

Railying the troops

Raider's boys basketball coach Dan Dougherty gives his team a pep talk at halftime of the Raiders' eventual 73-48 win over Cranford Tuesday. See Story, Page B-1.



Rabbi wins interfaith award

Irwin Fishbein of Westfield recently received an award from the Dovetails Institute for his work promoting understanding between interfaith couples. See the story on Page B-2.



WHS Band gives boost to tree sale

Members of the Westfield High School Marching Band performed last month at the Y's Men's Club Christmas tree sale, which raised substantial funds for community Organizations. See the picture on Page A-7.



The Fanwood Community Policing Alliance will hold its next monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13. The meeting will be held on the second floor of the Fanwood Community House at the train station. All residents are invited; for more information, visit www.fan-

woodcpa.org.

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Development, traffic safety top town's agenda

WESTFIELD — New curbs on development and improved traffic safety will be among the Town Council's top priorities in 2005, Mayor Greg McDermott said in his address at the town's annual reorganization meeting Tuesday night.
In a brief speech, McDermott spoke of

the need to create a "controlled development plan for residential neighborhoods.' Such a plan will include an examination of current limits on building height, lot coverage and floor-area ratios, McDermott said. He said the town will seek a way to curb the spread of "McMansions" without placing undue limits on property rights. "Our goal will not be to inhibit individual homeowners' rights to build new homes or to add on or renovate existing homes but to encourage a smarter and more consistent approach to residential improvements in order to keep neighborhood character consistent," he said.

With respect to traffic safety, he spoke of plans to work with county and state officials to install a light at the clogged intersection of Central, East Broad and Mountain avenues and also at Crossway Place and North Avenue; and to create a better signal at South and Central

In addition, he said, the town will continue to pursue a "line of sight" initiative to make sure trees, bushes and other structures do not impair drivers' vision. The pending safety improvements will be

guided in part by studies conducted in 2004, he said.

McDermott also spoke of plans to improve the town's athletic fields. A project to replace the Houlihan and Sid Faye fields with synthetic turf is in the works. The town also plans to resurface the Tamaques Park tennis courts and install new lighting there, and to modernize its turf-feeding techniques.

With the recent rejection by voters of a plan to build a municipal parking deck, better management of existing spaces will be another of the town's goals, McDermott said. Parking fees will be continue to be dedicated to making system improvements such as new meters and pay stations, improved signage and landscaping and potential re-allocation of spaces.

Finally, he said, the town will undertake a modernization of its ordinances, which still include regulations about the use of horses and buggies in the downtown. Once that project is complete, all of the town's statutes will be posted online.

Also at the meeting, McDermott and the council made appointments to various boards and committees. Mark Ciarrocca will chair the council's Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee; Peter Echausse the Finance Committee; JoAnn Neylan the Public Works Committee; and Jim Foerst the Code Review and Town Property Committee. Rafael Betancourt will be acting mayor in McDermott's absence.

(Continued on page A-2)

clerk

Bernie

Heeney,

56, dies

WESTFIELD --- He was

unmistakable, ambling up and

down East Broad Street, Lawrence Avenue, and points

beyond in his stark white sneak-

Municipal clerk Bernard Heeney, 56, who worked for the

town for more than 25 years, died

suddenly in New York City on

New Year's Eve of a heart attack.

He was a lifelong resident of

as a hard-working, passionate,

and intelligent man who was

dedicated to his family. He had

been contemplating retirement

sometime this year or next, said

former town administrator Jack

Malloy, who hired Heeney in the

"He was a very memorable man."

pers every day and was an active

letter-writer. His letters to the

editor were published in The

New Republic, The Star-Ledger, The New York Times, and numer-

ous other publications. In 2003,

"It's a great loss," Malloy said.

Heeney read several newspa-

Co-workers described Heeney

By BRAD DISHOP

THE RECORD-PRESS

Westfield

Brownies share holiday spirit with **Mobile Meals**

Members of the first-grade Brownie Troop 986 of the Jefferson Elementary School in Westfield recently baked and delivered more than 200 cookies, which were given as holiday gifts to Mobile Meals clients. The Brownie Troop was just one of numerous local organizations that helped Mobile Meals brighten the holidays for its elderly and housebound clients. See the story in Community Life, Page B-2.



Boro's focus is on redevelopment, parks

By BRAD BISHOP

FANWOOD — Before a standing-room-only crowd at Borough Hall, Mayor Colleen Mahr laid out her agenda for 2005.

At the borough's annual reorganization meeting Sunday, Mahr pledged to continue progress on downtown redevelopment and to upgrade two Fanwood parks. She also announced the council's intention to pursue extraordinary state aid for a second straight year.

That historic — and ultimate-

ly successful — decision was the most contentious issue for the Borough Council in 2004. To be considered for extraordinary aid, the council will have to introduce its operating budget in February, months before other municipalities. And Fanwood's final budget will not be approved until the summer, after the state concludes its budget process.

But an undaunted Mahr said the budget process will begin shortly, as budget requests by department heads should be submitted by the end of the week, The council's special budget meetings will get underway in a few weeks, and a preliminary budget will likely be introduced at a special meeting toward the end of February, Mahr explained.

"I am hoping that this year we can have less political drama as the borough again will seek money from Trenton to keep increases to our property taxes to a minimum," Mahr said.

In her speech, Mahr also pressed the need for downtown revitalization. Next week, the Borough Council will introduce changes to the downtown redevelopment plan. Once the

changes are formally approved in February, Mahr said downtown property owners will be free to file development applications before the Planning Board.

"When the plan was under review, any developer or property owner was in limbo." Mahr said this week. "Once we've revised and adopted (a new plan), this process as far as I'm concerned is over" and developers can start building, she said. It will be up to the council to "cultivate and promote development," Mahr added.

(Continued on page A-2)

Scotch Plains hopes to build senior center

By BRAD BISHOP

THE RECORD PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS - After reviewing the outcome of key policy debates during 2004, Mayor Martin Marks outlined the framework of the Township Council's upcoming policy discussions during his New Year's

At the township's well-attended reorganization meeting Jan. 2, Marks said a proposed community and senior center — possibly at Brookside Park — will head the council's agenda in 2005. Architecture and engineering specifications for a potential recreation and senior meeting facility are being conducted for the Recreation Commission, Marks said in his address.

More immediately, the town-

ship will be contending with two public works issues in 2005 bulky waste pickup during the spring, and leaf collection during

Because of a "financial crisis" caused by a 60 percent increase in the cost of the township's spring cleanup program, Marks said changes to the program are "almost definite." Township officials have proposed modifying the current program into a townshipadministered permit system akin to programs currently in place in Cranford and Westfield.

"We may ask that our residents purchase a permit, perhaps jointly with a neighbor, in order to participate in the program with a maximum allowable weight of refuse at curbside," Marks said.

(Continued on page A-2)



BROOKS CRANDALL/CORRESPONDENT Surrounded by his family members, Mayor Martin Marks takes the oath of office from Scotch Plains municipal clerk Barbara Riepe. Marks began a new term Sunday.

he received The Star-Ledger's Silver Pen award, given annually to writers of the 10 best letters to the editor. Bernie had a great knowledge of local government, politics, and how governments work," said former town administrator Ed Gottko, who first met Heeney when the two worked for the city of Bayonne in the early 1970s. "I knew Bernie for 30 years. He was a colleague, a co-worker, and a friend."

The two kept in touch after Gottko's retirement in 2000. Heeney often chatted with his former boss from the municipal building, where he was known to put in extra time during the weekends,

"He was a tireless worker," Gottko said. "He was kind of a steady man — as things were

(Continued on page A-2)

New book details history of county's black residents



Plainfield's Ethel M. Washington is the author of the new history.

By BRAD BISHOP THE RECORD PRESS

Long before Tiger Woods,

Calvin Peete, Lee Elder and Charlie Sifford blazed a path for professional black golfers, John Shippen left a lasting impact on the sport.

But according to a Union County woman who has been compiling African-American historical artifacts for many years, not enough local people know

Shippen, who served as head pro and greenskeeper at what was then known as Shady Rest. Country Club in Scotch Plains, finished fifth in the second U.S. Open, held at Shinnecock Hills Country Club on Long Island, He

was the first black player to compete in the national championship and just one of many local African-Americans featured in a recently published book about black history in Union County.

Plainfield resident Ethel Washington, who compiled Union County Black Americans over the course of several years, says her book is intended to focus attention on the black experience in central Union County, a subject that has been neglected over the

"Black membership in most historic societies is practically Washington said. "...I noticed there was nothing specifically about blacks, and I decided I could fill the void."

The 128-page volume contains

sketches, documents, and photos about the history of the county's African-American community. Images vary from sit-down portraits of the county's first black residents to pictures of evolving black neighborhoods and the people and events that shaped county history in the 20th century.

As history programs coording. tor for the Union County Division of Cultural and Horitage Affairs, Wushington had the knowledge and drive to assemble the varied components into a cohesive unit, Though much of her materials ultimately came from historic societies across the county, Washington said nobody had made an effort to compile them.

"Everyone sits around waiting, but someone has to do the

work," Washington laughed, "I went around everywhere begging for pictures.

"I think I went to church more in three months than I had been in three years," Washington added, noting that a treasure trove of information still remains buried in closets and tucked under beds, just waiting to be uncarthed. "We're only scratching the surface with this book," she said.

The book includes an introduction that summarizes black history before the availability of a photographic record. Much of the introduction describes the arrival of black slaves to Union County a process that began in

(Continued on page A-2)

New book details black history

(Continued from page A-1)

he 17th century. By 1790, more han 14,000 African-Americans **ived in N**ew Jersey, the majority of vhom were slaves.

According to Washington's ntroduction, the local black popuation skyrocketed during the Great Migration" period after 870. In search of manufacturing ind industrial jobs, many African-Americans from southern states noved north. Locally, many found i home in the Jerseyland

Community in Scotch Plains and on Westfield's south side, from Paulstead to Downer Streets and Nest Broad Street to South Washington will appear at the

Cranford Historical Society from 2l p.m. Sunday to discuss her esearch and answer questions. The Cranford chapter was one of he first to assist her with the ook, she said.

"Cranford was just fabulous --hey were one of the first groups I risited and they had quite a few nictures," she said.

A group of fascinating photos rom the book profiles the Cranford Dixie Giants, an all-black team bunded by Cranford native and rofessional caterer Ernest Tyree. n a worn, decades-old photo, the

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team members pose on an overgrown playing field. The Dixie Giants, managed by Tyree, competed against all-white squads around the area.

"They generally won the games," Washington said.

The book also reveals that two of the 20th-century's major literary figures, Langston Hughes and Zora Neale Hurston, lived briefly in Westfield in the late 1920s and early 1930s, A recent photo depicts the still-standing Downer Street house Hughes called home. The poet, playwright, and fiction writer wrote his first novel, Not Without Laughter, during his four years in

Unfortunately, Hughes and Hurston's days in Westfield are well-known to local historians, but probably not to the general public, Washington said.

"At a book signing, a woman told me she almost fainted because she realized she and her ex-husband had lived in the same house," Washington said.

Actor and civil rights advocate Paul Robeson also lived in Westfield in the early 1900s, after his family moved out of Princeton and before they settled in Somerville. Washington's book includes a photo of Robeson with youth baseball team in

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Westfield, a picture dating to 1908. "Robeson was a multi-talented young man from the beginning," Washington said. "... A lot of people don't know who Paul Robeson was.

but he was a giant figure.' Robeson's father, in fact, helped build the St. Luke AME Church, which still stands at the corner of Downer Street and Osborne

Another rich location for black photographic history in Westfield is the community center, which was constructed in the late 1940s. Photographs depict visits to the facility by national celebrities like Jesse Owens and Jackie Robinson. In another lively image, Westfield children play ping-pong at the cen-

As a result of the initial publicity for the book's release in October, many more photos and much more information has been made available, Washington said.

"The work I put into the book is worthwhile because of the reception not just from the black community but also from the white community," Washington said. "It's warmed my heart that people have been so interested."

The book is distributed by Arcadia Publishing, available

www.arcadiapublishing.com

Traffic

(Continued from page A-1)

Lori Duffy was appointed to the Board of Adjustment, with Dan Clifford as an alternate. Planning Board appointments included Matt Nilsen, Phil Leary, engineer Ken Marsh, Brian Power as mayor's designee, and Dave Hall and Anthony Attanasio as alter-

On the Special Improvement District board, David Martone was appointed as a merchant and Lee Hale as a resident. Larry Goldman is the council's designee, Frank Arena is the mayor's designee, and John Morgan is the administrator's designee.

Robert Cockren was re-appointed as municipal attorney. Christine Nugent was named municipal prosecutor and Christopher Canada public defender; Canada's appointment was the only one not to receive unanimous support.

SP hopes to build senior center

(Continued from page A-1)

During the fall, the impact of new stormwater regulations will inspire changes to the township's leaf collection program, Marks said, though he added the township has yet to conclude that residents will be required to bag leaves. Scotch Plains officials are exploring the possibility of entering into an agreement with Westfield that would allow residents to dispose of vegetative waste at the conservation center on Lamberts Mill Road, he added.

Other upcoming key policy debates could include the future of the township's Open Spaces Trust Fund, replacement of a communications tower at the south side firehouse, installation of a Reverse 911 system, deer management, and the 2005 municipal budget.

Marks took aim at lingering issues from 2004, including the council's decision to not create a special improvement district (SID) in the Towne Centre. Though all five members of the council were enthusiastic about establishing the downtown management entity, they voted against creating it when downtown business and property owners mobilized against the idea.

Alternately describing the SID process as

"enlightening" and "frustrating," Marks said the cost of future downtown improvements should fall not on residential taxpayers but on down-

town property owners. Before he gave his speech, Marks and Councilwoman Paulette Coronato took the oath of office after winning four-year terms in last

November's election. "I'm pleased and honored by your vote," Coronato said, "...I will do everything in my power to make sure Scotch Plains is the best it can be."

Councilwoman Carolyn Sorge was unanimously elected by the council as deputy mayor, replacing Coronato for that post.

The majority of the township's administration remained in place after the reorganization meeting. Doug Hansen and Lawrence Woodruff will continue as township attorney and assistant township attorney. Michael Blacker and Randolph Brause will return as municipal prosecutor and public defender.

Joseph Doyle, Maria Sartor, Michael Michaelson, and Coronato were appointed to the Planning Board. Mary Thompson and Timothy Livolsi were appointed to serve on the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Boro's focus is on redevelopment

(Continued from page A-1)

Improvements to Forest Road and LaGrande parks will also be priorities for this year, Mahr announced. Engineering specifications are currently being produced by the firm Kupper Associates, and Mahr said she hopes to break ground on the upgrades sometime in mid-2005.

Also at the meeting, Council President Kathy Mitchell and Joe Higgins were sworn in to new terms on the council after winning in last November's election. The two Democrats were honored by Assemblywoman Linda Stender (D-22), who chairs the borough's Democratic committee, at the reorganization meeting.

Stender described Mitchell as an "unassuming...worker bee' who "works to build consensus and get things done.' Mitchell, elected to a third

term, pledged to enhance Fanwood's recently-enacted historic district, breathe new life into cultural arts, and promote downtown revitalization.

Higgins thanked Mahr and Stender for their "faith" and "hope" in helping secure election to his first term as a councilman. A devoted booster of athletics and recreation, Higgins promised to be directly involved with park improvements. As chairman of the borough's Downtown Advisory Committee, he will also continue to be involved with the

redevelopment process. Also at the meeting, Susan MacMullen was appointed as municipal judge, replacing Doug Hansen. Lara Katherine DiFabrizio was appointed as municipal prosecutor, replacing Andrew Baron. Kelly Waters will return as public defender, and Dennis Estis was re-appointed as borough attorney.

Westfield clerk Bernie Heeney dies

(Continued from page A-1)

happening around him, he was the calm in the eye of the storm."

Mayor Greg McDermott's father, himself a politician, worked with Heeney while negotiating contracts with Bayonne and later brought Heeney to Westfield. When Greg was elected, Heeney said he'd work to return the favor.

"It's amazing how the circles of life work. He was a great friend to me, and it's very sad, very unfortunate," McDermott said.

Heeney was very knowledgeable about veterans issues, which were often the subject of his letters to the editor. He served in the Army during the Vietnam War and read an enormous amount of literature covering the conflict during his later years. He gave lectures about the war for the Westfield Adult School.

"He read extensively about the Vietnam conflict, and was involved in prisoner of war and MIA affairs,' Gottko said. Heeney was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Joyce-Herbert Post Bayonne.

But it was his mid-day walks that Heeney was best known for in Westfield, where he was a fixture on town streets. He walked to Vicky's Diner and then back to the municipal building a few times every day, and was known to cover

far greater distances.

Malloy, who lives in Clark, said he often dropped Heeney off at the Westfield-Clark border after work so Heeney could walk for a few miles before returning home at the end of the day.

"He just enjoyed it," Malloy said. "Sometimes he walked two or three miles at a time.'

"I'll always remember those white sneakers and that mane of gray hair," Gottko said.

Surviving are his wife of 29 years, Maryann; two daughters, Mary Grace and Frances; a brother, Thomas, and a sister, Kathleen Murray.

Donations in his name can be sent to St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Church, 125 Broadway, Bayonne 07002. Services were held Wednesday in St. Andrew's Church, Arrangements were by the Levis Funeral Home, Bayonne.

