks", "I Do!, I Do!" and "110 in the Shade" and composer Joseph Thalken.

John Mahoney, best known for his work as Martin Crane on the television series—"Frasier," makes his Paper Mill debut in Michael Healey's "The Drawer Boy," running Feb. 23 through April 3. Two Canadian farmers, boyhood friends and WWII veterans share a mysterious secret.

Their lives are comically interrupted when a young actor asks to live and work with them as research for a play about farming. As he becomes part of their lives, their fascinating story becomes a part of his play and the lines blur between theater and life, memory and reality.

"The Baker's Wife," is a fable about life, love and bread by Joseph Stein of "Fiddler on the Roof" and Stephen Schwartz of "Wicked," "Godspell," "Children of Eden," and "Pippin". It runs April 13 through May 22. The bickering residents of a small Provencal town find peace and contentment in the heavenly bread of the newly arrived baker and his attractive young wife, but when she is lured away by the attentions of a handsome

young gigolo, the middle-aged baker loses all zest for life and baking, throwing the community into chaos.

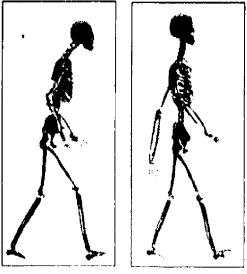
The 1998 Tony Award-winning "Ragtime," based on the novel by E. L. Doctorow, is the story of three American families at the beginning of the 20th century — one upper middle class, white Anglo-Saxon Protestant; one socialist immigrant Jewish; and one Harlem black, whose lives become intertwined as they are caught up in the events of a young, turbulent country. Interwoven with the three fictitious families are such historic figures as Harry Houdini, Henry Ford, J.P. Morgan, Emma Goldman, and Evelyn Nesbit. "Ragtime" runs seven weeks from June 8 through July 17.



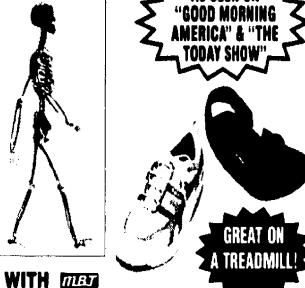
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AREA — All 43 Charlie Brown's Steakhouses in New Jersey and New York will offer a special menu on Thursday, Nov. 25, featuring a complete fourcourse Thanksgiving Day Feast.

Seatings for Thanksgiving Day are available from noon to 9 p.m. Reservations are suggested but not required.

entrée includes roast turkey with all the fixings (turkey is all you can eat); prime rib, crabmeat stuffed shrimp, mustard crusted salmon or filet mignon. Each dinner includes garlic mashed potatoes with giblet gravy, green beans amandine, sweet potatoes and candied carrots. The choice of dessert includes apple pie, pumpkin pie, pumpkin cheesecake or ice cream.

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"Each person can choose their own favorite meal and everyone likes the fact that someone else is doing the cooking and cleaning," says president and CEO Russell D'Anton.

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# HOLIDAY AND SHOPPING TO SHOPPING



### Newark Museum Exhibit Offers Glimpse Into Russian Imperial Family

AREA — The traveling exhibit, "Nicholas and Alexandra: At Home with the Last Tsar and His Family," displays the Romanov family's personal belongings at the Newark Museum, 49 Washington St., Newark, through Jan. 9. The 250 precious objects in this exhibit are from the Romanov family's living quarters in the Alexander Palace at St. Petersburg.

Most of them, never before seen outside of Russia, are presented at the museum in a series of vignettes that depict the private life of Tsar-Nicholas II, Tsarina Alexandra and their five children.

Porcelain, tapestry, paintings and portraits, uniforms and dresses, icons, decorative arts, textiles, books, photographs and letters are some of the items from the royal couple's personal collection that are on display.

Visitors will view the small throne chair and table, the young Tsarevich Alexis' own sentry box, toy soldiers and a rare model of the Trinity-St. Sergius monastery with all its churches, bell tower and walls carved of wood and painted in realistic colors.

See the christening gown of Tsarevich Alexis; architectural drawings and watercolor design for the family rooms in the Alexander Palace; furniture and clothing from the rooms of the grand duchesses; watercolors of their rooms; dolls and art supplies owned by the girls, as well as their flower studies in watercolors;

icons, including a recently discovered Romanov family icon; family photo albums and rare film footage. from home movies taken by the Tsar; place settings from the Tsarskove-Selo porcelain service; and the Marie Antoinette Gobelin tapestry presented by the president of France to Nicholas and Alexan-

Many of the artifacts had been evacuated to safety and preserved from destruction by loyal staff before the German invasion of Russia in 1941; they have not been together since and have come to light only recently in the wake of political changes in Russia.

