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Friday, November 22, 2002

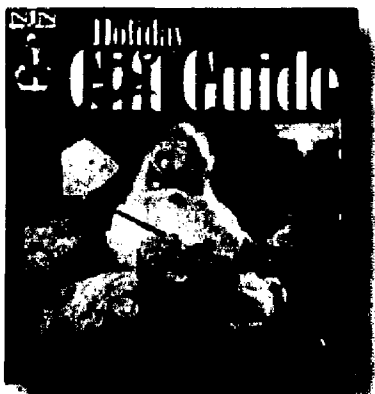
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INSIDE



Dream season

Members of the Westfield girls soccer team celebrate after their win over Randolph. The victory, decided in a penalty-kick shootout, gave Westfield its first sectional title since 1996. See story on Page C-1.



Gift Guide inside

Start your holiday shopping early with the help of our special holiday Gift Guide inside today's issue.



Vets remembered

Retired Pfc. Gerard Weiss and Col. Mary Jo Rice celebrated Veterans Day with students at Westfield schools and shared stories of their time in service. See story on Page B-8.

REMINDER

Don't forget the needy

The Scotch Plains Policemen's Benevolent Association Local 87 is sponsoring a toy drive for needy children. To help out, bring a new toy or game to the police station by Dec. 20.

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A

By KEVIN B. HOWELL
THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — When the Town Council passed an amendment to the Land Use Ordinance last fall, it became known as the "shoehorning" ordinance, designed to prevent overdevelop-

ment created by subdivisions. The amendment gives the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment additional criteria when judging subdivision applications, whether they require variances or not. Now, the ordinance is being put to the test in a minor subdivision application

before the Planning Board. Susan Cherin of 854 Standish Ave. is proposing to divide her corner lot in two. One lot would house her existing residence while Cherin would sell the new lot to Michael Mahoney, a builder who would construct a house on the property.

Though the application only requires two variances, one of which is for a pre-existing condition, neighbors oppose the idea of another home squeezed into the affluent neighborhood. They say it may cause adverse effects on property values, the character of the neighborhood and quality of

life. About 40 residents have hired joint representation to oppose the application.

Mahoney was recently approved by the Scotch Plains Planning Board for a proposed development of single-family

(Continued on page A-2)

Developer recommended for Fanwood

By KEVIN B. HOWELL
THE RECORD-PRESS

FANWOOD — The borough has taken a big step closer to downtown redevelopment, as a subcommittee created by the Borough Council to screen prospective developers will make a formal recommendation to the council next month.

After a two-hour discussion Nov. 11, the review committee unanimously selected Landmark Communities of Princeton as the top design team. The committee began interviewing three developers in October, and met five times throughout the review process.

The committee's recommendation should carry a good deal of weight. It was comprised of Mayor Louis Jung, two council members, the Planning Board president and vice president, the borough administrator, engineer, and planner, and residents—Clayton Pierce, the downtown revitalization coordinator, and former Borough Attorney Will Coronato.

"Landmark's overall plan was clearly closest to the redevelopment plan we adopted last spring in all respects, particularly in keeping with the downtown Fanwood Victorian theme," said Jung. "It had the least density, and also the best approach to dealing with existing merchants."

The 6.5-acre downtown block, bordered by Martine, South and LaGrande avenues and Second Street, was approved for redevelopment by the council in the spring with a plan that overrides older zoning regulations. The plan calls for a mixed residential and commercial development in the zone.

Under the plan, LaGrande Avenue and Second Street will have townhouses, while South and Martine avenues will have commercial businesses on the first level and residential units on the second level.

During the recent political campaign, Democratic candidates asserted the plan did not

(Continued on page A-2)



NICOLE DIMELLA/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Fanwood teenager Emily Walker stands in the foyer of Mount St. Mary's Academy in Watchung.

Serving others is golden for this Fanwood teenager

By KEVIN B. HOWELL
THE RECORD-PRESS

FANWOOD — For some people, volunteering is a seasonal activity. This time of the year, individuals work at soup kitchens or other charity events to serve their communities and help out the less fortunate.

But for Mount Saint Mary Academy senior Emily Walker, volunteering is a way of life.

Walker, a 17-year-old Fanwood resident, has received several awards for her service, most recently the Congressional Award Gold Medal, the highest award

given to youth ages 14-23 in the nation.

"It's really amazing. I'm really surprised that I did it," Walker said of winning the national honor. Last year only 108 people across the country earned the award.

Walker, who was awarded the program's Silver Medal last year, will receive the Gold Medal award next year in a ceremony before Congress.

The program is the only award for youth legislated by Congress. It was established in 1979 and signed into law by President Jimmy Carter. Participants earn

bronze, silver and gold certificates and medals for achievement in volunteer public service, personal development, physical fitness and an expedition or exploration.

The Gold Medal requires 400 hours of public service, 200 hours of personal development, 200 hours of physical fitness and four days of expedition or exploration. Walker far exceeded those requirements, logging 550 hours of public service, 475 hours of personal development, 400 hours of physical fitness and six nights of expedition.

(Continued on page A-2)

What we are doing for Thanksgiving 2002

For some, Thanksgiving means giving to and helping others

By KELLY BELLOVIN-MITCHELL
STAFF WRITER

The cupboards are nearly bare at many area food banks as Thanksgiving approaches.

The Samaritan Homeless Interim Program (SHIP) in Somerville has plans to have a Thanksgiving dinner, but according to Executive Director Tom O'Leary, food is limited.

O'Leary said SHIP is in desperate need of turkeys, hams, stuffing and fresh potatoes.

"Food donations are down," he said. "We have had a reduction in funding, and received no money from the state. We have lost about 18,000 to 25,000 meals in this quarter. It's severely affecting us."

"We cut our Somerset stops in half," he said. "This is the first time in 13 years we have had to cut anything."

O'Leary said monetary donations will go to buy food for the

Thanksgiving dinner. Food and money can be sent to 67 W. High St., Somerville, NJ 08876.

The situation is not quite so dire at Cranford Family Care, according to Director Kathy Willis. Willis said the pantry has faced a dry spell, but she expects donations to increase as the holidays get closer.

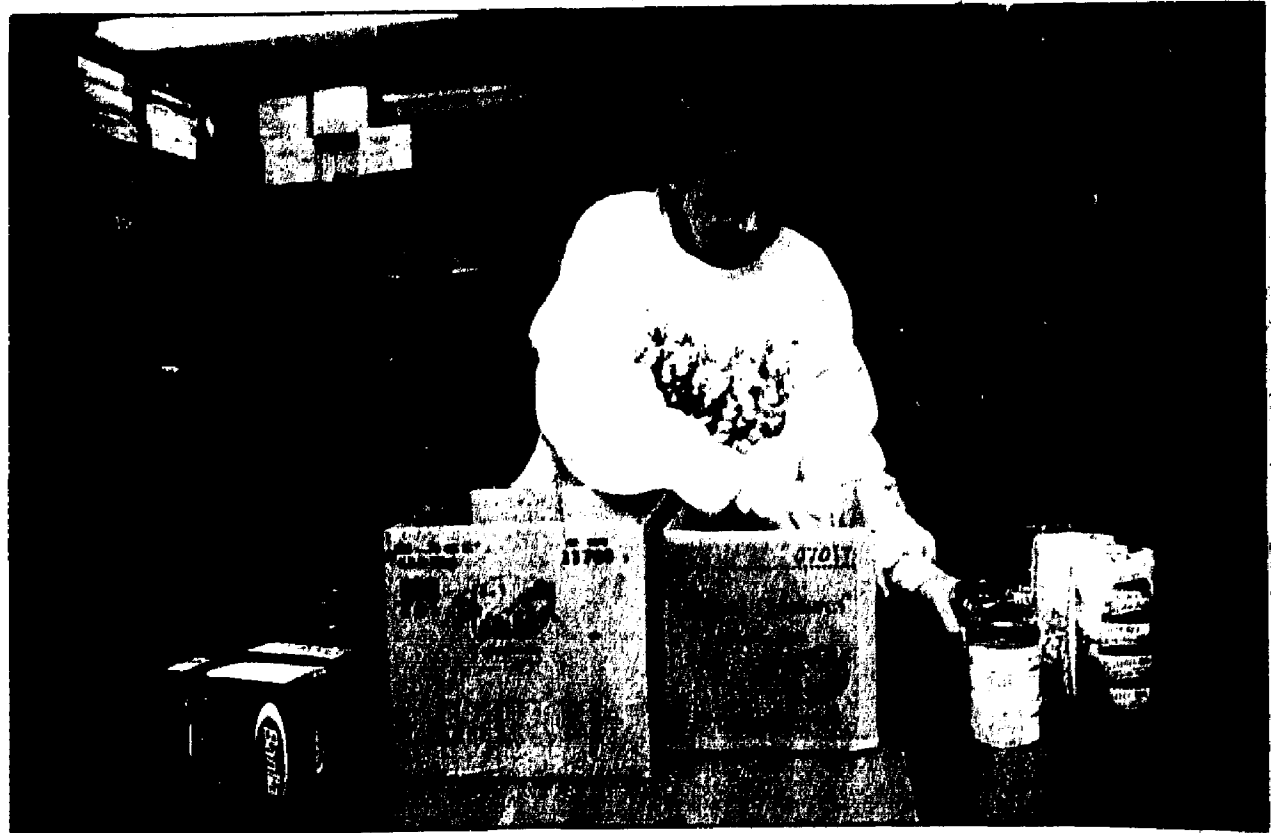
"It is a little slow," she said. "I think that is because Thanksgiving is late, so people are not thinking about it. I feel we should be all right. People are very generous, and just need a reminder now and then."

Phil Cox, vice president of FISH of the Dunellen Area, said monetary donations are not a problem at the moment.

"We are back on track," he said. "We are recovering well financially."

However, FISH reports a decrease in food items like cereal

(Continued on page B-1)



NICOLE DIMELLA/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Ruth Ann Howley unpacks a small donation to help fill the shelves of the FISH food pantry in Piscataway.



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Getting ready for the holiday season

Jennifer Storm and Miriam Blackburn have their seasonal crafts laid out for sale at Saturday's Yuletide Fair at All Saint's Church in Scotch Plains.

New classes, character growth are the focus of Westfield goals

By KEVIN B. HOWELL
THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — At a recent Westfield Board of Education meeting, the board accepted the Quality Assurance Annual Report, an extensive report required by the state that monitors regulations and analyzes several areas of the school district.

The report has seven categories of analysis: implementation of school level plans, achievement of performance objectives, school report card, professional development, school facilities, status of mandated program reviews and community support. The report records achievement of the nine district schools for the 2001-2002 school year, and includes objectives for 2002-2003. Each school had two implementation objectives, with all intermediate schools and elementary schools sharing objectives respectively.

The high school's first objective is the implementation of a Humanities course in the ninth grade. The goal is to have 30 percent of the freshman class enrolled in the course by June 2003.

The course began initially through a pilot program put together by the English and Social Studies departments in 2001, in which two Global Perspectives teachers teamed with an English teacher. Approximately 170 freshmen took part in the pilot program and 75 percent achieved a "B" or better, according to the report.

This year, Humanities is offered as an elective course for freshmen in lieu of English 9 and Global Studies. It is a two-period course with 76 students enrolled.

The second high school objective involves the new Exploratory Spanish classes and Science in Society. The Spanish courses were created to make world languages available to students who had not studied Spanish previously.

Science in Society was developed to make a third year of science study available to students who are unsuccessful in the current program. The QAAR goal is to have 80 percent of students in each course demonstrate an understanding of the concepts.

The intermediate schools objectives deal with both social and academic achievement, and highlight the Character Counts program, a character education initiative.

The QAAR goal is for students to familiarize themselves with the "Pillars of Character" and be able to write an expository essay describing how three of the pillars are demonstrated in the life of a hero. Last year, more than 90 percent of middle school students met each of these goals.

The second goal is for 95 percent of seventh graders to complete a research project. Last school year, all sixth grade students in regular Language Arts classes participated in literature-

based research that began with reading "The Clay Marble," a young adult novel set in Cambodia. Ninety-eight percent of the students adequately completed a research paper, according to the report.

Likewise in the elementary schools, objectives are both social and academic. Socially, the schools look to combat bullying, which is becoming a common priority throughout school districts. The report states that studies have established approximately 15 percent of students are either bullied regularly or initiate bullying behavior; the activity increases during the elementary years and peaks in middle school.

The schools plan to deter the behavior by keeping monthly records of incidents, creating

class rules against bullying, heighten awareness through class lessons, establishing parental awareness campaigns and holding school assemblies.

Academically, elementary schools strive to enhance writing skills with students producing narratives in paragraph form. Schools will focus on the five steps of writing: planning and brainstorming, prewriting, drafting, editing, and revising.

In addition to the implementation plans, the high school had an achievement performance objective for at least 90 percent of juniors to be able to write an appropriate resume as judged by guidance counselors and English teachers. Last year, 252 resumes were presented and 220 were deemed acceptable.

Municipal site for towers?

By KEVIN B. HOWELL
THE RECORD-PRESS

FANWOOD — The saga continues in Verizon Wireless' request to erect cellular phone antennas in a residential area of the borough — but the company, and residents opposed to the antennas, may soon get some help from the borough.

At its Nov. 12 meeting, the Borough Council voted to open two municipal sites for cellular tower bids. The decision came as a result of testimony at Verizon's last Planning Board hearing, in which Dominic Vilecco, the company's engineering consultant, said antennas at the borough's recycling center would cover the gap in Verizon's coverage.

However, Verizon attorney Richard Stanzione said that the company could not pursue

the site until it had been opened for bids. Therefore, the council will seek bids for the construction of antennas at the recycling center and public works yard, both on North Avenue.

Since its first hearing before the board in June, Verizon has encountered much opposition from residents to the proposed antennas on a PSE&G tower at Elm and North avenues. The company says a significant gap in coverage exists in the area — it claims an average of 3,500 calls per day fail in the area — and the water tower site would best eliminate the problem.

The hearing has been carried over several times as Verizon collected data on other potential sites. Last month, Vilecco demonstrated that alternative sites, such as The Chelsea on South Avenue and a

tower in Scotch Plains, did not meet coverage needs.

Vilecco presented a hypothetical coverage map for an antenna site at the recycling center. A 125-foot structure would have to be built at the site to accommodate the antennas, he said, but the municipal site would cover more of the gap than the proposed site.

Though the borough will open the sites for bids, there is no guarantee that Verizon will give the most competitive bid. The council looks not only to appease residents by keeping the antennas out of a residential neighborhood, but also to gain income by renting the site, said Mayor Louis Jung.

Borough Attorney Mark Peck reported Stanzione will request the Nov. 26 hearing be carried so that Verizon can put in a bid for the sites, Jung said.

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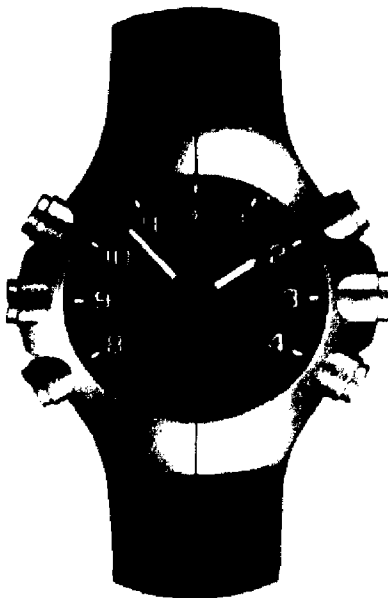
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Decline in voter support concerns board

By KEVIN B. HOWELL
THE RECORD PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — Board of Education members expressed concern Tuesday about the diminishing margin by which voters have approved school budgets in recent years.

The discussion was prompted by the report of an ad hoc committee the board had convened to analyze data on voter patterns.

Chaired by Linda Nelson, school board vice president, the committee started its work last January by analyzing county Board of Elections data from the last six elections, focusing especially on the last two years.

The committee's report showed that while budget passed the last six years, the margin of passing gradually decreased from as much as 881 votes in 2000 to a 255 votes in 2002.

"I'm really uncomfortable with

the 255 'yes' vote difference when it used to be almost 1,000," Nelson said. "We need to see those numbers go up."

About 3,000 people vote each year in the elections, just 12 percent of the registered voters in Scotch Plains and Fanwood, said Margaret Ames, a member of the committee. Of those 3,000 voters, 40 percent had children in the school district during the last election.

As expected, the areas with more public school voters were more likely to pass the budget, but there were some exceptions that concerned committee members.

In 2001, there were two voting districts that rejected the budget despite the fact more 36 percent of voters in each district had children in the schools. In one of those districts, nearly 70 percent of voters had school-age children; that same district voted against

the budget again in 2002.

Nelson said that the two voting districts that rejected the budget despite a high percentage of public school parents were in the Brunner School area.

"In an area where they're consistently failing the budget, we need to find out what they're not understanding or what's upsetting them about the budget," Nelson said.

The committee will consider creating focus groups in the voting district to educate residents about the budget and encourage people to get to the polls.

However, board member

Edward Saridaki said analyzing voter patterns and pressuring people to vote is unethical.

"It bothers me that the Board of Education goes out and finds out who votes and who doesn't vote. That violates ethics," Saridaki said. "Our job is to come up with a correct budget and educate people about it."

Nelson denied that the goal is to pressure people to vote, saying it is rather to educate them and eliminate misconceptions.

Though Saridaki opposed the analysis, most board members agreed that the study should continue.



DR. JANIE EDMONDS

Edmonds appointed to state commission

WESTFIELD — Dr. Janie Edmonds, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction in the Westfield Public Schools, has been appointed as the New Jersey Association of School Administrators Representative to the New Jersey Commission on Programs for Gifted Students.

Edmonds' appointment was recently confirmed in a letter from state legislators Richard Baggett, Tom Kean Jr. and Eric Munoz. "Our gifted students of today will surely be our leaders of tomorrow in all areas of life, so we look to you to make a positive contribution to their development," they wrote.

"So many people know that Westfield is working hard to do the right thing for gifted students, and they want to learn more about what Westfield is implementing," Edmonds said. "I will be pleased to share our experiences and look forward to bringing back what I learn to our district."

Noted Superintendent William Foley, "Janie has been the driving force behind our new Gifted and Talented program. She has brought in experts from around the country and is familiar with serving the needs of the profoundly gifted student. I am pleased that she is receiving state recognition for her effort and expertise."

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SCOTCH PLAINS — Registration for American Red Cross certification classes at Wilf Jewish Community Campus is underway.

"CPR for the Professional Rescuer Update" is scheduled 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Dec. 23 and 10 a.m.-noon Dec. 24. Participants must have current CPR for Professional Rescuer to qualify for this course. Fees are \$75 for JCC members and \$100 for non-members (non-member registration fee is waived).

Lifeguards currently certified by American Red Cross may enroll in "Lifeguard Update." The

course includes CPR for the professional rescuer, standard first aid, and lifeguarding. The class meets 6-10 p.m. Dec. 26 and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Dec. 27 and 30. JCC member fees are \$175, non-member fees are \$200 (non-member registration fee is waived). Registration deadline for both courses is December 15.

The "ARC Learn-to-Swim Program" will start again in January 2003 and fills up early. To receive a schedule of levels and class times, or to register for the courses above, please contact Rebecca Rice, Aquatics Director, at 908-889-8800 ext. 219.

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Fibromyalgia?

Clark, NJ - A new, free 16 page report has been published that reveals the "Untold Story" behind Fibromyalgia pain. Fibromyalgia misdiagnosis and mistreatment is rampant and may lead to countless years of unnecessary suffering. This free report reveals a natural, drugless procedure that is giving new hope to these patients with miraculous results for many. If you suffer from fibromyalgia you need this no B.S., no gimmicks free report that is giving hope to fibromyalgia sufferers everywhere. To order your copy of this free report, call toll free 1-800-278-5388 (24 hr. recorded message)

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A Magical Halloween

Second graders at McGinn Elementary School in Scotch Plains received a special treat on Halloween, as Mark Zacharia, parent of a second grader and a professional magician, performed his magic show for the entire second grade. Students were in awe as Zacharia made objects disappear and reappear, performed illusions with students as the participants and showed the children his special rabbit friend, "Murray." The children were treated not only a series of mind-boggling magic tricks, but also to a lot of laughs as "Murray" refused to listen to Mr. Zacharia. For more information on Mark Zacharia's shows, check out his website at youwillbelieveinmagic.com.

Scotch Plains firefighter injured after tumbling off of fire engine

SCOTCH PLAINS — Firemen Mark Johns was injured while the Scotch Plains Fire Department responded to a fire Nov. 11.

Johns was part of a crew traveling on route to a fire on Engine 23, heading southbound on

Martine Avenue in Fanwood between 7 and 8 p.m. Johns was seated on the rear jump seat while putting on fire equipment and fell off the truck.

He landed on a side road on a pile of leaves and hit the curb. Another fire truck responding to

the same fire found him.

Johns suffered head injuries and arm abrasions and was taken to Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield. He was released Friday and is resting at home. Township Manager Tom Atkins said Johns is doing well.

Fifth teen is sentenced in Park Middle School assault

By KEVIN B. HOWELL
THE RECORD PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — The final assailant of the sexual assault on a Park Middle School girl last year was sentenced in Union County Family Court in Elizabeth Wednesday.

Daniel Batista, a 15-year-old whose name was released to the public for the first time, was given an indeterminate state reformatory term not to exceed four years at the state's Training School for Boys by Superior Court Judge Rudolph Hawkins, Jr.

Batista, who was 14 at the

time of the attack in January, was permitted to plead guilty to acts of juvenile delinquency as he was not in the group who initiated the assault and kidnapping of the 13-year-old girl from inside the school, but joined the attack in the dry creek bed behind the school.

"I am fully satisfied that our judges have dealt with this horrible offense in a manner appropriate with the harm done, the severity of the offense and the level of involvement of the defendants who admitted their guilt in this case," said Theodore Romankow, county prosecutor.

Last month the other four

boys who pled guilty as adults were sentenced to prison terms ranging from five to ten years. Manuel Batista and Bryan Soriano were sentenced to five years in a youth correctional facility; Mark Russell and Jesus Gonzalez were sentenced to 10 years.

The four must serve at least 85 percent of their sentences because of the violent nature of the crime, according to the prosecutor's office.

Romankow praised Scotch Plains detectives for their efforts in gathering evidence that led to the arrest of the boys three days after the attack.

Scotch Plains council places new restrictions on yard work

By KEVIN B. HOWELL
THE RECORD PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — Hard-working homeowners who love to get up early to take care of yard work or stay out later than usual to finish up tasks will need to change their routines, as the Township Council passed an ordinance Nov. 12 limiting the hours of use for power landscaping equipment.

According to Councilman

Frank Rossi, several residents complained to the council about neighbors using noisy landscaping equipment such as lawn mowers and power blowers early in the morning and around 9:30 at night.

The ordinance defines power landscaping equipment as power mowers, power blowers, chain saws, chippers, lawn tractors, power tillers and all other motorized vehicles. Use is prohibited before 7:30 a.m. and

after 9 p.m. weekdays and before 8 a.m. and after 9 p.m. weekends.

The limits are waived in emergency cases such as severe storms, and do not apply to snow removal from driveways with snow blowers.

Violators will be fined a minimum of \$50 and a maximum of \$100.

"It's a minimal penalty, but hopefully it will deter those who disturb others," Rossi said.

NOVEMBER
17-23, 2002

American Education Week

American Education Week celebrates good news

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Education Association (NEA) has asked the country to use American Education Week, Nov. 17-23, to celebrate all the good news in our public schools and commit to working together to help all students achieve.

This year's theme, "Making Public Schools Great for Every Child!" reflects the crucial need for cooperation and hard work among education staff, parents, and community members to provide all children with a quality education.

"Helping all students achieve is the goal of our work as parents, teachers, and public school employees," said NEA President Reg Weaver. "This is the time to remind ourselves that teaching and learning are a home and classroom team effort."

Weaver also recommended that despite these challenges, "Everyone who works hard to make public schools great ought to take a moment to honor their many successes." He offered recent examples of impressive achievements in learning, teaching, and parental involvement:

California public schoolers have made great strides on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The percentage of fourth graders scoring at the highest two levels in math increased 36 percent between 1996 and 2000, and the percentage of eighth graders doing the same increased 50 percent between 1990 and 2000.

New Jersey ranks No. 1 in the nation in the percentage of public high schools (98 percent)

offering Advanced Placement (AP) courses. More than 7 out of 10 New Jersey students scored high enough on AP exams to earn college credit.

Parents in Kansas are getting more involved in their child-

'Helping all students achieve is the goal of our work as parents, teachers, and public school employees. This is the time to remind ourselves that teaching and learning are a home and classroom team effort.'

dren's education. Fully 100 percent of fourth-grade parents in Kansas participate in parent-teacher conferences, and the state is tops in the nation in attendance among public school eighth graders.

NEA was one of the creators and original sponsors of AEW, which began in 1921 as a way to

build public support for our nation's schools.

Today, AEW is held annually the full week prior to Thanksgiving, and its cosponsors are the U.S. Department of Education and twelve national

organizations including the NEA. Also at the initiative of the NEA, each Wednesday since 1987 (Nov. 20 this year) has been set aside as a special day to honor education support professionals — administrative assistants, classroom aides, maintenance and cafeteria

workers, bus drivers, and others who provide invaluable services to schools.

"No matter what their job, all school professionals help students develop their minds and learn important life lessons," added Weaver.

Events and activities are being planned in schools around the country to emphasize this team effort. Students are exercising their creativity in poster contests and thank-you gifts to school staff. Parents are attending PTA dinners and visiting classrooms to talk with teachers, principals, and other school staff about how they can aid in their child's progress.

Members of the local community are volunteering their time to speak with students about their work, hobbies, and civic interests.



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Commentary

Please give the gift of life

You can give a little bit of yourself this holiday season and it may be the most valuable gift you will ever give.

During every holiday season there is a serious blood shortage at area hospitals. People who would normally give blood through programs at their places of employment or community organizations often become preoccupied with the frantic pace of holiday activities so the regular appointment to donate blood gets lost in the shuffle.

However, though the amount of blood being donated decreases, the demand for blood doesn't change over the holidays. That's why it's important to find the time to donate blood, the gift of life.

The outpouring of blood donors after the Sept. 11 terrorist attack was overwhelming. Unfortunately, donated blood cannot be kept for longer than a few months and a fresh supply is needed. Many of those who donated blood after Sept. 11 probably did so for the first time in their lives; let's hope they remember how easy it was and they get into the habit of donating on a regular basis.