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Wireless antennas to cover tower's cost

By BRAD BIBHOP

THE RECORD PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS - After receiving three bids to lease space on the township's forthcoming south side communications tower, officials think the tower will pay for itself within a few years.

The tower, which is expected to replace an existing communications tower at the south side firehouse, will allow the township to upgrade communications between first responders. As an added bonus, the township will be able to clear up "dead spots" in cell phone service on the south side while eventually realizing a new revenue stream.

At a conference meeting Tuesday, Township Manager Tom Atkins said three cellular phone service providers combined to bid more than \$91,000 for space on the new tower.

At the same time, the township received a bid of \$484.900 for the tower's construction from ProComm Systems, Inc. At the meeting, Atkins said he would review the company's background and credentials before issuing a recommendation about the bid in the next few weeks.

The council originally bonded \$380,000 to pay for the tower in 2003, but increased the bonded amount to \$530,000 last month when the township's engineering department discovered the south side tower would require an on-site generator.

But because the township is leasing space to cell phone companies, the tower should pay for itself in short order, said Township Attorney

When we started researching this we were looking for \$75,000 to \$100,000, and we got \$90,000," Hansen said. "Because we got \$90,000, we'll pay this off in five years and that's what we were shooting for."

The lease agreements with the cell carriers will increase by 3 percent each year to outpace inflation, officials said. Agreements with service providers will run for an initial 10-year term, with two 5-year options available when the first term runs out.

The new tower will stand 120 feet tall, significantly higher than the 90-foot tall tower that stands on the property now. Officials have said the existing tower was constructed in the 1950s and is insufficient for current fire department needs.

The township council could accept the bids as early as Tuesday. though formal action is more likely at the council's Jan. 25 meeting. If all proceeds on schedule, the new tower could be constructed as early as this spring, Mayor Martin Marks said last month.

Women urge OTC status for morning-after pill

By LAUREN THAINOR

STAFF WRITER

On Friday, a group of women identifying themselves as the MAP Conspiracy and including several local residents will converge on the steps of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to hand out

"morning-after" pills to any

woman who wants them, in violation of current law.

The distribution of the pills, acquired through blank prescriptions issued by a New York gynecologist, is intended to symbolize the group's goal of achieving overthe-counter (OTC) status for the birth-control pill. And though distribution of the pills without a prescription is illegal, Westfield resident Sara Ackerman, a board member of the New York State Reproductive Rights Task Force, said that it should not be shocking.

"We're saying that women do that anyway — if a woman has a prescription for the morning-after pill and her friend needs one, she's going to give it to her," Ackerman said. "For that to be against the law is absurd.'

The women are protesting the recent trend they see in limiting women's access to birth control for political, rather than medical pur-

"I think the current administration is anti-abortion, but it is also anti-birth control, and that's much less realized," said Ackerman.

Now a sophomore at New York University, 2003 Cranford High graduate Kristen Lombardo joined her college chap-

"If a woman has a prescription for the morningafter pill and her friend needs one, she's going to give it to her. For that to be against the law is absurd." — Sara Ackerman

Westfield resident ter of the New York State Reproductive Rights Task Force

and got involved. She will be trav-

eling to Maryland to distribute the

pills.

The point is just to show how if they don't make contraception legal, this is what we're going to have to resort to, because there's nothing wrong with it, or danger-ous," she said. "It's just being used as a political weapon, which is **unfair t**o women."

The pill may be taken anywhere from immediately after unprotected intercourse to 72 hours later for a 75 to 89 percent reduction in the risk of pregnancy, according to Planned Parenthood. That dose is followed by a second pill approximately 12 hours later. The morning after pill (MAP) prevents pregnancy by elevating the level of hormones in the body. It is not the same as RU-486, sometimes called the French abortion pill, which may be used during the first 8 weeks of pregnancy to cause an abortion. If implantation of the embryo has already occurred, research shows that the MAPs have no contraceptive effect.

"It's a form of birth control, it's not an abortion," said Lombardo.

In more than 38 countries, it is legal to purchase the morning after pill over the counter. In the United States, some pharmacies, including Wal-Mart, do not stock them. The pill has been on controversial ground since February 2004, when the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced it would delay its decision to make the MAP an over-the-counterdrug. In May 2004, the FDA announced that it would delay the decision once again to determine if the drug was safe for women under the age of 16. By Jan. 22, the FDA must decide if the drug will be allowed as an over-the-counter drug for all women, women over the age of 16, or no women at all.

"Because of the absurdity of this and because it took so long is why we decided to do this rather than a letter-writing -campaign, Ackerman said, explaining the planned act of civil disobedience For Lombardo, politics has been steady interest for years. "I've

always been interested in feminism," she said. The women said this act of civil disobedience gives them a chance to put into action their beliefs, and to emulate some of the women

they have admired for their work toward women's rights. "Part of it was the spirit of Margaret Sanger, who passed out literature about birth control when that was illegal," Ackerman said. Sanger is credited with founding the American birth control movement and the Planned Parenthood

Federation of America. "I feel like with (emergency contraception), it could cut down on the number of unwanted pregnancies, especially if it gets to the point where abortion is illegal or abstinence only is taught in schools," Lombardo said. "We need to start protecting it now."

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Donations are needed to ease suffering in Asia Colleen Mahr implored residents to

By BRAD BISHOP

THE RECORD-PRESS

As the death toll from the tsunamis across South Asia climbed above 150,000 this week, local chapters of national relief organizations urged donations to address the region's long-range response and recovery needs.

According to the United Way, the infrastructure of many of the affected communities has been destroyed. Roads, harbors, homes, schools, and health clinics have been decimated, and will need to be rebuilt when the area's short-term needs are ultimately met, the group said in a statement.

The sweeping and long-term impact of this disaster will require assistance for years to come," said Christine James-Brown, president and CEO of United International.

The United Way South Asia Response Fund has been created to 'support long-term recovery efforts and will be administered by the United Way International. The local chapter will forward dona-

Police Loa

WESTFIELD

On Sunday, officers arrested Lilly Hershkowitz, 18, of Westfield; Cory Singhbaba, 18, of Westfield; and a 17-year-old Westfield juvenile for possession of controlled dangerous substances (under 50

Police arrested the three when police stopped their blue Volkswagen at the corner of Palsted and Roosevelt.

The two adults were issued court summonses and released. The juvenile was transferred turned over to her father.

On Saturday, officers arrested Nina Smith of North Branch on an **foutstanding warrant out of** Piscataway and for obstruction.



SCHMIEDE



Colobrating our 50th year

y) the Trae Business

tions from residents, said Linda Maggio, executive director of the

We're not there so we don't have any idea what it's like," Maggio said. "The devastation is basically beyond our comprehen-

To donate, send a check or money order to the United Way South Asia Response Fund, c/o United Way International, 701 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. "Tsunami Relief Rund" should be written on the check's memo line. You can also donate money online at www.uwint.org.
"Money is what they need right

now," Maggio said. "They need dol-

Local Red Cross organizations

are also accepting donations. According to Joseph Palmer, direc-United Way of Westfield. tor of fund development at the Tri-County chapter in Plainfield, the organization sees its role as provid-

ing food, clothing, shelter, and medication to disaster victims. "We'll be there until everybody has a place to stay," Palmer said, noting that the local response to this point has been "overwhelm-

ing."
To aid the Red Cross effort, send a check or money order to 332 West Front Street, Plainfield, NJ 07060. Indicate "Tsunami Relief" on the memo line. To access the Red Cross'

national website for further information, visit www.redcross.org. At the borough's reorganization meeting Sunday, Fanwood Mayor



ATTEND A FREE SEMINAR **EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW** ABOUT DIVORCE

The Law Firm of Dughi, Hewit & Palatucci is pleased to announce that Mario C. Gurrieri, head of its Family Law Department, and April L. Katz will present to the public a free Seminar entitled "Everything You Need To Know About Divorce" at The Westfield Inn in Westfield on Thursday, January 20, 2005 and Saturday, January 22, 2005. Mr. Gurrieri, who has specialized in matrimonial law for over thirty-two years and Ms. Katz, for twelve years, will review the law, explain the legal process and answer your questions concerning separation, divorce, custody, visitation, alimony, division of assets and postdivorce Court review of alimony and child support as well as the new law governing **Domestic Partnerships**.

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

If you are experiencing marital difficulties and contemplating divorce, or if you are simply curious about your rights in a separation or divorce, this Seminar will be of value to you. If you are already divorced, the Seminar may be of value in explaining post-divorce rights and obligations of former spouses.

Where: Westfield Inn 435 North Ave. West Westfield, New Jersey (908) 654-5600

Thursday, January 20, 2005 from 7:30-9:30 p.m. When: Saturday, January 22, 2005 from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Reservations required (no names needed) Call 908-272-0200

This is a crisis of such magnitude that I for one have never witnessed before — the loss and sad-

ness is overwhelming," Mahr said.

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Commentary

Making resolutions for other people

With the New Year upon us, many of us are making resolutions for the coming 12 months, focusing on what we can do to better ourselves. The same process is being undertaken by local officials across the area. In the spirit of the season, we offer these suggestions for municipal self-improve-

Westfield: With downtown redevelopment and a parking deck off the table after years of tortuous discussions, one might think Mayor Greg McDermott and the Town Council would be casting about for a sense of purpose. But in his address at the town's reorganization meeting Tuesday, McDermott correctly highlighted a number of areas to focus

Perhaps foremost is the issue of increasing development in residential neighborhoods; McDermott said the town will work to formulate a "controlled development plan" to constrain the size and number of new homes. It remains to be seen whether this can be done fairly and legally. But the council has idly debated this issue for too long while development has continued apace. If the town is able to take any action in this area, it had best be done quickly.

Another top priority in Westfield is traffic flow and safety. As the council has learned through trial and error, trafficcalming measures in residential neighborhoods can be too much of a good thing. But improvements at some of the major downtown intersections are long overdue. A planned traffic light at Central, East Broad and Mountain avenues should do a great deal to relieve a chronic logiam and improve pedestrian safety.

Like every town in the area, Westfield must continue to improve its youth recreation space. The installation of turf fields at Houlihan and Sid Faye fields will mean an initial hit to taxpayers, but it's a no-brainer in terms of long-term use and savings

Scotch Plains: Mayor Martin Marks started the New Year by talking about a planned senior and community center, which might be built at Brookside Park. The center would no doubt be welcome, but this still seems like a curious move for a municipality that is historically tax-allergic and is facing substantial costs for needed improvements to the library, municipal building and public works building - especially with an expansive Jewish Community Center and a growing YMCA in town. It might be wiser for the township to look into creating new community space at an expanded library.

The township's top issue in 2004 was what to do about the downtown. Unfortunately, plans to create a Special Improvement District were scuttled, and not due to lack of trying — there simply wasn't enough support among the business community to fund needed improvements. With a SID off the table, it's not clear what Marks and the Township Council should do. But the one thing they can not do is disengage. Local government should play an active role — with prudent financial commitments where necessary — to recruit businesses and strengthen the district. Regardless of competition from Westfield and Route 22, a community with so much too offer should have a better downtown.

Other items on the council's agenda should include deer management on the south side, development, and the future of the former Club Malibu property (and liquor license) on Terrill Road.

Fanwood: After some drift in early 2004, the borough has found a new direction for downtown redevelopment. Shortly, Landmark Communities will be officially de-designated as the developer, and amendments to the Redeveloment Plan will be approved. Mayor Colleen Mahr and the Borough Council are hoping that a decentralized approach directed by numerous existing property owners will prove effective. They may be right — the model should bring greater aesthetic diversity and a sensitivity to local needs. At the same time, without one wealthy property owner who needs to build to make money, the risk exists that little will happen. It's up to the council to make sure that redevelopment proceeds in an efficient, orderly fashion.

On the borough's budget, Mahr has already indicated Fanwood will again apply for extraordinary state aid, after asking for — and getting — it for the first time last year. With state elections on tap again in 2005 and patron Linda Stender in the Assembly, the borough stands a good chance of getting funds this year. At the same time, it runs the risk of becoming dependent on state assistance. The trends putting financial pressure on municipalities won't go away anytime soon, but state aid might. The borough would be better off learning to live within its means.



Record-Aress

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Letters to the editor

Teen's death still under investigation

To The Record-Press:

This week marks the one year anniversary of the death of my brother, Michael Charmatz. My family and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their kindness and support over this

As some of you are well aware, there are still many questions surrounding Michael's death. Contrary to what has been reported in the newspapers, private investigators are still searching for the answers that will tell us what actually happened on Jan. 5, 2004. While I hope to one day learn the truth, I also know that nothing will ever truly explain why my brother was taken from us at such a young age. No investigation, however extensive, will ever truly erase the feelings of shock and grief that so many of us experienced after hearing the horrific news.

Losing a loved one is always difficult; losing Michael in the way that we did has often been unbearable. However, it is imperative that we remember Michael not for his tragic death, but instead for his exceptional life.

And exceptional it was In his short 19 years of life, Michael accomplished what most spend a lifetime trying to achieve. He had

already become a man that people respected, I suppose it's possible to describe Michael by saving that he was kind, honest, loving, compassionate, charismatic, generous, funny, smart, strong and handsome. But he was so much more than that.

Michael was the guy who made you laugh when you

had a bad day. He was the guy who made everything

better when things couldn't get any worse. He was the guy who extended his hand when you needed a

Simply put, to know Michael was to love him. In June of 2002, Michael graduated as senior class

president from Westfield High School and was given the honor of speaking at commencement. In that speech, Michael said to his classmates: "Let us always remember to live and love each day to its fullest poten-

That is exactly what he did. Michael never passed up the chance to define himself as a person with integrity, devotion and appreciation.

Michael was a classy gentleman whose thoughtful words and selfless actions touched the lives of so many. He was the kind of guy you were proud to know, and honored to call your son, your brother, your friend.

To those who knew Michael well, especially his friends, I hope each of you know how much you meant to my brother. I have a feeling he's somewhere watching over all of us.

Again, I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the cards, letters, pictures and memories so many of you have shared with us over this past year. Your kind words and well wishes have meant a great deal to me and my family. Thank you for assuring us that Michael is still living in your hearts.

Perhaps what so many of us feel is best described by the inscription to Michael on his tombstone:

We will remember you always: We will love you forever.

IVY CHARMATZ

A plea to keep spending caps intact

To The Record-Press:

I could not help but notice the article in the recent edition of several local publications in which a number of people associated with the Scotch Plains-Fanwood and Westfield school systems were lobbying both Senator Thomas Kean Jr. and Assemblyman Jon. Brannick to softened the impact of S-1701, which limited the rapid rise of school district budgets. These people included both the superintendents from Westfield and Scotch Plains-Fanwood, along with members of the boards of education and PTAs.

Senator Kean and Assemblyman Bramnick, you have heard from employees and/or people who serve to benefit from action to limit S-1701. Here is some input from someone that is paying the bill.

It should be noted that many of us are having increasing difficulties in paying the uncontrolled rise of our property taxes. Many of us do not have the income levels that these people and perhaps yourselves enjoy and can no longer afford to pay for these tax increases, Nor do we benefit financially from this revenue source. We welcome every attempt to control the runaway tax situation, which if unchecked could even jeopardize the very ownership of our homes.

Please consider our plight; do not cut back any of the statutes that S-1701 included. We simply can not nfford it anymore. In the last five years, we have seen our real estate taxes in Scotch Plains, increase by more

than 30 percent, far more than our incomes. The school budget in our town comprises approximately 65 percent of the overall municipal budget. It appears that this year we are in store for another increase of 5 percent or more. When will it stop?

The article failed to mention the major contributors to our budget. In particular, these are salaries and benefits. Many of us have not received any raises or just a percentage point or two in the last five years, and most of us pay for our medical benefits in part. This is on top of an average income in Scotch Plains of approximately \$40,000 per year. Why were these topics not mentioned in the article? Ask yourselves regarding those that visited you, "Are they in this situation?"

We have had to cut back on vacations, major purchases, capital improvements to our homes, and more. Did you ask those lobbying you what they were forced to cut back?

It is also interesting to note that both Scotch Plains and Fanwood are not in your district,

One can only wonder how far the pressure to maintain revenue sources will extend.

A copy of this letter will be forwarded to each of your offices, along with District's 22 representatives (Senator Nick Scutari, Assemblyman Jerry Green and Assemblywoman Linda Stender

AL MULLER

Knights food drive a great success

To The Record-Press:

On behalf of our Holiday Food Basket recipients, the Carwood Knights of Columbus would like to thank everyone who donated to our Holiday Food Drive. This year we provided food baskets to 23 families in November and December

Our special thanks go out to the Garwood Public School students, who collected 586 pounds, and their advisor, teacher Tamara Benc; the Garwood Boy Scout Troop 75; Cub Scout Pack 75; Scoutmaster Mark Koch; assistant Scoutmaster Dan Flynn and the Garwood Girl Scouts. It was their dedication and hard work in collecting the food that helped provide a huppy holiday senson for

In addition, we appreciate the following for their generous donations as well: Kings store manager

Steve Yoskowitz and bakery manager Dora Michael; PathMark store manager Tom Cocuzza; ShopRite store manager Joe Barbato and assistant store manager Stuart Morgan; the members of the Garwood Senior Citizen Club and their president.