Organized by the American-Russian Cultural Cooperation Foundation in Washington, D.C.,

"Nicholas and Alexandra: At-Home with the Last Tsar and His Family" will also be shown at the Museum of Fine Arts in Santa Fefrom May 29 until Sept. 5, 2004 and at the Cincinnati Museum from Jan. 29 until May 1, 2005.

For the duration of this exhibit,

the Newark Museum, in the Downtown Arts District of Newark, is open Mondays, and Wednesdays through Fridays, noon to 5 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 973-596-6550 www.NewarkMuseum.org.

### Fireside Book Discussions, Film Screenings At Millburn Library MILLBURN — The Friends of eign. Join the group in the audi-

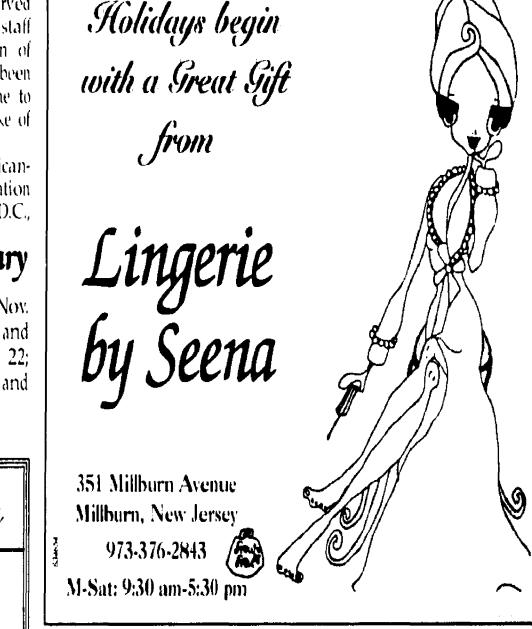
the Millburn Free Public Library, 200 Glen Ave., offer a season of Fireside Book Discussions and film screenings. For information, call the library at 973-376-1006.

The Fireside Book Discussion Group features a book review and audience discussion at 1 p.m. on Mondays, once each month. On Monday, Dec. 6, library director Bill Swinson leads a discussion about "Gone For Soldiers," by Jeff Shaara.

The Friends Film Series offers an eclectic mix of classic and new titles, both American and fortorium on the second floor of the library at 1 p.m. on two Wednesdays a month for these free presentations.

See "The Thin Man," on Nov. 24; "La Strada," on Dec. 1; and "Casablanca," on Dec. 22; "Whale Rider," on Jan. 5; and "Mon Oncle," on Jan. 19.



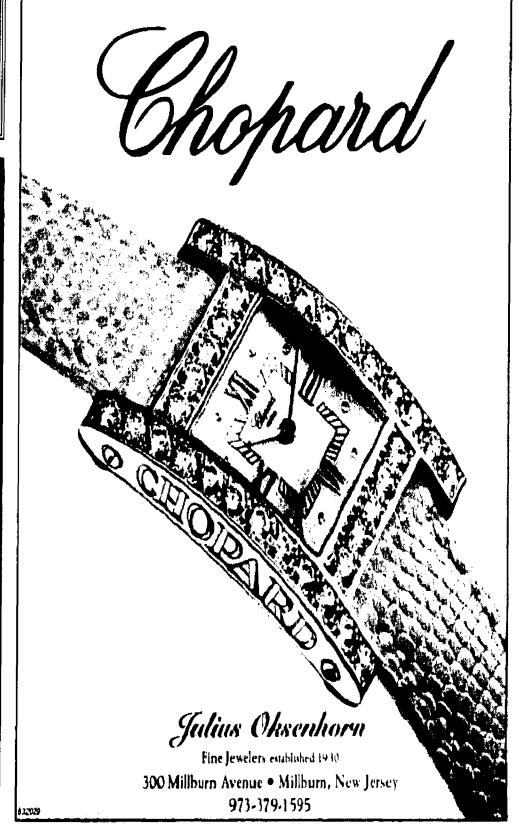




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### Model Railroad Club Announces Annual Light And Sound Show

UNION — The Model Railroad Club, Inc., an activity of the Union County Park System, announced the dates for its annual light and sound show. over. The show will run Nov. 26 - 28, Dec. 3 – 5 and Dec. 10 – 12 at the club building, located on Jefferson Avenue off Route 22 east in Union, behind The Home zations. Depot.

- 7 p.m., Saturdays noon to 9 p.m. and Sundays, noon to 6 p.m.

