# ecuri-Aress Friday, March 29, 2002

#### Vol. 17, No. 13

## Around Town



Batter up! Scotch Plains-Fanwood pitch-

er Steve Pietrucha throws during a scrimmage. The Raiders open their season at 4 p.m. Wednesday at Linden. See a preview of the season on Page C-1.

#### Chamber to hear drought discussion

WESTFIELD -The Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its quarterly breakfast meeting at 7:45 a.m. Tuesday, April 2, in the Kellogg Room at the Westfield "Y". The program will be a presentation by the Elizabethtown Water Co. on the drought issues facing Westfield.

Strategies for water conservation will be reviewed and questions will be answered. Westfield business owners and residents are invited.

The cost is \$15 for guests, \$10 for members. Please contact the Chamber at (908) 233-3021 for more information and/or to make a reservation.

#### **Absentee** ballots available online

**Absentee** ballot applications for the April 16 school election are available online at west-

fieldnj.com. Click onto "2002-2003 School Budget" for the applica-

## b adds back programs All City Chorus,

ld

TV technician to stay

#### By TINA PERROTTA

THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD - The Board of Education unanimously voted in favor of the 2002-2003 school budget after restoring the All City Chorus and the position of TV technician.

The board, which was responding to impassioned pleas from residents and students, said it would explore alternate sources of funding for the programs.

"The ruling wasn't made specific but they are not going to be said Coordinator of cut." School/Community Relations, Lorre Korecky.

The final budget of \$65.4 million requires that \$55.9 million be raised in property tax.

The board made more than 16 budget reductions, totaling about \$700,000.

The reductions include limiting the number of lunchroom aides, eliminating the eighthgrade sports program, cutting back on salary adjustments and tuition savings, and eliminating the positions of part-time nurse and elementary teacher.

The cutbacks were due to the amount of programs the cap would allow and the amount of state aid the district can receive. "This is the first time in 25

years the state has frozen aid. What we can normally offset with state aid is now affecting us," Foley said. "We're considered a relatively wealthy district, and what I mean by that is in income, but when it comes to ratables on property we don't have a lot. Most educational activities are funded by property taxes." Foley went on to explain that districts normally receive 30 percent of their budget in state aid, but Westfield is only receiving 7.9 percent. (Continued on page A-2)



NICOLE DIMELLA/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Easter buddies Sasha Zitofsky, 3, of Fanwood, leans back to get a good look at the Easter Bunny at Chelsea Assisted Living in Fanwood Saturday.

## **Scotch Plains** relents, will pay tuition Judge orders payment be made to magnet school

#### By TINA PERROTTA

#### THE RECORD-PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education announced last Thursday night that they will have to pay back tuition for district students attending Union County Magnet High School.

This announcement came after Judge Beglin's order on March 12 that requires the payment to the Union County Vocational-Technical School be made.

The back tuition is \$146,400. The money was placed in an escrow account until the state board made its decision. The fight to not pay has lasted so long that some of the students who choose to attend the magnet school have already graduated, leaving fewer than a dozen district students currently enrolled. The Board of Education

refused to pay the tuition, claiming that the students could receive the same quality of education at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

50 cents

The board has always paid the tuition for district students to attend the Vocational-Technical School. The schools share a campus on Raritan Road in Scotch Plains.

"What confounds people is we have a pretty wide range of programs and it's not as if the kids are leaving a school that's failing them," said Kathleen Meyer, public information coordinator. "We have no problem with paying the tuition cost for the Vocational-Technical School because ... they're offering something we can't.'

Board member and Principal Edward Saridaki said he thought it was unfair that parents can decide what magnet school to send their child to but the board -can't.

"In this case, we as the tuitionpayers have no option as to what (Continued on page A-2)

## Sheldon opts not to run for board

#### By GREGORY SHORO

THE RECORD-PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — After a lifetime spent dedicated to serving the ever growing needs of local schoolchildren, Dr. Donald Sheldon has decided to not seek another term on Plains-Fanwood of Board Education. Sheldon, who has been a resident of Scotch Plains for more than 30 years, wants to spend his retirement enjoying quality time with his wife of 55 years, his five children and 11 grandchildren. Through over 50 years of ser-vice to public education, Sheldon's duties have ranged from teacher and guidance counselor to administrative positions such as director of pupil services and director of guidance for the entire district. "I've always been committed to public education and improving education programs for our children," said Sheldon, who received his doctorate from Columbia, adding that "it has been a pleasure to work coopera-

tively with the board for the last nine years.

Chove described Sheldon as "a man of passion and integrity, who, through his ideas and involvement, has constantly made sure that not just some children in the school district learn, but that they all do," and district very thoughtful." the community in the process.

the Scotch Plains-Fanwood district, and Dr. Sheldon has continually been a citizen, educator and professional who has given all of his time and intellect to the students, faculty and community as a whole," said Choye. "I can call him anytime with a school concern and he is always

described it as "the most fulfilling activity he has been able to be a part of."

A career in education and community service, however, does not come without its share of trying times. Like many of his peers on school boards throughout the nation. Sheldon has been very involved in the current contract negotiations taking place between the Board of Education and the teacher's association, shouldering the difficult role of an administrator, standing on one side of an issue, while truly wanting to see both parties end the ordeal pleased, despite the high tension.

tion form which can be printed, filled out and mailed to the Union County clerk in Elizabeth no later than April 9. Applications are also available at the Westfield Board of **Education Business Office**, 302 Elm St., Westfield public school offices, and in the Westfield Municipal Building, as well as in the Office of the Union County Clerk in Elizabeth.

More information about the 2002-2003 school budget is available at the westfieldnj.com web site, as well as at 302 Eim St.



Closing the gap Anita Weikner dances with 12th-grader Bobby Wallden during a game of Name That Tune at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School on

## Inside

Monday.

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#### What you can do

WESTFIELD The Westfield Board of Education will conduct presentations on the 2002-2003 school budget at 7:45 p.m. Wednesday at Westfield High School, 500 Dorian Road; at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Roosevelt Intermediate School, 301Clark St.; and at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 9, at Tamaques School, 641 Willow Grove Road.

"A man of passion and integrity, who, through his ideas and involvement, has constantly made sure that not just some children in the school district learn, but that they all do."

#### Dr. Carol Choye Schools superintendent

Aside from his numerous During his tenure on the board, Sheldon tackled finance responsibilities in education, one of his fondest accomplishments and budgetary issues, as well as aided in the establishment of within the community was the role he played on the team that curriculums for the school sysfounded the Fanwood-Scotch tem. Sheldon also played a major Plains Tiny Tim Fund, a nonrole, and was very proud to be an profit organization that for nearadvocate in the selection of superintendent of schools Dr. ly 19 years has provided financial assistance for medically "I've had close to 10 years in needy children. Sheldon

"I feel positive at this point," said Sheldon, who hopes a final agreement can be reached in early April. "The deliberations have been very worthwhile for both parties."

"It has been the best and most truly satisfying experience to me," observed Sheldon regarding his career. "I hope that my services have been received as satisfying and helpful to the people of the community as well."

## Westfield patrolman is the county's finest

Carol Choye.

#### By TINA PERROTTA

THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — Patrolman Christopher Battiloro may look and act like a typical cop but in the eyes of Union County Prosecutor Thomas V. Manahan he is different from his 55 peers.

Battiloro was recently honored with the "Municipal Police Officer of the Year" award last Monday by Prosecutor Manahan. He was the only patrolman in Union County to receive this honor

"It was a surprise," Battiloro said. "You suspect somebody who's older to get an award like that, somebody with more experience, somebody with more time on the job."

Battiloro is modest about his achievements. With only five years on the job, the 28-year-old Battiloro is credited with two life-saving commendations. He also received a command citation for catching an armed robber and graduated at the top of his class at John H. Stanler Police Academy in Scotch Plains.

The annual law enforcement honor recognizes high achievement, testimony in court and a

special sensitivity toward the rights of crime victims.

These requirements were furdemonstrated after ther Battiloro spent four months with the county's Hi-Tech Task Force that develops evidence against criminals using the Internet.

While there Battiloro learned how to use the Internet to identify thefts and stop the exploitation of children in pornography. This form of law enforcement was not easy, according to Battiloro, because many people who log onto the Internet use screen names to hide their true identity.

"It's a computer literate society today and the computer can be used to facilitate crimes. The assignment down there was to learn and then come back up here and conduct investigations," Battiloro said.

One of his most interesting cases lead to the arrest of a 14year-old Union County juvenile who was stealing credit card numbers over the Internet. The juvenile posed as an America Online (AOL) representative and was able to get the credit card account numbers of 27 people in

(Continued on page A-2)



NICOLE DIMELLA/STAFF R Westfield Patrolman Christopher Battiloro has been named the Union County Municipal Policy Year.

COGRAPHER

## Scotch Plains-Fanwood board adopts budget directly influence class instruc-

#### By TINA PERROTTA THE RECORD PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS With support from residents, the Board of Education voted to adopt its budget for 2002-2003. March 21.

Before announcing the school tax on the average home will increase by 6.65 percent for both Scotch Plains and Fanwood, Superintendent Carol the district's educational standards with a brief speech.

"We work with parents because we think the most important commodity for Scotch Plains-Fanwood School District are our students and their parents," Choye said. "We hire excellent teachers and talk about programs that really meet the needs of our students. My dream for the Scotch Plains-

Choye showed her support for Fanwood students is to give them the best education to be confident and caring lifelong learners

The tax will rise \$354 yearly for an average home assessed at \$117,000 in Scotch Plains and \$334 yearly for an average home assessed at \$83,000 in Fanwood. Board member Greg Nowlin told residents that Fanwood appears to be hit harder because it collects taxes on a calendar year while Scotch Plains collects on a school year. The budget increase was

tion.

classes.

five.

blamed on an increase in student enrollment and the lack of increased state aid.

"It's very very important that we have the support from as many people as possible," said board President Donald Sheldon. "We certainly encourage any amount of support for this budget."

The Power Point Presentation offered by the board mainly showed the various programs implemented for the next school year. These programs and positions included the addition of nine instructional positions.

Though six secretarial and classroom aide positions were eliminated, Choye told residents that they have not eliminated any teachers or staff who

## Scotch Plains relents, will pay tuition

million budget include new

materials, texts, equipment,

writing materials for grade

three, additional paperback

trade books for grades seven

through 12, and expanded

Quark software for journalism

Also, new material expanding

current elementary programs in

grade six were added as well as

journal supplies and parent

resources for Everyday Math in

grades kindergarten through

In Science, Social Studies and

World Languages, the board

added equipment for inquiry-

based science, high school

physics texts, new curriculum

and state history programs and

(Continued from page A-1) school we will pay for," Saridaki said. "I don't think we should pay it and I think the whole system has their own agenda. I will be voting no on this and I implore my fellow board members to do the same on this."

Board attorney Doug Hansen

told members that if they vote no and don't pay, the Union County Vocational attorney can return to the court and get another order. Hansen advised members to obey the order and warned them of the consequences for not complying.

"I don't take it personally," board member Jessica Simpson said. "Choice is the future and 1 think parents want choice."

Despite Hansen's advice and the court order, board members Saridaki and Pat Hoynes-O'Conner, still voted not to pay.

"We have been involved in litigation for the last couple of years," board member Thomas Russo said. "When we started litigation I believed we were right and I still believe we are right. The state decided to change the rules in the middle of the game.

## Patrolman is the finest

(Continued from page A-1) the states and internationally. He then used the information to purchase various items online.

As a student at Westfield High School, Battiloro did not know what career path his life would take, but one of his dreams was to become a firefighter like his father. His father, former Fire Chief Paul Battiloro, had reservations, and told his son to think

career, Battiloro thought about

materials, additional technology resources and multivear globes Other programs and positions maintained or added to the \$52

Students will also have mobile presentation units and wireless mobile laptops in the middle and high school.

The mobile presentation units and laptops will give students the opportunity to work on a project simultaneously without having to wait to use a classroom computer.

"Scotch Plains and Fanwood have seen the importance of education on our children and we are protecting our two most valuable assets, our children and our homes." said resident Mary Ball Cappio, "I thank the board for being as conservative as possible for presenting the budget and allowing us to deliver the curriculum we've become accustomed to.

## Westfield board adds back programs

(Continued from page A-1)

"This budget doesn't include everything we wanted to include," said School Board President Arlene Gardner.

On the flip side, the board also implemented initiatives planned for next year.

These initiatives include training for differ entiated instruction, the introduction of the Gifted and Talented pilot program, the replacement of both fifth grade and high school computers, improving district fields, updated program for sixth-grade curriculum and new textbooks for revisited curriculum.

"The success of our students is reflected in many ways, including their proficiency in national and state tests where they well exceed the average scores," Foley said. "The task that lies before us is to maintain our educational standards for an even larger student population. Enrollment is expected to increase by more than 120 students next year. Our 2002-2003 hudget includes more textbooks, technology and teachers to accommodate this growing enrollment.'



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about becoming a cop. In the midst of choosing a



Clemson University In 1995 he graduated from the university with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history. Battiloro took his degree home with him and considered the advice of his father. "It's where I've lived all my

becoming an attorney and trav

eled to South Carolina to attend

life." Battiloro said "My father worked for this town. It just seemed natural (to work in Westfield):

In addition to the Westfield Police Department, Battiloro still works with the prosecutor's office. His newest role will be that of husband when he marries his fiance Jana. The plaque given to him by the prosecutor's office hangs on a wall in their apart-



March 29, 2002



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**Briefs** 

**Library** Friends plan book sale

after Easter Week.

WESTFIELD — The Friends of the Westfield Memorial

Library have scheduled their

annual book sale for the week

the East Broad Street library

from noon-5 p.m. Friday, April 5;

9 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, April 6;

and 9 a.m. noon Monday, April 8.

Hardcover books, paperbacks, cookbooks, children's books and

coffee table books are desired.

Textbooks, magazines, Reader's

Digest Condensed Books and old

Donations will be accepted at

#### **Record-Press**

encyclopedias are not wanted. The sale begins with a preview for members 9 a.m.-noon Tuesday, April 9. If you are not a member, you can become a member at \$10 that day.

Sale hours for the public are 2-9 p.m. Tuesday, April 9; 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, April 10-12; and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, April 13.

Chairmen of the book sale committee are Sadie Schoss and Ed Orlando. Also on the committee are Arleen Burgess, Jane Curtis, Linda Lolterjahn, Debbie Bailey, Mary Orlando, Colleen Bodayla, Marguerite Siegel, Carolyn Pulliam, Tina Lesher and Teddy Taranto.

#### Treffinger wins Union endorsement

Jim Treffinger, the Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate, won the Union County GOP endorsement Saturday.

He defeated his closest primary opponent, Diane Allen, 165 to 49 votes.

Besides the Union endorsement, Treffinger has secured the official organization endorsements of the Hudson, Somerset, Ocean and Monmouth parties.

#### Legal secretaries offer scholarship

The Union County Legal Secretaries Association is accepting applications for its Helen D. Hansen Memorial Scholarship.

A \$500 grant is awarded to a full-time student from Union County who plans a career in criminal justice or the law. For an application, phone Mary Lou Einhorn at (908) 241-0611 or Helena Goworek at (908) 289-7356

, All applications must be received by April 15.

#### **Coalition** for Arts hosts '50s dance

WESTFIELD - The Westfield the following responsibilities: Coalition for the Arts sponsors a "Fabulous '50s Dance" 7:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday, April 6, at the **VFW** hall in Clark. Live '50s music is from Satin and Gold. Cost of \$20 includes subs, salads, beer, wine and soda. Seating is limited; for tickets, phone Linda King at (908) 789-4417. Proceeds benefit the fine arts program in the Westfield school system and scholarships for graduates.

county organization, efficiency

Task force named to improve

George Geisinger donates blood Tuesday at the Masonic Atlas Pythagoras Lodge on Central Avenue in

ELIZABETH — A task force has been created to examine the county's organizational structure and make \* recommendations to increase the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability in government.