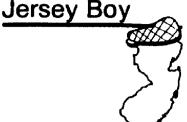
We purchased items such as potatoes, fruit, eggs. butter, brend, and turkeys, but it is your donations that nucke up the bulk of the baskets. Because of this, your generosity makes our food drive a great

Our recipients are very grateful, and we couldn't

do it without your help. Thank you again, and our best wishes to every

one for a healthy and happy New Year. KEITH M. GALLAGHER

Garwood



Mike Deak

Searching for new tunes for a new age

In 2005 I resolve to grow up That's a momentous resolu tion, especially for someone who's 48 years old.

No doubt there are some people who will say it's about time

But there are others who will be working against the successful completion of this resolution. Just as those sources of aggravation and anxiety conspire to lead us away from resolutions to stop smok ing, cut down drinking, eat healthier foods and exercise more, there are a lot of factors that will keep me from growing up in 2005.

For example, there are classic rock radio stations.

At age 48, I am hopelessly (and thankfully) out of touch with the trends of contemporary music. I'm at a loss to comprehend the subtleties of the musical trend du jour, and just as all rock music sounded alike to my parents three decades ago, I'm afraid the nuances of today's bands escape my imagi-

And, let's face it, there's no easier target for derision than a 48-year-old man-child trying to be hip.

That means my car's radio buttons are programmed to four different classical rock stations. Where I live in the middle of the Garden State, I can listen to classic rock stations from New York, Philadelphia, Trenton and Easton. It is these stations, playing songs from two or three decades ago, that are working against my resolu-

At first I found these stations mildly diverting from the everyday stresses in my life. The songs from another time when my waist size was four inches smaller loosened me up and gave me a strange energy boost as I remembered the differences between jeans that were flared or bell-bottomed.

How refreshing it was for a song to dredge up long-forgotten memories of a time when the possibilities were endless and you have the freedom to commit random acts of stupidity and recklessness. Whatever happened to the joy of youthful exploration when every new experience led to a revelation of the world both inside and outside of us?

But then I noticed something unsettling about the radio stations.

They seemed to have very limited playlists, as if there were only about 40 songs worth remembering from a time when it was considered daring to move in with a lover who wasn't your spouse and the width of a trouser leg was a political statement.

At first whenever I heard Supertramp's "The Logical Song" or Kansas's "Carry On, Wayward Son," I remembered, with great fondness and little shame, my own valiant attempts to solve the mysteries of existence (to quote Bob Seger's "Night Moves," a song from that era, "Working on mysteries without any clues.")

However, after you've heard Boston's "More than a Feeling The Engles' "Hotel Calfornia." Queen's - "Bohemian Rhupsody" for the 46th time in a month, you begin to get a weary of songs that at the time seemed astronomically profound but are now just annoyingly superficial.

I know that statement is sac rilege, but it's the first step 😉

The mission now is to find new songs that reflect the new worries of middle age, And that's the search on the agendafor 2005.

WHAT IS YOUR NEW YEAR S RESOLUTION?

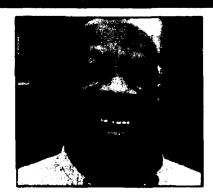


MARY CABRERA Elizabeth

I want to lose a little weight, which is my annual resolution - other than that, just to go to church.

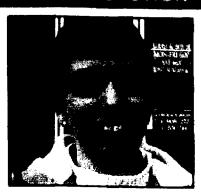


JENNIFER SWEETAY works in Cranford To get on the treadmill more



ALFRED PATTERSON Cranford

I stopped making New Year's resolutions decades ago because it's become a ritual that's lost meaning... at this point it's almost like going to confession.



BARBARA DOUGLAS visiting Cranford

To be more organized, and also to exercise.



JERMAINE SPEARMAN visiting Westfield

To survive the streets of Newark for another year. A lot of people don't know how hard it is to survive in Newark.



GREG CUOCO Westfield

Mine is to finish another year of school — my last year of school. Also, I want to stick to the Weight Watchers diet my girlfriend and I joined.

audio-visual aids.

Users will likely bear cleanup program cost

By BRAD DISHOP THE RECORD-PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — With changes to the township's spring bulkywaste cleanup program a virtual certainty, Township Administrator Tom Atkins gave the council a brief sketch of the cost of an alternative program Tuesday night.

The current program, somewhat rare in central Union County, is run by township government and built into the tax base. Because of the program's skyrocketing costs, officials are considering shifting spring cleanup to a user-based system, in which individual homeowners would purchase permits to dispose a specific amount of bulky waste, likely around 750 pounds per household.

Residents would have to pay extra for the service if they exceed the weight limit. But neighbors could share a permit to save costs in the user-based system, versions of which are in place in nearby Cranford and Westfield.

At the council's conference meeting Tuesday, Atkins said Midco Waste Systems officials quoted a likely permit cost of at least \$85 for a 750-pound limit. Depending on the types of material homeowners leave for pickup, the cost could climb as high as \$100 or \$110, Atkins

Another major service provider, Waste Management Inc., has yet to provide township officials with a quote for a user-based system. Cranford residents paid \$90 for the service last year, which was substantially higher than the program cost a few years earlier.

At a meeting last month, officials said the program's cost is rising because of illegal dumping and county-wide increases in tipping fees. Rather than pass the costs onto taxpayers who don't use the service anyway, the council is warming to the user-based system, though no formal action has been taken yet.

Film screening, lectures set at Westfield library

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Memorial Library is hosting several adult programs during the com-

On Tuesday, Westfield cardholders are invited to enjoy a viewing of **Bloody Sunday** at 7 p.m. This British film based on Don Mullen's book, Eyewitness Bloody Sunday, recreates Ireland's tragic day of **Jan. 30. 1972**. Parliament member Ivan Cooper leads a peaceful civil rights march through Derry's Catholic neighborhoods to protest Britain's practice of internment without trial. During the march, the British military arrive, setting up barricades to block entry to Protestant neighborhoods. Without warning, the military opens fire on the unarmed protestors, killing 13 and creating chaos. The film is rated R and is 107 minutes long.

On Jan. 14, cardholders can discuss the life and works of the Norman Rockwell, the artist who sought to capture the heart and spirit of everyday life in America. This program will be held at 1:30 p.m.; light refreshments will be served.

In addition, at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13, the Friends of the Library will sponsor an educational presentation of the Jersey Devil given by Angus Kress Gillespie, Ph.D.

Gillespie is a Rutgers University

REGIS

folklore of New Jersey and who has done extensive fieldwork and research in the Pine Barrens. His program on the Jersey Devil is supplemented with some 80 slides in

The public is invited; free tickets are available at the library. The presentation will take place in the indrary's conference room.

For more information, 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



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County news

ELIZABETH — Union County government held its 148th reorganization meeting on Sunday, Jan. 2 at the Union County Courthouse. At the ceremony, five county officials elected in November were sworn in to their terms in office.

Union County Sheriff Ralph Froehlich was sworn-in for his 10th three-year term, and Surrogate James S. LaCorte was sworn-in for a second term. He was first elected in 1999 after the death of former Surrogate Ann Conti and has served in the position since then. He will serve a five-year term.

Three members were sworn-in to three-year terms on the Board of Chosen Freeholders, the legislative body that sets the policies and direction of county government. Daniel Sullivan of Elizabeth was sworn-in for his fourth term on the board, Bette Jane Kowalski of Cranford was sworn-in for her first full term, and Adrian Mapp of Plainfield was also sworn-in for a three-year term.

County officials also said Nancy Ward was sworn in to take the place of John Wohlrab, who resigned after he was arrested.

Members of the freeholder board elected Rick Proctor of Rahway as chairman and Alexander Mirabella of Fanwood as vice chairman. Proctor had served as vice chairman in 2004.

In the annual Chairman's Address, Proctor set a theme of 'Safety, Services and Results' for the Freeholder Board in 2005. He then set out five top priorities for the

coming year: Boundless Playgrounds — In this \$500,000 initiative, Proctor pledged matching funds to support Boundless playgrounds for children with disabilities. These playgrounds have equipment and activities that children with and without disabili-

Expansion of the Kids Recreation Trust initiative — The freeholder board plans to develop a Kids in Motion initiative to provide vehicles to municipalities to transport kids to recreation venues. County officials said the initiative will also provide municipalities with \$500,000 in matching funds for lighting for athletic fields.

Medical Reserve Corps/CERT — The board plans to develop a corps of volunteers from the health care field and develop a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) utilizing county personnel to help respond to an emergency or natural disaster. The county hopes volun-

teers will provide an extra layer of emergency preparedness and response and the nucleus of CERT teams in their hometowns.

Freeholders set their agenda for the new year

Traveling Trailside "Mobile Eco Labs" will bring the displays, exhibits and natural history background of Trailside Nature and Science Center to the schools and community centers. The vehicles will contain computers, microscopes, binoculars, and

Citizen Senior Improvement -- This initiative is designed to provide grants of up to \$5,000 to income-eligible seniors to fix a roof or upgrade plumbing or electrical systems. The county will allocate \$500,000 toward this initiative through the Community Development Block Grant pro-

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TODAY!

Registration to begin soon for Y child care

WESTFIELD - Child care registration for Westfield Area YMCA 2005-2006 programs begins later this month. Full day child care registration begins Wednesday, while half-day preschool and school-age child care registration begins, Jan. 22.

Westfield Area Youll day child care programs are available for children ages 12 months to 5 years. The program of the search hand.

years. The program offers a blend of supervised social interaction and self-discovery. Gym, music and art are incorporated into each classroom's daily schedule. The program runs year-round at the Children's Center behind the First Baptist Church on Elm Street from 7:20 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Friday.



The Westfield Area Ys half-day preschool program is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). This accreditation means that the Westfield Area Y has voluntarily undergone a process of internal self-study and has sought external professional review. The program runs from September-June for children 212 to 5 years old.

In September this program will be held at the new East Broad Street Family Branch at 422 East Broad St. This new branch will contain an outside playground, indoor gym and large classrooms. Additional programming for preschoolers will be offered.

Westfield Area Y after-school programs provide children from K-Grade 5 with fun, safe and supervised activities 2-5 days per week during the after-school hours. Programs are available at the main YMCA facility as well as in the Tamaques, McKinley, Jefferson and Washington schools. Before-school care and kindergarten wraparound classes are also available, as are the Y's afterschool programs at Edison and Roosevelt Intermediate schools.

For more information on fullday child care, call Shannon Cleveland at (908) 654-8460. For more information on preschool child care, call Eileen Rooney at (908) 233-2700, ext. 230. For more information on after school care, call Leah Schneider at (908) 233-2700, ext. 273.

Genealogy group to host talk on passenger lists

WESTFIELD — The first meeting of the new year of the Genealogical Society of the West Fields will take place at 10 a.m. Saturday in the Program Room of the Westfield Memorial Library, 550 E. Broad St.

The speaker will be Larry Fermi, whose program will cover the subject of passenger lists and the arrivals of ships bringing European immigrants to the United States during the peak periods of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Fermi has been a member and officer of the Monmouth County Genealogical Society and its Educational Committee for several years.

Fermi is a popular speaker on basic genealogy and advanced genealogy on related subjects in the greater metropolitan area of New York City. He concentrates on in-depth family history research. His credentials include membership in the Association of Professional Genealogists, the National Genealogical Society, the Genealogist Speaker's Guild and the Genealogist Society of New

The public is invited to attend this meeting. There is no admission fee. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call (908) 233-8545.

West Fields group to hear talk on Burr

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WESTFIELD - The West Fields Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution will meet at 8 p.m. Monday in the Community Room of the Westfield Community Room. The meeting will feature Ron Goldberg of the New Jersey Historical Society.

Continuing the subject of Alexander

Club news

Hamilton initiated in the chapter's previous meeting in November, Goldberg's presentation will focus on Aaron Burr. Although Burr is remembered in history primarily for fatally wounding Alexander Hamilton in a pistol duel, his accomplishments are less known. In the Revolutionary War, he advanced from private to lieutenant colonel and distinguished himself in the battle of Monmouth. He served as vice-president under President Jefferson, but his political career was controversial.

The meeting is open to the public and refreshments will be served.

Lunch and Learn with Hadassah

WESTFIELD - The local chapter of Hadassah will have a Lunch and Learn meeting at noon Jan. 24 at Temple Emanu El, East Broad Street.

Emily Topolosky, currently AIPAC's director for Northern New Jersey, will speak about President Bush, the 109th Congress and Israel. The American Israel Political Action Committee is a non-partisan American membership organization that has for more than 50 years been working with Congress to build a strong relationship between the U.S. and Israel.

Hadassah, the Women Zionist Organization of America, is a volunteer organization whose members work to strengthen their partnership with Israel and ensure Jewish continuity.

In Israel, Hadassah initiates and sup-

ports health care, education and youth institutions and land development to meet the country's changing needs. In the United States, Hadassah seeks to boost the quality of American and Jewish life through its education and Zionist youth programs, promote health awareness, and provide personal enrichment and growth for its members.

Hoffman to talk about life in early America

WESTFIELD - Hollace Hoffman of Plainfield, a naturalist and teacher, will present a slide-lecture program to the members of the Woman's Club of Westfield Monday afternoon at the Masonic Lodge on Central Avenue.

Hoffman will explore the Quiet Valley American History Farm in Pennsylvania and explain what early life was like in America.

Hoffman holds a bachelor's degree in biology/sociology from Albion College in Michigan and a master's degree in plant ecology from Rutgers University.

She has served as director of Trailside Nature and Science Center, as a teacher/naturalist with Somerset County Park Commission and taught biology and ecology at Metuchen High School, She also served as a botany teaching assistant at Albion and research assistant at Tufts University School of Medicine,

Guests are welcome to attend the lecture following the club's business meeting at 1 p.m. Refreshments will follow the lecture under the direction of Vice President Delores Geisow. For information call (908) 654-3946.

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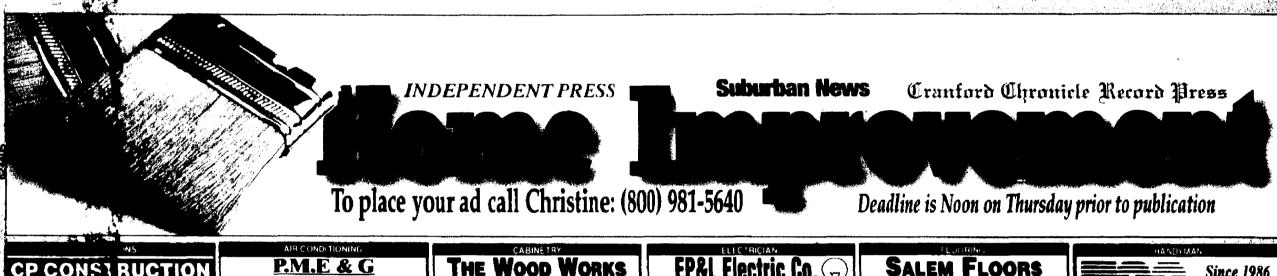
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VESTFIELD — The response he question, "What did you do our summer vacation?" might orise you if you ask one of the amp Sunshine youth mission inteers from gregational Church.

Being a volunteer at Camp shine was the most moving intense experience of my life; ade me feel good to be a memof the human race," said one

gcipant. I helped kids with life-threatng illnesses; I made a differin someone's life," replied

ther. In Sunday, Jan. 9, the First gregational Church will celethe ministry of its Camp shine ambassadors at a spe-10 a.m. worship service. The th, advisors and Camp shine staff will take part in service. An after-church forum be offered to learn more about inteer opportunities at Camp shine in 2005. Participants include camp doctor Andy nenfield, Program Director ncy Cincotta, and Tracie Moore ne Brain Tumor Foundation. ocated in Casco, Maine, Camp shine supports children with threatening illnesses and r families. The camp has the inction of being the only prom in the nation whose mission

address the impact of a life-

eatening illness on every mem-

of the immediate family: the

child, parents, and siblings.

ce its inception, Camp

ishine has provided a haven

more than 16,000 families

n diverse cultural back-

Families of a child diagnosed with illnesses such as cancer, kidney disease, lupus, or diabetes attend_one of the week-long camps. The camp's focus is on alleviating the strain that a lifethreatening illness takes not only on the sick child but also on other family members. Families have an opportunity to rebuild their relationships together and meet other families facing similar challenges.

Camp Sunshine is staffed almost entirely by volunteers, many of whom return year after year. The volunteers reflect the diversity of the families and help with recreational leadership, childcare and food service. FCC volunteers for 2004 were Matt Bierman, Emily Ortuso, Christine Wicks, Emma Laird, Annie Yingling, Paul Clark, Eric Linger, Cri Cri Henry, Sara Woods, Dan Kelman, Jess Dawe, and Paul and Anthony Johnson. The advisors were Tom and Jen Cotter, Lyn Kelman, Carol Devine and Pam Gilchrist.

Volunteers, except for those who live nearby, also stay on the property.

Another distinctive component of the program is the medical facilities and professional staff that are available to address the taxing physical needs of children with intrusive diseases. A physician is located at the camp for the entire session so that families can be secure in the knowledge that the camp offers 24-hour onsite medical support. In addition, a hospital with full-time emergency room physicians and pediatri-

cians is only 25 minutes from the

Recreational hours allow children to relax and enjoy the simple pleasures of childhood while their parents find quiet moments to walk by the lake and reaffirm their support for one another. In addition, games and events are designed to foster family involvement, encouraging families to laugh and play as a unit. This approach builds a new foundation the family can take with them when the camp is over to unite them during the darker times they will face.