Ticket prices at the door on indoor garden display loops. show dates are \$6 for adults, \$3 for children aged 12 and under and \$4 for seniors aged 60 and on the 60-by-80 foot addition to

advance sale program is available, as well as a special group rate for civic and other organi-

The show features the Club's The show times are Fridays, 5 1,600 square foot HO Scale laydecked N Scale layout is also featured, as well as outdoor and

Visitors will also be able to view the progress that has been made the HO Scale layout and enjoy As in past years, a discount displays in the gallery area. There will also be a hospitality booth, a gift shop and a snack

The Model Railroad Club, Inc. was founded in 1949 in the basement of Paul Mallery, a pioout. A 30-by-72 foot, double neer of the hobby of model railroading. The Club occupies a building on Union County park-

land designed, built and maintained entirely by the members under a unique arrangement with the Union County Park System. Free parking is available on site and the building is wheelchair accessible.

For further information, contact the Club at (908) 964-9724 on Saturdays between 1 and 5 p.m., or (908) 964-8808 for a recorded message, or visit on the web at the Club's website at: www.tmrci.com.





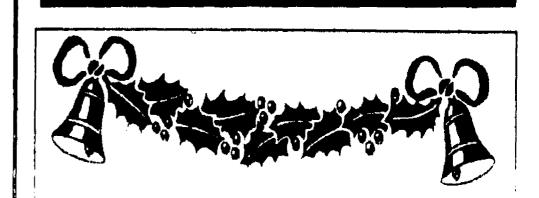
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### **HOLIDAY EVENTS IN SUMMIT** SANTA ARRIVES!

Friday, December 3, 6:30 PM SANTA PARADE

FLOATS REFRESHMENTS Music

(Along Springfield Ave., Beechwood Rd., Union Place) Bring a can/box of non-perishable food or diapers for the Community Food Bank.

### HOLIDAY MOVIES

Saturday, December 11, 10:30 & 11:15 AM Beacon Hill 5 Cinema, FREE, but bring a can or box of food for the Food Bank.

### HOLIDAY PUPPET SHOWS

Sunday, December 12, 12:30 & 2:00 pm The Square Yard, 343 Springfield Ave. Info and Tickets - 908-522-1700

### HORSE AND CARRIAGE RIDES

Sundays, November 28, December 5, 12, & 19 12:00-2:30 pm Climb aboard at corner of Beechwood Rd. and De Forest Ave. FREE, but bring a can/box of food or diapers for the Community Food Bank.

### **BREAKFASTS WITH SANTA**

Saturdays & Sundays in December

@The Office Restaurant (908-522-0550), Winberie's Restaurant (908-277-4224), Broadway Grill (908-277-6222) (Call each for exact times & to make reservations.)

### THURSDAY EVENINGS

The Stores are Open Late! Enjoy Musical Entertainment!

#### ANGEL TREES

Buy a gift for the less fortunate; look for the Angel Signs

Information: Call 908-522-1700



### Mall At Short Hills Hosts Holiday Concerts

SHORT HILLS — The festive sounds of the season will be featured at The Mall at Short Hills' Holiday Concert Series. Unless indicated, all performances are from 1 to 4 p.m. on the lower level in the plush seating areas near Bloomingdale's and Neiman Marcus.

Nov. 26, Pavan String Quartet and the Marion Pana Quartet.

Nov. 27, Gerard Tioli Trio and the Woodhaven String Trio.

Nov. 28, John Bicknell, pianist, and the Vivian Penham Trio.

Dec. 4, Kiroka Estava Quartet and the David Latulippe Trio.

Dec. 5, Clem Moormann, pianist, and the New York String Ouartet.

Dec. 11, Newark Boys Choir, 2 to 2:30 p.m., 3:15 to 3:45 p.m., near Bloomingdale's, and the Pavan String Quartet.

Dec. 12, Claremont String Trio, and the Kiroka Estava Trio.

Dec. 18, John Bicknell, Pianist, and the Joann Brennen Trio.

Dec. 19, Newark Boys Choir, 2 to 2:30 p.m., 3:15 to 3:45 p.m., near Bloomingdale's, and the Gerard Tioli Trio.

Dec. 23, Clem Moormann, pianist.

Dec. 24, Phil Della Penna,

pianist, and the Vivian Penham Trio.

The Mall at Short Hills is located at Route 24 and JFK Parkway in Short Hills and features Bloomingdale's, Macy's, Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom, Saks Fifth Avenue and 170 fine stores and services.

Shopping hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday; and noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

Department store and restaurant hours may vary.

Special holiday shopping hours will be in effect for the holiday season.

### Holiday Craft Sale Dec. 4

LINDEN—Grace Episcopal Church, located at 2018 DeWitt Terrace in Linden, will host a craft sale on Dec. 4 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The sale will have a range of items, including knit hats,

mittens and scarves, embroidered and hand painted ornaments, decorations, gift items for teacher or co-workers and many other hand-made items. Gift wrapping services and refreshments will be available.