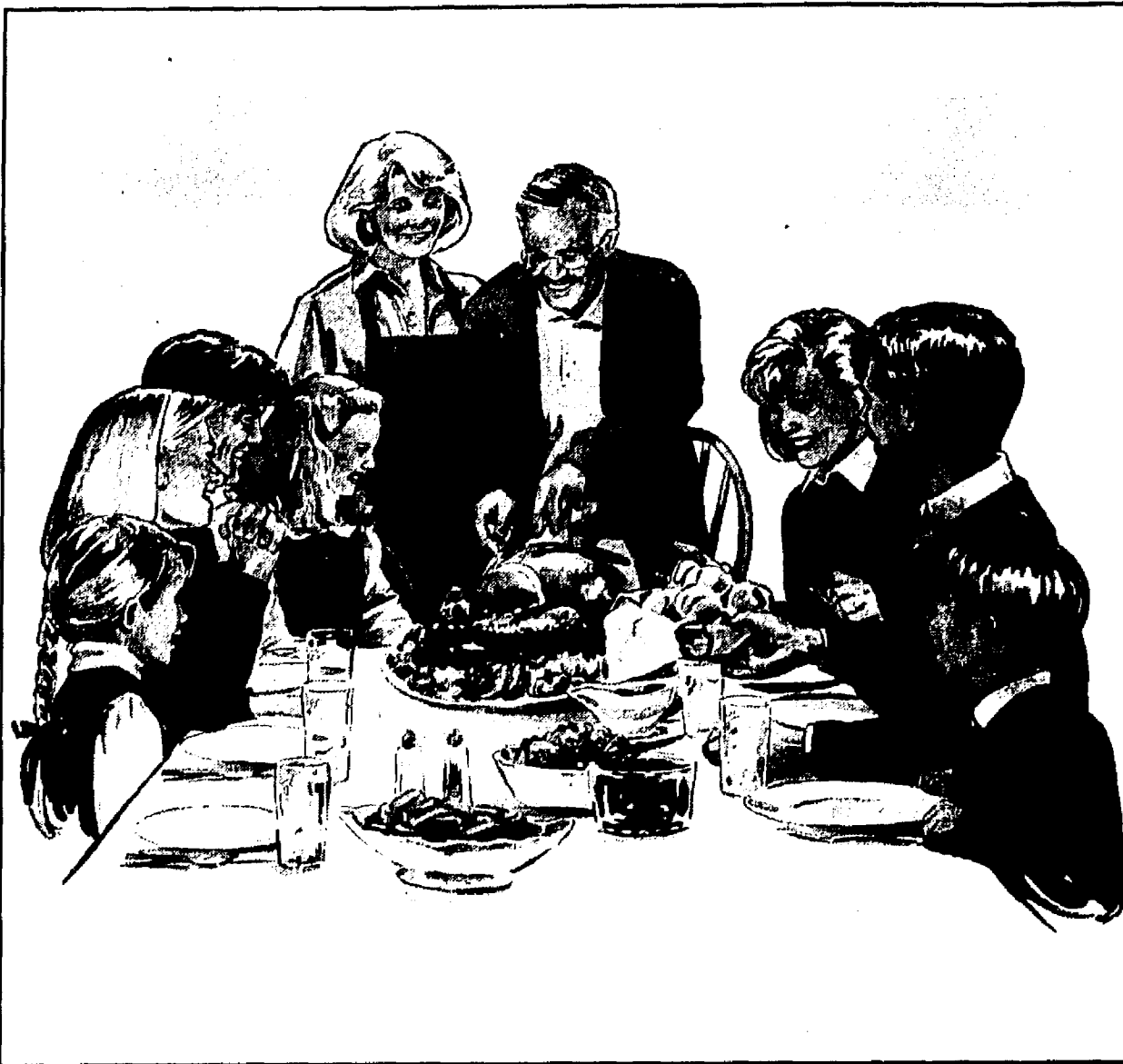
This year blood banks are facing a new challenge. On Oct. 31, the federal Food and Drug Administration implemented new guidelines that introduce new restrictions on who can donate blood. The guidelines were created in response to the theoretical risk of transmitting the human form of Mad Cow Disease by transfusion. Banned from donating blood are people who have visited or lived in the United Kingdom for three months or more between 1980 and 1996. Also banned are U.S. military personnel and their dependents who spent six months or more between 1980 and 1996 stationed at European bases.

"We are concerned about our ability to make up for the impending shortfall as local donations are not keeping pace with prior years and the demand for blood is rising due to an aging population and advances in medical treatment that require transfusion support," says John Giandelone, executive director of New Jersey Blood Services.

Local chapters of the American Red Cross are sponsoring blood drives and you can also make an appointment at area hospitals to give blood. Or you can call New Jersey Blood Services at (800) 933-2566.

A single pint of blood can help to save the lives of at least three people.

What other gift are you giving this holiday season that will have as much impact?



Letters to the editor

Fund workers deserve recognition

To the Record-Press:

So many people in Westfield are not cognizant of the extraordinary work led by Linda Maggio and her United Fund workers to help the families of the 9/11 victims. Now, through the generous article you printed in last week's paper, Westfielders should be able to grasp the breadth of the town's commitment to those families.

To this day, Maggio devotes many hours to serving as an advocate for widows of the World Trade Center attack. Not only is the United Fund office the site of regular support group meetings, but an unofficial "forms" epicenter. For more than a year, the United Fund has helped with filing the numerous forms needed by the families to secure

varied benefits.

I want to salute you for demonstrating your interest in this endeavor.

Please also continue your editorial support for our annual campaign. Because of tough economic times all around, we face a difficult road in making the 2002-2003 goal, and the 22 member agencies of the United Fund of Westfield are depending on our financial support more today than ever before.

MARK FORSTENHAUSLER
Westfield

The writer is president of the board of trustees of the United Fund of Westfield and chairman of the September 11th Committee.

Testing should not target athletes

To The Record-Press:

I can understand the idea that students within a school environment have a lesser expectation of privacy than members of the general population. What I cannot understand is an environment in which if I make the decision to play a sport for my high school, I might be excused from history class to go to the nurse's office and give a urine sample. Not only is this idea preposterous, it puts the spotlight on athletes, neglecting the other members of the school community.

I believe that if a school community makes the decision to administer drug testing for students,

they should administer those tests to all students within that community, not just athletes. Drug testing student-athletes will not lessen the problem of high school drug use, let alone solve it. If a student chooses to use drugs on a regular basis, he or she will find a way to do so, even if it means giving up their sports career. Considering the recent court cases and lawsuits involving student drug testing, student-athletes should be aware of their rights and be familiar with their school drug testing policy.

CHRISTA JENSEN
Clark

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 Greg Marx at (908) 575-6687 with story suggestions, questions or comments.

For sports, call Dan Murphy at (908) 575-6691.

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 Greg Marx at (908) 575-6687.

Deadlines

The deadline for submitting articles and press releases to *The Record-Press* is 5 p.m. Friday. The letters deadline is noon Monday.

Letter policy

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

Send letters to the above addresses or fax number.



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Jersey Boy



Mike Deak

At home in the world and at home

Minutes after the train left Baltimore and began rattling over the rotting rails, my suitcase fell off the overhead rack and onto my head.

"Are you OK, Miss?" the conductor asked coming up the aisle behind me.

It was somewhere in the mid-1970s and, yes, my hair was girlishly long. But as soon as the conductor saw my chin's struggling stubble and heard a deliberately husky "fine" from my lips, he quickly returned the suitcase to the rack and hurried away without acknowledging the gender confusion. I was too woozy to acknowledge the pain and embarrassment; I had just pulled my first all-nighter to complete a paper and nothing made a difference because I was going home for Thanksgiving.

This had been the first time I had been away from Neshanic Station on my own and my soul ached for the comfort and safety of home. At college I was a rube of sorts — book smart and street stupid. Though I could discuss in depth the subtleties of James Joyce's *Dubliners*, I was a mute illiterate in more important matters, such as beer, pot and the Grateful Dead. The lessons I had learned on the streets of Neshanic Station were irrelevant and while I should have been angered, I was puzzled and disappointed. But in the college classroom I felt more at home; it was the sort of intellectual haven where I could seek shelter from everyday anxieties. The world inside the classroom was much bigger and friendlier than the other worlds of my life.

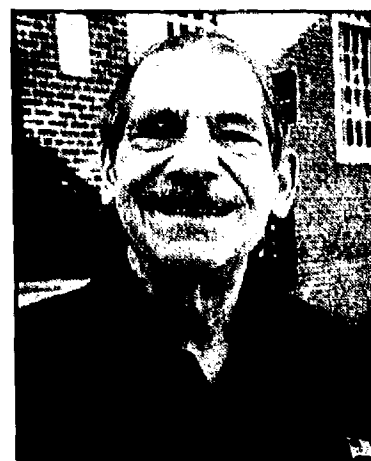
Back in my own bed, I slept the deep, calm sleep of an infant exhausted by crying. But when I woke up, I felt a strange unease, the same anxiety that used to fill me when I raised my hand in elementary school though I didn't know the answer. That unease faded into dread as I neared LaMonte Field in Bound Brook where the traditional Somerville and Bound Brook football game was being played. I should have been looking forward to seeing all my high school friends for the first time since the summer, but I wanted to turn around and go home.

The game was terrible. Bound Brook walloped my alma mater 22-8 and the only highlight was a snow flurry that swept down Watchung Mountain. I had very little to say to my high school classmates and I found myself not really all that interested in what they had to say. They seemed stuck in another time, like insects caught in amber. I was waiting for them to acknowledge life had changed or, at least, that we all had changed, but they were all like soldiers returning from a war who could not accept that their world had drastically changed. I grew so impatient that I actually started to concentrate on the football game, but I couldn't even get upset that the Pioneers were being whipped. I wanted to leave, but I didn't want to go home. I didn't know where I wanted to go.

Because the role of melancholy brooder was the only one that seemed to fit, I spent a lot of time brooding that weekend. Eventually, like a devoted Joyce acolyte, I experienced an epiphany. I realized I could reconcile my self-made life with the duality of my experience. My life was not going to be a choice between different, divergent paths; it was going to be a journey down many different paths at the same time. And it would be my mission to find to discover how they would eventually converge. It was alright to be at home both in the world and at home. I didn't have to discard what I had learned on the streets of Neshanic Station in place of another set of knowledge. It was OK to lead a confusing life that others may not understand.

At the end of the weekend I was glad to be back on the train to Baltimore. But I also knew that in a month I would be glad to be going home again.

What are you thankful for this Thanksgiving?



VINCENT COLETTA
Westfield

"I'm thankful to still be alive. I'm 75."



KIM SWENSON
Westfield

"I'm thankful for loving friends and family."



CHARLES MONZELLA
Westfield

"I'm most thankful for my healthy family, a lot of friends and my own health."



LENNY MARX
Westfield

"My children. I have five."



JAY TINTLE
Westfield

"I'm most thankful for being a United States citizen and living in the greatest country in the world, and for my freedoms."



GANG XIAO
Piscataway

"I'm thankful for my family. It's very important to me. We will spend the day at home cooking and cleaning."

Enrollment continues to rise at Westfield public schools

By KEVIN B. HOWELL
THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — The enrollment figures for the school district are in, and as anticipated the population continues to grow. The district enrollment totals 5,656, compared to 5,477 last year. The numbers are greatest at the elementary school level, or Grades K-4, with 2,656 students. The district has the highest number of first graders it has had in the last 25 years with 473.

"At the elementary schools, where most of our schools already have additions, we

should be able to handle what we expect to be a modest growth in the next five years," said Superintendent William Foley. "As I mentioned to the Board of Education, our enrollment growth is a testament to their success. Families continue to move into Westfield because of our schools."

As the elementary school students make their way up to the high school, Foley expects each graduating class to be larger for the next ten years, with the high school population reaching 1,900 by 2010, compared to 1,492 this year.

Foley feels the high school is

mostly prepared with the three-story, 55,000 sq. ft. addition currently under construction, but he said there are still other factors to consider.

"We will need to find ways to handle the social needs of our high school students so that they can have opportunities to participate in extra-curricular activities and stay involved," Foley said.

The enrollment numbers are as of October. According to Lorre Korecky, coordinator of school and community relations, the numbers always increase because more students move into the district throughout the year.



A memorable story

Moses Dodeles, who escaped Nazi Germany when he was six years old, speaks to Westfield fifth-graders in Ms. Katz's class at Tamaques School about surviving the Holocaust. Dodeles is the grandfather of Alex Weintraub, a student in the class.

Some old-fashioned advice for preparing a holiday turkey

By JESSIE HAVENS
GUEST COMMENTARY

Turkey for Thanksgiving is one thing that hasn't changed in this changing world, or has it?

What would our forefathers have said of a Butterball encased in plastic sitting in the sink to defrost? Their bird was a wholly different fellow. He had lorded it over the hens and ducks in the barnyard all summer and yielded up his bronze plumage a day before he was to be the star attraction. Or if he found his way to table via a butcher shop, he may have arrived plucked, but was still complete with head, feet and entrails and would be dressed and singed by the lady of the house before stuffing.

Then as now stuffing was made of bread. An 1880 recipe recommends cutting off crusts, rubbing bread dry and fine and moistening with butter, not water. For seasoning salt, pepper and summer

Guest commentary

savory are prescribed, plus a dozen or more whole oysters and a good amount of whole chestnuts boiled in well salted water. Other options were veal, ham, bacon, onions and potatoes to suit individual taste.

For a small turkey, eight pounds or less, three hours in the oven was prescribed, an hour or more longer if he was larger. Before cooking lard or slices of bacon were laid on top and a little boiling water was put into the dripping pan. Just before the bird was completely done the cook was advised to put melted butter on him and sprinkle him over with flour to make the skin crisp and brown.

The giblets cut fine and the mashed liver went into the gravy, of course. If chestnuts were used in the stuffing, chestnuts were also

added to the gravy, or alternatively a chestnut sauce was prepared.

As for the eating of this bird, we yield the remainder of our space to the Rev. Samuel Parry of Pluckemin Presbyterian Church who reminisced in 1905 as follows:

"Pleasant memories arise at this season of the year of the turkey dinners which, in the old days when society was more homogenous than now, were a notable feature of the social life of our rural communities."

"Such an occasion was a busy one in the old farm house. The brick oven had been put to extra use the day before in baking bread, pies and cakes, and on the appointed day the women of the household, with some neighborly assistants, were in a state of unusual activity. When the guests arrived toward noon after a cold

ride and were ushered into the parlor where a roaring wood fire dispensed hospitable comfort, the smell of the roasting turkey, the odor of its inseparable accompaniment - theunctuous onion, and the aroma of boiling coffee (proceeding from the kitchen, 'like fragrance on the breeze,' and pervading the whole mansion with an appetizing atmosphere), filled the guests with such delightful anticipation of the good things to come that they were ill disposed to engage in anything more than brief and irregular conversation."

"When the good lady at length appeared and invited the guests to walk out to dinner, much modesty was shown about starting (none seeming to desire the chief places) until some couple, usually the domine and his wife, were persuaded to take the lead, then the others followed into the dining room and being properly assigned to their places were bidden to 'sit by.' The ancient room with its

wooden beams, big fire places, and tall clock received little attention at such times, for the chief attraction was the long table heaped with good things. At each end was a huge roast turkey done to a turn, rich and brown, and between were at least three kinds of vegetables, several sorts of pickles, cranberry and other jellies, bread and butter, many kinds of cake, canned fruit, nuts and apples. On side tables were arranged rice puddings, two kinds of pie, and tea and coffee, to be served in due time, and in some cases, lest any should remain hungry, plates of doughnuts as big as your fist reserved to be passed around as a last course."

"After the blessing was asked the host and another expert carver, who had consented to do the honors, each with a flourish of knife and fork, amidst the admiring and expectant glances of the company, proceeded skillfully to dissect and slice the savory mass before him, and distribute it

among the guests, most of whom were 'not particular' in their preferences of portions. As a signal to begin the host said, 'Help yourself, and make yourselves at home.' Then silence reigned while the keen edge was being removed from the appetite, but soon conversation would gradually start up, and venerable and well worn jokes were sufficient to provoke hearty bursts of laughter and thus promote digestion."

"After the return to the parlor stories would be told, the news of the various neighborhoods reported, and questions of local interest discussed."

"When the short afternoon began to draw to a close the company would break up and depart to their homes with a feeling of increased neighborliness, and a conviction that country life in winter was not so dull after all."

Jessie Havens is a historical columnist for N-J/N Publishing's newspapers.

Women find dashing fashions, courteous service at Jude

By NICK D'AMORE
THE RECORD-PRESS

CRANFORD — Women in search of a local store where they can buy fashionable clothes have finally found their place.

In September, Jude — located on North Union Avenue — opened without much fanfare, said owner and namesake Jude Zimmerman.

"We had a very soft, quiet opening," she said. "No ads, no grand opening signs."

But since its "quiet" opening, Zimmerman said word of the women's fashion store in downtown Cranford has spread throughout Union County and beyond.

"We have people coming from Westfield, Scotch Plains, Maplewood and Summit," she said.

Zimmerman has been working in the apparel business for 20 years, most recently as a senior vice president of sales for Liz Claiborne.

"I got out after Sept. 11. I'm a Cranford resident and wanted to be closer to my family and friends," she said. "I decided to invest in myself and my town,

as opposed to the stock market."

Zimmerman said she feels her store fills a void in downtown Cranford, offering fashionable clothing to affluent women aged 30 and up.

"I'm bringing fashion to Cranford. There's a real need here for Cranford customers," she said. "This was born out of

"The idea is for customers just to feel really good, a place where women can come in and enjoy themselves... It's really about service, being courteous and educating women on what looks great on them."

— Jude Zimmerman

my love for Cranford. I love this town."

Business has been great in the over two months the store has been open, Zimmerman said.

"We're very happy with the traffic that's been coming in. Browsers are welcome. There's

so much to see in the store, I'm not pushy," she said. "With the expertise I have in clothing, I can show things to a woman that she wouldn't necessarily pick for herself."

Among the name brands available at Jude are Eileen Fisher, Lily Pulitzer, Sigrid Olsen and Karen Kane.

"It's a store for everybody. You can find gifts from \$5 to \$300," she said.

Zimmerman said customers have come into the store and commented that it should be located in Westfield, a notion she is seeking to dispel. "I want to make people aware that Cranford has taste, too," she said.

Zimmerman said she wanted her spacious store to encourage women to enjoy shopping again.

"The idea is for customers just to feel really good, a place where women can come in and enjoy themselves," she said. The store's tagline, in fact, is "A place to feel good about yourself."

"It's really about service, being courteous and educating women on what looks great on them," she said.

Senior facility planned at boro park

FANWOOD — The Borough Council will a daytime facility for senior citizen organizations and activities at one of its two parks.

The building at Forest Road Park will be expanded and undergo renovations in order to create a multi-purpose facility dedicated to senior citizens during daytime hours Sept.- June. The additional room will be about 40 ft. x 40 ft., according to Mayor Louis Jung.

The borough recently awarded the \$9,500 contract for architectural drawings to DeBasse and Seminara of Pluckemin. Bids for construction will go out in February.

Altar Rosary Society will host holiday party

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Altar Rosary Society of St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church holds a Christmas party following a 7:30 p.m. Mass Dec. 2.

All women from St. Bartholomew the Apostle parish are invited to the Christmas party in the church at 2032 Westfield Ave. Music is by the Mardi Gras Quartet. Refreshments will be served and prizes awarded.

Briefs

For more information, phone (908) 889-2152 or (908) 322-5409.

Open House planned for Maccabi Games

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Wilf Jewish Community Campus will host a Maccabi Games Open House 2 p.m. Dec. 1. The event is open to all Jewish teen athletes ages 13-16 and their parents. An informal presentation and discussion will introduce new comers to the JCC Maccabi experience. Past participants will share their memories via videos and photographs from years gone by.

There is no fee to attend. Please call Lisa David, Delegation Head at 908-889-8800 ext. 253 or email ldavid@jccnj.org to register for the Open House or for additional Maccabi information.

Book focuses on values of old Italian areas

WESTFIELD — Stephen DeFelice has written a book on "Old Italian Neighborhood

Values."

He spoke about his book to the Westfield Chapter of Unico National at its Nov. 13 meeting at Giovanna's restaurant in Plainfield. The author is the founder and chairman of the Foundation for Innovations in Medicine.

DeFelice plans to sign copies of his book Saturday, Dec. 7 at the Town Book Store.

Unico is open to people of Italian ancestry and their spouses. For membership information, e-mail uniconj@westfieldnj.com or phone (908) 654-3717.

Westfield Thrift Shop to host holiday sale

WESTFIELD — The Thrift Shop of the Westfield Service League holds its Holiday Sale 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7.

Holiday clothes, party apparel, decorations, ornaments and new toys will be available at Thrift Shop prices. All toys are donated by Service League volunteers.

Proceeds from the sale of Thrift Shop merchandise benefit local charities.

For more information, phone (908) 233-2530 or visit the Thrift Shop at 114 Elmer St.

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750 ML CHAMPAGNE 29.00	1.75L WALKER 25.00	1.75L WALKER 9.99	1.75L WALKER 9.99
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5L BOUTERRE 29.99	1.75L BRANDY 29.99		
VERMOUTH			
1.75L VERMOUTH 6.99			
1.75L VERMOUTH 4.09			
1.75L VERMOUTH 5.99			

HOLIDAY CASE PRICES
750 ml - 12 per case

NANDO
Asst. Spumante 72.99

M & R
Asst. Spumante 97.08

BACARDI RUM
Light • Gold 108.00

SMIRNOFF
Vodka 80° 108.00

GRANTS
Scotch 108.12

SEAGRAMS
7 CROWN 111.48

KORBEL
Brut • Extra Dry 15-PACK 140.85

ABSOLUT
Vodka 80° 180.12

DEWAR'S
WHITE LABEL 184.88

JOHNNIE WALKER
RED 185.88

JACK DANIELS
192.12

HENNESSEY
VS 265.99

JOHNNIE WALKER
BLACK 288.00

MOET
WHITE STAR 289.08

CHIVAS
REGAL 301.08

GEORGES DUBOUEF
Gamay Nouveau 4.99

BERINGER
Nouveau 6.99

The 2002 Georges Dubouef Beaujolais Nouveau Arrives 11/21

County police will accept unwanted ammunition

The Union County Police will give residents an opportunity to dispose of unwanted ammunition and fireworks 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Nov. 26 at their headquarters at 300

North Avenue East in Westfield. Disposal will be free for county residents.

"Many residents have these potentially dangerous items in

their homes and would like to dispose of them safely," said Freeholder Chairman Lewis Mingo, Jr. "Our County Police have developed this program to help

make residents homes and communities safer."

The County Police will accept all fireworks and ammunition of up to .50-caliber. Unwanted ammunition and fireworks brought in by the public will be placed in a burn container at police headquarters and will be detonated later by police.

Fireworks and ammunition are considered hazardous materials and are not accepted as household waste or even hazardous waste. This is the only acceptable method for disposal of these items.

No guns will be accepted at this location.

It is particularly important to

dispose of old fireworks, which are not regulated and have a propensity to become unstable. But even older ammunition can become unstable and dangerous.

The Union County Police can also help residents ensure that war memorabilia such as grenades, shells and rockets are really inactive. The county police will come to residents' homes and inspect items using a portable x-ray machine.

For information about the ammunition and fireworks collection, or to have the county police look at memorabilia, please call the Union County Police at (908) 654-9800.

Briefs

DECA serves up meals for the homeless, needy

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School DECA Chapter sponsors its 12th annual Thanksgiving Day dinner for homeless and needy families at Black United Fund Community Center Complex, West Seventh Street and Central Avenue in Plainfield. More than 80 students will serve turkey dinners from 12-3 p.m. Thanksgiving Day.

If any agency or organization has clients who would be interested in attending, contact DECA at (908) 889-8600. Residents who would like to contribute to the dinner are also asked to contact DECA at that number.

Make an herbal wreath with Historical Society

FANWOOD — Residents can make their own herbal wreaths next week's meeting of the Historical Society of Scotch Plains and Fanwood.

Volunteer docents and gardeners of the Cannonball Museum will demonstrate how to turn bay leaves and cloves into an herbal wreath for the kitchen.

The meeting will take place 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Fanwood train station and is open to all. The wreath kits cost \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members.

For more information, call Richard Bousquet at (908) 232-1199.

Families can attend Hanukkah dinner

SCOTCH PLAINS — Will Jewish Community Campus will host a family Hanukkah dinner 5:30 p.m. Dec. 5.

Stanley Schwartz will provide music for singing and dancing, and children are invited to use an olive press to make oil or join and arts and crafts workshop to make holiday gifts during the craft session, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Dinner will be served 6-7:30 p.m.

The dinner fee is \$12 adults, \$6 children ages 2-12, \$9 seniors. The craft fee is \$5. For more information, or to reserve a spot, call Tina Jacobs at (908) 889-8800.

Toy purchases can help kids' hospital

MOUNTAINSIDE — The Mountainside TWIG of the Children's Specialized Hospital Auxiliary will hold a fundraiser with the Zany Brainy Springfield store 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Nov. 30.

Ten percent of the store's total sales for the day will be donated to the Auxiliary. Located at 295 Route 22 East in Springfield, the store offers developmental, educational and fun toys and products for children. Shoppers must ask store personnel for a coupon prior to making a purchase so sales can benefit the Auxiliary. For more information, please call Zany Brainy at (973) 467-9444.

Police seek toys for needy children

SCOTCH PLAINS — Policemen's Benevolent Association Local 87 sponsors its eighth annual toy drive for needy boys and girls.

Bring a new, unwrapped toy or game to the police station at 430 Park Ave. before Friday, Dec. 20. All donations will go to churches and charities in the area.

For more information, phone (908) 322-7100, Ext. 107.

Winter Stroll comes to Westfield Sunday

WESTFIELD — The second annual Westfield Winter Stroll is 5-9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 1.

This year's event is scheduled to include at least 26 downtown stores, according to a press release from the Education Fund of Westfield, the event organizers. The Winter Stroll coincides with the town's tree lighting ceremony.

Sunrise Assisted Living hosts free fashion show

WESTFIELD — Sunrise Assisted Living of Westfield, located at 240 Springfield Ave., invites the public to attend a free holiday fashion show 2:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday.

The afternoon of holiday fun will include an Avon holiday clothing fashion show; skin care and makeup demonstrations by Lucia E. Perpina, for Avon cosmetics, and Marian Coffee, for Mary Kay products; holiday gift-giving idea presentations; and raffles.

For more information about the holiday fashion show or Sunrise of Westfield, call (908) 317-3030.