Each family is sponsored by an individual, civic group, corporation, or foundation, which enables a family to spend a week at Camp Sunshine free of charge. A sponsorship for one family to participate in the week-long program is \$1,500. The Family Sponsorship Program provides a way for donors to sponsor a family or families from their geographic area.

Last year, the church youth raised nearly \$1,000 for their expenses, In addition, they donated \$2,000 to Camp Sunshine. A corporate gift of \$1,000 was solicited by a church member who is employed by Sanofi-Synthelabo, Inc. Church members and friends interested in supporting this effort financially may make their contributions payable to First Congregational Church and write 'CE Youth Fund" on the memo line. For additional information on Camp Sunshine, contact the church office at (908) 233-2494 or visit the camp's web site, www.campsunshine.org.

INDEPENDENT PRESS



Marching band gives boost to tree sale

Members of the Westfield High School Marching Band performed holiday songs at the Y's Men's Club Tree Lot Dec. 19. The annual tree sale had raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support community organizations, including the WHS Marching Band. Men's Club members Mark Cilarrocca, Drew Heys, and Eric Leuthold offered thanks to the band members, who performed under the direction of Mike Fackelman. Band members included Greg Ryan Jr., Ryan Reber, Brett Paulan, Nick Malaspina, Joe Steinfeld Ben Klofta, Sam Johnson, and Ted Vincett.

Another flu clinic on tap in Westfield

Westfield Regional Health Department has a very limited supply of flu vaccine still available. An additional flu inoculation program has been scheduled for Jan. 6, between the hours of 10-11:30 a.m., in the Community

Suburban News

Room, located on the first floor of meet CDC guidelines. Proof of Westfield Municipal Building, 425 East Broad St., Westfield.

The program will be open to residents of Fanwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Roselle Park, Springfield and Westfield that residence will be required.

Registration and vaccination will be held at the clinic on a first-come, first-served basin, contingent upon vaccine supply. Strict adherence to the eligibility requirements will be enforced.



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Freehold; six grandchildren

three great-grandchildren; and

the chapel at St. Bernard,

Arrangements were by the

Layton Funeral Home in

Bedminster. In lieu of flowers,

donations may be sent to

American Heart Association,

2550 Route 1, North Brunswick,

Mausoleum, Bridgewater.

Services were held Friday in

his dog, Boomer.

Alfred Richardson

Richardson, 81, died Dec. 25, 2004 at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Born in East Orange, he was a son of the late Duncan and Katherine Gearie Richardson.

Mr. Richardson had lived in Westfield since 1954 and also had a summer home in Breton Woods. He was with Merck & Co. in Rahway for more than 35 years and helped install its first computer systems. He began his Merck career as a cost accountant and retired in 1985 as an associate director of the compa-

The Merck director received a degree in economics and finance from Bucknell University in 1947.

Mr. Richardson was a member of the 25-Year Club at Merck; the National Association of Cost Accountants; PT Boats Inc.; the American Association of Retired Persons; and Kappa Sigma fraternity at Bucknell.

In the Navy he was the captain

WESTFIELD - Alfred J. World War II and the executive officer on a minesweeper after the war. A brother, Douglas, is deceased.

Surviving are his wife of 52 years, Jean Hubert Richardson; two sons, Randall A. and wife Rae of Toms River and Scott H. and wife Dawn of Somerset; a daughter, Terry J. Jacklin and husband James of Coopersburg, Pa.; two sisters, Ruth Bullock and husband George of Pennsylvania and Grace Roberts and husband Ralph of Pennsylvania; seven grandchildren; and many nieces and

Services were held Dec. 30 at the Walter J. Johnson Funeral Home in Clark. Burial was in the First Presbyterian Church cemetery, Woodbridge.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Overlook Hospital Foundation, 36 Upper Overlook Road, P.O. Box 220, Summit, NJ 07902 or Westfield Volunteer Rescue Squad, 335 Watterson St., of PT 327 in the Philippines during P.O. Box 356, Westfield, NJ 07091.

Salvatore Severini

"Bubby" Severini, 74, died Dec. 28, 2004 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born in Newark, he lived in Westfield before moving to South Plainfield in 1962.

Mr. Severini owned the Mountainside Disposal Co. for more than 30 years until 1980. He was a past president of the South Plainfield Italian-American Club and more recently the manager of Sal's Spirit Shoppe in South Plainfield.

For more than 30 years Mr. Severini coached the Eagles, a Pop Warner football team in South Plainfield. He also was a C League coach in the South Plainfield Little League.

He was an Army veteran of Eagles.

of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Mountainside. Mr. Severini was a parishioner of Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in South Plainfield.

A brother, Joseph, died in

Surviving are his wife of more than 49 years, Lois Egidio Severini; two sons, Sal and Steven: a daughter, Luanne; and five grandchildren.

Services were held Monday at the McCriskin Home for Funerals, South Plainfield, followed by a funeral Mass at Sacred Heart Church, Burial was in Fairview Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the South Plainfield Pop Warner Football

Eugenia Smillie

FANWOOD — Eugenia Cogan Smillie, 84, died Jan. 2, 2005 at her home.

She was born in Staten Island and lived in that borough before

moving to Fanwood in 1975. Mrs. Smillie retired in 1985 after 20 years as an executive secretary with Merck & Co. in Rahway. She earlier was the head of the filing department at the Manhattan office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Ronald Geores

WESTFIELD — Ronald Joseph Geores, 65, died Dec. 22, 2004 at his home.

before moving to Westfield in 1967.

Summit. He worked in the performing arts for more than 40 Fairview Cemetery.

Her husband, Thomas, died in

Surviving are a brother-inlaw, John Palys; three nieces and two grandnieces.

A funeral Mass was held yesterday at Blessed Sacrament Roman Catholic Church in Martinsville. Entombment was in the St. Bernard Mausoleum, Bridgewater.

Arrangements were by the Memorial Funeral Home.

Surviving are his wife,

Clementine Monti Geores; two He was born in South Amboy and lived in Glastonbury, Conn.,

the owner of Dancemakers International, a dance studio in

daughters, Heidi Maria and Heather L.; two sisters, Beverly Moench and Vivian Tucker; and a brother, Frankun. Services were held Dec. 27 at the Higgins & Bonner Echo Lake

Funeral Home. Burial was in



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Obituaries

Horace Jack Charles; a lifelong aviator

Mr. Charles spent 33 years with

Union Carbide Corp., retiring in 1990 as manager of technical publi-

cations for its Linde Division. As a

Mason for 50 years he was a mem-

ber of Masonic lodges in Akron,

N.Y., and Danbury. He was a 32nd-degree member of the Scottish Rite

Masons in the Buffalo Consistory.

He also was a committeeman and

board member of Unitarian

was a son of the late Frederic

Henry and Pearl Marie Benedict

Charles. Mr. Charles lived in New

York state and Westfield before

Surviving are his wife of 55

years, Katherine Mackey Charles;

two sons, Robert and wife Kathleen of Madison and David

and wife Elena of Cedar Knolls;

two daughters, Deborah Charles

Dreher and husband Richard of

Westfield and Judith Charles

Alexander and husband Andrew of

Williamsburg, Va.; and six grand-

Sunday in Alumni Hall at Western

Connecticut State University,

Danbury, Arrangements were by

the Hull Funeral Service in

Surviving are three daugh-

ters, Linda Masi, Deborah

LaMorticella and Janet; two

sons, Gary and Kevin; a sister,

Esther,

A memorial service was held

moving to Danbury.

Born June 8, 1919 in Buffalo, he

WESTFIELD — Horace Jack Charles, an aviator who worked on the first airplane to break the speed of sound, died Dec. 26 in

Danbury, Conn., at age 85. He prepared instructions for the X-1 and X-2 while working for the Bell Aircraft Co. after World War II. The X-1 became famous in 1947 as the jet airplane in which Chuck Yeager broke the sound barrier.

Mr. Charles took his first flight at age 12, eventually earning an aircraft and engine mechanic's license from the Casey Jones School of Aeronautics in Newark. As a college undergraduate he earned his private pilot's license while working for the Curtiss Airplane and Motor Co. in Buffalo, N.Y. He received bachelor's and master's degrees in industrial education from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

In World War II Mr. Charles was an Army Air Forces pilot who trained British crews of the Royal Air Force. He flew in Europe and the Pacific during World War II, then in Korea with the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. After leaving the Air Force he built and restored aircraft for judging as a member of the Experimental Aircraft Association.

Amelia Stiffler

Danbury.

deceased.

Venneri and

SCOTCH PLAINS — Amelia M. "Millie" Stiffler, 85, died Jan. 1, 2005 at Morristown Memorial Hospital.

Mrs. Stiffler was a lifelong Scotch Plains resident and the secretary-treasurer for Stiffler Mason Contractor Inc. in Scotch Plains until her retirement in 1990. The firm was owned by her late husband, Troy B., who died

She also was a part-time cafeteria assistant in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood school system. Mrs. Stiffler was a member of the Altar Rosary Society at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church.

Two brothers, Nicholas and Joseph, and two sisters, Clara

Antoinette Ziolkowski; and six grandchildren. A funeral Mass was held Wednesday at St. Bartholomew

the Apostle Church, following services at the Rossi Funeral Home. Burial was in St. Gertrude

Cemetery, Colonia. Donations may be sent to St. Bartholomew the Apostle Building Church, Maintenance Fund, 2032 Westfield Ave., Scotch Plains, NJ 07076 or the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad.

Katherine 'Kay' Boyne

FANWOOD — Katherine Anna "Kay" Boyne, 86, died Dec. 28, 2004 at the Massachusetts home of a daughter. Mary Schlaff.

Born July 22, 1918 in Bound

Brook, she lived in Somerville before moving to Fanwood in Mrs. Boyne retired in 1978 as

registered nurse at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield. She graduated in 1939 from the nursing school at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

She was a volunteer at the Ashbrook Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Scotch Nursing Plains. Mrs. Boyne was a member of the Fanwood Senior Citizens Club and the Altar Rosary Society at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church, also in Scotch Her husband, Frank E., died

in 1993.

Also surviving are two other daughters, Kathy Swenson and Nora Bechold: a son David: 11 grandchildren and three greatgrandchildren.

Services were held Monday at the Rossi Funeral Home, Scotch Plains, followed by a funeral Mass at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church. Burial was in Bound Brook Cemetery.

John P. Matonis Sr.

SCOTCH PLAINS — John P. Matonis Sr., 86, died Dec. 29, 2004 at Hunterdon Medical Center in Flemington.

Mr. Matonis was born in Plymouth, Pa. He lived in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and Elizabeth before moving to Scotch Plains in 1953.

He was with Merck & Co. in Rahway for 42 years and retired in 1984 as a supervisor of maintenance. Mr. Matonis more recently was a truck driver with a Branchburg company

He carned a degree in business management from University College of Rutgers University in

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1967. Mr. Matonis was a Navy veteran of World War II. A son, Robert Zlobeck, died in

2000.Surviving are his wife of 52 years, Teresa A. Bellisano; two sons, Stanley J. Zlobecki and John P. Jr.; two sisters, Margaret Alesczuk and Rose McFall; a brother, William; and six grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was held Monday at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church, following services at the Rossi Funeral Home. Entombment was in the Good Shepherd Chapel Mausoleum at St. Gertrude Cemetery, Colonia.

Donations may be sent to Alzheimer's Association, Greater New Jersey Chapter, 400 Morris Ave., Suite 251, Denville, NJ 07834-1365.

Jose O. Valdes

SCOTCH PLAINS — Jose O. Valdes, 83, died Dec. 28, 2004 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born in Camaguey, Cuba, he lived in Scotch Plains and Bridgewater before moving to Bedminster in 2000.

Mr. Valdes retired in 1985 after 20 years as a machinist with the Hago Manufacturing

Co. in Mountainside. Surviving are his wife, Josephine Sureda Valdes; two

sons, Michael H. of Gladstone

Blanche Russell

SCOTCH PLAINS --- Blanche Russell, 87, died Dec. 30, 2004 at the Greenbrook Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Green Brook.

She was born in New York City and had lived for over 80 years in Green Brook.

Mrs. Russell was a member of the AARP and a parishioner of St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church. Her husband, Frank J., died

Frances "Chickie" Sincavage, a grandson, Brian Sincavage, and granddaughter, Sincavage, all of Scotch Plains; a nephew, Joseph Masperi of Colonia; and two nieces, Jane Cavagnaro and husband Ernie of Piscataway and Charlotte Sorf of Lake Mary, Fla.

Services were held Monday at the Memorial Funeral Home, Fanwood, followed by a funeral Mass at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church. Burial was in Surviving are a daughter, Fairview Cemetery, Westfield.

Esther Mary Ekstrom

WESTFIELD — Esther Mary Goodwin Ekstrom, 77, died Dec. 28. 2004 at her home.

Born in Fitchburg, Mass., she lived in Lake Hiawatha before moving to Westfield in 2000.

Mrs. Ekstrom retired in 1987 after 20 years as a packer with the Dell Printing Co. in Pine Brook. She was a member of the Deaf Club in Elmwood Park.

Surviving are her husband, Carl Philip; three daughters, Carol Liscinsky, with whom Mrs.

Ekstrom lived, Karen Callahan of Westfield and Susan of Sebring, Fla.; a son, Gerhard of Tennessee; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Services were held Monday at the Higgins & Bonner Echo Lake Funeral Home. Burial was in Hollywood Memorial Park, Union.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to W.I.S.E. Adult Day Care, 973A Stuyvesant Ave., Union, NJ 07083.

Ronald F., Daniel I. and John

Anna Sensbach

WESTFIELD — Anna M. Clymont Sensbach, 91, died Dec. 30, 2004 at Overlook Hospital in

Born in Newark, she lived in Scotch Plains before moving to Westfield in 1931.

Mrs. Sensbach catered luncheons and other events for clubs and civic organizations that met at the Westfield Y. She was on the Westfield Y staff for 20 years and retired in the early 1980s.

Surviving are three sons,

L.D.; two daughters, Sally A. Bodiford and Sandra L. Barker; a sister. Gertrude Michelson; 12 grandchildren and 20 greatgrandchildren. Services were held Tuesday at the Rossi Funeral Home in

Scotch Plains. Burial was in St. Gertrude Cemetery, Colonia. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Westfield Rescue Squad, 335 Watterson St., Westfield, NJ 07090.

Thomas F. Conway

Thomas F. Conway, 81, died Jan. 2, 2005 at his home in

Cranford. Born in Chicago, Ill., he lived in Elizabeth before moving to

Cranford 47 years ago. Mr. Conway was with Exxon Corp. for 37 years, retiring in American Ex-Prisoners of War. 1983 as an accounting analyst at the Bayway Refinery in Linden. He received a bachelor of science in accounting degree from Seton

Hall University in 1950.

As an Army corporal in World War II he was assigned to the 141st Infantry of the 36th Division in Europe. Mr. Conway was held prisoner in Germany for 14 months after he was captured at the Rapido River in Italy. He transferred to the Army Reserve after the war and retired from the military in 1948.

He was awarded the American Theater Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Medal. Campaign the Distinguished Service Medal, two Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart, a Good Conduct Medal and the Victory Medal.

Mr. Conway was the treasurer and finance officer of Bayway Post 260, American Legion, in Elizabeth; he was a member of that Legion post for over 50 years. He was a life member of the Disabled American Veterans as well as a member of the 36th Division Association and the

He was a parishioner of St Michael's Roman Catholic Church.

A daughter, Elaine Hilton, died in 2001.

Surviving are his wife of 53 years, Agnes M. Dewar Conway; two daughters, Carolyn Anne Taylor of Phoenix, Ariz., and Jean E. Stives of Bethlehem, Pa.; and

four grandchildren. A funeral Mass will be 10:30 a.m. today at St. Michael's Church, 40 Alden St. Burial will be in the Brig. Gen. William C. Veterans Doyle Memorial Cemetery, Arnytown.

Arrangements were by the Gray Memorial Funeral Home, 12 Springfield Ave. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Bayway Post 260, American Legion, c/o Peter Beal, Commander, 519 Spruce Ave., Garwood, NJ 07027.

Madeline Gormanly

Madeline Gormanly, a former circulation manager for The Cranford Chronicle, died Dec. 28 at Union Hospital at age 61.

She was The Chronicle's circulation manager from 1985 until 1988, when Mrs. Gormanly became the clerk of the Cranford Municipal Court. She retired in

1990 Mrs. Gormanly was porn in: New York City and had lived in Cranford since 1970.

Surviving are her husband of 39 years, Thomas; two sons, Kevin and John; three daughters, Mary DeLair, Kathleen Boscia and Tricia; a brother, Lawrence Mullins; two sisters, Maureen Curtin and Irene Krankel; and

eight grandchildren. A funeral Mass was held Monday at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, Burial was in Fairview Cemetery, Westfield, under the direction of the Dooley Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the American Cancer Society.

LEGALS

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Madrigal Singers offer 'second chance at Christmas' Jan. 9

The Madrigal Singers, directed by laine Fiorino, will present "Star of Vonder," a program of words and lusic for the season at 4 p.m. Jan. 9 at irst United Methodist Church, 1 East road St. in Westfield

The concert offers a "second chance t Christmas" on the Sunday after piphany, according to Christian tradion the date when the wise men, folwing the star, arrived in Bethlehem nd presented their gifts to the neworn babe. Selections from the Bible nd Shakespeare read by the the Rev. dward Carll will tell the Christmas tory and introduce groups of carols nd motets spanning seven centuries. ung a cappella or with flute accompaiment by Jenny Cline and Susan

The program features the premiere of four carol arrangements for flutes by Mountainside composer John Sichel, a bass in the ensemble.