Doing his part

Westfield

Union County Manager George W. Devanney appointed the seven-member panel.

The task force includes: Freeholder Chairman Lewis Mingo Jr.; county counsel O'Dwyer; Jeremiah Assemblywoman Linda Stender; Ed Zarnock, president of the Union County Central Labor Council AFL-CIO; Dr. Dawood Farahi, chairman of the of Department | Public Administration at Kean University; Antonio Rivera of the Department of Economic Development; and Frank Guzzo, director of the county Department of Human Services. The group is charged with

with an emphasis on measuring cations of candidates. fairness and results.

the deputy county manager similar type of incentive proposition and review the qualifi-

Physical therapists commonly use passive

modalities to help alleviate intense debilitating

episodes of low back pain. Heat and/or we are

the must commonly used of such modulities to

help reduce muscle spisite and inflantmation.

Some patients experience more pain relief with

heat, and others with ice. The two may also be

used ditentately. They are generally applied for

12-12 minutes, once every two hours, and are

more useful in the first few days in the course of

acute low back pain. In addition, ultrasound is

a form of deep heating, in which sound waves,

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## Young inmates tell pupils the way it is

#### BV GREG MARX

STAFF WRITER

GARWOOD --- "My name is Greg, otherwise known as Inmate #331678C," the young man in the brown state-issue uniform told the middle-school students in the Lincoln School gymnasium Tuesday, "I no louger have a name, I have a number."

Like the other three inmates speaking at Tuesday's "Project Pride (Promoting Responsibility in Drug Education)" event, Greg had grown up in a good family. He had been a solid student, and a successful and dedicated youth wrestler.

Then, in eighth grade, he started drinking and smoking marijuana. Soon the using became dealing, and the marijuana became harder drugs. He was expelled from school, spent some time in juvenile delinquent programs, and became a fulltime drug dealer.

Then one day, after what he said Jessica.

calls a "three-day drug run," he accidentally ran over a man he had cheated in a drug deal. The man suffered serious injuries and will walk with a limp for the rest of his life. Greg, now 22, is in the middle of a five-year prison sentence.

Greg's fellow inmate Mike, 20, shared a similar story - a promising young life derailed by drinking and drug use that began in eighth grade. The other inmates, Jessica and Amy, shared stories of one bad night rather than a gradual descent --dessica is serving four years for assaulting another woman in a bar fight, Amy is in prison for a drunken-driving accident that killed her boyfriend --- but both stressed how bright futures can be ruined by even one bad choice. That idea can be hard to con-

vev to middle schoolers. "Every kid thinks they're invincible," Amy admitted.

"We thought the same thing,"



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711/44

#### **Cancer** foundation names new director

SCOTCH PLAINS - Monica Vermeulen is the new director for the Central Region of the Emmanuel Cancer Foundation, filling a long-open vacancy.

She recently returned to Scotch Plains and will be based in the foundation's regional office at 1815 Front St. A cancer survivor herself, Vermeulen lived in the township before moving away in 1972.

The Emmanuel Cancer Foundation works with families of children who have cancer. Free counseling is available. The foundation also provides a food bank, holiday parties and summer picnics along with an emergency fund.

Volunteers are needed to replenish the food pantry, raise funds and help with other foundation programs. For more information, call Vermeulen at (908) 322-4323.



Review the current organizational structure and make recommendations for operational improvements.

Review the current meritbased compensation system are applied to the Ain and penetrate into the

wit tissues. Ultrasound is especially useful in a lare our speciality, and we will subjust your bills relieving acute episodes of pain and may in for compensation. No faults & Medicate-

P.S. Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS) is another passive modality used to treat acute low back pain. It uses electrical sumalation to modulate the sensation of low back pain by overriding the painful signals that are sent to the brain.

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March 29, 2002

# Commentary

## Time to change state's Constitution

The groan you are hearing from all across New Jersey is the sound of disappointment as home owners learn how much their property tax bills will be rising this year. Faced with a daunting budget deficit, the state has frozen aid to both municipalities and school districts; drastic times called for drastic measures. Yet costs continue to increase, especially salaries and health insurance premiums; belts can be tightened only so far because property taxes are forced to rise.

For years we have railed against the intrinsic inequities of the state's property tax system. And for years our state legislators have done little to offer genuine reform or true relief. Only the conniving mind of a Trenton bureaucrat can unravel the confusing package of rebates and other programs that appeared to give the taxpayers a break but in essence were really just a shell game played on the dirty banks of the Delaware.

In a few weeks, we will discover when the votes are counted on the night of the school election just how angry New Jersey residents are paying ever higher property taxes. We will find out if a record number of school budgets will be defeated because middle-class homeowners of the Garden State are sick and tired of paying the highest property taxes in the United States.

But even if school budgets are rejected, we doubt there will be a movement among the legislators to change the property tax system. The permanent government in Trenton the veteran legislators, the bureaucrats and the lobbyists --- do not like change; after all, the promise of change threatens the status quo and their livelihood. That's why reform of the property tax system must proceed outside the legislative process.

In a letter last week to the 566 mayors of New Jersey, William Dressel, the executive director of the New Jersey League of Municipalities, urged local officials to back legislation, sponsored by State senators John Adler and Bob Martin and Assemblyman Joe Richards, calling for a special Constitutional Convention to implement property tax reform.

Dressel puts the case for a Constitutional Convention succinctly: "New Jersey remains nationally notorious for its unequaled and inequitable over-reliance on the property tax. Why? Because the Legislature has never enacted any of the core recommendations, carefully crafted and exhaustingly justified by study after study."

To get around this logjam, the bill calls for a Constitutional Convention just to consider the property tax system. If the bill passes — and we hope it does — then the question of a Constitutional Convention will appear on the November ballot — and we hope it passes there as well. The Bedminster Township Committee, which has one of the lowest tax rates in Central Jersey, is to be congratulated for passing a resolution Monday supporting the legislation.

The Legislature has consistently shown it cannot be trusted to undertake property tax reform. A Constitutional Convention will take the matter out of the hands of the Legislature (though, unfortunately, politics will continue)

Jersey Boy I'M GONNA GET YOU...GET YOU... GET YOU... 1 YOU LEARN TO TUNE IT OUT AFTER AWHILE. and the second second the

# Letters to the editor

## **First Aid Squad answers charges**

#### To The Record-Press:

I would like to clarify certain statements that were made within "Changes in store for squad?" (article, March 14).

The first few paragraphs insinuated that the Cranford First Aid Squad has experienced instances where they were not able to fully man a crew for an emergency. This is not accurate. The Cranford First Aid Squad guarantees to have at least one riding, full crew on all primary medical emergency calls. There has not been one instance where we have missed a first call. Our records as well as the records at the Police Department back these statements fully.

There have been no formal complaints to the Cranford First Aid Squad from the township regarding our responses until our recent discussions regarding the Fire Department on medical calls. If there was a formal complaint, we would easily rectify the potential problematic situation so that quality assurance is maintained.

The Fire Department is only used in those instances where a second call is received for an ambulance. This means that while the first crew is out serving the township on a medical call, another request for an ambulance is received simultaneously. Never has the Cranford First Aid Squad missed a call. Second calls are paged as "requests for second crew" per the mutual aid agreement with surrounding towns. A grand-scale example of mutual and is Sept. 11, where there was not enough manpower within (New York Clity, so surrounding communities were called upon. This has always been the case in the past and will continue to be the case for every municipality. Furthermore, the Cranford First Aid Squad has a strong partnership with the Linden Emergency Medical Squad, which operates three ambulances and

assists us in those instance where simultaneous calls are received.

The Cranford police and fire departments have continually supported the Cranford First Aid Squad. Times are changing where medical calls are becoming more and more frequent. Our partnership is the key. but our first area of concern is the people of Cranford. We have been working closely with the Fire Department for second calls within the township. They have provided excellent emergency medical care to the community. The Fire Department's involvement in maintaining first responder care until an ambulance responds from a surrounding community is vital.

The legality of the Fire Department taking an ambalance for emergency calls is being looked into with great scrutiny. Time is important on emergency calls, but if indeed it is an advanced life support emergency where paramedic treatment is needed from the nearby hospital, the transport vehicle arrives in ample time while the paramedic unit is treating the patient. Mutual aid or not, a prompt response is most important, and it will continue to improve as the squad and the township attack problematic situations Communication and constructive criticism are important, especially dealing with township and first aid partnerships. As these observations address fresh wounds and act as more preventative actions rather than corrective, we will continue to be one of the best emergency medical services in the county, for the township, always there, always caring, always your township First Aid Squad.

## Mike Deak Keep the whistles blowing

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

After all, Freud led us to believe that dreams are an artful and deceptive depiction of our inner anxieties — OK, sexual anxieties - through symbolic images. It was only after earning a college degree in social science that I realized my dreams about trains had nothing to do with sexual anxiety. Instead, my dreams of locomotives and cabooses came from the blatantly obvious fact that I grew in Neshanic Station, less than a half mile from two railroads - the main line of the Lehigh Valley and Somerville-Flemington branch of the Jersey Central, I dreamed of trains because trains were a daily part of my life.

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

I will never forget the still and sultry sleepless summer nights when the faint shrick of a Lehigh Valley freight miles away in Three Bridges or Roycefield calmed my panic-ridden insomma. 104 always heard the whistle first; then came the rumble, like the grumbling of the soul, as the mighty locomotives flattened pennies on the rails. The whistle got louder, its pitch changing with the felicities of the Droppler Effect. And the rumbling increased too, louder and louder like a rolling volcano of anticipation. And then, finally, with a long whistle or two; the freight raced through the sleeping town, a burst of excitement among the choir of crickets and dogs exchanging barks of gos- $^{sip}$ 

to play a major role) and provide a reasonable venue for reform. Let's hope the bill passes and enjoys similar success in November.

#### 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 Kathleen Phillips 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 union@njnpublishing.com.

#### **Correction** policy

The Record-Press will correct errors of fact, context or presentation and clarify any news content that confuses or misleads readers. Please report errors to Editor Kathleen Phillips at (908)575-6686.



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MATTHEW NAZZARO Lieutenant, **Cranford First Aid Squad** 

## Life abounds near Rahway River

#### To The Record-Press:

Anti-tax letter writer James Loderstedt attempted to link Cranford's proposed flood control project to Rahway River water quality (3/14). The Rahway River is not a pristine Adirondack brook; it is an urban stream. Runoff from lawns, streets and parking lots contain nutrients, metals and hydrocarbons. The NJDEP bioassessment protocol cited by Mr. Loderstedt focuses upon benthic macroinvertebrates (worms, insect larvae) in river sediment. Macroinvertebrate abundance and diversity are low due to contaminants and low oxygen, as well as frequent disturbance (dredging, sedimentation). In this regard, the Rahway River is hardly

unique. Most New Jersey waterways are impaired Nevertheless, the river, its tributaries, and its

floodplain support a surprisingly rich fauna. Let's consider Lenape Park. According to Friends of Lenape Park

(http://hometown.aol.com/lenapepark1/main.html), the park hosts more than 190 species of birds, 12 mammal species, 10 frogs and toads, eight salamanders, five turtles, and at least four snake species. Despite the developed condition of its watershed, the Rahway River corridor is a valuable oasis of wildlife habitat.

John Cantilli Cranford

## Hyatt Hills course may be too elitist

#### To The Record-Press:

The new Hyatt Hills Golf Course is due to open sometime this summer. This collaboration among General Motors, Clark and Cranford promises to be a tremendous asset to both communities. The members of the Hyatt Hills Golf Commission have put in countless hours and have performed an admirable job in making this dream a reality. However, a couple of topics must be addressed before any final decisions are made regarding the fee structure of the golf course.

First, the commission has proposed having 100 memberships. These members would be able to reserve tee times up to two weeks in advance for Saturday and Sunday mornings. Non-member residents of Clark and Cranford would not enjoy this privilege. Due to the limited number of tee times available, these 100 members would use virtually every single morning tee time from April through October. Hyatt Hills would not, for all practical purposes, be a public golf course, but rather a semiprivate course to be enjoyed by the 100 members who can afford and choose to pay the \$1,500 membership fee.

Second, the commission's plan to require the use of electric carts for all weekend rounds is ridiculous for two reasons. First, it will increase the cost of a round of golf on the weekend to \$43, making it unaffordable for many senior citizens, juniors and lower income res-

idents. Second, it flies in the face of recent United States Golf Association initiatives. The USGA, the governing body for golf in the U.S., advocates walking in order to increase enjoyment of the game as well as for the health benefits. To go against this just to raise some extra cash is greedy and not in the best interests of township residents.

Third, the plan to charge the weekend greens fee on Friday is just another ploy by the commission to help turn Hyatt Hills into a cash generator for the two townships.

Fourth, there is no current concrete plan to provide access to juniors (other than high school golf teams). In fact, it is my impression that juniors may not be that welcome at the course. If they were more welcome, then their fees would be significantly lower than the general public's and they would not be required to take a cart on the weekend.

Hyatt Hills, as it stands now, will not be the public access facility that the residents of Clark and Cranford have been anticipating for the last several years. Rather, it is nothing more than a semiprivate country club that will be enjoyed by the well-to-do members of the Clark and Cranford communities to the exclusion of everyone else.

**RICHARD HURLEY** Cranford

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

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

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

## **Briefs**

#### **UNICO** to help fund Italian studies

• WESTFIELD — The Westfield Chapter of UNICO is contributing to a chair in Italian studies being endowed at Montclair State University.

Funds to help endow the chair are being pledged by UNICO National, an Italian-American organization.

For more information on UNICO, e-mail unico@westfieldnj.com or phone Charles Grillo at (908) 654-3717.

#### **Old** Guard plans membership meeting

WESTFIELD --- The Westfield Area Old Guard, a social club of retired and semi-retired men, will hold it's annual membership meeting on Thursday, April 11, at the Westfield YMCA, 220 Clark St.

Chairman of the Bowling. Bridge, Golf, Shuffleboard and Merrymen singing group will be in attendance for those interested in these activities. Social hour begins at 8:30 a.m. with coffee and bagels followed by a business meeting at 10 a.m. The guess speaker will discuss outreach projects at 11 a.m..

The Old Guard of Westfield is one of 20 chapters in the state dating back to 1931.

For more information, call George Ryan at (908) 232-8094 or Roy Bowman at (908) 276-8299.

#### **Rescue Squad** begins its appeal

WESTFIELD - The Westfield Rescue Squad has begun its annual fund drive.

All homes and businesses in the town have been sent a flier. asking for donations. The all-volunteer Rescue Squad is a private organization that receives no operating funds from the town government.

Emergency medical technicians, fully trained and certified, respond to all emergency calls in Westfield. The Rescue Squad building on Watterson Street, off South Avenue, is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

We invite residents to stop down at our building or stop us when we are out in town," Vice President Dan Sullivan said.

For more information, visit or phone (908) 233-2501. In case of emergency, phone 911.

parking decks, apartment buildings and shops in Westfield's downtown.

WESTFIELD - It could be only But before that can happen, Town Council must choose one of months before visitors and residents see the construction of two the five New Jersey firms who

## Senior citizens encouraged to register for excursions

SCOTCH PLAINS — The JCC of Central NJ, Wilf Jewish Community Campus, 1391 Martine Ave., is now accepting reservations from senior citizens. for the following trips: Register by Friday for the Center for Jewish History and Yeshiva University Museum, 15 West 16 St., NYC, Weds, April 10, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Fee includes guided tours, lunch in the Kosher Date Palm Cafe and round-trip bus transportation, (M) \$40 (NM) \$45. Must reserve by April 15 for the Liberty Hall Museum, 1003 Morris Ave., Union, NJ, Weds, June 5, 1:30 pm. Price includes walking tour (gravel paths and stairs in hishouse 8 toric tea.