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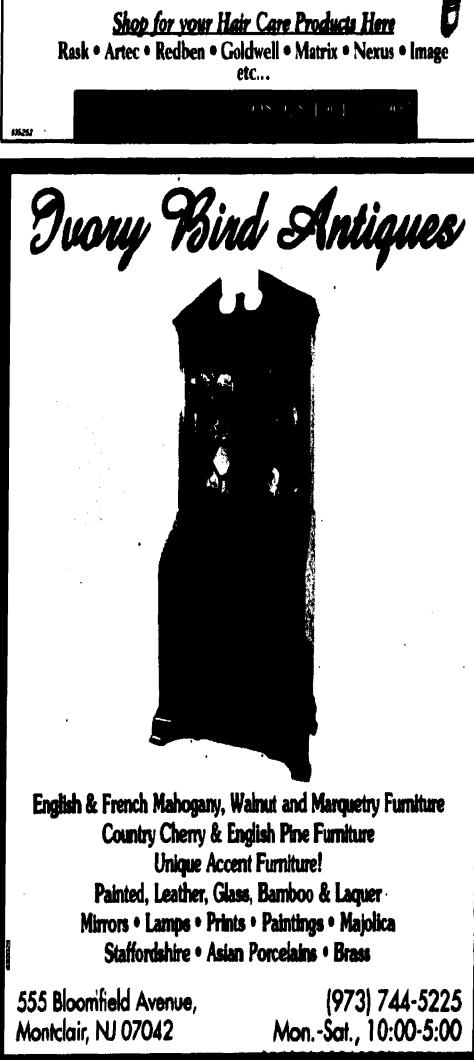
### The Salvation Army Needs Holiday Volunteers

UNION — The Salvation Army's annual Red Kettle campaign begins mid-November. Volunteers are desperately needed for four-hour shifts at numerous locations throughout New Jersey. This year, with the loss of a national retailer location, it is more important than ever to have red kettles manned by volunteers.

Kettle donations are used not only during the holidays providing hot meals, warm clothing and small toys for children but also throughout the year. Salvation Army programs and services that depend on kettle funds include shelters, soup kitchens, food pantries, emergency disaster services, youth and senior programs as well as emergency assistance for prescriptions and housing.

Individuals, school groups, churches, service organizations and clubs are welcome to call Tricia Pellegrini at Divisional Headquarters, (908) 851-8227 for further information.









## Family Hanukkah Concert At Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim

CRANFORD—On Dec. 5 at including Temple Beth-El Mekor 2:30 p.m., three youth choirs Chayim's Koleinu Youth Choir in

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Cranford led by Hazzan Frank Lanzkron-Tamarazo will be joined by Congregation Beth Israel of Scotch Plains, led by Hazzan Matthew Axelrod and Congregation Agudath Israel of Caldwell, led by Hazzan Joel Caplan.

Beautiful Israeli and Hanukkah music is planned including the Koleinu Youth choir singing a three-part round called "Candles Burning," Avinu Shebashamayim (Prayer for Israel) with all of the choirs, performing Haneirot Halalalu (Hanukkah song), a Shalom Haverim/Heveinu Shalom medley. Hazzan Frank comments, "Youth choirs provide a way to get children to build an appreciation for choirs and Jewish music...I envision the concert to have a lot of audience participation." Also, Hazzan Frank says, "the Hazzanim and I will sing

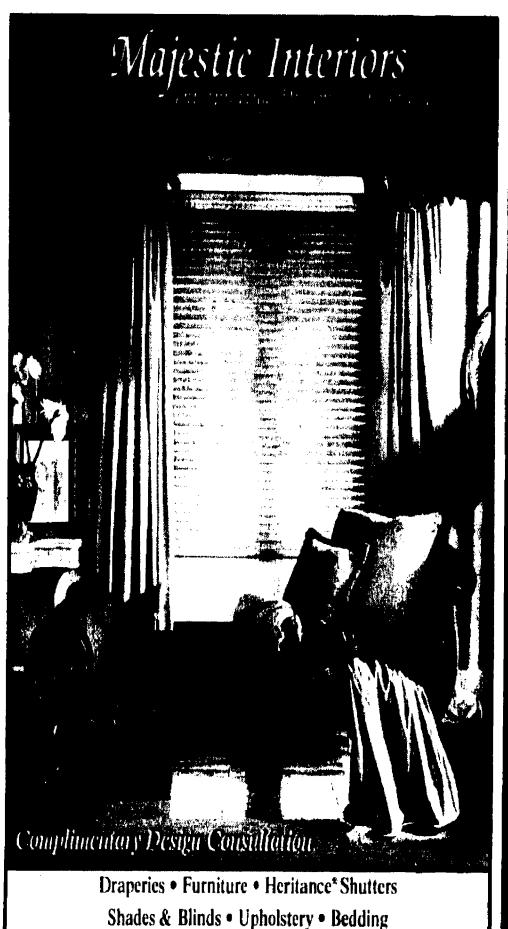
some spirited songs that the audience will sing along to, including Yism'chu V'malchut'cha, Rom'mu, Shomer Yisrael, and an Argentinian L'cha Dodi."

