

# Record-Press

WESTFIELD · SCOTCH PLAINS · FANWOOD

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See Our  
Special Section  
Pages Inside

## Westfield schools weigh \$54.5 million budget

By **TERRENCE DOPP**  
THE RECORD-PRESS

**WESTFIELD** — School administrators are hoping an increase in enrollment numbers will allow them to increase their 2000 budget by more than twice

the state-mandated cap on annual budget increases.

The more than \$54.5 million budget proposed by Superintendent of Schools Dr. William Foley at the start of the budget process a few weeks ago was more than \$212,000 over the

state mandated limit for budget increases, which allows schools to raise their budget by no more than 3 percent each year. The budget cap would allow a total budget of \$54,407,802 and the budget Foley proposed was \$54,619,878.

School officials are hoping they can obtain a Spending Growth Limitation Adjustment from the state based upon an enrollment increase of about 200 students over the past year. The SGLA would essentially be permission from the state to exceed

the increase cap.

Otherwise, school officials would need to place a question on the April 18 school board election ballot, allowing voters to accept or defeat specific items that put the board's budget above the

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### Briefs

#### Registration open for SP-F kindergartners

**SCOTCH PLAINS** — Registration is underway for children who will be entering kindergarten in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood School System in September.

Forms are available from the elementary school covering the area of Scotch Plains or Fanwood the child lives in. All kindergarten pupils must be 5 years old on or before Oct. 1, 2000.

In addition, forms have been provided to parents whose children are in the elementary schools (kindergarten-Grade 5).

#### Fanwood sets spring cleaning

**FANWOOD** — The Fanwood Clean Community Committee is planning its Earth Day spring cleanup for April 15.

Volunteers will meet 8:30 a.m. at the South Avenue parking lot for the railroad station and be assigned to clean a specific area. T-shirts, work gloves and garbage bags will be provided. The work should be completed by noon.

Refreshments will be provided after the cleanup is finished.

All volunteers who want to participate should call Raymond Manfra, public works director and Clean Community Committee chairman, at (908) 322-7404.

The cleanup is being done in conjunction with the Public Works Department. Funding is through a grant from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

#### Realtors collect business clothing

**WESTFIELD** — The Greater Union County Association of Realtors is collecting business clothing to be used by job applicants — men and women — who do not have appropriate apparel for employment interviews.

The drive continues through March 28.

This is the fourth straight year the association has sponsored the drive.

All items gathered will be given to agencies through Union County that help job applicants retain their dignity when they leave the Welfare rolls and head out to meet prospective employers.

Anyone who wishes to donate business clothing for the drive may bring items to the office of the Greater Union County Association of Realtors, located at 767 Central Ave. in Westfield. Garments should be clean and in wearable condition.

For more information, call the association at (908) 232-9000.

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### Heart and soul

The Westfield Neighborhood Council hosted a special Soul Food Brunch and dedication ceremony Saturday honoring late community activist Dorothy Kirkley. Council Director Ezella Johnson and Kirkley's daughters Kim and Karen (above, left to right) were on hand as benches at the second-floor reading corner of the council's Cacciola Place facility were dedicated in Kirkley's honor, while Melba Nixon (left), a friend of Kirkley's, enjoyed a chat and a plate of delicious treats.

NICOLE DIMELLA/RECORD-PRESS

## Westfield SID makes its pitch

Officials want more downtown funding in 2000 budget

By **TERRENCE DOPP**  
THE RECORD-PRESS

**WESTFIELD** — The municipal budget process continued Tuesday night when Special Improvement District Chairman Joseph Spector outlined the Downtown Westfield Corporation's proposed 2000 budget for the Town Council.

The budget Spector and DWC Executive Director Michael LaPlace presented to the council called for a total of \$299,500 to be spent in the SID — funds raised primarily through taxes paid by

SID property owners. The \$299,500 — if approved — would represent an \$18,000 increase over the SID's 1999 budget.

And that, according to Spector, is not too much to ask. "This budget is pretty much in line," he said. "None of us wants to over-pay."

Spector told council members many strides have been made in the downtown area and the budget increase is aimed at increasing those efforts. The SID chairman said the opening of 10 new businesses in the past year, the offices shared by the DWC and the Westfield Chamber of Commerce, cleaner streets and the many aesthetic improvements in the downtown area are examples of positive changes

(Continued on page A-9)

## Field of nightmares

Environmentalists urge Scotch Plains to rethink Ashbrook sports complex

By **JON LEDERMAN**  
RECORD-PRESS CORRESPONDENT

**SCOTCH PLAINS** — Several environmental groups representing local and statewide interests urged the Township Council Tuesday to change its mind about placing a planned 25-acre sports complex on the Ashbrook Reservation.

Representatives from the Clark Environmental Commission, New Jersey Conservation Foundation and the New York/New Jersey Bay Keeper organization cited historic and environmental issues as reasons for their concerns.

The groups said the property dates back thousands of years, to the glacial age, and came to be known as "The Swamp District" during Revolutionary times. They suggested the area might be protected as wetlands, which would prohibit the town from developing the land.

Another concern was the flattened topography resulting from the elimination of trees and other indigenous flora would create runoff and possible flooding in Clark and Rahway. In addition, environmentalists argued the athletic fields would create large, grassy areas near the water,

(Continued on page A-9)

## SP-F officials offer details of facilities recommendation

Choye, principals try to clear up misconceptions

By **JON LEDERMAN**  
RECORD-PRESS CORRESPONDENT

**SCOTCH PLAINS** — Responding to community and Board of Education requests for more details regarding plans to reorganize the Scotch Plains-Fanwood School District, Superintendent Carole Choye used the Feb. 16 school board meeting to allay fears and clear up misconceptions about her facilities recommendation.

In particular, parents had expressed concern and opposition at previous meetings to the superintendent's recommendation to move fifth graders into the middle schools beginning in the 2000-2003 school year.

That recommendation was one of three initiatives proposed by Choye to alleviate overcrowding in district schools. The other two proposed initiatives were to add 12 classrooms and a multi-purpose room to Terrill Middle School to bring its size and capabilities into line with Park Middle School, and to assign children of new families to schools based on available space rather than proximity.

The superintendent is also asking for a bond referendum to raise nearly \$16 million to fund

the new classrooms and other upgrades in the district.

Choye relied on Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Curriculum and Supervision John Crews and faculty members to present most of the information, since they've played hands-on roles in designing the curriculum and the logistical aspects of the plan. Crews assured parents they'd have a major role to play in the final design of the recommendation. "We have plenty of

*"We have plenty of time to work out a plan. These programs won't be implemented until the 2000-2003 school year, and we plan to work closely with parents in the meantime."*

— **John Crews**  
Scotch Plains-Fanwood Schools

time to work out a plan," the assistant superintendent said. "These programs won't be implemented until the 2000-2003 school year, and we plan to work closely with parents in the meantime."

School One Principal Jeffery Grysko described the proposed curriculum as "core content sub-

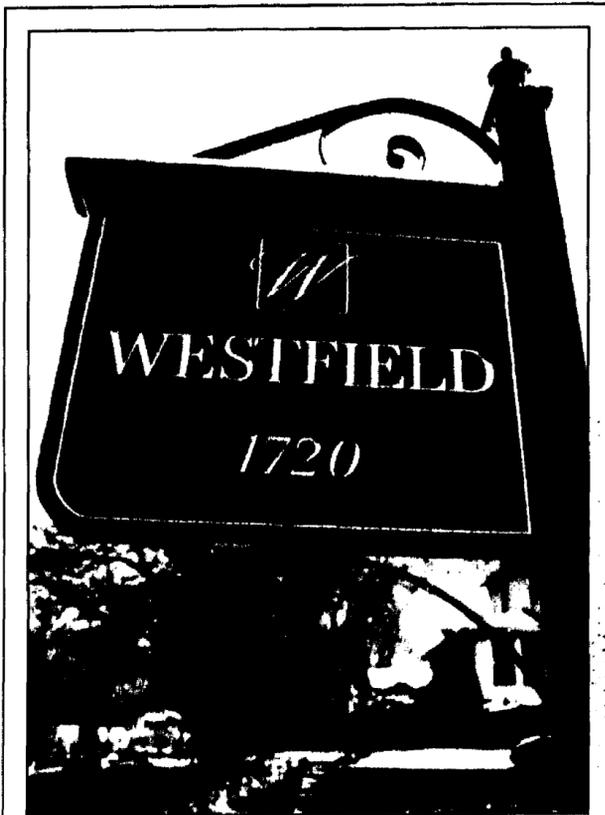
ject instruction" and noted "it is based on the elementary school model and should make it easier for our fifth-graders to adjust to middle school."

Grysko said a typical day for a fifth-grader might consist of reading, language arts, science, social studies and math in the morning, followed by lunch. The afternoon might consist of completing anything not finished in the morning.

According to Grysko, the curriculum might also include exploratory and special subjects, including art, music, theater arts, information technology, chorus, band and project-based learning. The latter would be for students not interested in band classes and could consist of research and presentation skills, in which students study a topic of interest and present what they've learned to the class.

The principal also said there would be about 200 fifth-grade students in each middle school and the program would be self-contained. This means fifth-grade students would essentially be isolated from seventh- and eighth-grade students via separate entrances and exits to the schools, and common areas for lockers, classrooms and lunch. Fifth-grade students would not be asked to change classrooms and would be assigned to one teacher.

Logistically, each middle (Continued on page A-5)



NICOLE DIMELLA/RECORD-PRESS

### Sign on

Drivers and pedestrians on Springfield Avenue now know exactly where they are, thanks to this handsome new sign posted this week. The sign is one of 10 new Westfield signs going up at major entrances to the town.



# Westfield ready to hit the deck

By **TERRENCE DOPP**  
THE RECORD-PRESS

## Wednesday meeting to discuss downtown parking deck report

WESTFIELD — Will the town's new parking deck go on the South Avenue commuter lot, or next to Trader Joe's, or right next door to commuter lot number eight? Residents will get their answer soon.

These questions and more will be answered when the plan is laid out and discussed with residents at a public meeting slated for Wednesday, according to Michael LaPlace of the Downtown Westfield Corporation. Officials said the location, cost and construction schedule should be discussed during the meeting, which will be held at the Westfield Municipal Building.

The meeting will provide residents' first glimpse at a report prepared by Detroit consulting firm Rich and Associates, which analyzed possible locations for the deck, related expenditures and the impact it will have on the town.

Town officials said they would keep a tight lid on where Rich and Associates thinks the deck should go until the public is able to hear the report, although Mayor Tom Jardim said the meeting will be a chance for town officials to hear public opinion on the project.

"Clearly, we're not going to be able to reach any decision ... without significant public input and significant public support," said Jardim, noting the public

input — which he said would be ongoing throughout the project — is an important factor for the town. "That's always been the idea for us," Jardim said.

Rich and Associates has been

least \$18,000. The average price tag for a parking space in a new deck is roughly \$13,000, according to Sullivan, but since the deck will be built on top of an existing municipal lot, the

town will be creating 500 new spaces. For that reason, Sullivan said, the cost-per-space will increase.

It is details like these, Sullivan noted, that make public input — starting with Wednesday's meeting — so important to the parking overhaul process.

"I think the meeting on (Wednesday) will be more educational," the councilman said. "I think it will provide the public with an opportunity to see the results (of the study) and ask questions. We have got to know who (the deck) is going to serve, where it will go and how much we're going to pay."

LaPlace said the deck is aimed at freeing up more parking spaces on the north side of the downtown area, allowing shoppers to forego the often brutal ritual of driving around and searching for a spot.

Residents will have the ability to read the actual report and offer comments to the DWC via telephone, U.S. mail or e-mail after Wednesday's meeting.

"After that, copies of the report will be available ... and people will be able to come back and talk about their concerns," LaPlace said.

The meeting is scheduled to begin 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

*"I think the meeting ... will be more educational. I think it will provide the public with an opportunity to see the results (of the study) and ask questions. We have got to know who (the deck) is going to serve, where it will go and how much we're going to pay."*

— Neil Sullivan  
Westfield Town Council

preparing the report since the fall, when they first came to town to survey the sites town officials suggested for the deck. On Wednesday, Rich representatives will outline the process they used to make their recommendations, including how they determined the amount of extra parking spaces Westfield needs, where the deck will go and how the town can pay for it.

Councilman Neil Sullivan estimated each new parking space in the deck will cost at

cost-per-space will invariably increase.

Wherever it builds its new deck, Westfield will be removing an existing lot. A deck built to handle 500 cars — placed on top of an existing municipal lot with 150 spaces — only creates 350 new spaces and only brings in an additional 350 spaces' worth of revenue, even though



## How West won

Former Chicago Bears football player Duane West visited Edison Intermediate School in Westfield Feb. 10 to impress upon students — including eighth-grader Andrea Gordon — the importance of education and discipline and the value of teachers. West, now a motivational speaker and fitness expert, visited as part of the school's Black History Month observances.

# Hearing Society offers scholarships

WESTFIELD — The Hearing Society is accepting applications for the Sarah H. McGee and Geraldine E. Jones Memorial Scholarship Foundation Awards.

The annual grants are awarded to students with a substantial hearing loss who are pursuing an education at a registered college. Special consideration will be given to those interested in working with the deaf and the hearing-impaired.

Applications are available from any high school guidance counselor or the Hearing Society at P.O. Box 2534, Westfield, NJ 07091. Phone/TDD inquiries also will be accepted at (908) 233-0266 between 9 a.m.-noon Thursdays only.

All applications must be received by May 1. References should include one from school and two from other local sources.

# NJN captures 11 awards in annual NJPA contest

SOMERVILLE — NJN Publishing-Somerset Division has won 11 awards in the 1999 New Jersey Press Association Better Newspaper Contest.

First place, sports section (under 4,500 circulation) — Scott Gruber, *Metuchen-Edison Review*.

First place, business writing (under 4,500) — Craig Turpin, *Hills-Bedminster Press*.

First place, editorial section (under 4,500) — Christopher Lawrence and Michael Deak, *The Chronicle*.

First place, editorial section (over 4,500) — Michael Deak, *Messenger-Gazette*.

First place, front page layout (over 4,500) — Michael Deak, *Messenger-Gazette*.

Second place, front page layout (under 4,500) — Christopher Lawrence and Michael Deak, *The Chronicle*.

Second place, freshest treatment of a tired topic (under 4,500) — Craig Turpin, *The Hills-Bedminster Press*.

Third place, freshest treatment of a tired topic (under 4,500) — Gary Govelitz,

*Metuchen-Edison Review*.

Third place, sportswriting portfolio (over 4,500) — Allan Conover, *Messenger-Gazette*.

Third place, feature writing (under 4,500) — Tina Guarino, *Record-Press*.

Third place, coverage of government (under 4,500) — Terrence Dopp, *Record-Press*.

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# Commentary

## What can be done about oil prices?

In the past few months, Central Jersey residents have not been alone in experiencing a new form of "sticker shock." The rising price of gasoline and fuel oil have been enough to make many of us believe the economy may be headed for a rough ride in the months ahead.

Just as an older generation remembers the lessons of the Great Depression, the baby boomer generation should now be recalling the terrible and paralyzing inflation that followed the dramatic rise in oil prices during the 1970s. Who could ever forget the long gas lines on Route 22? Everyone has felt the impact of the 30 percent price hike at the gas pumps in the past few months. Truck drivers have mounted demonstrations in the past two weeks to protest the higher cost of diesel fuel.

But the home fuel oil market has been just as volatile, with prices jumping by 20 cents a gallon in just a few weeks. Some home owners are now paying \$1.99 per gallon. That's painful and frightening.

Nobody knows what the impact of these dramatic spikes in prices will be. The economy is becoming increasingly difficult to predict — who could have imagined just a few years ago that Wall Street would have reached such dizzying heights? Does anybody — Alan Greenspan included — know what the trickle-down impact of these higher costs will be?

At this point, many politi-

cians are beginning to bluster about what should be done to stop the price surges. Some are demanding an investigation. Others — even those who believe in the free market — are asking the federal government to release some of its reserves into the marketplace in an effort to increase the supply and stabilize price. And the federal government has pledged to provide more assistance to those who find themselves in a financial squeeze because of the cost of fuel oil.

However, missing from the national dialogue has been any mention of the issue that dominated the discussion back in the 1970s — conservation.

It's simple. If we reduce demand, the price of oil will go down. Twenty years ago, the mileage of a vehicle may have been its most important feature to a prospective buyer. However, with the proliferation of sports utility vehicles, concerns about mileage have been shunted aside. In prosperous times, who really cares if the vehicle you like only gets 18 miles per gallon?

No one who lived through the economic turbulence of the 1970s can be blamed for being a bit wary of what the future may be. The recent increases in the price of oil are a grim reminder of how dependent we are on one commodity. And it should also be a reminder that oil is a finite resource and we should not forget that conserving energy is still the best way to control prices.



## Jersey Boy



Mike Deak

## Problems of life in these good times

They say we're living in prosperous times. The rich are getting richer, the middle class is still muddling and muddling and the poor, while not getting poorer, are not getting richer, either.

I was thinking these thoughts at a nameless establishment here in Central Jersey best known as a Generation Ex watering hole. (Who are the members of Generation Ex? Middle-aged ex-husbands, ex-wives and ex-significant others. It is the sort of place where there are 200 brands of beers available so, to test the bartender, I order a "Wiseneimer." Much to my shock and dismay, he places a \$5 bottle of Wiseneimer before me; it's produced by a microbrewery in Manville.

To occupy myself while waiting for a commiseration session with my friend Bart, I was wondering if a suddenly single Demi Moore will walk in tonight when a woman settles on the stool next to me and delivers the classic pick-up line from the 1980s that is still relevant today: "Who's your broker?"

"Landon, Milk and Honey," I say, the froth of the Wiseneimer giving me a beer mustache.

"Never heard of them," she says, downing her passion fruit Daiquiri in one long gulp. "Do you know the difference between my corporate bonds and my ex-husband?"

"I don't have a clue," she says with a bitter smile that could peel the paint off a 1947 Hudson.

I'm not in the mood tonight for a typical Generation Ex conversation. In a few minutes I'm going to hear another hard luck story of the heart from Bart and there's only so much misery one can endure in prosperous times.

"If Demi Moore married John Tesh, she'd be Demi Tesh," I say.

"Hub?"

"Demi Tesh. You know, a pun. Demi Tesh. *Demitasse*," I say with the smile of a Trekkie trying to explain to an infidel why Mr. Spock's ears are pointed. The woman grimaces, stands up and walks away and once again the power of the bad pun to induce solitude is reaffirmed.

Bart walks in, settles on the stool and orders a diet ginger ale because his system cannot tolerate alcohol. "Life stinks," he says.

"But these are prosperous times," I reply. "We can afford to revel in the trivial and dismiss the significant. Happy days are here again, Bunky."

"Friendship is not enough," Bart says.

"Gee, I never knew you felt that way —"

"You should be so lucky," he sneers. "I'm talking about this woman I know, or knew."

"This is the third woman in three weeks who told me she wants to be just good friends with me. They tell me about the most intimate details of their lives. They tell me about experiences with their ex-husbands and ex-boyfriends that are too risqué even for Jerry Springer? Do you know what a coffee enema is?"

"I hear it really perks you up," I say.

The bad pun doesn't work. Bart continues.

"Why can't women realize that friendship means doing things together?" he asks in the same tone a child uses in asking his mother why the family can't go to Mars for vacation. "Things like going to the movies together —"

"Taking long walks on the beach at sunset —"

"Enjoying candlelight dinners —"

"Playing Yahtzee before a roaring fire —"

"And having wild sex for six hours," Bart concludes.

What can you say to that?

These are prosperous times and such human questions are lost in the stampede towards self-fulfillment. We should be able to afford, both literally and figuratively, to consider those questions whose answers are bigger, to use a phrase from a bad science fiction movie, bigger than the both of us.

## Letters to the editor

## Moving fifth-graders not a good idea

### To The Record-Press:

After attending the Board of Education's presentation Feb. 16 regarding their proposal to change our school system by moving our fifth grade students into middle school, I am truly amazed! Way too much time and effort is being put into trying to convince the community that it is a good thing. It is not a good thing and it is quite apparent they agree with that, because of the great lengths they are proposing to create a "school within a school" to keep the younger students away from the influences of the older students. Just the time spent on this issue alone tells you plain and simple: If you need to keep the fifth graders so isolated and protected, then maybe they don't belong there in the first place.

In addition, so much time and money (for architects and consultants) is being spent to persuade this community that this is a good solution for our problems. Where is that money coming from, and if this was a really good plan, this community would accept it, without any of these theatrics and obvious empty promises of just how wonderful it all will be!

In light of that, we still have to keep in mind that

this plan is not a long-range solution and does not cure all of our ails. It doesn't address the future needs of Coles or McGinn (schools). It creates a townwide disaster of adding 200-plus students to the intolerable traffic and parking problems at Park Middle School. It doesn't leave enough room in Park Middle School for any new students coming into this town from three proposed developments, and no one can even come up with a reasonable plan of how to accommodate these new students at Park or show the costs associated with it!

If you saw the side by side comparisons of the plans for the two middle schools, you could not agree that there was any equality in the preparation for new students. From the floor plans to the new drop-off point designed at Terrill (Middle School), these plans are in no way whatsoever equal. And the residents of this community should be appalled because Dr. Choye, our superintendent, throws the phrase "equity amongst all the schools," and this is a slap in the face to the families of the children that must attend Park!

DONNA COLLIGAN  
Scotch Plains

## The subtle racism of 'Aladdin'

### To The Chronicle:

Two months ago, I had the pleasure of watching the Cranford Dramatic Club's production of "Aladdin" with my two sons. The performance was very well done with a number of young actors playing lead roles, displaying their many talents. Nevertheless I was very disappointed with the script and message conveyed to the young audience.

The story, set in China, is about a Chinese boy named Aladdin who has recently lost his father. Aladdin meets an evil character, a magician from Arabia who deceives him to gain access to a treasure and magic lamp that are hidden in a cave. By accident, Aladdin discovers that there is a genie inside the lamp and decides to keep the lamp for himself. With the help of the genie, Aladdin becomes rich and goes on to marry the emperor's daughter. The evil magician is determined to get the lamp back so he devises a scheme to trick Aladdin's mother into giving him the lamp. When the plan fails, the magician kidnaps Aladdin's mother and wife (the emperor's daughter) and steals the lamp. Aladdin comes to the rescue of his family and the magician is defeated.

It goes without saying that although the setting of the story is in China, the characters all speak English. The only non-English words spoken by any of the characters are surprisingly enough by the only non-Chinese character in the play, the Arab magician. Early in his introduction, while plotting to use Aladdin he repeatedly says among other things, "Allah." Later in the script as he is planning other evil deeds, the magician again repeats the word "Allah." For those not familiar with Islam, "Allah" is the name of God. One would have to conjecture that our evil friend in addition to being a kidnapper, thief and criminal is also a Muslim.

For those not familiar with Middle Eastern literature, the story of Aladdin appears in the book "One Thousand and One Nights." The setting of all the stories in the book is Arabia and not China. This is key. In "One Thousand and One Nights," a whole cast of characters including crooks, dishon-

est individuals and pious people all appear. However, you do not have a situation where the only evil person is of one nationality or religion while everyone else is of a different country of origin or belief.

Perhaps it can be argued that I am stretching the story, being overly sensitive and implying messages that are not really part of the play. That is what the parent of one of the young actors told me. In order to gain some clarity, I suggest a simple mental exercise. Let us for the sake of argument assume that the crook, the evil magician is a Jew from the land of Israel, who repeatedly mentions Jehovah, the name of the Jewish God, as he plots and conducts despicable acts. We do not change anything else about the story. If the above exercise is not sufficient, I suggest substituting a Christian as the evil magician. I ask a simple question. Wouldn't there be an uproar over such a script?

One of the things one observes about advanced forms of bigotry is that the bigots find their views and behavior very ordinary and think nothing of it. Hence it would not surprise me if none of the people associated with the play every thought much of the message being delivered to the young audience. In this society, depicting Muslims and Arabs in a negative manner has become commonplace. Often, the same individuals who are infuriated by messages that display hatred toward minorities such as blacks or Jews are quick to remind critics of racism directed at Arabs and Muslims that the First Amendment protects freedom of speech. Such is the depth of confusion.

I ask the scriptwriter of this production of "Aladdin" some simple questions: What if anything was gained by introducing a sole Arab in the role of a thief and kidnapper? Why was it so essential for the evil magician to repeatedly say "Allah"? And finally, does the scriptwriter truly believe that a similar story but with the substitutions mentioned earlier would ever be tolerated or produced?

MOHSEN MAYZAHERI  
Cranford

## The Record-Press is here for you

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

Call Editor Gregory Zeller at (908) 575-6686 with story suggestions, questions or comments. For sports, call Dan Murphy at (908) 575-6698.

Our address: *The Record-Press*, P.O. Box 699, Somerville, NJ 08876. Our fax number is (908) 575-6683. Our e-mail address is [njnnews@compubell.com](mailto:njnnews@compubell.com)

### Letter policy

Letters should be no longer than 200 words and may be edited for content, brevity, good taste and libel. Letters should be typewritten and include the writer's daytime telephone number for verification.

Send letters to the above address or fax number.

### Photographs

We welcome submitted photos — color or black-and-white — of community events. Individuals in the photos should be identified and clearly visible.

If you would like to request a photographer at a community event, call at least 48 hours prior to the event and we will do our best to schedule a photographer.



**Record-Press**

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# SP-F officials details recommendation

(Continued from page A-1) school principal described what he thought was the best scenario available at present. Rocco A. Collucci, principal of Park Middle School, recommended widening the parking lot by 25 spots to accommodate the increased enrollment. He also proposed using the space between the school building and the parking lot as a place for seventh- and eighth-grade students to enter and leave the school, and he assured parents there are barriers in existence to protect the students. Collucci would have fifth- and sixth-graders dropped off behind the school, or on the left side on a walkway that leads to the media room toward the rear of the building.

His plan also recommends the creation of a circular drop-off zone in front of the building by the school sign to reduce the possibility of curbside accidents.

Collucci's floor plan would house sixth-graders on the ground floors, seventh-graders on the first and second floors and eighth-graders on the second floor.

Terrill Middle School Principal John C. Foulkes explained that 12 new classrooms and a 5,000-square foot multi-purpose room proposed in Choye's recommendation will be needed to handle increased Terrill enrollment over the next five years. Foulkes said he anticipates enrollment at his school will increase from 500 to nearly 750 students in that time, and the additional space will allow Foulkes to put the entire seventh- and eighth-grade classes on the second floor, leaving the first floor to house fifth- and sixth-graders.

Drop-off and assembly would occur at the rear right of the school, and Foulkes envisions widening the driveway to accommodate the extra traffic.

Choye's proposed bond referendum to raise nearly \$16 million would cover renovations and expansions throughout the district. Almost \$4 million would be allocated to pay for 12 new classrooms, the multi-purpose room and expanded parking at Terrill Middle School; about \$5 million would cover renovations at the high school; nearly \$5 million would cover renovations at Park Middle School; and the remaining balance would cover technology upgrades and other renovations throughout the district.

The impact on taxpayers, based on a 20-year term at 5-percent interest, is \$117 per

year for an average assessed home of \$117,000 in Scotch Plains, and \$99 per year for an average assessed home of \$83,000 in Fanwood.

The third leg of Choye's recommendation would impact families that are new to Scotch Plains-Fanwood beginning next September. New families residing in the Bayberry Apartments on Rivervale Court and in Southwick Condominiums would register elementary grade students at Brunner School and middle school grade students at Park Middle School. New families residing on Hunter Avenue north of Front

Street and south of Mountain Avenue, on Willow Avenue north of Front Street and south of Mountain Avenue, and on Myrtle Avenue north of Front Street and south of Mountain Avenue would register elementary school-age students at Coles School and middle school-age students at Terrill Middle School.

The Board of Education will vote on the proposal at its regularly scheduled meeting Monday. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. and will be held at the school administration building, located behind Evergreen School.

## Briefs

### Women for Women set ADD discussion

WESTFIELD — What is attention deficit disorder?

That question will be posed by Dr. Kenneth L. McNeil at a community education workshop sponsored by Women for Women of Union County. The workshop will be 7:30 p.m.-9 p.m. Monday in the Community Room of the Westfield Municipal Building, located at 425 E. Broad St.

Issues to be addressed include understanding a diagnosis of ADD; medication and treatment; helping children with ADD at home and in school; and ADD in adults.

McNeil is a licensed clinical psychologist with a practice in Westfield. He is a former director of the Beadleston School, a therapeutic high school for emotionally disturbed students in Union County. His practice covers children, families, forensic work, psychodiagnostic assessment and clinical supervision. He holds a doctorate from the University of Louisville.

Women for Women is a nonprofit agency that offers short-term individual counseling and legal referral for women.

For membership or program information, call (908) 232-5787.

### Methodist church sets weekly schedule

WESTFIELD — At the First United Methodist Church on East Broad Street, "Exclusion and Embrace" is the subject for the sermon Sunday by Rev. David F. Harwood, senior minister.

The church's schedule this week:

**Sunday** — Seekers service (child care available), 9 a.m. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m. Fellowship, 10:30 a.m. Worship service (child care available), 11 a.m. Lunch in the social hall, noon. Organ recital with Andrew Moore, 4 p.m. Youth fellowship and music, 5:30 p.m.

**Monday** — Boy Scouts, 7 p.m. Oratorio Singers, 7:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry, 7:30 p.m. Spanish lessons, 7:30 p.m.

**Tuesday** — Bible study, 9:30 a.m. Children's music and fellowship, 3:30 p.m. Fife and Drum Corps, 6:30 p.m. "Divorce Recovery," 7 p.m. Meeting of administrative board, 8 p.m.

**Thursday** — Sanctuary Choir, 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday, March 4** — Adult Fellowship progressive dinner, 6:30 p.m.

In addition, the Raritan District of the United Methodist Church will hold workshops 9 a.m.-3 p.m. March 3-4. The district Council on Ministry will conduct a "People of Hope" program 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

For more information, call (908) 233-4211.



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# AGENDA 2000

## Businesses remain bullish on economy's performance

A central theme of the 1999 New Jersey Business and Industry Association (NJBIA) Business Outlook Survey was a rising fear of recession. In the Year 2000 Business Outlook Survey, that fear has largely dissipated. One more year of solid, even if not dramatic, economic performance has strengthened the confidence of New Jersey executives and made them more optimistic, more confident about continued growth in the year ahead.

When the 1999 Business Outlook Survey was conducted, the national and state economies were entering a period of great turbulence. Last year's Business Outlook Survey described economic conditions that existed as the survey hit members' desks in the fall of 1998.

When this survey was mailed to NJBIA member companies in mid-September, the nation's second longest peacetime expansion appeared to be on the skids. The national economy was slowing, the bear had its claws in the greatest bull market in history, and the Asian financial crisis appeared to be rolling toward our shores like a great tsunami.

A sizeable contingent of NJBIA members, like many other informed people, thought the economic expansion was long in the tooth and brittle. This caused recession fears to rise dramatically. A year ago, nearly half of all respondents believed the State economy was headed into a recession or already there.

However, 1999 proved to be a year of surprising economic strength. The Asian financial crisis seemingly disappeared, and the financial markets held their own. These improved outside conditions, as well as evident strength in their own businesses, has buoyed the confidence of New Jersey's business owners and managers in the upcoming millennium year.

This year the national and state economies are in even less familiar waters. We are now experiencing the longest peacetime expansion in the nation's history, an unprecedented situation. And the results of NJBIA's Year 2000 Business Outlook Survey portend yet another year of solid economic growth.

### The state outlook

The percentage of respondents saying they believe the New Jersey economy is moving into a recession has fallen considerably to 27 percent this year from 41 percent a year ago. Last year's growing pessimism has been replaced with a brighter outlook. The percentage saying the State economy is still expanding has jumped markedly to 58 percent this year, up from 39 percent last year. A small and hopelessly outvoted minority—a mere 4 percent of survey respondents—believes New Jersey is currently in a recession.

Another question focused on one of the most important set of expectations examined in this Business Outlook Survey: How do New Jersey business executives view the economic prospects for the state and national economies in the first six months of the year ahead? Businesses' outlook regarding these overarching economic trends influence the decisions they make regarding critical matters like investment spending and employment expansion.

Twenty-eight percent of respondents expect New Jersey's economic conditions to improve in the first six months of the year ahead, up from 25 percent who held this view last year. While a trend is not established by one year of data, this year's increase signals a change in the basic outlook of the business community. This slight uptick is also consistent with the business community's changed viewpoint regarding the possibility of recession.

While 28 percent expect economic conditions to improve for the state, almost 55 percent of New Jersey executives expect statewide business conditions to be the same in 2000 as in 1999. In the context of the last few years, "same" has to be interpreted as a solid, substantial economic performance.