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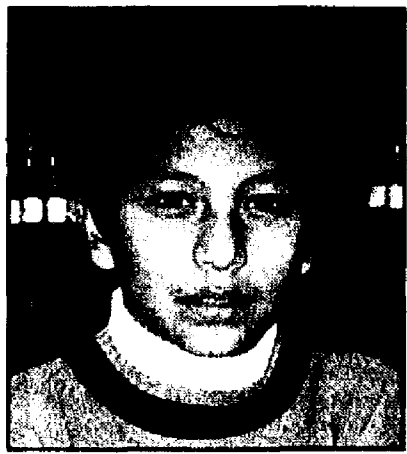
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Community Life

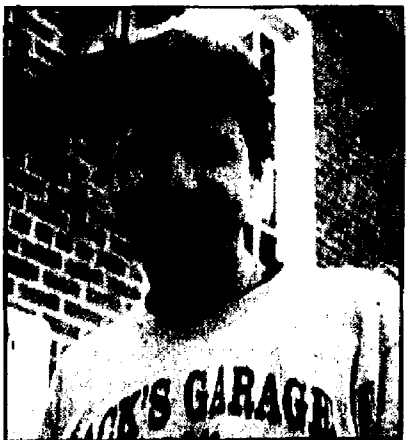
What are you thankful for on Thanksgiving?



DANIEL OLIVO
North Plainfield
"I am thankful because I am alive and I have my parents."



ZHI HUANG
Metuchen
"I'm grateful for my family. We will be celebrating family that day. We plan on visiting a cousin's house and celebrating there."



Jack Burger
Scotch Plains
"I'm thankful for my son. He was diagnosed with an illness and he's getting better. So I praise God."



SHERYL WARZYBUK
Piscataway
"I'm thankful for God's gifts, especially my children, Sawyer, 7 and Luke, 5. We will spend Thanksgiving remembering relatives and missing them."



ELIZABETH RUSSO
Somerville
I am thankful for good health and a great job, family, and a bunch of wonderful friends.

What we are doing for Thanksgiving



Cub Scout Matthew Jones, 10, of Pack 20 in Piscataway packs canned goods into boxes during Scouting for Food at Our Lady of Fatima School in Piscataway.

Thanksgiving is season of giving

(Continued from page A-1)
and turkeys. Freezers that are usually filled with turkeys at this time of year are almost empty, said Food Program Director Ruth Ann Howley.

"Our food donations are way down from where we were before Sept. 11," she said. "We are nowhere near the level we were."

People who receive an extra turkey in a supermarket promotion are encouraged to donate it. Canned goods, nonperishable food and cereal, are also welcome at FISH, 496 New Market Road, Piscataway, from Monday through Friday. If donations will be made after 1 p.m., people should call FISH first at (732) 356-0081.

Scouts are helping to ensure that no one goes hungry on Thanksgiving.

Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts placed bags on front stoops Nov. 9 with a note asking residents to fill the bags with foodstuffs. On Saturday, they picked up the filled bags.

"There are many reasons why this is important," said Chris LePore, cubmaster of Dunellen Cub Scouts Pack 26. "It's the motto of the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts to help others and do our best. It's one way to give back to the community that gives so much to us."

"St. Joseph's High School in Metuchen is also continuing its annual collection of money to purchase food for families throughout the area."

"We have raised \$15,000 to feed 500 families," said Don Bryner, student council adviser for St. Joseph's. "It's a schoolwide community project."

If you don't like turkey...

There are new alternatives to traditional fare

By TINA PERROTTA
STAFF WRITER

In the new millennium, the traditional Thanksgiving dinner is not all that traditional.

It may have started out with turkey, potatoes and corn. But now vegetarians and those who want to eat a little healthier can enjoy a Thanksgiving meal without the fat and pesticides.

Ernest Ehrhardt, owner of Body/Mind Nutrition, 63 W. Main St., Somerville, said turkey is a healthy meal because it's low in fat and offers a variety of positive aspects.

"Turkey is full of B vitamins and it's full of tryptophan," Ehrhardt said.

Tryptophan is an amino acid that is good for producing serotonin. Serotonin regulates functions such as sleep, mood and appetite. In addition, serotonin can increase a person's pain threshold, reduce anxiety, allow them to fall asleep faster, and satisfy the appetite, Ehrhardt said.

Ehrhardt has a freezer full of free-range turkeys that were fed organic food free of hormones and pesticides.

"I have free-range turkeys which are very lean, low in fat and juicy," Ehrhardt said. "They're nurtured in a very uncontrolled environment."

In addition to free-range turkeys, Ehrhardt also sells soy products and a variety of nut butters.

The almond, sesame, soy, sunflower, and pecan nut butters can be put on any vegetable or with rice and other lentils to complement proteins.

Though nut butters are fatty, they are high in polyunsaturated fat that is healthy for the body.

But if you don't want to eat meat for the holidays, Autumn Harvest Health Foods, 1625 E. Second St., Scotch Plains offers tofu turkeys.

Tofu turkey may not sound appetizing, but it almost tastes like the real thing and has its



Ernest Ehrhardt, owner of Body/Mind Nutrition in Somerville, can provide all you need for an organic Thanksgiving.

benefits.

"It's not meat, it's soy bean tofu," said employee Maureen Turley. "We sell a decent amount of them. They're lower in cholesterol and lower in saturated fat."

Turley is a vegetarian herself and said that she usually eats tofu turkeys, organic vegetables, and salad for a Thanksgiving meal.

And nothing would go better with this meal than pumpkin and apple pies made with organic flour, organic sparkling cider and organic ice cream, all sold at Autumn Harvest Health Foods.

These organic foods, according to owner Thomas Donnelly, may also taste better than non-organic foods because only natural fertilizers are used. Natural fertilizers will make the plant grow more slowly and cause it to pull more nutrients out of the soil.

Soy is another product Donnelly recommends to adults, but warns parents not to give it

to babies because it could cause the infant to develop a soy or peanut allergy.

"Soy is good if you're not allergic to it," Donnelly said. "It could be beneficial; they say it helps men's prostates."

Though eating healthy seems like the right thing to do, many people aren't taking the healthier path. Donnelly said he has seen changes over the past 25 years.

"I'd say, in my opinion, it (eating organic foods) doesn't seem to be as strong as it was many years ago," Donnelly said. "But we cater to many vegetarians."

Donnelly also caters to vegans who choose to eat foods free of dairy or animal products.

Pyramid Vitamin and Health Foods, 449 Main St., Metuchen, also has tofu turkeys for sale, organic vegetables, grains, beans and organic canned pumpkin for customers who want to bake their own pumpkin pie.

For some, Thanksgiving is another day at work

By NICK D'AMORE
STAFF WRITER

On Thanksgiving, if you're in need of gas or a bite to eat before the big meal, there will be people working that day, providing these and other services.

The gas station attendants, convenience store workers and round-the-clock diner staffs are among the many people who don't get to take a day off for Thanksgiving.

Several other jobs also don't allow for days off, such as police officers, nurses and hospital workers, who all must sacrifice some of their time in case their services are needed by the community.

'Some of us are immigrants and we have nowhere to go and nothing to do'

"It's a not a big deal," he said. Juan Pont is a gas station attendant at the Sunoco station on Main Street in Somerville who will be on duty Thanksgiving.

"It's not bad. This is my second holiday I've had to work. It's just a couple hours in the morning and afternoon," he said.

"Some of us are immigrants and we have nowhere to go and nothing to do," he said.

Also open for business this Thanksgiving will be the Westfield

Diner on North Avenue in Westfield.

Owner Sophia Mulandrenias has worked every Thanksgiving since the diner opened 20 years ago.

"We're open half a day, so I don't mind. It's nice to see the customers come in, serve them for half the day and the go back to my family and have turkey," she said.

Malandrenias said the diner gets a lot of business on the holiday for early dinners or breakfast. It opens at 6 a.m. Thanksgiving and closes 3 p.m. that day.

"We serve turkey earlier than normal. There's a lot of customers who want their dinner earlier," she said.

High school football rivalries are not what they used to be

By CHAD HEMENWAY
STAFF WRITER

Thanksgiving football rivalries are as traditional in some communities as the turkey and stuffing on the dinner table.

High school pigskin games have been played in some areas since the turn of the century. Fans from rival municipalities instinctively wake up Thanksgiving morning, bundle up and head out to the field for a game at 10 a.m. Usually the games have enough people in the seats to transform a high school game in Anywhere, U.S.A. into an atmosphere more comparable to a Division I college showdown.

The game is as much a social event as it is a scholastic game. It is an opportunity to shake the hands of neighbors or alumni returning home from school for the holidays. But make no mistake about it, spectators remember how important it is to have their school win these games.

"I'll tell you what, food always tastes much better after a win," said Edward Tranchina, Westfield High School athletic director and football coach.

The Group 4 Westfield-Plainfield head-to-head every year probably has the most history. Tranchina said the schools have collided before turkey dinner for more than 100 years. Tranchina has been involved since 1985, when he took over as coach.

"I was very happy to come here and see the type of rivalry we have," he said. "I'm from Long

Island where Thanksgiving Day games are really big to everybody."

Tranchina said the game is most important to students of the school because it will indefinitely be a memory they will have forever, win or lose.

"I remember last year this place was packed. It was great," Tranchina said. "We pulled the game out in the last minute and the kids left with a great memory."

For about 20 years Piscataway and Franklin have met each Thanksgiving morning and though Wilbur Aikins has only been athletic director of Piscataway High School for two years, he knows what the game is like.

(Football) Coach Joseph Kuranyi has been here 30 years so he's told me about these games," Aikins said. "I think it's just great to see everybody at these games enjoying themselves."

"The fans are very passionate," he said.

Unfortunately, some once-great Thanksgiving morning rivalries like Somerville and Bound Brook have disappeared due to conference realignments and changing school enrollments. And the state playoffs often overshadow the importance of the games on Thanksgiving.

However, students and fans in North Plainfield and South Plainfield have renewed their rivalry, whose heyday was in the 1960s and '70s when both schools were in the now-defunct Mid-State Conference.

Still a busy travel season

By LESLIE A. SCOTT
STAFF WRITER

The lingering effects of Sept. 11, 2001 aren't keeping residents at home this holiday season.

"I don't think they are thinking of that (Sept. 11)," said Lilian Chang of Global Travel International Corp. in Edison.

Chang has made arrangements for a lot of people to go to Asia, Orlando, Fla. and Las Vegas.

Although the numbers are down since the attack on the World Trade Center, a lot of people are looking to get away for a while. Many flights are booked and seats are few.

"During the holidays, people are going to travel regardless," said Carol Ginsburg, of Brand Travel in Westfield.

But that doesn't mean air travel is as common — or as convenient — as it was only 18 months

ago. Phyllis Kaufman of Travelers Choice in Bedminster said that most major airlines have cut the number of their flights or consolidated them.

Melvin Kadesh of Kadesh Travel Agency in North Plainfield said that both Sept. 11 and the economy are playing a part in this. "Between the two, business has been down."

But travelers are not blaming the security checks. Travel agencies have not heard any of their customers complain or ask questions about it.

"I don't mind the checks as long as I feel secure," said Marilyn of Warren, who will be flying out of state during the Thanksgiving holiday.

"Checks at the counter or at the curb are still the same — it's the line that takes a long time," said Kadesh.

M. Raleigh McCarroll; prominent Presbyterian

SCOTCH PLAINS — M. Raleigh McCarroll, 81, a prominent Presbyterian official and a long-time security officer, died Nov. 15, 2002 at his home.

He was a past moderator and former vice moderator of the Synod of the Northeast within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Mr. McCarroll was a commissioner to the General Assembly within his denomination. For many years he was on the judicatory council of the Elizabeth Presbyterian.

At the Siloam-Hope Presbyterian Church in Elizabeth he was a ruling elder, deacon, trustee, financial secretary, treasurer and Sunday school teacher. He served on the board of the Elizabethport Presbyterian Center and Jefferson Park Day Care Center.

Mr. McCarroll was the chief of security at the former Raritan Valley Hospital in Green Brook and a sergeant on the Meadowlands Sports Complex security force. He retired in 1976 as a sergeant in the Union County sheriff's office.

The World War II Army soldier graduated from the Union County Police Chiefs Training Academy in 1954.

He graduated in 1947 from

Lincoln University of Pennsylvania, which honored Mr. McCarroll on its Founder's Day in 1998. The university Alumni Association recognized him with its Alumni Award for 1982. Also at his alma mater the Omicron Chi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi fraternity named him its Omega Man of the Year for 1993.

He was a life member of the New Jersey Policemen's Benevolent Association; the New Jersey Retired Police and Firemen's Association; and the Lincoln University Alumni Association.

Mr. McCarroll was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., and lived in Elizabeth before moving to Scotch Plains.

Deceased are his wife, Bernice Petty McCarroll; a son, Keith R.; and a sister, Dolores Sampson.

Surviving are a sister, Vernel Oliver of New York City; and two brothers, Othello of Cranford and Rev. Bobby of Maywood, Ill.

Services were held Wednesday at the Siloam-Hope Presbyterian Church. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery, Westfield.

Arrangements were by the Nesbitt Funeral Home in Elizabeth. Donations may be sent to the American Cancer Society.

William F. Higgins

SCOTCH PLAINS — William F. Higgins, 78, died Nov. 16, 2002 at the Father Hudson House in Elizabeth.

A native of Scranton, Pa., he lived in Iselin before moving to Scotch Plains in 1974.

Mr. Higgins spent 23 years on the staff of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers union. He retired in 1990 as an OCAW international representative based in Union.

He was a maintenance worker with Reichhold Chemical Co. in Elizabeth for 25 years before joining the OCAW staff. Mr. Higgins served in the Navy during World War II and was a member of the

Old Guard of Westfield.

Surviving are his wife of 53 years, Frances; two daughters, Patricia Hussey of Little Silver and Mary Spreitzer of Basking Ridge; two sisters, Elizabeth Hand of Forked River and Agnes of Elizabeth; and four grandchildren.

Services were held Wednesday at the Higgins & Bonner Echo Lake Funeral Home, Westfield, followed by a funeral Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery, Westfield.

Donations may be sent to Center for Hope Hospice, 176 Hussa St., Linden, NJ 07036.

Dorothy Hulsart

WESTFIELD — Dorothy N. Nuckolis Hulsart, 87, died Nov. 8, 2002 at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Mrs. Hulsart was born in Gunnison, Colo. She lived in Chagrin Falls, Ohio, and New Providence before moving to Westfield in 1967.

She retired in 1978 after 25 years with Drew University in Madison, where Mrs. Hulsart was the head research librarian. She also was a volunteer librarian for many years at the Presbyterian Church on Mountain Avenue.

Mrs. Hulsart was a member of

the Presbyterian Church Women and P.E.O. Sisterhood.

Her husband, Edward, died in 1981.

Surviving are a niece, Christina Crawford and husband Jerome of Alfred, Maine; a nephew, Robert Ragatz and wife Beth of Pullman, Colo.; five grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

A memorial service was held Nov. 14 at the Presbyterian Church with arrangements by the Gray Funeral Home. Donations may be sent to the Drew University Library in Madison.

Rose Checchio Natale

SCOTCH PLAINS — Rose M. Checchio Natale, 75, died Nov. 13, 2002 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

She was born in Scotch Plains and lived in the township all her life.

A homemaker, Mrs. Natale was a member of the Westmount Chapter of Deborah and the Plainfield Area Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Her husband, Dominick W., is deceased.

Surviving are two sons, Dennis and Dominick; a daughter, Andrea

Hruska; two brothers, Nicholas Checchio and Mauro Checchio; two sisters, Susan DiFrancesco and Angelina Filicelli; nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was offered Monday at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church, following services at the Rossi Funeral Home. Burial was in Somerset Hills Memorial Park, Basking Ridge.

Donations may be sent to Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 325, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076.

Obituaries

Henry P. Callahan

FANWOOD — Henry P. Callahan, 85, died Oct. 19, 2002 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

He was born in Bridgeport, Conn., and lived in Westfield before moving to Fanwood in 2000.

Until two years ago Mr. Callahan was the oldest undergraduate at Princeton University, where he was studying for a degree in civil engineering. He held a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the University of Pennsylvania.

He retired in 1982 after 37 years as a chemical engineer with American Cyanamid Co., first in Manhattan and later in Wayne. Mr. Callahan was a member of the Echo Lake Country Club and a lay

reader for services at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, both in Westfield.

Mr. Callahan was a Navy lieutenant aboard the USS Angler in the South Pacific during World War II.

His wife, Marietta S., died in 1997. A son, Rick, died in 2001. Surviving are a son, David B.; two daughters, Honora Banks and Susan B.; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Saturday at St. Paul's Church. Interment of ashes was in the church garth.

Arrangements were by the Gray Funeral Home in Westfield. Donations may be sent to the Westfield Rescue Squad.

Abraham Benjamin

WESTFIELD — Abraham Benjamin, 90, died Nov. 11, 2002 at the Medical Center at Princeton.

A native of Elizabeth, he lived in Hillside and Westfield before moving to Monroe in 1982.

Mr. Benjamin retired after 36 years with the Elizabeth school system, including a stint as director of the Elizabeth Adult Education School. He was a teacher and guidance counselor at Bantam High School and Jefferson High School in Elizabeth. In the summer he was the head of developmental reading at the Pingry School.

He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina in 1933 and a master's

degree from New York University. A member of the Men's Club at Temple Emanu-El, Mr. Benjamin served in the Army with the 13th Airborne Division during World War II.

Surviving are his wife, Selma Fink Benjamin; two daughters, Harriet Hendel and Judith; and a grandchild.

Services were held Nov. 13 at the Menorah Chapels at Millburn, in Union. Burial was in Beth Israel Memorial Park, Woodbridge.

Donations may be sent to Selma and Abe Benjamin Scholarship Fund for Rabbinical Studies, c/o Temple Emanu-El, 756 E. Broad St., Westfield, NJ 07090.

Thea Michals Kluge

WESTFIELD — Thea Ilene Michals Kluge, 45, died Nov. 14, 2002 at the MediCenter of America in Neptune City.

She was born in Bayonne and lived in Westfield before moving to Spring Lake in 2000.

Mrs. Kluge was a legal assistant from 1995-2000 with the Woodbridge law firm Michals, Wahl, Silver, Leitner, Tort & DeFazio.

Surviving are her parents, William and Marian Cosmas

Michals; a daughter, Adara Michals; a brother, William P. Michals Jr.; and a sister, Lauren Michals-Bharadwaj.

A funeral Mass was offered Monday at St. Catharine Roman Catholic Church in Spring Lake. Arrangements were by the O'Brien Funeral Home in Wall.

Donations may be sent to Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, 341 W. 38th St., 10th Floor, New York, NY 10018.

Jacob Berg

WESTFIELD — Jacob Berg, 98, died Nov. 15, 2002 at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

He was born April 15, 1904 in Russia and lived in Orange before moving to Westfield.

Mr. Berg was a former Internal Revenue Service agent.

His wife, Yetta Kessler Berg, died in 1996.

Surviving are a son, Bernard of Edison; a daughter, Myra Jablonski of Middlesex; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were held yesterday at Beth Israel Memorial Park in Woodbridge.

Arrangements were by the Flynn & Son Funeral Home in Fords.

Roslyn Boerer

WESTFIELD — Roslyn Gordon Boerer died Nov. 12, 2002 at her home.

A native of Newark, she lived in Hillside and Union before moving to Westfield in 1959.

Mrs. Boerer and her husband, George, owned BZ's Fashions shop in Linden. She earned a degree in fashion merchandising from the Pratt Institute in

Brooklyn.

She was a member of Women's American ORT, B'nai B'rith Women and the Sisterhood at Temple Emanu-El.

Also surviving are two daughters, Bonnie and Nyda.

Services were held Nov. 14 at the Menorah Chapels at Millburn, in Union. Burial was in Mount Lebanon Cemetery, Iselin.

Anna Castellano

WESTFIELD — Anna T. Pugliese Castellano, 82, died Nov. 14, 2002 at Rahway Hospital.

A native of Newark, she lived in North Arlington before moving to Westfield.

Mrs. Castellano retired in 1970 as a cafeteria helper at the former Howard Savings Bank in Newark. She earlier was a supervisor in Newark with the Fluid Chemical Co. and Tiffany & Co. She was a member of the sen-

ior citizens club at Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church in Newark.

Surviving are her husband, Alphonse; two sons, John and Carl; seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Services were held Monday at the Megaro Memorial Home, Belleville, followed by a funeral Mass at Immaculate Conception Church. Burial was in Glendale Cemetery, Bloomfield.

Jacqueline Hamberger

WESTFIELD — Jacqueline Hamberger, 57, died Nov. 19, 2002 at her home in Mountainside.

She was born in Plainfield and lived in Westfield before moving to Mountainside in 1992.

Mrs. Hamberger was a sales associate for the past three years with Burdorff Realtors in Westfield. She was a project manager with Lucent Technologies in Murray Hill until she left that company in 1998.

She delivered Mobile Meals on Wheels in Westfield and was a member of the Presbyterian

Church in Westfield.

Surviving are her mother, Ruth Kuntz of Manford, Okla.; a daughter, Jocelyn Northcutt-Delaney of Scotch Plains; and two brothers, Rodney Kuntz of Sea Bright and Douglas Kuntz of Manford.

Visitation is 9 a.m. today at the Gray Funeral Home, 318 E. Broad St., where services will follow 10:30 a.m. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery.

Donations may be sent to the hospice program of your choice or the American Lung Association.

Julia Irizarry Bhasin

WESTFIELD — Julia Irizarry Bhasin, 55, died Nov. 17, 2002 at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

She was born in New York City and lived in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, before moving to Westfield in 1981.

Dr. Bhasin was an instructor for the past 32 years at Baruch College of the City University of New York. She earned a doctorate in 1990 from Teachers College of Columbia University with a dissertation on teaching reading skills and strategies to bilingual students. She received a bachelor's degree in history from Brandeis University in 1969 and a master's degree in education from Harvard University in 1970.

A gardener, Dr. Bhasin adopted the cats and dogs that she nursed to health after they were abandoned. She taught religious education classes at Holy Trinity Roman

Catholic Church. In her youth she was a parishioner of Transfiguration Roman Catholic Church in Williamsburg.

Her father, Reyes Irizarry, is deceased.

Surviving are her husband of 29 years, Keval Krishan Bhasin; her mother, Ana Irizarry; three sons, Nicholas, Paul and David Anand "Andy"; a sister, Vivian Santiago; three brothers, Reyes Irizarry, Justin Irizarry and Ferdinand Irizarry; and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass was offered yesterday at Holy Trinity Church. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery.

Arrangements were by the Gray Funeral Home. Donations may be sent to St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center, 575 Woodland Ave., P.O. Box 159, Madison, NJ 07940 or the Westfield Rescue Squad.

Pair rescues women from vehicle blaze

By NICK D'AMORE

THE RECORD-PRESS

KENILWORTH — An elderly woman was rescued from a car fire by a pair of Good Samaritans outside her North 21st Street home Nov. 8.

Police said two neighbors, Elton Shields and Nancy Zimmerman, helped Mary Librizzi out of her burning vehicle.

"It was pretty intense," said Zimmerman.

Librizzi's vehicle had begun smoking as she drove home, police said, but Librizzi said she did not know her car was actually on fire until she was being pulled from the car.

"If it wasn't for my neighbor across the street, I wouldn't have known anything about it," she said.

Librizzi, 80, escaped unharmed and refused medical attention, police said.

"Her guardian angels were watching over her," said Zimmerman. Zimmerman said she and another neighbor were in their backyards with their children when they heard a whining sound. "At first we thought it was leaf blower," she said.

But when the neighbors investigated the sound, they saw Librizzi's car smoking in her driveway.

"We could see she was inside the car and that there were flames under the hood," said Zimmerman.

At that point, she said, Shields was running towards the car from the opposite side, and Shields' wife was dialing 911.

When Shields and Zimmerman reached the car, Librizzi did not realize the danger she was in.

"She wanted her walker and tapes. We just kept saying, 'Mary, you have to get out of the car.' Eventually, we got her down the driveway," Zimmerman said.

"My only thought was to get her out of there. It all goes so fast, you don't think about much of anything. I just kept praying, 'If this car blows up, let us be out of the way before it does,'" she said.

After Librizzi left the car and headed across the street, a tire blew and she became aware of the peril.

"It just went on fire, just like that," she said. "All I know is that it's a terrible thing to happen like that," she said.

The Kenilworth Fire Department responded and doused the flames with a neighbor's garden hose before the fire worsened.

Zimmerman said she and her neighbors usually would not have been home during that time of the day.

"We were just in place by divine intervention," she said. "We saw something that had to be done and did it. You don't even think, that's how fast it happens."

Lack of holiday flags an 'inadvertent oversight'

By NICK D'AMORE

THE RECORD-PRESS

CRANFORD — Local residents and officials were still upset this week that American flags did not decorate the downtown on Veterans Day.

Township Administrator

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Marlena Schmid said the lack of flags that day was an unfortunate mistake.

"It was an inadvertent oversight, but I can understand that people won't accept that," she said.

The flags had actually been in place prior to the holiday, Schmid said. The Department of Public Works had put out flags for Election Day and took them down too soon afterwards, she said.

"Basically, our crews were too efficient this time," she said.

Schmid said her office will act as check and balance for the department in the future.

Mayor Barbara Bilger said she kept waiting for the flags to go up on the holiday.

"I was very upset they were not up and I kept thinking they would be put up. I know how everyone feels," Bilger said. "We assure the residents that this will not happen again."

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BEST BETS

Free concert In Bridgewater

BRIDGEWATER — Anna Maria Bottazzi performs a free concert 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 22 at the Somerset County Library, Bridgewater.

Her program includes works of Johann Sebastian Bach, Ludwig von Beethoven, George Gershwin and Frederic Chopin, plus at least one other composer.

As a child protégé Bottazzi received her first piano lessons at age 2 from her mother in the Argentine capital Buenos Aires. She gave her first solo recital at age 4 and later earned a doctorate from the Juilliard School in Manhattan.

After a nearly fatal automobile accident left her with major head injuries, doctors told Bottazzi her she would not be able to play the piano again. She returned to Argentina and began a recuperation that took 13 years.

She returned to New York to play her first official recital in 1974. Two years later Bottazzi asked the audience in Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center to select her program from a list of 100 works — all of which she played from memory.

In addition to recitals, Bottazzi gives master classes and lectures around the world.

For more information, phone (908) 526-4016. The Somerset County Library is at 1 Vogt Drive, off North Bridge Street about a half-mile north of Route 22.

Siku is featured in library concert

PISCATAWAY — An Andean instrument, the Siku, classical guitar and grand piano will be the musical instruments being given a workout by a talented trio of musicians in A Musical Interlude, Sunday, Nov. 24. The free program will take place at Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes La., Piscataway, 2:30 p.m.

The mostly classical program will feature Mike Kucsak playing classical and flamenco tunes on guitar, Dave Maylszko on piano, and Greg Ribot on Siku. The trio will combine their talents as well as show off their individual virtuosity in solo numbers.

The Siku, with its haunting and ethereal sound played by the multi talented Ribot will give audience members an especially enjoyable listening experience. The Siku is an Andean instrument which pre dates Columbus. While there are a number of variations to the instrument, it is basically a panpipe made up of thin canes.

To make certain there is something for everyone the trio will also add some non-classical numbers such as Maple Leaf Rag.