Hazzan Joel Caplan's youth choir is rehearsing several lighthearted tunes including a funny story about the poor latke, named "I am a Latke" and Oy Hanukkah, a Yiddish version of O Hanukkah. All of the choirs will sing Mah Tovu, Halleluyah, and Avinu Shebashamayim (a prayer for Israel) together. All those who play or enjoy listening to beautiful music are encouraged to come and enjoy a joyous afternoon. Delicious holiday desserts are included. Tzedakah donation will be made to One Family Fund of Israel. "We're leaning toward the One Family Fund, which gives financial and emotional aid to the families of victims of terror in Israel," said Hazzan Matt Axelrod of Congregation Beth Israel.

Hanukkah commemorates the rededication of the Temple of Jerusalem in 165 B.C.E., and is also known as the festival of lights. This eight day festival begins on the 25th day of the lewish month of Kisley. According to tradition as recorded in the Talmud, at the time of the rededication, there was very little oil left that had not been defiled by the Greeks. Oil was needed for the menorah in the Temple, which was supposed to burn throughout the night every night. There was only enough oil to burn for one day, yet miraculously, it burned for eight days. The Hanukkah festival was declared to commemorate this miracle.

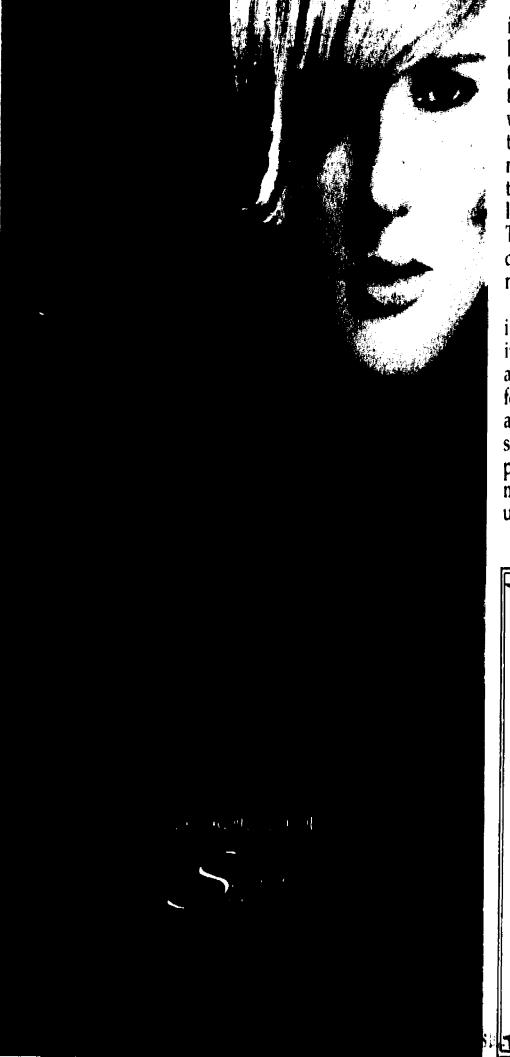
Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim is located at 338 Walnut Ave. in Cranford and tickets are \$7 in advance, \$10 at the door, or \$25 for the whole family. Sponsors are \$18 and receive a preferred show seat with a listing in the program book. For more information call 908-276-9231 or visit us at www.tbemc.org.





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## Lodge Linne Sale Brings Scandinavian Arts To Local Shoppers

NEW PROVIDENCE — The 26<sup>th</sup> annual Scandinavian Import and Gift Sale sponsored by Lodge Linne No. 429, Vasa Order of America, will be held on Saturday, Nov. 20, at Salt Brook School, 40 Maple St.

The sale will be open to the public between 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Admission is free.

Merchandise hand-crafted and manufactured in Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland will feature a wide variety of traditional holiday and everyday Scandinavian items of silver, pewter, linen, wood, paper, wool, straw and other materials.

"The fact that this sale represents one of only a few remaining sources for traditional Scandinavian goods explains why it is patronized by people traveling from all over New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Connecticut to begin their holiday shopping and enjoy the annual celebration of the Scandinavian culture," a Lodge Linne spokesperson said.

Many of the traditional Scandinavian decorating items will be offered, including a large variety of elf-like tomten, Jul Bock or straw goats in all sizes, painted Dala horses, Danish mobiles and many Christmas ornaments. Among paper items for sale will be a wide selection of Advent calendars, Christmas cards, stationery and prints suitable for framing.