### The national outlook

There has been an almost identical shift of opinion regarding the national economy. In 1999, only 21 percent foresaw any improvement in the national economy. For 2000, that has increased to 26 percent. Almost six out of every ten respondents envision that national economic conditions will remain the

### Leading Indicators: 2000 vs 1999 Outlook

	1999	2000	Change
<b>Outlook for US Economy</b>			
Better	21%	26%	5%
Same	45%	58%	13%
Worse	35%	16%	-19%

	1999	2000	Change
<b>Outlook for NJ Economy</b>			
Better	25%	28%	3%
Same	45%	55%	10%
Worse	31%	17%	-14%

	1999	2000	Change
<b>"Your Industry" Outlook</b>			
Better	30%	32%	2%
Same	41%	48%	7%
Worse	28%	20%	-8%

	1999	2000	Change
<b>Sales Outlook</b>			
Better	53%	56%	3%
Same	26%	27%	1%
Worse	21%	17%	-4%

	1999	2000	Change
<b>Profits Outlook</b>			
Better	44%	49%	5%
Same	29%	28%	-1%
Worse	27%	23%	-4%

	1999	2000	Change
<b>Outlook for Purchases</b>			
Better	42%	46%	4%
Same	37%	37%	0%
Worse	21%	17%	-4%

	1999	2000	Change
<b>Employment Outlook</b>			
Better	27%	31%	4%
Same	64%	61%	-3%
Worse	9%	8%	-1%

same in 2000 as in 1999. As is the case with the state economy, the "same" in the context of recent economic history means that good economic times are expected to continue to roll.

Combining those who expect business conditions to improve for the state and national economies with those who expect conditions to remain at the same level, the survey finds that more than eight

in ten respondents see no deterioration in national business conditions in the upcoming year. Furthermore, the proportion of pessimists has been cut in half compared with a year ago; only 16 percent of respondents see economic conditions deteriorating for the nation and only 17 percent for the state.

NJBIA's Business Outlook Survey is designed to elicit an answer without the necessity of on-the-spot company or industry research. Thus, NJBIA expects participants to provide answers based on their own personal knowledge of business conditions. As one might expect, their outlook for the New Jersey economy is based primarily on business conditions with which they are intimately familiar in their own companies and industries.

Approximately 80 percent of respondents said their outlook for the New Jersey economy is based primarily on business conditions in their own companies and industries. Only 13 percent said their outlook is based primarily news reports, and only 6 percent on the state's political climate.

### Business outlook

The Business Outlook Survey gives participants an opportunity to assess the economic future of their own industries.

Thirty-two percent expect business conditions in their own industries to improve through 2000; that's a bit more optimistic than the group's overall expectations for national or statewide business conditions. But, at the same time, one in five expect business conditions for their own industries to deteriorate over the upcoming year, slightly higher than for the overall economies. Nearly half, or 48 percent of respondents, expect conditions in their own industries to remain essentially the same.

### Sales

Sales and profit expectations are two of the most fundamental variables dealt with in this survey. Without growing sales, businesses

will rarely invest, will not increase hiring, and will not possess the basic attitudes that lead to economic expansion. However, positive sales expectations alone are not sufficient to cause companies to expand their businesses. They also have to have reasonable expectations of profit growth.

As is true with the outlook for both the economy and their own industries, a growing optimism characterizes our respondents' outlook for the sales and profit growth of their individual companies in the year ahead.

For 2000, 56 percent expect their sales to rise, 27 percent expect sales to stay about the same and 17 percent expect sales to fall. This represents a small but significant improvement in sales expectations over last year.

More importantly, sales expectations for the year ahead are the third best in a decade. A net 39 percent of companies anticipate higher sales. Subtracting the percentage of companies expecting sales to decline from the percentage expecting sales to rise derives the net percentage. This gives a truer picture of the strength of optimism by discounting the pessimism that exists on the other side of the ledger. As this chart demonstrates, net sales expectations over the last ten years were higher only in the 1998 and 1995 survey years.

The strength of optimism about sales is especially apparent in the detail. A substantial fraction of respondents, nearly 30 percent, expect their sales to rise by 10 percent or more. One third of that

group, or more than 10 percent of all respondents, expect sales to soar by 15 percent or more.

Part of the basic optimism for sales for 2000 comes from survey participants' actual experience in 1999. Just over half of companies saw sales rise over the last year and 23 percent saw sales remain stable. Three out of ten companies saw sales rise by 10 percent or more.

### Profits

Expectations for rising profits are in tandem with expectations for rising sales.

Forty-nine percent of respondents anticipate higher profits in the year ahead, 28 percent expect stable profits, and 23 percent falling profits. As was true with sales, these numbers represent a small but significant improvement over the 1999 profit outlook.

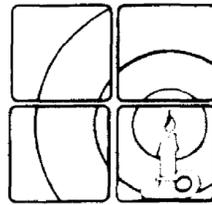
In net terms, 26 percent of New Jersey business executives expect profits to increase in the upcoming year. This is up ten percentage points from last year and is the second strongest profit outlook in a decade. Only the 1998 outlook was stronger. This is clear evidence of a substantially better economic outlook.

Last year's profit performance was strong, setting a positive stage for the year ahead. Forty-four percent of this year's respondents experienced higher profits in 1999; a bit more than half of this group saw profits increase by 10 percent or more.

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# AGENDA 2000

## The state's economic good times continue to roll

The 2000-2001 forecast for New Jersey's blockbuster economy will continue to forge a path of prosperity for the year ahead and beyond, according to the annual Review and Economic Outlook released by the non-partisan Council of Economic Advisors.

"This document validates so much of what we have been trying to do for the people and businesses of New Jersey. Our tax cuts are working. Our business assistance programs are working. Our efforts to streamline regulations are working. Most important, people are working," said Gov. Christie Whitman.

"New Jersey has continued to make strong gains in a number of areas, including employment, personal income and retail sales," said Joseph J. Seneca, Council Chairman. "These are very, very good economic times, and more of

the same lies ahead for our state."

Employment in New Jersey grew by 65,000 in 1999, an increase of 1.7 percent. The council predicts employment growth will expand by 1.4 percent for 2000. Unemployment dropped to a 4.5 percent average for 1999, which was the lowest annual rate in ten years. It stood at 4.1 percent in December, the latest month available.

"New Jersey has now entered its eighth consecutive year of economic expansion — the longest in our history. There can be no doubt that New Jersey is a better place to live, work and raise a family," the Governor said.

"We have a tough act to follow as we enter a new century. But we're going to try. Looking ahead to the next two years, the Council is predicting robust growth in retail sales, a slower but steady increase

in jobs, and strong construction activity," she said.

"Coming off a trade mission to Europe, I am encouraged that they are predicting improvement in New Jersey exports. I also agree that we will begin to see the economic benefits of energy deregulation — both in saving consumers money and making New Jersey an even more attractive place to do business," Gov. Whitman said.

"I'm especially pleased that the Council recognizes high technology as a driving force in the New Jersey economy. It's clear that my \$165 million high-tech package — New Jersey Jobs for a New Economy — will point us in the right direction: the direction of more jobs, better jobs and higher-paying jobs," the Governor said.

Dr. Seneca said that the Governor's emphasis on supporting high technology economic

development is exactly on target for the future direction of New Jersey's high value added, information dependent economy.

The performance of New Jersey's five industry "growth clusters," (Health, High Tech, Logistics, Financial and Entertainment) continues to be impressive. These industry clusters collectively grew by 2.6 percent in 1999 as compared to 1.2 percent for all other New Jersey industries. As a result, the Council predicts the industry clusters will be a driving force of the state's 2000 economy.

The good news for New Jersey residents is that personal income rose by 5.8 percent in 1999 and inflation remained under 2 percent. Higher incomes boosted retail sales to over \$90 billion for the year. Retail activity will remain robust rising by 4.8 percent in 2000 and 5.0 percent in 2001, as

the expansion continues and price increases remain modest.

New Jersey's Gross State Product grew by 5.9 percent in 1999, bringing the state's total GSP to \$327 billion. Growth in the state's GSP is expected through 2001.

Increased investments in New Jersey were spurred by an escalation in the number of planned non-residential and residential construction projects. Housing permits exceeded the 32,000 unit mark in 1999, their highest level since 1988. Nonresidential activity accelerated by 19 percent in 1999, fueled by strong demand for office space in northern New Jersey and the Hudson River Waterfront. This activity will deliver almost 13 million square feet to the New Jersey office market.

In terms of global trade, exports from New Jersey, while consistent

at about \$22 billion, reflected general weakness in world demand. Modest gains were made in New Jersey's largest export markets, the European Union at 2 percent and the NAFTA countries of Canada and Mexico, at 1.2 percent. The Council predicts a 5 percent gain in exports, led by sale of technology goods and healthcare products.

"New Jersey's thriving economic environment will continue to propel the state's economy in the 21st century," said Gualberto Medina, chief executive officer and Secretary of the New Jersey Commerce & Economic Growth Commission. "Clearly, our emphasis on business investment and job creation will ensure that New Jersey remains a better place in which to work, live and raise a family."

## NUI is focusing on doing more business with other businesses

BEDMINSTER — NUI Corporation has good news for businesses as the new century begins — NUI is placing greater focus on its business-to-business activities and expects the products and services it offers business customers to continue expanding in 2000 and beyond.

"NUI has not lessened our commitment to our 370,000 utility customers," said John Kean Jr., NUI president and CEO. "Our utility

operations remain the backbone of our company and our distribution customers receive the same outstanding service they are used to receiving and deserve. However, growth in the utility sector, while steady, is not sufficient enough to grow NUI at a pace that will allow us to be successful as we can be. Each year the contributions to earnings of our non-regulated businesses grow at a faster pace than those of our utility operations

And the majority of our non-regulated activity is in the business-to-business arena.

"That is why NUI is placing greater focus on strengthening and expanding the products and services we offer our business customers and the business community in general. We have a growing list of products and services solutions for businesses of any kind."

In the past year, NUI's energy wholesale operation began provid-

ing portfolio management services to Florida Power and Light (FPL) and Merck & Co., adding them to a growing number of companies for which it provides these services. NUI's natural gas retailer, which focuses primarily on the commercial market, entered an alliance with the electricity retail arm of GPU, Inc. to offer businesses one stop-shopping for both their natural gas and electricity. The company's energy management services

affiliate provided a number of energy solutions to both government and private business customers in 1999.

NUI now provides account management and billing services to 30 investor owned and municipal water and waste-water utilities with the addition of five new clients this past year, and provides satellite-based mapping services to four other utility operations.

In 1999, NUI acquired a telecommunications firm that offers a full array of telecommunications services, as well as a one bill option, to business customers.

Finally, NUI capped its busy year when its sales outsourcing firm was awarded a national con-

tract to market the priority mail services of the United States Postal Service (USPS) to business users.

"NUI has been in the natural gas distribution business for 145 years, and that remains the backbone of our company," Kean said. "However, as deregulation of the energy industries began taking place, we recognized that a variety of business opportunities would lie outside the traditional gas distribution arena. We began restructuring NUI to be a collection of independent business entities that would be able to move quickly and to take advantage of any business opportunity that looked attractive to us."

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## Lockwood Congress is a smart buy for independent living

Lockwood Congress breaks the mold by providing independent living at a great price, and now it has five models to inspect, ranging in prices from the \$80,000s to the \$90,000s.

People are paying \$130,000 or more anywhere else for this quality of housing. The homes come fully loaded with lots of options included in the price like central air conditioning, plush carpeting, tilt windows, garages, spacious kitchens with oak cabinets and more, all standard.

Lockwood Congress offers two and three-bedroom models, some with garages and a partial basement option. What else is included? Grass, landscaping, walks, drives and many maintenance-free features.

Located five minutes into Pennsylvania, where it is cheaper to live compared to New York or

New Jersey, Lockwood Congress is just a smart buy.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to know that in Pennsylvania your retirement dollars go a lot further, but the real news is that seniors are finally making the move in droves. What costs less? State income tax, real estate tax, pensions, IRA or Keogh et al. That's right they are tax free but in New Jersey the tax can be as high as 5 percent. Also, car insurance, house insurance, water and sewer rates, school tax you name it... it's cheaper and it can add up. Pennsylvania does not tax retirement benefits like New Jersey.

Money.com, a service of Money magazine, offers a comparison of the cost of living in Easton, where Lockwood Congress is located, with different parts of New Jersey. The savings can be as much as 44 percent cheaper in Easton than in New Jersey, depending on where you live.

Many seniors are finding that what they save on real estate taxes alone affords them an extra vacation trip. Instead of paying the government they are rewarding themselves with better lifestyles.

Lockwood Congress recently celebrated its one-year anniversary and already it is more than 50 percent sold out. The community currently has four homes ready for immediate occupancy. You can reserve a lot for as long as five months while you sell your home. Lockwood Congress even has a program to help you sell your home, something that lots of people have taken advantage of. There are even great winter specials.

Local services include regularly scheduled free public transportation that goes to all the shopping centers and supermarkets. Lockwood Congress is within a 10-minute drive to a WalMart, K mart, Sears, a terrific enclosed mall, 15 movie screens, a YMCA, free public tennis courts, a park, a golf course and five or six supermarkets.

Easton's pride is the 1920s State Theatre, where you can see Broadway plays, musicals, concerts, and stars at a fraction of the cost when compared to New York.

On-site amenities include walking trails, a community center, with an exercise room, library/card room, kitchen and Great Room for arts and crafts and organized dinners.

For more information, call Lockwood Congress at (610) 923-7126.

1883



1999

For 116 Years  
Your Center of  
Security,  
Safety and Service

Union County Savings Bank's Statement of Condition reflects steady growth in 1999 with a surplus and reserve position that is among the best in the nation. Today, as we enter the 21st century, the bank is considered one of the safest and strongest banks in the United States.

The officers, managers and staff wish to thank our more than 40,000 depositors whose trust and confidence have helped sustain this position of strength and high regard within the banking industry. Since the bank's founding in 1883, it has been committed to generations of customers as a neighborhood bank with solid values and policies. It is this heritage which helps preserve our 116-year tradition of Safety, Security and Service.

### Statement of Condition December 31, 1999

#### ASSETS

Cash on Hand and in Banks	\$ 8,202,076.38
U.S. Government Securities	295,427,251.38
Other Bonds	109,488,901.69
Stock	8,833,646.56
Real Estate Mortgage Loans, Net	157,794,986.69
Collateral Loans	2,341,364.43
Other Loans	64,500,000.00
Furniture and Fixtures	318,694.76
Banking Premises	1,639,606.31
Interest Accrued on Investments	8,146,014.86
Other Assets	1,233,646.02
	<b>\$ 643,926,191.08</b>

#### LIABILITIES

Due Depositors	\$ 510,329,271.84
Official Checks Outstanding	1,128,795.09
Mortgages Escrow Account	427,668.11
Other Liabilities	4,282,309.20
Surplus and Reserves	127,758,146.82
	<b>\$ 643,926,191.08</b>

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# Community Life

## This week

### FRIDAY

FEB. 25

**ART AUCTION** — benefit for Scotch Plains Cultural Arts Committee. Scotch Hills Country Club, Plainfield Avenue, Scotch Plains, 8 p.m. (Preview 7 p.m.) Cost \$10 per person, \$15 per couple. Call (908) 322-6700, Ext. 220.

### SATURDAY

FEB. 26

**AUTHOR IN STORE** — Frederick Schofield, author of "The Boardwalkers" (novel). Town Book Store, 255 E. Broad St., Westfield, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Call (908) 233-3535.

**AUTHOR IN STORE** — Bruce Schneider, author of "Relax, You're Already Perfect: 10 Spiritual Lessons ... to Remember." Town Book Store, 255 E. Broad St., Westfield, 2-4 p.m. Call (908) 233-3535.

**BENEFIT BIDDING** — auction to benefit AIDS Benefit Committee of New Jersey. Temple Emanu-El, 766 E. Broad St., Westfield, 8 p.m. (Silent auction 6 p.m.) Admission \$100. Reservations: Call (908) 232-6770, Ext. 129 or (908) 928-1600.

### SUNDAY

FEB. 27

**WELCOME IN** — Dr. Christopher Atwood, new senior minister of First Congregational Church, 125 Elmer St., Westfield, 10 a.m. Call (908) 233-2494.

**BLACK HISTORY** — "African-American Slaves in Colonial New Jersey." Miller-Cory House Museum, 614 Mountain Ave., Westfield, 2-4 p.m. Adults \$2; students 50 cents; children under 6 free. Call (908) 232-1776.

**BETTER THAN BROADWAY** — show tunes, Yiddish songs and cantorial liturgy. Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim, 338 Walnut Ave., Cranford, 5 p.m. Admission \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. Tickets: Call (908) 276-9231.

### MONDAY

FEB. 28

**WHAT IS ADD?** — seminar on attention deficit disorder, sponsored by Women for Women of Union County. Municipal Building, 426 E. Broad St., Westfield, 7:30 p.m. Call (908) 232-5787.

### WEDNESDAY

MARCH 1

**REORGANIZATION** — of volunteer program at Scotch Plains Public Library, 1927 Bartle Ave., Scotch Plains, 7:30 p.m. Call (908) 322-5007.

### THURSDAY

MARCH 2

**SIMPLE LIFE** — Rev.

Anthony Ciorra on "Learning to Live Simply: Stress Free." St. Helen's Church, 1600 Rahway Ave., Westfield, 8 p.m. Free admission. Call (908) 233-8757.

### FRIDAY

MARCH 3

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** — observed by Redeemer Lutheran Church and Redeemer Lutheran School, 229 Cowperthwaite Place, Westfield, 9:15 a.m. Call (908) 232-1517.

### COMING UP

**CIRCUS TRIP** — for Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus at Continental Airlines Arena. Bus leaves from Municipal Building, Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, 9:45 a.m. March 4. Township residents \$27; non-residents \$29. Registration: Call (908) 322-6700, Ext. 222.

**50'S DANCE** — main fundraiser for Westfield Marching Band Parents Association. Gran Centurions, 440 Madison Hill Road, Clark, 8 p.m.-midnight March 4. Cost \$27.50. Tickets: Call (908) 317-6730.

**NEW IN TOWN?** — new-member coffee sponsored by Welcome Wagon Club of Westfield, 8 p.m. March 7. Reservations/directions: Call (908) 301-1494 or (908) 518-0510.

**BOOK TALK** — discussion on "A Lesson Before Dying" by Ernest J. Gaines. Fanwood Memorial Library, North Avenue, Fanwood, 7:30 p.m. March 9. Call (908) 322-6400.

**'THE PRICE'** — drama by Arthur Miller. Westfield Community Players, 1000 North Ave. West, Westfield, 8 p.m. March 11, 17, 18, 24, 25. Admission \$12. Tickets: Call (908) 232-1221.

**MORE THAN A LION'S** — pancake breakfast of Scotch Plains Lions Club. Scotch Hills Country Club, Jerusalem Road, Scotch Plains, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. March 12. Adults \$5; children under 6 free. Call (908) 753-8218.

**CLARINET CONCERT** — with Richard Stoltzman. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 414 E. Broad St., Westfield, 4 p.m. March 19. Adults \$15; seniors \$12; students \$5. Call (908) 232-1116 or (908) 232-2752.

**ART/CRAFT MARKET** — spring edition of crafts show. National Guard armory, 500 Rahway Ave., Westfield, 5-9 p.m. March 24, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. March 25, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. March 26. Adults \$6; children under 10 free (no strollers). Call (800) 834-9437.

**A MOVABLE FEAST** — benefit for New Jersey Workshop for the Arts (Westfield). Grand Summit Hotel, 570 Springfield Ave., Summit, 4-9 p.m. March 26. Tickets: Call (908) 789-9696.

**HOME-BASED BUSINESS** — Parenting Pathways workshop. Scotch Plains Public Library, 1927 Bartle Ave., Scotch Plains, 7:30 p.m. March 29. Free admission. Call (908) 889-2165.

## Historical Society sets First Wednesday lunch

**WESTFIELD** — The Westfield Historical Society will hold its First Wednesday Luncheon with a musical theme at noon March 1 at B.G. Fields, located at 560 Springfield Ave.

Guest speaker is Evelyn Bleeke, a member of the Musical Club of Westfield for more than 40 years and a long-time resident of the town. She will speak about the history of the Musical Club of Westfield and other music-related organizations.

Bleeke had been director of the Choral Art Society of New Jersey for 32 years and director of the Westfield Glee Club. A music instructor at Kean University in Union and Arthur L. Johnson High School in Clark, she is involved with church music in Westfield and

Cranford. Assisting her are Donald Bill Belcher, who will cover the early days of community concerts; George Toenes, clarinet, with a brief program; and Jerome Mendel, historian, with old programs and photographs to share.

Belcher is a former president of the Community Concerts Association. Toenes is concertmaster of the Westfield Community Band and plays the first clarinet in the Union Symphony.

Those who regularly attend the First Wednesday Luncheons will be notified by phone to confirm their reservations.

Space permitting, the public may also attend; call (908) 233-2930 by noon Monday for reservations.



## Answering the challenge

The seventh-grade social studies class at Edison Intermediate School taught by Elizabeth Hogan has been awarded the runner-up prize in the A&E Television Network's "Crossing Challenge" contest. Hogan and her students — including (left to right) Kevin Jean-Louis, Phillip Kim and Cami Hausheer — collaborated in writing a newsletter with "first-hand" accounts of George Washington's surprise attack on the Hessians after crossing the Delaware River. The class won a \$500 grant and an A&E videotape library by performing well in the contest's "Best Newspaper" category.

## ACS Relay for Life coming to Union County

**ELIZABETH** — The American Cancer Society's annual Relay For Life, an 18-hour, non-competitive team event in which team members walk or run relay-style around a local track to help support ACS cancer research, education, advocacy and patient service programs, is coming to Union County this summer.

Participants, volunteers and local businesses who want to form teams and help organize their local relay are invited to attend the ACS Relay for Life kickoff party in their community to learn more about the event, hear from medical professionals and meet cancer survivors who benefit from ACS programs.

The Union County Kick-off will be held at Casual Times Restaurant, 1085 Central Ave. in Clark, on March 15 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. For more information or to RSVP to the kick-off party,

call the American Cancer Society at (908) 354-7373.

"Our community relays are a lot of fun for families and friends who put teams together and set up camp," said Liz Ackalitis, ACS director of special events.

"They are also a great way for local businesses to sponsor teams and demonstrate their commitment to fight cancer."

The American Cancer Society Relay for Life events are held at local running tracks and feature a variety of activities for a 18-hour period. Participants often camp-out overnight and enjoy picnicking and a variety of activities and entertainment scheduled throughout the event.

Attendees will also be able to obtain useful information about cancer prevention and detection at the ACS Cancer Smart Shop, located at each relay site.

The ACS Relay for Life Union County event will be held June

9-10 at Kean University in Society, call (800) ACS-2345 or Union. For more information visit their World Wide Web site about the American Cancer at [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

## Golden Nuggets SENIORS

### Old Guard of Westfield

The Old Guard is open to retired and semi-retired men. Meetings are 10 a.m. Thursday at the Westfield Y on Clark Street.

Regular group activities include golf, bowling, bridge, day trips, luncheons, women's events and shuffleboard. In addition, the Merry-men chorus performs regularly for charity functions, public gatherings and formal concerts. For more information, call Broadwell at (908) 232-5150.

### JCC Senior Adults

Seniors 60 and older are welcome to take advantage of programs run by the Senior Adult Department of the Jewish Community Center of Central New Jersey.

Classes, trips and special events are available with many of them at the JCC building at 1391 Martine Ave., Scotch Plains. A kosher lunch is provided three days a week. Transportation is available for those who do not drive.

In addition, a new program for newly retired seniors begins in the spring.

For more information, call Nan Statton at (908) 889-8800, Ext. 207.

### 'Over 55' Travel Club

Adults are invited on these trips for the "Over 55" Travel Club from the Senior Citizens Council of Union County:

**Friday, March 17** — St. Patrick's Day show (Irish food and entertainment) at Pocmount (Poconos). Cost is \$54.

**April 20-May 1** — QE2 to Miami, Barbados, Dominica and St. Thomas. Cost begins at \$1,500. Space is limited.

**April 28** — "Millennium Showstoppers" Broadway revue at Lily Langtry's Dinner Theater. Cost is \$57.

**May 2** — The Gaylords at Pocmount. Cost is \$54.

**May 6-12** — Charleston, S.C.; Savannah, Ga.; and Myrtle Beach, S.C. Cost is \$595 per person, double occupancy.

**May 17** — Polkafest at Mount Haven. Cost is \$50.

**May 23-24** — Longwood Gardens, American Music Theatre and tour of Amish area. Cost is \$160 per person, double occupancy.

**June 14-15** — Italian Fiesta at Tamarack (Catskills). Cost is \$130 per person, double occupancy.

**June 23-26** — Finger Lakes region (upstate New York) and Scotts Lake House. Cost is \$385 per person, double occupancy.

**July 16** — "The King and I" at Three Little Bakers. Cost is \$60.

**July 22** — Port Chester on the Hudson, including estate tours. Lunch is on your own at area restaurants. Cost is \$40.

**July 30** — Woodloch Pines with smorgasbord. Cost is \$56.

**Sept. 17-21** — Wildwood Crest. Cost is \$325 per person, double occupancy.

**Oct. 3** — Kay Starr at Fernwood. Cost is \$58.

**Oct. 12-16** — Yankee Doodle Lodge (Vermont). Cost is \$430 per person, double occupancy.

All trips leave from the Boys and Girls Club in Union. Groups are especially welcome; special pickups can be arranged. Payment in full is required for one-day trips.

For more information or a brochure, call Richard Stone at (908) 964-7555 day or (908) 687-1559 night.

## Briefs

### Museum explores 'Slaves in Colonial New Jersey'

**WESTFIELD** — As part of Black History Month, the Miller-Cory House Museum, located at 614 Mountain Ave., will cover "African-American Slaves in Colonial New Jersey" 2 p.m.-4 p.m. Sunday.

Jonn Barna of Scotch Plains will discuss how slaves fared in 18th century New Jersey. In addition, Sherry Lange and Cathy Seale will show how poor-quality meat and ingredients were turned into palatable meals over an open-hearth fireplace.

As customary with Sunday programs, costumed docents will guide visitors through the fully furnished farmhouse which dates from 1740. Cookbooks, crafts and educational items are available for purchase in the gift shop.

Admission is \$2 for adults, 50 cents for students and free for children under 6. For more information, call (908) 232-1776.

Normal museum hours of 2-5 p.m. Sunday resume March 5, Sugar Maple Day.

### Westfield church sponsors 'Welcome In' service

**WESTFIELD** — The First Congregational Church on Elmer Street will sponsor a special "Welcome In" service 10 a.m. Sunday.

All churchgoers and newcomers are welcome to meet Dr. Christopher Atwood, the new senior minister. Sunday school and a nursery are available during the service. The sanctuary has a wheelchair lift and an infrared audio system for the hearing-impaired.

For those interested in joining the church, a "Membership Exploration" class will follow the service. First Congregational is affiliated with the United Church of Christ.

Related programs include youth fellowship; weekly Bible study; a women's reading group; and "Faith and Parenting," for families with young children.

For more information, call (908) 233-2494.

### Westfield Y hosts martial arts for kids

**WESTFIELD** — The Westfield Y is offering martial arts for children 5-8.

Classes will run 1 p.m.-1:55 p.m. Saturdays beginning March 4. The class teaches taekwon do patterns and forms while covering elements of various martial arts: jujitsu, self-defense, boxing, strength and flexibility training.

For registration and fees, call (908) 233-2700 or visit the Y, located at 220 Clark St in Westfield.

# GOP heavy-hitters back Kean Jr. campaign

SCOTCH PLAINS — New Jersey Senate President Donald DiFrancesco has endorsed Tom Kean Jr. as a Republican Party nominee for the 7th Congressional District seat.

Kean was, for more than two years, on the Washington, D.C. staff of Rep. Bob Franks, who is giving up the 7th District seat to run for U.S. Senate. The House candidate's father, Thomas Kean, was governor of New Jersey from 1982-90 and is now president of

Drew University.

Joining DiFrancesco in the endorsement were Assemblymen Richard H. Bagger and Alan Augustine, who like the Senate president are Republicans from the 22nd District in the state Legislature.

The 7th District in Washington and the 22nd District in Trenton include Westfield, Scotch Plains and Fanwood.

"Tom Kean Jr. reflects the views and values of the 7th District,"

DiFrancesco said in a press release issued by Kean's campaign office, located in Scotch Plains.

The candidate "wants to cut marginal tax rates and abolish the 'marriage penalty' tax," DiFrancesco said. "He's pledged to be a leader in the fight to save Social Security and reform Medicare to protect senior citizens."

Kean Jr. formally announced his campaign for Congress in early February. He already has support

from municipal Republican officials and local Republican committee members.

"Of all the people who seek this seat, Tom Kean Jr. is the one who combines all the ingredients necessary to win and do the best possible job," Bagger said.

Kean "has a superior intellect coupled with proven integrity and a strong desire to represent the people of New Jersey in a way that is inclusive of all of our goals," Augustine said.

# Westfield SID makes its pitch

(Continued from page A-1) made throughout the SID.

"I think we've all seen tremendous changes downtown," Specter said. "I think Westfield is really moving and shaking, and I think it's all in the right direction."

The budget proposed by the DWC calls for \$98,000 to be spent on advertising promotions such as the newsprint and radio ads the town has used to attract shoppers from around the region. These adds would account for \$45,000 of the SID's promotional budget, while the same amount would be used to sponsor events around town, such as downtown car shows and other special events. The remainder of the money would be used for the annual holiday promotions throughout the SID.

The DWC will shy away from

some of the advertising campaigns it has embarked on in the past, such as messages on PATH trains in and out of New York City. LaPlace said these campaigns were relatively successful, although the DWC will stick to area residents as its primary focus. "We thought instead of doing that, we're going to stick to our bread and butter promotions," he said.

Another \$3,500 would be used to finish the Downtown Westfield Improvement Plan, which will be the town's guideline for streetscape, land use, parking and transportation improvements. Over \$130,000 would account for the DWC's operating expenses, such as rent for its offices at Bank Square and salaries for employees.

The remainder of the money would be used to continue the DWC's economic development plan,

which covers everything from downtown directories and maps to money used as an incentive for business owners to restore older buildings.

The DWC also made recommendations to the town about consolidating Westfield's Land Use, Design and Code Enforcement duties under a full-time town planning director and staff. The DWC also recommended the town set aside over \$6.3 million to be used for the completion of the new parking garage.

Also during Tuesday's meeting, the Recreation Department also presented its budget requests, including a scaled-down, \$2.6 million dollar proposal to renovate Memorial Park and Pool. All told, the department's budget requests actually came in slightly lower than the department's total 1999 budget.

The most significant aspect of the

budget requests presented by Recreation Director Glenn Burrell was a recommendation to put field maintenance in the hands of the department, instead of the Department of Public Works. The plan would see the Recreation Department hire full-time personnel to maintain fields and would cost the town an estimated \$250,000, although much of the expense would be shifted from the Public Works budget to the Recreation Department budget, according to Burrell.

"The issue of fields and maintenance has been a topic of discussion for years," said Burrell, calling the quarter-million dollar plan a "Cadillac proposal" that could be scaled down or modified to reduce the town's costs. "Some expenses would simply be relocated," he said.

# Field of nightmares

(Continued from page A-1)

attracting mosquitoes and necessitating extermination efforts to protect children playing in the area. "We would be against exterminating the mosquitoes because of the role they play in the ecological balance of the area," one environmentalist noted.

The large grassy area would also create a habitat for geese — with the associated problem of droppings, the environmentalists noted.

Other issues raised by the environmental groups included traffic congestion, litter and noise.

Mayor Martin Marks responded to the concerns by expressing gratitude for the "open discussion" and promising a full investigation of the area before any work on the sport complex begins.

"We will be introducing an ordinance ... for Killam Associates to do some work leading up to the construction," Marks said. "They will investigate these and other concerns, and if they find a fatal flaw in the environmental investigation, they will advise the town not to proceed."

"The town does not want to negatively impact the environment, and also doesn't want to spend money unnecessarily," the mayor added.

Marks also promised to work with the groups, take their input and share findings as they become available.

The Township Council subsequently adopted the Killam ordinance, providing \$225,000 for Killam to perform its investigation.

# Westfield schools budget

(Continued from page A-1)

increase as well as decide the fate of the overall budget itself.

Foley said many of the improvements — such as the purchase of new computers and other upgrades to current computer laboratories — are needed.

Board of Education Business Administrator Robert Berman said town schools would most likely qualify for the exception on a number of grounds, although the enrollment increase would probably meet with the least resistance from the state. Enrollment rolls include all students attending classes in the district as well as those who live within the district but attend classes outside of it, and special education students who attend out-of-district schools. Resident enrollment, Berman noted, is more than simply the number of students attending district classes. "It's more than that," he said.

School officials said a large portion of the budget increase will be used to fund capital projects such as replacing doors at many schools, making improvements to the hallways of Westfield High School and renovating the Washington School library. Berman said the district's original proposal for capital improvements was closer to \$1.3 million, although the figure has been reduced to \$550,000.

More elementary school teachers will also be hired next year, according to Berman, who placed the number of new teachers needed at five. The district will have 15 new classrooms next year after renovations and additions are made to district schools, but Berman said some of the portable trailers being used as classrooms at schools such as Franklin School will be removed. Berman said the increase in the number of teachers is "typical of what is needed in a growing district."

## Briefs

### Jersey authors appearing at Town Book Store

WESTFIELD — Two New Jersey-based authors will make personal appearances Saturday at the Town Book Store, located at 255 E. Broad St.