By TINA PERROTTA

THE RECORD-PRESS

Transportation NOT included. \$23 per person. Advance registration and \$50 deposit due April 8 for our Overnight in Victorian Cape May, NJ, Thurs, June 27 - Fri, June 28. Price includes motorcoach transportation, oceanfront accommodations, breakfast, Elaine's Dinner Theater, guided tours, Atlantic City with casino bonus, baggage handling, taxes and all gratuities. (M) \$180 per person, double occupancy (NM) \$200 per person, double occupancy. Call Nan Statton at 908-889-8800 x 207.The JCC of Central NJ is a

constituent agency of the United Way and the Jewish Federation of Central NJ.

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entire commission earned on a sale

in exchange for a set monthly fee-

contact Jenny and Mark Berse at

For more information, please

and a per-transaction fee.

(908) 709-1077.

The 100 percent concept, as it is

want to oversee the job.

Today is the deadline for the five applicants to submit their resume which emphasizes experience and cost competitiveness. The companies competing for the job are: Beacon Planning and Realty Advisors, L.L.C., Colts Neck, Atlantic Group, Princeton; Paulus, Sokolowski and Sartor, Warren: DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick, Gluck & Cole, LLP, Teaneck; and Schoor Depalma of Manalapan.

Westfield's new look may be months away

After the council has had a chance to evaluate the resumes, it will choose the firm to oversee the project.

The chosen firm will then designate the two areas that Town Council sought out for the project.

These areas include the southside train station on South Avenue, and lot's number one and eight, between Elm and Prospect streets,

Once the areas have been designated, the winning firm will choose a deck developer.

Because the process is in its initial phase, the size of the structures is not known yet, and the decks may vary in proportion. According to Town

Administrator Jim Gildea, the Parking Committee report proposed the town would retain a small number of the parking space in the decks.

The developer would bear the brunt of the cost because it would

make a profit from the apart-ments and retail structures, -Gildea said.

A-5

The concept of the decks has been around for a while, Gildea said, but the recent decision to include retail and residential development was made to spare taxpayers the cost of the deck construction.

The retail and residential development would also keep the decks from becoming an eyesore in Westfield's historic downtown.

"Instead of seeing a parking deck from the street, you won't even know there's a parking deck behind the structure," Jim Gildea said. "You'll only see a nice strucfure.

## "Last Year I Took 730 Pills For My Headache Only To **Discover I Was Getting Worse!"**

Union County, NJ – A free report is now available that reveals one of the most effective headache relief treatments available today. This free report can be mailed to any headache sufferer who requests it by calling 1-800-566-5456.

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Mastroianni, proprietor of Sole located at 107 Prospect St., recent-

ly received a Certificate of

Excellence from the Downtown

Westfield Corp. for the renovations

and creative visual merchandising

tions and investment properties.

Anna

Mark Berse

Executives

#### Italian shoe store cited for renovations

since it opened last year.

New realty office

opens in Cranford

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Realty

IN UNION COUNTY, IT'S:

WESTFIELD



**Briefs** 

sought for sale

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SCOTCH PLAINS - Books

in like-new condition are wanted

## **Park Middle School taps its honor students**

SCOTCH PLAINS — Park Middle School has issued its honor roll for the second marking period of the 2001-02 school year.

A-6

Named to the distinguished honor roll with A's in all subjects:

Grade 8 — Jennifer Bauer, Sarah Boffa, Courtney Burke, Yvonne Chen, Cleo Chou, Deirdre Clark, Jack Davis, Briana Falco, Gabrielle Falco, Shemane Fritz, Andrew Goldberg, Viktoriya Gorbach, Joshua Green, Elizabeth Jacobs, Elizabeth Katz, Melissa Koerner, Jessica Levine, Rebecca McGuire, Ian McNally, Raunaq Palejwala, Melissa Sette and Katherine Van Haasteren. Grade 7 — John Acito, Kristen

Ferrara.

DI Giants

Of Coard

Barry, Kendall Boyda, Allison Brown, Cathleen Carr, Ana Castillo, Nikolai Chowdhury, Karina DeMair, Laurel Devlin, Matthew Huether, Catherine Kaiserman, Katherine Lauaricella, Kristen Mandala, Stacy Marr, Heather Rodriguez, James Spaeth, Stacey Tanguy, Tiffany Wong and Jason Zelesnik.

Grade 6 — Deborah Albert, Izabela Blach, Avery Boettcher, Ryan Bridge, Daniel Buckley, Deana Caicedo, Katelyn Cavanagh, Bridget Cornwell, Rebecca Fox, Alexandra Fragna, Stephanie Goines, Christina Halma, Lindsay Hauptman, Jessica Impellizzeri, Alec Jacobs, William Jacobs,

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Samantha Knierim, Lavenhar, Caitlyin Leist, Marc L'Heureux, Alexia Lindenberg, Ming Lu, Brianna Mahoney, Brian Many, Maggie McLaughlin, Elizabeth Minski (first marking period), Christina Olsson, Nyanna Quoi, Margaret Reilly, Alice Ren, Hillary Roberts, Travis Rosado, Marc Rosenberg, Michael Scannell, Adam Silverman, Alex Soloway, Katlyn Soriano, Kristen Thompson, Lindsey Trainman, Samantha Traiman, Nitin Viswanathan and

Grade 8 -- Colleen Baines, Clayton Balch, Candace Barnes, Marisa Bianco, Robert Blabolil, Elizabeth Bourchtein, Justine Brown, Robert Burke, Matthew Canfield, Lawrence Chan, Amy Chervenyak, Soo Cho, Sarah Cohen, Christopher Cooper, Henry Coxe, Athena Coyt, Robert Dawson, Joshua Decker, Kathryn Devlin, Brian Dickey, Aaron Doliber, Kristen Dyson, Emily Everson, Matthew Ferrara, Michael Fragna, Brian Glassett, Adriana Guido, Keila Guzman, Shannon Hauser, George Helock, Matthew Hirschhorn, Joseph Jacobi, Loni Kaye, Meaghan Kelly,

Kristen Kersey, Katelyn Kosenick, Jessica McGarry, Hallie Mintz, Jeffrey Mullen, Elijah Nam, Christopher Nilsen, Jeffrey Ondeyka, Alex Pardon, Laura Percoco, Danielle Porter, Cristina Reyes, Dana Sacks, Natalie Sanchez, Kara Song and Joshua Zinman.

Grade 7 — Lauryn Adams, Yeershati Ahati, Kimberlee Appezzato, Alison Baier, Brittany Barnett, Victoria Bauman, Joseph Bianco, Amanda Bobyack, Sarah Boruch, Gregory Brand, Megan Buckland, Katherine Buro, Colin Campbell, Michael Cejovic, Michelle Chan, Alex Cvetovich, Jenna Delle-Donne, Anh Dinh, Jessica Estriplet, Linda Evins, Kelly Frazee, Stephanie Fredas, Kirstan Fuller, Daisy Fung, Alexandra Garber, Samantha Gates, Matthew Gigiel, Christina Guibas, Andrew Haggan, Ibrahim Helm, Ashley Jacobs, Steven Jacobus, Shirley Kim, Maggie Kosciolek, Řachel Levy, Christopher Luby, Kathryn Levy, Magalhaes, Lauren Mains, Laura Marvelli, Brennan McTernan, Lauren Messina, Patrick Mineo, Martin Njoroge, Stephanie Oh, Jonathan Parisi, Tiffany Pasko, Adam Perez, Christopher Pflaum, Rudyard Plesmid, Jeffrey Pober, Portia Price, David Regal, Anthony Ricci, Christopher Rodriguez, Alana Rosato, Andrea Rosko, Melissa Rupnarain, Alexander Russo, Sean Scott, James Sensor,



Adamczyk, Andrea Apuzzio, Courtney Baines, Galina Bayok, Casandra Berwick, Jason Boff, Rebecca Bush, Lisa Campbell, Julia Capodicasa, Julian Cespedes, Nicole Colineri, Robert Cunningham, Lauren Cutrone, John D'Agostaro, John DeMaio, Dauna DeMarsico, Patrick Doliber, Joseph Dunn, Marcus Dyson, George Elmer, Debbie Fung, Andrea Guzman, Wendy Harris, Melissa Helock, Kenneth Hessemer, Thomas Holt, William Hubbard, Alyssa Karis, Adem Kastrati, Nicholas Kauchak, Brett Kerken, Steven Klehm, Allison Kodan, Alexandra Lambos, Jaclyn Lazarus, Robert Leeper, Deidre Lyons, Mary MacDonald, Valerie Madison, Kyle Mihansky, Ryan Mullen, Karen Murad, Khalil Murphy, Nicholas Murray, Emily Nering, Robert O'Connor, Taylor Paraboschi, Stacia Piesch, Ryan Pinkowski, Neil Pratt, Gregory Rappaport, Brandon Reddington, Maria Pia Rivero, Christine Roser, Dennis Ruiz, Andrea Santos, Brian Sensor, Gabriella Sosnowski, James Strobel, Melissa Swanton, Matthew Tenzer, Alexis Turner, Christopher Uehlinger, Janell Vanderwiel, Anthony Vecchione, Amanda Vitollo, Vivian Wang, Danielle Wood, Christine Yutz and Robert Zekunde.





WESTFIELD - Tickets are on sale now for the 12th annual concert benefiting the Youth and Family Counseling Service.

The concert is 8 p.m. Saturday, April 20 at the Presbyterian Church, 140 Mountain Ave. This concert features the Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea, conducted by Rev. Alphonse Stephenson.

Admission is \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors over 65, \$10 for students 18 and under. Patron seating of \$60 includes a reception. Sponsorship of \$300 includes two patron seats, a listing in the program and the reception.

Advance tickets are available at Irma's Bag in Fanwood; Nuts N' Plenty in Scotch Plains; Lancaster Ltd., St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church and the Youth and Family Counseling Service, all in Westfield.

For more information, phone. (908) 233-2042.

#### **Rosary Society** meets April 8

SCOTCH PLAINS - The Altar Rosary Society of St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church, 2032 Westfield Ave., holds its monthly meeting following the 7:30 p.m.. Mass on Monday, April 8.

Officers for 2002-03 will be. nominated and refreshments served. Entertainment is by the Evangel Singers of Scotch Plains.



Andy Wang. Named to the honor roll:

CANADIAN MIST [\$3.60] 1 309 1.78 War	GLENLIVET 5699 Single Mait 561	SMIRNOFF 18 Pt Vodka 80° 18 17	Beller LEEDS 999 75 litter Gin • Vodka 80° 91.75 litter
	1.75L J & B Scotch	1.75L KETEL ONE 2	9** 1.75L BACARDI 20**
1,76L SEAGRAMS	1.75L BLACK & WHITE	Vodka 80°	1.75L BACARDI 0 • Limon 750 BACARDI RUM
1.75L SEAGRAMS	1.75L BLACK & WHITE	199 1.75L STOLICHNAYA Vodka 80° 1,75L FINLANDIA 99 Vodka 80°	ISO LAGANDI NOM
Glandad Whiskov	1.75L GRANTS Scotch.	999 Volka 80 Volka 80 1.75L FINLANDIA Volka 80 1.75L LUKSUSOWA Polish Volka 80 799 Volka 80 1.75L LUKSUSOWA	2 1.75L BOMBAY 3199 SAPPHIRE Gin
AFATAK	1.75L OLD	Tellish Vodka 80°	999 SAPPHIRE GM.
750 VOX 2299	SMUGGLER	1.75L WOLFSCHMIDT	399 Gin
750 VOX Vodka 80' 750 ABSOLUT Vodka 80' Vodka 80' 14 99	1.75L WHITE SIDE Scolch 86.8"	1.75L GORDONS	399 1.75L SEAGRAMS GIN 1499 Regulur + Lime Twist
	750 DEWARS WHITE LABEL	799         1.75L WOLFSCHMIDT           499         1.75L GORDONS           Vodka 80°         1.75L GORDONS           Vodka 80°         1.75L MAJORSKA           Vodka 80°         1.75L GORDONS	199 1.75L GORDONS
		799 Vodka 80°	<b>199</b> Gin
1.75L SAUZA Store 2899	WALKER BLACK	Vodka 80°	Gin
<b>KOSHER WINES</b>		1099 6 4599 914	4599 459 459
( for Passover			15
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750 BARON HERIZOG	Regular Nips	BUSCH 30-Pack 1099 Regular - Light 10cm GIRL	ULI 1799 (CORONA 1999 Regular + Light 19 borns)
750 BARON HERTZOG		MICHELOB 1399 PILSN Regular · Light 1399 URQUE	
CHAMPAGNE	CORDIALS		ORLD OF WINE
750 VERDI 299	1L HIRAM WALKER	399 1.5L GALLO E & J White Zinfandel •	1.5L RENE JUNOT
Spumante	750 SOUTHERN		Vaa uen skinte
750 ANDRE Dry • Pink • Cold Duck • Brut • Spumante 349	750 SOUTHERN COMFORT 70°	1.5L R. MONDAVI Woodbridge	
750 TAYLOR	1L ALIZE PASSION Goki • Red	1.5L R. MONDAVI Woodbridge White Zinfandel	599 1.5L CANEI 699
Brut • Dry	Gold • Red	1.5L SUTTER HOME	White • Rose
760 BALLATORE Gran Spurnante • Rosso	IRISH CREAM	Sarvignon Blanc • Moscato	Pinot Grigio
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750 FREIXENET Extra Dry • 799	Blackberry Brandy	1.5L HERITAGE	
Cordon Negro Brut	750 ROMANA SAMBUCA	699 Chardonnay • Pinot	Cabernet • Chard. • Meriot
750 DOMAINE ST. MICHELLE 899 Brut + Dry	750 GODIVA CHOCOLATE		Frascati • Pinot Grigio
	Orig • White • Cappuccino	Sauvignon Blanc • White Zinfandel	1.5L BOLLA
	Liqueur	250 REDINCED	Chard - Sana - Snave
750 MOET & CHANDON 2899 Brut Imperial NV	1.75L KAHLUA	99 750 BERINGER White Zinfandel	499 Merlot • Pinot Grigio
Brut Imperial NV		750 GLEN ELLEN	599 Binstol Cream
750 VEUVE CLIQUOT 2899 Brut Imperial NV	JUG WINE	Cabernet • Chardonnay	
BRANDY & COGNAC	3L LIVINGSTON CELLARS	750 R. MONDAVI Woodbridge Cabernet • Chardonnay	599 Vinho Verde
750 CHRISTIAN BROS. 759	4L PAUL MASSON		750 MARQUES DE RISCAL A 99
		Sundial Chardonay •	
1.75L E & J ' <b>1 6</b> 99 Brandy	4LALMADEN Chablis • Burgundy •	Engle Peak Merlot • Valley Oaks Cabernet	699 Cabernet • Chardonnay • 199
1.75L RAYNAL		750 R. MONDAVI Coastal	Meriot • Sauvignon Blanc
1.75L RAYNAL 2099 Brandy	4L CARLO ROSSI Chablis • White Grenache •	Cabernet • Chard. • Merlet	Chianti
750 COURVOISIER VS 494 99	Burg + Rhine + Vin Boso +	750 BERINGER Founders Estate Cabernel	
009.00-000	Palsano + Blush + Sangna + White Zinlandel + Chilanti	799 Founders Estate Cabernel • Pinot • Chardonnay • Merlot	899         750 B & G Saint Louis         699           Beaujotars • Chardonnay         750 CORVO         699
Cognac	4L INGLENODK	99 750 KENDALL JACKSON	Q99 Red • White
	4L INGLENOOK Chablis • Rhine • Rose	VR Chardonnay	750 ECCO DOMANI C99
Cognac	5L BOX FRANZIA	150 KENDALL JACKSON	299 Meriot • Pinot Grigio
SODA	Hhinehur • Heitesbig White • Sunset Blush • Oak • Chillable Red	2010 I 727 CILLI -	4 99 Beaujolais Villages +
	5I BOX ALMADEN		199 Beaujolais Villages • 699 Macon Villages • 699
1L SEAGHAMS 89*	Chablis • Burgundy •	399 750 SIM1 Cabernet	599 750 CHERRY 699
2L COKE + SPRITE • 99*	Chablis • Burgundy • Rhine • Golden	750 STERLING	
2 2L PEPSI 99*	VERMOUTR	Chardonnay	
24-12 oz. cans PEPSI	1L STOCK VERMOUTH	499 750 STERLING Meriot	699 Poully Fuisse
Remular • Diol	1LM&R VERMOUTH		750 SANTA MARGHERITA 4 POO
24-12 oz. cans COKE • 649 SPITE • PEPSI	1LM&R VERMOUTH Sweet • Dry	589 750 STERLING Cabernet	Pinot Grigio



## Holy week

Area churches have announced their schedules for Holy Week, the most sacred week on the Christian calendar.