The program will open with a processional with plainchant variations on Resonet in laudibus." "Hodie Christus natus est" follows, featuring a six-part contrapuntal setting by Sweelinck. As the Christmas story unfolds, Luke's account of the annunciation introduces three Renaissance hymns to Mary: Dunstable's "Alma redemptoris mater," Monteverdi's "Ave Maria," and Victoria's "Ne timeas Maria.'

The angel's good news to the shepherds is proclaimed in two settings of "Angelus ad pastores" by Renaissance

composer Juan Blas de Castro and contemporary composer Kenneth Mahy. As the shepherds arrive at the stable in Bethlehem, their awe and excitement are portrayed in Palestrina's six-part contrapuntal arrangement of "O magnum mysterium." Praetorius' carol setting of "Es ist ein Ros" connects the old prophecies with Christ's birth, while Holst's "Lullaby my liking" is a soft lullaby for mother and child.

The star which led the wise men to Bethlehem is celebrated in two contemporary pieces: "The linden tree," an arrangement of a traditional German carol by Jeremy Dale Roberts. and "Star of Wonder" by Terre Roche. "Omnes de Saba," Jacob Handl's fivepart contrapuntal celebration of the wise men's journey to honor the newborn child, will follow

Two modern meditations on Jesus's role as Savior draw on older sources – verses from an old English manuscript inspired F. Bainton's carol setting of "A babe is born I wys," and hearing a performance of a Bach piece led Elliot Levine to write his evocative "Jesus, gentle Savior." The program will end with the Christmas Eve scene from Hamlet, followed by three musical celebrations of Christmas: Robert Wetzler's "Rejoice! The savior is born,' the Austrian carol "Still, still, still," and Elizabeth Poston's modern arrangement of the traditional English "Boar's Head Carol."

Founded in 1948, The Madrigal Singers are dedicated to exploring the a cappella traditions that grew out of the musical flowering of the European Renaissance.

The Madrigal Singers have a long tradition of caroling to shut-ins, and in December they visited Canterbury Village in West Orange, Singing this season are Mary Arnold, Martha Desmond, Richard DeVany, Healf Goguen, David Lawrence, Roberta Lichtenberg, Jennifer Melick, Pamela Newell, Sarah Riffel, Kirk Robbins, John Sichel, Lynn Sichel, George Straikus and Margaret Thompson.

Admission is by donation at the door. For further information, call (908) 233-1570.

The Alborada Spanish Dance Theatre performs at the Union County Arts Center in Rahway Feb. 5.

Dance troupe plans an evening of Pasion

At 8 p.m. Feb. 5, the Union County Arts Center presents Pasion with the Alborada Spanish Dance Theatre.

A steamy Havana nightclub in the 1950s is the setting for this exotic blend of tango and flamenco dances driven by the powerful Cuban rhythms of guest musicians, Pancho Navarro and Tito Castron. The Alborada troupe tango, rumba, and waltz their way through this cross-cultural event. Special guest artist, Peter Suarez of the New York Metropolitan Opera will join the company for this evening of Spanish dance.

Under the direction of Eva Lucena, Alborada Spanish Dance Theatre is focused on the education and cultural enrichment of young audiences. The dedicated performers will conduct an afternoon workshop for students of the Union County Arts Center's mentoring program.

Tickets for the evening performances are \$25, \$18 for students, and may be purchased by calling at (732) 499-8226, online by visiting the website at www.UCAC.org or in person

at the box office located at 1601 Irving Street, Rahway, Group discounts are available, as is handicapped-accessible

New show set to open

at Community Players

Diversity set to launch a new quilting show

Diversity Art Gallery in Clark will soon hold its 13th exhibition, a display of quilts and fabric art. This is the gallery's second quilt/fabric show, which was conceived to recognize the creativity of artists who sew, glue and paint diverse fabrics. The public is invited to attend an artists' reception from 1-4 p.m. Jan 16.

The making of a quilt is a labor of love that requires an enormous amount of time, patience and labor. Early 19thcentury quilts were made entirely by hand, requiring incredible patience and skill. Although quilts were made by individuals, the final joining together of the quilt was done with the family or community. Known as "quiltings, these community meetings of kin and friends were an important part of the social fabric of 19thcentury life. One of the few occasions when women could meet publicly, a quilting was an opportunity to share patterns or traditions for a special wedding quilt, while discussing current issues. Susan B. Anthony gave one of her first speeches defending the equal rights of women at a quilting.

As a unique and personal way of expressing love or thanks, quilts were always popular choices for gifts and commemorations. By the middle of the 19th-century a new form of quilt, the "album quilt," began to appear with increasing frequency. The romantic desire to commemorate and memorialize major events influenced the popularity of quilts. Each block of this quilt type is like a page in an album, often initialed or signed by one or more people. Another type of quilt, the "crazy quilt," became popular in the early 1880s. This new craze, inspired by Japanese textiles and design as part of the Aesthetic Movement, offered an opportunity for individuality and originality in an era of rigid Victorian social

Area quilting and fabric artists such as The Nubian Heritage Quilters Guild of Irvington and the Heritage Quilters of Scotch Plains will be providing numerous works for gallery display and sale. New Jersey's fiber artist Glendora Simonson and quilt enthusiast Carolyn Davis founded The Nubian Heritage Quilters in 1995 to promote, preserve and document the importance of African-American quilting. Adopting the African Adinka symbol, Sankofa, the group took the message, "Learning from the past in building for the future," as its mission statement. The quilters celebrate and expand upon the legacy of African-American

quilting through mutual quilting experiences and by incorporating ethnic patterns and fabric, thereby preserving their heritage and nurturing future creativity.

The Guild's quilts have been exhibited at the Newark Museum and the Newark Aljira Gallery among other places. Members donate their time, talent and crafts to create baby quilts for boarder babies at local hospitals and donate lap quilts to the Veteran's Administration Hospital. Artists Glendora Simonson, Catherine Sheffield, and Carolyn Davis will display six quilts, plus two team effort art works by the Guild's membership. In addition, creations by artists Judy Covington of Princeton, Linda Bhan of Woodcliff Lakes and others will be on display throughout the months of January and February.

Debbie Lee of Springfield has conducted quilt workshops with many schools and institutions, including The Newark Museum, the Abigail Adams Smith Museum and the N.Y. Women's Center. She has been making quilts for 17 years and has taught the art to both children and adults. Through her residency at the Newark Museum's educational programs, she has shared her technical expertise with children, but also enabled teachers to incorporate what works best with students into future curriculum. She is well versed in many different techniques and has been awarded in various categories.

Carpet designers Kennedy and Silvia Reyna of Rahway will display creative wool fabrics from their Rahway business, Alpha-Custom Rugs and Design. They reproduce other designer works for corporations, as well as create art works for homes, matching home decor needs with traditional or modern pieces of any size or color with computer graphic color schemes.

The exhibition will be open to the public from 1-3 p.m. Sundays Jan. 16 through April 3 and by appointment. The gallery is located in the historic 1840s chapel building of Union County Baptist Church, 4 Valley Road, Clark, on the Clark circle, adjacent to the Garden State Parkway, Exit 135. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (732) 574-1479 or visit www.diversityart.com.

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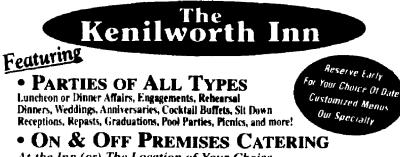
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by Stan Kaplan (Westfield) and There Goes the Bride, a Linda Giuditta (Westfield). ritish farce by the prolific WCP now has reserved seatritish team of Ray Cooney and ing, so make one's preference ohn Chapman, is set to open 8 known when calling the box m. Saturday at the Westfield office for seats at (908) 232ommunity Players Theater at 1221. Opening night patrons are 000 North Ave. West in lestfield. The show continues invited to stay for a dessert and coffee reception with the cast and crew after the curtain rings

riday and Saturday evenings, an. 14, 15, 21 and 22 with sinle tickets at \$15 available from ie box office at (908) 232-1221. In the production directed by irrent president Naomi

ablonsky, a society wedding is ireatened by the romantic halicinations of Timothy Westerby, ho believes he is in love with a mracter he created for an dvertising campaign.

Polly Perkins (Valerie Micke "Cranford) is the flapper who ppears with every knock on the ead that sends Timothy back to 920s London at the same Savoy otel where his daughter is to married. Will be snap out of in time to walk his daughter own the aisle, or will the "oom's family abandon the wed-

ing entirely? Husband and wife team thn and Linda Correll play the ^resterbys, who are driving their uighter Judy (Vikki Massulli) distruction on her wedding

Timothy McClovern Franford) is the ad man's part. or who desperately tries to sep the groom's father (Chuck zen) occupied before he cancels ie wedding. Also featured are ie bride's befuddled grandparits, Gerald and Dapline, played

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Westfield High announces honor roll

Fitzpatrick,

WESTFIELD — Westfield High Bchool Principal Dr. Robert Petix recently announced the first marking period honor roll for the 2004-2005 achool year.

For the classes of 2005 (currently in 12th grade), 2006 (11th-graders) and 2007 (10th-graders), a student must attain all A's in major subjects and no grade below B in any minor subject for inclusion on the Distinguished Honor Roll or a grade of A or B in all subjects, major or minor, for inclusion on the Honor

Beginning with the class of 2008, etermination of inclusion on the Honor Roll will be based on all-subject grade-point average, with no grade lower than B (3.75-4.0) for **Distinguished Honor Roll and no** prinde lower than B (3.50-3.74) for Honor Roll.

Distinguished Honor Roll Grade 9: Timothy Adamcik. Jessica L. Anderson, Alexandra H. Annis, Marlee Austin, Erin M. Bange, Jeremy Bender, Claire F. Bennett, Danielle Bercovicz, Anusuya Bharadwaj, Matthew S. Blutfield, Kristen L. Boersig, Laryssa M. Borkowsky, Lauren Brachman. Jennifer Brotman, Nina Brownstone, Caitlin C. Burke, Emma Byer, Jennifer A. Calello, Andrew Calvaruso, Jessica A. Campo, Scott Camuto, Alex Chaves, Samantha D. Chu, Catherine Cognetti, Christina M. Cognetti, Elise Colasanti, Jordana Confino, Caitlin M. Corkery, Kyle E. Cortley, Emily K. Cozzi, Barbara D'Agosto, Joshua David, Melvin Diep, Alison Donohue, Kerriann Dooley, Benjamin J. Dornfeld, Katherine Douglas, Connor Doyle, Rose M. Driscoll, Evan Einstein, William S. Eisenberg, Elizabeth A. Engel, Michele Eniclerico, Craig Esposito, John F. Falzon, Matthew A. Feniger, Renee Ferio, Bryan Fitzpatrick, Frankfort, Evan Friedman, Melissa A. Gallagher, Lynne Ganley, Shayna Gearhart, Matthew Gelmetti, William D. Geltzeiler, Matthew Gralla, Aidan B. Granstrand, Rachel Gray, Britta L. Greene, Peter Griesmer, Elizabeth Harbaugh, Jessica Harmer, Agustina Healy, Caitlin Hewett, Jonathan Holt, Alexandria Hurtt, Neil Huskey, Melame L. Jackson, Michael Karie. Allison M. Kehler, Angela Kerins. Ross S. Kleiman, Kaitlin Kominsky, Tim Kuchn, Alison Lambert, Matthew Loughlin, Toni L. Ma, Benjamin E. Maimon, Daniel E. Markowski, Rebecca L. McNulty, Pratik M. Mehta, Michael Melillo. Holly Messina, Katherine B. Meylor, Ariel E. Mone, Kimberly D. Morawski, Marissa H. Mumford, Ravi Netravali, Michael P. Nika. Christina Obiajulu, Ellen O'Brien, Gabrielle A. O'Leary, Anne R. O'Ne ill. Aditi Parekh, Alexandra Pecora. Marissa R. Perch, Maya Pincus, Carolyn Pinheiro. Stephanie Realmuto. Raphael, Andrew Josephine B. Reinhardt, Bena Reiter. Crista M. Ricci, Stephanie A. Rowe, Tessa Schaaf, Sari Schwartz, Erin C. Scialabba, Kevin Shallcross, Jessica Sheft-Ason, Megan Sherman, Deborah Siegel, Melissa Souto, Rachel Ann St. Lifer, Patrick Stanley, Jacqueline Sull, Kelli Sullivan, Liane Sullivan, Danielle E. Tepper, Lindsay Tishberg, Christine Tolias, Ann-Marie Valentine, Joseph Vall-Llobera, Melissa K. Virzi, Lindsay Walsh, Cindy Wang, Daniela Weiner, Hannah P. Weisman, Kristian Wendel, John Wilt, Winchester, Domenick Wissel, Matthew Wolski, Tianyou Xu, Katharine Young, Eric C. Zagorski,

Grade 10: Luc Charansonney,

Lindsay Goldberg, Kate Kovalenko, Neha Limaye, Nathan Margolin, Courtney A. Phillips, Matthew T. Renart, Melanie Schor, Satya Tagat, Alexander Wronski.

Grade 11: Kevin Anderson, Dana Barrasso, Miriam Becker-Cohen. Caprario, Chen, Christine Deserio, Gianna DiFrancesco, Alissa Eisenberg, Diana Goodman, Kaitlin Gorman, Erik Jacobsen, Jaclyn Lack, Rachel Leopold, Jason Rea, Emily F. Singer, Jennifer Sipe, Michael Yee, Yuchen

Grade 12: Susanna Baranchuk, Evan D. Bilheimer, Christina Cordeiro, Gilad Edelman, Lauren Eisenberg, Jessie Elkoury, Christine Ellis, Scott B. Fishberg, Meaghan Fitzpatrick, Camille Hausheer, Alexandra Hermann, Meisha J. Hill, John Kerr, Taylor Mulvee, Hillary Nicoll, Tara O'Donohue, Giovanna Palatucci, Elizabeth Purcell, David P. Reinhardt, Lindsay D. Seagull, Neda Simaika, Kayli Spialter, Christine Stirrat. Justin Tullo, Alec Wasserman, Benjamin Wieder, Tammy Zurawa

Honor Roll

Grade 9: Lindsey T. Archambault, Stephen Aswad, Ben Baron, William R. Bertoni, Lauren Brunhofer, Gil Scott Chapman, Marlena Cortese, Stephanie Cortinhal, Leigh Couture, Julie M. Daurio, Michael Dibble, Christopher Franks, Nicholas O. Fusaro, Olympia Gaglioti, Brittney R. Gallagher, Rachel E. Ganz, Katie Goellner, Luke Granstrand, Jared M. Greene, Alexander M. Greenspan, Diane Hagmann, Elizabeth C. Hawkins, Mila Heneck, Salonia Henry, Brandon Heroux, James Hooper-Hamersley, Lauren C. Huff, David Hyslip, Rachel Iannazzone, Christine J. Kandigian, Jaclyn Kirna. Kristen Koepfler, Alexander Kopp,

Cathrine Kuppersmith, Levandowski, Pamela Marks, Julia Medzhitova, Christopher Miller, Robert M. Miller, Charlotte Mullan, Haley A. Mustard, Katie E. O'Connor, Kevin Paul, Evan T. Porch, Ioanna Protogiannis, Alice Pvo, Stephanie Quinton, Michael Rediker, Mark R. Reimlinger, Rebecca Reyman, Jorie Richlin-Zack, Ellen R. Scariati, Roshni Shah, Allison E. Sharkey. Danielle Shoback, Anna Smith, Vincent Spinelli, Daniel L. Strauss, Julia K. Valentin, Brittany M. Van Sickle, Roshan Vijayakumar, Arielle Wegbreit, Caitlin Whitlock, Kirsten Woodfield, Suzanne Yavuz, Trevor B. Yee, Lisa S. Zavetz.