Frederick Schofield will be present 11 a.m.-1 p.m. to promote his new murder mystery "The Boardwalkers." This story, set in Atlantic City, involves a trial lawyer charged with the gruesome slaying of his wife. Without an alibi, an innocent man faces the death penalty while an organized crime boss who shares the same fleeting breaths has a similar fate.

A former trial lawyer himself, Schofield will sign copies of "The Boardwalkers" and his other books.

Bruce Schneider will appear 2 p.m.-4 p.m. to talk about "Relax, You're Already Perfect: 10 Spiritual Lessons ... to Remember." He is the founder of the Perfect Creation Foundation and director of the Holistic Center for Psychological and Personal Growth of Central New Jersey.

Signed copies can be reserved by phone for those who cannot be present. Call (908) 233-3535 for more information.

### American Field Service seeks host families

The American Field Service is the oldest international student exchange organization in the world. It sends students from 55 countries to the United States to study abroad and enables American high school students to study abroad for the summer, semester or year.

Heike Kaspar of Germany is currently spending the year in Westfield.

Last year's exchange students in the area were Andrea Maltese from Paraguay, at Westfield High School, and Nana Asseigirsdottir from Iceland, at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

Anyone interested in being an AFS host family for the coming year should call (908) 753-6866 or (908) 322-7154. For further information, call (800) 876-2377.

### Library seeks volunteers to 'adopt a shelf'

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains Public Library is reorganizing its volunteer program as part of the library's 200th anniversary year.

Volunteers are needed to survey the shelves and rearrange books that are out of order. Orientation for new volunteers will be 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the library, located at 1927 Bartle Ave.

The library has begun an "Adopt a Shelf" program for individuals and small groups (families, co-workers). They accept responsibility for keeping materials in order in a particular area on a weekly or biweekly basis.

In addition, volunteers assist with children's programs and other library projects.

For more information, call (908) 322-5007 or visit the reference desk.

## Westfield Y offering course on 'The Art of Decorative Finishes'

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Y will offer an "Introduction to the Art of Decorative Finishes" 10 a.m.-3 p.m. March 25.

This workshop is for people who enjoy doing home improvement on their own and those who have always wanted to try. This way he can understand how to approach a project from start to finish.

Lynne Applebaum will teach basic faux techniques — ragging, marbling and sponging. She will show how to create glazes, mix colors, use brushes and tools to paint a textured finish on furniture or a wall.

In addition, details on preparing a wall or furniture

for painting will be provided.

Applebaum has studied textured painting at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit and the Old Church Cultural Center in Demarest. Her work has included tromp-l'oeil wall treatments and custom furniture painting.

Fee is \$95 for members and \$115 for non-members. Bring a small table or chair to work on if you have one. All other materials will be provided. Lunch is on your own between noon-1 p.m.

Space is limited.

For more information, call (908) 233-2700 or visit the Y, located at 220 Clark St.

## Births

A son, **Andrew Geoffrey Zielinski** (formerly of Basking Ridge) and Gary Andrew Zielinski Jr. (formerly of Bridgewater) of Braintree, Mass., at 6:33 p.m. at South Shore Hospital, Weymouth, Mass., on Jan. 8, 2000. He weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches. His maternal grandparents are Lynn and Geoffrey Meyer of Basking Ridge. His paternal grandparents are Kathleen Zielinski of Indian Orchard, MA and Gary Zielinski of Derby, CT. His maternal great-grandparent is Dorothy Meyer of Westfield.

Marcy and Nick Gold of

Morganville announce the birth of a son, **Matthew Reese**, on Feb. 1. Mrs. Gold is the former Marcy Mestel of Morganville. Matthew joins an older brother, Jordan, 7 years old.

Paternal grandparents are Fran and Dan Gold of Westfield. Maternal grandparents are Rita and Zelig Mestel of Lake Worth, Fla., formerly of Morganville. Paternal great-grandmother is Ruth S. Feuerstein of Somerset.

The baby is named in memory for his paternal great-grandfathers, Murray Feuerstein, Maurice Gold and his maternal grandfather Ralph Mestel.

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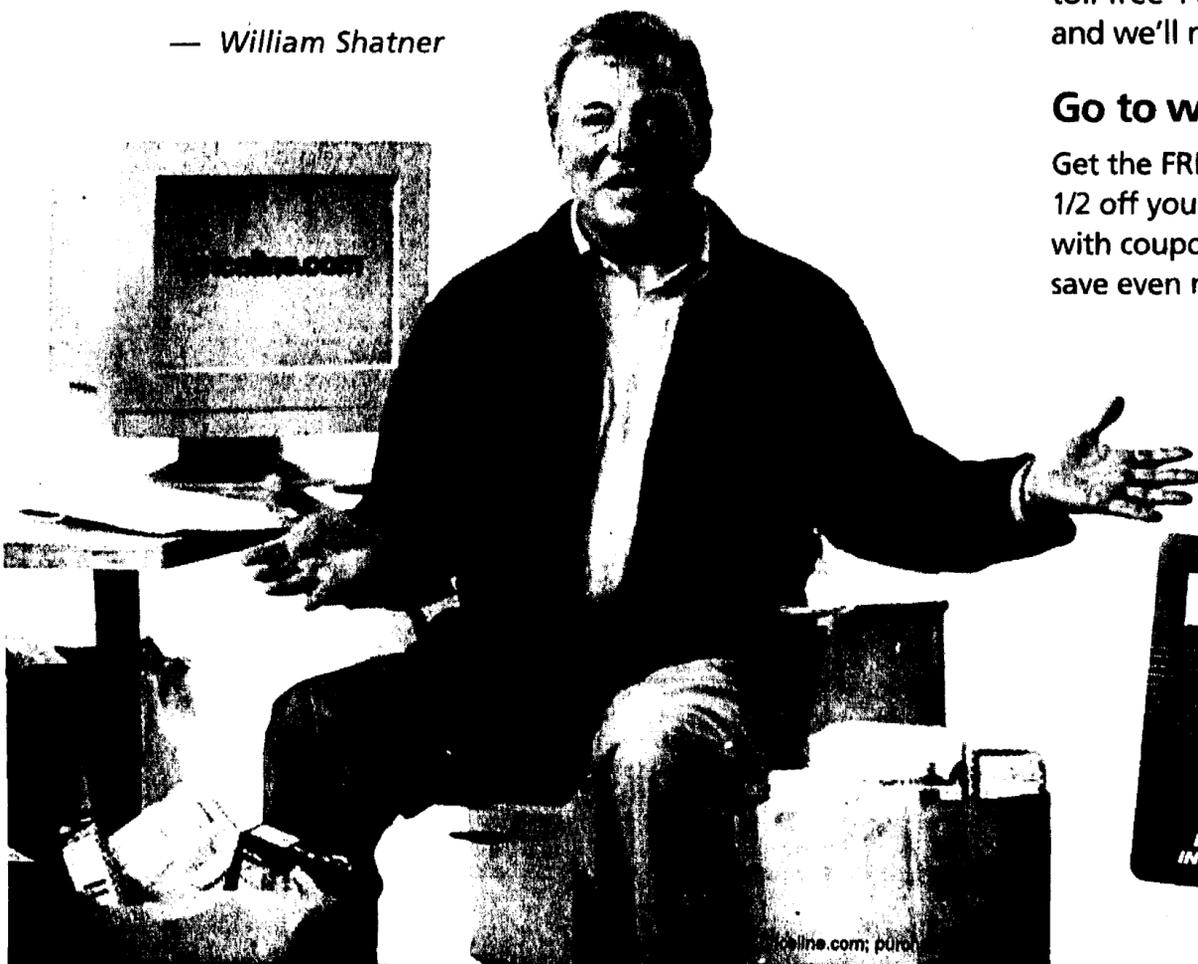
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## BEST BETS

### Calling all brides and grooms!

In this issue, PrimeTime presents its all-in-one bridal planner.

The special section includes tips, tricks and tried-and-true methods for making your most special day special for everyone involved. From picking a dress to selecting a menu, everything you need to know about planning a wedding is inside!

The special six-page bridal section begins on Page B-2.

### Photo essay visits Vietnam

ELIZABETH — Jay Gehring Smith, supervisor of the Cranford High School arts department, has put together a photographic essay on "Vietnam: A People and a War."

The exhibit may be seen in the Freeholders Gallery at the Union County Administration Building in downtown Elizabeth through March 17.

Smith took the pictures "in country" during 1968-69 when he was a senior combat photojournalist assigned to the 1st Infantry Division in Saigon and North Saigon. The South Vietnamese capital was renamed Ho Chi Minh City after the war ended.

"People were in awe of what he had captured," said Joyce Vernon, a gallery owner who first displayed Smith's Vietnam photos.

"That very human side of Vietnam was not what we had been seeing on the news."

In addition to his CHS work, Smith has taught art to Cranford children over the past 22 years and received a Union County Heart Grant in 1998 for an exhibit on "The Bridges of New Jersey."

The Freeholders Gallery is on the sixth floor of the County Administration Building. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, call (908) 558-2550.

### Jewish humorist heads to Bridgewater

BRIDGEWATER — Jewish Humorist Terry McGrath will be performing at The Shimon and Sara Birnbaum Jewish Community Center in Bridgewater at 1 p.m. Tuesday

McGrath is nationally recognized as one of the nation's leading experts on Jewish humor.

The cost for the afternoon, which includes the entertainment followed by coffee and cake, is \$4 for JCC members and \$6 for non-members. For additional information, call Jan Smith at (908) 725-6994, Ext. 206.

## Inside

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### Heeeeeeeere's Johnny

Chances are audiences will be thrilled when the legendary Johnny Mathis comes to New Brunswick March 25. Mathis will be performing at the State Theatre's 12th Annual Benefit Gala and some tickets are still available. For more information, call (732) 246-7469.

## George Washington visited here

### Cran-Phillips House schedules visit, chat with Gen. Washington

Cranford — The father of our country is paying a special visit to Cranford this weekend.

In honor of President's Day, the Crane-Phillips House Museum, located at 124 N. Union Ave. in Cranford, will present "A Visit with George Washington" from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Carl Halgren of Cranford will portray Washington on a fictitious visit to Crane's Mills in the winter of 1780 to inspect the front-line defense of the Continental Army. Crane's Mills was part of the West Fields of

Elizabethtown and evolved into Cranford.

More than 350 Continental Army troops were stationed at Crane's Mills from December 1779 to May 1780.

Brigadier Gen. William S. Irvine established his headquarters in December 1779 when Washington's army was camped for the winter in Morristown. Irvine wrote to Washington from Crane's Mills on Jan. 1, 1780, urging the commander-in-chief to establish a post at Crane's Mills.

Washington sent Lt. Col. Alexander Hamilton, then a 22-year-old aide, to meet Lord Stirling (Maj. Gen. William Alexander), who also was at Crane's Mills with his troops.

Halgren has more than 20

years conducting historic reenactments. His "Washington" will speak about the American Revolution and the events of the day.

The presenter will also answer questions about himself, the Continental Army and its battle to form the United States of America.

In addition, pictures with "Washington" will be available for \$1 each.

The Crane-Phillips House is operated by the Cranford Historical Society and is open 2 p.m.-4 p.m. Sundays from September through June.

The Victoria Shop, the museum's gift shop, is open 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Thursdays plus 2 p.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

## Lay of the land

### Kolar art exhibit features award-winning N.J. landscapes

WATCHUNG — The lower gallery of the Watchung Arts Center will feature representational paintings by Linda Kolar of Westfield throughout March.

Her exhibit will include oil paintings of local landscapes, costumed New Jersey models and a sampling of figure drawings in crayon. A reception with the artist will be 1 p.m.-4 p.m. March 12.

New Jersey people and places have been subjects for Kolar since she stopped going into New York City for art class in the early 1990s.

Her fine art training took place after her family moved east from around Chicago. Kolar's first life drawing class at Mount Holyoke College

awakened what felt like a necessity for artistic activity. She had two periods of studio classes separated by 14 years of studying and working in sciences.

A combination of accuracy in drawing along with strong color is her pursued ideal, which makes recognizable what Kolar paints. Most of her work is done from live models or landscapes on location.

Her portrait studies and landscapes have won awards in several New Jersey shows, including two awards in the 1998 show of the Bedminster-based Somerset Art Association and two awards in the 1995 Mountain Art show in Bernardsville.

In addition to her art, Kolar keeps house for her mother and works with colleagues at the Watchung Arts Center and the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit. The artist also participates at Riker Hill Art Park in Livingston and the Nutley Museum.

Gallery hours are 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

For more information, call (908) 753-0190.

The Watchung Arts Center is on Stirling Road at the Watchung Circle. From the Westfield area, take Route 22 West to the Plainfield overpass and go north on Somerset Street to the circle.

## Das boots

### NJ Boat show steaming into Convention Center

EDISON — Some of New Jersey's best fishermen, charter captains and fishing writers will share time-tested techniques with those who come to the New Jersey Boat Show.

The 13th annual edition is the largest to date and will run Feb. today through Sunday at the New Jersey Convention Center in Raritan Center, Edison.

In addition to a wide variety of the latest models in fishing and pleasure boats, the show will feature 11 fishing seminars sponsored by *The Fisherman* magazine.

All seminars are geared to what works best in coastal waters, rivers and bays of the Garden State.

"We

try to get the best of New Jersey's local charter captains and guides for in-depth seminars on techniques that have been proven to be the best ways of catching fish in New Jersey waters," said Pete Barrett, associate publisher of *The Fisherman*.

Many of the seminars, he said, are on weakfish and striped bass because those two species "are the comeback kings of the sport fishing world" and have been abundant in area waters.

"The average Joe can go out and score a good catch of fish to bring home," Barrett said.

Nearly 300 boats from 35 dealers and 70 related exhibitors will be featured, according to show director Kevin McLaughlin. These include aluminum bass boats, offshore short-fishing boats and 35-foot cruisers.

"The Fisherman scheduled the seminars so fishermen can attend more than one and spend time between them checking out the boats and fishing accessories," McLaughlin said.

Show hours are 1 p.m.-10 p.m. today and Friday; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday; and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. The seminar schedule:

"Fishing for Weakfish," 2 p.m. today. Barrett offers tips and tricks for catching weakfish from the Manasquan River to Barnegat Inlet and along in-shore coastal waters.

"Trolling for Strippers," 7 p.m. today. Gene Negro, captain of Phantom, demonstrates how to catch more striped bass on plugs, rigs, spoons and tubes off Sandy Hook and the North

Jersey coast.

"Chunking Striped Bass," 2 p.m. Friday. Jerry Beaver, captain of Teacher's Pet, teaches the use of this deadly Sandy Hook baitfishing technique to score more and bigger stripers.

"Catching Trophy Fluke," 7 p.m. Friday. Tired of catching fish you have to throw back? Don Kamienski, writer and fluke expert, demonstrates how a local pro catches trophy fish with proven techniques.

"Sandy Hook Weakfish," 11:30 a.m. Saturday. Bob Kamienski of the Hi Mar Striper Club shares the secrets used by local captains to catch tide-runner weakfish in Raritan Bay and Sandy Hook Bay.

"Light Tackle Strippers," 1 p.m. Saturday. Phil Sciortino of the G. Loomis Pro team discusses worm-

ing and eeling with light tackle to catch striped bass. He also covers the importance of tides, times and places in Sandy Hook waters.

"Small-Boat Sharking," 3 p.m. Saturday. Jersey Coast Shark Anglers present Jeff Merrill, writer and IFGA representative, and Bruce Hrobak of Wave Dancer. They will discuss tackle, rigs and bait for catching mako sharks, blue sharks and thershers in the deep blue sea. Merrill and Hrobak also will display tackle, jaws and equipment.

"Sandy Hook Bass and Blues," 7 p.m. Saturday. Merrill discusses chunking, eeling and trolling for Jersey bluefish and striped bass off Sandy Hook from spring through fall.

"Live Bait Striped Bass," 11:30 a.m. Sunday. AL Lorenzetti of the Penn/Mercury Pro Team provides expertise on fishing live bunker, herring and eels, as well as catching and keeping bait for trophy catches.

"Inshore Flyrodding," 1 p.m. Sunday. The Shore Catch Guide Service demonstrates fly rod and light tackle action, plus live-action video of albacore and bluefish.

"Jigging Bass, Blues and Weaks," 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Barrett shows how to have great fun jigging bucktails, diamond jigs and metal for New Jersey's favorite game fish.

A drawing for a free spinning reel will be held at each seminar.

Admission is \$7 for adults and free to children under 12 accompanied by an adult. Senior citizens receive an admission discount today and Friday.

For more information, visit [www.macevents.com](http://www.macevents.com) or call (800) 332-EXPO.

## Lords of the rings

### Plainfield church hosts festival of bell-ringers

PLAINFIELD — The Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church will hold its annual Handbell Choir Festival 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

Scheduled to participate are the Ost Memorial Ringers, from the Wilson Memorial Union Church in Watchung; the Wesley Ringers, from Wesley United Methodist Church in South Plainfield; the Bell Aires, from the United Presbyterian Church in Plainfield; the Jubilation Ringers, from Christ Church in Summit; and the Memorial Handbell Choir, from the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church.

Each handbell choir will perform its own selection prepared especially for this concert. These works include "Joyous Celebration" by Sharon Elliot Cheek; "Bethlehem Journey," arranged by Linda R. Lamb; and "Vocalise" by Wilbur Chenoweth with Dorothy Magliocca, soprano.

Also on the program are the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," arranged by Cynthia Dobrinski;

"He's Got the Whole World in His Hands," arranged by Anna Laura Page; the "Air from the Third Orchestral Suite" of Johann Sebastian Bach, arranged by Hal Hopson; "Celebrazmos!" by Raymond Lowther; "The Gift of Love" by Hopson with Alan GaNun, tenor; and "Dialogue" by Albert Zabel Jr.

This year the festival will include a demonstration of "change ringing"; the history of bells and handbells; and techniques for ringing handbells.

Conductor is Deborah Holden-Holloway, associate minister of music at the West Side Presbyterian Church in Ridgewood and a member of the adjunct faculty at William Paterson University.

A free-will offering will be accepted.

Free parking is available near the Crescent Avenue church, off Watchung Avenue just south of East Seventh Street.

For more information, call (908) 756-2468.

Funding for this concert is provided in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State through a grant administered by the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

# Spring Bridal

## Jewelry always makes a nice gift for members of the bridal party

With the cost of weddings rising every year, more couples are paying for some or all of their wedding expenses. However,

when trying to budget, one cost that can't be overlooked is gifts for the wedding party: those people who diligently work to make

the wedding day a perfect affair.

The tradition of buying gifts for wedding attendants dates back to ancient times when

Egyptian noble women presented precious metals and gems to their ladies-in-waiting. Today, fine jewelry still is a popular

gift. Available in a range of prices and styles, it's easy to find gifts to fit both the budget and the personalities of the attendants.

The Jewelry Information Center, a non-profit trade association in New York, suggests the following gift ideas for the wedding party.

**\* The bride's attendants.** Sterling silver bangle or charm bracelets, colored gemstone drop earrings, or 14-karat gold hoop or "X" earrings make wonderful gifts. Also, spaced cultured pearl necklaces on invisible microfilament called "Floaters" are perfect for a classic jewelry gift. The cultured pearl necklaces come in a variety of fashionable colors, like pink, peach, gray and plum, and cost as little as \$85 each.

**\* Ushers.** Multifunction sport watches, sterling silver cuff links, money clips, elegant fountain or ball point pens, cigar accessories or lighters all are gifts any man would like to own.

They are available at prices starting at \$50.

**\* The maid of honor and best man.** These special people usually receive a gift that is a little "extra" for all their hard work in helping to make the big day a success. Consider classic cultured pearl stud earrings, a sterling silver and 14-karat gold bangle bracelet, or for a very special maid of honor, a diamond solitaire necklace. The best man will enjoy a classic dress watch or 14-karat gold cuff link set.

"Fine jewelry is the perfect gift for the bride and groom to show their appreciation," said Lynn Ramsey, president of the Jewelry Information Center. "Unlike any other gift, its sentiment and quality will last for years to come."

Many fine jewelry designers and retailers have special bridal collections in their fine jewelry lines. Ask a local jeweler for gift suggestions.

## With all the big plans to make, small details can be forgotten

It only takes a few hours to get married, but couples often spend more than a year planning the big day.

With so many details to remember and events to coordi-

nate, there are bound to be some details that slip through the cracks.

Below are a few things to remember to help make your wedding run smoothly.

First, to fully enjoy your wedding day, you need lots of help. With all the people to greet, dances to dance and pictures to smile for, when will you have time to eat or drink? It's a good idea to task people with keeping you going. Someone could be in charge of making sure you get a plate from the buffet — nothing can spoil a wedding day like an empty stomach. Someone else needs to be ready to fill your glass (and not just with champagne). With all the excitement you may find yourself dehydrated. A friend with a cup of water can save the day.

Second, with all of the checks to write for a wedding, don't forget the ones due on the big day. No couple wants to be writing a check in their wedding gown and tuxedo. Have any checks written ahead of time and left with a trustworthy friend. This keeps the band from pestering you as you escape to the honeymoon suite.

Third, pack ahead of time and pack light. The purpose of a honeymoon is to relax. Pack a few days ahead and you'll have time to remember all the small details: your passports, plane tickets and that new lingerie you just got at your shower.

Fourth, your wedding photographs are treasures to last a lifetime, but be careful of the never-ending photo shoot. Beforehand, give your photographer a list of shots you want. Review it later to remove any shots you don't need. A few extra pictures can mean precious time away from friends and family at the reception.

Finally, couples should think ahead and remember birth control. There is an average of more than 2.3 million marriages every year in the United States, but there are also nearly 3 million unintended pregnancies.

"Couples spend months agonizing over wedding details, but too often forget the most important one — contraception," said Mary Kendell, a nurse practitioner with The George Washington University Medical Center's obstetrics and gynecology department.

Oral contraceptives are the most popular form of birth control; however, many brides are reluctant to take them before their wedding because of the unwarranted fear of weight gain. They may use nothing or rely on less effective methods of birth control, like condoms and spermicides.

"Today's low-dose birth control pills such as Alesse are the perfect solution for the modern bride," Kendell said. "They offer a 99 percent protection rate from pregnancy but with lower doses of estrogen."

Remembering the small details will help the wedding day run smoothly and will get you off on a great start. Of course, the greatest tip of all is to not worry about what goes wrong and focus on what goes right.

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# Spring Bridal

## Beware of 'big' bridal bargains

Today's brides are being bombarded with offers to save money on the purchase of their wedding gowns. Options available to brides needing gowns range from discount dealers to couture salons to the Internet. While most brides would like to save as much money as possible on their dress, it is very important that they weigh all of their options and make their purchase decisions after reviewing all of the facts.

"The sad thing," said Gary Wright, chairman of the National Bridal Service, "is that when all things are considered, the bride rarely saves a dime and may end up spending more."

What a bride may not realize is that her gown must be fitted, steamed and pressed before wearing. These tasks require expertise and should be done by a professional. A reputable bridal store usually does not charge extra for pressing, provides fitting and alteration services for less than independent seamstresses, and provides a high level of personal attention to the selection and fitting process.

With so many options for purchasing a gown — discount dealers, telemarketing services, bridal warehouses, department stores — a bride is likely to become overwhelmed.

To make the process of finding the perfect wedding gown easier, the NBS offers the following advice to brides confronted with bargain offers.

Brides should beware of anyone who:

- Requires full payment prior to ordering the dress. If the dealer goes out of business or if anything is wrong with the dress, it already has been paid in full. According to the NBS, brides should not pay more than a 50 percent deposit on a gown.

- Wants to ship the gown directly to the bride. She then will have to find and pay someone to fit, alter, steam and press the dress. With these additional charges, the bride may end up paying more money than if she had purchased the dress from the first bridal store she visited.

- Wants to sell the bride a gown, but not steam and press it.

- Does not offer to coordinate alteration services.

- Does not have a legitimate store.

- Wants the bride to select the gown elsewhere, but order from them.

## IGI's grading reports can answer ring queries

The nation's top retailers of gems and jewelry are providing independent, unbiased product information to consumers to rebut media reports of false claims and unethical practices by a few jewelers.

To assure buyers of authenticity, many in the jewelry industry are including at point-of-purchase a laboratory grading report issued by the International Gemological Institute, the world's largest independent laboratory for the testing and valuating of gemstones and fine jewelry.

Much like a doctor sending body fluids to a lab for analysis, retailers of fine jewelry are sending their gemstones to IGI for an independent analysis. With the IGI grading report in hand, retailers have something tangible to assure prospective customers regarding product authenticity.

When you first meet a retailer, you have no idea how many years the jeweler has spent building his reputation for honesty and fair dealing. However, IGI's grading report leaves no doubt of the stone's value. It's all there in black and white. In addition, IGI's analysis determines whether the gemstone

examined is natural or synthetic and points out if the stone has been treated according to Federal Trade Commission rules.

For years, customers have relied on the jeweler's word as to the authenticity, quality and value of the gemstone or fine jewelry they were considering purchasing. However, new technological advances allow chemists to actually create synthetic diamonds and colored stones, including emeralds, rubies and sapphires. Aside from synthetic diamonds, colored gemstone synthetics are readily available in the marketplace.

Along with technological advances in synthesizing gemstones came huge strides forward in actually processing the natural rough material by way of enhancements. That is, new techniques have been developed to improve the natural gemstone's overall appearance by drawing from nature's creation the truest and purest color and brilliance possible. The FTC requires sellers of enhanced gemstones to disclose to the buyer the fact that an enhancement has been induced into a particular stone, when the

## The International Gemological Institute can take guesswork out of important choice

One of the most confusing times in a relationship comes when you decide to purchase a ring or jewelry for the special person in your life.

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tomers who have been bombarded with unsubstantiated claims.

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treatment is not stable, and if the gemstone requires special care.

IGI's ability to provide independent, accurate and reliable information regarding gemstones and fine jewelry has become a staple to many retailers throughout the country.

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- Carnation: pure, deep love
- Red Chrysanthemum: I love you

- Clematis: mental beauty
- Daffodil: regard, chivalry
- White Daisy: innocence
- Forget-Me-Not: true love
- Honeysuckle: affection
- Ivy: fidelity and friendship
- Lilac: first emotion of love
- White Lily: purity
- Lily of the Valley: return of happiness

- Nasturtium: patriotism
- Orange Blossom: bridal festivities

- Phlox: unanimity
- Red Rose: love
- White Rose: worthiness
- Rosemary: remembrance
- Stock: lasting beauty
- Sweet Pea: lasting pleasure
- Tuberose: dangerous pleasures

- Tulip: hopeless love
- Violet: modesty, faithfulness

# Spring Bridal

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Robyn Frank, Evan Wolkofsky

## Robyn Frank, Evan Wolkofsky announce August wedding

CRANFORD — Robyn Michelle Frank and Evan Neil Wolkofsky are engaged to be married.

The bride is the daughter of Linda and Edward Grunberg, former Cranford residents now living in Edison. The bridegroom is the son of Susan and Allan Wolkofsky of Parsippany.

Ms. Frank is a second-year physician assistant student at Duke University in Durham, N.C. A registered dietitian, she earned a bachelor's degree in nutrition from the University Park campus of

Pennsylvania State University in 1995. She graduated from Cranford High School in 1991.

Her fiancé is an associate with the law firm of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft in Charlotte, N.C. Mr. Wolkofsky received his law degree from the Wake Forest University law school in 1998. A 1991 graduate of Parsippany Hills High School in Parsippany, he received a bachelor's degree in finance from the University Park campus of Penn State in 1995.

An August wedding is planned.



Sarah Anne Storz, Scott Albert Bier

## Storz, Bier set July wedding

CRANFORD — Announcement has been made of the engagement of Sarah Anne Storz and Scott Albert Bier, both of Medford, Mass.

The future bride is the daughter of Carol Storz of Cranford and Frank Storz of Mount Juliet, Tenn. The future bridegroom is the son of Barry and Davida Bier of Livingston.

Miss Storz is a senior outreach coordinator with Riverside Community Care in Wakefield, Mass. She graduated from Cranford High School in 1991 and received a bachelor's degree in finance from Providence College in 1995.

Her fiancé is an emergency medical technician with Armstrong Ambulance in Arlington, Mass. A 1992 graduate of the Solomon Schechter Day School in West Orange, he received a bachelor's degree in clinical psychology from Tufts University in 1995.

A July wedding is planned.



Susan Beth Mark, Gene T. Ryan

## Mark, Ryan set nuptials

CRANFORD — Susan Beth Mark, the daughter of Rochelle and Nathan Mark of Cranford, is engaged to be married to Gene T. Ryan, the son of Eileen and Jim Ryan of South Amboy.

The future bride is a speech/language specialist in the Developmental Disabilities Center at Douglass College, on the New Brunswick campus of Rutgers University. She also is studying for a master's degree in special education from New Jersey City University and will be certified in May as a special education teacher.

A 1990 graduate of Cranford High School, Miss Mark received a bachelor's degree in communication disorders from the University of Rhode Island in 1994.

Her fiancé is a paramedic associated with Jersey City Medical Center and Trinitas Hospital in Elizabeth. Mr. Ryan received state and national certification in paramedicine in May. He attended Hoffman High School in South Amboy, the New Brunswick campus of Rutgers University and the UMDNJ School of Paramedicine.

A May wedding is planned at the Oakside Mansion in Bloomfield.



Andrea Lynn Tiplitz, Matthew Wolkofsky

## Tiplitz to wed Wolkofsky

CRANFORD — An April 2001 wedding is being planned by Andrea Lynn Tiplitz, a former Cranford resident now living in Hillsborough, and Matthew Wolkofsky of Hillsborough.

The future bride is the daughter of Nadine Tiplitz of Wayside and the late Ira Tiplitz. The future bridegroom is the son of Allan and Susan Wolkofsky of Morris Plains.

Miss Tiplitz is an account executive with Aetna US Healthcare at its Fairfield office. She graduated from Cranford High School in 1991 and received a bachelor's degree from Ithaca College in 1995.

Her fiancé is a consultant with InterCall in Parsippany. Mr. Wolkofsky received a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Maryland at College Park in 1992 and a law degree from the Gonzaga University law school in 1996. He graduated in 1988 from Parsippany Hills High School, Parsippany.

## Szeman, Pfister to wed in May

Rosalie and Janos Szeman of Martinsville announce the engagement of their daughter Nicole A. Szeman to John B. Pfister, son of Jane and Jack Pfister of Westfield.

The future bride is a 1991 graduate of Bridgewater-Raritan East High School and 1994 graduate of Marywood College. She is employed in marketing.

Her fiancé is a 1991 graduate of Westfield High School. He is self-employed at Jack Pfister Autos, Cranford.

The couple plans a May wedding.



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# Spring Bridal



James Macher II, Mary Covington

## Macher, Covington tie the knot

CRANFORD — Announcement has been made of the wedding of James Macher II of Birmingham, Ala., and Mary Covington of Trussville, Ala.

The bridegroom is the son of James and Carolyn Macher, former Cranford residents now living in Murrells Inlet, S.C. The bride is the daughter of Charles Covington of Trussville.

A nuptial Mass was celebrated Nov. 20 at Holy Infant of Prague Roman Catholic Church in Trussville. Angela Covington, a cousin of the bride who has appeared in a touring production of the musical "Evita," sang a number of songs before the ceremony.

Usher was Jeff Macher of Myrtle Beach, S.C., the brother of the bridegroom. Bridesmaid was Erin Macher of Cranford, the sister of the bridegroom. Miss Covington was escorted by her father.

A reception at the Carraway-Davie House in Trussville followed the Mass.

The bridegroom is an engineer with Automatic Switch Co. He graduated from Cranford High

## Goncalves, Manata to wed

CRANFORD — Donna Goncalves of Cranford has announced the engagement of her daughter, Christina Goncalves, to Victor Manata, the son of Audete Manata of Clark.

The future bride is employed with the New Jersey Organ and Tissue Sharing Network in Springfield. She also is studying for a master's degree in public administration from Kean University.

Her fiancé is employed by the Newark Police Department.

A May wedding is planned at the Roman Catholic Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Newark.



Susan Deo and Scott Boeck

## Deo, Boeck plan wedding

SCOTCH PLAINS — The engagement of Susan Deo and Scott Boeck of Tysons Corner, Va., has been announced by her parents, Dominick and Judith Deo of Scotch Plains.

The future bridegroom is the son of Gregory and Lindy Boeck of Fairfax, Va.

Ms. Deo is a multimedia graphic designer with Computer Sciences Corp. in Fairfax. She graduated from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School and George Mason University.

Her fiancé is a sportswriter and reporter with USA Today, based at its main office in Arlington, Va. He graduated from McQuaid Jesuit Prep School in Rochester, N.Y., and also from George Mason University.

A fall wedding is planned.

## Fredericks, Clement clans announce wedding

SCOTCH PLAINS — Susan Anne Fredericks, the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. William E. Fredericks of Scotch Plains, has been married to Charles R. Clement II, the son of Mr. & Mrs. Charles R. Clement of Fanwood.

The wedding took place Aug. 14 at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield. Officiating were Dr. William Ross Forbes, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, and Rev. P. Frederick McCarthy II, pastor of the Evangelistic Centre Church in Rahway.