Church, 74 S. Martine Ave., has ings and anthems by the Chancel a Maundy Thursday service 7:30 p.m. which includes Holy of 12. Communion.

Good Friday.

For Easter, there is a sunrise service in the sanctuary 10 a.m.

phone (908) 889-8891.

A full Holy Week schedule is in effect at the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church, 1961 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains:

Good Friday - Candlelight service, 7:30 p.m. Special hymns for this service are by the Chancel Choir.

For more information, phone (908) 232-5678.

First Baptist Church of Westfield, 170 Elm St., will conduct a service in memory of Jesus' Last Supper on Thursday. The The Fanwood Presbyterian service includes Scripture read-Choir and Communion in groups

A solemn service is 7:30 p.m. p.m. includes Scripture readings, music and hymns.

Easter services begin at 10:20 service in the garden 7 a.m. and a a.m. with songs and continues at the 10:30 a.m. worship service. ary with appropriate readings Child care is available at all The Chancel Choir will provide every half hour from noon until 3 services. For more information, special music with accompaniment by bell ringers and trumpet players Jon Redeker and David Torres. The Rev Dee Dee Turlington will preach on "Putting All Our Eggs in One Basket.' \*\*\*

> Christ are the locus of a solemn mation, contact the church office service at noon Good Friday. This at (908) 233-4211. Calvary Chapel and Terrill



On Friday, a quiet service at 1

# also is a joint service with the

Road Baptist Church and will by strings, oboes and harpsichord be held at Scotch Plains at the evening service. Baptist Church, 333 Park Ave. An Easter Vigil be

Sunday, feature special music from the choir. The Rev. Gary Rothwell, pastor, delivers his sermon on "What a Difference a Day Makes.

For more information, phone (908) 322-5487.

First United Methodist Church of Westfield invites the community to join in the celebration of Easter.

On Good Friday, March 29, there will be a vigil in the sanctup.m. On Easter Sunday, March 31, there will be two worship services at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. service at noon which will Continental breakfast will be served between the services at Passion and Holy Communion. -10:15 a.m.

Broad St. There is ample parking at 9 and 11 a.m. Special choral The "Seven Last Words" of off Ferris Place. For more infor-

> Special services, music and activities will mark the celebra-Church Presbyterian in Westfield.

there will be two services - at noon in the chapel and at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. The hour will be held for both ser-Chancel Choir, directed by William Clisham, will perform George Frederick Handel's "The Passion of Christ" accompanied 2494.

An Easter Vigil begins at 8 Services 10:55 a.m. Easter p.m. Saturday, March 30, in the sanctuary.

> On Easter Sunday, March 31, identical services celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ with words, music and Holy Communion will be conducted in the sanctuary at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. A brass quintet will perform at both services.

> Dr. William Ross Forbes is the senior pastor. The associate pastors are the Rev. Christina McCormick, the Rev. Victoria Ney and the Rev. Wendy Thode.

> The First Congregational Church of Westfield, 125 Elmer St., will conduct a Good Friday include the reading of the

Easter Sunday will be cel-The church is located at 1 E. ebrated with identical services and instrumental music will include Widor's "Toccata," "The Light Divine" from Mascagni's "Sicilian Vespures" featuring Meredith Hoffman-Thomson, soprano soloist; and the "Hallelujah" chorus from

A one-room schoolhouse for children ages 3 through 3rd grade and child care for infants to 2-year-olds will be available during both services. One coffee vices at 10 a.m.

For more information, call the church office at (908) 233-

## **At Home**

## **Children's Hospital** to host Family Fair

MOUNTAINSIDE --- Children's Specialized Hospital, the largest pediatric rehabilitation hospital in the United States, will host the 2002 Family Fair Saturday, April 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The free event features a variety of entertaining, educational and interactive activities for children and families and will be held at the hospital's Mountainside facility, 150 New Providence Road.

presentation by the Dance Association. Innovation Performance Company of Chatham as well as an appearance by the Somerset Patriots team Department. mascot are planned. A wide range of interactive and educational activities will include:

- Free hearing screenings provided by hospital staff.

- Fingerprinting for children age land older by the Union County Sheriff's Department, which requires parental consent. Copies of the fingerprints are given to parents.

-- A fire safety program presented by the Mountainside Fire-Department and the Westfield Bureau of Fire Prevention, highlighted by the Fire Safety House, an educational mobile unit which demonstrates how to properly escape a smoke-filled room. Fire engine tours will also be provided.

"The 2002 Family Fair will be great day for families to join us for some fun and educational activities." - Jill Jacobi,

#### events coordinator

A-7

Face painting, music, a dance sented by the Brain Injury

Information on car seat safety from the Union County Police

Educational displays will also be offered on Children's Specialized Hospital programs and services, Children's Miracle Network, Buddy Ball of Edison, Somerset Hills Horseback Riding, Special Olympics, Suburban Music School, Union County Recreation, Westfield Community Center and support groups from the Epilepsy Foundation, Moms of Multiples, The Mothers' Center of Central NJ and CHERAB (Communication, Help, Education, Research, Appraxia Based).

<sup>57</sup>The 2002 Family Fair will be great day for families to join us for some fun and educational activities," said event coordinator Jill Jacobi. For more information, call — A bicycle safety program pre- Jacobi at (908) 301-5478.

## Get the grass greener on your side of the fence

Do you ever wonder why the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence? Maybe your neighbor understands the basics of good lawn care. According to Billy Lowe of Snapper-builder of residential and commercial lawn-mowing equipment for more than 50 years-great lawns can spring to life when you follow these rules:

Get ready: They come in a variety of colors and sizes, but no matter what a mower looks like, it can't do the job without a good blade. Whether you use a regular blade or one that mulches, a dull blade will back at your lawn and leave your grass weakened and prone to disease, Lowe says. Start the year with a good pre-season mower checkup at an independent power equipment dealer to make sure the mower and its safety systems are ready for a weekly workout.

discharge chute at a velocity capable of damaging homes or cars and injuring you or others.

After you've cleared the yard of objects, clear it of people and pets. Don't risk an injury. Remove the possibility by sending those you love inside and out of the path of the mower.

No passengers on mowersever. In addition to the obvious danger of children slipping off the mower or distracting the operator, children who ride on mowers lose their fear of mowers and consider them to be toys-not power equipment. Children who regularly ride on mowers with a well-meaning parent or relative have been known to run after the mower while it is in motion with the

driver unaware that the child is nearby and possibly in the mower's path. It is an accident that can easily be avoided by never taking a passenger on your mower.

Go!: Make a pass with your mower and then check how much you are cutting off. The rule is, only cut one-third of the blade each time you mow. Grass, like any plant, makes food through its leaves. If there is not enough leaf (or, in the case of grass, blade) left the plant must struggle to make food to feed its roots.

Speaking of food, why remove a great source of nutrition for the lawn by bagging? Finely chopped particles of grass can provide much-needed that your neighbors envy.

nutrients for the lawn. Mulching grass cuts trash-hauling bills, keeps bags of grass out of overflowing landfills, cuts down mowing time and feeds the lawn. Lowe recommends bagging grass only at the beginning and end of the mowing season, when it is more likely to be damp and heavy, or to discourage weed reseeding when dandelions and other weeds are at their height.

Finally, Lowe advises, don't get into a mowing rut. Change directions each time you mow, moving horizontally, vertically and diagonally to keep your yard rut-free.

Follow these simple rules and your lawn can be the one

SEAL COATING by TOPNOTCH Inc.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH 40 Alden Street, Cranford 908-276-0360 Holy Week Schedule Holy Thursday 8:00 A.M. Morning Prayer 7:30 P.M. Mass of the Lord's Supper **Good Friday** 8:00 A.M. Morning Prayer

3:00 P.M. Celebration of the Lord's Passion 7:30 P.M. Living Stations of the Cross

> Holy Saturday 8:00 A.M. Morning Prayer 11:30 A.M. Blessing of Food

7:30 P.M. Easter Vigil Easter Sunday

Morning Prayer 6:45 A.M. **Clebration** of the Eucharist: (Church) 7:30 A.M., 9:00 A.M., 10:30 A.M. & 12 Noon (Sports Center School) 9:00 A.M., 10:30 A.M. & 12 Noon



tion of Holy Week at The Handel's "Messiah." On Good Friday, March 29,

Get set: Before you start the mower each time, check the basics. Make sure your fuel tank is full, your oil is at the proper level and grass, leaves or other materials are cleared away from the engine, discharge chute and blade. Tighten bolts that appear loose and make sure bagging equipment has no holes or tears.

Are you ready?: Take a look at what you're wearing. Your lawn-mowing uniform should consist of long pants, a shirt with sleeves (no loose-fitting items or dangling chains or strings) and hard-toe shoes. Complement your ensemble with long hair tied back, a pair of sunglasses or safety glasses and sunscreen.

Walk the yard, make sure it is dry and check for hidden toys, rocks or other items. An object caught in the blade can not only damage the mower, it can come hurtling through the

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March 29, 2002



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**Record**-Press

**Community Life** 

## **Briefs**

#### Westfield Jaycees calling 'old timers'

WESTFIELD The Westfield Jaycees will hold its annual "Old Timers Night" Wednesday at the Jolly Trolley restaurant in Westfield. The Jaycees are inviting all former members to join the current chapter members for an evening sharing old stories and laughs. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. Anyone seeking additional information may contact Jim Foerst, chapter president, at (908) 233-2251 or visit the Jaycees' website at www.westfieldnj.com/jaycees.

#### B'nai B'rith unit planning brunch

The B'nai B'rith Ketubah Married Couples Unit (40+) will be going to a brunch at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, April 7, at the Cambridge Inn, 19 Summerhill Road, Spotswood. The cost of the brunch is \$12.95 per person, plus tax and tip. The brunch also includes a complimentary mimosa.

Ketubah Unit is open to married, Jewish couples who are 40 and older. Non-members are welcome. Call Elaine for more information or to make reservations at (908) 232-0062 by April 5

#### Hospital auxiliary exhibit artwork

MOUNTAINSIDE — Children's Specialized Hospital, the largest pediatric rehabilitation hospital in the United States, will exhibit the work of artists Maria and Mark de Mos of Morristown, Susan Puder of Union and Ross Wagner of Summit throughout the month of April.

Monthly exhibits are sponsored by the Auxiliary at Children's Specialized Hospital. All artwork is available for purchase with a portion of sales benefiting the auxiliary. Admission is free and exhibits can be viewed from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. by entering through the hospital's East Wing entrance, 150 New Providence Road, Mountainside. For more information, please call (908)



NICOLE DIMELLA/

## Getting psyched for Easter

Thomas Snyder, 2 1/2, and Madison Dyer, 23 months, both of Fanwood, tentatively check out Cadbury, a pet bunny, held by its owner Adam Siegal of Fanwood. The children participated in an Easter egg hunt at Chelsea at Fanwood, an assisted living residence, on Saturday.





233-3720, ext. 5379.

#### Foundation planning to honor DiFrancesco

The Union County Educational Services Foundation will honor Former Acting Gov. Donald T. DiFrancesco and Prudential Financial at its seventh annual awards reception on April 30.

The reception will be from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Primavera, 1080 Valley Road, Stirling.

The foundation raises funds, establishes partnerships, and secures other forms of support to enhance the independent living skills of students served by the Union County Educational Services Commission who are physically, socially, emotionally and/or intellectually challenged.

#### Surrogate updates evening hours

Union County Surrogate James S. LaCorte has updated his schedule of evening office hours to accommodate residents who are unable to attend regular office hours during the day. As county surrogate, he is responsible for probating wills and appointing executors, administrators, guardians and trustees of descendants' estates, among other constitutionally mandated duties.

LaCorte is available, by appointment, to meet during the evening with residents who have matters pending before the Surrogate's Court. Appointments must be made at least 48 hours in advance. The updated schedule for evening office hours is:

Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut Ave., first Monday of the month

Rahway Recreation Center, 275 Milton Ave., second Tuesday

-Union Township Municipal Building, 1976 Morris Ave., third Wednesday

 Summit City Hall, 512
 Springfield Ave., fourth Tuesday The Surrogate's Court can be

reached at (908) 527-4280.

Annie Pierce, 3, supervisors her brother Brendan, 5, as he dyes his Easter egg Saturday at Chelsea Assisted Living in Fanwood. At right, Shaye Law, 6, Madison Law, 2, and Sara Law, 6, play with balloons at the Easter celebration at Lincoln School, Garwood.



## Closing the gap between generations

#### MELISSA J. KLAVER/ CORRESPONDENT

Jaime Gomez, a 10th-grader, hands Jane Sullivan a yellow rose, her prize for winning a bingo game at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School. March 21 was Senior Citizens Day at the high school. The event was sponsored by the Student Government Association. At right, 10th grader Lauren Belford plays Name That Tune with Rose Checchio, far right.



## Seniors, teens meet in the middle



MELISSA J. KLAVER/CORRESPONDENT Anita Welkner dances with 12th-grader Bobby Wallden during a game of Name That Tune at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School on Monday.

## **Elbert E. Harris**

WESTFIELD Elbert E. Harris, 82, died March 19, 2002 at Overlook Hospital in Summit. He was awarded 23 patents for his work with Merck & Co., where he co-invented the 'Vasotec device.

He was born in New York City and had lived in Westfield (since 1964.

Mr. Harris worked for Merck lat its Rahway plant for 35 years. before retiring as a senior research fellow. He earned a "muster's degree from Columbia--University and in 1951 a doc**itorate** in chemistry from Columbia. He held a bachelor's degree from Wagner College.

A member of the American Chemical Society and First Congregational Church, Mr.

### **Dorothy Hatfield**

SCOTCH PLAINS - Dorothy Souder Hatfield, 95, died March 20, 2002 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield. She rotired in 1946 after 20 years as a Grade 1 teacher at School No. 1 in the township.

A native of Swedesboro, she lived in Scotch Plains from 1946 until she moved to Berkeley Heights in 1996.

Mrs. Hatfield graduated from Glassboro State Teachers College (now Rowan University) in 1926. She was a past-presidont of the Monday Afternoon Club in Plainfield and a former member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

At Scotch Plains Baptist 07076.

Harris was an Army Air Corps sergeant in the South Pacific during World War II.

Surviving are his wife of 38 years, Ann; a son, Richard and wife Erin of Kendall Park; and a daughter, Jean Fox and husband Jeffrey of Falls Church, Va.

A memorial service will be 1 p.m. Saturday, April 6, at First Congregational Church, 125 Elmer St.

Arrangements are by Gray **Funeral Home**, Donations may be sent to Society of Progressive Supranuclear Palsy, Woodholme Medical Building, Suite 515, 1838 Greene Tree Road, Baltimore, MD 21208 or the First Congregational Church Memorial Fund.

Church she recently established two scholarship funds, one in memory of her late husband, J. Horace Hatfield, and one in herown memory. Mrs. Hatfield was a former member of Bethesda United Methodist Church in Swedesboro.

Services were held yesterday at Scotch Plains Baptist Church. Burial was in the church cemetery with arrangements by Memorial Funeral Home in Fanwood.

Memorial donations may be sent to Dorothy Souder Hatfield Memorial Scholarship Fund, Scotch Plains Baptist Church, 333 Park Ave., Scotch Plains, NJ



### Norma L. Quinn

in 1983.