An assortment of table linens will be available, including runner fabric by the yard for both Christmas and year round use. For the home one will find Danish stainless steel items, baking needs, aprons, knives, a large variety of Danish wrought iron candleholders, wooden candleholders and decorative crystal pieces for Christmas and every-



SANTA LUCIA CANDLE — Karen Jenshoej, chairman, and Carol Germansky, both of New Providence and Joanne Douds of South Orange admire a wooden Santa Lucia candleholder and Danish wrought iron candleholders, part of the display at the Lodge Linne Scandinavian Import and Gift Sale. Doors open at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 20, at Salt Brook School in New Providence.

day use.

Personal items will include sweaters from Dale of Norway, for men and women in both cardigan and pullover styles. The jewelry department has been expanded to include Norwegian silver solje, pewter and amber pieces designed as necklaces, earrings and pins. This year the sale also will have a selection of Swedish clogs.

We will be selling a large variety of Scandinavian baked goods such as limpa bread, coffee braids and pastries. Imported foods that will be sold are cheeses, including authentic farmers cheese; several types of herring and mackerel; lingonberries and cloudberries; and vari-

ous chocolates and marzipan.

Coffee and Danish pastries will be served beginning at 10 a.m. followed by a light lunch of Scandinavian open-faced sandwiches and pastries from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Drawings for door prizes will be held frequently during the day.

At 2 p.m. children ages three to 14 dressed in traditional Scandinavian costumes will perform a selection of Scandinavian folk dances. These young members of the Dalarna-Blaklockan Chil-

dren's Scandinavian Dance Club are supported in their cultural studies by Lodge Linne No. 429. Vasastjarnan, a teenage folk dance group will also perform at the sale.

Salt Brook School on Maple Street is located one block off Springfield Avenue.

Lodge Linne No. 429, Vasa Order of America, is a nonprofit organization of individuals of Scandinavian decent. The Lodge meets on the third Friday of each month at the Long Hill Township Senior Center on Valley Road in Gillette.

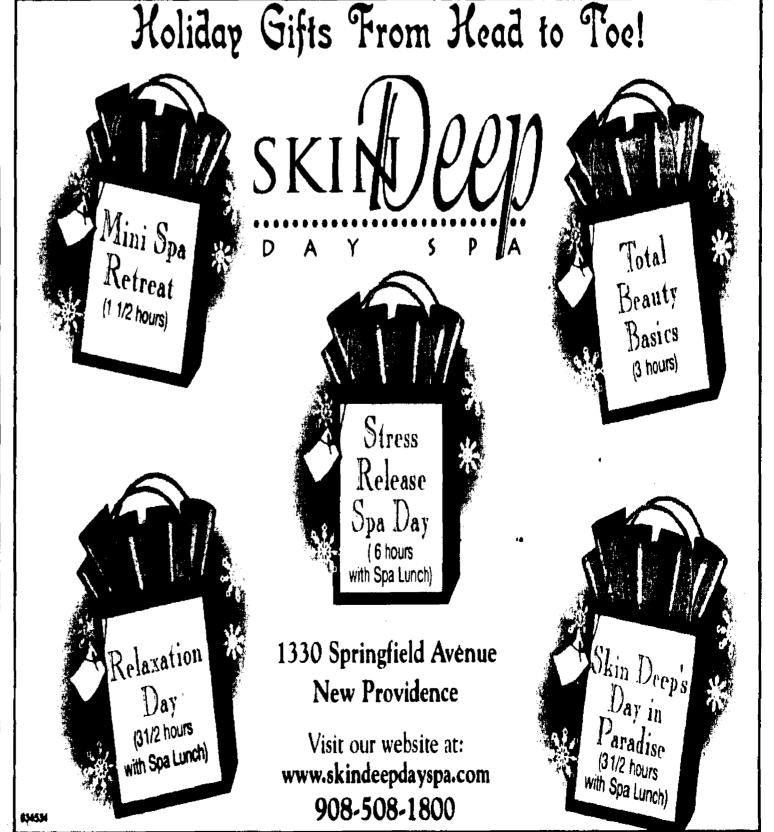
Proceeds from the Import Sale benefit many local organizations and charities such as the First Aid Squads, Volunteer Fire Departments, local libraries, high school scholarships and the Greater Newark Fresh-Air and Christmas Funds. A portion is also donated to the local Vasa Order to be used for Scandinavian cultural programs and scholarships.

For more information, call Karen Jenshoej at 908-665-1292.









## The Mall At Short Hills Shines This Holiday Season

season at The Mall at Short Hills begins with the arrival of Santa in his winter wonderland to officially kick off another festive holiday season.

Santa will arrive on the lower level of the Grand Court, at 10 a.m. on Nov. 19, and will remain during all mall hours through Dec. 24.