Miss Fredericks was escorted by her father. Her dress of white Italian satin featured a cathedral-length train and a pattern of overlaying beads on the Empire bodice. The full A-line skirt had a cascade of streamers that were attached to bows at the waist. A waterfall veil fell from a comb with three roses that served as a hairpiece. She carried a teardrop bouquet of

white roses.

Maid of honor was Allison Fredericks of Scotch Plains, a sister of the bride. Matron of honor was Kristen Harvey of Newark, Del. They wore long dresses in seafoam green and carried teardrop bouquets of white and pink roses.

Bridesmaids were Leslie McCarthy of Westfield, a sister of the bridegroom; Suzanne Friedrichs of Cranford and Colleen MacClay of Bensalem, Pa. Their dresses and flowers were similar to those of the maid of honor and matron of honor.

Flower girl was Brittany McCarthy of Westfield, a niece of the bridegroom. She wore a white satin dress and carried a basket of white roses.

Best men were P. Frederick McCarthy of Westfield, the brother-in-law of the bridegroom, and Paul Grenier of Tampa, Fla. Ushers were

Michael Olesin of West Orange, a cousin of the bride; Michael D'Amelio of Germantown, Md., and Edward Darmanin of Manhattan.

Ring bearer was Keivn Yeager of Fanwood.

A reception at the Plainfield Country Club in Edison followed the ceremony. The couple spent its honeymoon in St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands, and lives in Cranford.



Susan Anne Fredericks, Charles R. Clement II

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# Spring Bridal

## Picking the best floral arrangement ain't easy — but it's important

In the past, tradition dictated many decisions in wedding preparations, but today's weddings are often a showcase for the bride's unique style. "If cho-

sen thoughtfully, flowers can weave the bride's floral signature throughout the events of the day, from ceremony to reception," says nationally renowned floral

designer Ren van Rems, of San Diego, Calif.

An elegantly simple hand-tied bouquet featuring just one or two types of flowers is the choice of

many brides, says van Rems. Clusters of lisianthus evoke a natural, garden-like beauty. For a sophisticated statement, consider the dramatic impact of minicallas or unusual Leucospermum pincushion flowers.

Above all other flowers, the rose reigns supreme as the ancient symbol of everlasting love. Many brides are choosing to indulge in the luxury of an all-rose bouquet, says van Rems. In a gorgeous display of voluptuous beauty, bring together roses of different types—regal hybrid teas, dainty spray roses, and the open blooms of garden roses.

The choice of color theme gives

the bride an opportunity to influence the mood of the day. Intense pastels, "sorbet" colors such as cantaloupe and coral, are current favorites for reflecting the joyous ambiance of a summer wedding. Green accent flowers, such as lime green lisianthus inject delightful surprise into bouquets. From September on, a burst of vibrant jewel tones—deep red, burnt orange, purple, and blue—are brought together with roses, stock, and delphinium. The burnt orange rose 'Leonidas,' deep champagne rose 'Sahara,' and hypericum berries, are a perfect combination for an autumn wedding.

Be sure to include some fragrant flowers in your wedding. Research has shown that our sense of smell is closely linked to memory. Tuberose, lilies of the valley, stock, gardenia, and, of course, roses — such as purple 'Delilah' and 'Sonora Sunset' — are known for their scents. Memories of your wedding will forever be entwined with the beautiful fragrance of flowers.

Reception flowers should repeat the floral theme chosen by the bride. Van Rems says there is a trend toward a still life look in table centerpieces, with little cherubs, fresh fruit, or gems tucked in with flowers. Fall weddings can incorporate berry clusters, fall foliage, and branches. "For reception flowers, many brides are choosing to use flowers that are in season and using them in abundance," says van Rems.

One final floral idea is to give special guests a memory to take home: an individual flower or tiny nosegay.

For a free brochure on how to make your fresh flower arrangements, from bouquets to centerpieces, send a SASE to the California Cut Flower Commission, 73 Hangar Way, Watsonville, CA 95076 or visit their World Wide Web site at [www.cffc.org](http://www.cffc.org).

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Planning a honeymoon? For something out of the ordinary, visit Virginia's vast wine country. It's got romance and any number of unusual sights and things to do.

The Oasis Winery in Hume is a good place to start. Nestled near Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, the vineyard is one of the oldest in the state. As its motto — "This Oasis is Not a Mirage" — proclaims, there's a lot going on there.

The vineyard, with its 100 acres of planted vines, is the main attraction and enjoys an international reputation. It's been recognized in WorldWine Championship competition sponsored by *Wine Enthusiast* magazine as well as throughout the United States. Oasis Brut Sparkling Wine was named one of the world's 10 best champagnes and sparkling wines.

The art of wine-making begins in the company's vineyard with hand-nurtured grapes picked at their peak, then slowly fermented in a diverse array of tanks and barrels to enhance and bring out the best the fruit can offer.

The science of its wine-making comes from enologists (wine experts) trained at the University of California at Davis. California is the leading wine producing region in the United States.

The Oasis's wine experts view wine-making as a science and an art. They know, for instance, that grapevines thrive when confronted with stress and why drought conditions can be a blessing to a vineyard.

Why? Because the grapevine works best under stress, producing a higher concentrated fruit and an intense aroma. Unlike a tree, whose roots run parallel with the ground, the roots of a vine run straight down into the soil and grow an average of eight inches a year in root structure. This allows the vine to pull nutrients from the extreme depths of its roots.

The winery welcomes visitors year-round and has a list of activities to keep a wine enthusiast's scent and taste receptors delightfully amused. On your next vacation — or honeymoon — visit and discover one of the world's leading wine producers, whose wines consistently win gold medals in the most prestigious international and national wine competitions.

Besides the vineyards, the area boasts a large number of bed-and-breakfast inns, championship golf courses, antique stores and some of the finest restaurants in the world.

The Oasis Winery can be found on the Internet at [www.oasiswine.com](http://www.oasiswine.com), or call the winery at (800) 304-7856.

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# Spring Bridal



## Proper planning can save the busy bride's life

The busy bride's lifesaver — the calendar. Brides with a timeline can depend on their calendar to let them know where they stand in the preparations at any moment. Be an organized bride-to-be by creating your own calendar of events.

It would be ideal to have a year or more to plan the big day. However, six months can be plenty of time and with only three or four months, it can still go off without a hitch — if you're prepared. Use the following timeline to organize your special day and plan for everything — including wedding bliss:

- As Soon As Possible**
  - \* Choose your date and time. Reserve the wedding site and start planning the reception.
  - \* Set a firm budget.
  - \* Make an appointment to meet with the clergyman or rabbi.
  - \* Choose the members of the wedding party and start the guest list.
  - \* Select the wedding dress and bridesmaid's dresses.
- Four Months Before**
  - \* Finalize plans for the reception, from soup to nuts.
  - \* Order invitations and thank-you notes and complete the guest list.
  - \* Order the wedding cake and make plans for the music, flowers, photography and limousines.
  - \* Decide on decorations.
- Two To Three Months Before**
  - \* Plan the ceremony — including writing of vows.

- \* Rent the tuxedos for the wedding party and groom.
  - \* Begin addressing the invitations.
  - \* Mail the invitations.
  - \* Send thank-yous for shower and engagement gifts.
  - One Month Before**
    - \* Apply for the marriage license.
    - \* Send wedding announcements to local newspaper.
    - \* Schedule final fitting for wedding dress.
    - \* Coordinate the rehearsal dinner.
    - \* Have final meetings with florist, caterer, photographer and musicians or disc jockey.
    - \* Arrange accommodations for out-of-town guests.
  - Two To Three Weeks Before**
    - \* Final tuxedo measurements.
    - \* Confirm guest list and call caterer.
    - \* Pack for the honeymoon.
    - \* Make up the seating plan.
    - \* Arrange for the transportation of gifts from the reception to your home.
  - One Week Before**
    - \* Confirm one last time with florist, caterer, etc.
    - \* Have final fitting of wedding gown.
    - \* Confirm rehearsal plans with the clergy.
    - \* Pack boxes of supplies for the rehearsal, wedding and reception.
- Reprinted with permission from "How to Have a Big Wedding on a Small Budget," third edition, \$12.99, Betterway Books, 1507 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45207; 1-800-289-0963.*

## These days, guest transportation tops many lists

When planning a wedding, more and more brides and grooms are booking motorcoaches along with other essentials like the band, the florist and the photographer.

Many couples include motorcoaches because they allow guests to enjoy the celebration without worrying about unpredictable variables like parking, traffic or inclement weather. Spending time on the coach "breaking the ice" and getting to know new friends and family is priceless. Also, the bride and groom are free to enjoy the reception without fretting over guests getting lost or driving while intoxicated.

With this in mind, here's a checklist to help brides and grooms stay on course.

Six months or more prior to the wedding, interview local motorcoach companies to transport your guests. Three to six months prior, check motorcoach company references and safety records, then sign a contract. Two to three months prior, confirm wedding day itinerary with motorcoach company and consider a special motorcoach tour for guests. Select a video, or perhaps old home movies, to play on the drive.

Three to eight weeks before the wedding, take a tour of the motorcoach and plan to accent it with wedding decorations, food and drinks. One week prior, finalize your motorcoach details: give motorcoach operator directions, get driver's name and assign a friend

or relative as the wedding day contact. The day before the wedding, get a good night's sleep and rest easy — your guests' transportation is all arranged.



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## As the excitement whirls, better not forget the pearls

In the rush and excitement of preparing for a wedding, there are countless details that need the bride's attention.

High on her list of priorities, along with fittings at the seamstress and the choice of linens for the reception, should be the selection of the cultured pearl necklace to accompany her down the aisle and through the rest of her life.

For generations, pearls have been the traditional jewels for brides around the world. No other gem can reflect the bride's radiance as well. Real pearls, natural or cultured, have a warm inner glow that seems to frame a bride's face in beauty and happiness. Throughout history, the pearl has come to represent the love and devotion of a bride on her wedding day.

Just as no two brides are ever alike, cultured pearls are as different as the individuals who wear them. It is, therefore, important to match the right pearl jewelry with the right woman.

The main consideration for choosing the proper strand of pearls should be the style of gown to be worn and the complexion of the wearer. For gowns with scoop or boat necklines, 16- to 20-inch chokers or princess-length necklaces are best suited to delicately accent the neck and shoulder areas. High-collar and V-neck styles call for long strands of pearls

either in 24- to 32-inch matinee or opera lengths.

Women with fair skin and light hair are best flattered by pearls with slightly pink or rose overtones. Creamy white or slightly golden pearls look best on women with dark skin and hair.

Since cultured pearls are products of nature, they are seldom, if ever, perfect. Every pearl grown by an oyster has its own individual identity. However, when choosing a strand of cultured pearls, it is important to keep several quality points in mind.

Probably the most important aspect, as far as quality is concerned, is the luster of the pearl. Luster is the clear shine on the surface of the pearl. It should be clear enough to reflect the images of objects near the pearl.

Another important factor is the surface of the pearl. It should be relatively free of damaging blemishes that appear as cracks, bumps, or pits.

Finally, all the pearls in a strand should be closely matched in terms of color, size and shape. They all should combine together to give an appearance of uniformity within the necklace.

## A new look for time-honored registries

Once upon a time, it was mothers and brides selecting china patterns. Today, a more common sight is brides and grooms conferring on tool sets.

According to a *Bride's* magazine survey, 76 percent of brides are taking their hubby-to-be's to register, versus 46 percent in 1993. The male-influenced registry now includes gas grills and weed-whackers. And unlikely bridal registries have sprung up for this market from Home Depot to Bed, Bath & Beyond.

OXO International, known for its Good Grips line of kitchen tools, is taking advantage of this trend. OXO offers tools based on the concept of Universal Design — products that are easy to use for the widest range of users. OXO's offerings have grown to include tools for every part of the home.

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### Ambitious 'Sweet Charity' comes to Kent Place School

SUMMIT — The Broadway musical "Sweet Charity" is one of the most ambitious productions yet for the Kent Place School.

Performances in the Hyde & Watson Theater, located at 42 Norwood Ave. in Summit, will be 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Meghan Valerio, a senior, is in the lead role as a dance hall hostess. Paris Martin, a senior, and Gina Montrone, a junior, are in the primary supporting roles within the 35-student cast.

"Although our production

style has always been performer-focused, it becomes especially critical with a large cast in it," said Robert Pridham, director of "Sweet Charity" and chairman of the Kent Place drama department.

The orchestra is conducted by Warren Brown, chairman of the music department, with choreography by LeAnn Yannelli, chairwoman of the dance department.

Admission is \$8.

For more information, call (908) 273-0900.

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### Your horoscope guide: Feb. 28 - March 5

**ARIES** (March 21 - April 19): Take time out to pamper yourself this week. This is also a great time to start an exercise program to rid yourself of stress in your mind and body.

**TAURUS** (April 20 - May 20): Don't hold yourself back from expressing your creativity. A club or group setting is the best venue. A friend calls with great news. Help him celebrate!

**GEMINI** (May 21 - June 21): You tend to be a bit bossy as a result of recent achievements or success. Drop the know-it-all attitude, and work in unison with other key players.

**CANCER** (June 22 - July 22): An intellectual discussion leads to some special insights in religion, philosophy or foreign affairs. Clarify your position with a teacher or mentor.

**LEO** (July 23 - Aug. 22): Obtain trustworthy counseling concerning a financial matter. You can make important strides in your career with special training or additional schooling.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22): Meet with a partner, and make plans for a much-touted future endeavor. Joint funds are a big concern. Work out the details on paper.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23): Be alert and thoughtful of your co-workers. Your efforts are appreciated by a boss or superior who will tell you so. Keep up the good work.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21): A children's event is charming and fun and brings back some special memories. Open your heart, and reach out for pleasure and love.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): Resolve any negative emotional issues with family members, and restore peace and harmony on the home front. An elder or parent is watching, but not judging.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): Play a leadership role. Get involved in making neighborhood improvements, and connect with a variety of interesting people in your community.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): This could be a lucky period as far as your finances are concerned. Put your moneymaking ideas to work, and watch your bank account grow.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19 - March 20): A positive spirit and a willingness to work hard are all you need to succeed. Don't miss out on an opportunity to advance your career. Go for it!

**THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS:** Communication is your key word for the coming year. Your mind is very active and packed full with wonderful ideas. Find a way to express your thoughts effectively and creatively. Consider writing, painting or public speaking as a way to reach a large group of people. Be prepared for an unexpected turn of events surrounding romance and your finances. Look to a female family member to help settle a domestic dispute.

**ALSO BORN THIS WEEK:** Mario Andretti, Anne Lee, Sandro Botticelli, Mikhail Gorbachev, Alexander Graham Bell, Irina Ratushinskaya and Pier Paolo Pasolini.

(c) Copley News Service

### Fun Stuff

#### 'Bus' makes stop at Rahway theater

RAHWAY — Carnival Productions continues its 1999-2000 season with "Bus Stop" by William Inge, a comedy. Marilyn Monroe made famous in the movies.

Performances are in the theater within El Bodegon, located at 169 W. Main St. in Rahway. Show times are 8:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and March 3 and 4, 2 p.m. Sunday and 8 p.m. Thursday.

Show tickets only are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors. Dinner-and-show packages are \$27 Friday and Saturday. Luncheon-and-show packages are \$22 for Sunday. Buffet-and-show packages are \$22 for Thursday. Group rates are available.

For more information, e-mail: carnivalpr@aol.com or call: (732) 388-0647.

"Bus Stop" is produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service Inc.

#### Saddling up at Watchung Stable

MOUNTAINSIDE — Spring weather is just around the corner and the Watchung Stable is busy preparing for the beginning of riding lessons.

"Horseback riding in the Watchung Reservation is a real treat and our lesson program at the Watchung Stable is a great way to learn how to ride," said Daniel P. Sullivan, chairman of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

More than 40,000 girls and boys have participated in the program, according to Sullivan.

Classes for beginners, between 9-18 years old start March 17. Students are assigned to a class based on their riding ability as determined by the stable's management. Those with previous experience may be asked to demonstrate their riding ability to be placed in the appropriate group.

Riding apparel and helmets are required at the student's expense. A selection of used riding clothes and helmets will be available for purchase at the stable 9 a.m.-noon March 4.

In addition, riding lessons for adults will begin in mid-March. Advanced Beginners and Advanced riders have classes 12:45 p.m. Sunday. All groups have classes 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tuesday plus 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Registration and prepayment is required in the stable office at 1160 Summit Lane, Mountainside. Office hours are 9 a.m.-noon and 1 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

For more information, call: (908) 789-3665.

#### Plainfield church welcomes 'Springtime'

PLAINFIELD — As of last weekend, snow was still visible on the ground, coated with ice, yet many bare patches could be seen in the land.

Spring is just around the corner and Ars Musica Antiqua is singing "Welcome, Sweet Springtime" in response. The "early music" consort will present a concert with that theme 4 p.m. March 5 at Grace Episcopal Church in Plainfield.

Featured performers are Margaret Southwell and Rosemary Pittis, soprano; Victoria Griswold, harpsichord; and the Castle Court

Musicians. Admission is by donation.

For more information, call (908) 756-1520.

Grace Episcopal Church is located at 600 Cleveland Ave., off East Sixth Street between Park and Watchung avenues.



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#### Nobody beats The Wizard at Hillside Ave. School

CRANFORD — Ease on, ease on, ease on down to the Hillside Avenue School.

"Oz," a "creative version" of "The Wizard of Oz" with a taste of hip-hop flavor added, is coming to the Hillside Avenue School. The show is this year's school musical.

Show times in the school auditorium are 8 p.m. Friday plus 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday.

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for seniors.

#### 'Peter Pan' flies into Orange Ave. School

CRANFORD — The Orange Avenue School is all ready to present the musical "Peter Pan."

The curtain will rise Thursday at 4 p.m.; March 2 and 3 at 8 p.m. and 2 p.m.; and 2 p.m. March 5.

A talented cast of 68 6th through 8th-grade Orange Avenue students are performing in this version of the original 1954 Broadway production, which made a star out of Mary Martin. The Orange Avenue production will include similar "flying" sequences.

Tickets are on sale at the Orange Avenue School office and at Linda's Book Exchange on Alden Street at \$5 apiece.

For more information, please call (908) 709-6257.

Fun Stuff

Purim Carnival coming to Union

UNION — The YM/YWHA of Union County, located at 501 Green Lane, will host the annual Purim Carnival from noon to 4 p.m. March 12.

The Celebration of Purim won't take place until March 21 and this will be the first carnival in the area to get the festive mood going.

As in past years, the carnival will include a petting zoo complete with rabbits, pigs, llamas, sheep chicks and other assorted farm animals. There will also be over 20 game booths, a costume parade, the "famous" goldfish booth and, weather permitting, pony rides for the kids.

The carnival will also include a parakeet raffle and refreshments such as hot dogs, knishes, soda and the tradition three-corner filled cookie known as hamantashan.

A new feature added this year is the Purim Do it Yourself Workshop, allowing children and adults to join in on various crafts, music and cooking activities. A special storyteller will also be on hand to explain the history of Purim.

As always, spin art and the MoonBounce will be available.

The admission fee is \$3 per child; children's admission includes a special bag with five game tickets and entrance to the petting zoo.

There are additional fees for extra tickets, food, workshops and the pony rides.

For more information or directions, call Jani Kovacs-Jonas at (908) 289-8112.

Westfield Community Players will pay 'The Price' in March

WESTFIELD — "The Price" by Arthur Miller is the next production of the Westfield Community Players, located at 1000 North Ave. West.

Show times are 8 p.m. March 11, 17, 18, 24 and 25.

John Becker of Whippany is Victor, a New York City police officer for 25 years who is estranged from his surgeon brother, Walter (played by Bud Moore of Branchburg). The two brothers meet after many years apart to dispose of their late

father's belongings.

Also in the cast are Janet Aspinwall of Metuchen as Victor's wife, Esther, and Stan Kaplan of Westfield as Solomon the antiques dealer.

"The Price" is directed by Gordon Weiner and produced by Vince Parlapiano. Stage manager is Pam Reinosa.

Admission is \$12. Opening night patrons are invited to stay after the curtain for dessert and coffee with the cast in the main lobby.

For reservations, call (908) 232-1221.

In addition, half-season for "The Price" and the spring musical "Brigadoon" are available at \$20.

Funding for the Westfield Community Players is in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State through a grant administered by the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

Famous 'Fiddler' coming to Cranford

CRANFORD — The Cranford Repertory Theatre Company has announced its upcoming production of "Fiddler on the Roof."

Performances will be held April 1, 2, 8 and 9 at Cranford High School, Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim is sponsoring the production, which will include an outreach to benefit the Interfaith Coalition for the homeless of Union County.

"Fiddler on the Roof," based on the short story "Tevye and His Daughters" by Shalom Aleichem, deals with the serious issues of persecution, poverty and the struggle to hold on to one's beliefs in the midst of a hostile and chaotic environment. First criticized for its limited appeal, "Fiddler" went on to become the eighth-

longest running Broadway musical of all time.

This version of "Fiddler" is directed by Tom Pedas, who is well known and respected as the director of The Celebration Singers and of numerous community theater productions. Pedas has assembled an experienced cast of almost 50 performers, including Nicole Caprio of Cranford (Tzeitel), Eddie Egan of Cranford (Perchik), Kerin Eyler of Edison (Chava), Molly Frieri of Cranford (Hodel), Daniel Kazemi of Springfield (Motel), Hal Landis of Elizabeth (Lazar Wolf), Jordan Levy of Springfield (Fyedka), Chales Rossler of Westfield (Tevye), Mary Webb of Cranford (Yenta) and Jeanne Woerner of Piscataway (Golde).

The Cranford Repertory Theatre is a non-sectarian community theater company serving central New Jersey. Members of the group come from all walks of life and age groups and have a variety of theater experience, ranging from the novice to some with professional credits. The Cranford Repertory Theatre was founded not only to provide training in the performing arts and high-quality community theater productions, but also to provide community service. Over the years, many local organizations have received the proceeds from the community outreach program that accompanies each performance.

For more information or to order tickets, call (908) 276-9231 or (908) 276-5053.

TRIPLE-HEADER crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

Prom fashions take the stage

CRANFORD — Cranford High School's first class of the new millennium will sparkle like stars when they take the stage for the school's annual prom fashion show.

The fashion show is scheduled to be held 8 p.m. March 17 in the high school's main auditorium.

Girls can catch up on an exciting lineup of gown's in all of this year's cool colors, presented exclusively by BZ Fashions of Linden. From classic evening wear to today's trendy designs, BZ Fashions will showcase a galaxy of styles to suit any taste.

For the guys, Dante Tuxedos, also of Linden, will be on-hand to provide a handsome display of formal wear in all the latest fashion styles. Whether choosing a traditional black-and-white tuxedo or opting for a flashier pastel shade, Dante Tuxedos has the look and selection to suit this year's grad.

This year's Cranford High School seniors have put together one of the most exciting events of the year. Catch all of the latest fashions, enjoy lively entertainment and help support the prom itself.

Tickets cost \$5 apiece and can be purchased at Cranford High School or from members of the senior class.

Miss New Jersey appears at Feast

SUMMIT — Victoria Andrews Paige, Miss New Jersey 1999-2000, will appear and perform for the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts at the gala "A Moveable Feast," scheduled for 4 p.m.-9 p.m. March 26.

The event will be held at the Grand Summit Hotel.

Paige will be available for photos and autographs and will share her experiences as a Miss America contestant.

The multi-talented Paige, an economics student at Princeton University, was recently honored as a top-10 finalist in the Miss America Pageant and will perform an operatic or Broadway show number. Classically trained, she had the lead role in Princeton University's performance of "A Chorus Line" and presented "Non So Pui Cosa Sat," from the "Marriage of Figaro," in the Miss America talent competition.

As Miss New Jersey, Paige represents the Miss America organization as a compassionate child advocate, donating a portion of her scholarship awards to this special cause and speaking with children across the state about their rights.

Tickets for "A Moveable Feast" and 50-50 cash raffle tickets are available by visiting the New Jersey Workshop for the Arts office or calling (908) 789-9696.

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Recent releases

'Angela's Ashes' - Almost the entire film shows the miserable childhood of author Frank McCourt. We see Frank responding, slowly transforming as three siblings die, others are born. His wastrel father drinks up the tiny welfare money in the Depression Ireland to which, crazily, he has returned the family from New York. The family lives in a horrible, muddy tenement in Limerick. Like a muckraker who has given up hope, director Alan Parker emphasizes the cold and rain, the grisly food, the bedbugs and chamber pots, the crude bigotry of priests and teachers, a hatched-faced aunt and scowling money-lender, even Frank's ordeal from conjunctivitis. Probably every film critic is meant to be set straight by McCourt's own "review": "Angela's Ashes" is the perfect realization of my book on film. It is everything I could have hoped for and imagined. I sing its praises." Forgive some of us if we sit out the song, preferring to notice that the film is a literal translation of the book into an ordeal of pathos larded with folksy humor and patronizing empathy. Cast: Emily Watson, Robert Carlyle, Michael Legge, Ciaran Owens, Joe Breen. Running time: 2 hours, 14 minutes. Rated R. 2 stars.

'Cradle Will Rock' - Writer/director Tim Robbins pounces onto one of the legendary patches of American theater, the New Deal's brief, vital and then Red-baited Federal Theater Project (FTP) of the mid-'30s. This grand effort in populist theatrics ran afoul of the deadly Dies Committee and anti-FDR forces, but its legend casts a bright shadow. Robbins salutes the FTP's most famous episode - the shuttered but then instantly reborn

Films in Focus

debut of Marc Blitzstein's pro-union play, 'The Cradle Will Rock,' a bravura blast of rhetoric with music. Blitzstein, with director Orson Welles and Wellesian partner John Houseman, led most of the cast and a burgeoning, enthused crowd on a parade 21 blocks north to another theater - theirs had been locked by a federal order. 'Cradle Will Rock' seeks to say a lot, and it should, given the big themes. It has drive and some wit, but its plunging gutsiness often seems amateurish and facile. It's a kind of "put-on-a-show" lark for nostalgia fanatics, and for the morally comfy. Cast: Hank Azaria, Cherry Jones, Emily Watson, Vanessa Redgrave, John Cusack, Angus Macfadyen, Cary Elwes, Bill Murray, Philip Baker Hall, John Turturro. Running time: 2 hours, 12 minutes. Rated R. 2 stars.

'Play it to the Bone' - Fighter Cesar Dominguez (Antonio Banderas), hangs out in an L.A. gym with his born-again pal Vince Boudreau (Woody Harrelson), another over-the-hill fighter. Then comes a phone call from Las Vegas: The two boxers on the undercard of Mike Tyson's title fight, to take place this very evening, have become extremely unavailable (one dead, one doped up), and the slimy promoters (Robert Wagner, Tom Sizemore) need two subs pronto. Fifty grand apiece. They have to be there tonight, so of course, they drive - a chance to take a trip in a hot car with Grace (Lolita Davidovich), Cesar's current squeeze and Vince's ex, and to turn this thing into a mini road/buddy flick. Then it's back to the hand we got dealt,

which devolves, into an appalling, brutally brutal slugfest. Cast: Antonio Banderas, Woody Harrelson, Lolita Davidovich, Tom Sizemore, Orson Welles and Wellesian partner John Houseman, led most of the cast and a burgeoning, enthused crowd on a parade 21 blocks north to another theater - theirs had been locked by a federal order. 'Cradle Will Rock' seeks to say a lot, and it should, given the big themes. It has drive and some wit, but its plunging gutsiness often seems amateurish and facile. It's a kind of "put-on-a-show" lark for nostalgia fanatics, and for the morally comfy. Cast: Hank Azaria, Cherry Jones, Emily Watson, Vanessa Redgrave, John Cusack, Angus Macfadyen, Cary Elwes, Bill Murray, Philip Baker Hall, John Turturro. Running time: 2 hours, 12 minutes. Rated R. 1 1/2 stars.

'Girl, Interrupted' - Winona Ryder plays Susanna Kaysen, who in 1967 is sent by her parents to the upscale Claymoore Hospital, after her attempted aspirin-overdose suicide and spells of hallucination. Based on Kaysen's published memoir, the film is subtle but also brazen. It uses the octane of those "crazy" times, and suggests that Susanna was a damaged flower child, a '60s seeker who could only find the courage to face the streets outside after first finding herself inside the mental ward. Lisa (Angelina Jolie) lures Susanna into wild basement excursions, even outside for a stoned party, then a shocking night of truth. 'Girl, Interrupted' has the shamelessness of its unflinching conviction. The movie is all heart and not very much mind. Cast: Winona Ryder, Angelina Jolie, Whoopi Goldberg, Vanessa Redgrave, Clea Duvall, Jeffrey Tambor. Running time: 2 hours, 5 minutes. Rated R. 2 stars.

'The Green Mile' - Tom Hanks, jowly and mushing through a Southern accent, plays Paul Edgecomb, head of the Louisiana prison guard detail for the Death Row called E Block. The newest "dead man walking" on the green mile is a muscular Maxi-me named John Coffey, played by immense Michael Clarke Duncan. John is black, seems a simpleton, and faces death for having (evidently) raped and murdered two white girls. We soon find that John

is a sweet, holy fool, able to magically gather up the sins or sufferings of others by a process of inspired inhalation; he then vomits the dismal intake. The movie suffers from advanced Stephen King disease. It has the popular writer's unique, icky mix of repetitive sadism, twisted logic and supernatural stunts. Cast: Tom Hanks, David Morse, Michael Clarke Duncan, Bonnie Hunt, James Cromwell, Sam Rockwell, Barry Pepper, Harry Dean Stanton, Michael Jeter, Gary Sinise. Running time: 3 hours, 7 minutes. Rated R. 1 star.

'The Hurricane' - Based on Rubin "Hurricane" Carter's memoirs and on another book, it deals with Carter's blighted youth, his time in juvenile prison, his boxing career that found some glory in the '60s, then his trumped-up conviction for the murder of several people in a Paterson, N.J., bar in 1966. Most of the film is about his adult years in prison, and the efforts of three Canadians and a young boy to get Carter freed. Of course, it is appealing to root for a man unjustly convicted who turned the big, raging chip on his shoulder into a diamond of character. But 'The Hurricane' still seems like many gusts of wind jammed together to give us a good buffeting. Cast: Denzel Washington, Debra Kara Unger, Liev Schreiber, John Hannah, Vicellous Reon Shannon, Dan Hedaya, Clancy Brown, David Paymer, Rod Steiger, Debbi Morgan, Harris Yulin. Running time: 2 hours, 26 minutes. Rated R. 2 stars.

'Magnolia' - Tom Cruise plays Frank T.J. Mackey, a buff-built speller to hurt, angry groups of sexually dimal men. Teaching them how to "seduce and destroy" women at insanely preening seminars, he is both macho guru and burlesque huckster. Jason Robards as Earl, the father, gives the most convincing portrayal of a dying man I've ever seen. Earl built up a TV empire and is something of a monster morally. Earl's big money machine is a "classic" quiz show featuring brainy kids. The host is Jimmy Gator (Philip Baker Hall), an avuncular, show-biz carnivore plagued by his own acid guilts. 'Magnolia' might have been more tightly laced, more snugly boxed aesthetically. But its keen lust for plunge and splurge, for taking ripe chances, losing a few but winning most, makes it the first terrific American film of the new era. Cast: Jason Robards, Tom Cruise, John C. Reilly, Julianne Moore, Philip Seymour Hoffman, William H. Macy, Amy Grace, Melora Walters, Jeremy Blackman, Philip Baker Hall, Melinda Dillon. Running time: Two hours, 59 minutes. Rated R. 2 stars.

'Supernova' - The rescue vessel Nightingale has heard an emergency call from a supposedly abandoned mining operation on a distant moon. The call comes from Larson, former lover of Kaela, the ship's medic (Angela Bassett), who remembers him as a total rat. The ship arrives at its destination, but suffers so much damage that it loses most of its fuel. It almost crashes into the moon before stabilizing its orbit. The nearby star is about to explode into a supernova, blasting everything for parsecs around - in 17 hours, 11 minutes. The ship has meanwhile taken on a refugee, Troy (Peter Facinelli), a young man with some kind of space infection that gives him useful superhuman powers as he sets about eliminating the crew. He has brought on board an egg-shaped, translucent object that represents mankind's first contact with an extraterrestrial civilization - a 9th-dimensional bomb, designed to be taken back to Earth so it can destroy the Solar System. Cast: James Spader, Angela Bassett, Lou Diamond Phillips, Peter Facinelli, Wilson Cruz. Rated PG-13. 1 1/2 stars.

Ratings - 4 stars, excellent; 3 stars, worthy; 2 stars, mixed; 1 star, poor; 0 stars, forget it. Capsules compiled from movie reviews written by David Elliott, film critic for The San Diego Tribune, and other staff writers...

Armory hosts craft market

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Spring Art/Craft Market is coming to the National Guard armory, located at 500 Rahway Ave. Show hours will be 5 p.m.-9 p.m. March 24; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. March 25; and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. March 26. Woodworking, pottery, blown glass, gold and jewelry are among the contemporary crafts featured. Admission of \$6 covers all three days. Children under 10 are free. No strollers are accepted. For more information, call (800) 834-9437.