SCOTCH PLAINS - Norma L. Larsen Quinn, 87, died March 19, 2002 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield. She had been an accounting clerk with Mobay Chemical Co. in Union prior to her 1979 retirement

Mrs. Quinn was born in Brooklyn. She lived in Cranford, Roselle Park and Westfield before moving to Scotch Plains in 1995.

She also was a longtime volunteer at Union Hospital and

#### **Jane Marie Demos**

Demos, 70, died March 22, 2002 at the Father Hudson House in Elizabeth, A legal secretary, she retired in 1994 after 10 years with the Basking Ridge offices of AT&T Corp.

Mrs. Demos was born in Linden. She lived in Elizabeth and Miami before moving to Westfield in 1967.

Her husband, Andrew George Demos Sr., died in 1974. Elizabeth L., and a son, Andrew

### **Filomena DiFiore**

SCOTCH PLAINS Filomena Franceschelli DiFiore, 74, died March 21, 2002 at herhome. She was born m Montazzoli, Chiete province, and Maria; and two grandchil-Italy, and settled in Scotch Plants when she came to the United States in 1963.

Mrs. DiFiore was a homemak er and a parishioner of St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church. A sister, Concetta, is deceased.

### **Robert D. Nixdorff**

Robert D. WESTFIELD Nixdorff, 35, died Monday, March 25, at Rahway Hospital after a car accident in Linden.

Born in Summit, he lived in Garwood from 1993 until be moved to Westfield in 1997.

He was the owner of Nixdorff and Associates, CPA, in Linden, an accounting firm he founded in-1999

He was a 1990 graduate of Kean University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting. He carned his CPA in 1997.

He was a member of the Colonial Home.

agency, he coached teams in the Westfield Soccer Association and worked for the former First National Bank of Roselle. Westfield Football League. Her husband, Thomas A., died

He was born in Waterbury. Conn., and had lived in Westfield Surviving are a son, Terrence; since 1968. Mr. Comstock was the former

two sisters, Else Snyder and Margaret Phillips; a grandchild; and many nieces and nephews.

Services were held Tuesday at Rossi Funeral Home. Burial was in St. Gertrude Cemetery, Colonia.

Memorial donations may be sent to Union Hospital or the

WESTFIELD - Jane Marie George Jr., both of Westfield; a sister, Lorraine Lynch of Hollywood, Fla.; and four grandchildren.

Mass was offered Tuesday at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church, of which Mrs. Demos was a parishioner. Burial was in Mount Olivet Cemetery, Newark.

Arrangements were by Gray Funeral Home. Memorial donations may be sent to Center for Surviving are a daughter, Hope Hospice, 176 Hussa St., Linden, NJ 07036.

> Surviving are her husband, Nicola; two sons, Gus and Mario; Giuseppe brother, 11 Franceschelli; two sisters, Teresa

> dren. Mass was offered Monday at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church, following services at Funeral Home. Rossi Entombment was in Good Shepherd Chapel Mausoleum at St. Gertrude Cemetery, Colonia.

#### Easter goods are half price

and Wildlife.

SCOTCH PLAINS - Easter merchandise is 50 percent off this weekend at the Best Friend Second Chance Shop, which is now in its new location at 1750 E Second St.

Prizes and refreshments will be available to all who visit the store 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. today and tomorrow. Furniture, jewelry, crafts, compact discs, books, housewares, clothes and sporting goods are available alongside the Easter gifts.

For more information, phone (908) 233-9041 or (732) 388-8930.

Donations are accepted 7-10 p.m. any Wednesday Antiques.

Surviving are his wife of 34 years, Frances Richter Comstock; two daughters. Ginger of Westfield and Jennifer Comstock Reed of Westport, Conn.: and a brother. David of Lake Forest. Cahf

A memorial service will be 3:30 n.m. today at the Presbyterian Church, 140 Mountain Ave. Arrangements are by Higgins & Bonner Echo Lake Funeral Home

Memorial donations may be sent to Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Robert E Comstock Jr. Memorial Fund. Co Dr. Paul Chapman, 1275 York Ave., New York, NY 10021; St. Barnabas Cancer Center, c/o Dr Stuart Leitner, 94 Old Short Hills Road, Livingston, NJ 07039, or Center for Hospice Care, 188 Millburn Ave., Millburn, NJ

## **Master Gardener** applications due

**Robert** Comstock Jr.

Robert

WESTFIELD -

Edward Comstock Jr., 57. died

March 25, 2002 at his home A

retired official of an international

director of finance and adminis-

tration for the Societe interna-

tional de telecommunications

aeronautique, based in America

and Europe. He received a bache-

lor's degree from Colhy College

and a master's degree from Seton

Westfield Jaycees and the

Killington Ski Club. Mr. Comstock

served in the Army Signal Corps.

during the Vietnam War.

to noon, Sept. 24-May 2003.

are: Flower Gardening, Vegetable

Gardening, Fruit Growing, Insects

and Diseases, Plant Pathology,

Basic Botany, Integrated Pest

Management, Mosquito Control

Recertification credits may be

offered for some lectures.

**Briefs** 

New Jersey DEP Pesticide

Once an individual is a Trained

He was a member of the

Hall University.

WESTFIELD - The Master Master Gardener Volunteer, he or she can join one of the many com-Gardener Training Program is now mittees that offer residents educaaccepting applications for the class tional services, such as Community of 2002-2003. Classes will be held on Tuesday mornings from 10 a.m. Beautification, Sharing Garden Horticultural Therapy Groups, Help Information Staff Member, a Each week features a Rutgers Cooperative Extension faculty and volunteer at Garden shows and fairs, or a speaker on a favorite staff member teaching on their area of expertise. Some of the topics

topic Classes will be held at Rutgers Cooperative Extension's first-floor auditorum, located at 300 North Ave. East in Westfield. There is a fee for materials. For more information or to obtain an application, call the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County's Agriculture Department at (908) 654-9854.

and services.

For tickets, phone (908) 233-6011. The wine tasting is sponsored by the WHS Marching Band Parents Association with proceeds to benefit its scholarship fund and other band projects

#### **Dollars for Students** drive April 13-14

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Scholarship Foundation holds its 35th annual "Dollars for Students" fund-raising drive Saturday and Sunday, April 13-14

Nearly 80 students from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School will go door-to-door that weekend to solicit funds. In addi tion, student volunteers will solicit funds at certain intersec tions in Scotch Plains and Fanwood "Dollars for Students" donations go toward college scholarships for SPFHS graduates. The fund drive and a direct-mail solicitation are the foundation's only fund-raising efforts. If you are not contacted and wish to contribute, send your donation to Scotch Plains Fanwood Scholarship Foundation, P.O. Box 123, Fanwood, NJ 07023, Donations are tax-deductible. In addition to its own programs, the foundation administers scholarships sponsored by 21 area organizations and 25 memorual scholarship funds. Last year the foundation gave \$91,600 in grants to 98 students.



#### by Jill Guzman

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AICPA, the American Institute of CPAs.

Surviving are his wife Carolyn; his mother, Jenevieve Rodriguez; his father and stepmother, Frank and Edna; a brother, Steve; and his grandparents, Josephine and Arthur Romano.

Mass will be offered Monday at Holy Trinity Church in Westfield, with interment at Fairview Cemetery, Memorial contributions may be made to Mothers Against Drunk Driving, P.O. 425, Iselin, NJ 08830.

Arrangements are by Dooley

or selling property, ask friends and neighbors who have moved recently for recommendations. Chances are,

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## Beauty

Hillside Cemetery's gentle slopes are dotted with stately trees and evergreens. Flowering trees and bushes accent the grounds. All lots, graves, cremorial graves and bronze cremorial niches are in fully developed areas and include perpetual care. Located on Woodland Avenue in Scotch Plains, a non-profit, non-sectarian organization.

908.756.1729 Hillside Cemetery Established 1886 www.hillsidecemetery.com



collectibles, jewelry, small furmture, silver, china and unused gifts are welcome. New clothes with the tags still on will also be accepted. Craftsmen are urged to donate their original crafts.

Proceeds from all merchandise sold at the Second Chance Shop benefit homeless pets awaiting adoption.

#### Wine tasting benefits band

WESTFIELD - A wine tast ing this spring benefits the Blue Devil Marching Band of Westfield High School.

The event is 7:30-11 p.m. Friday, April 12 at the Knights of Columbus hall, 2400 North Ave., Scotch Plains, Admission of \$20 includes a souvenir wine glass and hors d'oeuvres. There also will be a silent auction of goods.



## primetime!

Admission \$38-\$20.

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Events

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to June

EAST

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June

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tographs by Fazal Sheikh of Afghan refugees 1996-98, to March 31.

to July 31.

Mood in Picture Book Illustrations," March 30-July 31. Contemporary art from

Galleries **JOHNSON & JOHNSON** Education & Conference Center, 410 George St.

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Open by appointment only. "The Fabric of Jazz: A Tribute to the Genius of American Music," to April 20.

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WATCHUNG ARTS CEN-TER

Watchung Circle, Watchung (908) 753-0190;

www.watchungarts.org Open 1-4 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

 "Impressions from Maine" by Ronn Orenstein, to March 30. "New Haiku" by Yaga

Bielska, to March 30. · Works of Juan Duik and Stephanie Natiello, April 1-29. Reception 1-4 p.m. April 7.

Art exhibit set at library

The public is invited to view



**REV. ALPHONSE STEPHENSON** 

## **Annual concert will** aid counseling service

WESTFIELD - Rev. Alphonse Stephenson will bring his Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea back to Westfield April 20 for the 12th annual concert conducted to benefit Youth and Family **Counseling Service** 

The concert will be held at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

Stephenson was conductor and music director of "A Chorus Line." which ran for nearly 3,000 perfor mances on Broadway in the 1980s. Looking for other musical experiences, he was asked to arrange a concert to raise money for his assigned parish. That first concert raised \$2,000 and began a new career, which has raised more than \$6 million for worthy causes since 1986.

The Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea gives approximately 60 concerts per year, both on tours and at their summer open-air concert series, the Festival of the Atantic, at Point Pleasant Beach. The orchestra is composed of approximately 45 professional, free-lance musicians, many of whom have been together for 15 years. In the past few year, vocal soloists have been added to the programs, and have been especially weel received by audiences.

**B-3** 

The orchestra plays an exceptionally wide range of music. The eelectic program for each concert is a unique combination of classical selections, seasonal pieces, pops favorites, operatic arias, and recently, patriotic modleys.

Alphonse is also a Lieutenant Colonel and Chief Chaplain of the 108th Air Refueling Wing at McGuire Air Force Base, This patriotic commitment has intensified following the events of September 11 and the activation of about one third of his reserve unit. Alphonse balances his military duties with his priestly responsibilities and musical career in a very busy life, in which each facet complements the oth-

The benefit concert for Youth and Family Counseling Service is the agency's only annual fundraiser. For information about sponsorship and tickets, call the agency at (908) 233-2042.



#### Theater **NOW PLAYING** GEORGE STREET PLAYHOUSE

9 Livingston Ave. New Brunswick (732) 246-7717: www.georgestplayhouse.org \* "Ctrl+Alt+Delete," world preniere of dot-bomb comedy by Inthony Clarvoe. To April 14. Admission \$45-\$26; discounts vailable. Call for showtimes. THEATRE AT **RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE** Route 28, Branchburg +908+725-3420; www.raritanval.edu/theatre

 "Death of a Salesman," 1950s tandard by Arthur Miller. 8 p.m. March 30. Admission \$29, \$24.

#### COMING SOON

PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE Brookside Dr., Millburn

(973) 376-4343; www.papermill.org • "The King and L" area proluction of Rodgers Hammerstein musical. April 3day 19. Admission \$59-\$20; dis-

ounts available. Call for show-

imes SOMERSET VALLEY PLAYERS

#### Route 514, Hillsborough

(908) 369-SHOW: www.svptheatre.org

 "Social Security," comedy by Andrew Bergan, 8 p.m. April 5, 6, .2, 13, 19, 20; 3 p.m. April 7, 14, 11. Adults \$13; seniors, students (10 (no discount Saturday).

#### VILLAGERS THEATRE 475 DeMott Lane, Somerset

(732) 873-2710 "Closer," drama by Patrick

darber, 8 p.m. April 5, 6, 12, 13, 9, 20; 2 p.m. April 7. Admission 10.

#### Sky Shows RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE Route 28, Branchburg

(908) 231-8805; www.raritanval.edu/planetari-

• "The Spring Skies," 2 and 7 5m. April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11,

8. Admission \$4.50; children inder 5 not admitted.

www.njsymphony.org · Starring the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra and featuring Bob ("Sesame Street") McGrath. Admission \$17, \$12. PUPPE'N'DANCE 2 and 7 p.m. March 30; 7 p.m. April 6: 2 p.m. April 7 Circle Playhouse 416 Victoria Ave., Piscataway (732) 968-7555 Puppet show inside a theater available. Call for showtimes. in the round. Admission \$8 SESAME STREET LIVE To April 1; State Theatre, 15 Livingston Ave., New Brunswick (877) STATE 11; www.statetheatrenj.org "Big Bird's Sunny Day Camp Out." Admission \$22.50-\$10; group rates available. Call for showtimes. THE VERY HUNGRY

#### CATERPILLAR

2 p.m. April 7, 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. April 8, 10 a.m. April Wilkins Theatre, Kean University, Union (908) 527-2337 • From caterpillar to moth to butterfly, all live and local.

Admission \$6

#### Spoken Word THE ART MUSEUM **Princeton University** (609) 258-3788

Gallery talks 12:30 p.m. Friday and 3 p.m. Sunday. Free admission. · Betsy Rosasco on "Titian, Van Dyck and the Body of

Christ," April 5, 7.

#### Concerts **KRISTIN CHENOWETH**

8 p.m. Saturday, April 6 State Theatre, 15 Livingston Ave., New Brunswick (877) STATE 11; www.statetheatrenj.org Actress/singer from 90's Broadway Admission \$32-\$20. **CIRCUITOUS ROOTS** 8 p.m. Friday, April 5 Watchung Arts Center

#### Watchung Circle, Watchung

(908) 753-0190 • Percussion duos led by Lara Gonzalez and Yael Shacham. Admission \$15.

#### **CIRQUE EOS**

2 and 7 p.m. April 6 Theatre at Raritan Valley **Community College** Route 28, Branchburg (908) 725-3420;

· "The Victor Weeps," pho-

Works of Efim Ladyzhensky,

• "By All Means: Materials and

India, April 7 July 31.

## **Sirens screech welcome to Famous Dave**

By GREGORY SHORO THE RECORD PRESS

**MOUNTAINSIDE** — Police cars and fire trucks with lights

flashing and sirens blazing rushed

down Route 22 Monday morning, but it wasn't a four-alarm fire they were hurrying to put out. Unless of course that fire was caused by heartburn.

A precautionary measure per-

Friends of the Westfield Memorial Library Annual Book Sale **Donation Days:** NOON - 5PM April 5th (Fri) April 6th (Sat) April 8th (Mon) 9AM - 5PM 9AM - NOON Sale Days April 9th (Tue) MEMBERS PREVIEW 9AM - NOON (Membership may be purchased at the door) April 9th (Tue) - (Open To The Public) -2PM - 9PM April 10th (Wed) 9AM - 9PM April 11th (Thur) April (2th (Fri) (Half Price Day) 9AM - 9PM 9AM - 5PM April 13th (Sat) (Bag Day) Please remember: NO Textbooks, Magazines, Damaged Books, Condensed Books or Records and OLD Incyclopedias. All Donations are Tax Deductible and Benefit The

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haps, but in actuality, part of the grand opening committee wel-coming the award-winning Famous Dave's barbecue restaurant chain to the highway's fraternity of food.