Grade 10: Randi Ackerman, Amy

Altszuler, Aubrey Ambinder, Erica

Ammermuller, Kimberly J. Angus, Kaitlyn Anness, Sara Anthony, Philip J. Anton, John Attanasio, Bryan R. Austin, Stephanie P. Baeder, Luke M. Baran, Nicholas Barba, Jeremy R. Barnes, Brian Bayne, Amy Behr, Daniel A. Bellovin, Mark B. Boyd, Gregory H. Boyle, Emily S. Bregman, Lindsay Brown, Zachary Brown, Beth Budnick, Jessica Cain, Andrew S. Cantor, Patrina Caruana, Julia P. Cederroth, Brian Checchio, Lingbo Chen, Chloe E. Cherin, Christopher Chou, Theodore Chou, Stephanie Christiano, Matthew J. Ciarrocca, Kimberly Cifuentes, Anthony Cocuzza, Catherine Cordeiro, Tracy Dalton, Tara E. Daly, Jennifer Danielsson, Seth I. Davidson, Connor Davis, Emily De Rosa, Nicole Di Benedetto, Daniel Di Fabio, Amanda Diaz, Ashley Dunnan, Aaron E. Eisenberg, Casey Elkoury, Samaa El-Sherbeini, Christopher Engel, Felicia J. Erlich, Elizabeth M. Falzon, Rachael Feeney, Jonathan Fichter, Jonathan D. Finkel, Nicole B. Finkel, Alena Fleming, Andrew K. Ford, Remi G. Formal, Alexander Forstenhausler, Claire S. Fox, Joshua S. Friedman, Sheri Friedman, Jason Frost, Kelly Furlong, Angelina I. Garneva, Sarah M. Garry, Emily Gee, Kelly Gelber, Patrick K. Gessner, Jana Goldfarb, Andrew Goldman, Marissa Goldner, Ilene R. Goodman, William Harbaugh, Matthew Harris, Zachary Harris, Kelly Ann Hausseguy, Ying He, Stephen M. Heine, Leanne P. Hewit, Timothy Hou, Maureen Hughes, Christine M. Isabella, Timothy Jacob, Daniel J. Johnson, Madeline C. Joyce, Daniel J. Kahaner, Christopher Kalis, Edward L. Kane, Gillian Kape, Anya M. Kaplan, Ilana Kaplan, Melanie Kaufhold, Daniel J. Kehler, Meredith Kender, Erika Kettleson, Emily Kieczykowski, Stephen Kielar, Elizabeth J. Kline, Bryan Knapp, Anna E. Koehler, Julia Korn, Edward Langer, Jennifer Laspata, Brian Lee, Matthew Leonard, Joseph Linares, Mary Kate Luker, Alyssa Lund, Thomas Macdonald, Claire Malaspina, Michael Marks. Christopher Mattes, Kevin Maus, Natalia Mavrogiannis, Patrick F. McCabe, Erin McCarthy, Lauren E. McCurdy, Maria McDermott, Amanda McQuade, Rebecca McQuade, Harrison Mercado, Georgia Mierswa, Katherine Morgan, Alexander J. Mucci, Caitlin Murphy, Jeffrey Mysel, Natalie M. Narotzky, Jaclyn Nicoll, Julienne E. Niemiera, Roberto Olivares, Kevin O'Rourke, Caitlyn Oster, Sean Palme, Thomas Parkinson, Andrew Patel-Schneider, Emily K. Perry, Tara Picaro, Olivia Pomann, Michael Porch, Catherine E. Porta, Jarret Przybylski, Colleen E. Psomas, Andric Quackenbush, Shanna Quackenbush, Sarah E. Queller, Ellen Ramage, Jonathan Ramalho, Stephanie Raphael, Daniella R. Regencia, Nicole A. Reich, Glenn Romano, Nathaniel Roquet,

Adam L. Rubin, Ryan Salmon, Lindsey Ann Sauerwein, Elizabeth L. Scanlon, Joseph Schurig, Ian Schwartz, William Schwartz, Matan Shavit, John Thomas Sheehan, Julie Anne Shelman, Marlena Sheridan, Daniel Shorrock, John-William Sidhom, Allison Simon, Hope Skibitsky, Leanne Skorge, Arielle Smelkinson, Brendan Smith, Bryan J. Smith, Darrell Ann Smith, Jacqueline D. Snyder, Jesse Solomon, Brent Souders, Jamie Steiner, Caroline E. Steller, Jack Sternal, Jacob Stevens-Haas, Thomas Stewart, Virginia Stroup, Katherine L. Taylor, Julie Tiedrich, Suzanne Toriello, John J. Trimble, Andrea S. Turitz, William Uhr, Alex Vanarelli. Nicole Vendetti, Michael T. Venezia. Michael P. Verrier, Ted Vincett, Samantha Vitale, Jason Waks, Scott B. Warner, Josh Wasserman, Linda Wat, Francesca Welham, Robert Whitehead, Maxwell H. Wieder, Molly G. Williams, Ayn Carlee Wisler, Charles Woehr, Cassandra Wright, Tiffany Yang, Caroline Yost, Gabriel Yukon, Benjamin Zakarin, Aron L. Zavaro, Chloe Zeitounian.

Grade 11: David Ackerman, Casey P. Ackermann, Kristin Aguero, Yasemin G. Alev, Lisa Aliche, Katharine A. Anderson, James S. Arbes, Joshua Barer, Lauren Bentivegna, Norke Bercovicz, Caitlyn M. Berkowitz, Lee J. Bernstein, Nikki-Lee Birdsey, Maurice Blackmon, Kevin Block, Thomas R. Bottini, George Braun, Nicholas Brownstone, Andrew V. Brunhofer, Brian Burdulia, Christopher Byrne, Dylan Calvert, Megan Camillo, Jonathan Chananie, Rachel A. Charatan, Abby E. Chazanow, Raymond Chen, Justin Chou, Jeanine Clark, Katherine Clark, Emily C. Cleaves, Jesse Cohn, Janice K. Colbert, Maura Connolly, Alexandra Cortese, Samantha Coulson, Ashley Cunningham, Patrick Daurio, Brian F. Debbie, Katherine DeProspero, Kevin J. Devaney, Lindsey Devlin, Sarah Dobson, Timothy R. Dohm, Monica Doss, Aris M. Doutis, Monica Dreyer, Diana Dunnan, Jane C. Eilbacher, Lindsay Elbaum, Craig Ellis, Salvatore Esposito, Laura Fernandez, Kristina Fietkiewicz, Fiorino, Fitzpatrick, Marykate Flannery, Allison Fleder, Kerilyn Foley, Michael Fontenelli, Courtney Fox-Sherman, Clare Frattarola, Daniel Freire, Thomas Fringer, Danielle Frogley, Lucy Fromtling, Alan S. Futran, John Gagliano, Christopher Gallego, Jesse M. Garfinkel, Pierce T. Gaynor, Sarah Gerber, Joshua Gerckens, Jeffrey Goldstein, Diana Goodman, Andrea Gordon, Jessica L. Graham, Erica R. Greene, Amanda H. Gross, Ryan A. Gundrum, Ben Harel, Lauren Heffernan, Eric Hewitt, Meaghan Higgins, James J. Hoban, Jillian Hobson, Benjamin Holt, Katherine L. Jarmas, Kristopher Kagan, Matthew R. Kamel, Alexander Kao, Jason Kealy, Michael Kenny, Lindsay Kleiman, Lauren Koepfler, Angelina M. Kozak, Emma Laird, Jennifer Ann Lane, Guglielmo Laurenzi, Hanna Lee, Andrew Lent, Matthew Leong, Caroline Leung, Feng Kevin Liang, Rachael Louie, Caroline Luppescu, Jonathan R. Maimon, Jonathan Massa, Joann M. Mathew, Kaitlin McGovern, Anna McGrath, Daniel I. McGrory, Matthew Melino, Marilyn Mench, Chelsea Mendoza, Jennifer Metz, Lauren A. Miceli, Kimberly Milan, Samantha A. Miller, Lauren Mitchell, Samantha Mooney, Thomas F. Morabito, Jessica M. Moskowitz, Robert Mroz, Kyle E. Murray, Ravenna Neville, Victor Nolasco, Thomas O'Brien, Carly D. Oliff, Jillian Olsen, Giovanna Olivia Pafumi, Sarah Patankar, Steven Pazdro, Jeffrey R. Perrella, Kara Petersen, Annie Peyton, Christopher Pinheiro, Courtney Pogue, Peter Protogiannis, Alexandra Psyhojos, James Pullicino, Caitlin Reilly, Luke A. Ricci, Thomas J. Ricciuti, Elizabeth J. Riddle, S. Kaitlin Rogers, Steven Royston, Jayne R. Ruotolo, Richard Scialabba, Eric C. Scrudato, Andrew Shaffer, Benjamin Shiffman, David Scott Shottland, Brittany Simone, Lauren Sinnenberg, Rachel F. Smith, Matthew D. Snowden, Zal Spialter, Sarah St. Lifer, Thomas Hewit Taylor, Jeffrey Thomashow, Alan Tso, Rachel Barri Tucker, Evan R. Vanarelli, Mary L. Walsh, Tad Walsh, Matthew D. Waters, Jacqueline Wendel, Kevin Wicks, Colin Willard, Jeremy P. Wolf, Tianyu Anny Wu, Brian Thomas Yee, Julie Ann Zenarosa, Jennifer Zhu, Alex Zierler, Samantha Zucker. Grade 12: Michael R. Adamcik.

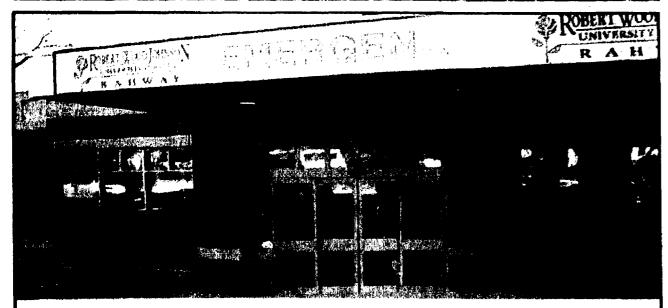
Michael D. Agresta, John Aleksandravicius, John Paul Bartolomeo, Lisa M. Basile, Jeffrey Bayne, Michael J. Beil, Jeremy S. Berk, Amy Bernstein, Brooke Bernstein, Diego Betancourt, Gabrielle Blitz, Matthew P. Boyle, Jake P. Brandman, Samuel J. Brenner, Stephanie S. Bridgman, Wesley C. Brockway, Alexandria Brummell, George Bucci, Kara Buonocore, Leah C. Jacqueline A. Burns, Lauren Campo, Darek Candelore, Caroline R. Cariste, Natasha Carlos, Rachel F. Carr, Rebecca Cass, Jordan R Cassidy, Gene Chen, Allison M. Clancy, Kyle D. Clarke ,Garrett R. Cockren, David Cognetti, Amanda L. Cohen, Lyndsay Couture, Ashley Current, Brent S. Davis, Urmi R. Dedhiya, Lindsay Degiralamo, Leah DiMatteo, Amanda Dickson, Mark Doss, Athina Doutis, Jeffrey Dresely, Jamie Elbaum, Shaun Elwell, Katherine Fahrenthold, Michael J. Fantini, Jenna B. Federgreen, Allison Feldman, Michael J. Feniger, Patrick D. Fleming, Megan Fowler, Courtney Franko, Danielle Fried, Laura F. Gabriel, Lauren Gelmetti, Deanna Goldner, Paul Goldweitz. Ashton Golembo, Justin Goncalves, Rachel L. Gordon, Julia Gormley. Michael Gorski, Melissa Graham. Julie Gralla, Emily Rose Greenberg, Jeffrey D. Greenlaw, James R. Hanas, Mark D. Harbaugh, Monica E. Harris, Marie-Claire Hausseguy. Rachel Hawkins, Max Heitner. Christopher Hild, Katelyn Hoens, Peter Hrinewski, Richard Hughes, Brvan M. Kahn, Charles Kalis, Brian R. Kender, Edward Kerins, Valerie Kerr, Christy M. King, Sarah L. Klass, Henry H. Koehler, Perri Jana Koll, Rebecca K. Korn, Sam J. Kramer, Edward Kramkowski, Jeremy N. Krell, Matthew J. Kukis, Michelle Kuppersmith, Sara A. Lesko, Andrew R. Levy, Abigail M. Lewis, Alyson Ludmer, Elizabeth MacKay, Emily Rose MacNeil, Ryan P. Madaras, Brendan J. Mahoney, Nicholas Malaspina, John Marks, Bridget Martucci, Sarah Masel. Rebecca A. Mason, Kristen Materek, Corey Matrisciano, Mary McCall, Joshua McMahon, Erin McCloskey. Suzanne Merkelson, Jared M. Messina, Sara Metwaly, Corey Milloy, Ashley Molson, Michelle Morawski, Joel Nemec, Barrett L. Newell, Katherine Newingham, Lindsey Newman, Lauren E. Nolan, Katharine Okamoto, Michael S. Oliff, Annie Onishi, Brian Oxman, Angela Parisi, Brett Paulan, Jeffrey Pazdro, Rebecca Perch, Sarah Perch, Amanda Pokol, Taylor Porter, Bryan Power, Emily M. Printz, Lauren Purdy, Dina Ragab, Patrick G. Rizk, Alison Beth Rodino, Jessica N. Ropars, Abigail Rosenstein, Gregory Ryan Jr., Gregory Salmon, John Sawicki, Willa Schaefer, William Schoenbach, Jessica Schor, Rebecca Schulman, Kelly Seib, Ashley Seitz, Kirsten Selert, Ryan Shallcross, Sasha Sharif, Emily K. Sheehan, Anne Siwulec, Andrew Skoller, Bryan Skorge, Katherine Smith, Lisa Smythe, Dana Brett Spass. Amanda Spector, Brian Stotter, Robin S. Streit, Elizabeth Strickland, Monica C. Sull, Brendan Sullivan, Jessica Sussman, Jonathan Tannenbaum, Maxwell Thomas, Mikala Tidswell, Allison Tiedrich, David Torres, Thomas M. Tresnan, Christopher Tropeano, Allison Turitz, Megan Valenti, John Velasco, Christopher Velderman, Brittany Vella, Bailey Verdone, Brian M. Waters, Jacqueline Weidman, Elizabeth J. Werner, Thomas White IV, Lauren Winchester, Michael Woods, Qiaozi Yang, Anne Yingling, Sean Young, Ashley M. Yuro, Zoe S. Zachariades, Michael Zahler, Lorena Zamarelli, Lisa Zhang, Dunn Zichlin, Nicole Zubizarreta.



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Sports

Raiders shut down Cranford, 73-48

Use 53-23 second half to roll

SCOTCH PLAINS — Tuesday afternoon's Cranford versus Scotch Plains-Fanwood game in Scotch Plains was proof that when two Watchung Conference opponents meet, one can never predict the outcome.

Supposedly down and out because the team lost two highcaliber players to transfer, the Raiders outplayed the Cougars to the tune of a 73-48 shellacking thanks to a 53-point second half while limiting the effectiveness of Cranford's star guard, Terence Grier.

ence games are most of the time were in control of the game

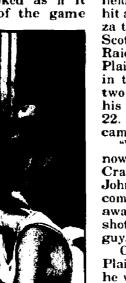
Plains head coach Dan Dougherty. "I'm very proud of the way we played, I knew we had it in us.'

"People keep saying we have a good team — we fight, without they guys we lost, and it gets



patronizing after a while," he said. "Today we proved it to our-

Considered the favorite, "That's just the way confer- Cranford (4-2) looked as if it



Scotch Plains-Fanwood head coach Dan Dougherty rallies the troops with a halftime strategy session.

you never know," said Scotch when they were ahead 31-24 with about five minutes left in the third quarter.

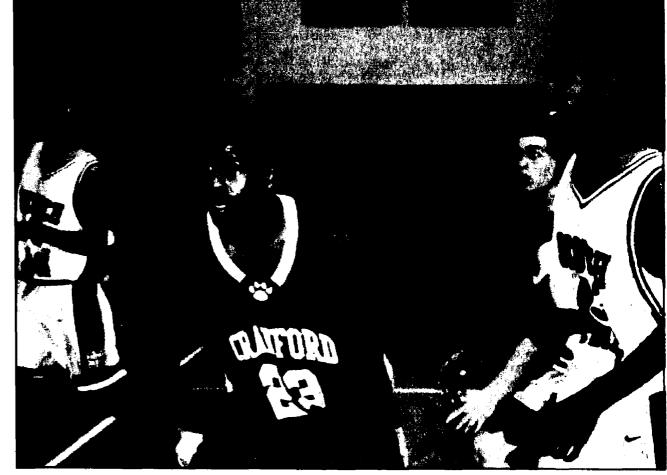
But Scotch Plains (2-4) saved its best for last, hitting three consecutive three-pointers in the third quarter — the first by Greg Bayard and two from D.J. Garret — to tie the game, 33-33, and gained momentum before the start of the fourth quarter with a steal and dunk by Gavin Ford to earn the Raiders its first lead, 37-35, since early in the first quarter. Cranford held a 15-13 advantage after the first quarter and 25-20 at halftime.

Cranford was just down 41-39 at the end of the third but was held scoreless until Steve Caprio hit a lay-up late in the last stanza to finally stop a 17-0 run by Scotch Plains that put the Raiders ahead, 58-39. Scotch Plains outscored Cranford 32-9 in the fourth quarter, allowing two late baskets by Grier to up his point total to a game-high 22. Fourteen of Grier's points came in the first quarter.

"We're at a crossroads right now after a game like this," said Cranford head coach Tom Johnstone, "Obviously, we didn't come to play today. Take nothing away from Scotch Plains - they shot the ball well and had a few guys step up."

Garret stepped up for Scotch Plains, scoring 12 points when he was inserted into the lineup in the second half to boost his team. Greg Bayard led the Raiders with 16 points. Gavin Ford contributed 12 points and Sean Young chipped in nine.

"We distributed the ball very well," said Dougherty. "We wanted to throw some things at them and I think we beat them at their own game — the press and shooting threes."



Cranford's Chris Brown attempts to defend against the Raiders' Gavin Ford during Scotch Plains' 73-48 victory Tuesday. Ford scored 12 points in the game.

Cranford's Chris Brown (eight points) started his team's scoring with a shot in from beyond the arch and Greg Van Horn bucketed another in the first quarter but Cranford would not hit another three-pointer Dave Snyder finally connected very late in the fourth quarter. It was his only succeeded shot from the field. Meanwhile, Scotch Plains drained seven threes in the game.

break and run and get the looks Grier sunk seven quick points in we usually aim to get," said the third quarter, he was held

Johnstone. "We're going to have to find a way to regroup."

The Cougars don't have much time to regroup. They face off against Linden, ranked 10th in the state's Top 20, Dec. 6 in Cranford at 4 p.m.

Scotch Plains faces Westfield at home Dec. 6 at 4 p.m.