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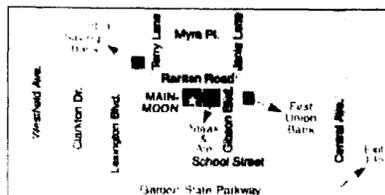
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Model trains of all types — and other popular toys — will be featured when the New Jersey Convention and Expo Center in Edison hosts Greenberg's Great Train and Collectible Toy Show March 11 and 12. The show will feature several scale models and model-building tips from the experts.

## 'Great' train show rolling into Edison

EDISON — Greenberg's Great Train and Collectible Toy Show is rolling into the New Jersey Convention Center, at Raritan Center.

The show will be held 11 a.m.-5 p.m. March 11 and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. March 12.

The Raritan Valley High Railers will present their gigantic 40-foot by 32-foot layout, featuring O gauge trains running on 5 1/2 miles of scale track, through animated modules and working yards. Brooklyn N Trak and Jersey Central N Trak will team up to offer a 16-foot by 32-foot N scale layout using digital command control operation, and under the big top you'll find the John W. Pugh Ring Circus Model Builders' 16-foot by 24-foot HO and O gauge fun featuring a working Ferris wheel.

Model Railroader magazine will also present its 24th annual photo contest, which shows the imagination and skill of this year's entrants. The incredible display features the top five winning photographs announced in the March 2000 issue of the mag-

azine.

Visitors can also meet Duncan Lawrence, who easy tree-making method creates super-realistic trees for home models. Several clinics — including Forest in a Flash - Basic Scenery Tips — will be held throughout the weekend, covering a wide variety of topics, including electrical work, digital command control and train customization techniques.

A one-stop shopping hobby marketplace will feature dealer tables offering an array of model trains, parts, accessories, building supplies, diecast, Barbies and other collectible toys. A wide range of hobby related publications will also be available.

Door prizes will be awarded hourly, with a chance to win \$50 in marketplace money at 2 p.m. each day.

Admission is \$6 for adults, \$2 for children ages 6-12 and free for children under 6 and Scouts in uniform. For directions to the NJ Convention Center or more information, call (732) 417-1400 or visit [www.greenbergshows.com](http://www.greenbergshows.com) on the World Wide Web.

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### New York City Broadway Shows

• Kiss Me Kate	\$92	February 23, 2000
• Miss Saigon	\$55	March 2, 2000
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• Ride Down Morgan Mountain	\$67	April 18, 2000
• Jesus Christ Superstar	\$76	April 25, 2000
• Waiting in the Wings	\$93	May 10, 2000
• Contact	\$99	June 6, 2000
• Music Man	\$96	June 14, 2000
• Walt Disney AIDA	----	Coming in September 2000
• Also		
• Sleeping Beauty Ballet at Lincoln Center	\$72	May 12, 2000

Bus leaves at 6:30 PM for all shows from Bradlees Parking Lot, Garden State Parkway Exit 135, Central Ave, Clark, NJ.  
Deluxe Bus transportation is provided for all shows & included in the price.

### Atlantic City Trips & Shows

• Showboat Casino - \$17 Coin & \$3 Food	\$20	Feb. 27	Lv. 11 AM
• Claridge Casino Show "Always Patsy Cline"	\$25	Mar. 5	Lv. 1 PM
• Tropicana Casino "Irish Festival"	\$22	Mar. 18	Lv. 10:45 AM

All buses leave from Bradlees Parking Lot, Garden State Parkway Exit 135, Central Ave, Clark, NJ

### Dinner Theaters

• St. Patrick's Festival, Inn at Hunts Landing	\$47	Mar. 10	Lv. 9:15AM
• Hunterdon Hills Playhouse, "Charlie Prose"	\$62	April 16	Lv. 2:15PM
• Villa Baglieri - "Julius LaRosa"	\$52	May 4	Lv. 9:15AM
• Hunterdon Hills Playhouse, "Branson"	\$57	June 25	Lv. 2:15PM

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### Special Tours

Ellis Island	\$27	Mar. 4	Lv. 10AM
NYC Stock Exchange & NY Tour +Lunch	\$54	Mar. 14	Lv. 9:45AM
NYC Tour of United Nations & Lunch in Delegates Dining	\$49	Mar. 23	Lv. 10:45AM
American Museum of Natural History & Hayden Planetarium	\$32	Mar. 25	Lv. 10AM
Coe Estate, Long Island	\$36	April 4	Lv. 9AM
Cape May Easter Show "Power of His Love"	\$57	April 6	Lv. 8:30AM
Orchid Festival in Winter Garden, NYC	\$35	April 12	Lv. 9AM
Champions on Ice, Meadowlands	\$75	April 15	Lv. 6:30PM
Macy's Flower Show, NYC	\$23	April 20	Lv. 9:15AM
Cape May Day & Dinner at Lobster House	\$50	April 30	Lv. 8AM

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## New location, same great programs for Westfield Summer Workshop

WESTFIELD The Westfield Summer Workshop kicks off its 29th season June 26 with a new location.

The five-week arts program for students in pre-school through ninth grade will be held daily from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. through July 28.

The majority of the courses will be held at Roosevelt Intermediate School, located at 301 Clark St. in Westfield, with the pre-school program located directly across the street at Redeemer Lutheran School, 229 Copperthwaite Place.

A full-day program will also be available through a partnership with the Westfield YMCA.

The WSW program continues to offer close to 100 courses all taught by qualified teachers, professional performers and skilled artists.

The full brochure containing course descriptions will be available in late March. The brochure can be obtained by calling (908) 518-1551.

The Westfield Summer Workshop is a division of New Jersey Workshop for the Arts, a non-profit organization estab-

lished in 1972 by Theodore K. Schlosberg, Ed.D.

The mission of NJWA "is to enrich lives by providing opportunities to develop creative talents and encourage a greater appreciation of the arts through both instruction and performance."

Other divisions of NJWA include The Music Studio, Kids 'n Arts, Tots 'n Arts, The Drawing Workshop, The Fencing Club, Summer Band and Summer Orchestra, The Jazz Workshop and The Alpborn Workshop.

For more information on The Westfield Summer Workshop, call (908) 518-1551.

For any of the other programs, call (908) 789-9696.

Visitors are also welcome to stop by the Westfield Summer Workshop office, located at 150-152 East Broad St. in Westfield.



### Science is elementary

Ellen Earl and Donna Katz's kindergarten classes from the William J. McGinn Elementary School in Scotch Plains recently visited the Liberty Science Center. The young students—including (left to right) Bianca Marcazzo, April Quinn, Julia Vallejo and Abigail Slaugh—participated in many hands-on exhibits, including laser light manipulation and an exploration of the human body.

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### Briefs

#### Parenting pathways sets home business chat

SCOTCH PLAINS If you've ever thought about starting your own business, you'll want to attend a special workshop being organized by Parenting Pathways.

At Parenting Pathway's workshop featuring a home-based business panel, visitors can meet successful consultants from popular companies specializing in businesses that can be run at your own pace, from your own home. Panel members represent some of the most well-known direct sales companies in business today. Each panel member will give an overview of their business, covering some basic information about his or her company and how it operates.

There will be an open question-and-answer session.

Visitors will also have a chance to meet each member individually during the refreshment and networking portion of the program.

This is a great opportunity to find out of a home-based business is right for you.

The event is scheduled to be held at 7:30 p.m. March 29 at the Scotch Plains Library, located on Bartle Avenue in Scotch Plains. The workshop is free and all are welcomed to attend.

Parenting Pathways is a Fanwood-based not-for-profit organization providing support and education to parents and families.

For more information, call (908) 889-2165.

#### Irish eyes are smiling at The Thrift Shop

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Thrift Shop, located at 1730 E. Second St., is planning a week-long sale as part of its St. Patrick's Day celebration.

A Lucky Irish drawing will be held March 16. Customers are asked to write their name and phone number on the back of a store receipt to enter the contest and the winner need not be present at the drawing to win a prize.

In keeping with its St. Patrick's Day celebration, the Thrift Shop hours on March 18 will be extended to 3 p.m. In addition, a half-price, store-wide sale will begin March 21 and continue through March 25.

Located at the corner of E. Second Street and Willow Avenue, the shop is normally open Tuesdays through Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The shop offers a limited pick-up service for donations. In-season clothing items and household bric-a-brac are always welcomed. For more information, call (908) 322-5420 or (908) 322-8496.

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# Sports

## Raiders aiming high at District 12 tourney

By DANIEL MURPHY  
RECORD PRESS

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High wrestling team has set its goals high all season, and the trend will continue heading into today's District 12 tournament at South Plainfield High School.

Head Coach Mike Artigliere is looking for all 11 Scotch Plains wrestlers entering the district tournament to place and move on to next week's regional tournament, and is also hoping for the Raiders to bring home a handful of gold as well. Action begins at 5 tonight, and resumes tomorrow at 10 a.m.

"Anybody on the team can place and move on," said Artigliere. "I tell them to set their goals high. Every

one of them is looking to move on or more."

Lucas Francovilla and Gary Cousar were both finalists last year, and will be looking to take the next step and capture individual championships this season. Francovilla finished second at 103 pounds last year and will compete at 130. Cousar was second at 189 a year ago, and will be shooting for the title at that same weight this weekend.

Artigliere believes Matt DeNichillo has a good shot at advancing to the regions at 103, but says the road is going to be tough. South Plainfield's Matt Anderson is undefeated and will be the favorite to win.

Mike and Dave Loewinger will also be looking to move on. Dave

placed third last season at 112, and Mike finished second in the county tournament at 119.

A.J. Romeo, who didn't place last season, will be looking to charge into the regional tournament this year.

"It's going to be tough, but he'll be right in the mix," said Artigliere.

Freshman Matt Loomis should receive a high seed and will be a favorite to win at 215. Loomis has had an outstanding season as a freshman, and Artigliere is confident he can take the title.

"He has a good shot at it," said Artigliere. "I don't see why not. It

### Wrestling



would be a great accomplishment as a freshman. I know he's shooting for it."

Charles Lee (135) and Pete Civins (140) are

two more wrestlers who Artigliere is hoping can make it through to the regional.

"I'm looking for them to place and move on," said Artigliere. "Hopefully they can be in the top three. It would be a great accomplishment."

"There's no reason everyone we enter can't place," he said. "Everyone's goal is to make it to the regional."

While Artigliere is looking for all 11 of his wrestlers to move on to the regional, he knows the Raiders will be hard pressed to dethrone South Plainfield, who has won the District 12 title 15 years in a row, the longest district winning streak in New Jersey.

"It's gonna be tough to do," said Artigliere. "They've got a really good team. They are a little deeper than we are. We're not going there looking for second—when you enter something you enter to win. We won't concede anything to anybody. They won the state title which I think they deserved. They're gonna be tough to beat."

"To be honest, we haven't had a good look at other teams, but we know Scotch Plains is good," said

South Plainfield Head Coach Bill Pavlak. "They made the playoffs, and they have some good individual wrestlers. But we're still the team to beat."

After a disappointing first round exit in the sectional tournament, Artigliere believes the Raiders are ready to bounce back and returning to the winning ways which led to a conference title, and a fourth place finish at the Union County Championships.

"It was definitely a little bit of a letdown in the sectionals," said Artigliere. "But they're still hungry, still motivated. When we've lost before it has refocused us. Hopefully we got it out of our system and can move on. We'll be ready."

## Kivetz leads Blue Devils into district tournament

By DANIEL MURPHY  
RECORD PRESS

It hasn't been the type of season Westfield High wrestling Head Coach Glen Kurz envisioned, but the hometown fans should have plenty to cheer at this weekend when the Blue Devils host the District 11 tournament.

Action begins tonight at 6:30, and resumes 10:30 a.m. tomorrow.

Mike Kivetz should be the favorite to win the 171 pound weight class and advance to the regional tournament next week. Kurz think Kivetz has enough to talent to finish in the top three at the region, if not win it.

"If he wrestles well he can win the district and the region," said Kurz. "There are five or six wrestlers in the region who are all close. He is right up there with them. It's a matter of who gets hot."

Kivetz's chances of winning the

district title were increased when Cranford's Greg Donofrio, who Kivetz defeated in the Union County semifinals on his way to capturing second place in the counties, dropped down to 160. Donofrio was the top seed at the county tournament, but like his chances more at 160. Replacing Donofrio will be Cranford's Billy Bennett, who has wrestled well at 189 most of the season.

Ed Zappulla of Colonia will be the toughest person Kivetz will have to face this weekend, but Kurz believes the senior has enough talent to score the victory.

"If he can beat Donofrio, he can beat Zappulla," said Kurz. "Hopefully the home gym advantage will help him out. Hopefully we can get some fans there to support him and the other guys in the mix."

Those other guys include John Leonardis at 119. Leonardis,

according to Kurz, has been peaking at the right time, but will have a difficult road to winning the championship. Chris Chen from Colonia, and Doug Corso from Rahway, who won the county championship, will be among the favorites with Leonardis.

"He's been really coming on strong lately," said Kurz. "If John comes ready, he can walk away with a district championship. He's not ready to go home early. He's been really pushing himself, and preparing himself well for matches."

Kurz is also hoping Brian Williams at 215 pounds can advance through to the regional tournament. Williams will have to contend with Ishmael Medley of Elizabeth, and Dan Gray of Rahway to get there. Dave Peist from Cranford will also be in contention.

"Brian's a senior who has



NICOLE DIMELLA/RECORD PRESS

Gil Arbitman and the rest of the Westfield High wrestling team will be hoping the hometown advantage can help the Blue Devils make an impressive performance at the District 11 championships.

worked hard for four years," said Kurz. "Hopefully he'll get what he deserves."

Justin Reyes (160) also has a shot at making it through to the regional tournament, according to Kurz, but will have to wrestle good,

smart matches to make it.

"These guys have been working hard all year," said Kurz. "Districts is really what you shoot for. All the preparation is really aimed for the end of the season. These guys worked hard and have been able to

stay focused."

"Our guys can pull a few upsets," he continued. "Aside from Kivetz, no one will be the favorite. But I wouldn't be surprised if we had more than one person get by into the regional."

## Devils sweep sectional swimming championships

### Boys complete sweep of SP-F

By DANIEL MURPHY  
RECORD PRESS

The Westfield High boys swim team completed a season of domination over Scotch Plains-Fanwood Monday, beating the Raiders 106-64 to capture the North Jersey Public A title, and advance to yesterday's state semifinal.

The Blue Devils traveled to the College of New Jersey in Ewing to face Bridgewater yesterday. The Devils narrowly defeated Bridgewater to start the season. A win on yesterday would mean the Blue Devils would compete for a state title tomorrow or Sunday.

Westfield received outstanding performances from its entire team, registering 25 personal bests according to Head Coach Martha Heintzelman.

"All our swimmers really stepped it up and came through," said Heintzelman. "They were very focused and knew what they had to do, and pulled through. They really stepped it up and did things they don't normally do."

The best performance of the day for the Blue Devils came from Paul Kolterjahn, who scored two personal bests on his way to winning both the 200 and 500-yard free relay. Kolterjahn shaved six seconds off his best 500 free time and five seconds off his previous best in the 200.

"They were definitely on top of that night," said Scotch Plains Head Coach Jessica Hulnik. "You've got to give credit where credit is due. They were on top of their games."

Heintzelman said the emotion of the Blue Devils helped build the momentum as personal bests continued to be turned in and the lead continued to grow.

"It's great when you get that kind of enthusiasm," said Heintzelman. "It kind of snowballs."

Early on in the meet, Kolterjahn and Cliff Halderman edged Scotch



GEORGE PACCIELLO/RECORD PRESS

Jenna Dezrutcyk and the Scotch Plains-Fanwood swim team was unable to defeat Westfield in their second head-to-head meeting this season, but will continue on with eight Raiders qualifying for the Meet of Champions.

Plains' Charlie Rowe in the 200-free, showing anyone who was watching that Monday night was going to be Westfield's night.

"That was the start of it," said Heintzelman.

After defeating Scotch Plains in a dual meet, beating them out in the counties and Pirate Invitational, Westfield could have entered Monday's meet with an air of invincibility. But Heintzelman said that wasn't the case.

"They were nervous," she said. "But it was a good nervous. It got the adrenaline going. They didn't go in there nonchalantly."

"We didn't swim badly," said

Hulnik. "They just swam really well. When a team is going that well, unless you're doing the same things they are doing it's tough to win."

Not only was the victory over Scotch Plains and a sectional championship an important step towards the Blue Devils ultimate goal of winning the state title, but the personal bests gave Heintzelman and the team the extra confidence they needed. Heintzelman has been looking for drops in times since the counties, and was extremely pleased with how her team swam, but also knew it would take another extraordinary effort to beat Bridgewater.

"We have to do that and more

on Thursday," she said Tuesday night. "We have momentum and did what we needed to do."

Scotch Plains finished the season with an 8-2 dual meet record, and will send 10 swimmers to the Meet of Champions the first weekend in March. Steve and Jen Berkowitz, Charlie Rowe, Chris and Steve Swenson, Chris Smith, Anne Espinoza, Jen Dezrutcyk, Julia Sheffield, and Jen Bassman will all represent the Raiders.

"I couldn't be happier with this season," said Hulnik. "It was really a great season for us. It's tough to be disappointed when kids swim well all season long. They did the best they could every time out."

### Girls team dominates Vernon

By DANIEL MURPHY  
RECORD PRESS

### Girls Swimming

The Westfield High girls swim team stormed through the North Jersey Public A sectional tournament, capturing the title with a blowout victory over Vernon Valley, 121-49.

The Blue Devils took first place in every event, swept the top three spots in the 100 yard back, and took two of the top three spots in all but the 100-yard breaststroke.

The win over Vernon Valley propelled the Devils into the state semifinals against West Windsor-Plainsboro yesterday at the College of New Jersey in Ewing. The Blue Devils edged out West Windsor in the Pirate Invitational last month but knew yesterday was going to be a much different meet.

Any time a team can win the section, it should be viewed as a great accomplishment. But for this year's Blue Devils, who were undefeated in the dual meet season, won an eighth consecutive Union County championship and have been chasing a second consecutive state title, winning the sectional was just another step towards reaching the ultimate goal.

"We're happy to win the section," said Westfield Head Coach Bev Torok. "But we were really focusing on Thursday's meet against West Windsor."

"It was really important for me," said Jesse Coxson. "As a senior and a captain I wanted to lead my team to a sectional title. As a team it's what we've worked for so it's really important. It wasn't that competitive of a meet," she said. "We had a lot more depth."

Torok admitted to not knowing much about her opponent heading into Monday night's competition and she put together one of her strongest lineups to ensure there would be no surprises, resulting in the blowout.

The main thing Torok has been looking for from the Blue Devils throughout the post-season is the drop in times needed to return to the top of the state.

But because Westfield hasn't been pushed by anybody heading into yesterday's meet, Torok had yet to get the times she has been looking for, but did see some positive signs from several Blue Devils.

"We didn't get all of them," said Torok of the significant time drops. "Some of them came in. When you're not being pushed it's hard to get those times."

"It was good to see some of the fourth and fifth swimmers do well," said Coxson. "Everybody was excited by that."

Torok was pleased with the performance of Bethany Dresely who shaved three seconds off her time in the 200 free, and dropped significant time her 500 free in the sectional semifinals Saturday.

Jane Anderson also made a notable drop in her 100 butterfly time, finishing third in 1:09.21. Kristen Ostega also dropped time in the 500 free.

"They've all done a nice job," said Torok.

- Westfield 121, Vernon Valley 49  
 50-yard free: 1-Ally Coxson, Westfield, 26:51. 2-Melissa Esner, Vernon, 28:59. 3-Ashley Saul, Westfield, 27:02.  
 100 free: 1-Ally Coxson, Westfield, 58:15. 2-Alexa Vantovsky, Westfield, 59:03. 3-Melissa Esner, Vernon, 59:56.  
 200 free: 1-Chrisy Schwobal, Westfield, 2:09:75. 2-Kerry Hart, Westfield, 2:11:00. 3-Alyssa Darnbach, Vernon, 2:13:41.  
 500 free: 1-Chrisy Schwobal, Westfield, 5:33:20. 2-Stephanie Kottjahn, Westfield, 5:48:74. 3-Alyssa Darnbach, Vernon, 6:01:37.  
 100 fly: 1-Jesse Coxson, Westfield, 1:02:23. 2-Singhani Vogel, Vernon, 1:08:78. 3-Jane Anderson, Westfield, 1:09:21.  
 100 back: 1-Ashley Saul, Westfield, 1:07:24. 2-Chrisy Schwobal, Westfield, 1:09:25. 3-Nichole Hartus, Westfield, 1:10:22.  
 100 breast: 1-Chrisy Kolerut, Westfield, 1:15:56. 2-Sara Seland, Vernon, 1:18:08. 3-Jillian Uhl, Vernon, 1:18:94.  
 200 individual medley: 1-Jesse Coxson, Westfield, 2:22:36. 2-Katie McCarton, Vernon, 2:25:77. 3-Jenny Fowler, Westfield, 2:26:28.  
 200 free relay: 1-Westfield (Jesse Coxson, Jenny Fowler, Alexa Vantovsky, Ally Coxson), 1:51:95. 2-Westfield, 1:55:99. 3-Walkill, 1:58:94.  
 400 free relay: 1-Westfield (Heather Lane, Katie Bartholomew, Ashley Saul, Nichole Hartus), 2:01:13. 2-Walkill, 2:03:58. 3-Westfield, 2:06:12.

# Devils knocked off by Montclair

The Westfield High Ice Hockey team fell to top-seeded St. John Vianney in the quarterfinal round of National Conference B Division playoffs Monday, 10-0. St. John Vianney is ranked among the top ten parochial schools in the state, and was 10-1-3 in the division this season. Chatham 3, Westfield 2—A late goal by Chatham edged the

Blue Devils, 3-2, in the final game of the regular season, dropping Westfield to a 3-17-3 record. Max Langford and Brian Luck scored for the Blue Devils.

### BOYS SWIMMING

The Blue Devils defeated Scotch Plains head-to-head for the second time this season to capture the North Jersey Public

A sectional title Monday in Bayonne. See story, C-1.

**50-yard free:** 1-Scott Kautzman, Westfield, 23.65; 2-Chris Smith, Scotch Plains, 23.74; 3-Zach Coppa, Westfield, 23.98.

**100 free:** 1-Chris Smith, SP, 52.41; 2-Scott Kautzman, Westfield, 52.44; 3-Cliff Halderman, Westfield, 53.03.

**200 free:** 1-Paul Kollerjahn, Westfield, 1:53.10; 2-Cliff Halderman, Westfield, 1:54.45; 3-Charlie Rowe, SP, 1:56.10.

**500 free:** 1-Paul Kollerjahn, Westfield, 5:09.90; 2-Charlie Rowe, SP, 5:15.87; 3-Devon Power, Westfield, 5:25.07.

**100 fly:** 1-John Chiesa, Westfield, 58.22; 2-Greg Matthews, Westfield, 59.16; 3-Ann Espinoza, SP, 59.47.

**100 back:** 1-Save Berkowitz, SP, 58.88; 2-John Chiesa, Westfield, 1:00.27; 3-Vincent Shen, Westfield, 1:01.26.

**100 breast:** 1-Chris Swanson, SP, 1:03.13; 2-Matt Vidovich, Westfield, 1:04.28; 3-Colby Fagin, Westfield, 1:08.77.

**200 individual medley:** 1-Save Berkowitz, SP, 2:04.61; 2-Rob Freundlich, Westfield, 2:10.55; 3-Vincent Shen, Westfield, 2:12.00.

**200 free relay:** 1-Westfield (Scott Kautzman, Matt Cahill, Zach Coppa, Cliff Halderman), 1:38.06; 2-Scotch Plains, 1:38.86; 3-Westfield, 1:39.18.

**400 free relay:** 1-Westfield (Zach Coppa, Paul Kollerjahn, Turner Yevich, Scott Kautzman), 3:38.54; 2-Westfield, 3:40.28; 3-Scotch Plains, 3:44.90.

**200 medley relay:** 1-Scotch Plains (Steve Berkowitz, Chris Swanson, Charlie Rowe, Chris Smith), 1:45.16; 2-Westfield, 1:45.37; 3-Westfield, 1:49.86.

**Westfield 108, Randolph 62**—The Blue Devils knocked off Randolph 108-62 in the sectional

**Westfield**  
High School  
Roundup

### semifinals Feb. 17.

**50 free:** Sean McCrudden, Randolph, 24.40.

**100 free:** Ryan McCrudden, Randolph, 53.60.

**200 free:** Rob Freundlich, Westfield, 2:00.34.

**500 free:** Paul Kollerjahn, Westfield, 5:06.64.

**100 breast:** C. Fagin, Westfield, 1:09.62.

**100 fly:** Andrew Richard, Randolph, 58.10.

**100 back:** Andrew Richard, Randolph, 59.60.

**200 IM:** Scott Kautzman, Westfield, 2:11.53.

**200 free relay:** Westfield (Matt Cahill, Greg Matthews, Rob Freundlich, Sean Baran), 1:40.08.

**400 free relay:** Westfield (Vincent Shen, Turner Yevich, Cliff Halderman, Scott Kautzman), 3:47.78.

**200 medley relay:** Westfield (John Chiesa, Cliff Halderman, Vincent Shen, Zach Coppa), 1:50.32.

## SPORTSCENE

### BERNSTEIN WINS GOLD

Irwin Bernstein of Westfield won a gold medal in the Metropolitan Masters Indoor Track and Field Championships at the 168th St. Armory in New York City Feb. 18.

Representing the Shore Athletic Club in the 65-69 age group, Irwin placed first in the 800 meter race in 2:50.57.

### ST. BART'S SOFTBALL

Applications are available for men, a minimum of 30 years old who want to join the St. Bartholomew's Softball League. They may be picked up in Scotch Plains at St. Bartholomew's Church vestibule, Standard Pest Control or Sideline Sports, and in Fanwood at the Fanwood Clipper, or Family Investors Company.

Year 2000 will mark the leagues 22nd year. The league started with 4 teams and has grown to 10. Much of the leagues success can be attributed to the fact that new teams are chosen each year during a draft like the NFL's college draft.

If you have any questions about the league call Commissioner Dom Lawrence at 908-322-1697 or Publicity Chairman Dean Talcott at 908-322-6577. All games are played in Scotch Plains or Fanwood on weekday nights.

You can also visit the leagues website created by Karl Mende at <http://home.att.net/~stbartsotsb/>.

### SOFTBALL REGISTRATION

Girls in grades three to eight can register for the Scotch Plains Recreation Department of Park's softball program Feb. 7-25th. Teams will be formed based on the total number of registrants. The entry fee is \$15.00, and games will be played on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. and Saturday mornings at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. on local fields.

This is an instructional league designed to help youngsters learn game fundamentals through practices and game situations. As in all recreational activities, volunteers are needed to coach or assist with coaching the teams. Interested parents or relatives 18 and over should signify their intent to assist when youngster is registering. All coaches and assistants must be certified through the Rutgers Youth Sports Council. A session for all who must be certified will be held 7-10 p.m. at the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High multi-purpose room March 16. Registrations is required and you may register by calling 322-6700.

Individuals who are interested in umpiring girls games must attend a clinic which will be conducted by Keith Benovengo. Date time and location have yet to be announced.

### WBL REGISTRATION

The Westfield Baseball League (WBL) is now accepting "mail-in" registration for children in grades Kindergarten through 10th. Last year over 1000 children participated and more are expected this season. Children will be assigned to leagues based upon their current grade. The cost for grades K-3 is \$50.00 per child, and grades 4 and up is \$75.00 per child. A family maximum of \$175.00 plus processing and late fees will be in effect for the 2000 season.

Forms are available at Kehler's Athletic Balance and The Leader Store. Send completed applications to WBL, P.O. Box 156, Westfield, NJ, 07091. Late fees will apply.

### GOLF I.D. CARDS

Now that the New Year has begun, golfers who play any of the three Union County golf courses should renew their identification cards or purchase their 2000 golf I.D. cards.

Golfers who registered last year should keep their cards and bring them when re-registering. A new date sticker will be applied to the 1999 card when reactivated. New cards will only be issued to golfers who were not registered in 1999, or who are purchasing a different type of card for the new year.

People who live in or own property in Union County can purchase a Resident Card for \$30, or a Season Card for \$80. Senior residents or senior property owners, ages 62 and older, and young golfers, ages 17 and younger can purchase I.D. cards for \$25.

When purchasing or renewing a card, golfers must show proof of residency through two forms of identification: a driver's license and either a current annual lease, tax bill, utility bill, credit card bill, or bank statement. In the absence of a driver's license, two of the items listed above will be accepted. Non-residents who own property in Union County may also purchase cards by providing a current tax bill showing the address, lot and block numbers of property.

For further information call Ash Brook in Scotch Plains at (908) 756-0414; Galloping Hill in Kenilworth/Union at (908) 686-1566, or Oak Ridge in Clark at (732) 574-0139.

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## Lois Ash Hill

by Jill Guzman

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# Raiders looking ahead to states

By DANIEL MURPHY  
RECORD PRESS

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High girls basketball team fell behind early to third-seeded Summit in the quarterfinals of the Union County Tournament Friday and could never come back, falling 63-29.

The Raiders will now turn their attention towards the state tournament and conference rival Shabazz, which they'll face in the first round 4 p.m. Tuesday in Newark. Scotch Plains lost to Shabazz Jan. 8 62-45.

In that game the Raiders fell behind 20-7 after the first quarter, but played the Bulldogs almost even over the next three quarters.

"I think we can play with them," said Head Coach Brian Homm. "We got down early the first time we played them,

but gave them a good game the rest of the way."

In the first meeting, Kate Feighner scored 19 points, and Najwa Glover added 11 for the Raiders. Scotch Plains will need those two to play big again if it's going to upset sixth-seeded Shabazz.

"We need a big game from Feighner," said Homm. "She's played well lately and that's why we have been able to succeed as a team."

"She's a captain and we need her to play well. Najwa needs to step up, score and run the offense for us."

Glover will also be an important player defensively. Homm believes the Shabazz guards can be pressed and forced into turnovers, and Glover will play an important role in defending Shabazz's guards.

"They can be pressed," he

## Girls Basketball



said. "We need to come out aggressive, press the ball a little bit, and switch up our defense."

"Defensively we need to step it up a little bit in the first quarter," continued Homm. "We have to be ready to play. We know what we're going in to."

But the Raiders won't be looking to get into a track meet with Shabazz. They are at their best operating in a half-court set, slowing down the tempo of the game and utilizing their size inside with Feighner and Erin Gillooly.

"We don't want to run-and-gun," said Homm. "We'll press

to force some turnovers, then slow down the pace and work our offense in the half-court."

In the county tournament game against Summit, Scotch Plains was able to handle the Hilltoppers' pressure in the first quarter and trailed only 14-12 after the first eight minutes.

But Summit used a 12-4 second quarter to open up a 26-16 halftime lead, then exploded in the third quarter.

Summit went on a 23-7 run in the third quarter to blow the game wide-open, and cruised to the victory. Summit faced Elizabeth Wednesday in the semifinals.

"I think we got a little tired," said Homm. "They used their pressure to put us in a hole, and their speed hurt us in the third quarter."



Scotch Plains' Erin Gillooly will need to step up the defensive pressure in the Raiders state tournament game with Shabazz Tuesday.

# Raiders' disappointing season ends with loss to Linden

By DANIEL MURPHY  
RECORD PRESS

A season of high hopes and bitter disappointments came to a close Feb. 16 when the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High boys basketball team fell to Linden in the first round of the Union County Tournament 64-42.

Linden's Jamaal Tate poured in 37 points for the Tigers, including 17 in the first quarter when Linden sprinted out to a 29-10 lead. Tate, one of the top players in the state, also grabbed 13 rebounds and made three blocks.

The loss dropped the Raiders to 6-14 in a season

that started with hopes of advancing deep into the state tournament with a senior-laden lineup.

"Overall, it was a disappointing season," said Head Coach Willie Leonardi. "I expected more. But I didn't expect to lose two guys."

Leonardi is referring to the loss of senior forward Ron Jenerette, who left the team in early January for personal reasons, and James Allen Osborne, who was ineligible until the beginning of February and could have made a big difference at the start of the season.

The absence of two projected starters and key players for much of the season caused

## Boys Basketball



inconsistency in the Raiders' lineup and their play on the court.

"We were always out of sync," said Leonardi. "That was our nemesis all year. We could never get into sync."

Despite struggling to find consistency in their game and their lineup, the Raiders remained competitive in most of their games all season. They were in the game through three quarters against

Colonia, and led highly-ranked Union with four minutes left before turnovers and missed opportunities down the stretch cost them the game.

"There were only four games all season that we were never in," said Leonardi. "Every other game we played I thought we were in. Against Union we were winning with four minutes left. That's the kind of season it turned out to be."

But Leonardi does see positives coming out of the season. A core group of five players — Mike Jackson, and sophomores Adam Bendick, Brian Schiller, Anwar Montgomery and Steve Williams — all gained quality experience to

take with them into next season, and Leonardi said there are some junior varsity players who can make an impact next season.