The restaurant, which is franchised by North Country BBQ Ventures, LLC, is part of Famous Dave's of America (Nasdaq: DAVE), a Minnesota-based company whose founder, Dave Anderson is a Native American with several tribal memberships.

Before a supportive crowd of public officials, including Mountainside Mayor Robert Viglianti, Police Chief James Debbie and Susan Jacobson of the Union County Chamber of Commerce, Ja-son Santarelli, general manager of the new establishment, and Robert Fanelli, operating partner of North Country, participated in a ribbon cutting and ceremonial "passing of the fire," from the last restaurant opened to the newest.

According to the company, this

ritual is said to symbolize the prosperity and heritage that began with the first Famous Dave's location in Wisconsin in 1994.

In addition to the ceremonies, the restaurant's staff participated in cheers alongside company mascot "Wilbur" the pig.

"More than anything, it was the lack of barbecue in this area," said Santarelli on why Moun-tainside served as such an ideal location. "We go up and down this highway, and we don't find any barbecue. We find more steakhouses and your average chain restaurant, so it was a niche that we felt needed to be filled."

The restaurant on the Westfield-Mountainside border is the first in New Jersey and 58th in the country. There are plans to open several other eateries from New Jersey up to New Hampshire. "With the opening of this first

Famous Dave's in the state of New Jersey, I look forward to bringing Famous Dave's award-winning restaurant is located on Route 22 east on the Mountainside/Westfield border. barbecue and family atmosphere Westfield, if you look at the re-cepto Mountainside and the surrounding communities for years to has just been phenomenal," added

come," said Fanelli. "More than anything, it's been the people of Mountainside and

Westfield, if you look at the re-ception we've had from the cities, it has just been phenomenal," added Santarelli. "The city has welcomed us with open arms and has done everything they can to get us open.







#### **Record-Press**

9147.

#### FRIDAY MARCH 29

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Good Friday ritual at St. Helen's Church, Lamberts Mill Road, Westfield, 7:30 p.m. (908) 232-1214.

#### SUNDAY MARCH 31 INTERFAITH SINGLES

for single men and women over 45. First Baptist Church, 170 Elm St., Westfield, 9 a.m. \$2. (908) 889-5265 or (908) 889-4751.

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#### Cross office, 321 Elm St., Westfield, 3-8 p.m. Donor requirements: (908) 232-7090.

THURSDAY **APRIL** 4 JEWISH LECTURE ---

Jason Shulman on "Why Reform Jews Need Kabbalah." Temple Emanu-El, 756 E. Broad St., Westfield, 7:30 p.m. Free. (908) 232-6770.

### FRIDAY **APRIL 5**

FRIDAY NIGHT FLICK -"The Curse of the Jade Scorpion," Woody Allen flop from last summer. Fanwood Memorial Library, North Ave., Fanwood, 7:30 p.m. Free. (908) 322-6400.

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#### SATURDAY **APRIL 6**

BOOK SIGNING - "Lake Street USA," children's book by Wing Young Huie. Town Book Store, 255 E. Broad St., Westfield,

11 a.m.-1 p.m. (908) 233-3535. FABULOUS 50'S - dance benefiting Westfield Coalition for the Arts. VFW hall, 6 Broadway, Clark, 7:30 p.m. \$20. Tickets: (908) 789-4417.

'BATTLE OF THE BANDS' — for Grades 9-12. Jewish Community Center of Central New Jersey, 1391 Martine Ave., Scotch Plains, 8 p.m. \$6/advance, \$8/door. Band signup: lbieber@jccnj.org\_or\_(908) 889-8800, Ext. 253.



for Friends of Westfield Memorial Library, 550 E. Broad St., Westfield, April 9-13. Donations accepted April 5, 6, 8. (908) 233-

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C.R.E.A.M. - Erica Fried on "How to Avoid Losing Your Shirt in the Stock Market." Rutgers Cooperative Extension, 300 North Ave. East, Westfield, 7 p.m. April 11. \$5. Registration required: (908) 654-9854

BOOK TALK -- "Memoirs of a Geisha" by Arthur Golden. Fanwood Memorial Library, North Ave., Fanwood, 7:30 p.m. April 11. (908) 322-6400.

held in the spring for the 14th year. Armory, 500 Rahway Ave., Westfield, 5-8:30 p.m. April 12, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. April 13, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. April 14. Adults \$6; under 10 free (no strollers), (800) 834-9437 or www.americancraft marketing.com.

Westfield High School Band Scotch Plains, 7:30 p.m. April 12. \$20. Tickets: (908) 233-6011.

"Tortilla Soup," American movie from last fall.

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Ave., Fanwood, 7:30 p.m. April 12. Free, (908) 322-6400.

•

FRIDAY NIGHT FLICK -Captain Corelli's Mandolin," boxoffice flop from last summer. Fanwood Memorial Library, North Ave., Fanwood, 7:30 p.m. April 19. Free. (908) 322-6400.

**TRICKY TRAY** — auction for Parents' Guild of Union Catholic

High School, 1600 Martine Ave. Scotch Plains, 6 p.m. April 19, \$87 Reservations: (908) 889-1600.

ANNUAL CONCERT Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea.\* 140 Presbyterian Church, Mountain Ave., Westfield, 8 p.m. April 20. Adults \$25; seniors \$20; students \$10, Tickets: (908) 233-, 2042.

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B-5







**B**•6







# Conserve Water.

As Odd as it seems, Even small efforts to conserve water can make a difference.

reported March 16. Entry was gained through an unlocked ground floor window. Jewelry valued at \$3,500 was reported

Jason Leary, 28, of Edison. was arrested and charged March 17 with driving under the influence of alcohol after an automobile accident on Martine Avenue about 1:40 a.m. Leary was driving a 1998 Honda when he lost control of the vehicle and struck a tree. No other vehicles were involved in the accident, and no injuries were reported.

Israel Cabrera, 28, of Dunellen, was arrested and charged March 17 with driving under the influence of alcohol after being stopped by Scotch Plains police on Route 22 about 2:30 a.m.

**Everyone must play a vital role** in conserving water during **New Jersey's current drought** emergency. It's the law.

## Here's how:

**Restrict** outdoor water use by following an odd/even schedule for lawn and garden watering.

- If the house number in your address is odd, use water for lawn and garden watering only on odd number calendar days.
- If your house number is even, use water for lawn and garden watering only on even days.
- If you have no house number in your address, follow the even schedule.
- This schedule applies to the central and coastal north New Jersey drought regions. Other areas

of the state have stricter restrictions. For an explanation of drought regions, and detailed restrictions and other water-saving tips go to www.njdrought.org.

### Indoors, follow these easy-to-implement procedures:

- Turn off the water while shaving or brushing your teeth.
- Adjust the water level on your washing machine to match the size of your laundry load.
- Installing water efficient showerheads can help reduce water consumption by 30% to 70%.
- Water efficient aerators on your bathroom and kitchen sinks can cut water consumption in half.

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## orts

it up. "There's

depends on our pitching.

Like the rest of the squad,

the pitching staff is young and

fairly inexperienced. Junior Dave Senatore will be the

team's top starter and was one

of the top pitcher's last season.

Steve Pietrucha will be the sec-

ond starter after seeing limited

time with the varsity last year.

Juniors Steve Horn and Josh

Wexler and sophomore Kyle

rience battery mate, as senior

captain Andrew Pavoni returns

for his third season as the

The staff will have an expe-

Baker round out the rotation.

the

kids,

they're



NICOLE DIMELLA/RECORD-PRESS Junior Steve Pietrucha will be the second-start for a young SP-F squad this spring.

## **Raiders ready to rebuild again**

#### By DANIEL MURPHY

RECORD-PRESS

After a youth movement last year, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High baseball team is bracing for another one this spring.

With five seniors who were expected to make large contributions to this year's club not coming out for the team to pursue other athletic goals, the Raiders once again have a young squad, but one that isn't afraid of the competition ahead. The team features just three seniors, seven juniors, a sophomore and three freshman. Scotch Plains opens with a

road game at Linden, 4 p.m. Wednesday.

"I think we're doing okay for what we have," said Head Coach Brian Homm. "We're doing well for a young team. We'll count on the three seniors on the team and we'll need the

juniors to step a lot of talent in younger Baseball but just young. The tal-

be the leader just have to find the right comfor us and it's nice to have him binations. I think a lot of it back there.'

Senior Marcus Dockery will start at first base and brings with him a powerful bat. Junior Jeff Hensal will start at second with Baker and freshman Chris D'annunzio at the shortstop position. Third base is still up in the air with freshman Kevin Urban and Pietrucha vying for the position.

"It's good to

that

the

said

Senior Dave Baumwell, who started last year, will be in left with speedy junior Kyle Adams in charge in center. Wexler will be in right field.

Chris Zedonik will serve as a designated hitter, backup

catcher and first baseman. Steve Rodriguez will backup in the outfield and freshman Matt Skibek will see some time as a middle infielder and pitcher.

"We're going to have to improve as the season goes on,' said Homm. "That's what we're looking for. We're young and inexperienced and we're just looking to get better as the season goes on.

The Raiders have some pop in the lineup, but not a lot. Adams should be able to cause havoc on the bases with his speed, and Pavoni, Dockery, Baumwell will be counted on to drive in runs and get on base. But the Raiders are going to have to get production out of the younger players at the bottom of the order to be successful this season.

"Offensively it's hard to tell how we're going to do. Hopefully the seniors will come through for us.

## Blue Devils have all the tools to make title run

#### By DANIEL MURPHY

RECORD-PRESS

The road to a championship is never easy, and so far the preseason has been littered with potholes for the Westfield High baseball team.

For the second straight year the Blue Devils return the corps of the team, this time as one of the preseason favorites to win the Union County Tournament title, and have very strong shot at a sectional championship, after reaching the semis last year.

But the spring has been rough going for the Blue Devils who have been battling through injuries and illness. Projected number-two starter and rightfielder Brian Butts is doubtful to

start this year and may only pitch as a closer late in the season due to a right shoulder injury suffered at the end of the football season. Second baseman Brett Picaro and first baseman Blair Richardson have been nursing knee injuries, second-year catcher Josh Ludmer has been battling a sore shoulder and an assortment of other players have been battling illness.

"We're supposed to be pretty good," said Head Coach Bob Brewster. "But we haven't had the entire squad on the field yet. There are some injuries brought in from out of season but we're starting to get people back now.

"This team is capable of doing a lot of good things. They work very hard, they understand the

#### WESTFIELD BASEBALL

game and know the game. I love the attitude. These kids love to work. Like (Los Angeles Lakers coach) Phil Jackson says, 'there's no me in we' and this team understands that."

They should all be close to 100 percent when Westfield opens 4 p.m. Monday at Linden but may be rusty early on. Westfield will host Shabazz 4 p.m. Wednesday and travel to Clifton Thursday and then three-time defending county champ Cranford 4 p.m. April 8.

While the early going has been rough, most of the players have been begging Head Coach Bob Brewster to play them in the scrimmages, and when the push for the championships heats up in May, the Devils should be in very good shape.

**Coming off the Union County** Senior American Legion championship this summer, and a 14-11 record last year, Westfield boasts an experienced and powerful lineup as well as a very strong pitching staff, both anchored by senior Jay Cook.

Cook can challenge hitters with an explosive fastball and keep them off balance with his curve and changeup. He's also capable of going deep, sometimes very deep, any time he's at the plate. Andrew Garrison, who pitched the junior varsity squad to the county title last year and had a very strong summer campaign with the Post 3 legion team, will be the second starter. Sophomore John Boyd has come on to claim the third starting position, using his finesse style to allow no runs and just three hits in eight preseason innings.

Sophomore Joe Wisniewski will also see some time on the hill. In emergency situations Brewster will turn to his "infield staff" and use the starting infield to steal innings. Butts closed at the end of last season and will be a valuable addition to the staff when he's able to return.

Richardson will get the start at first base for the third straight year, and will be backed up there

by Cook, Boyd or Emanual Guasp. Picaro, another third year starter, will be back at second base, with John Leonardis also seeing some action there.

Jimmy McKeon, moves back to shortstop after starting in centerfield the past two years and Mike Sofka is back for his third year at the hot corner. Senior captain Josh Ludmer returns as the starting catcher, and is the takecharge leader on the field.

Ben Koket moves into the centerfield position with Leonardis, Guasp, Matt Rothstein, Mike DeFazio all figuring to see time in left and right. Cook will also get time in right field, and Butts may see some action there as well.

(Continued on page C-2)



Scoring runs is the top priority for Blue Devils



C-1

RECORD-PRESS

To paraphrase the old G.I. Joe cartoons, in softball, pitching is half the battle.

The other half is offense, and while the Westfield High softball team can boast one of — if not the — top pitcher in Union County and field a veteran defense behind her, the key to the Blue Devils success this spring will be taking advantage of their offensive opportunities. Caitlin MacDonald will again

be inside the circle for the Blue Devils, her third year as the starting pitcher, and Westfield

challenge facing Westfield. With the graduation of all-county shortstop Courtney Thornton the Devils have to make up for the loss of her pop in the middle of the lineup by scratching out runs

returns all but two starters from last year's squad. The defense has been shuffled a bit, but the experience is there to keep opponents off the boards.

But you still have to score runs to win, which is the biggest



NICOLE DIMELLA/RECORD-PRESS

Tuning up Senior Jill Koscielecki practices her hurdling as the Raiders prepare for the first dual meet of the spring Tuesday against Cranford. every chance they get.

"I don't think we're going to be an offensive juggernaut," said Head Coach Maggie McFadden. "But I think the kids will hit fairly well. We have to be able to execute all the little things --- bunts, steals, hit-and-runs. We'll have to manufacture runs."

MacDonald, Rachel Wagner, Tara Dowling and Erin Corbett are all experienced varsity hitters who should lead the offense, and Dowling has been tearing the cover off the ball in the preseason, but the strength of the team will be the defensive half of every inning.

Dowling is back behind the plate to handle MacDonald, with Corbett in leftfield, Wagner in right and Sara Bobertz in centerfield.

The infield has been flip-flopped with Nicole DeFabio moving from second base to shortstop and Lisa Venezia from first base to third. Left-handed freshman Lauren Gelemetti will get the call at first and sophomore Jessica Guerriero will be at second base.

"It all depends on how well they play," said McFadden. "I don't think we'll give up a lot of runs with Caitlin pitching and the experience we have. We haven't put it all together yet in one solid scrimmage. (Gelemetti) still has some things to learn but I think she'll do very well there."

McFadden likes her team's chances of having another successful season, and while the team will stick to its traditional aspirations of a county and sectional title, she has been coaching long enough to know postseason goals are three months away and the focus needs to be on nothing but Monday's home

opener against Linden. "I think we'll be pretty solid if everything pans out," said McFadden. "We'll have to stay healthy and play well. We have the kids who have the tools to win a lot of games.

"We have to play solid defensively and make things happen on offense. We have to sacrifice people over and take advantage of the opportunities our opponent gives us. We have great pitching, but that's only half the game."

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#### YOUTH SPORTS

#### BAŚKETBALL

**C-2** 

St. Helen's wins Cabrini tourney The St. Helen's 5th/6th grade girls

basketball team from Westfield won the 64-team St. Francis Cabrini Tournament in Piscataway, by beating IHM of Scotch Plains 30-15 in the championship game, improving their record to 63-8.

In the semifinals St. Helen's put on an awesome display in defeating Lincroft 50-10. Erin Miller had 18 points and Stephanie Slodyczka had 16 points to lead St. Helen's in scoring. Elizabeth Harbaugh chipped in with 6 points and 10 rebounds, Danielle

## **Blue Devils**

(Continued from page C-1)

The Blue Devils are very well balanced with the ability to both light up the scoreboard and shutout the opposition. Any one of seven Westfield batters can knock the ball out of the park, and with an experienced pitching staff, catcher and defense the Devils wont be allowing too many runs. Ludmer has already begun encouraging the team to try to 10-run every opponent.

"Our expectations are always the same," said Brewster. "Our first goal is to win enough games to qualify for states, then we want to have a good enough record to earn a top-four seed in the county and two home games.