Most impressive was Scotch Plains' defense, especially against Grier, who didn't enter the game until about halfway "We could not do anything to through the first quarter. After

scoreless in the fourth quarter during the Raiders' big run mostly due to the being blanketed by either Rob Lewis or Jeff Marable.

"They might have been the MVPs of this game," said Dougherty. "(Lewis) isn't afraid of anybody. He's faced some of the best talent in the state already this year and has done an outstanding job against

CRANFORD 15 10 14 09 — 48 SCOTCH PLAINS 13 07 2 32 — 73

Klimowicz scores 17 in win over Cranford

By CHAD HEMENWAY

THE RECORD PRESS

CRANFORD - Scotch Plains-Fanwood's Hillary Klimowicz collected 17 points, 12 rebounds and six blocks to help hand the Cranford Cougars a convincing 56-28 defeat Tuesday night in Cranford.

Most of the Lady Raiders' starters sat out for the length of the fourth quarter since the team held a 30-point lead, 46-16 at the end of the third stan-

Senior point guard Jenny

Burke chips in 10 during 56-28 victory

and led on defense, limiting games. Maura Gillooly had Cranford's shooting options by pressuring the ball. Burke said the team needed

a win after their recent return from the Surf and Slam Classic tournament in San Diego, CA. The Raiders went 2-1 in California, losing the first (PA) 56-73 and then beating Enid (OK), 73-50, and Vacaville (CA), 74-52.

Klimowicz had point totals San Diego and blew a lead so

Burke contributed 10 points of 20, 24 and 35 in the three nine, 24, and 14 in the contests



game against Oakland Catholic and Burke recorded a doubledouble against Vacaville with 10 assists and 12 points.

"We had one bad game in

we knew we wanted to come out strong tonight to get back on track," said Burke after the Cranford game. "Our mindset is that we simply can't lose anymore. We're better than we had been playing."

Burke continued to say the team watched tapes of the games in California and it is becoming more evident that the team is working more and more together under new head coach Lori Gear McBride.

"Our team was just used to

one thing and we had to learn something else," Burke said. "There's nothing wrong with that - it's just new and I think we had trouble with it at first. But now we're getting it."

Against Cranford, Burke began the game by hitting a jumper. After the team forced two Cranford turnovers, Klimowicz got her first block and followed it up with her first basket of the night and hit another after Cranford's third quick turnover. Scotch Plains

forced seven turnovers in the first quarter.

Lisa Levonas hit Cranford's dy points of the opening frame to make it 6-2 before Klimowicz and Maura Gillooly collected four more points apiece to jump out to a 15-2 lead. Scotch Plains allowed just eight points in the second quarter and headed to the locker room up 33-10,

Gillooly finished with seven points and sophomore Allie Zazzalli hit a set of three-pointers for nine points.

SCOTCH PLAINS 15 18 13 10

Westfield resident shines for Pingry

Julianne DiLeo, a Westfield resident playing as a junior for the Pingry School in Martinsville, NJ, was recently selected as to the All-Tournament Team at the Big Blue Holiday Tournament. The team is comprised of the most valuable player from each team participating in the tournament. Here she is pictured

holding the team's championship trophy and All-Tournament team plaque.

Pingry won the tournament, outscoring Morristown-Beard in the finals, 56-27. DiLeo scored a team high

20 points in the contest and led in team scoring for the tournament.

DiLeo was also named to the National All-Star Basketball Team of the Youth Basketball of America league, for her performance on a regional travel team — The New Jersey Shining Stars. That squad went undefeated and won the National Title after winning the state A.A.U. championship for the second year In a row.

Onishi and MacNeil anchor Westfield to UC relay crown

WESTFIELD Winter track

Annie Onishi and Emily MacNeil guided the girls track team to a Union County Girls Relay championship Monday at the Dunn Center in Elizabeth. The team came in first with 44 points.

Onishi and MacNeil ran the

final legs of the sprint and onemile relays to earn help earn victories in each event and propel the team to the overall title. Miriam Becker-Cohen and Gillian Kape make up the rest of the one mile squad. Brica-Ammermueller and Kape form the four girl team in the sprint relay.

Cortinhal, Catherine Cognetti and Meg Driscoll won the two mile relay with a time of 10:56.2.

Lauren Campo, Stephanie

Westfield also took third in the team high jump and sixth in the team shot put. Boys basketball

Shabazz 78, Westfield 65 ---Tuesday in Westfield Eric hayes senred 24 for the Blue Devils (2) 3), Tom Baonard had 18 and Mike Venezia scored 12.

Girls basketball Shubazz 76, Westfield 32 -Freehman Erin Miller scored 15 points and Anna McGater had 10 for Westfield (3/2) Tuesday (n.

SCOTCH PLAINS

Winter track The Scotch Plains-Fanwood girls took third place at the Union County Girls Relay at the Dunn Center in Elizabeth

Monday.

The Raiders came in third in the one-mile relay, fourth in the two mile relay, fourth in the sprint medley relay, fourth in the distance medley relay and third in the shuttle hurdles.

Scotch Plains 112, Gov. Livingston 51 - Dave Hauptman won the 50-yard free in 23.52 and 500-yard free in 5;44,08 Monday. He was also part of a team with Jon Feely, Mike Miller and Alun-Neuhauser that won the 200 yard free relay.

Boys swimming

Girls swimming Scotch Plains 111, Gov. Livingston 59 --- Melissa Helock won the 200 yard free in 2:02.87 and 500 yard free in 5:34,31 on Monday, She was also part of a team with Brittany Larkin, Kate Kosenick and Becca Fox that won the 400 yard free relay.

Union County Rugby Recruiting

The Union County Righy Football Club is currently recruiting players for both their boy's high school teams and newly formed girl's rugby team - Westfield Avenue, Scotch Plains,

The UCRFC's boy's team enters its second year after going undefeated last year and winning the New York Met Union II Division. The team is comprised of 30 high school-age players from Middlesex and Union counties. The season will begin in March and run until June. An under 15-year-old team to facilitate the huge interest of younger players will also be formed. Chris Clark, Lex Mac Cubbin and Simon Hooks conch-

the teams. Over 20 girls from both A.L. Johnson and Westfield high schools have signed up to play for the first ever Union rugby high school girls team.

An informational meeting for all those interested will be held in January. All games are played at Unami field in Cranford, For more information about the various clubs' activities contact Chris Clark, the director of recruitment, at (201) 243-1952. You can also email him at rugby0366@ value com or visit the website at

www.medturtlerughy.com, K of C Free Throw Championship

The Local Knights of Columbus will sponsor its 29tK Annual Free Throw Championship for all boys and girls ages 10-14 at 1-p.m. on-Jan 15 in the St. Bartholomew's Auditorium located at 2032

Community Life

Briefs

La Befana visits Miller-Cory House

WESTFIELD — From 2-4 p.m. Sunday, the Miller-Cory House Museum will present the "Legend of La Befana," a children's fable about the good Italian Christmas witch. The museum is located at 614 Mountain Ave.

According to the tale, every year La Befana arrives on Epiphany Eve, the 12th night of Christmas, searching for the Christ Child. She magically flies high among the clouds on her faithful broomstick, Saggina, and goes from house to house. She rewards the well-behaved children with small gifts and leaves coal and stones for the naughty ones.

Museum volunteers Vera Lough and Patricia D'Angelo of Westfield, John Mills of Fanwood, and Marissa, Rosella and Carmelo Morabito will perform a skit bringing the legend to life.

Admission to the museum is \$2 for adults, 50 cents for students and children under 6 years of age are free. For information about the museum's upcoming winter events or volunteer opportunities, call (908) 232-1776.

Bridge class offered at the Westfield Y

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Area YMCA will offer a daytime beginning bridge class starting today and running for eight weeks. Instruction will be provided by a master bridge instructor. Learn all the skills needed to play and enjoy bridge. There is a fee for this program.

this program.

Also, from 12:15-2 p.m. Jan. 19
the Y will hold a "Lunch and
Learn" knitting session.

Participants will learn new skills
or share and polish existing skills.
Directions will be provided. A
shopping list will be supplied for
new knitters. This session is free.

For additional information on these classes, call Mary Ann at (908) 966-9344. All classes are held at the Westfield Area Y, 220 Clark St.

WSL soliciting grant applications

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Service League (WSL) is currently accepting requests for applications for grants for 2005. This past year the WSL donated \$75,000 to local agencies and organizations. The grant funds result from the profits of the WSL Thrift and Consignment Shops located at 114 Elmer St.

The WSL has provided service to the Westfield area for over 70 years. During this time, the WSL has donated over \$1.9 million to various agencies.

To be considered for funding, each agency or organization must submit a written request for an application to Colleen Schmidt, Donations Chairperson, 669 Boulevard, Westfield, NJ 07090. All applications must be submitted by Feb. 1, 2005.

Diabetes screening scheduled Tuesday

WESTFIELD — Overlook Hospital will be at the Westfield Area YMCA from 10 a.m.-noon Tuesday for a free diabetes screening.

No registration is required.

This is a non-fasting finger-stick procedure.

A complimentary lecture titled "Power Snacks for Your Workouts" will also be offered from 11 a.m.-

For more information, call the Westfield Area Y at (908) 233-2700, ext. 251.

Roosevelt featured in 'Focus' episode

WESTFIELD Roosevelt Intermediate School in Westfield will be featured on cable TV, channel 36 throughout the month of January in the "Focus on Our Schools" show produced by Westfield High School Television.

The 25-minute program includes visits to the school's math, science, gifted and talented, and computer classrooms, as well as Guidance Department programs, the school's newspaper and extra-curricular activities. The program will be broadcast through Jan. 27 on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Thursdays at 2 and 10 p.m.; Saturdays at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. and Sundays at 4 p.m.

Moonglowers will help family of ALS victim

By DAVID LAZARUS

CORRESPONDENT

At Belleville High School, they were inseparable. Vincent Turturiello, Phil Cuzzi and Robert Luongo played sports together, chased girls and did all the other things young, exuberant teenagers do.

Later, they went their separate ways. The band room at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School where Turturiello now toils seems quite distant from the Major League baseball diamonds where Cuzzi spends his springs and summers as an umpire — but the two old friends are teaming up to help out the family of their childhood friend.

Robert Luongo was the type of guy everybody looked up to. He was an all-state football player and an academic scholar, played college football at Harvard and later made his mark as a business entrepreneur.

His friends remember the shock they felt in 2000 upon hearing that Luongo was paralyzed, stricken with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). Suffering from the debilitating disease, Luongo died in March 2004 at the age of 49, leaving behind a wife and young daughter. Once a powerful 240-pound college lineman, Luongo's weight plummeted to 120 pounds, and in the last year of his life he was unable to speak.

After seeing what the disease had done to his best friend, Cuzzi became involved with the ALS Association, originally focusing on the Florida chapter. He started the Robert Luongo ALS Fund, an educational trust

fund for Luongo's daughter Dominique, now

Cuzzi runs fundraisers in New Jersey and Florida, raffling baseball memorabilia or running golf tournaments, whatever he can do to help raise money and awareness.

Cuzzi will be hosting a fundraiser Jan.
19 at Nanina's in the Park restaurant in
Belleville. To help his friend, Turturiello
will bring his talented group of jazz musicians under his direction at the high school,
known as the Moonglowers, to perform at
the dinner dance.

"Phil is just a great guy; he has taken this cause upon himself. He needs the help to make this happen," said Turturiello.

The Moonglowers is the oldest jazz band in New Jersey, having started in 1936. For many years, the group played high school proms and during lunch breaks in the cafeteria.

They practice every morning from 6:45 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. and have consistently ranked among the top bands in New Jersey for more than two decades, receiving numerous awards in recent years.

Featured musicians at the benefit will be Steven Voelker on tenor saxophone. Casey Hoynes-O'Connor on alto saxophone, Justin Rowinski on trombone and Michael Sheffield on percussion. Featured vocalists will be Nick Mondi and Lauren Perrotta.

"This is a great cause. I talked to the Moonglowers about how nice it is that we are doing something good for people. Music is not just about trophies," said Turturiello.

"They understood and will become better people for it."

Although Luongo and Cuzzi weren't truly cousins, they might as well have been. Luongo's aunt married Cuzzi's uncle, so the two were always at family functions togeth-

Luongo started out at Harvard as a prelaw student before switching to anthropology. After graduation, he spent five years working in sales with the 3M Company, then was involved in several entrepreneurial projects.

He was the agent for James Bond's car, which he restored. Later, he brought it to car shows around the United States. He also represented Earl Ruby — brother of Jack — on the Larry King show, with the gun that was used to kill Lee Harvey Oswald.

After his friend fell ill, Cuzzi knew he couldn't do anything about Luongo's physical condition, but decided to help in other ways. He wanted to help his friend communicate, and he had heard of computer technology that essentially allows a person to type using only his or her eyes.

Cuzzi knew the computer would be expensive, but he also knew there were many friends who would be willing to pitch in. He decided to sell cruise raffle tickets to pay for the computer, and enlisted Yankee manager Joe Torre to pull out the winning ticket at a Yankees spring training game.

He said he feels very strongly about helping out with the ALS Association because many people are unaware of the effects of the disease.

"I just think it's important because it affects so many more people than what anybody realizes," Cuzzi said. "It's such a devastating disease because it can come to anybody, and they don't know anything about it. They don't know why, and the life expectancy is under five years."

The evening will feature a dinner dance with live entertainment, as well as music from DJ Mike Chiefo. As a special attraction, there will be a silent auction of sports memorabilia.

Some of the highlighted items include an autographed jersey and bat from Derek Jeter, the pitching rubber from Yankee Stadium autographed by Mariano Rivera, an autographed bat from Mike Piazza, an autographed jersey from Boston pitcher Curt Schilling, and an autographed Penn State football helmet from legendary coach Joe Paterno.

Veteran Major League umpire Bruce Froemming will also be on hand to share some of the funnier stories that may or may not have occurred over his 30-year career in the big leagues.

Tickets can be purchased for \$60 by emailing Phil Cuzzi at pcuz@optonline.net. Or, call Joe Zarra at Nutley High School at (973) 661-8832) or Danny Vitello at Printing Techniques at (973) 667-2606. Make checks payable to "Robert Luongo ALS Fund" and mail to 32 Mapes Ave., Nutley, NJ 07110.

Edison students say thanks to veterans

Before departing school for the holidays, Edison Intermediate School in Westfield held an assembly for all sixth, seventh and eighth grade students to learn more about and honor local veterans. Kevin Dowling (at left in the picture to the right), a former Edison student who served in Afghanistan, and Mary Jo Rice, a second lieutenant with the Armed Nurse Corps, were welcomed by interim Assistant Principal **Robert Sanders. Social** Studies teachers Elizabeth Hansen and John Stasi coordinated the assembly, which included patriotic songs by the school chorus and band as well as the presentation of colors by the Marine Corps.



Scouts, others helped Mobile Meals provide for clients over the holidays

WESTFIELD — Mobile
Meals, a non-profit, private
meal delivery service, witnessed
an outpouring of giving this
Christmas season, thanks to a
wealth of spirit exhibited by
individuals, groups and clubs,
who worked together to make
this holiday a special one for
the elderly and disabled in
Westfield, Cranford, Clark,
Garwood, Scotch Plains and
Fanwood.

This year, clients received several beautiful and tasty treats with their holiday meals. Second Grade Cub Scout troop of the Jefferson school, led by Lori Felter and delivered by Catherine Clifford, made and donated chocolate chip cookies.

The Clark/Winfield Girl Scouts in grades K-12, led by Service Unit Manager Martha Kamifchoff, made and donated decorated Christmas candy favors.

The Jefferson first grade Brownie Troop 986, led by Suc Sullivan and Joelene Ritter, baked more than 200 cookies, insuring that all Mobile Meals clients received special treats.

And the Garden Club of Cranford made and delivered beautiful Christmas floral arrangements, which were delivered to Cranford clients.

"We want to extend our beartfelt thanks to all of the groups who gave their time to make such wonderful treats and decorations to brighten the holidays for our clients, insuring that were are not forgotten during the holidays," said Sharon Goldner, executive director.

The organization also expressed thanks to local media organizations for their assistance. A call of volunteers published before the holidays led to an outpouring of community support and ensured a happy holiday for the organization's chents, many of whom are alone on the holidays.

Meals, or if you know of someone who could benefit from the service, call (908) 233-6146, or visit our website at westfieldaj.com/mobilemeals.

For information about Mobile

Rabbi is honored for work assisting interfaith couples

WESTFIELD — The
Dovetail Institute for Interfaith
Family Resources has bestowed
the Father Dan Mantalbano
Award for Promoting Interfaith
Understanding on Rabbi Irwin
H. Fishbein, founder and director of the Rabbinic Center for
Research and Counseling in
Westfield. The award was presented during Dovetail's fourth
national conference in Berkeley,
Calif.

Rabbi Allen Secher, Dovetail Institute vice president and member of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, lauded Rabbi Fishbein as "the great pioneer" who established an organization to serve the needs of interfaith couples when no other resources were available to them.

"Pioneers like Irwin Fishbein," said Secher, "showed a lot of courage in reaching out to intermarried couples before most of the Jewish community was ready to do that. His contribution to the current relatively open communication with interfaith families has been truly exemplary. Father Dan Montalbano, the late advisor to the Chicago Catholic-Jewish Couples Dialogue Group, would have been proud to recognize Rabbi Fishbein's extraordinary achievements.'