The free performance is sponsored by the Piscataway Cultural Arts Advisory Commission as one of its season programs. Reservations are not required. For information call (732) 563-4117 or (732) 562-2301.

Children's Chorus with N.J. Symphony

NEWARK — In the interregnum between Thanksgiving and Christmas, the Somerset Hills Children's Chorus goes "Home for the Holidays" with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra.

The all-child ensemble from Basking Ridge provides vocal accompaniment in two NJSO holiday concerts at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Newark. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15.

The program includes "Dance of the Tumblers," from "The Snow Maiden" by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov; a "Christmas Festival" by Leroy Anderson; the overture to the "Hanukkah Festival"; "This Christmastide"; "March of the Toys," from "Babes in Toyland" by Victor Herbert; and "The Twelve Gifts of Christmas."

Both ensembles will be led by Mark Laycock, music director of the Princeton Symphony Orchestra and assistant conductor of the NJSO. He also will lead the New Jersey Tap Ensemble in the performance.

Admission is \$58-\$14. For tickets and directions, visit www.njsymphony.org or phone (800) ALLEGRO.

Yes, you can go home again - if you're a singer

Pam Steinfeld returns to her hometown for Saturday concert

By JENNIFER McCANDLESS

PRIME TIME

WATCHUNG — Pam Steinfeld is returning to her hometown for her first performance in New Jersey since the debut of her CD, "Open Hands."

Steinfeld will be playing at the Watchung Arts Center on Saturday. Steinfeld, who grew up in Watchung and Westfield, said she is excited to be coming home for a performance because her family and friends will be in the audience.

"I really can't wait to see who shows up," Steinfeld said. "It was so exciting doing my first CD and it feels good to be coming home to perform in front of my friends and family."

Steinfeld said as a child, her parents signed her up for piano lessons and it sparked her musical interests. Steinfeld said one day, when she was 9 years old, she "just started writing lyrics and singing melodies."

As a student at Watchung Hills Regional High School, Steinfeld took choral and voice lessons and performed in a few talent shows. At Tufts University, Steinfeld said she mostly played for herself, doing occasional shows at a local coffee-house. After graduating, Steinfeld worked in marketing, then went to law school and practiced for several years.

"Writing lyrics and music has just been something I've always done," Steinfeld said. "I've always played because I loved it and never thought this would be my career."

Steinfeld said she was working for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) when she was talked into submitting one of her songs for a song writing contest. The song gained an honorable mention and it made Steinfeld think about devoting more time to her music.

"It was like a little recognition for me and it inspired me," Steinfeld said. "I decided I wanted

to give my music my full attention and see what happened. I left the EPA for a while to see where my music would take me. It was a tough decision, but it has definitely worked out very well."

Steinfeld said she submitted her songs to several song writing contests and received several awards, including first place in the Mid-Atlantic Song Contest, and honors from the Great American Song Contest.

What inspired Steinfeld to release her first CD was entertainment lawyer Jay Rosenthal. Steinfeld said she was playing one of her songs for Rosenthal and after the song, he looked at her and said, "You know, it's time for you to do your own CD."

"I thought it was great advice and I went with it," Steinfeld said. "I was surprised when he (Rosenthal) told me I should do my own CD. I've been writing songs for so many years, you know. It was just something I always did and all of a sudden, it was becoming my career."

Steinfeld, who not only wrote the songs for the CD and sings, also plays guitar and keyboard. Helping Steinfeld on the CD are drummer Robbie Magruder (from Mary Chapin Carpenter's band), bassist Grauger Helvey and guitarists Al Petteway and Paul Bell.

Steinfeld said it was great working with the musicians and hopes to collaborate with them again. "Open Hands" is a compilation of 12 songs that Steinfeld said explores a combination of moods.

"There's some up-tempo music that you can move to and there are some fun sing-along songs," Steinfeld said. "There are a few ballads that are expressive. It was just a lot of fun doing it (creating the CD)."

"Open Hands" was nominated for "Best Debut Recording" and "Best Recording-Contemporary Folk" by the Washington Area

'I decided I wanted to give my music my full attention and see what happened. I left the EPA for a while to see where my music would take me. It was a tough decision, but it has definitely worked out very well'

— Pam Steinfeld



Pam Steinfeld has gone from writing legal briefs to writing award-winning songs. She will be performing Saturday at the Watchung Arts Center.

Music Association. Steinfeld said her biggest thrill was the first time she heard one of her songs on the radio.

"I sent out a press release about my CD and one of my local radio stations said they would announce the release," Steinfeld said. "I was listening and they announced the release then said they were going to play one of the songs. I was listening and 'Sketching Marcin' came on. I was frozen. My husband and I were just so excited and we were laughing uncontrollably. One of my neighbors stopped by in the middle of the song because he heard it on the radio and wanted to tell me in case I hadn't heard. The three of us just sat there listening. It was so amazing."

Steinfeld said nine songs from the CD have been played on radio stations in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, Virginia, Australia and Germany.

"It's gotten some good air play," Steinfeld said.

Steinfeld said creating the CD was a lot of fun, but she was not

completely comfortable with the idea of performing in more shows because she "had a bit of stage fright." Steinfeld said she became more at ease with every show and now looks forward to performing.

"Performing got to be fun the more I started relating to the audience," Steinfeld said. "Now I tell stories during the shows and really interact with my audiences. Since the release of my CD I have gotten more bookings and I have performances every week. I have cut back a little in the past two or three months and gotten back to my first love which is song writing."

Steinfeld said she plans to start working on her second CD in a couple years. Steinfeld said she plans to work with many of the musicians who contributed to her first CD. In the meantime, Steinfeld said she plans to do shows in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and "other eastern states."

More information about Steinfeld and a list of show dates can be found on her website, www.pamsteinfeld.com.

Veteran cast is featured in 'Pooh'

CRANFORD — Cranford resident Matthew Nazzaro, in his first directorship role, is leading a seasoned cast through the final weeks of rehearsal before The Children's Theatre production of "A Winnie-the-Pooh Christmas Tail" opens at the Cranford Dramatic Club (CDC) on Friday, Dec. 6.

Portraying the famous characters in this timeless "tail," in which Winnie-the-Pooh and his friends help Eeyore have a very merry Christmas include: Ed Wittel, of Westfield as the Most Favorite Bear of All, Winnie-the-Pooh.

Wittel has been an active member of Cranford Dramatic Club for more than 12 years. He has performed in numerous shows at CDC. Some of his favorites include Mother Burnsides in "Mame," The Minstrel in "Godspell," and 2nd Comic in "Sugar Babies." His first stage appearance was at the age of 10, when he sang at Carnegie Hall with the St. Paul's Choir of Men and Boys.

Playing the role of Pooh's small sidekick Piglet, is the lively Debra (Debby) Bassin of New York. She started taking dance classes at the age of 2 1/2, and made her first stage appearance at age three in a tap recital. Debby began drama by 6, and has been singing and dancing ever since. A few productions include Lint in "South Pacific" at CDC, "Annie Get Your Gun" at Theater Under the Stars, Chava in "Fiddler on the Roof" at Kean University, "Lil Abner" at Clarkstown Summer Theater Festival, and "Free to Be" at the University of Maryland. She has studied acting at HB Studio and TVI Studios, both in New York City, as well as in college. She dances at Broadway Dance Center in New York City and has taken vocal audition workshops with established Broadway actors. With the Maryland Chorus she toured Europe, and performed at the Handel Festivals in Halle, Germany, and Verdi's "Requiem" in Berlin and Paris.

As the bouncy, energetic, and happy Tigger is Carl Barber-Steele of Westfield. Barber-Steele has been performing for the last 30 years in several area theaters in addition to CDC, such as Westfield Community Players, Philadelphians, P.E. Circle Players, Villagers, Playhouse 22, Edison Valley, and Act One Players. He has worked professionally at Millbrook Playhouse, and even internationally with Showtours. "The stage has always been a part of my life." He has brought his talent to Children's Theater productions at CDC before, including "Jack and the Beanstalk," "Snow White Goes West," and as Tigger in "Winnie-the-Pooh Christmas."

As the orderly take-charge and often irritated Rabbit, is Tiffany Wilson of Plainfield. Wilson began her theatrical experiences at Union Catholic Performing Arts Club in high school and Villanova Musical Theatre at college. Her first stage appearance was as a mouse in first grade, and she began dancing when she was only three years old. She has been seen on the Cranford Dramatic Club stage before, in "Godspell" and "South Pacific" where she also appeared with director, Matt Nazzaro, and choreographer, Jennifer Eisenberg.

Performances are Friday, Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 7 at 1:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.; and on Sunday, Dec. 8 at 1:30 and 4:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$8.00. The theatre is located at 78 Winans Avenue in Cranford, off Centennial Avenue just minutes from Exit 136 of the Garden State Parkway. For more information, call (908) 276-7611.

Community Band ready for the season

Students will join band for annual holiday concert in Westfield

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Community Band and the Edison Intermediate School Broadway Singers join in concert to present the Thirteenth Annual Holiday Concert, sponsored by the Westfield Recreation Department.

The concert will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 8 p.m. in the Edison Intermediate School auditorium, located at 800 Rahway Ave.

The Westfield Community Band, under the direction of Elias J. Zareva, is beginning its 91st season entertaining the Westfield community. To celebrate the season, the band will be performing a collection of old musical favorites in addition to contemporary arrangements of older historical music.

A featured selection for the evening includes "Emmanuel Variants," by Robert Foster, which offers a variety of complex voicing of the ancient musi-

cal piece "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" through various rhythmic and harmonic developments of the piece.

The Westfield Community Band will also perform "Christmas Music for Winds,"

The Westfield Community Band, under the direction of Elias J. Zareva, is beginning its 91st season entertaining the Westfield community.

arranged by John Cacavas, which features traditional carols such as "Adeste Fidelis," "Silent Night," and "Angels We Have Heard on High."

Additionally, the band will perform for the first time, "Shalom!" a suite of Israeli folk songs by Phillip Sparke.

Joining the band in concert will be the Edison Intermediate School Broadway Singers, directed by Kristine Smith-

Morasso. The Broadway Singers will perform a collection of holiday songs to celebrate the festive mood of the season.

The Broadway singers are an extra-curricular choral

group that performs for a variety of area organizations, including Children's Specialized Hospital and local nursing homes.

Concluding the evening's concert, the Westfield Community Band will join the Edison Broadway Singers in performing "Snow!" featuring arrangements of "Frosty the Snowman," "Let it Snow!" and "Winter Wonderland." Finally,

the group will join together in the performance of Irving Berlin's classic, "White Christmas."

This event is free to the public, and refreshments will be served after the performance.

The Westfield Community Band is sponsored by the Westfield Recreation Department, Bruce Kaufman, director.

On Sunday, Dec. 1 at 5:00 p.m. the band's very own Holiday Brass can be found at the Westfield Train Station. The brass ensemble, comprised of members of the larger symphonic band, will perform favorite holiday carols to welcome Santa Claus to Westfield.

The Holiday Brass is comprised of the larger Westfield Community Band and members of the Holiday Brass may also be found performing in downtown Westfield throughout the holiday season.

For more information, call (908) 789-4080.

Movie made at area college will be released on DVD

EDISON — "American Desi," the 2001 romantic comedy about South Asian students at an American college that was filmed at Middlesex County College, will be officially released in DVD format this week, along with a separate CD of the soundtrack.

Its writer/director Piyush Dinker Pandya and star Deep Katdare will be in the College Center on Tuesday, Nov. 26, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. to

celebrate the release and talk about the making of the movie. They will sign autographs, answer questions and officially thank the staff and students for enabling the idea of "American Desi" to become a reality. The public is invited to attend.

The feature-length movie was made on a very small budget, consisting mainly of contributions by family and friends. Gitesh Pandya, a CNN movie

critic and co-producer along with his brother and Katdare, contends that the film could not have been made without the cooperation of Middlesex County College. "Everyone was so accommodating and showed such interest in what we were doing," he said. "It was obvious that people want to share their pride in Middlesex County College." It has played throughout the world to great success.

"American Desi" is ground-

breaking in that it is the first feature film to deal with Indian Americans in a 'normal setting," said Gitesh Pandya. "Young South Asians haven't been able to relate to Indians on the screen. Most of the time the characters are stereotyped as doctors, taxi drivers, convenience store owners or the slow immigrant guy. 'American Desi' changes that. It tells the story of a unique set of characters and their culture from a decidedly

hip and youthful point of view."

The college itself is a significant part of the movie. Action unfolds on a college campus (called Middlesex College) and follows the exploits of freshman Kris, as he tries to fit into college life with his peers while attempting to reject his Indian heritage. Many buildings, signage and scenes of the campus are featured, along with students and staff who appear on film.

Holiday gospel concert on Dec. 5

MORRISTOWN — Michigan's acclaimed Joyous Voices Gospel Band and Choir will perform "Oh Holy Night: A Gospel Christmas" at The Community Theatre 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5.

Direct from Detroit, this lively Christmas concert is led by Rudolph V. Hawkins, who is heralded throughout the gospel and R&B music scene as a performer, composer and music director.


The band and choir will perform arrangements of well-known Christmas music in a fresh, highly energetic celebration of the holiday season. "A Gospel Christmas" also tells a story, carrying the audience on a journey through a present day Christmas shopping scene back to the humble beginnings of the night of Christ's birth.

The choir brings a vibrant and inspirational style to their collec-

tive musical approach. Each member has an opportunity to solo throughout the performance; however, it's the ensemble singing that particularly stands out. A five-piece back-up band includes piano, guitar, bass, drums and synthesizer and is said to have a solid, but restrained approach.

Written and conceived by Mr. Hawkins and directed by Thomas Nance, the program promises "a little bit of theatre, a little bit of old fashioned pulpit pounding and a whole lot of inspirational music."

Tickets for The Community Theatre presentation are \$28-42 and can be purchased online at www.communitytheatrej.com, on location at the Box Office, 100 South St. or by calling (973) 539-8008. Box office hours are Monday through Saturday from 10 am to 6 p.m. This production is intended for all audiences.




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What's a good wine to have for your Thanksgiving dinner

(ARA) - You have the turkey or ham. You have the yams and the stuffing. You've compiled all the ingredients you need for Grandma's special bean casserole. The pies are picked out. There's only one key ingredient missing from your recipe for the perfect Thanksgiving feast — wine. But, when it comes to purchasing wine for Thanksgiving, what grape goes best with your gobble?

Wine pairing is not an exact science. While some wines go better with certain foods, it ultimately comes down to each person's individual tastes. When buying Thanksgiving wine, an excellent way to ensure each guest's preferences are satisfied is to cover your bases and purchase a red and a white wine. While the usual train of thought is to simply purchase a Chardonnay and a Merlot, there are several other wines that will make your holiday feast more

memorable.

If you have decided to serve veggies, cheeses, bread or shrimp cocktail as munchies to keep curious guests out of the kitchen, partner these appetizers with a crisp white wine. Luna di Luna's Sparkling Chardonnay/Pinot Grigio, a delicate, unique sparkling 60/40 blend of Chardonnay and Pinot Grigio, is made from select grapes that receive extra fermentation to ensure that the wine will keep its bubbles and not go flat in the glass. It is an effervescent bright straw yellow color, with aromas of peach and melon and a hint of oak making it perfect for shellfish, salads and light fare.

Should the centerpiece of your Thanksgiving dinner happen to be a succulent smoked ham or juicy prime rib, a gorgeous and delicious red wine to consider is Piccini Chianti Superiore, DOCG (\$9.99) the

world's highest-rated Superiore from Italy's foremost producer of Chianti. This dry red wine is made from the finest, specially selected Sangiovese grapes, and has a huge concentration of ripe, red fruit in the nose, spicy textures and a generous lingering finish that will mix beautifully with the scents of Thanksgiving cooking emanating from the kitchen.

Possibly the most appropriate accompaniment for that most traditional of Thanksgiving foods, oven-roasted turkey, is a delicately dry, full-bodied white wine that not only goes well with the bird itself, but also with potatoes, mixed vegetables,

cranberry sauce and stuffing. Pinot Grigio has become very popular during the last few years for its refreshing taste and ability to pair well with most foods.

Ca' Montini L'Aristocratico Pinot Grigio (\$15.99) splashed onto the wine scene only two years ago and has since received rave reviews from the Beverage Tasting Institute, the Wine Taster's Guild and "The Wall Street Journal" for its quality and exquisite flavor. Presented in a statuesque, tapered pyramid bottle and individually wrapped in tissue, Ca' Montini uses only the best grapes from its Trentino, Italy, vineyards for its

Pinot Grigio. The resulting wine has crisp, complex flavors of apples and peaches with a rich body and persistent aftertaste sure to make it a Thanksgiving favorite.

Hopefully, these wine recommendations will help to make choosing the right wine for your holiday feast a bit easier. Whichever foods you decide to put on your Thanksgiving menu,

keep in mind that there is no absolute right or wrong when it comes to pairing wines and foods, only personal preference. However, some common rules of thumb when buying wine are: red wines typically go with red meat, white wines usually go with white meat and a 750-ml bottle produces approximately 5 glasses of wine, so be sure to buy enough for everyone.

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Burglary at Broad Street offices nets more than \$1,700 cash

WESTFIELD

The theft of cash from a professional office in the 500 block of E. Broad St. was reported Nov. 12. Missing at this time is \$1,775.

The theft of store merchandise and clothing from a business on East Broad Street was reported Nov. 12. Approximately \$4,700 worth merchandise of merchandise is missing at this time.

Adley Torres of Edison was charged with driving while intoxicated after giving breath samples

Nov. 15. Torres was processed and released to a responsible adult.

Criminal mischief to a residence in the 700 block of Coleman Place was reported Nov. 11.

A resident of Clark reported that while driving on South Avenue Nov. 12, the driver of another vehicle began following him and a passenger of that vehicle threw bottle, breaking a window.

Identity theft targeting a resident of the 500 block of

Cumberland Street was reported Nov. 12. Approximately \$338 was taken from the resident's account.

Ronald Grobes III of Linden was picked up on a contempt of court warrant out of Piscataway. He was released on \$104 bail.

A theft was reported in the 500 block of Wychwood Road Nov. 16. The value of the property taken is \$700.

And another resident from the 500 block of Wychwood Road reported a theft from her residence after hosting a party Nov. 17.

SCOTCH PLAINS

The Mobile gas station on Route 22 East reported a theft of approximately \$300 from inside the store Nov. 15.

The employees of the gas station recognized an individual inside the store from past thefts. The employees called the police, but the suspect left before officers arrived.

The manager of Sunoco gas station on Route 22 reported a robbery this week.

A customer entered the store and went down the aisle looking for merchandise, the manager told police. The customer gave the manager \$3 for a bag of chips, soda and hot fries; when the manager opened the register, the customer jumped over the counter and took cash from the register.

The suspect then ran out the store on to Myrtle Avenue. The incident was captured on surveillance tape.

Nicholas W. Mortarulo of 330 William St. was charged with disorderly conduct Nov. 17. Mortarulo was charged after police were called to Sycamore Avenue on a report Mortarulo had been ringing the door bell of a residence he didn't know.

When police arrived, Mortarulo allegedly refused to leave and became combative.

A Bryant Avenue resident reported having a Comcast cable box and remote taken from his home Nov. 15. The owner believes that a former tenant removed the items when the tenant moved out.

A Union Township resident reported having her wallet stolen at Snuffy's restaurant Nov. 15.

The victim stated that she left her purse open after getting some change to make a phone call. She returned and saw two men standing around the area of her purse.

When she later called her credit card company, she was told some-

one had just used her credit card at the Toys-R-Us and Babies-R-Us at the Blue Star Shopping Center.

A resident of Stoneleigh Park in Westfield reported that her vehicle hood ornament may have been removed while she was in the Quick Check on Westfield Avenue Nov. 15. However, she stated that she made several other stops prior to going to Quick Check.

Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School reported that someone spray-painted the letters "Z-B" in two different spots in the gym Nov. 15.

A Scotchwood Glen resident reported receiving harassing phone calls Nov. 12.

A student was allegedly assaulted Oct. 30 at the Union County Vo-Tech on Raritan Road. There were no injuries reported and the victim was referred to the municipal court to file a complaint.

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An apple a day

Westfield resident Ben Tipton, 5, gets a boost from referee Vince Cartier after winning his round of the apple-bobbing contest at Jersey Jazz by the Lake Festival's Kids Kingdom at Nomahegan Park. In addition to apple-bobbing, Kids Kingdom included juggling performances, potato sack races, balloon slides, gymnastics performances and M'Zumé, a six-piece Brazilian percussion band. Meanwhile, adults were treated to jazz performances by Bobby Rodriguez, Cynthia Holiday and Arturo Sandoval, among others.

This week

FRIDAY

NOV. 22

FRIDAY NIGHT FLICK — "A League of Their Own." Fanwood Memorial Library, North Ave., Fanwood, 7:30 p.m. Free. (908) 322-6400.

SATURDAY

NOV. 23

HOLIDAY FASHION — show and cosmetics workshop. Sunrise Assisted Living, 240 Springfield Ave., Westfield, 2:30 p.m. Free. (908) 317-3030.

BOOK SIGNING — "Oradell at Sea" by Meredith Sue Willis. Town Book Store, 255 E. Broad St., Westfield, 2-4 p.m. (908) 233-3535.

SUNDAY

NOV. 24

FEAST — Thanksgiving customs of colonial times. Miller-Cory House Museum, 614 Mountain Ave., Westfield, 2-5 p.m. Adults \$2; students 50 cents; under 6 free. (908) 232-1776.

TUESDAY

NOV. 26

DUMP AMMO — old fireworks and munitions, too. Union County Police Department, 300 North Ave. East, Westfield, 7 a.m.-2 p.m. (908) 654-9800.

SATURDAY

NOV. 30

BOOK SIGNING — "Coney Island: The People's Playground" by Michael Immerso. Town Book Store, 255 E. Broad St., Westfield, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (908) 233-3535.

HEADACHES?

Union County, NJ — A newly released free report reveals what leading medical research has proven to be a very effective headache treatment. This free headache report reveals why headache sufferers have been left in the dark for so long and how they can finally live free of over-the-counter medication once and for all. To receive your free copy mailed to you today, call the toll-free, 24-hour headache hotline at 1-800-566-5456.

COMING UP

CHRISTMAS PARTY — for Altar Rosary Society of St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church, 2032 Westfield Ave., Scotch Plains, after Mass 7:30 p.m. Dec. 2. (908) 889-2152 or (908) 322-5409.

HANUKKAH — dinner for the family. Jewish Community Center of Central New Jersey, 1391 Martine Ave., Scotch Plains, 5:30 p.m. Dec. 5. Adults \$12; seniors \$9; 2-12 \$6. Reservations: (908) 889-8800, Ext. 218.


POINSETTIAS — holiday plants for sale. Railroad station, North Ave., Fanwood, 3:30-7 p.m.

Dec. 6. \$10/6-inch plant, \$20/8-inch plant. Orders: (908) 889-6215.

MAYOR'S CHARITY — Gala, honoring volunteers of the year for Scotch Plains. Pantagis Renaissance, Route 22, Scotch Plains, 7 p.m. Dec. 6. \$50. Tickets: (908) 322-6700, Ext. 221.

HOLIDAY SALE — at Service League Thrift Shop, 114 Elmer St., Westfield, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Dec. 7. (908) 233-2530.

BOOK SIGNING — "Old Italian Neighborhood Values" by Stephen DeFelice. Town Book Store, 255 E. Broad St., Westfield, noon-2 p.m. Dec. 7. (908) 233-3535.



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Holiday feast at Miller-Cory

WESTFIELD — Although not a legal holiday until the 20th century, Thanksgiving was a feast day in colonial times with a meal that was much the same: turkey, pumpkin, cranberries, potatoes, corn, apples.

This bill of fare is re-created at the Miller-Cory House Museum

for a "Thanksgiving Feast from the Hearth" 2-5 p.m. Sunday.

Janet and Judy Murphy and Arlene Kendall will prepare the meal with recipes and cooking methods of 18th-century America. Kathy Dowling speaks about table customs of early America.

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

The Miller-Cory House Museum is at 614 Mountain Ave., where "Gingerbread Sunday" is Dec. 8. The museum will be closed Sunday, Dec. 1.

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Edison School Principal Cheryl O'Brien, left, thanks Pfc. Gerard Weiss and Col. Mary Jo Rice for joining students and staff at a Veterans Day celebration.

Westfield students pay tribute to veterans with assembly

WESTFIELD — Edison Intermediate School students recently attended the school's fourth annual Veterans Day assembly. Retired Col. Mary Jo Rice and retired Pfc. Gerard Weiss shared stories about their service with the students and staff, and were presented with plaques of appreciation by Principal Cheryl O'Brien.

The assembly began with a presentation of colors by members of the Marine Corps 6th Motor Transport of Red Bank; seventh-grader Kathryn Galasso then led students and teachers in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The school orchestra, under the direction of David Shapiro, played patriotic songs, and the school chorus, led by Kristine Smith-Morasso, sang the "Star-Spangled Banner."

Seventh-grader Alexi Kuska explained the significance of Veterans Day, noting that 24 million United States veterans are alive today, but many have been wounded or died in battle. "The price of freedom is high," she said. "We honor the veterans for keeping this nation the land of the free and the home of the brave."

Edison students Matthew Bogen and Matthew Leonard played "Taps" to remember those who gave their lives defending their country, and students Jonathan Holt and Charles Tripp introduced and recited the poem "Anthem for Doomed Youth."

Weiss, a World War II Army veteran who was

awarded both the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star, joined the 63rd Infantry in Europe shortly after D-Day. Serving the United States in the war "was one of the most momentous periods in my life," he told the students.

Rice, who served in the war zone in Vietnam as an intensive care nurse and also served in active duty in the Persian Gulf War, thanked the staff and students for the special invitation to join the assembly and complimented the students on their hand-designed posters honoring veterans that decorated the auditorium walls.

The Edison School assembly was coordinated by social studies teachers Elizabeth Hogan and Geoffrey Martin with assistance from the Sharing Talents and Skills department of the Westfield Public Schools.

Other Westfield schools also recognized veterans. After leaving Edison School, Weiss and Rice visited Westfield High School, where they addressed students in the American Issues and Survey of American History classes.

And at Roosevelt Intermediate School, seventh- and eighth-graders and their parents held a special program Nov. 12. The students honored H. Kenneth Osborne, grandfather of Roosevelt guidance counselor Kim Meusel. Osborne, who served in World War II, was the recipient of Roosevelt's "Heroes Among Us" award.

"We honor the veterans for keeping this nation the land of the free and the home of the brave."

— Edison School student Alexi Kuska



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Let's Ask Jill



by Jill Guzman

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Sports

Blue Devils win sectional title

Westfield triumphs in shootout for first championship since '96

By DANIEL MURPHY
RECORD PRESS

WESTFIELD — A rookie in shootouts just two weeks ago, Megan Connors has become a veteran in a short time.