"But the number one thing is to take it one game at a time and not worry about anybody right now except Linden. I tell the kids 'my job is to look ahead and get the pitching ready, your job is to focus on the next game."

If focused and healthy, Westfield has all the pieces in place to dethrone Cranford for the county title and make a deep run in the state tournament.

Infantino had four points and five steals, Rose Driscoll had 2 points and six assists, Krissy Wendel and Alli MacDonald had 2 points each and Alli Mac also had 10 rebounds. Allison Oberlander had three rebounds, three assists and four steals to contribute to the St. Helen's win.

In the championship game St. Helen's led 13-12 at the half, but once again its depth at all positions paid off as they wore IHM down. St. Helen's scored the first eight points of the second half to open a 21-12 lead then Tara Hanza from Westfield who plays for IHM drained a three to cut the lead to 21-15. Erin Miller responded with a trey of her own right before the third quarter ended to make it 24-15. Erin led St. Helen's with 13 points and tied a tournament record by scoring 70 points in five games. Stephanie Slodyska scored 69 points in five games, including eight in the championship game. Danielle Infantino had 7 points, Rose Driscoll had two points and seven assists and played a great defensive game. Alli MacDonald led St. Helen's in rebounding with 14. Krissy Wendel and Elizabeth Harbaugh did a great job in stopping the IHM center from scoring after Stephanie Slodyczka got into foul trouble which was a big reason for the St. Helen's win. Allison Oberlander did a great job from her sixth-girl position

St. Helen's also reached the IHM March Madness tournament final, beating the host team IHM-5 32-17. St. Helen's used a balanced attack to defeat IHM-5 for the third time in a week, heating them in the union county eyo finals the st francis cabrini finals and the semi-finals of their tournament. Erin Miller led St. Helen's with 11 points, Danielle Infantino had six points, Rose Driscoll knocked down four points, Stephanie Slodyzcka had five points and eight rebounds, Elizabeth Harbaugh had two points and eight rebounds and once again help hold down HIM's top scorer to four points. Krissy Wendel and Nina Brownstone chipped in with two points each. Alli MacDonald once again was St. Helen's top rebounder with 12. Allision Oberlander had an assist and two steals. Tara Hanza from Westfield was IHM's top scorer with seven points.

St. Helen's now has one game left this season against Clark-6 in the

IIIM final, the only team they haven't beaten this season losing once in overtime by four points and by six points. in the super league finals, but the girls are looking forward to the game and the challenge. It should be a fun game for everyone, and a great game to end the season on, with two top teams playing for the championship. Successful debut

#### for St. Helen's

In its first season together the St. Helen's 4th grade boys CYO team had a successful rookie campaign, compiling a 7-3 record in the Union County CYO league.

The team showed tremendous improvement from the beginning of the season, when they squeaked out a 16-14 overtime victory to the final regular season game when they won 31-17. The squad improved in all facets of the game, moving the ball around the offense to find open shots, battling on the boards and playing tenacious defense to create fastbreak opportuni-

Point guard Bobby Oberlander shouldered a lot of responsibility on both ends of the floor and played remarkably all season, leading the team in scoring with 76 points. Shooting guard Stephen Greet displayed a deft shooting touch all year, linishing second on the team in scoring with 45 points. Twin-brother lustin Greet was a tenacious defender and helped run the point. John Descalzi and Ian Heffernan played superb defense and were able to knock down open shots.

Matt Woods switched between guard and forward, led the team in steals and assists and was an instant spark to the offense every time be stepped on the court, finishing third on the team in scoring.

Centers Mike Fietkiwicz and Mike Sheehan manned the middle and were the top two rebounders on the Anthony Porchetta, Joe club. Porchetta were the bangers inside, while Matt Daly was always in the right place at the right time for loose balls, rebounds and scoring. Chris Dunstan was the toughest player inside, rebounding the ball, scoring and coming up with key steals. Dunstan, Stephen Greet and Oberlander were named to the all-star team.

#### SOCCER

#### **Power win first** It was cold on Saturday after-

noon March 23 with a biting wind that reminded those toiling outside



how fortunate we were that real winter never showed up this year. But the calendar said Spring and the Scotch Plains Power and South Mountain Blazers' girl's soccer teams ignored the elements and played an enthralling hard fought game. The Power made Danielle Wood's first half goal stand up in a 1-0 victory.

Both teams shook off some opening game rust to improve the level of play as the game went along. With the Power missing five of their players due to spring break vacations and illness, the game was played with ten players aside. The Power had no substitutes but were able to get the better of the play, breaking through in the 15th minute when Wood powered a left footed shot past the Blazer's goalie from 10 yards away. The Power defense of fullbacks Jaclyn Lazarus, Maria Rivero, Mary Henkels and Lindsay Traiman combined with goalies Christina DelMonico and Allie Thek to limit South Mountain's opportunities to get an equalizer. In addition to her goal, Wood excelled in midfield combining with Thek and DelMonico. The offense consisting of Courtney Baines, Diana Caicedo and Avery Boettscher produced numerous scoring chances that were thwarted by outstanding goalic play from South Mountain. The Power now enjoy a week off before going back to work on Sunday, April 7 with an away game against the other South Mountain team, the Bombers.

#### SWIMMING

#### **Aquaducks Score**

The Westfield YMCA Aquaducks hosted the East Invitational Synchronized Swim Meet on March 16-17th. Swimmers came from various East coast states including New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Hampshire, Maryland, New Massachusetts, and New Jersey. There were 17 teams represented in this meet. The swimmers consisting of Ana Bogdanovski, Beatrice Cayaban, Kristina Chmura, Nicole Emerson, Georgia Luch, Bena Reiter and Lauren McCurdy placed first overall in the 14 and over intermediate group team routine. Jennifer Gagliotti and Alicia Rolin placed second overall in the 12-13 age group duet competition. The team consisting of Casey Aion, Allison Andrews, Jennifer Gaglioti, Melissa LaMotta, Kimberly Rizzo, Alicia Rolin, Jaime Ross and Hannah Thompson placed second overall in the 12-13 age group team competition. The Aquaducks consist of girls ranging from 8 to 18 years of age. There are currently four swimmers, Rochelle Ross, Becky Zakian, Megan Lesko and Stephanie Rolin, who will be swimming in the US Junior Championship Meet in San Diego next month. The competition season will end this year with several members of the Aquaducks competing at the A.G. Nationals in Washington State during June and July. If you have any questions about the team please contact the Westfield YMCA at 908- 233-2700.

#### SPORTSCENE

ALS SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

The Jim and Susan Airey ALS Fund Committee is sponsoring a single-elimination

softball tournament Saturday, May 18 in Scotch

games played simultaneously at Brookside Park

nament's championship game will take place

approximately 2:30 p.m. at Brookside Park, with

trophies for the first and second place teams. If

your softball team wishes to participate contact

This will be the second annual Jim and Susan Airey ALS Fund Softball Tournament ded-

icated to raising money to fight Amyotrophic

Lateral Scierosis or ALS, commonly know as Lou

Gehrig's Disease, a fatal neuro-degenerative dis-

ease that progressively paralyzes by destroying

motor neurons in the spine. Last year's tournal

ment featured tickets, hats and baseball memo-

rabilia donated by the New York Yankees and Philadelphia Phillies for sale and prizes.

Therapy Development Foundation, Newton MA

Admission is free, refreshments are available

excitement and prizes will abound. Donations to

the ALS Therapy Developmental Foundation are

greatly appreciated at the event or send directly

to: ALS Therapy Foundation, 44 Gien Ave Newton, MA 02459, www.als-tdf.org, (617) 796

8826. For additional information contacy Jim and

host its 12th-annual 5-miler and one mile Fun

Run Saturday, April 27 at Tamagues Park in

Westfield. Proceeds from the event will benefit

Project Graduation for Westfield High School stu-

ies. The Fun Run will begin at 9 a.m. followed by

Pre-entry registration fees (postmarked

dents and the Sept. 11 Fund for Westheid Jami-

before April 20) will be \$15 for the 5-Miler and \$5

for the Fun Run. Registration lees on race day will

be \$20 for the 5-Miler and \$10 for the Fun Run T-

shirts will be issued to the first 200 registrants of

USATF certified course with mile splits and water

stations. Runners should come dressed to run

egories, overall male and female winners of the 5

Miler and first, second, and third place finishers in

each age group of the 5-miler. (19 and under, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, and 60 and over)

Medals will be awarded to all participants of the

Fun Run and t-shirts will be awarded to the first

Westfield Recreation Commission at (908) 789

4080 or visit their website at westfieldnj net/town

erall male and temale runners of the Fun Run

For race application information contact the

TRACK CLUB

The Westfield Flyers Track Club, a youth track

team affiliated with the New Jersey Track and Field Association, has been formed. The club, for

boys and girls in grades 4 through 8, will start

practices in April and plans to compete in region

Sports Department at (908) 233-2700 ext. 258 or

tion of Westheld varsity coach Bob Brewster, has

expanded it's 2002 camp schedule to include

sessions for teenagers on the 90-foot diamond

and a weekend session for parents and children

together. Two sessions for boys and girls entering

grades 4-9 remain, as does a session for boys

and girls entering grades 1-3. The schedule is

June 24-28 9 a m.-Noon, boy and girls entering

grades 4-9. June 29-30, 9 a.m.-Noon for parent

and child to work together. July 1-3.9 a.m.-Noon.

for boys and girls entering grades 1-3. July 1-3

12:30-3:30 p.m. for older players entering or

already playing on the 90-foot diamond. July 8-12 9 a.m.-Noon for boys and girls entering grades 4-

9.For more information contact Larry Cohen at

For more information contact the Westheld Y

BASEBALL CAMP

"Baseball Like it Ought to Be" under the direc-

5-miler. The race features a fast and flat

Trophies will be awarded in the following cat

5-MILER AND FUN RUN

The Westfield Recreation Department will

Susan Airey at 908-889-4745.

the 5-Miler at 9:30 a.m.

hall/recreation

(908) 889-0097

al meets in May and June.

email dsroka@westfieldnj.

All proceeds from the day will go to the ALS

Joe Locasio at (732) 297-2004

and Jerseyland Field in Scotch Plains. The tour

Plains. The tournament will begin 9 am

#### SHOOTING CAMP

The 14th annual John Somogyi Shoeth Camp, co-directed by state championship coach es Neil Home and John Somogyi, will be held to two days at Rutgers Prep in Somerset, Null Jun ing the weekend of June 15. Somogyl, who make held the states boys career scoring record of 3.310 points and held the all-lime national high school foul shooting record for the most trae throws made in a career (1,034) amassed a career coaching record of 275-111 while at St Peter's, St. Joseph's, Madison Central and McCorristin high schools. Horne accumulated a 290-135 record while winning two state titles a Westfield and Union Catholic high schools

The camp, which is open to boys and ages 9-17, will include two three-and-a-half nour sessions that will enable players to improve cr their shooting techniques and give them individual and partner drills for further practice Each player will have his her shot videolaped and a di lyzed during this two day period

For further information and an application ca Somogyi at (732) 846-8928. Register early last year's camp was filled by June 1st INDIANS CAMP

The 7th annual Indians Baskelball Camp a now accepting registration for its three weeks of summer basketball camp. The camp is open to boys and girls entering grades 2 through 9 and 16 held at Rahway High School. The dates are Week | June 24-28, Week II July 8-12, and Week III July 15-19 The camp runs from 9 a.m to 2.3/ p.m. Monday through Friday, Indians Basketba Camp has quickly grown in popularity. The quali-ty instruction each child receives comes from successful high school coaches who stress the fundamentals of the games while at the same time ensure each camper has fun. Tom Lewis and John Petela, both former head basketball coach es at Rahway high School, and current Athletic Director and Assistant Athletic Director direct the camp The camp is \$120 for one week. \$210 for two weeks or \$300.00 for three weeks. Each camper will receive an Indians Basketball Camp T-Shirt Two more aspects of the camp that separate from most others 1) Prizes -Each day there are a number of campers in each league that receive a prize for being selected as . Camper of the day" 2) Each camper will receive a "Skills Evaluation Report Card" from his or her coach at camp. This gives campers a clear idea on what he or she needs to work on to improve. For more information or a brochure, contact John Petela at 732-396-8022 or Tom Lewis at 732-396-1101

#### S.A.F.E.T .Y. CLINICS

The Westfield Recreation Department head ed by Bruce Kaufmann has arranged four S.A.F.E.T.Y. (Sports Awareness For Educating Today's Youthi clinics for 2002 This program has been coordinated so potential coaches in any sport may attend, however sealing is limited. To assure a seat, please complete and mail in the a pre-registration form at least seven davs prior In the date of the clinic. A minimum number of preregistration forms received seven days in advance of the clinic are required or the clinic may be canceled or postponed

To obtain a pre-registration form, please contact Westheld Recreation at 789-4080. Clinic dates during 2002. Monday, March 25, 7 p.m. Westfield Town Hall sponsored by Westfield Lacrosse Club Thursday, June 13 7 p.m. Westfield Town Hall, sponsored by Girl's Softball League of Westfield, Saturday, Sept. 21 , 9 a.m Westfield Town Hall sponsored by Westfield Soccer Association. Tuesday. Nov. 12, 7 p.m., Westheld Town Hall, sponsored by Westheld Basketball Association. Walk-in registration begins one-half hour prior to the clinic start time No-one will be admitted once the clinic has begun. The climic will take approximately three hours and will cover a variety of topics, including legal and psychological aspects of coaching training and conditioning and first aid. Please bring a pen or pencil. The cost to the attendee is \$26 for the materials provided. The sponsoring sports associations and Westfield Recreation will bear all other costs related to providing the clinic



(all times p.m. unless otherwise noted) MONDAY, APRIL 1 Baseball Westheld at Linden, 4 Softball

Baseball Westheld vs. Shabazz, 4 Scotch Plains at Linden, 4 SOFTBALL Scotch Plains vs Lind

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Westheld vs. Linden, 4 Boys Lacrosse Westfield vs. Johnson, 4 Tennis Westlield at Livingston Golf Westfield vs. Union, 4

TUESDAY, APRIL 2 Track Westfield vs. Shabazz, 4 Scotch Plains vs. Cranford, 4 Golf Westfield vs. Wardlaw-Hartridge, 4

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

**Giris Lacrosse** Westlield vs. Blair, 4 Tennis Westlield vs. Millburn, 4

THURSDAY, APRIL 4 Baseball Westlield at Clifton, 4 Softball Westfield at Columbia, 4 Boys Lacrosse Westfield vs. Summit, 4 Tennis Westfield vs. Old Bridge, Golf Westfield vs. Summit, 4

#### Urgent news for people who took Fen-Phen or Redux

These drugs may have damaged your heart or caused Pulmonary Hypertension. Many injured people have no symptoms. Others have shortness of breath, chest pains, fatigue or other symptoms. Doctors are urging you to have an echocardiogram. Call today for a free consultation to find out about this test and your legal rights. We practice law only in Arizona, but associate with lawyers throughout the U.S.



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FANWOOD

73 Forest Road from Dorothy R. Sorf to Brian C. Schunke for \$350,000.

23 Glenwood Road from Joseph Frank to Jeffrey & Carol Zimmerman for \$306,000.

64 Shady Lane from Carrie Singleton Trust to Robert J. & Ivette Muller for \$209,000.

#### **KENILWORTH**

243 Boulevard from Christopher & R. Demyanovich to Luz Restrepo for \$275,000.

754 Woodland Ave. from Samuel M. & Tammy Ventola to Gilbert & Maribel M. Sotillo for \$215,000.

#### SCOTCH PLAINS

347 Hunter Ave. from Juan F. & Maria Manes to Inocencio Avalos-Baez for \$169,000. 5 Traveller Way from Philip & Rochelle

Melville to Augustine I. Riginos for \$525,000. 1246 White Oak Road from Genevieve G.