Established in 1970, the Rabbinic Center is the first and only national Jewish organization to encourage and advocate rabbinic officiators at interfaith ceremonies. Toward this end it disseminates and updates monthly a widely-known resource list of Reform and Reconstructionist rabbis who officiate at interfaith marriages, together with the conditions under which they officiate.

ate.

Beginning with 61 rabbis, the list has grown both numerically and geographically so that it now embraces almost 350 rabbis, four of whom live outside the United States. Information about this list and other services provided by the Rabbinic Center is available online at www.rcrconline.org.

The Rabbinic Center is also the first national Jewish organization to encourage the integration of interfaith couples into the Jewish community by providing programs and services specifically genred to their needs and by advocating the removal of barriers in matters of membership, governance and ritual

"When I teach a class in Judaism for interfaith couples," said Fishbein, "my purpose is not to convert non-Jews but to introduce them to Jewish ideas, values and experiences, and to spark their interest in Judaism. The problem with most programs for interfaith couples in



IRWIN FISHBEIN

most religious organizations is that there is always a hidden agenda where conversion or raising children in that religion is the goal that is sought."

Fishbein, a licensed marriage and family therapist and a diplomate in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, conducts workshops on Raising Children in the Intermarried Home for couples at any stage of an interfaith relationship.

"The primary purpose of the workshop," said Fishbein, "is to equip couples with the tools for finding their own answers. No attempt is ever made to impose values or beliefs. While as a rabbi I would like couples to opt for Judaism, I recognize that this may not always be the best decision for the couple.

"I see my goal as helping them go, not from where they are to where I want them to be, but from where they are to where they want to be. I do not push a couple in a direction of my choosing. I take my cues from the couple and help them with their next step, whatever that next step may be."

In accepting the Father Dan Montalbano Award, Fishbein expressed appreciation to his board of trustees for its support and guidance, to the colleagues who have supported his work, to the thousands of interfaith couples who have used the services of the Rubbinic Center, to the many couples who have participuted in its research projects, to his wife Barbara for her "unwavering support and priceless judgment," and to the Dovetnil Institute "for honoring my life's work as a rabbi struggling to preserve a precious tradition, as a marital therapist helping conples negotiate difficult and, sometimes, painful feelings and as a human being responding to the needs of those I have had the privilege of serving."

These tips can help you sell a home, even in winter

tional time to list a house, but it is a great time to sell it quickly and get a great price, according to Stefan Oppermann, CEO of Real Estate Consultants, LLC.

"Although the quantity of buyers is much lower than at other times of the year, the quality of buyers during the winter tends to be much higher. The type of buyer who is willing to search for a home in frigid and possibly snowy weather is a serious buyer! In addition, the

number of homes on the market is much amount of protective covering should be lower than in the spring, so the competition the seller will experience will be considerably less," said Oppermann.

There are several items that should be taken into consideration when marketing your home during the winter months. "Safety is of the utmost importance," said Opperman. All snow and ice should be removed from the walkways and driveways and any other outside areas where potential buyers might want to walk.

He further suggests that a generous

placed over the carpeting or hardwood flooring in the entryway. This will prevent any damage as Realtors and their clients walk in and out.

During the winter, when homes are closed up tight, it's important to check for unpleasant smells such as cigarette smoke, pets, diapers or residual odors from cooking. Plug- in scents or cinnamon simmered in a pot of water on the stove can quickly eliminate offensive

Buyers are looking for a warm and cozy environment for their families. Be sure that the temperature of the house is comfortable and have handy copies of the previous year's heating bills to reassure

Most importantly, make a comfortable presentation, especially in the living areas. Use colorful throws tossed over the sofa and chairs to present an inviting appearance. Soggy boots with puddles of water and mittens and gloves draped everywhere will diminish the appear-

Programmable thermostats

can help reduce energy costs

(ARA) -- During the frigid winter months, heating bills in many homes go through the roof. This winter will be no exception, as the U.S.

By properly setting a programmable thermostat, homeowners can reap

Department of Energy predicts increases in energy prices. Luckily, there

significant energy savings. However, recent Honeywell research indicates

nearly 70 percent of homeowners who own programmable thermostats

find them too difficult to operate, and they lose out on energy-saving ben-

To eliminate this challenge and enhance homeowners' opportunities for lower energy bills, Honeywell has developed a programmable thermo-

stat called Vision that uses touch-screen technology - similar to the

technology used in ATMs - to prompt homeowners through the program-

thermostats, homeowners should turn their thermostats back 10 to 15

percent for eight hours, while away at work or sleeping at night. This can

to use and can be removed from the wall for convenient programming,

says David Kahn of Kahn Air Conditioning, a California-based company

that provides heating and cooling solutions to homeowners. "Our cus-

tomers really appreciate that the Vision thermostats automatically

In addition, follow these U.S. Department of Energy tips for saving

- Use a programmable thermostat to pre-set lower temperatures

- Keep your window coverings open during the day and closed at

- Test your home for air leaks, particularly at doors and windows to

- Install tight-fitting, insulating window shades on windows that feel

For more energy saving ideas, visit www.honeywell.com/yourhome or

prevent heated air from escaping. Weatherize those that are leaky.

result in savings of up to 10 percent on annual energy bills.

To take full advantage of the energy-saving benefits of programmable

"Our customers love the Vision series of thermostats — they are easy

are ways homeowners can rein in heating costs.

ming process, making programming easier.

energy dollars during the cold winter months:

This article is courtesy of ARA Content.

ance of a friendly living arrangement.

Take a step back and look at your living/family/great room and see if it appears to have that "I'd like to live here" ambience.

For more tips on selling your home, log on to Real Estate Consultants' web site at www.recnj.com and click on "Seller Advice." Real Estate Consultants, LLC currently serves 13 Counties in Northern and Central New Jersey and can be reached at (908) 276-3331 or (908) 464-

A timeline to take stress out of moving

(ARA) — A move generally takes 8 to 10 weeks in all, and with so many details to keep in mind - packing, cleaning, setting up utilities — it can be an overwhelming experience. But thorough planning is the key to an easy move.

The following week-by-week checklist, found on a new website from The www.homedepotmoving.com, will guide movers through the entire process, helping them stay organized and on schedule for a successful moving day. Week #8

- Call for estimates from three professional movers.

Draw a floor plan of your new

 Call the Chamber of Commerce in your new town for its residential information packet.

Week #6 Inventory all possessions now. Decide what to move, sell, replace or

donate to charity. - Complete U.S. Postal change of address forms, and mail to media,

stores and organizations. · Obtain copies of all of your medical, dental, legal, accounting and veterinarian records.

- Make arrangements for record transfers between schools on both ends of the move.

- **Ask a tax advisor to r**eview your potential moving-related tax deduc-

tions and potential tax liability. Itemize moving-related costs with your mover, including packing, loading, special charges and insur-

Week #4 - Repair, send out for re-upholstery, or clean furniture, drapes and carpeting as necessary.

to dispose of unneeded furniture. accessories and clothes.

- If a professional mover is pack-



Moving to a new home is a big task, but it doesn't have to be overwhelming.

ing your goods, schedule packing day(s) 1 or 2 days before the move.

 If you move yourself, order adequate boxes, packing materials and

 Arrange for short-term storage if you will need it.

 Make travel arrangements for pets, including necessary medical records and immunizations. Week #3

 Assemble a sufficient supply of packing materials and equipment.

 Pack items you won't use immediately or that will go into storage. Contact utilities on both ends of

the move, and order termination or turn-on for your occupancy date.

 Confirm final travel arrangements for family and pets. Week #2

- Prepare auto(s) for the trip to your new home. Check tires and have car(s) serviced before the move.

 Terminate newspaper and other delivery services.

Confirm new bank accounts by phone and fax.

 Schedule an appliance service - Advertise a garage/yard/tag sale firm for moving day to prepare major appliances for the move.

Gather important papers,

records and valuables for protected shipment to your new home or safe

- Notify friends and neighbors of new address (and phone number if

— Make plans for young children to be cared for on moving day.

 Fill any necessary prescriptions and medications needed for the next two weeks.

 Defrost refrigerator and freezer, Give away all food in both units.

 Plan simple meals for moving day (or take out food) to avoid using the refrigerator.

 Pick up cash for your trip and a certified check for mover's invoice. Pack items you need to take with

you including valuables, financial records and personal papers. - Pack signed bill of lading and

inventory where they can easily be located at your destination. -- Carefully mark LAST BOX PACKED-FIRST BOX UNPACKED

containing items you'll need right away, like tools and window shades. Give the mover a telephone number and address where you can be

reached in your new town. This article is courtesy of ARA

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Delightful 4 Bedroom Cape in Linden's most desirable area. Florida Room leads to large deck and gorgeous backyard with pond. This home boasts new roof, replacement windows, vinyl sided, full basement and more. Start packing!!

Classes in real estate will be offered at UCC

CRANFORD — The Division of Development and Continuing Education at Union County College is once again offering courses for those in the real estate industry.

For those interested in learning about the many aspects of the real estate industry, Principles of Real Estate is being offered. Topics covered in this course include property interests, mortgages, deeds, title closing. liens, real estate law and ethics. agency relationships and real estate calculations. This course meets the Real Estate Commission requirements for the New Jersey Sales Licensing Examination. It will be offered during

the spring 2005 semester beginning on Jan. 31 on the college's Scotch Plains campus at 1700 Raritan Road. The cost of the course is \$350.

The New Jersey State Board of Real Estate Appraisers has also approved Union County College to offer the following courses to satisfy the requirements for licensed, residential and general appraisers. Introduction to Real Estate Appraisal covers the appraisal profession, real estate and its appraisal, the real estate marketplace, the appraisal process, building construction, data

collection, site valuation, and the cost approach.

course begins on Feb. 1, and will also be held on the college's Scotch Plains campus. The course cost \$325.

How to Complete the Uniform Residential Appraisal Form covers site valuation, purpose of separate site value, sources and collection of data, income and expense data, and applying data. This course begins on March $^{-1}$ and costs \$325.

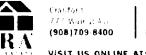
For more information, call the Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education at (908) 709-7600.

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Weber named top sales, listing agent at Burgdoff

WESTFIELD - Anne Weber, a consistent top achiever in the Burgdorff ERA, Westfield office, has been honored as Sales and Listing Agent of the Month for November 2004 with three listings and eight sales, a total of 11 transactions.

Weber has been consistently recognized as one of the top Realtors serving the area. In addition, Anne is in the top 10 percent of Burgdorff in sales and volume production for the current year. Her marketing and negotiating skills, along with her extensive real estate experience and first hand knowledge of the community, separate Weber from the rest

Weber appreciates the value and emotional attachment a family feels for their home. Her generous personality and dedication to high ideals and principals ensures that she will provide effective, sensitive, and knowledgeable rervice.

George Kraus, vice president/manager of the Westfield office, stated, "Anne's outstanding efforts in service to her clients' needs are what distinguishes her as a top agent in our industry. Anne has a vast knowledge of Union County and a comprehensive understanding of the area" Contact Weber at her direct line (908) 518-5285 or e-mail her at Anne-Weber@burgdorff.com.







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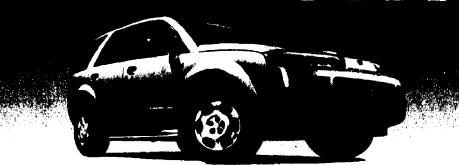
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Automotive/Classified

Automotive Careers On The Cutting Edge Of Technology

(ARA) - The high-tech automotive technician armed with computerized diagnostic tools and engine analyzers has supplanted the old image of the auto mechanic. Officials with nonprofit National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) the independent group that tests and certifies the competence of auto technicians nationally — note that automotive service and repair has changed dramatically over a generation.

High-tech systems unheard of 30 years ago are now common on the nation's fleet of vehicles: stability and traction control systems, adaptive cruise control and variable valve timing, to name a few. And more changes are on the way: hybrid vehicles are becoming a reality, hydrogen fuel cells may become viable in the near-term; inter-active suspensions, continuously variable-speed transmissions, and 42-volt batteries will soon become commonplace.

These developments spell good news for talented young people with math, science, communications and technical

And unlike many high-tech

careers that require four, six, even eight years of college, automotive technology careers can begin after two years of college. As with any career, life-long learning and update training is necessary, but the simple fact is, students in automotive technology can get out into the real world sooner and with less college debt.

Moreover, job growth looks strong into the foreseeable future. Estimates of job growth range from 35,000 to 60,000 openings annually. Whatever the exact number, one thing is certain: the U.S. Dept. of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics lists automotive technicians as one of the top 20 jobs with relatively high median earnings and the potential for significant job openings over the next decade.

And with the outsourcing of jobs picking up steam - first manufacturing jobs, now computer programming, customer call-center work, and accounting services all going overseas - it should be comforting to know that automotive service and repair is resistant to such

So, what kind of work is out there?



Courtesy of ARA Content from line technician to service wholesaling; collision repair,

consultant, service director, or painting, and damage estimatstoreowner. There is work in ing. There's the growing field of The jobs run the gamut parts, parts distribution and high-performance machining

and rebuilding. There is work in technical areas, training, or in management at the corporate level for national franchises, vehicle manufacturers, and private and municipal fleets. There are positions with high schools and community colleges as well as proprietary schools as instructors. Still other technicians find themselves moving into sales, marketing, and business management. Countless automotive aftermarket executives got their start turning wrenches. (Though nowadays the tool of choice is as likely to be a diagnostic computer and monitor.)

In fact, so many people have made their beginnings in the automotive aftermarket as an auto technician, that it is viewed as something of a portal career. And for those whose true calling is in the service bay, it's far from a dead-end career. Top-notch technicians well versed in computer diagnostics and the latest engine performance and driveabilty solutions can and do command top-dollar salaries. Pride in work, technical savvy, and craftsmanship are rewarded.

So if your child is chafing to

get out in the real world and make his or her mark, do consider automotive technology. Ask your child's guidance counselor, or better yet, visit your local community college.

The nonprofit National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) conducts the only nationally recognized certification program for automotive service professionals. ASE offers a wide range of tests that serve virtually every segment of the automotive service arena. Some 400,000 professionals hold current ASE certification. To learn more, go to www.ase.com.

The National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation, or NATEF for short, is ASE's education arm. NATEF works closely with the automotive service industry to develop national standards for automotive training programs. Such programs, in turn, benefit students and employers alike by providing a steady stream of job-ready young technicians. For more information about NATEF's programs, a list of certified automotive Vo-Tech programs in your area, and additional career information, visit www.natef.org.

AAA's Third Travel Challenge Strives To Improve Travel And Geographic Literacy Among High School Students

dents! If teens can answer questions like: "If you're visiting the National Cowboy Museum, which state are you in?" "Which country is called the Land of the Golden Fleece?" and "Where will you find the gateway to Acadia National Park?" then they might be well on the way to winning an expense paid trip for two to Orlando to compete for more than \$100,000 in college scholarships.

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AREA - Calling all high school stu- the AAA Travel High School Challenge, a contest that begins with a 40 question on-line competitionJan. 10-19. The contest aims to increase teens' travel knowledge and geographic literacy while creating awareness of career opportunities in the travel and tourism industries.

> The AAA Travel High School Challenge is more than just a geography contest - sharpens students' travel literacy by focusing on many aspects of trav-

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YARD PERSON

DEISCONNEL (1)

el and tourism destinations, including culture, transportation and history." Said Rick Zeckendorf, vice president of travel services for the AAA New Jersey Automobile Club.

The contest is open to public, private and home-school students in grades 9 -12. Students can pre-register now, take a sample quiz and find full rules at www.aaa.com/TravelChallenge. The top five achievers in each state and Washington, D.C. advance to the state

competition, which is a proctored written exam, in early March. The top exam scorer will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and advance to the national finals in Orlando, Fla., May 7- 10.

The national finals will also involve a proctored written exam and culminate in a live game show with two teams of three students each. Members of the winning team will each receive a \$25,000 scholarships and each member of the runner-up team will win a \$10,000 scholarship.

Interested students may sign up for the contest any time between now and January 19. As an added incentive, all students in Morris, Essex and Union Counties who register and complete the

quiz will be entered into a drawing for a free round trip airline ticket, courtesy of AAA New Jersey Automobile Club and Continental Airlines.

Corporate sponsors for the AAA Travel High School Challenge include Continental Airlines, Holland America Line, Marriott, MBNA America, Pleasant Holidays and Universal Orlando.

As North America's largest motoring and leisure travel organization, AAA provides more than 45 million members with travel, insurance, financial and automotive related services. Locally, the AAA New Jersey Automobile Club has offices in Clark, Florham Park, Randolph, Springfield and West Orange.

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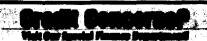
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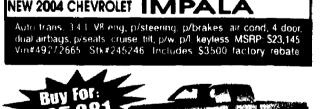
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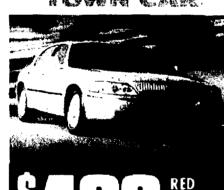
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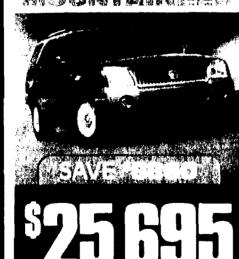
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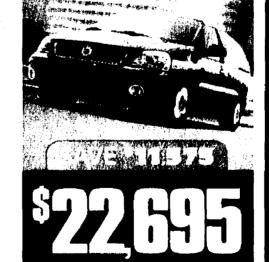
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