Monday her abilities in net and

comfort in a goalies most perilous position lifted Westfield to the North Jersey Section 2 Group 4 title with a 1-0 win over Randolph.

After 100 minutes of scoreless soccer the squads went to a penalty kick shootout, Westfield's third since defeating Summit in the

Union County Tournament semifinals Nov. 2. Connors stopped two shots and watched a third sail over the goal as Westfield converted three of its four attempts to win its first sectional title since 1996.

"Now we're getting comfortable (in shootouts)," said Connors. "I

think we might get too comfortable. We want to win in regulation but it's just not happening lately.

"I think I play better under pressure. I play better when it's a better game and I'm more active in the game and in the goal. I know I had to stay composed because I have been in the past two shootouts. I knew that's all I had to do to save even one shot."

Connors saw little action during the first 100 minutes and had the pressure squarely on her shoulders when the game moved to a shootout. But she was composed from the outset, diving to her right to stop the first shot and watching the second sail high over the goal. Susan Williams and Staci Spass each converted to put Westfield ahead 2-0.

Randolph responded by making the next shot while Aly Ludmer's attempt banged off the post. But after Randolph pulled even 2-2 Gio Palatucci rocketed the ball into the right side of the net and Connors dove to her left to stop Randolph's fifth attempt and clinch Westfield's first sectional title since 1996.

"I was pretty confident we were going to get all of our shots in," said Connors. "(Saving the first shot) took a lot of the pressure off, because when we made our shot we were up one already."

Westfield, who had fallen to Randolph the last two times it reached a sectional final — in 1999 and 2000 — faced North Jersey Section 1 Group 4 champ Vernon in the state semifinals Wednesday. The final is scheduled for tomorrow.

"They deserve everything they're getting," said Head Coach Pete Giordano. "This team is a very close nit group. They work hard,



GEORGE PACCIELLO/RECORD PRESS
Ashley Kent (left), Staci Spass and Susan Williams rejoice after Westfield's dramatic victory in the sectional final.

they come out and practice hard."

The rain soaked field and a determined Randolph defense slowed down Westfield's speedy attack. With defenders Ali Weinstein, Laura Shelman, Beth Mokrauer and Emily MacNeil and midfielders Spass and Palatucci halting any Randolph attacks the game turned into a defensive struggle with neither squad generating many opportunities. Each team managed just seven shots, four on goal.

Each team had a defender save a shot after the ball had gotten by the goalie, and Connors tipped away the best scoring opportunity of the day late in second half. Randolph floated a wind-aided 30 yard shot that Connors was able to leap, tip off the cross bar then coral.

Neither squad mustered a dangerous threat in the two 10-minute overtime sessions, leading to another stomach turning shootout for the Westfield players, fans and coaches.

"My personal health can't take all this stuff," joked Giordano. "I'm going to get old quick taking care of this stuff. We had some opportunities. They pretty much put five back there, respected our speed. It was a good game. These girls know now they can play under pressure."

"I was really nervous," said Connors. "We've already been through two shootouts and we won. It's really hard to win shootouts."

But a lot easier when you have an experienced goalie like Connors in the net.



GEORGE PACCIELLO/RECORD PRESS
Susan Williams buried Westfield's first penalty kick into the upper right hand corner as the Blue Devils won the shootout 3-2.

Too many mistakes cost Blue Devils in playoffs

By DANIEL MURPHY
RECORD PRESS

ROXBURY — The Westfield High football team needed to play a near perfect game to knock off Roxbury in the mud Saturday. Instead a second quarter letdown led to an avalanche of points and a first round loss in the state playoffs.

Roxbury took advantage of a handful of Blue Devil miscues to reel off 21 points over the final nine minutes of the second quarter and cruised to a 28-0 victory in the North Jersey Section 2 Group 4 playoffs. Fourth-seeded Morristown, who they defeated

earlier in the year, and Elizabeth will host Montclair in the semifinals.

"They were better than us, we played poorly and they are a good team," said Westfield Head Coach Ed Tranchina. "You put that together and you get a 28-0 game."

The heavy mud and cold rain slowed down the Westfield offense and created the perfect conditions for a Roxbury club that prefers physical smashmouth football. But the Blue Devil defense held strong in the first quarter, keeping the game scoreless.

The Blue Devils' defense made its third stop of the game early in

the second quarter but a Roxbury punt pinned the Blue Devils deep on its own 7 yard line. After quarterback Jan Coccozziello was sacked on first down, the Blue Devils tried a screen pass, but the ball was mishandled and recovered by Roxbury's Bryan Bischoff in the end zone for a touchdown.

Westfield was forced to punt on the ensuing possession, and Roxbury took over at their own 37. On the first play Roxbury's Roger Turley connected with J.J. Palek at the Westfield 30. Palek took it the rest of the way for a 62 yard touchdown reception and the rout was on.

Westfield was forced to punt again on their next possession

with Roxbury taking over at its own 47. The Gaels put together their first drive of the game, rumbling through the mud and scoring on a six yard run with 1:36 left in the half.

The Blue Devils rallied from a 21 point deficit a week earlier against Union with 28 unanswered points, but their offense wasn't going to find the same success in this weather against a strong, physical Roxbury defense. Westfield was held to just four first downs as Coccozziello was sacked six times.

In the third quarter Westfield turned the ball over again deep in their own territory, leading to a five yard touchdown run and a

28-0 lead for Roxbury.

"We fumbled the ball twice inside the five and gave them two touchdowns," said Tranchina. "You can't give them those."

It was going to be a challenge for Westfield to knock off Roxbury in ideal conditions, and the nasty weather only added to the Gaels' advantage. A smashmouth, pound it down your throat football team, Roxbury clearly prefers playing in the slop, having handed Morristown its only loss of the season in similar conditions in mid-October.

"They have a lot of size and like to run it right at you," said Tranchina. "Teams that are big and run it right at you we have

problems with.

"We needed to throw the ball and spread them out and the weather made it tough. We're not making excuses, but it was hard to play in the mud. They're a good football team in those conditions."

With a young squad the experience of reaching the playoffs should pay dividends down the road. The Blue Devils will now prepare for its annual Thanksgiving Day showdown with Plainfield.

"It's always great to get that experience of making the playoffs," said Tranchina. "The kids have the experience of playing in a game like that and now they know what its like."

Raiders can't capitalize on golden opportunities

By DANIEL MURPHY
RECORD PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — The opportunities were there, but the Raiders were unable to capitalize.

After taking a 6-0 lead the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High football team failed to take advantage of several chances to deliver a knockout blow, allowing Jefferson to rally for a 14-6 win on cold, rainy day in Scotch Plains.

After reaching the North Jersey Section 2 Group 3 semifinals four years in a row the Raiders were knocked out in the first round and will look to regroup for a Thanksgiving Day showdown in Elizabeth. Jefferson takes on eighth-seeded Phillipsburg, who defeated top-seeded West Morris Central, while Shabazz hosts Mount Olive in the semifinals.

Scotch Plains had golden opportunities inside red zone throughout the second half, but couldn't muster the offense to punch it in. Jefferson meanwhile steered its high powered run-and-shoot offense away from the shoot and focused on the run to slobber down the muddy field for two second half scores.

"We had our opportunities and let them back in," said Scotch Plains Head Coach

Steve Ciccotelli. "(Jefferson) did a great job. They played hard."

"I thought we played pretty good defense. We had opportunities to put a lot of points on the board, but we didn't take advantage of it. As a coach it's a nightmare game. I think we had some pretty good yardage, we just didn't score. Offensively we've struggled a little bit all year. As the field got worse we couldn't hold on to the ball. We had trouble with the snap and lost a lot of plays that way."

"We did some good things, but not enough of them. It's not the end of the world."

Scotch Plains had hoped to chew up clock and yardage while keeping Jefferson's offense on the sideline, and worked the game plan to perfection right from the outset. On the opening kickoff Scotch Plains banged a squib kick off of a Jefferson player and recovered it at the 35 yard line. 10 plays and nearly six minutes later Kyle Adams rumbled in from two yards giving the Raiders a 6-0 lead and keeping Jefferson's offense on the sideline until 6:30 remained in the first quarter.

The Raiders defense forced Jefferson to turn it over on downs on its first two possessions, then recovered a fumble five plays into Jefferson's third

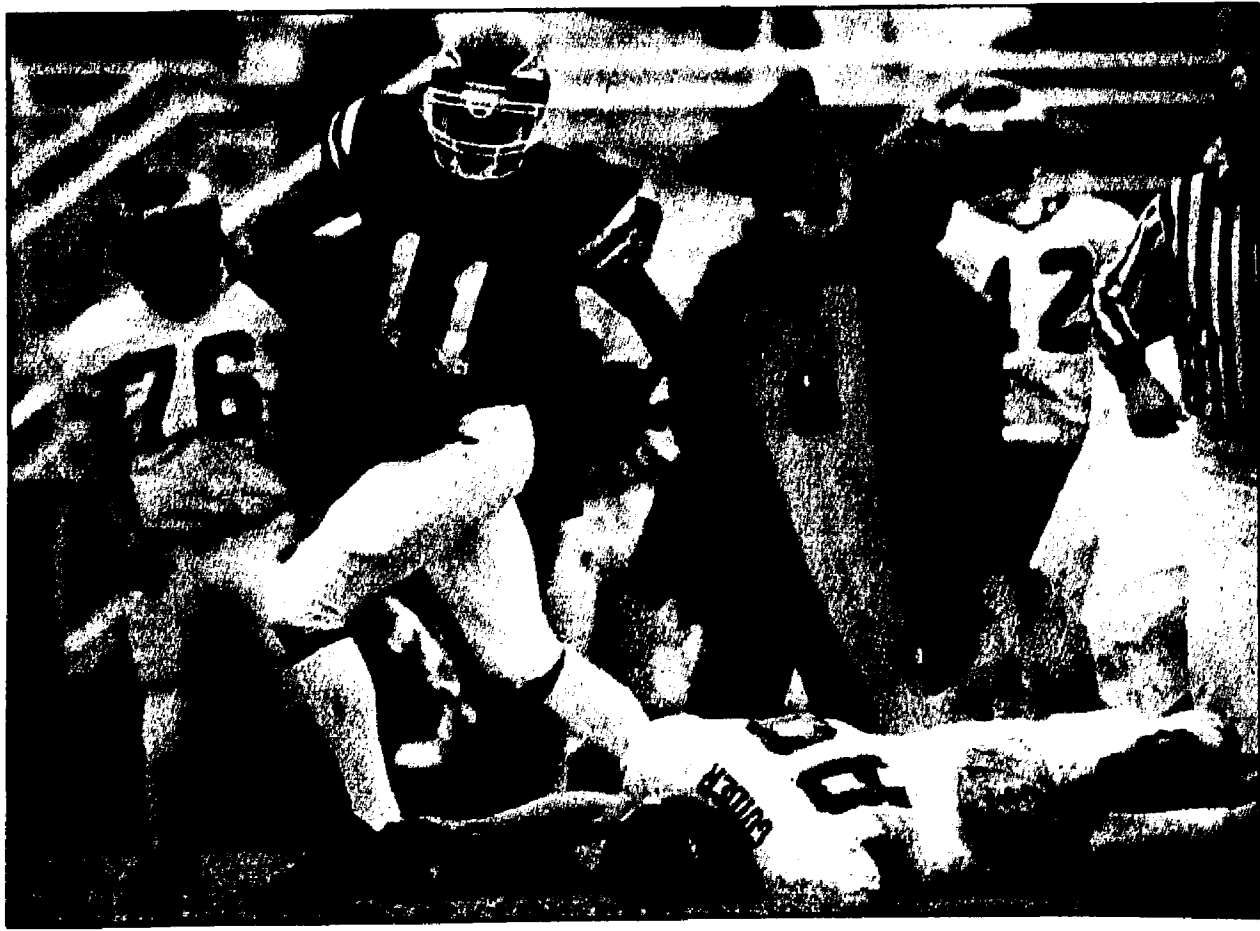
drive. But the Raiders couldn't get a first down and the game turned into a battle for field position. Kyle Baker broke through for a long touchdown run, but the play was called back on a holding penalty.

In the second half Scotch Plains recovered an onside kick attempt by Jefferson and marched down inside the red zone, but turned the ball over on downs at the 15.

On the next play Jefferson muffed a screen pass that was ruled a fumble and recovered by Scotch Plains at the 5. With a golden opportunity to gain a two touchdown lead the Raiders went backwards on three straight running plays and were forced into a 25 yard field goal attempt that went wide-left.

Having survived two trips into its own red zone Jefferson took momentum and the ball on an 80 yard scoring march. Rich Wroblewski highlighted the march with a 41 yard run through Scotch Plains tacklers down to the Raiders' 16. Then, three plays later on fourth down, Jefferson quarterback Tony Irizarry connected with Wayne Gaurino for an 18 yard touchdown reception. Gaurino added the PAT to give Jefferson a 7-6 lead with 1:11 left in the third quarter.

After the teams traded punts



GEORGE PACCIELLO/RECORD PRESS
Quarterback Mike Walker was able to escape the tackle of a Jefferson defender but the Raiders had a hard time finding the end zone Saturday, failing 14-6.

Scotch Plains shanked one out of bounds at their own 19 yard line, a six yard punt, setting Jefferson up for the go ahead score. Wroblewski took a pitch 14 yards for a 14-6 lead after the extra point.

On the Raiders next possession they bobbled the snap on second and third down and were forced to try a fake punt that came up well short. Jefferson took over and was

able to run out the clock when it converted a 4th and 2 with a 17 yard gain on a sweep play.

Although it didn't make the second round of the playoffs for the first time in four years, getting to the playoffs was a major accomplishment for a relatively young team with little experience before the season started.

"It's a great group of kids," said Ciccotelli. "They played hard all year. They have nothing

to be ashamed of. At beginning of year with all the kids we graduated I didn't think we'd be here, be a top-four seed at the end of year, which we were and which is a credit to these guys."

"As a group we've been in playoffs last four years. We told the kids, forget the winning and losing, enjoy the experience of being here — enjoy the experience of working and getting here."

'Rockets' still lighting up Spruce Run Reservoir

By MANNY LUFTGLASS

RECORD PRESS CORRESPONDENT

Like Yogi sez, "It ain't over 'til it's over." And it hasn't ended yet, dear friends. In fact, I've caught at least one hybrid bass in each of my last four trips to Spruce Run Reservoir.

So far this year, the "Gone Fishin'" has produced a total of 46 "rockets" and, with fingers and eyes crossed, I hope it isn't over yet!

For the most part, hybrid bass prefer warmer water, and you can take it to the bank that just about all of them will shut down for the duration as we roll into December. But, of course, that will be just in time for the good action to start at both Round Valley and Merrill Creek reservoirs.

Since we have a little time left before the hybrid bass fishery ends, in a little while, I'll walk you through the various styles I use at Spruce Run to catch them. Of course, along the trail, you might also get your hook stuck into the mouth of some other critter but, hey, you do what you gotta do, right?

The primary biter at Spruce Run now seems to be the white catfish, and I sure am not after them. But in each of those four trips noted earlier I had at least one cattie, too. It's possible the cat population has gone beddie bye until May because none have slimed up my line in the four sailings.

You can expect a few crappie to hit still, as well as northern pike. And of all things, several holdover trout have found their

way to our Mustad model No. 3906 size 6 hooks recently.

Since the last column, here's what the scoreboard shows:

Nov. 4, I caught a six-pound hybrid ("rocket") bass and a five-pound northern, along with a 1.5-pound crappie and two catties. Three days later Ron Bern and I had at them. He beat me, the rat, with three hybrids to 8.5 pounds, a 14-inch brown trout, plus a catfish. I caught two hybrids and a white cat.

Then alone again Nov. 12, my catch consisted of two very small hybrids and a five-pounder, plus yet one more white catfish and a two-pound channel cat (in an all-day rain, to boot).

Lastly, on Nov. 14 Ron was in the bow again and caught 18- and 20-inch brownies and a white catfish. I hit a cat also, along with two 18-inch hybrids, a 25-inch pike and a 17-inch brown trout.

Of extreme interest to me is

GONE FISHIN'

we've caught four good-sized brown trout

holdovers in the past few outings. I called the state and spoke to Mark Borek to make certain they didn't stock Spruce Run this fall. Traditionally, they do put some nice brownies in during the spring but the diffused oxygen problem in the lake usually makes it impossible for most trout to survive (other than any that might be wearing oxygen masks in dead but cool deeper water during the summer when the well-aerated water is too warm for them to be comfortable).

Mark confirmed my belief that they did not stock any trout this fall in Spruce Run, which means some made it through the summer. That is really good news and who knows, we may have a return to holdover trout fishing again at Spruce Run one day. Way back in the 1970s, before the oxygen problem was present, the lake produced huge browns that

made it through from year to year.

OK, back to how to fish Spruce Run for "rockets," and any bi-catch you get. Lots of anglers catch the hybrids while trolling and still more produce on a drift. Live alewife herring are the best bait for both styles. I like to stick two anchors in, fore and aft, and at this time of the year, fish over 28-30 feet of water.

The hook is always the same — a Mustad model No. 3906 size 6. To fish straight down, at bottom, try two ways. In each instance stop a three-quarter ounce egg sinker on top of a black barrel swivel. Below the swivel, tie on a three-foot leader and then the hook. The leader should be the line you have on your reel — six- or eight-pound test.

Drop the sinker and bait to the bottom and lift up and down a few times to make sure no extra line is out. Then drop the sinker to the bottom again, letting the baitfish do a controlled

swim (it was hooked just behind the dorsal fin). Make sure your drag is open. Or, stick the hook through its eye holes and let the rig down to the bottom, and lift the bait just off the bottom. Then open the drag and put the rod down, and wait 'em out.

Slip-bobbers often produce the wildest bites and fights. Same deal as above, but use a quarter-ounce sinker instead of the bigger one. If you can't find good bobber-stopper strings you can get away with a piece of waxed dental floss instead. Tie it on your line tightly at the depth you want to fish. You may reposition it from time to time but it can help you produce rockets.

Make sure to chum with cut-up baitfish. It works!

And for you who are looking for ideas for holiday gift-giving, it's time to get 'em. Look up my web site if you have friends or relatives who either like to fish or may want to write their own book. It's www.gonefishinbooks.com.

Seuze me, gone fishin'.

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TURKEY TROT

In only 2 weeks the 19th annual Turkey Trot, presented by the Friends of Westfield Track &

Field, will be held on Saturday, Nov. 30, at Tamaques Park in Westfield.

Entry forms are available at

SPORTSCENE

the Westfield Library (East Broad Street), the Westfield Recreation Association (located in the Town Municipal Building), the Westfield Y (Clark Street) and The Leader Store (East Broad Street at Prospect Street in Westfield). It is also possible to register over the Internet at www.ACTIVE.com.

The program for the day, regardless of weather, will feature the Police Fireman Relay, the Five-Mile Run and the One-Mile Fun Run. The Police Fireman Relay is set for 10:00 AM. The One-Mile Fun Run begins at 10:30 AM. Pre-entry for this race (before 20-Nov-2002) is \$10 (includes short-sleeve shirt); post-entry is \$12 (with shirt while supplies last). Westfield youth (under 14) may enter this race for \$8. Awards will be given to the first 3 finishers (male and female).

The Five-Mile Run will go off at 11:00 AM. Pre-entry for this race (before 20-Nov-2002) is \$17 (includes long-sleeve shirt, extra shirts \$10 each; post-entry is \$20 (with shirt while supplies last). Awards will be given to the first 3 overall male and female finishers and to the top 3 finishers in all age-group divisions.

Registration and T-shirt pick-up will begin at 9:00 AM at the park. Entrances to Tamaques Park are from Lamberts Mill Rd. or Dickson Drive (off Willow Grove Rd.).

The Friends of Westfield Track & Field is an organization that supports the cross-country and the track and field programs at Westfield High School. For more information about the organization or the Turkey Trot, call Ray at (908) 245-9422 or Tom at (732)-

381-3654.

ACFL FOOTBALL

The Atlantic Coast Football League is holding registration for the winter men's 2002 season. The league is offering players 18 and over both flag and 2-hand touch football. In flag, there will be an 8-on-8 two-count league and an 8-on-8 no-count league. In 2-hand touch there will be a 7-on-7 'A' league and a 6-on-6 'B' league. Both teams and individual players are welcome. Qualified referees are also being sought.

Games are played on local fields such as Warinanco Field in Elizabeth/Roselle. For further information visit the Football Page at www.onscore.com or call Mark at 1-877-ONSCORE.

WINTER GOLF

The change in the seasons brings about a change in the schedule of the three Union County golf courses. Eighteen regulation holes will continue to be available throughout the winter at Oak Ridge Golf Course in Clark, and 18 holes at Galloping Hill Golf Course will be operational, weather permitting. Determination of play will be made by the Supervising Greenskeeper of the course in question. Winter hours of operation at both courses, from Nov. 30-March 1 will be 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hours of operation during the month of Nov. will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends.

Ash Brook Golf Course in Scotch Plains and the front nine at Galloping Hill in Kenilworth will be closed for the winter season, according to Freeholder Chairman Lewis Mingo Jr. The closure for both will begin Dec. 23 and continue until March 1.

For further information about Union County's winter public golf schedule or identification card purchase contact the Department of Parks and Recreation at (908) 527-4900.

Sparx still undefeated

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood U-12 Sparx girls soccer team met the Branchburg Shooting Stars on Nov. 4 on a cold, rock hard Park Middle School Field. Conditions made the ball hard to control and the bounce hard to predict and soon the Sparx, who have won six games by shutout, found themselves in an unfamiliar situation when Branchburg scored first.

Despite numerous shots on goal, the Sparx closed out the first half scoreless. In the second half, the Sparx defense of Gabriella Pinho, Gina Egidio and Sam Bremer along with midfielders Olivia Francavilla, Allison Goldberg, Brittney Veeck, Sheryl Markovitz and Kim Shelus were constantly on the move against a hyped up Shooting Star offense. Goalie Jaelyn Law did an excellent job, making several diving saves when changing the field with long punts.

Momentum finally changed when Gabby Clark sent a pass from the wing across to Jennie Altman which was deflected by the goalie but then popped in by Goldberg to tie the game.

Within minutes Clarke sent another pass to Altman who chipped in the go-ahead goal. The Sparx offense continued to pressure whit shots fired off by Becca VonLangen and Erika White. Finally Clarke, who already had two assists, fired in a rocket from 25 yards out to give the Sparx a 3-1 victory and improve their record to 3-0 as they lead the pack in the MNJYSA Flight 3.

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Automotive/Classified

Have car checked before leaving the lot

(ARA) - Before you buy any vehicle, it is always a good idea to have it checked by an expert.

As a consumer, you need to know what you're paying for. Although many states have "lemon laws" protecting consumers from unscrupulous sellers, you can save yourself a lot of time and trouble by having the car inspected before you drive it off the lot.

While some flaws are obvious to even the average consumer, certain problems can be hidden from buyers who rely on their own appraisal. The condition of the frame and body, for example, are integral to the soundness of the car. Yet, after a car has been repaired, it is difficult for the layperson to detect the repairs, and to judge whether they were done correctly.

Quality frame and body repairs can often cost more than the vehicle is worth, and improper repairs could be structurally unsafe. That's why it's important to find out if repairs were made and if they were made correctly. Here are some tips on what you can do before purchasing a used vehicle to make sure you get what you bargained for.

• Ask about the car's accident history. If it has ever been in an accident, what was the damage and who fixed it? Is the auto body shop that repaired the vehicle registered with any collision repair industry associations?

• Is there paint over-primer in the doorjambs, trunk or engine compartment? These



Be sure to have your car checked by an expert before you hit the road.

are signs that the vehicle has had body repairs. Check the paint. Do all of the vehicle's panels match? Check the gaps between body panels - are they equal? Unequal gaps may indicate improper panel alignment or a bent frame. Do the doors shut properly? Do the keys open all the door and trunk locks? If not, the doors and trunk lid may have come from different vehicles.

• Has the vehicle's certificate of title been labeled "salvage?" Salvage means that an expert has determined that the cost to properly repair the vehicle is more than its value. This usually happens after the vehicle has been in a serious accident. If this is the case, check with a qualified auto body expert. Not all salvage vehicles are bad - properly repaired salvaged vehicles can be a safe and sound investment.

• A vehicle is considered a total loss when the insurer determines that it is not worth repairing," explains Don Hallett, president

and CEO of ALLETE Automotive Services.

ALLETE is the parent company of ADESA Impact of East Providence, R.I., one of the largest total loss auction chains in the United States.

Different states have different total loss thresholds. In Florida, for example, the insurance company must declare a vehicle a total loss when the estimate to repair it exceeds 80 percent of the book value. In Oklahoma, it is totaled at 60 percent.

"Many of the vehicles declared to be total losses are repairable," explains Hallett. ADESA and other auto salvage auction companies act as sophisticated "recyclers" of vehicles that have been declared total losses by insurance companies by finding buyers who will rebuild the cars or use them for parts. Insurance companies don't want to deal with buying and selling cars, so they turn to companies like ADESA that manage the total

loss recovery process.

Rebuilt vehicles must be retitled as such, and states require the owner to present sales receipts for major component parts that were used in the repair, along with serial numbers of vehicles from which the parts were taken. This ensures that consumers know they are buying a salvaged car. Generally, "before" photos of the damaged vehicles are also required, so inspectors from the Department of Motor Vehicles can compare them with the repaired car.

"We help insurance companies provide better service to their policyholders, as well as providing low-mileage, recent-model-year wrecks that have been branded "rebuildable" to independent dealers," says Hallett. "Rebuilt cars provide an option for consumers looking for a good value."

For more information on the services provided by ADESA, visit the company's Web site at www.adeusa.com.

Satellite radio is coming to a vehicle near you

(ARA) - Since its debut last fall, satellite radio has truly taken off.

By the end of 2002, the two satellite radio services, XM and Sirius, estimate that they will have signed up more than 400,000 subscribers. With its crystal-clear digital signals, and dozens of premium, commercial-free channels, satellite radio is the new way to listen to radio.

Most people enjoy satellite radio in their cars. With 100 channels of music, news, entertainment, and sports, you'll be sure to find something you want. It's a great way to enjoy a long drive too, knowing you'll never lose a channel to static interference or poor reception.

But satellite radio is for more than just a single car. Many people don't realize some satellite radio components can be moved between cars or even from car to home. Hooking up satellite radio to your home sound system gives you an array of great listening options you won't get with traditional AM or FM signals.

For satellite radio, here's what you need to get started:

• A control module - either a receiver with built-in satellite radio controls, or a separate control/display panel that allows you to select channels.

• A tuner module, which delivers the satellite signal received by the antenna to the control module. (The tuner and controller can be in a single piece of equipment.)

• A satellite radio antenna.

• A subscription to either XM or Sirius (monthly fees are \$10-\$13).