Heald to Robert Moran et.al. for \$225,000. WESTFIELD

527 Coleman Place from Niels & Susan

Jensen to Gerald L. & Joan M. Robinson for \$399,000. 516 Dorian Court from Robert & Maura

Haviland to Douglas Luka et.al. for \$355,000. 11 Fairhill Road from Dietmar & Michela

Dresp to Robert K. Lutey et.al. for \$665,000. 920 Harding St. from James M. & Lucille E. Davy to Ted I. & Meredith L. Mendelson for

\$450,000. 725 Marcellus Drive from Mark & Debra A. Munizzi to Prudential Residential Services for \$360,000.

725 Marcellus Drive from Prudential **Residential Services to Karim & Kelley Schultz** for \$345,000.

649 Nottingham Place from William G. & Elizabeth A. Ryan to Monte K. & Heidi Guest for \$679,000.

645 Shackamaxon Drive from Jean W. MacGregor to William F. Kelly Jr. & Jennifer Kelly for \$399,900.

257 Sylvania Place from Grace Gabelmann to James & Kimberly Peterson for \$370,000.

**BERKELEY HEIGHTS** Mountain Avenue from Andrew Haspel to

Ruben Fleurantin for \$36,000 **NEW PROVIDENCE** 

101 Woodbine Circle from Michael S. & Anna R. Brogan to Nikos P. & C. Georgiadis for \$451,000.

#### SUMMIT

7 Iris Road from Marshall K. & Leslie Z. Howard to Maureen A. McGovern for \$461,500. 34 Joanna Way from Jaime P. & Kendall C. Sneddon to Cendant Mobility Financial Corp. for \$660,000.

35 Michigan Ave, from Mohammad Saleem to Eric T. Natunen for \$280,000.

58 Oxbow Lane from Robert J. & Kathleen M. Hugin to William N. Wight Jr. & Alexandra Wight for \$1,102,500.

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**ILEEN CUCCARO** 

TAMMY LIEBERMAN

## **Burgdorff ERA honors two** associates for February sales

WESTFIELD - Heen Cuccaro, Level in 2000. She has been a New Westfield office of Burgdorff ERA Realtor, has been honored as Salesperson of the Month for February 2002 with five units sold.

Cuccaro has received many distinguished awards and has been a member in the New Jersey Association of **Realtors Million Dollar Sales Club and** was awarded the Bronze Level 1996-97. 1999 and 2001 and the Silver Level 1998 and 2000 and newly attained award for Burgdorff's President's Club for 2002. She has been a New Jersey real estate professional for 6 years and resides in Garwood. You can reach her on her direct line (908)233-6349 or email her  $\mathbf{at}$ Ileen-Cuccaro@Burgdorff.com. Tammy Lieberman has also been awarded with the Salesperson of the Month for February 2002 with five units sold. She is a member of the New Jersey Association of Realtors Million Dollar Sales Club and awarded the Bronze

Jersey real estate professional for five vears and resides in Union County. You can reach her on her direct line (908)233-6756 or email her at Tammy-Lieberman@Burgdorff.com.

Judith Α. Sagan, Vice President/Manager of Burgdorff ERA's Westfield, added that, "We are extremely proud of the production that Tammy and Heen has achieved. Their hard work and dedication to their clients' needs have resulted in a high production for February. We are very proud of Tammy and lleen and congratulate both of them on their many outstanding accomplishments."

C-3

## ERA has warranties

According to the National Home Warranty Association, the number of homes covered by a home warranty has been on a steady rise in recent years as have the number of service claims made on homes with warranties.

Buying a home is already such a major investment, and brings with it a lot of uncertainty. Whether new or old, a home's mechanical systems such as the air conditioner, furnace, water heater, interior plumbing system, built-in appliances and much more can break down, and are expensive to repair. A home protection plan, such as the exclusive program offered by ERA Real Estate, protects both sellers and buyers from these costly repairs. For sellers, a home warranty can add value to the home while protecting it against unexpected repairs during the listing period. For buyers, a home warranty can provide assurance that their home will be covered against many costly repairs after their closing.

Sellers who purchase a home warranty can gain a competitive edge in the market. Studies show that homes listed with a home warranty not only have a better chance of selling, but they sell faster and for more money. For example, a home protection plan can, on average, increase the chance of a home's selling by 29 percent, help sell, a home 15 percent faster and help it sell for a 2.2 percent higher price than a home listed without a warranty.



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## Legislative battle between bankers and brokers is heating up

#### BY JAMES M. WOODARD

COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

The battle between major banks and the real estate brokerage industry continues to grow. Should banks be allowed to sell and manage real properties? Banks and real estate brokers are locking horns on the issue. But some leading brokers are now agreeing with the view taken by banks.

The dispute centers on banking interests seeking permission to sell and manage real estate through proposed regulation now before the Federal Reserve Board and the U.S. Treasury Department. Many Realtors believe the proposed rule is contrary to

what Congress intended when it passed financial services modernization legislation in 1999.

The National Association of Realtors recently launched a multimillion-dollar advertising campaign to encourage members of Congress to cosponsor the Community Choice in Real Estate Act. This would prevent large banking conglomerates from taking over locally owned and operated real estate companies, according to a report from association.

The multi-media campaign opened with a series of newspaper ads. The ads read, in part, "H.R. 3424 will keep the personalized service consumers now receive from their local neighbor-

hood real estate professionals. We need the support of strong leaders so that consumers and local communities will win."

"Congressional support for keeping big banks out of real estate is growing even faster than we had anticipated," said Martin Edwards Jr., association president.

"It's clear that large numbers of members of Congress understand that if the biggest banks in the nation are allowed into the real estate business, the market will soon be dominated by a handful of large banking conglomerates whose primary goal is to cross-sell various financial products. That will not help people who are trying to achieve the American dream of homeownership. "If big banks are allowed to gobble up local real estate firms, the result will be fewer choices for consumers, higher costs and less competition. Consumers would also lose the personalized customer service they now receive from brokers who live and work in the same community as their customers."

The Community Choice in Real Estate Act would clarify congressional intent to preclude any such action by the Federal Reserve or Treasury, according to an association report.

Recently, another group of real estate brokers — The Realty Alliance expressed their disagreement with the National Association of Realtors' stand. This group (a for-profit corporation) is comprised of many of the nation's largest independent residential real estate brokerage companies.

Realty Alliance has gone on record as favoring and supporting a "fair and free market environment unbound by legislative restrictions." They find it hypocritical and fundamentally wrong to ask that national bank subsidiaries be barred from real estate brokerage activity when some real estate brokerages are now involved in mortgage banking, insurance and title insurance businesses.

Members of the alliance believe the banks have a powerful lobby in Washington that could be used to prevent real estate brokerage firms from operating in these other businesses should they be prevented from owning companies that sell or manage residential real estate.

"We believe that consumers would benefit from the influx of capital that may result from nationally chartered banks entering this arena," Richard Christopher, chairman of The Realty Alliance, wrote in a letter to the association president. "We also believe increased competition from companies of size would benefit consumers by making all of us sharpen our skills and improve the services we provide.

"In our view, the role of government is not to limit competition, as your (NAR's) legislation would do, but rather to foster a business environment in which consumers benefit from competition."

The Realty Alliance, formed in 1997, has strict guidelines for member firms. To join, they must have closed a minimum of \$5 million in residential real estate sales during the previous calendar year, and they must have completed a certain minimum number of transaction sides (home sales and listings) during the past year. As the alliance membership grows, so too does its clout in such matters as the current bank-broker dispute.

It was difficult to obtain quotes from bankers on this controversial subject. One banking industry leader, who asked not to be identified, said bankers are fearful that National Association of Realtors might take actions that would hurt their business if they were too vocal in endorsing the proposal. The ruling would allow banks to have qualified employees handle brokerage services, or line up brokerage firm affiliates in their marketing area. Smaller real estate brokers have a lot to gain from partnering with banks, it was noted in a special report from the American Bankers Association. They will have a greater ability to provide customers with integrated real estate services. The playing field will be level for all sizes of real estate companies, the report stated.

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15 YR FIXED	6 625	0.00	6 730	5%	45 DAY	15 YR FIXED	6 750	0.00	6.880	5%	60 DAY	15 YR FIXED	5 875	2.00	6 380	5%	45 DAY
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#### **CRANFORD TOWNSHIP**

\$569,000

This home has 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths and is approximately 3,330 sq., ft. 10 rooms including a family room, formal dining room, beautiful sunroom off 26' kitchen with breakfast area overlooking park like property, master bathroom, sitting room, laundry room, fireplace, cathedral ceiling, walk-in closets, Jacuzzi and 2-car garage.







**CRANFORD TOWNSHIP** \$559,900 **One home is brick and stucco and one is stone and stucco**. Each has 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths and is approximately 3,400 sq. ft. Each has 10 rooms including a luxurious family room, formal dining room, 26' kitchen with breakfast area, library, computer room, Master bath, laundry room. Other features include fireplace, cathedral ceiling, walk-in closets, Jacuzzi and 2-car garage.

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Heen Cuccaro NUCR Ablass De Borrea - 19 Q. How is the boomer generation changing the senior housing market?

A. Here's an interesting quote on that subject by a senior housing industry leader: "The boomer generation has rewritten the book on housing," said Antonio Giordano Jr., chairman of the National Association of Home Builders' Senior Housing Council.

"As the boomers express their desires and preferences in housing, one thing is certain. Their expectations about senior housing needs are different from any generation before them. Home buyers in the age 55 and above category are healthier and wealthier than ever, and they expect their housing choices to reflect their active, independent lifestyles."

The council will present a special symposium on senior housing in the current and future marketplace in May. Hundreds of homebuilder architects, marketers and other professionals are expected to attend "to help them reach this increasingly influential age group," it was reported.

## Associates earn Silver Status

WESTFIELD — Harvey Tekel, branch manager announced that the following sales associates from Weichert, Realtors Westfield Office have been named to the 2001 New Jersey State Million Dollar Club.

Achieving Silver Status are Holly Cohen, Lou Faruolo, Brenda Putzer and Lola Reed. Achieving bronze status are Carole Edzek, Pat O'Connor, Rosemary Tarulli and Linda Weimer.

The award-winning associates from Weichert's Westfield office are located at 185 Elm St.

# Automotive/Classified

## **BMW** raises roof on 745i

#### By MARK MAYNARD

COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

BMW raised the roof and raised the eyebrows of enthusiasts and critics around the world with its redesigned flagship sedan, the 745t.

It's a styling statement that some love, others detest and some just don't know quite what to say. But be ready to see more of it in future BMW designs.

Holding the 745i to a worldwide 5meter length was a design challenge - to make it bigger but keep it the same length - and to have a drop-dead handsome car.

Raising the roof created aerodynamic challenges, which required raising the trunk deck to add down-force for highspeed stability.

It's that trunk treatment that has left some people speechless. That bustle on the butt is different, but is it bad?

Only time and sales will tell.

At the recent media introduction for the fourth-generation Seven, BMW brought in Chris Bangle, the chief of design, to help comb out the tangles. He speaks with big gestures, not just hands waving, and even some sound effects tossed in to reinforce a point.

It's easy to get caught up in his passion for design: the car takes on human. animal and fish qualities.

In the early stages of designing the car in Germany. Bangle considered the United States, the strongest export market for the 7-Series. It was to be bigger, stronger, faster - as are the people who live here.

He linked the past to the future with video clips of mid-'60s pro basketball players vs. the pros of today. The lean and lanky physiques of 30 years ago have given way to more muscular and buff athletes, which meant the new sedan also would require a strong visual presence.

Bangle made the car about an inchlonger in the front and rear and nearly 2 1/2-inches taller than its predecessor. That meant pushing the rear wheels

international 🕴



BMW's redesigned 745i sets a new standard.

longer wheelbase. "The taller architecture is for a

'sporting dynamism,'," Bangle says. To gauge head, htp and shoulder

room he used larger dummies to plan interior size. With larger "occupants," he was able to add an inch more headroom. in back.

There is "Dynacism" in the coupelike roofline and long hood to package the 325 hp, 4.4-liter V-8 engine and 6speed automatic transmission. BMW claims 0 to 60 in 6.9 seconds, with 18/26 miles per gallons.

Bangle sketched in big wheels for big presence - 18-inch standard or 19 optional. The shape has classic elegance, he says.

"It's not a wedge, but a new kind of elegant line," Bangle says. "It has a downward curve of classicism that says: 'I have arrived. I don't need to be nervous.

The Seven's silhouette - long hood, curving roofline and kickback tail - presents a three-dimensional vehicle with character lines that change as the viewerwalks around it.

He says the headlights are the "windows to the soul" of a BMW. The lights, with the blinkers on top, have an alert-

back about 2 1/2 inches, creating a mess that makes up the face of a BMW, he says.

The image is tall and proud, Bangle says. "It says: Move over. I'm accelerating," an image reinforced by the "little shark overbite to the lower grille."

The 'L' cutlines in the taillights - an enduring BMW icon, like the split grille and kink in the 'C' pillar -- were preserved but are more abstract. The modified line from the rear light toward the center of the deck has a dash "to keep the eye moving."

Consequently, the trunk opening also became wider, to better toss in sets. of golf clubs. The large and hefty door handles are, he says, a "handshake to the car.'

The little shark fin antenna at the rear of the roof was "a little piece of completeness we thought the car needed," Bangle says, "like a woman putting on a brooch, who now feels ready to go out."

The 7451 has gone on sale with a starting price of \$68,495, or around \$72,000 after a couple of options, such as the 13 speaker Logic 7 audio system for \$1,800. BMW says there are enough preorders by customers to fill the first two years of production. This model will be followed by the long wheelbase 745Lt and then the 12-cylinder 760Li.

## **Douglas Ford gets President's Award**

SUMMIT -- In a recent the overall Ford ownership announcement, Ford Motor experience at Douglas." **Company named Douglas Ford** the recipient of the coveted President's Award for the year 2001

This prestigious award is Ford Motor company's highest dealer award and is presented annually only to those Ford dealerships that go beyond their customers expectations in sales and customer satisfaction.

"We have to thank all the customers whom we've served in the year 2001," said Jonathan Liebman, Executive Vice President of Douglas Auto Group, "They are the ones who gave us high marks for sales and service," he continued. "The President's award validates their extreme satisfaction with douglasautonet.com

This is the third consecutive

year that Douglas Ford has won this coveted award. "The dedication and discipline of our entire staff has paid off," added Liebman, "Without sounding boastful, just 340 of some 5,000 dealers earn it. So this is quite an accomplishment."

Douglas Ford is located at 340 Morris Ave. in Summit. They, along with Douglas Volkswagen, Douglas Buick and Douglas Infiniti, consummate Douglas Auto Group, an operation that has served over 100,000 satisfied customers in their 37 years of operation. Douglas Ford can be reached at (908)273-6060 or on the web at

## **Dealership donates to** children's foundation

FLEMINGTON Three area children and their families enjoyed a trip to Disney World thanks in part to the Flemington Chevrolet, Buick, Pontiac and GMC and the Make a Wish Foundation.

The General Motors dealership participated in a matching donation -

program UAW/GM Make-A-Wish Foundation Wish Match 25 – to raise funds for chronically ill children and their families to vacation in the Florida resort.

Almost \$4,000 was raised by the Flemington dealership to aid local children.

'Make a Wish is a great organization and we wanted to help. It's our way of giving back to the community," said Jeff Parker, general manager of the Flemington dealership. Karen Spencer, of Make-A-

Wish, said the funds from Flemington raised - the statewide total to approximately \$21,000. In addition to the Disney World trips, anothor child received a pop-up camper  $\gamma$ enabling him to spend time outga doors with his family.

"Make a Wish receives no 🛨 government funds, s**đ.+**: Flemington's support means a great deal. When you adopt awish, it's nothing short of fabulous," said Spencer.

Flemington General Motors, located on Routes 31 and 202, is a member of the locally owned nationally and known Flomington Car and Truck Family Company Dealerships.







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