"The four sophomores got to play a lot," said Leonardi. "Feeley improved, towards the end Jackson became more comfortable handling the ball, and we had great kids. (Dave) Herrmann and (Hal) Barwell played hard the entire time. They gave 100 percent in practice and in the games."

"Hopefully from what happened the four sophomores can learn from that," continued Leonardi. "They'll understand what it takes to win."

Leonardi said the Raiders' biggest concentration in the

off-season, summer camps and summer leagues will be to work on their fundamentals. Turnovers plagued Scotch Plains this season and the team will have to take care of the ball better if it's going to have a winning season next winter.

"We have to learn to take care of the ball better," said Leonardi. "We can't turn the ball over as much as we did this year."

Scotch Plains (42)	
Jackson 4 3-0-17	Hurwell 1-0-0-2
Fooley 3-0-2-8	Herrmann 1-1-0-5
Williams 2-0-0-4	Chowling 1-0-0-2
Osborne 2-0-0-4	Montgomery 0-0-0-0
Totals: 14-4-2-42	
Linden (64)	
Tate 11-4-3-37	Dal Valle 1-0-0-2
Parker 3-3-0-15	Phibart 0-0-0-0
Cohen 1-1-0-5	Bracey 2-0-0-4
Ginn 0-0-1-1	Abrahamson 0-0-0-0
Totals: 16-8-4-64	
Scotch Plains	10 9 17 6 42
Linden	29 13 11 11 64

# Senior CITIZEN

## Westfield Y has many spring trips for the 60 and Better Set

WESTFIELD — The spring schedule of trips for the 60 and Better Set has been announced. These trips are open to the public and reservations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

The season begins with a trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City on March 24. Following a Highlights Tour of the museum, lunch will be served in the Museum Restaurant. After lunch there will be free time to

room the museum and see the exhibits of one's choice. The fee is \$80 per person.

On April 27 experience three centuries of gracious living while visiting three Mansions along the Delaware. Visit Andalusia, one of the fine examples of Greek Revival domestic architecture in the United States. Pennsylvania Manor, William Penn's country plantation, and Glen Ford, country estate of Charles Macalester,

where participants may enjoy a buffet in the formal dining room. The fee for this trip is \$80 per person.

On June 1, a day trip to Mohonk Mountain House is planned. This National Historic Landmark, sits in the heart of a magnificent natural area comprised of more than 24,000 acres of state park land, private preserves, and the resort property. Participants will have the opportunity to wander through the

Mountain House, a turreted seven-story castle, with sweeping lawns and award-winning gardens. Tour the gardens, enjoy a horse-drawn wagon ride and have lunch in the resort's dining room. The fee is \$85 per person.

The overnight trip this year will be to Newport, R.I., from Sept. 18-20. Enjoy two nights and three days in this town. The fee of \$337

per person, double occupancy, includes round-trip transportation, two nights at the Best Western Mainstay, two breakfasts, two dinners, (one is a dinner theater), a tour of Newport with admission to two mansions, and a cruise of Newport Harbor. Single and triple rates are available.

Reservations must be made in person at the Westfield Y, 220

Clark St., and payment in full is required upon registration. No refunds will be issued unless the seat can be sold. All tips are included in the cost. All trips have limited seating, so it is recommended that reservations be made early. Deadline for the Newport trip is June 1. For more information, call Karen Simon at (908) 233-2700.

## Some hints for caregivers during winter

Winter is here and the cold weather restricts many older people from going outdoors for exercise or entertainment. Caregivers are faced with thinking of creative ideas to keep their elderly parent or spouse's spirits high during winters.

Here are some helpful hints for caregivers. To keep a senior intellectually engaged, reminisce with the person. Old photos and memorabilia help generate conversation and provide older adults with comfort and happiness.

Play audio or video tapes of old radio shows or music the person enjoys. Local libraries are a good resource for these items.

Play trivia games or rent clas-

sic movies.

Suggest fun and simple arts and crafts, such as painting or sewing. For the less artistically inclined, a small easy-to-do kit from a local craft store works well.

Introduce the individual to senior websites and senior chats.

To meet an individual's needs for physical movement and achievement, have a physician recommend some simple exercise movements appropriate for seniors.

Encourage the person to do most of his or her own grooming. This will provide physical activity while enhancing independence.

Encourage her or him to assist

with chores. A sense of freedom, responsibility, and satisfaction is gained from assisting with such tasks as folding towels, watering plants, setting the table, or peeling potatoes.

Encouraging socialization is an important component to any lifestyle. Invite friends over for afternoon tea. Identify and utilize other programs provided in your community, such as libraries, theaters, colleges, respite care or adult day care centers.

Respect an individual's preferences. If your loved one would rather watch TV or spend time alone, that really is okay. Recommend and suggest new things, but never force activities.

## Dr. Anisko opens medical practice in Cranford

CRANFORD — Dr. Andrew J. Anisko has announced the opening of his medical practice in internal medicine located in Cranford.

Dr. Anisko retains close ties to his community and heritage since he grew up in neighboring Clark. He completed his undergraduate studies at Boston University, graduated from the Medical Academy of Wroclaw, Poland and completed his internal medicine residence at Overlook Hospital located in Summit in 1998. Dr. Anisko is presently Board Certified with the American Board of Internal Medicine. He has practiced internal medicine in Florham Park prior to establishing his independent practice in Cranford.

Dr. Anisko retains full admitting privileges and affiliations with Overlook Hospital in Summit, St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston and Morristown Memorial Hospital in Morristown. The scope of Dr. Anisko's medical practice includes comprehensive adult healthcare with a strong emphasis on prevention of illness.

Dr. Anisko is determined to provide excellent health care for the community with a broad range of medical services including physical exams, preventive screenings and maintenance of all chronic illnesses. The medical office is now open with same day appointments

available to accommodate for the difficult flu season. Dr. Anisko intends to make his time available to the community for health awareness purposes.

The office address is 198 North Ave. East, Cranford, and telephone (908) 653-9449.

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### Charles Joseph Dodge VI Mortgage banker

WESTFIELD — Charles Joseph Dodge VI, 56, a mortgage banker and a former member of the Appraisal Institute, died Saturday at his home.

He had been with the Cronheim Mortgage Co. of Chatham for 27 years and most recently was its president. Mr. Dodge also owned the Moorehouse Corp., a construction company in Somerville. He was a trustee of First Real Estate Investment Trust, Hekemian & Co. Inc. and the Cheshire House.

He received a bachelor's degree in sociology from the New Brunswick campus of Rutgers University in 1965. Mr. Dodge earned a master of business administration degree from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania in 1973.

He was a member of the Mortgage Bankers Association; the International Council of Shopping Centers; and the

Plainfield Country Club, located in Edison. He was a first lieutenant in the Air Force during the Vietnam War.

Mr. Dodge was born in New Brunswick. He lived in Washington, D.C., Boston, Mass., and Philadelphia, Pa., before moving to Westfield in 1973.

Surviving are his wife, Susan Moorehouse Dodge; his mother, Grace Dodge Metler of Pompano Beach, Fla.; a son, Charles Joseph Dodge VII of Westfield; a daughter, Shannon Elizabeth Dodge of Boston; a brother, Gregory Francis Dodge of New Brunswick; and a sister, Gail D. Erath of Pennington.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Tuesday at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church, following services at the Higgins & Bonner Echo Lake Funeral Home. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery. Donations may be sent to St. Helen's Helping Hands and Hearts, 1600 Rahway Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090.

### Obituaries

#### Betty Klein

WESTFIELD — Betty Klein, 74, died Feb. 18 at St. Clare's Hospital-Dover.

She born in Ashdown, Ark., and lived in Albany, N.Y., and Calvert City, Ky., before moving to Westfield in 1968. She resided in Denville since 1999.

A charter member of the Quilters Club at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, she helped make many of the quilts that were exhibited and sold.

Surviving are her husband,

Robert T.; daughter Barbara Kennedy, with whom Mrs. Klein lived; sons Michael of Hillsborough, Kenneth of McLean, Va., Richard of Lafayette, Calif., and David of Akron, N.Y.; sister Mary Pope of Prescott, Ariz.; and eight grandchildren.

A memorial service will be 2:30 p.m. today at St. Paul's Church, 414 E. Broad St. Arrangements are by the Gray Funeral Home.

#### Edith 'Tiny' Diggins

SCOTCH PLAINS — Edith "Tiny" Diggins, 72, died Feb. 13 at Runnells Specialized Hospital of Union County in Berkeley Heights.

She was born in Scotch Plains and lived in the township before moving to Berkeley Heights.

She once was a dietician on the staff of Mount St. Mary's Academy in Watchung.

Predeceased in 1995 by her mother, Belva "Belle" Wise, she is survived by brothers Clinton

Wise of Louisa, Va., and Ralph Wise of Plainfield; sisters Estelle Counts and Dolores "Petie" Tucker, and brother-in-law Ralph Tucker, all of Plainfield; sisters-in-law Gazel Wise of Philadelphia, Pa., Vivian Wise of Plainfield and Louise Wise of Louisiana; and many nieces and nephews.

Services were held Feb. 17 at Brown's Funeral Home in Plainfield. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery, Westfield.

#### Elouise Hammond

SCOTCH PLAINS — Elouise S. Cheek Hammond, 74, died Feb. 17 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

She was born in Burlington, N.C., and lived in Scotch Plains before moving to South Plainfield in 1969.

A professional musician, she had been active in the Plainfield Area Children's Choir Festival for many years and the United Way of Scotch Plains for 22 years.

She retired in 1993 after 24 years as the organist and choir director of the Wesley United Methodist Church in South Plainfield.

She also was for more than 20

years the organist at the Mundy Funeral Home in Dunellen.

Predeceased in 1983 by her husband, Joseph T., she is survived by daughter Melinda Anne of South Plainfield; son Joseph T. III of Berryville, Ark.; sister Ine' Euliss of Burlington, N.C.; brothers Merrimon Cheek of Burlington, N.C., and Richard Cheek of Salisbury, N.C.; and seven grandchildren.

Services were held Tuesday at St. Francis Episcopal Church, Dunellen, of which Mrs. Hammond was a parishioner. Arrangements were by the Mundy Funeral Home.

#### Marie Piegari

WESTFIELD — Marie Piegari, 77, died Feb. 17 at Union Hospital.

She was born in Newark and lived in Westfield since 1961.

She was a member of the Altar Rosary Society at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church.

Surviving are daughters Mary Ann Fela, Bonita Herrmann and Sandra De Grande; brothers George DiLeo and Frank DiLeo;

sister Adele Parratt; three grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Her husband, Anthony J., brother Joseph DiLeo and sister Rose Crisafulli, are deceased.

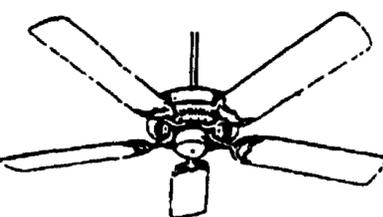
Services were held Tuesday at the McCracken Funeral Home, Union, followed by a funeral Mass at St. Helen's Church. Burial was in St. Gertrude Cemetery, Colonia.

More Obituaries, Page C-4

# AT HOME

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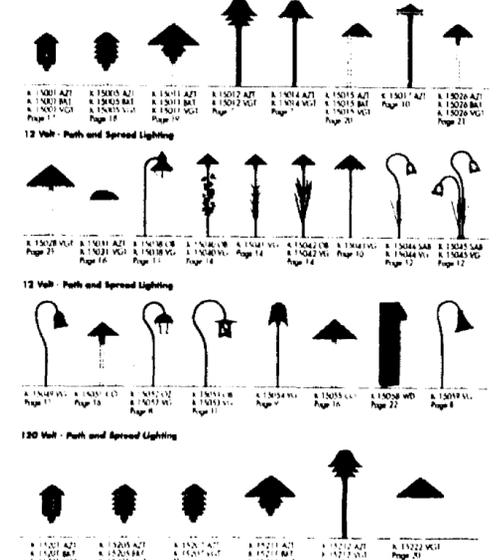


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### Some facts about power deregulation in New Jersey

**BY DR. KAREN ENSLE**  
 RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Energy deregulation is in full swing in New Jersey: The Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act was passed in February 1999 and the New Jersey Choice program has taken effect. For a while now, there have been full-page advertisements in state newspapers describing various features (e.g. new billing formats, environmental disclosure labels) of the new program.

Some people have asked if the amount of savings is worth the time needed to shop around. It depends, obviously: businesses with large buildings and consumers with large and/or total electric homes stand to benefit the most because their electrical usage is greater.

In an example provided in the state Energy Choice brochure, if a family could save one half of one percent per kwh on the price charged for energy generation and used 750 kwh per average, their savings would be \$3.75 per month (750x.005) or \$45 per year. This is enough perhaps, for a nice dinner out. Or, better still, an extra payment toward an outstanding balance on an 18 percent credit card.

A person with a total electric home might average 1,650 kwh per month. If they could save a half of one percent per kwh, the savings would be \$8.25 per month (1,650 x .005) or almost \$100 annually. People who participate in their utility's equal payment (a.k.a. budget) plan will see all of their savings at the end of the budget plan year, instead of in little monthly drips and drabs, and are more likely to notice the savings.

Budget plan participants should see the financial benefits of energy deregulation sometime next summer when payments made through a utility's equal payment plan are reconciled with the cost of kilowatt hours used throughout the past year. Rate reductions will be reflected in the amounts that were charged. If a consumer has the discipline to invest, say, \$100 of savings and earn an average 8 percent return (e.g. in a stock mutual fund), they would have about \$1,450 in 10 years. Even more, maybe \$2,000, when larger rate reductions take effect.

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## Edmund C. Allen

WESTFIELD — Edmund C. Allen, 91, died Feb. 10 at Normandy Farms Estates in Blue Bell, Pa.

He was born in Wallingford, Conn., and lived in Westfield before moving to Blue Bell in 1984.

He received a bachelor's degree from Wesleyan University in 1930 and a master's degree in education from the University of Pennsylvania in 1935.

He taught Latin classes in Westfield until 1952 and then became a principal, retiring in 1971 as principal of Tamaques Elementary School. He began his career teaching Latin at the Hill School in Pottstown, Pa.

He was a member of the First

Congregational Church.

Predeceased in 1998 by his wife, Doris Ward Allen, he is survived by son Robert W. and daughter-in-law Barbara of Highland, Md.; daughter Susan A. and son-in-law B. Spencer Delin of Bedminster, Pa.; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be 11:30 a.m. March 11 at Normandy Farms Estates.

Arrangements are by the Huff & Lakjer Funeral Home in Lansdale, Pa.

Memorial donations may be sent to American Parkinson Disease Association Inc., 1250 Hylan Blvd., Suite 4-B, Staten Island, NY 10305.

## Anna Stern

WESTFIELD — Services have been held for Anna Stern, 91, who died Feb. 3 at Genesis ElderCare-Westfield Center.

A native of Poland, she came to the United States in 1920 and lived in New York City before

moving to Westfield in 1996.

She had been a garment worker during the early 1920s.

Surviving are a son, Gerald; daughter Renee Schleifer; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

## Obituaries

### James P. Coffey

CRANFORD — James P. Coffey, 45, died Feb. 19 at his home.

He was born in East Orange and lived in Cranford for most of his life.

He had been with Polychrome Corp. in Clark for the past 20 years and most recently was a supervisor.

He also was an avid golfer.

Predeceased in 1996 by his mother, Patricia "Tecia" Kearney Coffey, he is survived by his father, James R. of Scotch Plains;

sister Janice Bonavita of Stillwater; and brother John J. of Midlothian, Va.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Wednesday at Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church, Scotch Plains, following services at the Memorial Funeral Home in Fanwood. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery, Westfield.

Memorial donations may be sent to American Heart Association, 2550 Route 1, North Brunswick, NJ 08902-4301.

### Joan Merel

WESTFIELD — Joan Merel, 67, died Feb. 17 at her home in Basking Ridge.

She was born in Philadelphia, Pa., and lived in Hackensack, Verona and Westfield before moving to Basking Ridge in 1995.

She held a bachelor's degree, a master's degree and a doctorate in education, all from the University of Pennsylvania.

She retired in 1995 after 29 years as a teacher in the Verona school system.

She was honored by the Westfield Chapter of Hadassah as its Woman of the Year for 1999.

She also was a volunteer at Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside.

Surviving are her husband, Lee; brother Roy Blumenthal; and one grandchild.

Services were held Friday at the Menorah Chapels at Millburn, in Union. Burial was in Mount Lebanon Cemetery, Iselin

## Raymond D. Moore

SCOTCH PLAINS — Raymond D. Moore, 51, died Feb. 17 at University Hospital in Newark.

A native of Newark, he lived in Hillside and Scotch Plains before moving to Toms River in 1969.

He received a bachelor's degree in history from Monmouth College in 1969.

He owned Moore & Garvey Inc. in Bayville and Derflinger

Roofing in Whiting.

Surviving are his wife, Susan O'Brien Moore; mother Susan Mallinson Moore of Lakewood; sons Michael of Springfield and Douglas of Toms River; daughter Lyndsey LaBrutto of Toms River; brother Gregory of Bayville; sister Susan Tatum of Westfield; and two grandchildren.

Services were held Tuesday at the Carmona-Bolen Home for Funerals, in Toms River.

## Elaine M. Keets

SCOTCH PLAINS — Elaine M. Keets, 74, died Feb. 19, 2000 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield. She once was a supervisor of the central supply department at the Plainfield hospital.

Ms. Keets was born in Plainfield and had lived most recently in Scotch Plains. She retired in 1995 after 34 years on

the Muhlenberg staff.

Surviving are a son, Gaylord G.; two sisters, a brother, four grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Services were held Wednesday at St. John's Baptist Church. Arrangements were by the Plinton-Curry Funeral Home in Westfield.

More Obituaries,  
Page C-6

# AT HOME

You don't have to suffer unnecessarily from allergies in your home

WESTFIELD — A recent study commissioned by The American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology has found that the number of Americans suffering from allergies is nearly double what had been originally thought, said Keith Petersen of The Eardly T. Petersen Co. in Westfield. The study also found that millions of people suffer unnecessarily or rely on medications.

"Allergies fall broadly into two main categories," said Petersen. "They are caused either by what is ingested orally, or absorbed through the skin, or by what is breathed. In the last few years the acceleration of asthma and allergies has begun to receive increased media attention, and the average person is now much more aware that we are suffering from an international epidemic of allergies and asthma. The difficulty we see is that either through inertia or ignorance the average person is frequently unable to effectively deal with such problems in their own household.

"Food allergies," said Petersen, "are usually caused by a number of food groups that have already been pretty specifically defined. These include milk and dairy products, wheat, sugar, eggs, peanut butter, cocoa, food coloring, corn and related products, preservatives and citrus products.

"Airborne pollutants, especially indoor pollutants, are now known to be the preponderant cause of allergic respiratory problems such as allergies per se, rhinitis, sinusitis, asthma, etc. These difficulties have largely arisen from the fact that the oil energy crisis of some 15 years ago caused people to better insulate and seal their homes and office indoor environments, effectively trapping such pollutants inside. Common indoor pollutants are now recognized to be smoke, pollens, molds, bacteria, animal dander, dust mite parts and feces, and chemical gases. The average indoor environment, house, office, school, etc., is filled with these pollutants. The air indoors is a literal

miasma of chemical gases and hundreds of millions of microscopic particles, all breathed in with each breath. We spend about 85 percent of our time indoors, it's small wonder that the respiratory complaints are at an epidemic level."

Petersen continued, "Allergic responses in affected individuals can range from mild to severe, even to life-threatening. It is now known, for example, that a mold sensitivity might literally incapacitate an individual who has developed a trigger to what might even be a common, ubiquitous mold. We recently had a customer, a young bodybuilder, with a mold sensitivity relate to us how one week he was bench pressing 225 pounds and the next week he couldn't get out of bed. He was helped by using a good air purifier which worked to oxidize the mold.

"It has even been found that some allergic responses can affect personality, behavior or performance, and children labeled dysfunctional or dyslexic in school might only be suf-

fering an allergic reaction to common pollutants found in ordinary school air. A child labeled a 'problem' child might simply be experiencing a personality change due to a sensitivity to some particular allergen. An excellent book on airborne and food allergies for children is "Is This Your Child's World? How You Can Fix the Schools and Homes That are Making Your Children Sick" by Dr. Doris Rapp, and the principles and information contained therein all apply to adults, as well.

"Many of these problems can be prevented or, at least, alleviated," added Petersen, "by some common sense approaches. If someone has a suspected food allergy, for example, institute an elimination diet whereby food groups are eliminated and then gradually reintroduced one at a time. This can identify which foods are causing the problem. In respect to indoor airborne pollutants, the problem becomes much wider. The variety of such pollutants and the sheer, staggering numbers of them result in what can be a very difficult problem to surmount. Testing for certain airborne allergens can be done. However, a simple, straightforward approach is to realize that the indoor environment is highly polluted. Statistics show that it is as much as five to 10 times more polluted than the

average outdoor environment, and that the need is to effectively clean that indoor environment. This can be accomplished by using a high-quality vacuum designed with a totally sealed system and HEPA filtration. Very few vacuums are engineered to the degree that is needed to completely contain the millions of microscopic particles that are removed during vacuuming. The latest tests show that the Miele vacuum cleaner is such a machine. Instead of emitting the tens of millions of tiny, lung damaging pollutants every minute of vacuuming, as do most vacuum cleaners, the Miele sealed system safely retains them."

Petersen strongly advocates cleaning the air with a proper air purifier, as well. "Most air purifiers are simple filters of some sort and by their very nature suffer such severe limitations that they are not an effective answer to the air cleaning issue. The indoor environment is too architecturally diverse, there are too many air flow problems, the pollutants are too varied — gases, microbiological contaminants, etc. — and most of the particles are too small, below 3 microns in size, to be effectively removed by filtering devices. The simplest and most effective air purifier on the market today is made by Alpine Industries and, using the same

principles by which a thunderstorm cleans the outdoor environment, will very quickly purify an indoor environment. The most popular Alpine model can be 'tuned' to clean an indoor environment from 20 square feet to 3,000 square feet, for pennies a day, with dramatic results.

"Drink clean water, as well," urged Petersen. "Tap water is undesirable, way too many contaminants and, besides, the taste is poor. Bottled water can be uncertain in quality and there is the expense and transportation effort associated with using it. A good quality, point-of-use drinking water system in the kitchen will provide the convenience of safe, clean and delightful-tasting water for all your cooking and drinking needs for about 10 to 16 cents a gallon. It is a highly cost-effective antidote to tap or bottled water usage and, if you like tea or coffee, wait until you taste coffee or tea made with fresh clean water."

For questions about HEPA vacuums and allergies, air purifiers, drinking water systems or related inquiries, call The Eardly T. Petersen Co., 224 Elmer St., Westfield at (908) 232-5723; or e-mail them at [etpetersen@aol.com](mailto:etpetersen@aol.com) or visit the website [www.etpetersen.com](http://www.etpetersen.com).

## Some useful tips for moving in winter

Moving is a laborious task at any time of the year, let alone during the winter. For those of you who have to make a winter move, here are some tips from the moving experts at Atlas Van Lines to help you avoid potential problems.

**Safety matters.** Before the movers arrive, clean snow or ice off walks and steps, allowing enough time to dry before moving activities begin. Check with your real estate agent for a local service company that cleans sidewalks and driveways.

**Be prepared.** Leave out unpacked clothing for the family. The house will get cold with the doors constantly open. Everyone should be dressed warmly during the move.

**Be courteous.** Leave the coffee pot, filters and coffee unpacked. A fresh cup of hot coffee when the movers arrive will help them warm up and get started on very cold days.

**Keep it clean.** When packing fluids from the kitchen — such as syrups, soft drinks and other liquids — realize they can freeze and bust their containers.

**Safeguard kids' toys.** Disassemble plastic play gyms or doll houses while still at room temperature. Otherwise, the plastic may crack.

**Appliances need TLC.** Turn down the thermostat so the furnace won't work unnecessarily while the doors are open. And before moving the washing machine, run the machine on an extra spin cycle. This will force excess water out of the machine and avoid freezing during transit.

Just in case. Always keep

two cans of de-icer spray and an ice scraper on hand. They're great for clearing frozen rain, sleet or snow from car windshields and your new home's door locks.

**Prevent moving horror stories.** Check the laundry room of the new residence before the move. If the laundry room is just off the garage and the pipes are not insulated, they could

freeze while doors are opened up. Insulate pipes before hooking up the washer to prevent them from freezing and bursting.

**Destination reached.** Once you have reached your new residence, allow electrical appliances such as TVs to warm up to room temperature before plugging in. They may be frosty inside.

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### Obituaries

#### Robert A. Sale

SCOTCH PLAINS — Robert A. Sale, 46, died Feb. 19 at his home.

He was born in The Bronx, N.Y., and lived in Fanwood before moving to Scotch Plains in 1996.

He had been an honor student in the nursing program at Union County College in Cranford.

He also was an avid fisherman.

Surviving are daughter

Victoria; his parents, Nicholas and Rose; sister Doreen Mondji; a companion, Maria Loren; and one nephew.

Services were held Wednesday at the Memorial Funeral Home, Fanwood, followed by a funeral Mass at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church.

Memorial donations may be sent to the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad or Fanwood Rescue Squad.

#### Charles F. Herbst

SCOTCH PLAINS — Charles F. Herbst, 78, died Feb. 15 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.

He was born in South Plainfield and lived in Scotch Plains before moving to Bridgewater in 1980. He was a staff sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II.

He retired in 1984 after more than 30 years as a machinist with

the Bridgewater Engineering Co. Surviving are his wife, Ann Presuto Herbst, and sister Ruth DiRubba of Pittstown.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Saturday at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, North Plainfield, following services at the Higgins Home for Funerals in North Plainfield. Entombment was in the Resurrection Burial Park mausoleum, Piscataway.

### How to submit obituary information to the Record-Press

The Record-Press prints obituaries and memorial service notices free of charge.

The deadline for submission of obituaries is noon Tuesday. Obituaries received after this time will be published the following week. Please ask funeral directors to forward the information to us via fax at (908) 575-6683 or e-mail at njnews@compubell.com.

For more information, call Editor Gregory Zeller at (908) 575-6686.

### Fanwood Library book chat to focus on Gaines' 'Lesson'

FANWOOD — The Fanwood Memorial Library on North Avenue will hold its book discussion group 7:30 p.m. March 9.

"A Lesson Before Dying" by Ernest J. Gaines is the book to be discussed. Guests 6400.

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### SP-FHS names honorees for second marking period

SCOTCH PLAINS — Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School has issued its honor roll for the second marking period.

Named to the high honor roll: Grade 12 — Brigitte C. Argueta, Jessica B. Biegelson, Ankur G. Dalal, Marissa Eagles, Kevin Grinberg, Megan F. Kiel, Travis Kipping, Jacqueline A. Klock, Michael Loewinger, Tracy A. Macalintal, Amanda Rice, Justin T. Ross and Elizabeth M. Weiler.

Grade 11 — Christina M. Albizati, Jennifer L. Bassman, Kaliq Chang, Christine Kurz, Yunilay Lio, Catherine T. Mangan, Sheila Y. Marikar, Shannon M. McEneely, Matthew J. Metzger, Katherine M. O'Connor, Shivani M. Parmar, Anne C. Percoco, Nina Sado, Ashley Schweikert, Jennifer E. Seto and Alison R. Wilks.

Grade 10 — Patrick W. Carroll, Matthew J. Deegan, Matthew DeNichilo, Sonia Dutta, Jaelyn M. Fiorino, William C. Gonch, Susannah L. Grossman, Jennifer L. Harrison, Michael J. Hughes, Brian W. Kaplun, Caitlin Mahony, Karen A. McCourt, Daniel S. Nelson, Andrew L. Pavoni, Timothy W. Ryan and Kimberly A. Testa.

Grade 9 — Rhea Chakraborty, David Chang, Jillian M. DeMair, Sofia Fayngold, Elizabeth A. Gassler, Danielle A. Hirschhorn, Alex D. Hofer, Nicole E. Impellizzeri, Alicia Lazar, Jeremy S. Lipstein, Catherine A. Madurski, Ramprasad Shankar, Neal Shukla, Erica Speer, Nisha S. Tamhankar and Sarah E. Van Wagner.

Named to the honor roll:

Grade 12 — Melissa J. Benski, Ian E. Bonner, Cara L. Bristol, Justin F. Brodersen, Claire E. Cappio, Emily A. Downs, Evan J. Flath, Aubrey M. Galla, Rebecca J. Garcia, Robert J. Giordano, Jay Harris, Christopher Hartelius, Christina A. Hillman, Renee Holowka, Chitra M. Kalyanaraman, James Kao, Shawn M. Laskowitz, James R. L'Heureux, David Loewinger, Meghan Mele, Marisa J. Melendez, Mary Milonnet, Allyson B. Novorro, Timothy S. Pai, Douglas E. Rager, Dara Reeves, Jaelyn K. Sanders, Dana M. Savino, Colleen E. Sellers, Heather Sills, Khalia Taylor, Alex B. Wasserman, Jessica Wietama, Erin A. Wilkinson and Shakeeha Wyatt.

Grade 11 — Dana L. Berkowitz, Anthony L. Blasi, Katherine M. Bruno, Robert E.

Bugg, Brett S. Bu-hinger, Katherine L. Church, Damon T. Clark, Andrea R. Crastiani, Jennifer A. Curren, Lincsey S. Davis, Kathleen D. DeLuca, Jamie S. Dougher, Catherine M. Dougherty, James Drwes, Jessica L. Ferraro, Douglas W. Gillie, Najwa A. Glover, Elizabeth A. Grausso, Emma K. Hiatt, Erin F. Kelly, Jessica A. Kenderdine, Deegan J. Klimowicz, Kenneth I. Kocses, Eric S. Konzelman, Beata E. Korsiuk, Heather L. Marks, Megan M. Miller, Gregory Paterson, Alicia D. Piniat, Adam J. Powers, Eric M. Puga, Renner B. Razal, Ruth E. Rohrer, Elizabeth Roth, Matthew A. Schimming, Sunita H. Shah, Kristen L. Simberg, Jennifer R. Stearns, Elizabeth A. Tumolo, Erin A. Watson, Ilana Weinberg and Renee T. Zidonik.

Grade 10 — Carolyn E. Barnett, David E. Baunwell, Shikha S. Bhasin, J. Raymond Bover, Erin L. Breznitsky, Naor Chazan, Daniel M. Churgin, Allison H. DeMaio, Lauren R. DeMartino, Jodi E. Dornbush, Cecile M. Duong, Ashley E. Esposito, Michael W. Furnari, Latasha L. Gray, Jessica Green, Allison M. Hessemer, Alaina B. Ingram, Terrell H. Levine, Jessica Maggs, Khanh Nguyen, Kristy S. Novak, Michael T. O'Neil, Matthew T. Ortyl, Magdalene Q. Pepe, Christine V. Perrotta, Jonathan J. Quijano, Rennell B. Razal, Matthew A. Schaible, Katryn A. Testa, Catherine A. Trombley, Alfred H. Twu and Robert O. Wallden III.

Grade 9 — Brian P. Abbott, Lauren M. Baines, Joseph A. Bartolotta, Lauren E. Bauman, Kathryn A. Benski, Evan D. Chinov, Alyssa David, Eve E. Donovan, Katie E. Downey, Cristina M. Fabiano, Benjamin D. Flath, Sarah N. Ginsberg, Stephanie A. Heath, Jason P. Hipp, Jennifer M. Howell, Travis J. Kelley, Annmarie E. Klimowicz, Elise N. Koerner, Monique A. Lemus, Lenore A. McMillion, Malina M. Milonnet, Emily C. O'Connor, Melinda Palomares, Yeojin A. Park, Sonali D. Phatak, Elizabeth A. Pilkington, John Piniat, Eric D. Pratt, Kimberly M. Puddak, Daniel M. Rosenkrantz, Amy M. Ryan, Edward J. Saridaki, Nicholas G. Sette, Patrick I. Shevlin, Delsa R. Slauch, Bruce J. Smith Jr., Amber L. Temchus, Timothy M. Voelker, Caroline L. Webb, Kristin A. Williams, Kristen L. Wuest and Michael R. Zatorski.