Ways to add satellite radio to your car:

1. Buy a new system for your car.

A popular way to get satellite radio is to replace your car radio

with an in-dash receiver that has built-in satellite radio controls, and add a same-brand, satellite radio tuner that mounts out of sight. Most major car audio manufacturers make equipment for either Sirius or XM. Tuners and controllers from different manufacturers won't work together.

2. Add satellite radio to your existing car stereo.

If you want to keep your current radio, you can purchase an FM modulated package. FM modulators send a signal to an unused frequency on your radio through the FM antenna jack. You'll have access to the different satellite radio channels once you have tuned in the specific frequency.

3. Bring satellite radio from car to home. Sony manufactures a plug-and-play XM tuner, with optional add-on kits, that lets you enjoy satellite radio in your car and living room. In the car, you can use the RF modulator to connect it to your receiver, use a cassette adapter that fits into the cassette deck opening, or connect it directly to your receiver's auxiliary input. You'll need an antenna connection, as well. At home, you'll simply connect it to your receiver with a docking kit, mount an optional antenna, and get all of your favorite channels any time of day.

Sony's tuner is also a good choice if you have more than one vehicle - you can carry the tuner from one car to the next, and only pay one subscription fee.

What about an antenna?

Unlike the tuners and controllers, you're not limited to purchasing from the same manufacturer when you buy an antenna. Many car antennas mount on the roof (the wires wrap around the rear glass moldings; some mount on the rear glass).



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3.9L V-6, 24 valve, automatic transmission, power steering, ABS, air, hubcaps, fog lamps, floor mats, wheel covers, running boards, front & rear fascias, roof rack, aluminum wheels, AM, FM Stereo/CD w/ changer control, all terrain tires. VIN#3F506J66 MSRP \$19,270

\$19,270

Brand New 2002 Dodge INTREPID SE

2.4L V-6 DOHC, auto trans, power steering, ABS, air, hubcaps, fog lamps, floor mats, wheel covers, running boards, front & rear fascias, roof rack, aluminum wheels, AM, FM Stereo/CD w/ changer control, all terrain tires. VIN#3F506J66 MSRP \$15,985

\$15,985

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For Eye Doctor's Office. Must be willing to travel to Westfield & West Orange, 5 half days, (8:45-12:00 pm), no experience necessary. Call 908-232-5868 or 973-468-0500

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2-3 days. Secretary background w/computer skills (Word). Clerk location. Ard Appraisal Co. Wm. Ard 732-396-1965

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Medical Help 250
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\$17,995

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Black 4 Dr. Auto 4 Cyl V6
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\$18,995

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Silver 4 Dr. Auto V6
PB/S/W/LS. Air. AM/FM ST
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1999 INFINITI QX4 4X4
Black 4 Dr. Auto V6
PB/S/W/LS. Air. AM/FM ST
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\$24,995

1999 INFINITI Q45
Black 4 Dr. Auto V6
PB/S/W/LS. Air. AM/FM ST
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\$25,995

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Black 4 Dr. Auto V6
PB/S/W/LS. Air. AM/FM ST
VIN #1A227162. Stk #1492
\$14,995

2002 BUICK LESABRE
Black 4 Dr. Auto V6
PB/S/W/LS. Air. AM/FM ST
VIN #1A227162. Stk #1492
\$20,995

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Professional Help 260	HOUSECLEANING Affordable prices, good ref. experienced, responsible. own transportation. 908-810-8812	CRANFORD - 1 BR, heat, hv incl., secured bldg. close to trans. \$895/mo. No pets. Avail. 12/1. 908-273-7487	Housing to Share 435	FIREWOOD & FUEL 550	DIET PILLS & VIAGRA Order: Phenitrene \$67. Order: \$96. Adipex \$139. Viagra \$118. and others. Toll Free 1-866-567-0300. U.S. Doctors/Pharmacies. We provide prescription! Order online anytime: www.order2.com	KENILWORTH - 355 Coolidge St. (off Blvd.) Estate Sale: 11/21 & 11/22, 10am-5pm. Haywood Wakefield Mid Century BR w/vanity, Kit, set, wall units, desks, Jon-Air side by side, Maytag dryer, washer, bike, snow blower, exercise & camera equip. lamps, xmas decor, (at least 777)
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Discount: \$1238. College Grad
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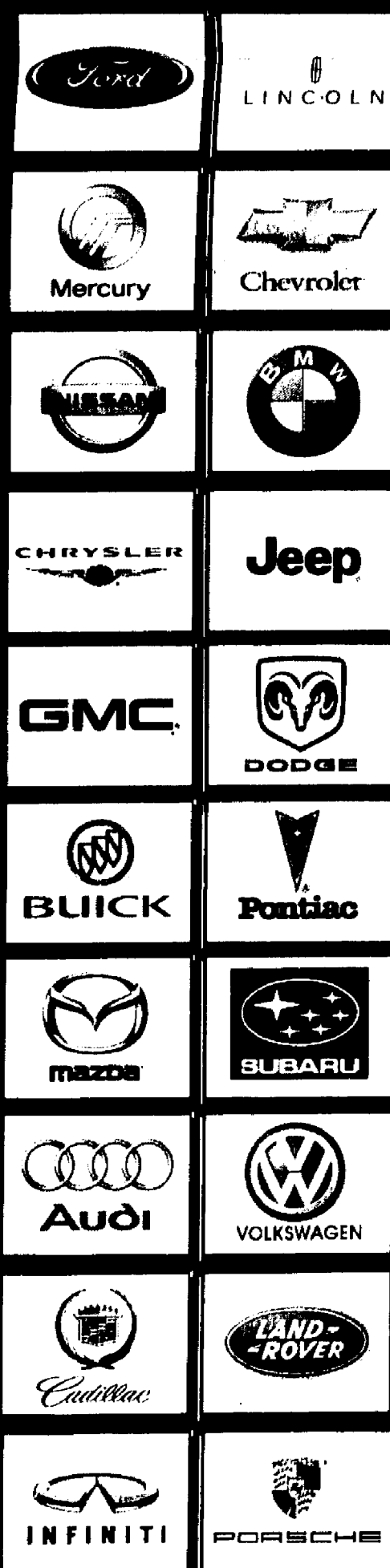
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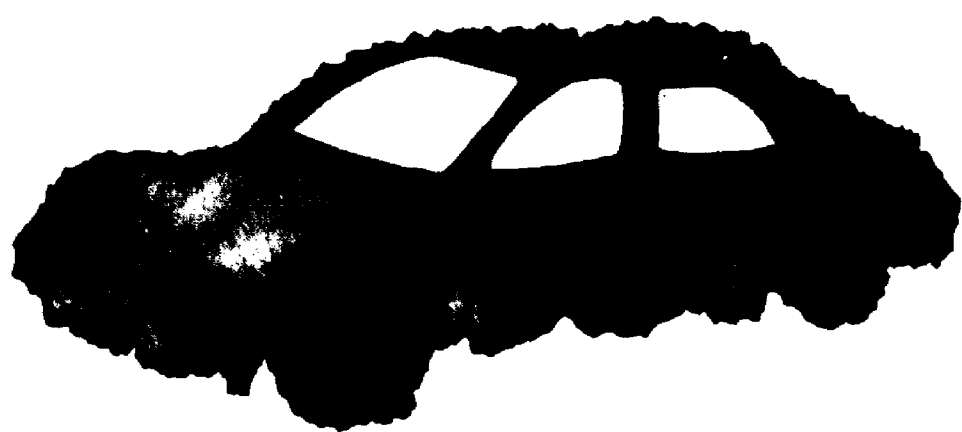
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4.2

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Brand New 2003 BMW 325xi



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\$375

Brand New 2003 BMW 330i



Special 39 Month Lease Plan!
4 dr, 6 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brks/seats, AIR, AM/FM stereo, CD, alloys, cold weather pkg, leather int, prem pkg, xenon lks, MSRP \$42,970. Stk #B3-170/VIN#K150243. 39 mo closed end lease w/10,000 mi/yr. 20c thereafter. \$2500 cap cost + \$299 1st mo pymnt + \$400 sec dep + \$525 bank fee = \$3624 due at lease signing. Ttl pymnts \$11,661. Ttl cost \$14,686. Purch opt at lease end \$18,922.

\$389

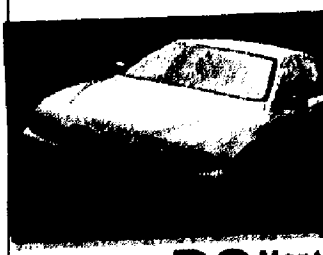
Brand New 2003 BMW 525i



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4 dr, 6 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brks/seats, AIR, AM/FM stereo, CD, alloys, cold weather pkg, leather int, prem pkg, xenon lks, MSRP \$42,970. Stk #B3-170/VIN#K150243. 39 mo closed end lease w/10,000 mi/yr. 20c thereafter. \$2500 cap cost + \$299 1st mo pymnt + \$400 sec dep + \$525 bank fee = \$3624 due at lease signing. Ttl pymnts \$11,661. Ttl cost \$14,686. Purch opt at lease end \$18,922.

\$429

Brand New 2003 BMW 530i



Special 39 Month Lease Plan!
4 dr, 6 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brks/seats, AIR, AM/FM stereo, CD, alloys, cold weather pkg, leather int, prem pkg, xenon lks, MSRP \$45,970. Stk #B3-171/VIN#K150244. 39 mo closed end lease w/10,000 mi/yr. 20c thereafter. \$2500 cap cost + \$299 1st mo pymnt + \$400 sec dep + \$525 bank fee = \$3624 due at lease signing. Ttl pymnts \$11,661. Ttl cost \$14,686. Purch opt at lease end \$18,922.

\$459

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Special 39 Month Lease Plan!
4 dr, 8 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brks, AIR, AM/FM stereo, 6 disc CD player, moonroof, alloys, leather navigation sys, lux seating pkg, xenon lks, prem sound, MSRP \$77,495. Stk #B3-199/VIN#K150245. 39 mo closed end lease w/10,000 mi/yr. 20c thereafter. \$2500 cap cost + \$299 1st mo pymnt + \$400 sec dep + \$525 bank fee = \$3624 due at lease signing. Ttl pymnts \$11,661. Ttl cost \$14,686. Purch opt at lease end \$18,922.

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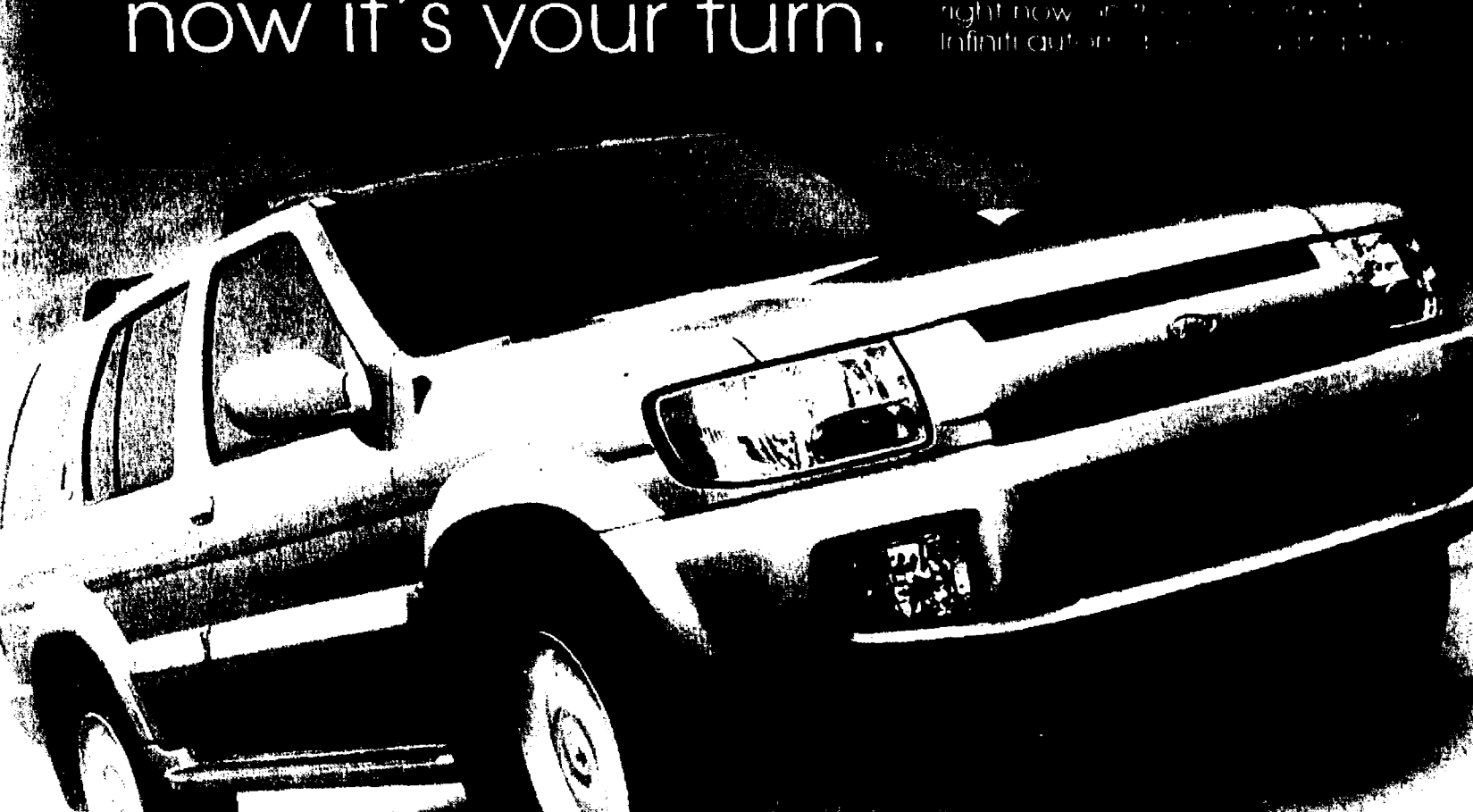


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\$359 lease per mo. for 48 mos.*
\$26,988 or buy for

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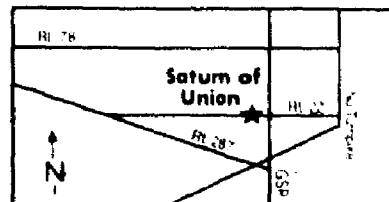
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Less Per Mo. 48 Mos.

\$0
Due At Signing!



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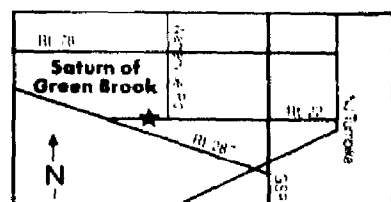


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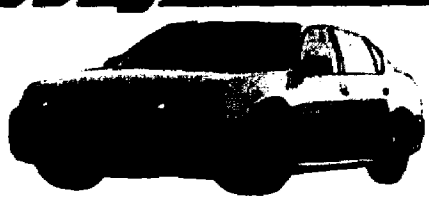
NEW 2003 CHEVROLET Malibu



\$199

4 door, 4 cyl, auto trans, p/steering, p/brakes, air, airbags, bucket seats, 24 hr roadside assist, cruise, tilt, tint, p/windows, p/locks, cassette w/CD, rear defrost, sunroof. MSRP: \$25,101. Vin#29376925. Stk#3524. Price includes: \$3500 Factory Rebate, \$1455 Dealer Discount and \$400 College Grad Reb (if qual). Total cost: \$19,146. Lease: \$199/mo. for 36 mos. or 36,000 miles. \$10,217 available at lease end. Total cost: \$8570.

NEW 2002 CHEVROLET Impala LS



\$19,746

Automatic, 6 cylinder, p/s, p/b, air cond, 4 door, leather, 24 hr roadside assist, keyless entry, cruise, tilt, tint, p/windows, p/locks, cassette w/CD, rear defrost, sunroof. MSRP: \$25,101. Vin#29376925. Stk#3524. Price includes: \$3500 Factory Rebate, \$1455 Dealer Discount and \$400 College Grad Reb (if qual). Total cost: \$19,146. Lease: \$199/mo. for 36 mos. or 36,000 miles. \$10,217 available at lease end. Total cost: \$8570.

NEW 2003 CHEVROLET Cavalier



\$12,700

2 door, 4 cylinder, automatic, p/steering, p/brakes, air, airbags, bucket seats, 24 hr roadside assist, cruise, tilt, tint, p/windows, p/locks, cassette w/CD, rear defrost, sunroof. MSRP: \$18,315. Price includes: \$400 Coll Grad Rebate (if qual), \$750 Chevy Lease Loyalty Rebate (if qual), \$2000 Factory Rebate & \$485 Dealer Discount.

NEW 2003 CHEVROLET MONTE CARLO SS



\$21,004

2 door, 6 cylinder, automatic, p/steering, p/brakes, air conditioning, dual airbags, leather, bucket seats, 24 hr roadside assist, cruise, tilt, tint, p/windows, p/locks, cassette w/CD, rear defrost, sunroof. MSRP: \$26,740. Vin#29126616. Stk#3627. Price includes: \$3750 factory rebate, \$1586 Dealer Disc, \$400 college graduate (if qual) & \$750 Lease Loyalty Reb (if qual).

NEW 2003 CHEVROLET S10 EXT CAB



\$17,662

3 door, automatic transmission, 6 cylinder engine, power steering, power brakes, air conditioning, 24 hr roadside assist, tint, CD player. MSRP: \$22,371. Vin#38150487. Stk#3871. Price includes: \$2750 factory rebate, \$1559 Dealer Discount, \$400 college graduate (if qual) & \$750 Lease Loyalty Rebate (if qual).

NEW 2003 CHEVROLET VENTURE EXT



\$22,118

4 door, 6 cyl, automatic, p/steering, p/brakes, rear heat & air conditioning, dual airbags, 24 hr roadside assist, cruise, tilt, tint, p/windows, p/locks, CD, rear defrost. MSRP: \$28,080. Vin#30157254. Stk#3802. Price includes: \$3750 Factory Rebate, \$1812 Dealer Disc, \$400 college graduate (if qual) & \$750 Lease Loyalty Reb (if qual).

1998 CHEVROLET PRIZM



\$6762

Automatic transmission, 4 cylinder engine, p/steering, p/brakes, air, dual airbags, bucket seats, cassette, tint, rear defrost. 45,743 mi. Vin#WZ411538. WARRANTY AVAILABLE!

2000 CHEVROLET Cavalier



\$7642

Automatic transmission, 4 cylinder, p/steering, abs, air conditioning, airbags, rear defrost, cassette, tinted glass, 22,350 miles. Vin#Y7237010. WARRANTY AVAILABLE!

1999 CHEVROLET Malibu



\$9850

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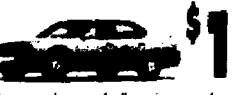
1999 CHEVROLET VENTURE



\$12,956

7 Pass, auto, 6 cyl, p/steering, p/brakes, air cond, p/windows, p/locks, r defr, dual airbags, cassette, tint, cc, tilt, 34,215 mi. Vin#XD239555. WARRANTY AVAILABLE!

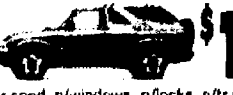
2001 CHEVROLET Impala



\$14,953

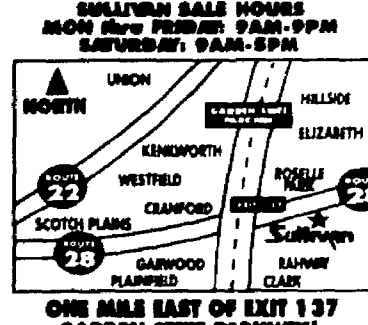
Automatic transmission, 6 cylinder engine, p/s, p/b, air cond, p/w, rear defrost, airbags, tint, cruise control, tilt, 24,245 mi. Vin #19339254. WARRANTY AVAILABLE!

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\$16,976

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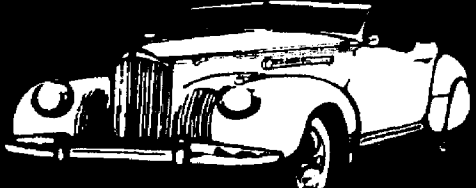
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2000 FORD WINSTAR LX Auto, air, p/s, p/w, p/locks, p/seats, dual doors, dual air, power door, tilt, cruise, cd, parktronic, 38,000 miles. VIN#YB4Z3917. \$13,995	2001 FORD WINSTAR SEL 4 dr. auto, air, p/s, p/w, p/locks, p/seats, leather, TV/CX, power door, dual air, every action, 25,000 miles. VIN#1B1A111. \$20,995	1999 HONDA CIVIC DX 4 dr. auto, air, p/s, p/w, p/locks, leather, package, cd, 35,000 miles. VIN#XLE95176. \$10,995	2002 NISSAN SENTRA SE-R 4 dr. auto, air, p/s, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cd, moonroof, alloy wheels, ABS, 27,000 miles. VIN#2L70128. \$14,995	2002 NISSAN SENTRA GXE 4 dr. auto, air, p/s, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass, only 36,000 miles. VIN#XU705130. \$9,995
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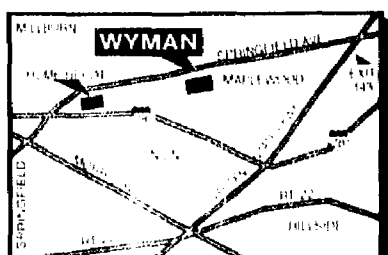
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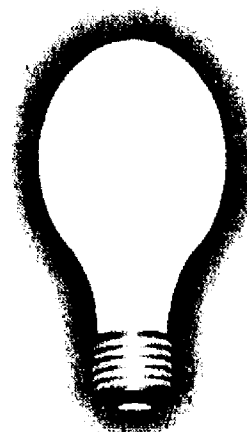
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'01 Ford Taurus SE Auto, air cond, p/mirrors, tint glass, AM/FM stereo, ABS, p/s, p/windows, sport whls, cassette, airbag, 6 cyl, p/b, p/s, cruise, warranty avail, tilt, p/locks, rear def, financ avail, 28,980 mi, Vin. 1A108383, stock A4271, \$10,995.00	'02 GMC Yukon SLT Leather int, auto, air cond, p/mirrors, tint glass, am/fm stereo, ABS, 4x4, p/s, p/windows, alloy whls, cassette, airbag, 8 cyl, p/b, p/seats, cruise, CD player, warranty avail, tilt, p/locks, rear def, leather, financ avail, 12,754 mi, Vin. 2R164340, stock A4317, \$29,995.00	'99 Mercury Grand Marquis Leather, auto, air cond, p/mirrors, tint glass, AM/FM stereo, ABS, p/s, p/windows, sport whls, cassette, airbag, 4 cyl, p/b, p/seats, cruise, warranty avail, tilt, p/locks, rear def, financ avail, 43,000 mi, Vin. XG699681, stock A4001, \$12,995.00	'99 Chevy Venture LS Dual air, auto, air cond, p/mirrors, tint glass, AM/FM stereo, ABS, p/s, p/windows, alloy whls, cassette, airbag, p/b, p/seats, cruise, warranty avail, tilt, p/locks, rear def, leather, financ avail, 24,617 miles, Vin. X0323106, stock A3932, \$13,995.00
'00 Buick Century Factory warranty, auto, air cond, p/mirrors, tint glass, AM/FM stereo, ABS, p/s, p/windows, cassette, airbag, 6 cyl, p/b, p/seats, cruise, warranty avail, tilt, p/locks, rear def, financ avail, 29,000 mi, Vin. Y1168034, stock A4221, \$11,995.00	'98 GMC 7500 Dump truck, air cond, 8 cyl, financ avail, diesel engine, 60,315 mi, Vin. WJ515311, stock A4318, \$29,995.00	'00 BMW 328i Black saddle int, auto, air cond, p/mirrors, tint glass, AM/FM stereo, ABS, p/s, p/windows, sport whls, cassette, airbag, 6 cyl, p/b, p/seats, cruise, sunroof, CD player, warranty avail, tilt, p/locks, rear def, leather, financ avail, 18,340 mi, Vin. YGU20476, stock A4301, \$29,995.00	'97 Caddy Catera Moss roof, auto, air cond, p/mirrors, tint glass, AM/FM stereo, ABS, p/s, p/windows, alloy whls, cassette, airbag, 6 cyl, p/b, p/seats, cruise, sunroof, warranty avail, tilt, p/locks, rear def, leather, financ avail, 25,654 mi, Vin. UH930321, stock AS4294, \$10,995.00
'01 Mercedes S500 Factory warranty, auto, air cond, p/mirrors, tint glass, AM/FM stereo, ABS, p/s, p/windows, sport whls, cassette, airbag, 8 cyl, p/b, p/seats, cruise, sunroof, CD player, warranty avail, tilt, p/locks, rear def, financ avail, 23,332 mi, Vin. IA207710, stock A4303, \$58,995.00	'01 Mazda 626LX Factory warranty, auto, air cond, p/mirrors, tint glass, AM/FM stereo, ABS, p/s, p/windows, sport whls, cassette, airbag, 4 cyl, p/b, p/seats, cruise, CD player, warranty avail, tilt, p/locks, rear def, financ avail, 22,377 mi, Vin. 115239653, stock A4167, \$12,500.00	'00 Ford Focus 4-dr, auto, air cond, tint glass, AM/FM stereo, ABS, p/s, airbag, p/b, warranty avail, tilt, rear def, financ avail, 39,253 mi, Vin. YW391018, stock A4267, \$19,995.00	'99 Ford Explorer 4-dr auto, air cond, p/mirrors, tint glass, AM/FM stereo, 4X4, p/s, p/windows, sport whls, cassette, airbag, 6 cyl, p/b, cruise, warranty avail, tilt, p/locks, rear def, financ avail, 42,190 mi, Vin. XUB75945, stock A4297, \$12,995.00
'98 Pontiac Gran AM Auto, air cond, p/mirrors, tint glass, AM/FM stereo, ABS, p/s, p/windows, cassette, airbag, 6 cyl, p/b, p/seats, cruise, sunroof, CD player, warranty avail, tilt, p/locks, rear def, financ avail, 43,372 mi, Vin. VC856471, stock A4251, \$8,495.00	'01 Infiniti I30T Auto, air cond, p/mirrors, tint glass, AM/FM stereo, ABS, p/s, p/windows, sport whls, cassette, airbag, 6 cyl, p/b, p/seats, cruise, sunroof, CD player, warranty avail, tilt, p/locks, rear def, leather, financ avail, 30,978 mi, Vin. IT005362, stock A4290, \$23,995.00	'97 GMC Suburban SLT, auto, air cond, p/mirrors, tint glass, AM/FM stereo, ABS, 4X4, p/s, p/windows, alloy whls, cassette, airbag, 8 cyl, p/b, p/seats, cruise, CD player, warranty avail, tilt, p/locks, rear def, leather, financ avail, 67,784 mi, Vin. VJ755588, stock A4304, \$16,995.00	'00 Ford E-250 Ext. cargo van, auto, air cond, p/mirrors, tint glass, AM/FM stereo, ABS, airbag, 8 cyl, warranty avail, tilt, financ avail, 39,263 mi, Vin. YHB35938, stock A4037, \$15,995.00

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SILVERADO
2500 HD • 4X4 PICKUP
BUY FOR **\$23,498**

Std Equip Incl: 6.0L V-8, pwr strng/bkrs, u/gls, 8 ft bed, AIR, split frt cloth bench, Opt Equip Incl: auto OD trans, deep u/gls, locking diff, carpet, stereo, CD, roof rack, marker lamps, Snow Flow Prep Pkg, Trailer Pkg, Stk#584KT, VIN#2E26640, MSRP \$29,112. Incl. \$2000 factory rebate & \$400 GMAC Recent coll grad rebate if qual.