Children can have state-of-the-art digital photos taken with Santa, surrounded by a holiday tree and festive holiday snowscape. Parents can choose from seven photo packages or can purchase a floppy disk of their child's photo which enables parents and children to create fun screen savers, send and receive letters to Santa and e-mail the pictures to family and friends. All children who have their photo taken with Santa will receive a complimentary gift from Santa.

On Nov. 26, at Guest Services on the lower level, customers can enjoy complimentary coffee, hot chocolate, confections and more, courtesy of Godiva Chocolatier from 7 a.m. to noon. In addition, customers will receive a special offer from Godiva Chocolatier to be redeemed on Nov. 26, a listing of "Holiday Specials" at The Mall at Short Hills and can enter to win a bountiful Godiva Holiday Gift Basket.

The first 50 customers will receive one Christmas With The Kranks movie ticket, in the form of movie cash, and one Skipping Christmas book by John Grisham. The first 50 customers can enter a sweepstake drawing for one lucky winner to win a Sony Digital Camera, which will be given away during the Early Bird event.

Early bird customers should enter The Mall at Short Hills near Johnny



SANTA PAWS — The holiday season at The Mail at Short Hills begins with the arrival of Santa to officially kick off another festive holiday season. Have pet's photo taken with Santa in the Grand Court on Nov. 21, 28 and Dec. 5. Santa will arrive on the lower level of the Grand Court, at 10 a.m. on Nov. 19, and will remain during all mall hours through Dec. 24.

Rockets on the JFK Parkway side of the shopping center and proceed to Guest Services, lower level.

As a special gift, all parents of children photographed with Santa

will receive The Mall at Short Hills' Holiday Special Offers booklet, filled with special offers, savings and gifts-with-purchase to over 50 boutiques in the shopping center.

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vices while supplies last, from Nov. 19 to Dec. 24.

Wish your trusted companion could be part of the holiday festivities? For the third consecutive year, The Mall at Short Hills will host "Santa Paws," where customers can have their cat or dog's holiday picture taken with Santa. Santa Paws will be held in Grand Court, lower

level, from 7 to 10 p.m. on Nov. 21,

For the fourth consecutive year,

the New York City Ballet is offering

the chance to win four orchestra tick-

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These booklets will be distributed

to parents at Santa's Winter Wonder-

land and additional booklets will be available for customers at Guest Ser-

Ballet Dancer Headshot Book.

Nov. 28 and Dec. 5.

All Santa Paws customers will have the opportunity to enter-to-win pet themed gifts from The Mall at Short Hills, including a Leather Collar and Leash from Polo Ralph Lauren, Silver Dog Bone and Silver Paw Identification Tag from Tiffany & Co., matching Small and Large Food and Water Bowls from Burberry and Coach logo'd matching collar and

leash.

All pets photographed will receive a special gift bag, filled with gifts, toys and treats, courtesy of Petland Discounts. The net proceeds from Santa Paws will help support the homeless animals cared for at St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center of Madison. All pets must be up to date on their shots and either be on a leash or carried in a portable pet container with harness.

Customers who wish to attend Santa Paws should enter The Mall at Short Hills near Johnny Rockets, on the JFK Parkway side of the shopping center.

The Mall at Short Hills holiday décor will feature pine cones scattered in water fountains, as if scattered in a lake. Ice-light curtains will hang throughout the shopping center, accented with holiday stars, ornaments, bells and horns. Oversized gold stars set by twinkling ice-lights will suspend from the ceiling.

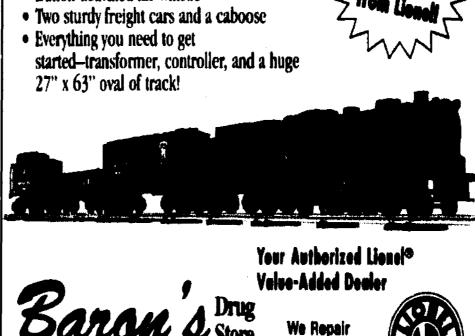
The 32-foot Holiday Tree, the focal point of Grand Court, will be adorned with unique ornaments and lighting, while smaller holiday trees and snow will further landscape the area. Smaller holiday trees with sparkling white lights will be positioned throughout the center, fully conveying the feeling of strolling through a winter wonderland.

The Mall at Short Hills also extends the holiday spirit outdoors, providing customers a grand entrance to The Mall. Trees lining the entranceway linking The Mall at Short Hills to JFK Parkway will be illuminated with sparkling white lights, while the exterior entrances to the mall will be decorated with a large holiday wreath, garland and sparkling white lights.









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### Sisters Of Mercy Hold Christmas Bazaar

AREA — The annual Christmas Bazaar, sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy of New Jersey will be held Nov. 20, in Mercy Hall at Mount Saint Mary's in Watchung. The bazaar runs from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. All the proceeds go to the refired and infirm sisters.