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750 SAUZA Gold Tequila 20.99	750 PINCH DIMPLE 20.99	1.75L GORDONS Vodka 80° 26.99	1.75L DILBEYS Gin 13.99
1.75L MAJORSKA Vodka 10.99	750 JOHNNIE WALKER BLACK 22.99	1.75L WOLFSCHMIDT Vodka 80° 26.99	750 ABSOLUT Vodka 80° 13.99
<b>MEISTER BRAU</b> 9.99 Regular • Light	<b>SHARPS</b> 10.99 Alcohol Free	<b>ROLLING ROCK</b> 12.99 Regular	<b>HEINEKEN</b> 13.99 Regular • Light
<b>NATURAL Light of SCHMIDT'S</b> 7.99 Reg • Light	<b>MILWAUKEE'S BEST</b> 8.99 30-Pack	<b>HEINEKEN Nips</b> 14.99 Regular	<b>BECK'S</b> 19.99 Regular • Dark
<b>BUD Nips</b> 8.99 Regular • Light	<b>RED DOG</b> 9.99 30-Pack	<b>TECATE</b> 14.99 Cane	<b>CORONA</b> 19.99 Regular • Light
<b>COORS</b> 8.99 Light Nips	<b>BUSCH Reg • Light</b> 10.99 30-Pack	<b>TEQUILA</b> 18.99	<b>GUINNESS</b> 25.99 Stout
<b>CHAMPAGNE</b>	<b>CORDIALS</b>	<b>WORLD OF WINE</b>	
750 ANJOU Dry • Pink 3.99	1L HIRAM WALKER Amaretto 4.99	750 GLEN ELLAN Sauv • Merlot • Pinot 3.99	750 AVELEDA White Vodka 4.99
750 DRY • Brut 4.99	750 SOUTH BEACH COMFORT 7 4.99	750 HER NELLE White Zinfandel 4.99	1.5L CAMEL White • Rose 4.99
750 BALTICUM Grand Spumante 5.99	1.75L DENZON PEACHTREE Schnapps 4.99	1.5L GALLO E.A. White Zinf • White • Merlot 4.99	750 MARGUES DE RISCAL White 4.99
750 FREMONT Extra Dry 6.99	750 BALLEYS IRISH CREAM LIQUOR 4.99	1.5L ARBOR MIST Chard • White • Zinf • Merlot 4.99	750 CORVO Red • White 4.99
750 STUCK Asti Spumante 6.99	750 SANGRIA ROMANA White • Black 4.99	750 GLEN ELLAN Cabernet • Chardonnay 4.99	750 CHERRY KUSA 4.99
750 M.A.H. Asti 8.99	1.75L LEROUX POLISH Blackberry Brandy 4.99	750 STONE CELLER Merlot • Pinot • Chardonnay 4.99	750 HEINE JUNDT Red • White 4.99
750 DOMAINE CHANDON Blanc • D'Or • Napa Valley Brut 12.99	1.5L R. MONDRAV CHOCOLATE Org • White • Cabernet 4.99	1.5L R. MONDRAV WOODBRIDGE Cabernet • Chardonnay 4.99	750 RUFFINO Chard 4.99
750 PIPHER NEOSIS CK Extra Dry NV 22.99	750 B.L.T. IRISH NEUTRAL LIQUOR 4.99	750 VERDANIE Cabernet • Chardonnay 4.99	750 R.G. SAINT LOUIS Beauv • Chardonnay 4.99
<b>COGNAC &amp; BRANDIES</b>	1.75L NAPA C Coffee • Liqueur 33.99	750 FETZER Sundial Chardonnay 4.99	1.5L DUE TORRE Pinot Grigio 4.99
750 CHRISTIAN PROS Brandy 7.99	<b>JUG WINE</b>	750 FETZER Cape Fear Merlot • Valley Oaks Cab • Sauv 4.99	750 ECCO DOMANI Merlot • Pinot Grigio 4.99
1L MARTELL VS Cognac 19.99	1.5L FOX MAJORA Chard • Cabernet • Merlot 7.99	750 MONDRAV COASTAL Chardonnay • Merlot • Cabernet • Chardonnay 4.99	1.5L LANGERS Rose • White 4.99
1.75L HAVANAL Brandy 19.99	1.5L FOX WHITE CREAM Chard • Merlot • Cabernet • Chardonnay 7.99	1.5L HERITAGE Chardonnay • Cabernet • Merlot • Pinot 4.99	1.5L FONTANA CANDIDA Fiascati • Merlot • Pinot Grigio 4.99
750 COURVISEL VS Cognac 20.99	5L FOX PETER VELLA Chard • Merlot • Pinot • Cabernet • Chardonnay 7.99	750 KENDALL JACKSON VR Chardonnay 4.99	1.5L GEORGES DUBOUF Cabernet • Chard • Merlot 4.99
750 REMY MARTIN VS Cognac 29.99	4L TAYLOR CALIF CELLARS Chard • Merlot • Cabernet • Chardonnay 7.99	750 KENDALL JACKSON VR Cabernet 4.99	1L HARVEYS BRISTOL CREAM 750 LOUIS JADOT Fully Flavored 11.99
1L SCHWEPPES Meyer's 2L Cane 69.99	4L UNCLE NOOK Cabernet • Merlot • Chardonnay 8.99	750 VERMOUTH Chardonnay • Cabernet • Merlot 12.99	1L H.V. VERMOUTH Sweet • Dry 4.99
24 12 oz cans PEPSI (Reg • 30 cans) 5.99	3L LINGSTON CELLARS Cabernet • Chard • Merlot 8.99	750 STERLING Cabernet • Merlot 15.99	

### High schoolers urged to apply for scholarships

PLAINFIELD — High school seniors are encouraged to apply now for Adele deLeeuw scholarships which range from \$1,000 to \$10,000. Application forms may be obtained from guidance departments at eleven area high schools. Deadline for submission is Wednesday, March 15.

Previous winners now in college are also eligible to apply. They must submit complete official transcripts of college grades with their applications.

This is the fifth year the scholarships have been offered. Last year forty-eight winners shared more than \$100,000 from the Adele deLeeuw Scholarship Fund, a fund of the Plainfield Foundation. The awards are funded from a bequest by Adele deLeeuw, author of over 75 books, journalist and arts activist.

Plainfield Rotary Scholarship Foundation will supervise Rotary Clubs from only add deLeeuw scholarships designated areas to act as selectors for the scholarships. Only students from high schools in Plainfield, North Plainfield, South Plainfield, Watchung, Warren, Scotch Plains, Fanwood and Edison are eligible. Location of high school, not student's residence is the qualifying factor. The student must also be accepted at an accredited college or university.

Applicants must plan to major in one of the following areas of study: engineering, art, journalism, writing or poetry. They must demonstrate financial need and the scholastic aptitude and interest to pursue study in one of these specified areas.

Interested students should consult their guidance counselors to obtain necessary application forms. Questions may be directed to Sally Young, scholarship administrator at (732) 381-6269.

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### CRANFORD

16 Buchanan St. from Household Finance Corp. to Sonny Adoni for \$111,000.  
 150 Elm St. from Gerald Grillo & D.W. Aldredge to Michael & Lee M. Yam for \$230,000.  
 501 Elm St. from 501 Elm Street Associates to Jose C. & Maria A. Lopes for \$222,000.  
 13 Georgia St. from Douglas Chapman to Michael & Alison Bush for \$240,000.  
 706 Hory St. from Steven & Elsa C. Tom to John C. & Joanne Ryan for \$249,000.  
 26 Iroquois Road from Mildred Miceli to Steven R. Toy for \$179,000.  
 712 Lincoln Ave. East from Joseph Tineo et al. to Anthony J. Verloti for \$145,000.  
 15 Pershing Ave. from Kevin E. & Elizabeth A. Kruse to Robert Pecoraro & C. Czar for \$198,000.  
 4-201 Riverside Drive from Riverside Cranford L.L.C. to Brian Connors for \$149,900.  
 8-309 Riverside Drive from Riverside Cranford L.L.C. to Joann Brummell for \$109,000.  
 16 Roger Ave. from Edna Papirnyk to Joseph & Palmira Beirne for \$170,000.  
 123 Roosevelt Ave. from Mid-October Co. to George M. Ennesser for \$185,000.  
 36 Roselle Ave. from Leonard & Dolores Sugalski to Roberto J. & Cheryl Perez for \$190,000.  
 11 Wall St. from Michael Juzefyk L.L.C. to Yiyuan Sheng & Bing Q. Wang for \$209,900.

**FANWOOD**  
 83 Chetwood Terrace from Donald S. & Jeanmarie Keenan to William J. & Teresa G. Cuiquin for \$260,000.  
 17 Helen St. from Anne M. Steenhuisen to John J. & Debra H. Byrne for \$340,000.  
 1 La Grande Ave. from Lenox

Properties L.L.C. to Margaret L. Smith for \$212,900.  
 2 La Grande Ave. from Lenox Properties L.L.C. to Patricia Hasben for \$216,800.  
 3 La Grande Ave. from Lenox Properties L.L.C. to Neil Faibish for \$198,200.  
 4 La Grande Ave. from Lenox Properties L.L.C. to Katherine L. Cooper for \$189,000.  
 5 La Grande Ave. from Lenox Properties L.L.C. to Jay & Deborah Levin for \$208,900.  
 6 La Grande Ave. from Lenox Properties L.L.C. to Frank J. & Deborah A. Kinder for \$200,000.  
 8 La Grande Ave. from Lenox Properties L.L.C. to Ronald F. Schaeffer for \$204,500.  
 197 Marion Ave. from Henry B. Cox IV & Katrina Cox to Eric J. & Patricia A. D'Alessio for \$210,000.  
 127 N. Martine Ave. from J.C. Faith Bernotas to Michael & Nancy Corrao for \$300,000.  
 133 N. Martine Ave. from Patricia Bernotas et al. to Henry B. & Katrina Cox for \$310,000.  
 19 Mary Lane from Felix & Emilce Carvajal to Michael F. Webb for \$161,000.  
 351 Midway Ave. from Dwight A. Foster & C. Mitchell to Michael J. Brennan & M. Neves for \$156,000.  
 227 Paterson Road from J.C.F. Bernotas to Nancy Corrao for \$50,000.  
 146 Pleasant Ave. from Christian & Rosemary N. Holm to Ralph M. Picone III & Margaret Picone for \$233,900.  
 79 Second St. from EMC Mortgage Corp. to Daniel J. & Anne M. Volpone for \$181,500.  
 141 Vinton Circle from Craig L. & Linda J. Boggs to Kevin J. & Kathleen H. Ayers for \$280,000.

### GARWOOD

516 Locust Ave. from Elsie M. Mazurek to Lorenzo M.L. & Yolanda Casanova for \$170,000.

### KENILWORTH

360 Maplewood Ave. from Bank of New York to Anthony Scalisi for \$157,000.  
 170 S. Michigan Ave. from EMC Mortgage Corp. to Angelo Pellino for \$135,000.  
 312 Roosevelt Lane from Thomas A. Santaguida to Joseph & June E. Squillaro for \$141,000.  
 662 Trenton Ave. from Summit Bank to Vita M. Cristiano for \$160,000.  
 763 Union Ave. from Bened Building Corp. to Ahmed & Katherine Abdel-Ghany for \$134,000.  
 765 Union Ave. from Bened Building Corp. to Brian & Nadine Comerford for \$259,000.  
 50 N. Ninth St. from Costa Rental Properties L.L.C. to Donald A. & Debra Scofese for \$235,000.  
 110 N. 13th St. from Rica Properties L.L.C. et al. to Aleksandr & Roza Gelman for \$245,900.  
 114 N. 13th St. from Rica Properties L.L.C. to Stephen D. & Jodi Lang for \$249,900.  
 118 N. 13th St. from Rica Properties L.L.C. to John & Diane Maines for \$250,590.  
 126 N. 13th St. from Rica Properties L.L.C. to Georgi & Donica Kotevski for \$253,500.  
 130 N. 13th St. from Rica Properties L.L.C. to Ronnie & Rose Pardon for \$249,900.  
 134 N. 13th St. from Rica Properties L.L.C. to Fadil Berisha for \$224,900.  
 239 N. 21st St. from Della C. Lohman & Yvette Lass to Angela DiSpirito for \$135,000.  
 232 N. 22nd St. from V&R Realty Co. Inc. to Manuel & Cristina Oliveira for \$260,000.  
 146 S. 25th St. from Scott R. & Judith A. Spilner to Scott Kubik & K. Schnitzer for \$168,000.

### SCOTCH PLAINS

21 Aberdeen Road from Ocwen Federal Bank FSB to John D. & Catherine M. Feeley for \$311,000.  
 8 Blue Ridge Circle from The

Woodland Estates Partnership to K. Hovnanian at Scotch Plains for \$225,000.  
 20 Blue Ridge Circle from K. Hovnanian at Scotch Plains to Jay & Thea Skanes for \$476,253.  
 11 Bonus Hill Road from Catherine Racioppi to Betty Vekhnis for \$440,000.  
 4 Dutch Lane from Messercola Bros. Building Co. to Sachin N. & Rajul Shah for \$520,000.  
 6 Dutch Lane from Messercola Bros. Building Co. to Carl M. & Laura A. D'Angelo for \$505,000.  
 1963 Grand St. from Paul J. & Karen D. Gloegler to Earle G. & Katie B. Killius for \$231,900.  
 2407 Hamlette Place from Joseph DeRose & Son Inc. to Terrance K. & Wilma Porter for \$185,000.  
 2409 Hamlette Place from Joseph DeRose & Son Inc. to Ralph H. & Ruth M. Dill for \$178,000.  
 2271 Hill Road from Schuyler Savings Bank to Keith G. Sundermier for \$150,000.  
 1 James Court from James Court Enterprises L.P. to Michael A. & Kim L. D'Annunzio for \$400,000.  
 1111 Jefferson Ave. from Beneficial Mortgage Co. to James Felton for \$170,000.  
 12 Jenna Court from Hidden Acres Inc. to Satyanarayana & S. Vithala for \$545,000.  
 16 Jenna Court from Hidden Acres Inc. to Francis & Susan D. Nedza for \$250,000.  
 528 Jerusalem Road from Rose M. Campanaro to Luis & Elia L. Campanaro for \$52,000.  
 50 Maddaket from Rolland E. & Susan P. Swift to Bonnie L. Potter for \$7,076.  
 1215 Maple Hill Road from Brian J. & Ann M. Levine to Elizabeth A. Feldbauer et al. for \$335,000.  
 2041 Mountain Ave. from Toby Two Realty L.L.C. to Tomas & Barbarita Rebmimas for \$197,500.  
 2678 Mountain Ave. from Kevin T. & Sandra DeKarski to Byron T. & Alonda S. Williams for \$262,500.

from Mary J. Coffelt from Joseph F. Glickman & J.S. Kwon for \$224,900.  
 857 Bradford Ave. from Mitchell & Lisa B. Rubin to Raymond & Pamela B. Russo for \$725,000.  
 330 Brightwood Ave. from Yi & Qi S. Zhu to Michael Melnick for \$218,000.  
 640 E. Broad St. from Albert L. & Karen M. Hansen to John C. & Pamela A. O'Toole for \$540,000.  
 712 Clarence St. from Westfield Prime Properties L.L.C. to John L. Hogge II & Siobhan Hogge for \$439,000.  
 716 Clarence St. from Westfield Prime Properties L.L.C. to Jed S.W. Schaefer for \$466,934.  
 724 Clarence St. from Westfield Prime Properties L.L.C. to David & Daria M. MacDonald for \$449,000.  
 241 Clark St. from Dennis & Diane Meyer to Anthony A. Galdi for \$245,250.  
 940 Dunham Ave. from V&R Realty Co. Inc. to Robert J. & Maria R.C. Kudia for \$485,000.  
 5 Eastgate Square from Samuel G. & Risa B. Kritzstein to Kenneth J. Grispin for \$338,000.  
 310 S. Euclid Ave. from Messercola Bros. Building Co. to Vincent & Patricia DeHaas for \$620,000.  
 642 Forest Ave. from Stanley & Ann D. Borowicz to Alan & Kathy Gold for \$450,000.  
 129 Golf Edge Drive from Irving Green House Personal to William F. & Jacqueline Ryan for \$460,000.  
 320 Grove St. from Ova Realty to Ralph Rapuano for \$105,000.  
 153 Hamilton Ave. from V&R Realty Co. Inc. to Shelley N. Leighton for \$645,000.  
 4 Hampton Court from Carla J. Ponn to Christopher & C. Catania for \$557,250.  
 1024 Harding St. from Janet L. Gould to Brian J. Levine for \$241,000.  
 405 Harrison Ave. from Richard & Susan J. Cohen to Thomas H. Kean Jr. & Rhonda L. Kean for \$371,500.  
 1161 Lawrence Ave. from R. Stewart & Barbara Brunhouse to Stephen & Lisa Bonsall for \$875,000.  
 600 Leigh Drive from Frank A. & Jean M. Korn to Charles E. Calvin Jr. & Marian Calvin for \$280,000.  
 793 Lenape Trail from Martin H. & Roberta B. Seigel to Matthew J. & Laurie Garfinkel for \$1.35 million.  
 429 Lenox Ave. from St. Paul's Church of Westfield to Laura L. Wentz for \$254,000.  
 226 Linden Ave. from Leonard B. & Erica Resnikoff to Frank A. & Laura A. Napolitano for \$560,000.  
 725 Marcellus Drive from Frank A. & Laura A. Napolitano to Mark & Debra A. Munizzi for \$307,000.  
 129 Marlboro St. from Carl O. & Robin Kirna to Penny J. Emmet for \$225,000.  
 780 Oak Ave. from David & Maria Dau to Michael Gale for \$316,500.  
 1402 Pine Grove Ave. from Vincent H. Hearn et al. to Mark & Nancy Fertakos for \$165,000.  
 500 Rahway Ave. from Rae M. Trescott to Scott S. Miller for \$185,000.  
 107 S. Scotch Plains Ave. from Angelina S. Mielik to Judy T. Kramer for \$175,000.  
 935 Sedgewick Ave. from Messercola Bros. Building Co. to Raymond & Christine Dente for \$603,900.  
 1225 Sedgewick Ave. from Prestige Land Group Inc. to John W. & Maxine F. Wynne for \$725,000.  
 140 Stanmore Place from Thomas & Sophie Stappas to Richard M. & Susan J. Cohen for \$650,000.  
 535 Summit Ave. from Armand & Dolores Cosquer to Eloides A. Garcia for \$250,000.  
 733 Summit Ave. from Richard D. Shulman & A. Rahmi to Fred G. & Julie L. Scaler for \$395,000.  
 108 Summit Court from David L. & Susan B. Bercaw to Bhupen & Shephali Mistry for \$300,000.  
 226 Virginia St. from William & Lisa Pietrucha to Joseph & Ellen E. Oliveri for \$277,000.  
 756 Austin St. from Martin N. & Kelli N. Piscioti to Marc & Karen Seigerman for \$350,000.  
 700 Boulevard

*Thank you Jill Guzman*



ANOTHER ONE OF OUR "SUCCESS STORIES" MEET MAGDA MIRDA FORMER HOMEOWNER OF 104 BELLEVUE STREET, ELIZABETH, N.J. THANKING JILL GUZMAN REALTY, INC. 104 BELLEVUE STREET, ELIZABETH AREA, ELIZABETH, N.J. CLOSED 1/19/00

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 Newly renovated 2 Family home features vinyl siding, thermo windows, 3 year old roof. Newly finished walk-up 3rd floor & semi-finished basement with outside entrance. U-4444

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**EXQUISITE**  
 Three Bedroom Expanded Cape Cod. Enjoy the new kitchen overlooking beautiful grounds. The following are all new: CAC Windows, Carpet, Full Bath, skylight in MBR, finished Basement/Bar, 2 Tier deck, Deck and own a fish pond. U-4438

**UNION** \$149,900  
**COZY CAPE**  
 Features LR w/pt, Dining Area, Kitchen, 3 BR's, Full Bath, Front and Rear enclosed porches, hardwood floors, attached garage and great yard. Washington School. U-4453

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1630 Rahway Road from Zhenchun & Ning Z. Guo to Borges & Luz A.J. Fontora for \$300,000.  
 831 Raritan Road from Edward P. & Theresa M. Bialkin to Michael Mahoney for \$300,000.  
 1140 Roosevelt Ave. from Amador P. & Veronica Coronel to William E. Gregory et al. for \$173,500.  
 239 Scotland St. from Romano & Juanita DiNizo to Anthony J. & Teresa Caralho for \$262,500.  
 1533-8C E. Second St. from Mark P. & Eileen M. Fallon to Belinda S. Gonzalez for \$89,000.  
 1310 Terrill Road from John Heine Trust to Paul & Andrea V. Arfanis for \$300,000.  
 1169 Washington Ave. from Access Financial to Americo Lourenco for \$105,000.  
**WESTFIELD**  
 502 Alden St. from Protective Investment Corp. to Christopher F. & Margaret Freer for \$400,000.  
 756 Austin St. from Martin N. & Kelli N. Piscioti to Marc & Karen Seigerman for \$350,000.  
 700 Boulevard

## UNION COUNTY MORTGAGE RATES

PRODUCT	RATE	PTS	APR	% DOWN	LOCK	PRODUCT	RATE	PTS	APR	% DOWN	LOCK	PRODUCT	RATE	PTS	APR	% DOWN	LOCK
Commonwealth Bank 800-924-9091						Loan Search 800-591-3279						Source One Mortgage Corp. 800-870-1637					
30 YR FIXED	8.000	0.00	8.050	5%	180 DAY	30 YR JUMBO	8.250	0.38	8.350	10%	90 DAY	30 YR FIXED	7.375	3.00	7.774	5%	N/P DAY
15 YR FIXED	7.875	0.00	7.900	5%	60 DAY	10/1 JUMBO	7.630	0.00	8.080	25%	75 DAY	30 YR FHA	8.000	0.00	8.890	3%	N/P DAY
1 YR ADJ.	6.250	0.00	N/P	5%	60 DAY	5/5 JUMBO	7.380	0.00	8.540	25%	75 DAY	30 YR FIXED	8.000	0.00	8.089	5%	N/P DAY
30 yr fixed - First Time Home Buyer Program						NJ's Lowest Rates! <a href="http://www.loansearch.com">www.loansearch.com</a>						First Time Homebuyer only NJHMFA Restrictions apply					
First Savings Bank 732-726-5450						Partners Mortgage 732-634-8050						Summit Federal S & L Asso. 732-968-9665					
30 YR FIXED	7.875	3.00	8.199	5%	60 DAY	30 YR FIXED	7.750	0.00	7.790	5%	60 DAY	30 YR FIXED	8.500	0.00	8.573	20%	75 DAY
15 YR FIXED	7.875	0.00	7.880	5%	60 DAY	15 YR FIXED	7.500	0.00	7.540	5%	60 DAY	15 YR FIXED	7.500	0.00	7.597	20%	75 DAY
5/1-30 YR	7.500	0.00	8.360	5%	75 DAY	30 YR JUMBO	8.125	0.00	8.160	5%	60 DAY	1 YR ADJ.	5.250	0.00	8.078	20%	75 DAY
Zero point loan specialist, FTHB program. 15 yr - bi-weekly rates						E-mail address <a href="mailto:partners@aol.com">partners@aol.com</a>						App Fee \$350 Attorney review \$250					
Hudson City Savings Bank 201-967-1900						Pinnacle Fin-Div of Patriot Bk 800-416-1220						Synergy Federal Savings Bank 800-693-3838					
30 YR JUMBO	8.250	0.00	8.278	20%	90 DAY	30 YR FIXED	7.875	2.00	8.131	3%	60 DAY	30 YR FIXED	8.500	0.00	8.580	5%	60 DAY
15 YR JUMBO	8.000	0.00	8.041	20%	90 DAY	15 YR FIXED	7.375	2.00	7.420	5%	60 DAY	5/1-30 YR	7.375	0.00	8.370	10%	60 DAY
10/1-30 YR	8.000	0.00	8.294	20%	90 DAY	30 YR CONF-SPCL	7.750	0.00	7.787	3%	60 DAY	10/1-30 YR	7.750	0.00	8.200	10%	60 DAY
NIV loans, Jumbo Specialists, Const Loans, Credit Prob Ok, 1 end in 50 states						Other products available. Visit us at <a href="http://www.synergyfsb.com">www.synergyfsb.com</a>						United National Bank 908-429-2332					
												5/1-30 YR 7.875 0.00 8.443 10% 90 DAY					
												10/1-30 YR 8.750 0.00 8.787 10% 90 DAY					
												3/3 ARM 7.750 0.00 8.815 10% 90 DAY					

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LEASE PER MO. 36 MO.

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Automatic trans, 6 cylinder, power steering, power brakes, air conditioning, dual airbags, roof rack, tilt, tint, p/w/l/m, conv. spare, keyless entry, bucket seats, cd player, r/defr, cast alum whls, MSRP: \$23,190, Vin #YL199245, Stk #Y517JE. \$1709 Due at lease incep.

## NEW 2000 JEEP CHEROKEE LIMITED 4X4

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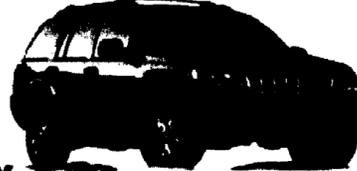
FOR THE NEXT 6 MONTHS

Automatic, 6 cylinder, power steering, abs brakes, air conditioning, roof rack, dual airbags, keyless entry, leather, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l/m, p/drv. seat, conv. spare, heated seats, infinity speakers, cd player, 16" cast alum whls, MSRP: \$27,355, Vin #YL161266, Stk #Y387JE. \$1769 Due at Lease Incep.

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REGULAR PRICE

~~\$389~~



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FOR THE NEXT 6 MONTHS

Auto, 6 cylinder, p/s, abs, dual airbags, air, cruise, tilt, tint, fog lamps, 16" cast alum whls, keyless entry, power windows, power locks, power mirrors, cassette, security alarm, 24 hr r/s assist, bucket seats, MSRP: \$27,472, Vin #YC127744, Stk #Y056JE. \$1829 Due At Lease Inception



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BUY FOR

Automatic, 4 cylinder engine, p/s/b, air conditioning, dual airbags, cruise, tilt, tint, p/windows, p/locks, p/mirrs, floor mats, am/fm cassette, rear defrost, MSRP: \$13,354, Vin #YU954459, Stk #Y107HY

## NEW 2000 HYUNDAI SONATA



# \$10,999

BUY FOR

5 spd man trans, 4 cylinder engine, p/s/b, air conditioning, cruise, tilt, tinted glass, dual airbags, power windows, power locks, power mirrors, bucket seats, 24 hr r/s assist, MSRP: \$15,612, Vin #YA226008, Stk #Y151HY



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**\$77 PER MO. 36 MO.**  
 Total Due At Lease Inception: \$0

**\$77 FOR THE NEXT 6 MONTHS!**

**NEW 2000 CHEVROLET TRACKER**

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**\$99 PER MO. 36 MO.**  
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**\$99 FOR THE NEXT 6 MONTHS!**

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**\$113 PER MO. 36 MO.**  
 Total Due At Lease Inception: \$0

**\$113 FOR THE NEXT 6 MONTHS!**

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**\$185 PER MO. 36 MO.**  
 Total Due At Lease Inception: \$685

**\$185 FOR THE NEXT 6 MONTHS!**

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4 dr, auto, V6 eng, p/s/b, air cond, airbag, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, rear defrost, bucket seats, MSRP: \$28,613, Vin #YK137219

**\$194 PER MO. 36 MO.**  
 Total Due At Lease Inception: \$364

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'95 NISSAN ALTIMA GXE Auto, 4 cyl, p/s, air, p/w, air cond, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, MSRP: \$28,613, Vin #YK137219	'95 FORD WINDSTAR Auto, 4 cyl, p/s, air, p/w, air cond, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, MSRP: \$21,030, Vin #XB186988, Stk #X797CT	'99 FORD ESCORT LX Auto, 4 cyl, p/s, air, p/w, air cond, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, MSRP: \$30,985, Vin #XB143722, Stk #X754	'96 FORD CROWN VICTORIA Auto, 4 cyl, p/s, air, p/w, air cond, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, MSRP: \$14,790, Vin #Y7134987, Stk #Y084CV	'98 CHRYSLER SEBRING Auto, 4 cyl, p/s, air, p/w, air cond, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, MSRP: \$18,585, Vin #Y6914226, Stk #Y497CT
'97 FORD ESCORT Auto, 4 cyl, p/s, air, p/w, air cond, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, MSRP: \$14,790, Vin #Y7134987, Stk #Y084CV	'96 CHRYSLER CONCORDE Auto, 4 cyl, p/s, air, p/w, air cond, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, MSRP: \$18,585, Vin #Y6914226, Stk #Y497CT	'98 FORD TAURUS Auto, 4 cyl, p/s, air, p/w, air cond, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, MSRP: \$18,415, Vin #Y6176518, Stk #Y449CV	'98 MERCURY MYSTIQUE LX Auto, 4 cyl, p/s, air, p/w, air cond, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, MSRP: \$23,930, Vin #YD117081, Stk #Y405CT	'96 DODGE GR. CARAVAN Auto, 4 cyl, p/s, air, p/w, air cond, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, MSRP: \$28,613, Vin #YK137219
'94 ISUZU AMIGO Auto, 4 cyl, p/s, air, p/w, air cond, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, MSRP: \$21,023, Vin #Y9176263, Stk #Y267CV	'96 FORD F150 P/U Auto, 4 cyl, p/s, air, p/w, air cond, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, MSRP: \$30,985, Vin #XB143722, Stk #X754	'97 DODGE INTREPID Auto, 4 cyl, p/s, air, p/w, air cond, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, MSRP: \$14,790, Vin #Y7134987, Stk #Y084CV	'96 HONDA ACCORD LX Auto, 4 cyl, p/s, air, p/w, air cond, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, MSRP: \$18,585, Vin #Y6914226, Stk #Y497CT	'99 CHEVY LUMINA LS Auto, 4 cyl, p/s, air, p/w, air cond, cruise, tilt, tint, p/w/l, keyless entry, am/fm cassette, MSRP: \$28,613, Vin #YK137219
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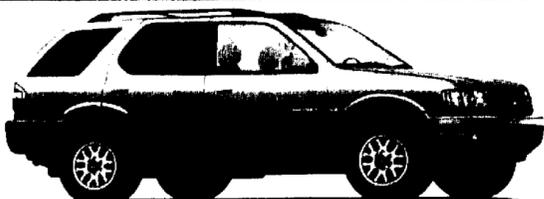
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# Automotive/Classified

## Nissan may have a winner in the new 2000 Xterra

BY MARK MAYNARD  
COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

It was 28 degrees when I stopped in Tecate to top off the tank before crossing into Mexico.

My travel partner and I were part of a group of five other 4WD vehicles that would be headed east, then south, into Baja California for a weekend of rambling and camping in Canon de Guadalupe.

I was road testing a 2000 Nissan Xterra SE-V6 with four-wheel drive - and it was stuffed with camping gear and supplies, which is what it is built for.

The Xterra is Nissan's newest compact sport-utility vehicle built from the Frontier pickup. It's a working-class sport-ute built on a ladder frame and a 4WD chassis for high ground clearance, even on two-wheel drive models.

Xterra was conceived on a drawing board at Nissan Design International in San Diego, and it is the first Nissan that has been styled, designed and manufactured in the United States. It is built in Smyrna, Tenn.

"Basically, Jerry Hirshberg (NDI design guru) designed a roof rack, then Nissan decided maybe we should put a vehicle under it," a company spokesman says.

As a chess piece in the Nissan sales strategy, Xterra is an entry-level SUV. The Pathfinder has been moved further upscale with easier ride and more luxury features.

Xterra is a worker SUV. No leather, no power seats, no wood trim, though more options will be added in the future.

While most utes ride soft and easy, Xterra emphasizes utility with its solid foundation and optional V-6 engine. I got 300 miles out of a tank of regular unleaded without trying to be a miser.

It's also a good choice for campers and Baja travelers because of its steel roof, nimble and maneuverable size, 8.4 inches of ground clearance - and it looks good with a layer of dust and desert pinstripping.

You don't fret about climbing into the cabin with dirty boots, and you don't wince when kids put their feet on the back seats. The



The Xterra is Nissan's newest compact sport-utility vehicle built from the Frontier pickup.

gray plastic interior is bullet-proof, and the gray-beige seat fabric camouflages dirt and sand.

On this long weekend getaway, we crossed 400 miles of terrain, off-road and on, taking in a side trip to Laguna Hansen for lunch (at 4,000 feet elevation) before descending to the desert floor and the balmy canyon.

It is not a difficult or demanding drive, but portions of the dirt and rock trail are best traversed by a vehicle with high clearance - truck, SUV or large van. There is no road service or cell-phone service out there, and the nearest gasoline is more than an hour away.

I drove all but a fraction of the weekend's travels in two-wheel drive. The few times I did shift into four-wheel high range were in loose sand while exploring some rock formations and caves occupied by different generations and tribes of Indians.

I could have driven around the softest sand and avoided the need for 4WD, but I wanted to see what was around that next bend that led

through the sand.

**The Basics**  
Xterra comes in two models: XE or topline SE in two- or four-wheel drive with a standard 143-horsepower, 2.4-liter, double-overhead-cam, four-cylinder engine or optional V-6 and five-speed manual transmission or optional four-speed automatic.

Both models share the heavy-duty work-truck essentials of body-on-frame chassis with double-wishbone suspension, solid axle with leaf springs and power-assisted (recirculating-ball) steering.

The topline SE model comes from the factory with a holly-looking tubular roof rack and storage basket and durable plastic bumper covers and fender lip liners, which take the scouring of gravel roads instead of steel and paint. Tubular side steps/running boards provide a leg up to the roof rack. There's also a first-aid kit strapped in the bulge in the rear door.

The XE comes without these image-enhancing and recreation-enhancing features, but a usually

skeptical auto writer I know praised the four-cylinder and five-speed package of the XE as an adequate performer for someone wanting to buy into Xterra cheaply.