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SILVERADO
4X4 • EXTENDED CAB PICKUP
BUY FOR **\$18,698**

Std Equip Incl: 4300 V-6, auto OD trans, pwr strng/bkrs, 3rd door, AIR, split front bench, Opt Equip Incl: LS Trim, deep u/gls, mate, locking diff, alum whls, w/tires, stereo, CD, tilt, cruise, pwr wind/locks/mirr, side r/wind, trailer hitch, Stk#5788KT, VIN#26170861, MSRP \$24,180. Incl. \$3000 factory rebate & \$400 GMAC Recent coll grad rebate if qual.

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BUY FOR **\$23,498**

Std Equip Incl: 6.0L V-8, pwr strng/bkrs, u/gls, 8 ft bed, AIR, split frt cloth bench, Opt Equip Incl: auto OD trans, deep u/gls, locking diff, carpet, stereo, CD, roof rack, marker lamps, Snow Flow Prep Pkg, Trailer Pkg, Stk#584KT, VIN#2E26640, MSRP \$29,112. Incl. \$2000 factory rebate & \$400 GMAC Recent coll grad rebate if qual.

IMPALA
SEDAN
BUY FOR **\$16,799**

Std Equip Incl: V-6, auto OD trans, u/gls, AIR, pwr strng/bkrs/wind/locks/mirr/trunk, tilt, r/del, split frt bench, w/covers, cats, Opt Equip Incl: pwr seat, mate, cruise, Stk#3749F, VIN#3912648, MSRP \$21,715. Incl. \$2000 factory rebate, \$1000 Bonus Cash & \$750 Lease Loyalty rebate if qual.

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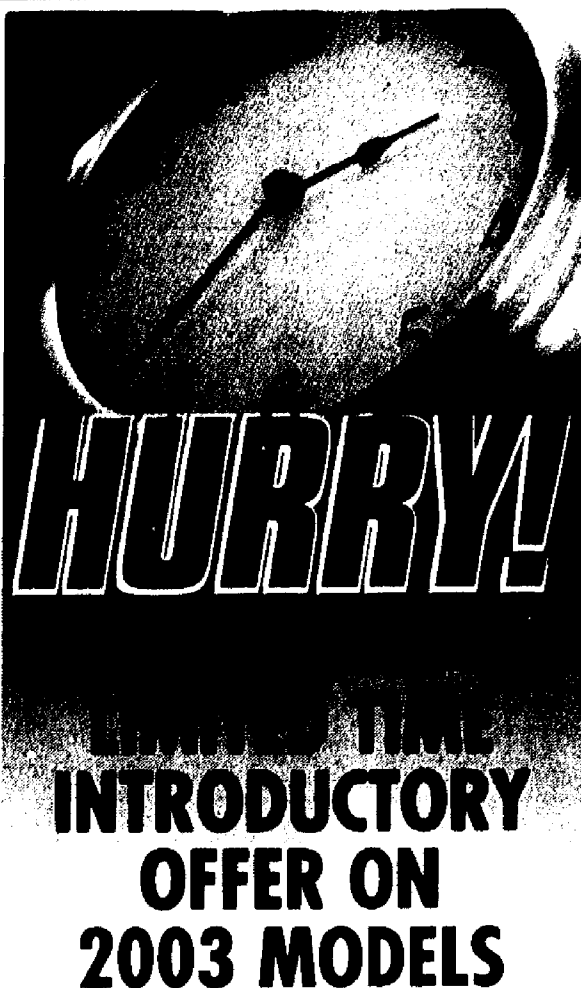
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STK #B8273, VIN #35107983, MSRP \$48,355. 48 mo
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Cust. Cash \$651 1st mo. pymt = \$1995 due at signing
subject to lender approval. Ttl pymt \$31,248. Ttl cost
\$32,582. Purch. opt. at lease end \$24,177.
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dual airbags, STK #8084, VIN #3D102190, MSRP \$27,404. Price
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leath bckt seats, theftlock, alum whls, info center, alarm,
compass, STK #A7788, VIN #29328489, MSRP
\$29,440. Price incl. \$3500 GM rebate.

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Brand New 2002 Chevy SUBURBAN
LS - 1500 - 4X4

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mode, trailering pkg, trans oil cooler, ONSTAR, whl opening
flrs, cargo drs, woi tires, STK #A6723, VIN #2G294189
MSRP \$40,854. Price incl. \$2000 GM rebate.

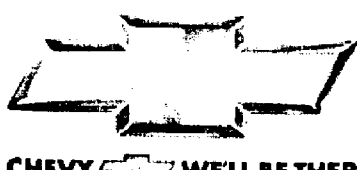
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Holiday Gift Guide



November
20, 21, 22

SUBURBAN NEWS
CRANFORD CHRONICLE • RECORD PRESS

Don't Miss The Latest Toy Trends For The Holidays

The holidays may be about gathering with loved ones to enjoy the magic of the season. But they're also about toys — lots of them. Chances are, your children have already compiled a holiday "wish list" featuring the latest and greatest toys and are counting down the days.

But how can you be sure which items are the most appropriate for your children? How do you keep track of what's "cool"?

To help you along on your mission for this year's hottest toys, the experts at Mattel have compiled some of their favorites into one list:

Many of this season's hottest toys and games are based on popular entertainment properties:

• **Harry Potter** — Kids can now make their own Polyjuice with the Polyjuice Potion™ Maker. While

their "magical" potions may not transform children into someone else, the set lets kids create real drinkable potions with multiple surprises like fizzing and color changes.

For maximum gross-out fun, check out the new Slime Chamber Playset, featuring a giant slime oozing snake statue that kids can use to drop glow-in-the-dark slime on their favorite characters.

The Whomping Willow Game brings to life all the fun of Harry and Ron's thrilling adventures with the spirited willow tree. Players try and remove baggage from the tree's limbs without getting whumped!

• **"Are you ready kids?"** — Get set for nautical nonsense with the Eye-Poppin' SpongeBob Squarepants™ talking character. He talks and sings with a jiggle and a flick of a switch. Squeeze him and

watch his eyes pop out of his head. The soft, squishy Babblin' SpongeBob Squarepants™ comes to life with outrageously funny phrases and interactive play. Children will be entertained for hours singing along to the television theme, listening to SpongeBob's wacky phrases and silly voice, flapping lips and contagious laughter.

• **Classic hero returns** — One of the greatest action heroes returns for an entirely new generation of kids and collectors. Re-create the exciting Masters of the Universe™ storylines with He-Man™ and his heroic friends who defend the land of Eternia™ from Skeletor™ and his evil henchmen. The heroic warriors assortment includes He-Man — the most powerful man in the universe — who comes with his signature power sword and battle-axe. When his torso is twisted, his waist automatically twists back to center, giving him a powerful punch. Other figures include, Man-At-Arms®, Stratos®, BattleCat® and Skeletor®.

The figures can interact in the Castle Grayskull® Playset, utilizing an innovative tag reader system that can read a chip found in all of Mattel's six-inch Masters of the Universe® figures. The castle has separate reader zones that can either recognize figures and provide appropriate sounds or activate features in certain areas.



CHECK YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING LIST twice for the latest and greatest toys for children.

• **Yu-Gi-Oh!™** — Fans of the animated television series will have loads of fun with two action figure assortments that includes Yugi Seto Kaiba, and Maximus Pegasus.

Deluxe Blue Eyes White Dragon and Exodia for Forbidden One.

Some of the best toys are the classics, from games to race cars to the latest in stunt action toys.

• **Feel the need for speed** — Planet Hot Wheels™ Energy Cars offers cool 1:64 scale vehicles with a special code that is the key to an out-of-this-world experience. Children can enter the code on planethotwheels.com and unlock a world of customization, collecting and winning cool prizes.

Kids will also have loads of fun racing their cars on the Octoblast™ Track Set which combines the excitement of high-speed racing with the thrill of competition. Kids power up the high-speed four-way booster and race through the twisted tentacles of the octopus. They control the action as they try to blast the octopus sky high, while trying to avoid being tossed off the track.

To celebrate its 50th birthday, Matchbox created a special collection of 50 vehicles, representing each state in the union with fun decorations commemorating a key state feature or fact.

• **The sound of music** — Add music to your game plan with Disney's new "Wonderful World of Music" individually or work together to answer trivia questions about classic Walt Disney tunes and move across a game board.

• **Futuristic fun** — Children can enjoy classic favorites new millennium style with games like "Electronic Super KerPlunk!" taking the fun of the original "don't let the marbles fall" game to a super new level. An additional level of connectors from which players remove sticks adds new possibilities for skill and strategy — not to mention quick hands!

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Share Holiday Photos

In no time at all, the holidays will be here and parties, get-togethers with friends and celebrations with family will creep their way into your calendar. Along with the excitement and fun holiday festivities bring there are plenty of opportunities to capture cherished memories on film. With your trusty camera in



ENSURE FAMILY MEMORIES are preserved on film. Learn the tips for spectacular photos.

hand, get ready to memorialize all those special moments. But how do you make sure your pictures turn out as memorable as the celebration? Here are some pointers from the experts at Pacific Image Electronics.

- **Rely on candid** — Candid shots allow you as a photographer to capture the true essence of a person and the moment. Staged or posed shots can leave you with an album full of static poses. Plus, when people don't know they are being photographed, they are far less self-conscious. You just might be able to snap a shot of your photo-shy and elusive Uncle Dave!

- **Watch your lighting** — Make sure your light source is behind you (not your subjects) when snapping photos. This way

you'll avoid the washed out "halo" effect or the silhouette that often occurs when your subject poses in front of a sunny window.

- **Steer clear of mirrors** — You may end up with your reflection in the photo or a large flash spot.

- **Share the memories** — Reliving this holiday season's highlights and sharing them with family and friends is easy with the PrimeFilm 1800AFL film scanner. Create digital copies of your 35mm film and slides, e-mail photos to friends and relatives and create digital photo albums in a snap.

With 1800-dpi resolution, 42-bit color mode and 3.2 dynamic range you can produce lifelike color reproduction to preserve every photographic detail. The scanner is able to capture over 4.2 mega pixels, which lets you make 8.5 inch by 11 inch prints with better quality than the original prints.

You can also retouch damaged photos and digitize your film to post on the Internet while maintaining the highest photo quality possible.

The automatic film loader allows you to load a roll or strip of film and walk away while the scanner does its work. The entire family will enjoy creating a digital photo album that can be shared via e-mail, Internet or prints for many years to come.

Pacific Image products are available at photographic specialty and major retailers throughout the United States, including

Costco.com, Bestbuy.com, RadioShack.com, Costco Warehouses in Canada, CompUSA, Micro Center, Fry's, B&H Photo, Tiger Direct, Vstore, Technobrand and Cendant's Club. For more photo ideas, visit www.scanace.com.



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2002 Downtown Holiday Events Calendar
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2002

12:00 Noon - 2:00 PM - Photos with Santa

MotoPhoto Portrait Studio, 251 North Avenue

Sponsored by the Downtown Westfield Corporation

Free \$17 with donation of 2 cans of non-perishable food for the Westfield Food Pantry.

5:00 PM Annual Tree Lighting and Santa's Arrival

North Avenue Train Station Parking Lot

The Mayor will light the town Christmas Tree and Santa arrives on the Westfield Fire Truck.

Music provided by the Westfield Community Band.

Information: Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce (908) 233-3021

5:00 PM - 9:00 PM Westfield Winter Stroll

Streets in Downtown Westfield, NJ

Holiday fun shopping night with babysitting at the Westfield "Y".

Holiday shopping at participating stores raises funds to support school programs through

The Education Fund of Westfield, Inc. Entertainment, The Watson Highlander Bagpipe Band,

Escape - Women's Barbershop Quartet and Musicians from NJ Workshop for the Arts,

is sponsored by Downtown Westfield Corporation; Information (908) 232-2693

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2002

9:15 AM and 1:45 PM Santa Claus Train Ride

Westfield Train Station - Eastbound Platform (off of South Avenue)

Sponsored by Jersey Central Railway Historical Society, \$12 adults, \$10 children under 12;

Information (908) 781-1896 or www.jcrhs.org; 2 hour ride to Hightbridge, NJ with Santa Claus,

Mrs. Claus along with a few of Santa's helpers giving out candy canes,

coloring books, crayons and one HO Train Set prize per train car.

Tickets available at Brunner's Opticians, 100 East Broad Street, Westfield, NJ; (908) 233-1221

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM "Deck the Halls" House Tour

Meet at 1000 North Avenue - Westfield Community Players

Sponsored by the Rake and Hoe Garden Club; Tickets \$25 in advance/30 at the door;

Four homes plus Holiday Boutique; Information (908) 654-4590; (908) 232-6542

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM The Watson Highlanders Bagpipe Band

Bagpipers and drummers will perform traditional festive music throughout downtown Westfield

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Yuletide Carolers

Carolers dressed in "Dickens" attire will stroll through downtown Westfield entertaining shoppers

12:00 Noon - 2:00 PM Escape - Women's Barbershop Quartet

Barbershop harmony group will perform throughout downtown Westfield

Musicians from NJ Workshop for the Arts will also perform throughout the day

Saturday Performances - Sponsored by Downtown Westfield Corporation

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM The Watson Highlanders Bagpipe Band

Bagpipers and drummers will perform traditional festive music throughout downtown Westfield

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Yuletide Carolers

Carolers dressed in "Dickens" attire will stroll through downtown Westfield entertaining shoppers

12:00 Noon - 2:00 PM Escape - Women's Barbershop Quartet

Barbershop harmony group will perform throughout downtown Westfield

Musicians from NJ Workshop for the Arts will also perform throughout the day

Saturday Performances - Sponsored by Downtown Westfield Corporation

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM The Watson Highlanders Bagpipe Band

Bagpipers and drummers will perform traditional festive music throughout downtown Westfield

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Yuletide Carolers

Carolers dressed in "Dickens" attire will stroll through downtown Westfield entertaining shoppers

12:00 Noon - 2:00 PM Escape - Women's Barbershop Quartet

Barbershop harmony group will perform throughout downtown Westfield

Musicians from NJ Workshop for the Arts will also perform throughout the day

Saturday Performances - Sponsored by Downtown Westfield Corporation

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

7:30 PM "Puttin' On The Ritz, The Music Of Irving Berlin, America's Songwriter"

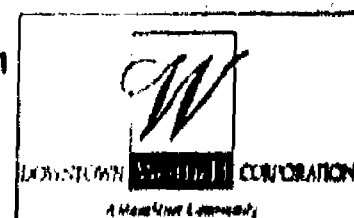
The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, 140 Mountain Avenue - Sanctuary

The music of Irving Berlin will be performed by the young talent & professionals of WYACT as well as members of the Westfield Symphony Orchestra; Donations \$25 for adults and \$12 for children under 14. For tickets call Westfield Symphony Orchestra; (908) 232-9400; Information (908) 233-3200 (WYACT)

(Proceeds benefit WYACT's free Summer Youth - Theatre Program)

For a Comprehensive Calendar of Holiday Events or additional information on Westfield, NJ, please check Downtown Westfield Corporation's website

at: <http://westfieldnj.ataclick.com> or call the office at (908) 789-9444.



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H-Power Equals Smart Holiday Fun For All Ages

Decades ago, when people imagined the twenty-first century, they started with electronics, computers and things like flying cars. Fast forward to the year 2002. Computers? Check. High-power electronics? Check. Flying cars? Well, not just yet. However, children of all ages can still enjoy building and operating a unique model car of the future: a small, hydrogen-powered vehicle that runs on water.

"The reversible fuel cell both splits water into hydrogen and

oxygen and then becomes the car's engine. It is truly state-of-the-art," says Jane A. Holdsworth, founder and president of Rhode Island-based Thames & Kosmos, whose Fuel Cell Car and Experiment Kit took off earlier this year in United States and Canadian specialty toy, science and hobby stores as well as with major catalog and on retailers.

Too hi-tech for a toy? The customer base for such smart products is growing. "We see a rise in

home-schooling families, parents seeking intelligent toys, and teachers interested in bringing cutting-edge technologies into the classroom," Holdsworth says. "In addition, there are a growing number of people, age 20 and up, who spend their free time experimenting with science toys, especially those that use intriguing technologies."

"Children have fun building and racing the cars and experimenting with the efficiencies of the power generation," Holdsworth says. "Teachers at many levels are using it in their classrooms. For example, the kit appeals to middle school science teachers as well as to those who teach high school chemistry. Several colleges and universities are

also using the cars in engineering and materials science classes. Additionally, there are hundreds of professional engineers and tinkerers playing with this kit."

Here's how it works: Fill the fuel cell and storage tanks with water; charge a solar panel with sunlight (or a lamp) to activate electrolysis, the process by which the water separates into hydrogen and oxygen. When the gas tanks are full, detach the solar panel, and use the hydrogen to power the car.

Although it requires solar energy to initiate the electrolysis, the fuel cell car, unlike strictly solar model cars, can store energy for use at a later time. The fuel cell enables the vehicle to store solar energy, so the car can run

day or night.

The kit is also the ideal joint project for parents and children. It's easy-to-read, color manual provides a rigorous but user-friendly series of experiments for families to explore together. Children start out with learning how to use a digital multimeter to measure voltage and current and then experiment with solar energy, electrolysis and finally with fuel cells. The manual integrates math and science as well as provides an interesting historical perspective, including the fact that fuel cells were invented in the mid-1800s.

"It's important for students, as well as the lay public, to become familiar with state-of-the-art technologies. With the Fuel Cell Car and Experiment Kit children learn how fuel cells can help solve critical problems in the world's energy supply. It gets everybody thinking about the possibilities. In the process of doing something relevant to the real world, they learn the basic concepts in physics and chemistry," Holdsworth added.

The Fuel Cell Car and Experiment Kit is one 60 science kits under development by Thames & Kosmos. Watch for their newest introduction later this year, a companion kit called Power House. It is available at Thames & Kosmos store in Newport, R.I., online at www.thamesandkosmos.com, in select electronics, science, toy and hobby stores, and in museum shops and specialty catalogs.



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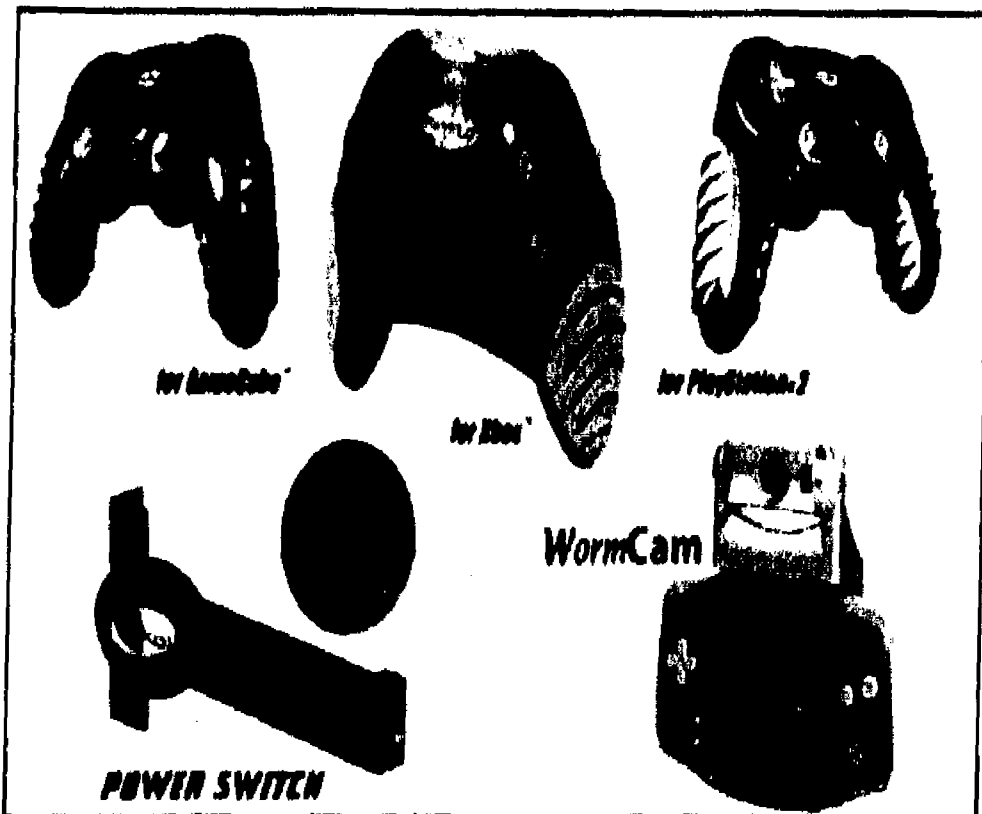
Outstanding sound, great looks, a great value. Set includes 14x22" bass drum, 5.5x14" snare drum, 8x12" and 9x13" toms, and 16x16" floor tom. Hardware includes hi-hat stand, cymbal stand, double tom holder, snare stand, and bass drum pedal. Black or Wine Red finishes. Cymbals include hi-hat pair and 16" crash cymbal.

Acoustic Guitars from \$29.95 Easy Play Keyboards from \$99.99

Check Out Cool Gifts For The Video Game Enthusiast On The List

Can't find the perfect gift for the gaming enthusiast on your list? Nyko Technologies has some of the coolest — and most original — holiday gifts this season for the gamer that likes to have the newest products with the latest cutting-edge technology.

An ideal gift for gamers who play their favorite video games for hours on end, Nyko's Air Flo controller solves the problem of sweaty hands — a common pet peeve of many gamers. The world's first air-cooled controller, the patented dual-speed Air Flo technology provides gamers with a consistent flow of fresh air through the controller grips to end problematic sweaty hands and allow for more comfortable game play. Made for Sony Playstation 2, Nintendo GameCube and Microsoft Xbox, the controllers offer dual-speed airflow settings for customized ventilation, an on/off switch — in case the players' hands get too cold — and is powered by the gaming system itself so there is



THE LATEST VIDEO game accessories this season make perfect stocking stuffers for the gamer in the family.

no need for batteries. The Nintendo GameCube and Sony Playstation 2 controllers retail for \$24.99 and the Microsoft Xbox controller retails for \$29.99.

This holiday, introduce your Game Boy-obsessed gift recipient to the art of photography with the all-new WormCam from Nyko. The first color digital camera for Nintendo Game Boy Advance, the product attaches easily to the top of the Game Boy and allows users to take, view and edit color pictures directly on the screen. At just \$39.99, the WormCam is the most affordable color digital camera on the market.

Appealing to the international spy in everyone, the WormCam's unique "spycam" mode allows pictures to be taken while the camera is unattended in two modes, either by motion detection or time-lapse photography. The WormCam can store up to 22 pictures, which can then be edited on the Game Boy Advance screen or uploaded to a computer for editing or e-mailing to friends. The WormCam also comes with a USB computer link cable and imaging software.

Instead of sipping eggnog, the aspiring racecar drivers in the family prefer to turn on the Sony Playstation 2 for a little competi-

tion. The only problem? To turn the console on and off they have to stretch to the back of the console to reach the power switch, often knocking several things over in the process! This holiday, make life a little easier with Nyko's Power Switch Relocator. This great stocking stuffer solves another one of gamers' pet peeves by relocating the Playstation 2 power switch to the front of the system for easy access. Specially engineered to match the system, the convenient button relocation is perfect for hard-to-reach entertainment centers.

The Power Switch Relocator, available for \$9.99, reduces the risk of overheating and excessive power consumption by powering off the game system itself.

Nyko also offers plenty of other great holiday gifts and stocking stuffers, such as lighting devices, controllers, memory cards and other accessories, for all major gaming systems like Nintendo GameCube, Sony Playstation 2, Xbox and Game Boy Advance. These products are available at electronic, software, chain and toy stores nationwide.

Belleek China Representative To Appear At Hynes Jewelers

Belleek Parian China, a product of Ireland, will be brought to life at Hynes Jewelers by Helen Elliott, Belleek Promotions Executive, as part of a nationwide tour being conducted throughout the United States.

Elliott will share her Irish hospitality with customers during a special appearance at Hynes Jewelers in Cranford on Dec. 6, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. She will demonstrate how Belleek giftware is hand-crafted and delicately painted, identify and date antique Belleek pieces, share creative gift-giving and entertaining ideas and personalize gift purchases for customers. The public is invited to learn more about the beauty of owning and collecting Belleek, Ireland's most beautiful porcelain. The Belleek Collectors' Society offers admirers and collectors an opportunity to actively develop their interest in Belleek.

Belleek Parian China, coveted and collected worldwide for generations, celebrates a 144-year tradition of hand-crafting the world's most translucent china. The complete line of Belleek products is distributed in the U.S. exclusively by Reed & Barton through its headquarters in Taunton, MA. Founded in 1824, Reed & Barton is one of America's oldest silver companies whose 176-year tradition of excellence has earned it an outstanding reputation worldwide.

For more information call Hynes Jewelers, 2 Eastman St., Cranford at (908) 272-0785.

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Historic Hetfield House
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Saturday, December 7	10 AM - 5 PM
Sunday, December 8	12 NOON - 5 PM
Friday, December 13	5 PM - 9 PM
Saturday, December 14	10 AM - 5 PM
Sunday, December 15	12 NOON - 5 PM

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Taking A Trip? Avoid Holiday Woes With Travel Insurance

Many opt to travel during this time of year, getting away from their work day routine for a few magical days or weeks. For others, a trip can be a spectacular holiday gift. Whatever your reason for taking off, as you pack your swimsuit, walking shoes and toiletries, it pays to take a few moments to consider your level of preparedness in case of a health or medical emergency. Emergencies are rare, but you could be caught in a situation where your health coverage does not travel as far as your passport does.

The simple fact is that many international travelers do not have appropriate insurance protection. Government sponsored health programs like Medicare almost never cover care received in a foreign country. Even if

you're traveling on business, you may have significant gaps in your coverage. Employer-sponsored plans often limit overseas coverage to emergency care only (and the burden will be on you to prove it's an emergency). Emergency medical evacuation is almost never covered.

Why is insurance critical for international travel?