Handmade holiday crafts, wooden ornaments and garden decorations, many made by the Sisters at the Mount will be available. A number of theme baskets will be raffled. There will be hourly 50/50s and a Super 50/50 at the end of the day.

The Mercy Associates will run the Food Court throughout the day. Come for breakfast, shop and stay for lunch. The menu will feature meatball and sausage and pepper sandwiches, hotdogs, chili and soup. Homemade desserts will also be served as well as soft drinks, coffee and tea.

Gifts for Thanksgiving, Christmas, the winter season, birthdays and anniversaries may be purchased. Come and enjoy the company of many of the Sisters at the Mount who have been working for six months preparing for the Christmas Bazaar.

Mount Saint Mary's is at 1645 Highway 22 West. Information or donations to the Bazaar and the Sisters can be made by calling 908-756-0994.



HOLIDAY SAVINGS AT PENN FEDERAL-Patricia Sturt, senior vice president for retail operations and Barbara Flannery, Penn Federal's executive vice president of retail banking display Penn Federal's special gift for those who open a Holiday Club this year-a 12-inch crafted glass serving platter. Customers with a Holiday Club account earn interest of 1.25% APY through Oct. 15, 2005 and may deposit what they like, when they like, with no minimum deposit required.





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"The 2000 Barbaresco Sori Paitin, with smoky kirsch fruit, mineral notes, and tar on the nose, is warm and intense on the palate with black cherry tar, and anisette flavors and a full finish." 90pts. Robert Parker



#### Castle Rock Pinut Noir 593 Send \$9.99 On Sale

This elegant, medium bodied wine offers upe complex layers of cinnamon, spice, black cherry, sweet vanilla oak and floral notes, with a long velvety finish



#### Meredith Merlot 1800

\$9.99 On Sale Exceptional Meilot, with tipe aromas of bright cherry, tipe raspberry

sweet vanilla and spice that follow through on the long velvety finish. If you're searching for a wine that has consistent quality and an everyday exceptional price. Jook no further! 90.92pts. T & C.



#### Santa Margherita Pinot Grigio \$ 18.19 On Sale

The name Santa Margherita has become synonymous with Pinot Grigio Very crisp and light bodied, with floral and citrus notes that finish with a lively snap. Serve well chilled"



#### \$9.10 On Sale Kendall Jackson Charlonnay

Forward fruit flavors and aromas of peach, green apple, melon and tropical fruit are layered with butterscotch and oak.



#### Yellow Tail

\$5.99 On Sale

#### Cabernet, Chardonnay, Merlot, Shiraz 19mt

Yellow Tail Has taken the country by storm and become the #1 selling Australian wine brand in the US Fruit forward and appealing, there is sure to be a style for you



#### \$17.99 On Sale Rocderer Anderson Valley Brut

"concentrated citrus and lemony green pear and tart apple flavors, finishing with a clean, vibrant aftertaste," 8"pts. Wine Spectator



#### Ketel One Vodka 128 la \$33.99 On Sale

Using only the finest ingredients, Ketel One is enjoyed the world over Produced using potstills to impart a smooth, clean and eminently mix-



#### \$24.99 On Sale Grev Goose Vodka Simil

Made with water from the Gente Springs where the water cascades over porous limestone. Grey Goose Vodka is column distilled in small batches Each grey goose widka bottle is handmade and depicts the grey goose in flight with the French Alps in the background. Smoky aroma with hints of mint and grain



#### \$28.99 On Sale The Glenlivet and

The Glenhvet exhibits the delicacy and softness that typifies the region's whiskes. A perfectly nch balance of sweetness, floral fragrance and fruitiness that The Glenlivet develops through more than 12 years of patient ageing in oak casks.



#### Kendall Jackson Cabernet Survignon \$12.49 On Sale

"Rich and fruity, a textbook North Coast Cab. The flavors of black cherry, coffee, herbs and a smattering of smoky oak are well-balanced with firm tannins and good acidity". Sopts. Highly Recommended. Wine Enthu-



#### Cartlidge and Browne Chardonnay \$8.99 On Sale

"The terrific 2003 Chardonnay exhibits copious quantities of tropical fruits, excellent appeness, tremendous purity, and a medium-bodied, vivacious personality. It is hard to believe this much flavor can be packed into a \$11 wine. Enjoy it over the next year." \$8pts. Robert Parker.



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This hard, div cheese is made from skimmed or partially skimmed cow's milk. It has a hard, pale golden rind and a straw-colored interior with a rich, sharp flavor-



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333 South Ave. East Westfield, New Jersey 07090 908-232-8700

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#### Woodbridge

1021 St. Georges Ave. Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095 732-726-2696

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