The base truck (with crank windows, four-speaker AM-FM-cassette stereo and four-cylinder engine) starts at \$18,119. Add \$1,150 for the V-6 engine and \$1,000 for a four-speed automatic transmission, which isn't available with the four-cylinder engine.

The base price of the SE-V6 4X4 test truck with automatic transmission, was \$26,319 including \$520 destination. The as-tested price was \$26,398, which included all the factory options but added floor mats (front and rear) for \$79.

Recent news reports of additional "supply and demand" charges of up to \$1,000 being charged by dealers in and around Los Angeles proved untrue around San Diego.

A sampling of window stickers at two area dealerships showed prices for V-6 models closer to the \$23,000 to \$25,000 range.

### Drivability

Xterra feels stable and sturdy on the road. It was a capable home away from home that quickly developed a lived-in look with gear and belongings stashed in the many small but handy storage nooks, pockets, slots and from tie-down hooks in creative places. The spare tire is stowed under the rear deck, not on the door, promoting good rear visibility.

Mechanically, Xterra feels like a tough truck, not a station wagon in disguise. Steering and brake response are strong and were constant on long descents. Even with the roof rack, the only wind noise I noticed was a small amount from the outside mirrors.

After 35-mile stretches of trail riding and a hundred miles on the toll road, the seats kept their shape and supported my lower back.

Despite the compliant ride, the front suspension isn't prone to bottoming out in the whoopy-dos - and I found plenty of those on this trip. Along the way, I scuffed up the underside of the front bumper cover (the fascia) and folded back a tow hook. Nothing serious, thanks in part to the generous P265/70 15-inch tires of the SE 4WD.

Fully loaded, the V-6 test truck handled the same as it did unloaded. Braking response is strong and didn't fade on long downhill off-road. The 200 foot-pounds of torque comes on full at 2,800 rpm, which is strong enough to get the mass moving.

And while the 170-horsepower, 3.3-liter V-6 gives decent fuel mileage and returns adequate performance, the SE 4WD weighs 4,130 pounds unloaded and the engine is challenged when the truck is packed to the cargo hooks.

The recirculating-ball steering is power-assisted and well-damped to reduce vibration.

Fully loaded, Xterra trucked well on highway, but it seemed sensitive to understeer, loaded or not.

Understeer is the inability of the front tires to grip in cornering maneuvers; the tires push instead of gripping and rolling through the

turn. Understeer isn't a problem at slow speeds or when off-road. It becomes a safety issue on city streets, though, when steering response is delayed by tires that can't grip and respond.

The front tires on the test truck would squeal loudly at slow to moderate speeds on looping freeway off-ramps or city corners. While making tight maneuvers in a minimart parking lot, a passerby asked if the 4WD was engaged because he noticed the loud scrubbing of the front tires on the blacktop. I double-checked, but the truck was in two-wheel drive.

Nissan says it's part of the geometry of the suspension, but it surely can't add to the life cycle of the tires.

I drove a colleague's two-wheel drive Xterra V-6, and it had none of the push that I experienced in the test truck, yet both trucks share the same chassis.

Xterra has become a silk purse for Nissan North America, and acknowledgment must be given to Nissan Design International.

In transforming the dowdy-looking Frontier pickup (a styling effort from Nissan's Japanese design center) into Xterra, NDI did its homework with SUV focus groups to build a truck that would transcend trendiness but dish up image and practicality.

And Motor Trend magazine has named Xterra Truck of the Year. I'd call this the year of the truck for Nissan.

**PLUSES:** Originality in a concept and trendy good looks. Roof rack screams ruggedness; step rails are functional for reaching the roof rack and for protecting sills from side hits; storage nooks are everywhere; deep center console; backpack feature in the rear door for a first-aid kit; tie-down hooks everywhere; rear power point; strong stereo; 5,000-pound towing with receiver hitch; no rear-door tire carrier to rattle and block rear visibility.

**MINUSES:** 170-horsepower V-6 is challenged when the truck is loaded; roof rack is rated for only 125 pounds (but Nissan hopes to increase the load range); too much understeer in 4WD model.

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<b>CLASSIFIED HOURS</b> For your convenience, our Classified Center is open: <b>Monday-Friday</b> 8 am to 6:00 pm <b>DEADLINES</b> Friday by 5 PM for next week's publication 1-800-559-9495	<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS</b> 0002 Death Notices 0003 In Memoriams 0004 Cards of Thanks 0007 Memorials/Plots 0010 Auctions 0105 Adoption 0110 Announcements 0135 Lost & Found 0140 Personals 0150 Prayers 0160 Ride Sharing 0165 Happy Ads 0170 Coming Events <b>EMPLOYMENT</b> 0200 Domestic 0205 Employment Agencies 0220 Employment Help Services 0225 Employment Resumes 0226 Business Help 0230 Drivers 0240 General Help 0245 Management Help 0250 Medical Help 0255 Part Time Help 0260 Professional Help 0265 Sales Help 0266 Technical Help 0270 Retail Help 0275 Trades 0280 Situations Wanted 0285 Instruction <b>REAL ESTATE SALES</b> 0305 Acreage & Lots 0315 Commercial Property 0320 Townhouses & Condos 0325 Farms	0330 Homes 0331 Open Houses 0335 Income Property 0340 Industrial Property 0342 Investment Properties 0345 Loans & Mortgages 0355 Out of State Property 0360 Water - Real Estate 0380 Vacation Property 0390 Mobile Homes <b>REAL ESTATE-RENTALS</b> 0400 Apartments (Furnished) 0405 Apartments (Unfurnished) 0410 Commercial Property 0415 Garages & Storage 0420 Halls 0425 Houses (Furnished) 0430 Houses (Unfurnished) 0435 Housing To Share 0437 Lots For Rent 0440 Office Space 0460 Rooms (Furnished) 0465 Rooms (Unfurnished) 0475 Townhouses & Condos 0480 Vacation Property 0482 Farms 0483 Acreage 0485 Wanted To Rent <b>MERCHANDISE</b> 0500 Antiques 0520 Building Materials & Equipment 0530 Clothing 0535 Collectibles 0537 Computers & Electronic Equipment 0540 Crafts & Gift Sales 0545 Estate & Tag Sales 0547 Christmas Trees	0550 Firewood & Fuel 0560 Furniture 0565 Farm Machinery 0570 Snow Removal Equipment 0575 Items Under \$100 0580 General Merchandise 0581 Lawn & Garden 0582 Market Basket 0583 Plants, Seeds & Fertilizer 0584 Machinery & Tools 0585 Musical Instruments 0590 Office Furniture & Equipment 0595 Photography & Camera Equipment 0599 Flea Markets 0600 Garage & Yard Sales 0625 Wanted To Buy <b>PETS &amp; ANIMALS</b> 0630 Horses & Livestock 0635 Obedience Training 0640 Pets 0645 Pets Supplies & Services <b>FINANCIAL &amp; BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES</b> 0650 Business Opportunities 0655 Financial Services <b>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</b> 0700 Accounting Services 0710 Appraisers 0715 Architects 0717 Arts & Crafts 0725 Beauty Care Services 0728 Bird Services 0730 Calligraphy 0734 Child Care & Nursery Schools 0735 Computer Services 0740 Counselors 0750 Credit Card Services	0755 Entertainment Services 0762 Home Health Services 0765 Insurance 0770 Legal Services 0773 Limousine & Taxi Services 0774 Massage 0775 Musical Instruction 0776 Market Research 0777 Miscellaneous 0780 Photography 0785 Piano Tuning & Repair 0795 Senior Citizens Services 0800 Sewing Alterations 0801 Shoe Repair 0805 Shopping & Errand Services 0818 Telephone Services 0825 Tutoring & Instruction 0830 Typing & Word Processing <b>HOME SERVICES</b> 0850 Air Conditioning 0855 Alarms & Security 0860 Aluminum & Vinyl Siding 0865 Appliance Repair 0867 Auto Detailing & Service 0870 Bathrooms 0873 Cabinetry 0875 Carpentry 0885 Carpet Cleaning 0897 Carpet Installation 0895 Catering 0900 Ceilings 0905 Ceramic Tile 0907 Ceramic Tile Cleaning 0910 Chimney Cleaning 0915 Cleaning & Hauling 0920 Clock Repairs 0922 Concrete 0925 Construction	0930 Decks & Patios 0935 Drapery & Decorating 0940 Driveways 0941 Duct Cleaning 0945 Electrical 0947 Environmental Testing 0949 Errand Service 0950 Excavating 0955 Exterminating 0960 Fencing 0965 Floor Care 0970 Floors 0975 Fuel Tank Services 0980 Furniture Repair & Refinishing 0985 Garage Doors 0990 Garden Supplies 0995 Glass & Mirrors 1000 Gutters & Leaders 1005 Handyman 1010 Heating 1015 Home Improvements 1018 Home Inspection 1020 Home & Office Cleaning 1025 House Washing 1030 Insulation 1032 Interior Decorating 1035 Kitchens 1037 Laundry Services 1040 Lawn Care & Landscaping 1045 Lawn Mower Repair 1050 Lawn Sprinklers 1055 Locksmiths 1065 Masonry 1067 Miscellaneous 1070 Moving & Storage 1075 Painting & Paper Hanging 1080 Plastering 1085 Plumbing 1090 Pools & Spas	1095 Recycling 1100 Roofing 1105 Rotating 1115 Sewer & Drain Cleaning 1120 Sheetrock & Spackling 1135 Snowblower Repair 1140 Snowplowing 1145 Telephones 1150 Topsoil, Gravel & Sand 1155 Tree Services 1160 TV & VCR Repair 1165 Upholstery & Slipcovers 1170 Vacuum Repair 1173 Wallpaper 1175 Waterproofing 1177 Water Purification 1185 Welding 1190 Windows & Screens 1195 Window Washing <b>RECREATIONAL VEHICLES</b> 1300 Mopeds & Dirt Bikes 1305 Motorcycles 1310 Motor Homes 1315 Travel Trailers 1317 Snowmobiles 1320 Campers & RVs 1330 Boats & Motors <b>TRANSPORTATION</b> 1350 Automotive Financing 1355 Auto Parts & Accessories 1360 Automotive Services 1365 Autos for Sale 1394 Antique & Classic Autos 1400 Four Wheel Drive 1405 Trucks & Trailers 1410 Vans & Jeeps 1415 Vehicles Wanted
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<b>Announcements</b> 170 <b>TURNING EVENTS</b> ST. FRANCIS CATHEDRAL SCHOOL Home School Assoc. Presents Samantha's Ice Cream Social. Sat. April 8, 11am & 3pm. Sun. April 9, 9am-2pm. School Cafeteria, Meluchen. Tickets \$15. Call 732-649-9189	<b>Business Help 226</b> <b>ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS</b> Needed for an insurance agency. Qualifications: good communication and organization skills plus computer knowledge. Insurance experience preferred. Send resume to Lori, NML, PO Box 679, Springfield, NJ 07081 or fax to: 973-379-4961	<b>Business Help 226</b> <b>ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY</b> Expanding Millburn Law firm seeks intelligent, motivated, well-organized individual to handle Partner's calendar and various office responsibilities. Qualified individual must be computer literate and possess excellent communication skills. Fax resume to: (973) 379-6900.	<b>General Help 240</b> <b>ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE CLERK</b> Immediate opening for individual experienced in making collection calls to delinquent accounts. Must be well-organized, good with figures, and PC literate. Good customer service skills a plus. For interview call Patti at: 908-575-5770 ATTN: WORK FROM HOME \$500 to \$600 p/mt mo PAID VACATIONS 1-888-598-3777	<b>General Help 240</b> <b>BOOKKEEPER</b> For Non Profit Organization is Summit NJ. A/R, A/P Posting, Quickbooks Pro, maintain computerized general ledger, prepare financial reports/analysis. Hours 30wks. Salary \$12.00/hr. Fax resume to: 908-273-1457 Attn: Joan CHILD CARE - \$475-600/wk. FT jobs w/ local families. Pd. vac. & hol. Exp. & car req'd. 908-317-9777 VOCATIONAL CAREER Exp. person for our 2 children 2 1/2 & 1 in our Summit home. Live out, r/s. English speaking, must drive. 908-608-0160 YOU CAN CHARGE YOUR AID. We Accept Visa, Mastercard, Amex	<b>General Help 240</b> <b>ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SUPERVISOR</b> NJN Publishing has an immediate opening for a well-organized individual to work with senior management in the preparation and analysis of sales reports and data. Must know spreadsheets and word processing - great opportunity in our Somerville headquarters for someone who is good with numbers. For interview, call Rosemarie Malo (908) 575-6664 Fax: (908) 575-6666 NJN	<b>General Help 240</b> <b>Drivers Open House</b> Tues., 2/25, 10am-6pm 15-31 Papetti Plaza Elizabeth Airborne Express, a leading air express service, currently has several permanent part-time shifts at our Elizabeth location. • 5 openings - 3:30-6:30am shift • 3 openings - 4:30-6:30am shift • 5 openings - 3:00-6:00pm shift • 5 openings - 6:00-9:00am shift Qualified candidates will be energetic, motivated, quick-learners. You must be 21 years of age and have a CDL (Class A, B or C). We offer health / dental/ vision insurance, sick days and vacation. Pre-employment drug screening and background check required. If you are unable to attend our Open House, please call (888) 535-JOBS, Equal Opportunity Employer.	<b>General Help 240</b> <b>THE CRANFORD RECREATION &amp; PARKS DEPARTMENT</b> Is accepting applications for the following part-time positions: • Teen Center Supervisor • Pre-School Assistant • My Parent & Me Instructor • Bus Driver • Senior Aerobics Instructor For further information call 709-7283 E/O/E/M/F/V/H	<b>General Help 240</b> <b>ASSISTANT DIRECTOR</b> Asst. Dir. School Age Care, Summer, Enrichment & Sports Programs. Nat'l accredited programs in award-winning S. Brunswick Schs. Manage AM prog. @ 9 schools. 15 yrs. experience. Supervise camps and curriculum. Potential advancement. Req. BA & exp. working w/ children & supervising adults. Excellent pay/benefits. Fax resume: 732-422-8004. SBCE/SD PO Box 701, Monmouth Jct. NJ 08852.	<b>General Help 240</b> <b>SEASONAL YARD WASTE RECYCLING GROUNDSKEEPER</b> Oper. & maint. at So. Plainfield drop-off. Saturdays 3/16-4/30; 10-20 hr/wk 5/1-9/1. Front-end loader exp. preferred. Call Recycling Coordinator (908) 226-7621. EOE.	<b>General Help 240</b> <b>BABY-SITTER</b> Occasional afternoons for 2 young children in my Warren Home. 908-842-9496	<b>General Help 240</b> <b>CASHIERS/ STOCK HELP</b> FT/PT. Apply at: Super Saver Liquors, 886 Rt. 22E Somerville, NJ. 908-722-6700 CHILD CARE Bridgewater, live out for 7 yr. old. Before & after school. Great pay. Must drive. 908-722-6660 CHILD-CARE-Live-in Nanny for 2 children. 732-482-0132
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**YOU make them COOL.**



The GMC Savana comes supported by a full-length box frame, and nearly a century of truck-designing experience, so when you get behind the wheel, there's nothing but smooth sailing.

Savana Cargo Vans  
USV & Cube Vans  
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With seating for eight, 170.4" of cargo space, a 190-horsepower engine and option savings of up to \$2,700\*, Safari gives you plenty of room and power at a great value.

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1-800-773-8757

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**CHILD CARE**  
In Westfield home. Live-out. children in school. DL req'd. 908-232-8812

**CHILD CARE NANNY**  
Needed, F/T or P/T ASAP. Car & exp req'd. 908-754-8161

**CHILD CARE - Work in your own home.** Apply at Monday Morning Inc 908/668-4884

**MAIL ROOM PART-TIME**  
Positions avail. Available shifts Wed. 4pm-midnight, Thurs. 8am-2pm. \$7/hr. Apply in person at:  
Somerset  
Messenger-Gazette  
44 Veterans Memorial Dr. Somerville, NJ  
Or Call  
(908) 575-6660  
NJN

**RECEPTIONIST**  
Major Union County Contractor seeking individual with good phone and basic communications skills. Also light data input. Send resume to:  
Controller  
150 Oak Ave., Union, NJ 07083

**SECRETARY**  
PT/FT. Small busy law office. Downtown Westfield. Will train the right person. Call for an appointment. 908-232-8787

**COUNTER HELP**  
No exp. nec. Fax hrs. Menger's Bakery. Call 908-686-8282

Ad Sales:  
**A Career Opportunity**  
The largest weekly newspaper network in NJ has Somerville-based opening for ad sales exec ready to take control of his or her income potential.  
Established territory is located in growing Somerset County. Applicants with motivation and sales experience will have opportunity to grow their career with us.  
Compensation includes salary plus commission, mileage, vacation, 401(k) and full health benefits. If you are ready to excel in a fast-paced, deadline environment where success is rewarded, contact Advertising Director Steve Jankowski at:  
The Messenger Gazette  
44 Veterans Memorial Dr., East Somerville, NJ 08876  
Fax: 908-575-6666  
EOE

**WANTED**  
WAREHOUSE/MESSENGER  
FULL-TIME  
Monday 9-5:30  
Tuesday 1:30-10  
Wednesday 9-5:30  
Thursday 9-5:30  
Friday 9-5:30  
Full medical & Dental  
Must have valid NJ Drivers License  
\$7 per hour  
Call Cathy at 732-396-4455 for interview.

**KENNEL HELP**  
PT Animal hospital. Vet Asst. kennel custodial work. 20 hours per week. Evs. & Sat. Will train! 908-322-7500

**RECEPTIONIST**  
Personable energetic person required for surgical office. Insurance experience required. Good working cond. offered based on package. Salary & hours neg. Fax resume. 908-789-1729

**GRAPHIC ARTIST / PAGINATOR POSITIONS**  
Excellent opportunity for mac literate creative person. Working knowledge of QuarkXpress and Photoshop. The right individual must display the ability to work and interact with advertising sales & editorial staff and be able to adapt to an environment of daily deadlines. Production experience a plus! Compensations include salary, vacation, 401(k) plan, and full benefits.  
If interested, fax or send letter and resume to:  
The Messenger Gazette  
44 Veterans Memorial Drive East  
Somerville, NJ 08876-0899  
Attn: John P. Tsimboukis  
Fax: (908) 575-6666 / Phone: (908) 575-6710  
Equal Opportunity Employer

**Get paid to talk on the phone!**

**Join the SRI team!**

SRI is a nationally known research company based in Westfield—and we are looking for **part-time interviewers** to conduct our opinion studies. We are not telemarketers! **We don't sell anything.**

SRI team members are eligible for:

- \* A \$100 bonus after 3 months
- \* Paid training
- \* Merit reviews
- \* Advancement
- \* 401(k) savings plan

**Newly Increased Hourly Rates**

Call between **9AM - 4PM or 7PM - 9PM**

**Statistical Research, Inc.**  
(908) 654-4000, Ext. 188

General Help 240

FOOD SERVICE Seeking friendly attitudes for team work in... 908-204-1330 ext. 127.

LANDSCAPE

Formen & Laborers, Construction, Garden Center, Position & Maintenance. Call 908-226-1400.

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST

Bridgewater Area, 10 yrs. exp., experience. Call 732-648-6307.

PROGRAM ASSISTANT

Essex County, Community Development Department. Part-time program assistant to assist with recreation programs for individuals with disabilities. Call 908-526-5650 for application.

General Help 240

LIBRARY ASSISTANT TECHNICAL SERVICES Under direction of the Technical Services Librarian performs acquisition, cataloging, classification and processing of library materials and maintenance of the library's online catalog. Maintains all necessary records pertaining to the acquisition and processing of library materials. Bachelor's degree preferred. Library experience a major plus. RVC offers an outstanding benefit package. Forward resume to Human Resources, Raritan Valley Comm. College, P.O. Box 3300, Somerville, NJ 08876, or fax to 908-526-4248 or E-mail to: jobline@raritanval.edu AA/EOE

TEACHER

Teach Mommy & Me 1-2 year olds. Degree pref. Good PT pay. 732-940-7772

OPHTHALMIC ASSISTANT

PT-For eye doctor's offices in Westfield & Livingston. Mon.-Fri. 8:45-1:00. Medical exp. not required. 908-232-0909

Medical Help 250

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST Modern Perio Office looking for responsible person to handle front desk duties. Dental & computer knowledge a must. Bi-lingual A+. Call for more details 908-278-9222 or Fax: 908-931-1381

MEDICAL ASSISTANT

Excellent opportunity available in busy office medicine practice for experienced individual with strong assisting skills. EKGs, Callbacks. Heavy Typing. Venipuncture not required. rotate 1/2 Sat./mo. Excellent opportunity. Fax resume to: 908-232-1920

MEDICAL REFERRAL / OFFICE PERSON

Busy internal medicine practice seeking referral person. Must be organized and have some knowledge of insurance. Please fax resume to: 908-232-1920

Part-Time Employment 255

BRAND NEW PARTY PLAN To The Home & Garden Party Average profit of \$100-\$150 per show. Earn free kit. Call Pam @ 908-534-9070

OFFICE ASSISTANT

General office duties for regional office. Flex. hours, nice atmosphere. Respond in writing to: BUSCH INC. 39 DAVIS STREET 90. PLAINFIELD, NJ 07060

TEACHERS

Sylvan Learning Center is seeking part-time, certified teachers to instruct students in our individualized educational programs. We provide diagnostic and prescriptive instruction for students. K-Adult. We emphasize positive reinforcement and self-esteem. Part-time hours: afternoons and evenings Mon.-Thurs some Sat. mornings. Call Sylvan Learning Center of Martinsville at 732-358-1970 (EOE)

Professional Help 260

NURSERY SCHOOL DIRECTOR

F/T. 3 yr. old thru kindergarten. Degree in education, teaching certification and exp. required. Advanced degrees and supervisory exp. helpful. Competitive salary. Submit resume to: CPWREN/Dept. AD, 70 Maple Street, Summit, NJ 07901. No phone calls please.

Sales Help 265

SALES See our ad in today's paper under "Sales Help" SALES ASSOCIATES-F/T & P/T in our new branches located in Branchburg and Manville.

REAL ESTATE

Switching careers? Find out how you can enjoy the best training and marketing support in the industry from the nation's largest individually owned real estate company. Friendly, spacious office. Call: Michael J. Manager Bridgewater Office (908) 688-0100 mking43923@aol.com WEICHERT REALTORS

Sales Help 265

BANKING OPPORTUNITIES

The Trust Company of New Jersey seeks aggressive, yet friendly individuals who enjoy working in a sales oriented environment. We are creating the need for an IN-STORE MANAGER, ASSISTANT MANAGER and SALES ASSOCIATES to form a successful team at our new supermarket branch opening soon in:

ELIZABETH

Successful candidates must have very good customer service and strong cross-selling skills; in-store bank exp preferred; non banking candidates must have proven ability to sell retail products and will be trained to sell bank products to existing as well as prospective customers. Good written and communication skills necessary.

We offer a competitive salary & benefits package in an environment that rewards individual accomplishments. Please forward resume to:

Human Resources Department THE TRUST COMPANY OF NEW JERSEY 35 Journal Square Jersey City, NJ 07306 FAX: (201) 420-2474 www.trustcompany.com No Phone Calls Please EOE M/F/H/V

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The Wheel Deal Run your ad till your car sells! \$35.95 (4 lines, each additional line \$2) For private party only. Prepayment required. The Big Deal Items from \$101 - \$5,000 (4 lines, 1 week. Each additional line \$2) For private party only. Prepayment required. The Best Buy Items under \$100 (3 lines, 1 week. Each additional line \$1) For private party only. Prepayment required. Deadline: Friday at 5 PM for the following week. NJN Call 1-800-472-0102

ADVERTISING SALES:

The Suburban News, Union County's Largest Weekly Newspaper is offering an excellent Full Time opportunity to join a professional sales team, and take over an established territory. Candidates must be detail oriented & enjoy working in a fast-paced environment, with the ability to meet deadlines. Benefits include: Medical/Dental, Prescription plan, 401K, and more. To apply: send resume to: Advertising Director, Eileen Bickel at: Suburban News 301 Central Ave. Clark, N.J. 07066 Fax 732-381-0098 EOE

Part-Time Employment 255

P/T POSITION

Reliable person to fill vending machines once a week in the Scotch Plains & Westfield area. Hourly pay + mileage reimbursement. Must have reliable vehicle. Call Deryl @ 908-578-6670.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Computer data entry, light typing, light phone, flexible hours. Call: 908-278-1335 or fax resume 908-278-9573

DRIVER LIMO SERVICE

PT/FT. Good driving rec., neat appearance, flex. day hrs., good pay. Call: 6am-5pm only 908-218-8852

BOOKKEEPER

Immediate opening, duties include general clerical and experience in using Quick Books or Quicken. Call 908-304-0994.

THOMAS LINCOLN/MERCURY PRESIDENT'S WEEK SALES EVENT! ALL AMERICAN SIZED SAVINGS ON EVERY MODEL IN STOCK! 2.9% Financing! Brand New 2000 Mercury Sable GS \$17,595, Cougar \$17,995, 2000 Lincoln Town Car Signature \$36,995. Every Other Lincoln & Mercury Model Discounted For This Event! Quality Pre-Owned Vehicles - Low Mileage - Big Value!

It's Our 65th Birthday! TRIPLE BIRTHDAY SAVINGS! Wyman's, Lincoln's & Washington's. Save Now! BRAND NEW 2000 FORD WINDSTAR LX \$289. TODAY'S BEST USED CAR & TRUCK "LOW PRICED" VALUES! 1984 NEW YORKER STU AVE. \$1750, 1988 TOWN CAR \$2150, 1991 VOYAGER \$2250, 1991 TEMPO L \$2250, 1991 TEMPO L \$2850, 1985 190 DIESEL \$4950, 1994 ELANTRA \$5250, 1994 CAVALIER \$6950, 1994 TRACKER CONVERTIBLE 4X4 \$7550, 1996 CAMRY LE \$7550, 1993 BONNEVILLE SE \$7950, 1994 TAURUS GL \$8250, 1997 NEON HIGHLINE \$8550, 1986 300 SE \$8950, 1997 ESCORT LX WAGON \$9250, 1996 TAURUS LX \$10,250. WYMAN OF MAPLEWOOD SATURDAY SERVICE 8AM-1PM 1713 SPRINGFIELD AVE., MAPLEWOOD 973-761-6000

# Drive A BMW... SMART. Lease From Us... BRILLIANT!

*The new, 2000 BMWs are a product of world-class engineering, that combines luxury, power and performance for unsurpassed driving pleasure. Your new, 2000 BMW is a product of our unrelenting efforts to bring you the area's most affordable, low-payment lease plans.*



**2000 BMW 328ci**  
COUPE  
**\$399**  
Lease for **36 mo.**

**2000 BMW 528i**  
SEDAN  
**\$499**  
Lease for **36 mo.**

6 Cyl, 5-Spd, PS, PABS, A/C, AM/FM St. CD, Full Power, Heated Seats, Moonroof, Premium Package, MSRP \$38,160, VIN# YJP00563, \$3,779 due at delivery incl \$2,500 cap cost reduction, \$400 ref sec dep, \$480 bank fee & 1st mo payment, Total payments \$14,364; Total lease cost \$17,344. ELPO \$25,567

6 cyl, Auto, PS, PB, A/C, AM/FM cass, Premium pkg, Leather, Moonroof, Heated Front Seats, MSRP: \$45,395, STK: 11215, VIN: YGU18244, \$3,979 due at delivery incl: \$2,500 cap cost reduction, \$500 ref. sec. dep, \$480 bank fee & 1st mo. pmt. Total pmts: \$17,964, Total lease cost: \$20,944, ELPO: \$30,414.65.

Assuring Your Satisfaction By Exceeding Your Expectations

Assuring Your Satisfaction By Exceeding Your Expectations

**MORRISTOWN BMW**

PROUD MEMBER OF THE RYAN RETAIL GROUP

170 Madison Avenue (Route 124) Morristown, NJ

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All leases are closed-end for credit qualified individuals. Lessee resp. for maint., excess wear & tear, and at lease end for mileage in excess of 10,000 mi/yr. at 20¢/mi. Prices incl. all costs to be paid by a consumer, except for licensing, reg. fees & taxes. Not responsible for typos.

All leases are closed-end for credit qualified individuals. Lessee resp. for maint., excess wear & tear, and at lease end for mileage in excess of 10,000 mi/yr. at 20¢/mi. Prices incl. all costs to be paid by a consumer, except for licensing, reg. fees & taxes. Not resp. for typos.

# ready to buy a new car?

Check the classified ads first.

Want to get into a new car fast? Get into the classified section first. Classified ads offer the widest selection of new and used vehicles in the market. Plus, classified ads are the most convenient way to comparison shop features, prices and payments.

Ready to ride? Check the classified section first.

classified first  
the first place to look for everything



### Sales Help 265

#### RECRUITING ADVERTISING SALES

NJN Publishing has an immediate opening for a sales professional. Candidates must possess the motivation to sell in a competitive market, be willing to work hard to achieve sales excellence, manage multiple tasks on a regular basis, and have excellent communication, presentation, and closing skills. In return, the successful candidate will earn an excellent salary and incentive package from a newspaper group that recognizes accomplishment. Also included are health, dental, eye care and life insurance programs, paid holidays and a 401k plan. Earnings potential \$30,000+.

If you are looking for an exciting opportunity that will challenge your sales skills, email or fax your resume with a cover letter detailing why you should be considered for this position.

Reply to:  
**Cathy Clark**  
Classified Sales Manager  
Fax: 1-877-330-9955  
email: cclark@express-times.com



### Retail Help 270

**RETAIL**  
Prestige Collections, the premier gift and collectible store in The Mall at Short Hills, has openings for FT / PT Sales & management. We offer a competitive salary and benefits. For career opportunities call: Ms. Joseph @ 973-378-3637

### Employment Trades 275

**ELECTRICIAN**  
5 YEARS minimum experience commercial & industrial wiring. Must know conduit bending. Must have own hand tools. Must have drivers license. 908-466-8378

**ELECTRICIANS**  
Exp nec. New homes and commercial wiring. Exc. benefits. Com Electric. 908-722-1490

### Situations Wanted 280

**HOUSE CLEANING** Polish lady, exp. rel. own trans. Margaret 908-429-2095

\* Polish Agency Inc. - Specializing in elderly/sick care. Call 908-688-9140

**HOME CARE FOR ELDERLY** In/Out Polster Agency Call 908-928-0494

**HOUSE CLEANING** Exp'd w/rel's. Reasonable rates 908-704-2147 or 981-9043

**HOUSEKEEPERS, NANNIES, ELDER CARE** All nationalities. Screened. Lic. Bonded. Serving Tri-state area. AURORA AGENCY 732-222-3369

Loving Christian Mom avail. for F/T Day Care 732-748-0780

**CLEANING done by experienced Polish woman** Ref's. own transp. Call Sylvia. 908-429-8663

**HOME & APT CLEANING** References, own transp. Call Anabela 732-466-8385

**LEILA & S SERVICES** Cleaning offices & apartments 732-860-0887

### Real Estate Sales

**Homes for Sale 330**  
"FORECLOSED GOV'T HOMES"  
Save up to 50% or more! Minimum or no down payment! For listing call now 7 days a week. (800) 429-3680, ext. 14-999

**FORECLOSED HOMES**  
Low or \$0 down Gov't & bank repos. Financing available. Local listings.

### Real Estate Wanted 360

**ALL/ANY CONDITION** Cash paid for your property. Fast closing. No red tape. Call Today. ERA Queen City Realty. Ask for Lydia @ 908-323-5484

**Vacation Property for Sale 380**  
\*\* CAMPGROUND MEMBERSHIP AND TIMESHARE RESALE CLEARINGHOUSE!! DON'T WANT YOURS? WE'LL TAKE IT!! BUY! SELL! RENT! RESORT SALES INT'L 1-800-423-8987

### Real Estate Rentals

**NO PLAINFIELD** N. of Rt. 22. 4 bdr. \$725-800. No pets. After 5pm 908-661-8068

**ROSELLE PARK** 1br apt. avail. in Feb. \$665/mo. ht. wtr. & gas supplied. off st. pkg. a/c. laundry. no pets. 908-241-8881

### Real Estate Rentals

**Apartments (Unfurnished) 405**

**CRANFORD** College age student. Priv. sleeping room suitable to duplicate previous resident. In tech computer set-up. Close to all shops, colleges and Transp. great loc. Prof. type tenants. sharing other quality facilities. \$405/mo. util. included 1 1/2 mo. sec. dep. Ref req. A must see. must meet. Call 908-278-8870

**WARREN** beautiful offic apt., sep. entr., no smoking, no pets. Female/male avail. 3/15 1645/mo. Util. incld. 732-488-3488

### Commercial Property for Rent 410

**WESTFIELD** Medical building, 2 rooms, prime location. Contact Cindy 908-233-8992

**LRG OFFICE w/FP**, carpeted, pkg. exc. visibility \$500/mo. incl. ht. elec. Avail. immed. 908-292-1111

**Housing to Share 435**

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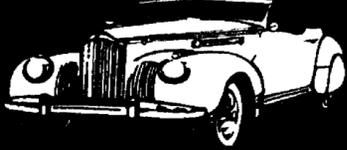
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