Obtaining healthcare in certain parts of the world can be tricky. Some hospitals won't provide any treatment or won't allow a patient to be discharged until the hospital has received a guarantee of payment. Such guarantees are commonly provided by travel insurers in conjunction with assistance providers, but rarely by other



BEFORE YOU TAKEOFF on your holiday adventures, remember to verify if your health insurance coverage protects you overseas.

insurers or managed care plans. This means you may have to pay in advance — perhaps thousands of dollars — with your credit card, presuming, of course, the hospital accepts foreign credit cards and yours can cover the cost.

In addition, leaving a foreign

locale, either for a place with higher quality medical care or to return home where your regular insurance is accepted, can be pose its own measure of difficulty. Medical evacuations are tricky to arrange and there are some air ambulance providers who should be avoided. Even

worse, some local authorities may have financial ties to certain evacuation companies.

Most travel insurance includes a medical assistance benefit, which gives you 24-hour, year-round access to a company that will arrange an evacuation for you with a credible evacuation company or, through their medical personnel, can help assure that you're getting appropriate treatment locally. The assistance company will also be available to help with other travel related problems like legal troubles, lost passports or credit cards, etc.

There are the three major types of coverage. Most travel insurance providers offer at least two of the three:

1. Supplemental health/accident insurance. Generally pays for doctor and hospital bills, and sometimes dental care and medications. Preventive care, like an annual physical, is typically excluded.

2. Medical Evacuation. This is key. Evacuations can be expensive (as much as \$50,000 or more from a remote location).

3. Trip cancellation/interruption. These types of coverage protect you financially in the event you have to cancel or interrupt your trip for medical reasons. For example, say you purchase a \$5,000 cruise but can't take it because of personal illness or an illness in the family. Depending on when you cancel, a significant portion of the \$5,000 may be nonrefundable. This type of insurance will reimburse you. This protection is typically unnecessary for business travel, so before your next trip, carefully consider travel insurance.

HTH Worldwide provides global health and security information and insurance services for travelers. For more information, visit www.travelhealthinsurance.com or call HTH Worldwide at (888) 243-2358.

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A Fun, New Alternative To Humdrum Stocking Stuffers

With every age group, and interest in mind, entertainment inspired games will be your best find for novel stocking stuffers.

Fun For Kids

• "Stuart Little 2," for the Nintendo Game Boy Advance, puts players in the role of the loveable can-do star as they run, dodge, jump, drive, skateboard and even fly in their quest to solve the disappearances of Stuart's new best friend, Margalo and Mrs. Little's wedding ring.

• In Disney's "Tarzan: Return to the Jungle," also for the Game Boy Advance players take on the role of Tarzan as both a young boy and an adult, adapting to the ways of the jungle and overcoming its most dangerous perils. Swing into the fun as Tarzan searches for the Fountain of Youth, protects his animal friends from evil poachers and discovers The Lost Valley of the Dinosaurs.

Church To Host Santa's Workshop For Children

SPRINGFIELD—Come to Santa's workshop at Springfield Presbyterian Church on Dec. 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Children can create gifts for family, friends and teachers. This event is open to children aged 5-13. Call the church office at (973) 379-4320 to put a child's name on Santa's "helper list." Only the first 40 children will make the list. There is a \$5 charge for this Yuletide activity to help pay for craft supplies and refreshments.

The church is located at 37 Church Mall.

• Inspired by the Revolution Studios action hit starring Vin Diesel of "The Fast and the Furious" fame, "XXX" (for Game Boy Advance) allows players to enter the world of underground thriller-seeker-turned spy Xander Cage and engage in fast-paced motorcycle and shooting action through 11 challenging levels of gameplay, featuring a cool arsenal of high-tech weapons and gadgetry.

• Inspired by the Revolution Studios action hit starring Vin Diesel of "The Fast and the Furious"

fame, "XXX" (for Game Boy Advance) allows players to enter the world of underground thriller-seeker-turned spy Xander Cage and engage in fast-paced motorcycle and shooting action through 11 challenging levels of gameplay, featuring a cool arsenal of high-tech weapons and gadgetry.

Adults and Teens

• "Minority Report" lets players assume the role of the movie's hero, Precrime Officer John Anderton, the head of an elite police squad that predicts

and apprehends murderers before the crimes can be committed. When Anderton is accused of a pre-murder, he's forced to elude the law to prove his innocence and uncover an insidious conspiracy in the process. The game is available for the Sony Playstation 2 computer entertainment system, the Microsoft X-Box video game system, Nintendo Game Cube and Game Boy Advance.

• After players save the world from evil, families can conquer space together in "Star Trek

Starfleet Command III®", a starship tactical simulation set in "Star Trek: The Next Generation®" timeline. The game surrounds the events of a new Federation/

Klingon space station and a Romulan conspiracy designed to drive a wedge between the two great empires. Available for the PC, the game offers a number of new features over its predecessors including improved graphics, ship customization, more in-depth story missions and a streamlined control system.

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Sports Games Offer High-Flying Fun For The Holidays

While football and baseball will never go out of style, today's teens are gravitating toward individual sports like skateboarding, biking and surfing that offer a creative alternative to team sports. You may not recognize names like Tony Hawk, Mat Hoffman and Kelly Slater, but these legendary action sports athletes are influencing teen agers across America to take to the vert, dirt and water for an adrenaline rush that can't be captured in an arena.

This holiday season, Ameri-

ca's action sports fans can play as their favorite athletes in three new video games: Tony Hawk's Pro Skater™, Mat Hoffman's Pro BMX™ and Kelly Slater's Pro Surfer™. Featuring the most legendary figures in their respective sports, these games let players pull off hundreds of big air tricks and stunts from the comfort of their living rooms.

The legacy of legendary athlete Tony Hawk lives on with Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 4. Building on the success of the renowned franchise and available for the Sony Playstation® 2

computer entertainment system, the Xbox video game system from Microsoft, Nintendo GameCube and Game Boy Advance, this newest edition gives players a glimpse into the real-life experience of becoming a top skater. Featuring a new free-roaming career mode, the player earns respect and pro status by conquering a skater-specific Pro Challenge — before opening an entirely new set of difficult Pro Goals.

Gamers can also go big as ten-time World Vert Champion Mat Hoffman, or any of the greatest riders of all time in the ultimate bike game, Mat Hoffman's Pro BMX. Continuing in the tradition of the original, the game delivers an over-the-top gaming experience that lets players perform hundreds of tricks and

combos using a new trick tweaking system, as they embark on the immersive Road Trip, Single Session or Free Ride game modes. Players can also compete against their friends in a number of two-player modes. Amazing new flatland tricks add to the authenticity and fun factor of the game. The game is available for the Playstation® 2, the Microsoft Xbox, Nintendo GameCube and Game Boy Advance. (The console games are rated "T" for Teen and the hand-held version is rated "E" for Everyone by the ESRB).

Players can ride like six-time world champion Kelly Slater or as one of eight of the most accomplished pro surfers of all time as they search for the perfect wave in Kelly Slater's Pro Surfer. Featuring a huge variety



ADD CRAFTY NEW TWIST to the holiday atocking. Let your imagination run wild as with any number of wonderful ideas for holiday stockings. A Christmas tradition, stockings can be used for any of the winter holidays. Wrap one up in pretty tissue paper and give as a house-warming gift or home for a child's favorite doll or stuffed animal. Revive an old sweater by making a stocking from its prettiest parts. Designed from different sweater styles, it takes no time at all. Stockings made from cardigans (center and right) need no embellishment.

of challenges, tricks and real-world environments with ultra realistic wave conditions and intuitive controls, the game delivers the adrenaline action of surfing and the rush surfers feel when dropping in on a wave. The game is available for the Playstation 2, Xbox, Nintendo GameCube and Game Boy Advance video game systems.

Seeing Eye's Holiday Cards Available

Spread the warmth of the season with The Seeing Eye 2002 holiday card. This year's card depicts three regal Seeing Eye dogs in profile, donned in festive scarves as they sit on a snow-covered mountain. The inside greeting reads, "Warmest Wishes for the Holiday Season."

Cards come boxed, 20 cards and envelopes per box. Each box costs \$15.

For order information, call (973) 539-4425, ext. 1862. Cards are also available for purchase at the front desk of the Seeing Eye on Washington Valley Road in Morristown, Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; cash or checks only.

Since its founding in 1929, The Seeing Eye has matched more than 13,000 specially bred and trained Seeing Eye dogs with blind and visually impaired individuals, enhancing their independence, dignity and self-confidence. A philanthropy, The Seeing Eye receives no government aid and is supported through the generosity of its members.

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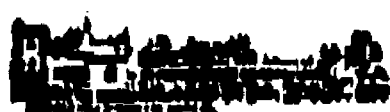
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Finishing Tips For Fast Holiday Projects

How do those elves do it? How do they churn out millions of train sets, rocking horses and other gifts, all beautifully hand-crafted and delivered on time? Sure, those little guys have organization and experience on their side (not to mention a whole year to prepare), but they probably also count on paints and finishes for fast, no-fail projects. While you don't have a year to prepare, here are some tips to help you create your own signature look for your home and holiday gifts from the experts at Krylon®.

The Christmas tree is the star of the season and handmade ornaments are especially cherished. To make your own, purchase inexpensive, clear glass ornaments or glass shapes, available at your local craft store, and dress them up with Krylon® Glass Paints. The easy-to-use, spray-on finishes include the warm glow of Stained Glass Color in six holiday hues; the soft shimmer of Frosted Glass Finish in colors like pearl, red and green; and Looking Glass™ Mirror-Like Paint.

For a more personal touch, use your imagination to create themed ornaments. Does someone have a new baby? Spray paint baby shoes or a rattle with Krylon® Metallic Finishes and add a satin ribbon for hanging. Is someone on your gift list a gourmet cook? Spray paint inexpensive kitchen utensils to add a novel, sparkling touch to the

tree. Fishing bobbers painted silver, gold and copper are stunning — and surprising — ornaments. For newlyweds, paint a champagne glass with mirror-like paint for a dazzling, reflective ornament.

If you're really short of time, do what the elves do — purchase ready-made ornaments and personalize them with Krylon® Leafing Pens. Use premium, metallic pens to add names, dates and holiday motifs. For more colorful embellishments, try Krylon® Short Cuts® Hobby/Craft Paint Pens in 20 different colors.

For an easy decorating idea, use the finished ornaments to dress up the house: pile them in a glass bowl; glue or wire them to a wreath; or hang in windows, from a mantel or staircase railing.

Once the tree is decorated, think creatively about what goes under the tree. Shop for gently used treasures that in just a few hours can be transformed into one-of-a-kind gifts that won't break your budget. What mom-to-be wouldn't cherish a refurbished rocker? Or maybe a newly painted table and chair set would delight a little niece or nephew. A first-time homeowner would love the coffee table or bookcase you custom-painted in one easy afternoon. Other gift-giving finds include lamps, vases, planters, baskets, desk accessories, picture frames, end tables and bureaus. Compatible

with almost any surface, Krylon® Home Décor™ latex spray paints are easily up to the task. The paints require minimal surface preparation, clean up with soap and water and have a pleasing floral scent — ideal for indoor, wintertime projects.

Once gifts are finished here's an easy tip for creating inexpensive wrapping paper. Krylon® Webbing Spray in gold and silver adds holiday elegance to inexpensive brown or white craft paper. Or, make custom wrap last with holiday stencils and spray paint. Don't forget the matching gift cards, greeting cards and thank-you notes.

Glitter Sprays from Krylon® will add a flourish to all of your projects. Available in five shimmering colors, the paints dry quickly and are suitable for almost any surface. Spray on

ornaments, gift wrap, holiday cards, scrapbooks, wreaths, centerpieces, even your tree (be sure to cover areas you don't want glittered).

Here's one more hint from the

North Pole — teamwork makes it more fun. This year, start a new tradition and gather together with family and friends to share an afternoon of crafting and decorating.



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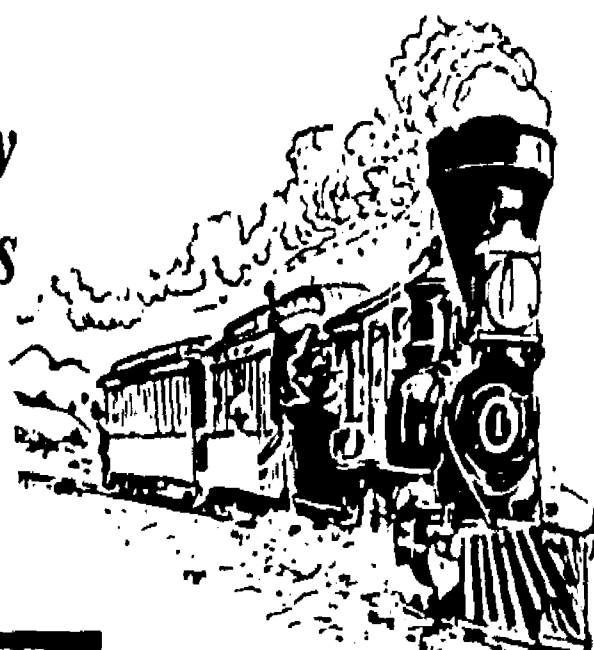
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Enjoy A Happy, Healthy Holiday With Pets

As the holiday season approaches, many of us are wondering how we'll spend the time with our loved ones. Increasingly, this means making special plans for our furry friends. More than ever, Americans are filling stockings with new chew toys, baking pet-friendly treats, and dressing their pets in the colors of the season.

No matter how you choose to involve your pet in the holidays, there are some basic guidelines for keeping them safe and happy. As a service to pet owners and

their animal companions, the ASPCA issues a yearly list of holiday safety suggestions. Among the tips:

- Don't give your pets leftovers. Abrupt changes in your pet's diet can cause severe stomach distress, leading to vomiting and diarrhea. In addition, poultry bones splinter and can get caught in your pet's throat or digestive tract and popular chocolate treats are poisonous. If you want to give your dog or cat a taste of the holiday, serve them plain small portions of meat

without sauces or spices and fresh veggies. Keep everything else — especially alcohol, chocolate, coffee, onions, yeast dough, salt, and spoiled or moldy food out of reach.

- Do set aside a safe and quiet space for your pet during the commotion of the season, especially if you are expecting guests. Holiday crowds and noise can frighten many animals. Your friendly pooch may become snappish and defensive due to all of the confusion. Cats, being creatures of habit, are especially vulnerable and may show their dissatisfaction by failing to use the litter box.

- Don't trim your home with poisonous plants and other decorations that can be harmful to your pets. Holly, ivy, mistletoe, and poinsettias can be poisonous, and candles and loose wiring can attract curious pets.

- Do let your cat or dog romp through wrapping paper and boxes, but remove ribbons, yarn, and aluminum foil first. If you let

your pet play with shopping bags, be sure to cut away the handles, which can choke small pets.

- Don't make your tree and attractive climbing post for your cat. Position your tree on a wide, flat, and stable base, and anchor the tree to a window or wall using fishing line. Always be sure to decorate with animal-safe items such as dried flowers, pine cones, or fabric and wood ornaments and avoid using popcorn strands, ribbons, tinsel, and glass ornaments, which can all be deadly if swallowed.

- Do provide fresh water for your pet at all times and be sure to keep cats and dogs away from Christmas tree water, which can contain fertilizers and bacteria that can upset your pet's stomach. Simply covering the bottom of your tree with a skirt or cloth can prevent problems.

- Don't let your pets drink or walk through a puddle of antifreeze. Anti-freeze has a pleasant taste, but can cause

rapid and permanent kidney damage even if your pet drinks a very small amount. Clean any spills right away and store antifreeze in a tightly closed container and out of reach.

- Do include your pet on short trips if your pet travels well, but avoid flying with them. The ASPCA claims that over 5000 pets are injured or killed each year because of air travel, mostly due to dehydration and extreme temperatures. No matter how you reach your destination, be sure your pet is wearing a collar with your 10-digit phone number and if you are traveling by car, give your pet enough room to move around, such as in a roomy pet carrier; don't allow pets into the front seats of your car where they can be injured in an accident; stop every few hours for your pets exercise and bathroom needs; and provide enough water to prevent dehydration.

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Frugal Holiday Fun For The Entire Family

There are a dozen and one ways to celebrate the holidays frugally — that is, without spending an arm, a leg and three ribs to buy gifts for family and friends.

One of the easiest areas in which to save money during the holidays is entertainment. Parties are fun, but expensive — and messy. But the truth is, there are so many free or very frugal holiday celebrations that you don't have to spend much money on them at all. Here are some ideas:

- Parades — They're free and loads of fun. Packed with tourists and other frugal-minded folks, take your own hot chocolate and snacks and have a ball.

- Town celebrations — Many towns have an opening ceremony to kick off the season. These can include anything from a great tree-trimming party to free, outdoors concerts by local musicians and choirs.

- Grab the kids and the neighbors and take a walking or driving tour of local decorations.

- Watch the local paper or church bulletins for plays, parties and special services during the holidays.

- Volunteer opportunities abound, but if none of them suit you, make your own. Go caroling at a retirement home; send greetings anonymously to someone in prison or the armed forces; help an elderly or disabled neighbor or friend decorate their homes.

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Learn How To Choose The Right Doll For Your Child

Perhaps it was handmade from fabric scraps and given to you by your grandmother, or a sparkling new delight that greeted you one holiday morning. Maybe it was loved by an older sister before she passed it on to you. Think back —there was probably a special doll who was your constant companion through childhood. You'll no doubt want your youngsters to experience the same joy and comfort dolls brought to you. The trouble is, many are not made to withstand a child's active lifestyle. But how do you find the right doll for your child? Following are a few pointers from the doll experts at Corolle.

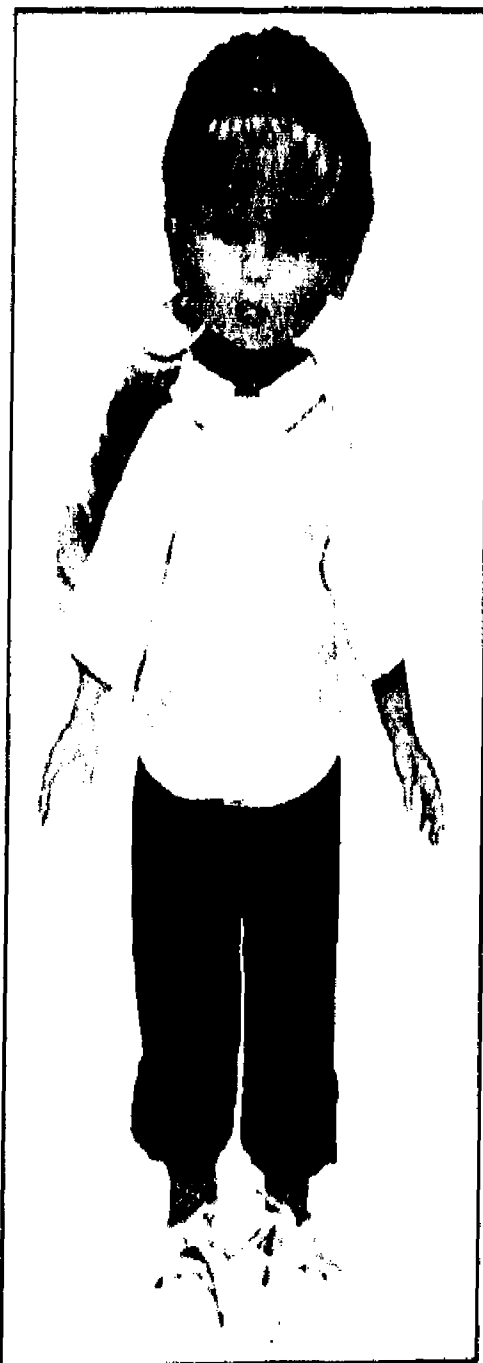
Construction

Children develop a strong bond with their doll, so whichever one you choose should be able to withstand the rigors of play. If you have an active child, you may want a doll with a sealed vinyl body. This will guarantee durability when your little one takes her in the bathtub, pool or decides that they should share lunch. A soft-bodied doll is good for cuddling and may be a better choice for younger children.

The size and weight of the doll are also important factors to consider. Ideally, a doll should correspond to the length of the forearm and the extended fingers of the child, so that it can be easily cradled in the crook of the arm. The weight should be proportionate to that of the child. For example, Corolle baby dolls weigh on average about 1 to 1 1/2 pounds.

Characteristics

Nowadays, there are almost as many dolls on the market as there are children to play with them. Caucasian, Hispanic, and



African-American dolls are available from "preemie" all the way to toddler-age to suit every child.

Choose a doll designed for your child's age — this way your child can mix and match clothing with a friend. If your little one

prefers to play "House," choose a baby who needs true affection. A doll that features designer clothing and a host of accessories

will keep budding collectors busy for hours.

One manufacturer that specializes in finely-crafted and unique dolls is Corolle, the leading French doll manufacturer. Attention to detail is evident in the quality of these dolls. Each doll is designed to resemble real children's faces, with authentically sculpted facial expressions — including dimples and freckles. Plus, the dolls are durable and many are machine washable — with the exception of those

with wigs or all-vinyl bodies. All dolls are hand-washable with the exception of those with a mechanism included inside. Corolle dolls are also lightly scented with vanilla so when your little one cuddles tight, she is rewarded with a pleasant aroma.

For more information on finding a Corolle retailer near you and a free gift while supplies last, or to request a catalog, call (800) 668-1846 or visit www.corolledolls.com.

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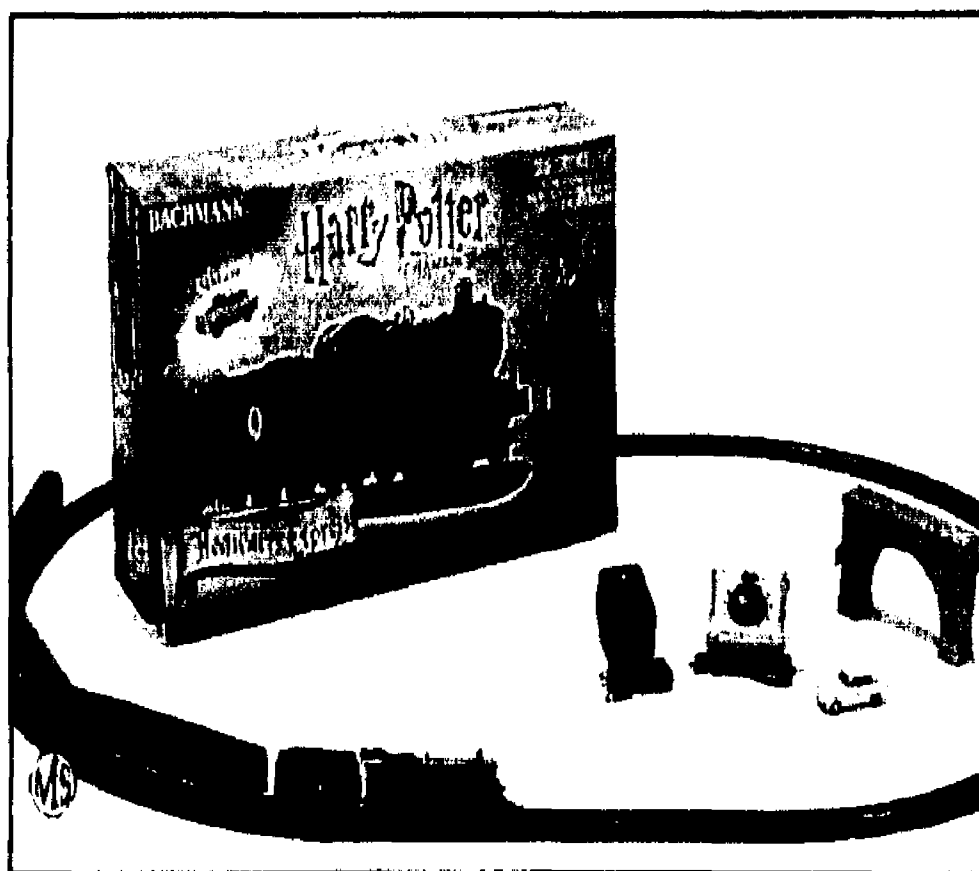
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Celebrate The Holidays With Magical Fun For All Ages

(MS) — For the millions of toy model aficionados out there, the delight is in the details. From the finely sculpted, precise exterior and interior detailing to the joy of building a scale-model world solely from the imagination, it's not difficult to understand how die-cast models have been able to cast their spell on children and hobbyists generation after generation.

Now children can combine the classic fun of playing with die-cast models with the magical

adventures of their imagination, and a very special young man named Harry Potter. Just in time for the holidays, model train manufacturer Bachmann Industries Inc. is introducing an all-new complete and ready-to-run HO/OO-scale Special Edition Hogwarts Express electric train set based on the "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" book and blockbuster film. The Hogwarts Express allows fans of all ages to uniquely experience an important piece of Harry's



CHILDREN OF ALL AGES can combine the classic fun of die-cast models with the magical adventures of their imagination with the Special Edition Hogwarts Express electric train set and Weasley Flying Car based on the "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" book and blockbuster film.

magical world and makes a great gift for the Harry Potter fans and hobbyists on anyone's holiday gift list. Featuring an authentic British-style 4-6-0 steam locomotive,

three finely detailed passenger cars and a snap-together building kit of the magical Platform Nine and Three-Quarters, including a 56-inch by 38-inch oval track, the set also features a die-cast model of the Weasley Flying Car, the mysterious vehicle that hilariously delivers Harry Potter and his best friend, Ron Weasley to their second year of classes at Hogwarts. The set is available at local toy stores and online retailers.

Fun New Toy Puts Learning In Children's Hands

The best toys do more than entertain children for a few hours at a time. They offer kids an opportunity to grow, explore the world around them and discover something new each time children sit down to play.

Now, just in time for the holiday season, Chuck Hoberman, the award-winning inventor, artist and engineer behind the Hoberman Arch at the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, has created a new product line sure to delight both children and adults. The Hoberman® Discover Dome™ series, available in Nature, Dinosaur and Space themes, is a fun toy, an educational reference tool, a three-dimensional book, an object of art and a visual story-teller all in one.

Appropriate for children ages 6 and up, and utilizing a new technology that adds an origami-like paper surface to expanding sphere-linkages, the dome's surface is saturated with content both inside and out. Children can witness the stunning transformation of the sphere's outer surface even as they marvel at the fun facts and fascinating visuals that appear as if by magic as the dome is expanded.

The Hoberman line of toys is the recipient of numerous toy awards. The Hoberman Mega Sphere was honored with the Parents' Choice Gold Award and received Dr. Toy's Best Classic Toy Award. Other awards won in past years include the Parents' Choice Platinum and Approved Awards, and Oppenheim Toy Awards.

Discover Domes are available at major retailers nationwide, including Wal-Mart, Toys "R" Us, and through the J.C. Penney catalog. For more information about the Hoberman line of toys, visit www.hoberman.com.

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