

**INSIDE**



**Moving on up**

John Scholz takes over as head wrestling coach at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School after 4 years as an assistant. The team opens the season 7 p.m. tonight against Kearney. For a season preview, see Page C-1.



**Holiday music**

Tuba player Jesse DeLuca of the Passaic County Sheriff's Band performs in Cranford Saturday. See more holiday photos on Page B-1.



**Santa train**

Usually Santa travels by sled, but this St. Nick took the "Santa Train" from Bound Brook to Westfield Saturday. See the full photo on Page B-1.

**REMINDER**

**Holiday Deadlines**

Because of the upcoming holidays, the Record-Press will operate on different deadlines for the next two weeks. Community news and letters for the Dec. 27 issue should be submitted immediately; that issue will be delivered Dec. 23. Submissions for the Jan. 3 issue should be received by Dec. 26; that issue will be delivered Dec. 30.

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# Westfield chase ends tragically

## Man sails 323 feet in his car before landing in ravine near Rt. 22

By KEVIN B. HOWELL  
THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — A car chase that started in Garwood ended fatally in Westfield when a 19-year-old man's car became airborne and landed in a ravine at

the end of Prospect Street near Route 22 Tuesday.

The victim, identified as Sasko Hristov, was reported missing from Old Bridge earlier that morning.

Lt. John Parizeau of the Westfield Police said Hristov

sped down Prospect Street, which is a dead end, and his green 1993 Mitsubishi 3000 GT went airborne at the end of a driveway.

The car flew about 40 feet in the air, scarring the top of a large tree. The car traveled 323 feet into the woods, landing about 75

feet from Route 22 at 9 a.m., Parizeau said.

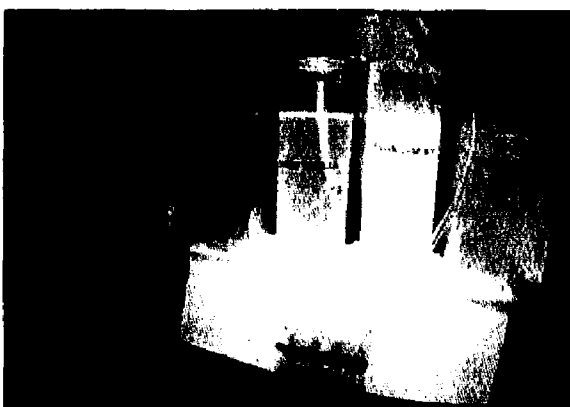
Parizeau didn't estimate how fast the car was traveling, but said it must have been excessive for the car to travel that far in the air. The car was in several pieces and Hristov's body was

thrown 10 feet from the largest piece of the car.

Parizeau said that there were no skid marks at the scene, showing that the victim made no attempt to stop. There was a

(Continued on page A-2)

## A whole new way to live healthy



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Peter Matushin of Jetlife shows how customers can lean back in a massage chair while taking in some oxygen.

## Downtown Westfield is a hub for health stores

By KEVIN B. HOWELL  
THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — The holiday season can be quite stressful as shoppers bustle throughout downtown purchasing gifts for family, friends and co-workers. In the midst of the madness, patrons will find several stores to help them relieve stress and get on track for a healthy new year.

Downtown is home to several health-related stores that include spas, nutrition stores, and therapy centers. In the last six months, four stores have opened, bringing the total number to eight.

"I like that multiple health businesses are coming here," said Neil Pinkman, owner of one of those businesses, the Dharma Center for

Healing Arts on Lenox Avenue. "Being a hub for health is a nice reputation."

Pinkman and his wife, Lydia, opened their downtown business in August. He described it as a general wellness center that specializes in massage therapy, reflexology (foot therapy), reiki (touch healing), meditation and psychotherapy.

The center also holds workshops on forgiveness, reiki instruction, meditation and massage instruction for couples.

Pinkman said a unique part of the business is the "crazy wisdom wellness cruise," in which clients take a private cruise and have message therapy. This past summer, Pinkman said six people participated in the cruise in Toms River.

(Continued on page A-2)

## Walsh steps down from council seat

### Will become assistant U.S. attorney

By KEVIN B. HOWELL  
RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — After two Democratic council members were honored Tuesday at their last meeting on the Town Council, it was announced that a third, Councilman Kevin Walsh, will resign next month to take a position as an assistant United States Attorney for New Jersey.

Walsh informed the council of his decision in a Dec. 17 resignation letter. Walsh's new position will begin Jan. 27 and his resigna-

tion will be effective Jan. 24.

Walsh's letter to Town Clerk Bernard Heene stated: "Accordingly, and consistent with ethical guidelines promulgated by the Attorney General of the United States that preclude federal prosecutors from engaging in political activities, I must resign as a Council Member of the Town of Westfield."

Walsh has served on the council for a year, representing the Third Ward. He has been an

(Continued on page A-2)

## Assault victim files suit against district

By KEVIN B. HOWELL  
RECORD-PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — The teenage girl sexually assaulted by five Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys last January at Park Middle School filed a lawsuit Dec. 12 against the school district and several school officials for failing to protect her from the attack.

The lawsuit names the school district, the Board of Education, Principal Rocco Colucci,

Assistant Principal Joseph Moran and Assistant Bandleader John Chik for failing in their responsibility to protect the girl while she was on school premises.

The girl, who was only identified by initials in the lawsuit, was attacked while a basketball game was played after school. The girl was abducted by the five boys and taken to a nearby dry creek bed where she was beaten

(Continued on page A-2)

## Westfield votes to vacate New Street

By KEVIN B. HOWELL  
RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — The town stands to gain more than \$300,000 for its decision to vacate New Street and make it a private road, allowing New Pointe Realty to construct a three-story building on the site.

The agreement between the town and New Pointe, which owns properties at Central and South avenues, is contingent on the plan surviving Board of

Adjustment or Planning Board hearings.

Though the council passed an ordinance to vacate New Street at Tuesday's council meeting, it faced unexpected opposition from a few residents of South Elmer Street. The residents' main argument was that vacating New Street turns South Elmer Street into a dead end, forcing residents to exit onto busy South Avenue.

"The \$300,000 the town's get-

(Continued on page A-2)

## Fanwood developer is formally approved

By KEVIN B. HOWELL  
RECORD-PRESS

FANWOOD — It will be happy holiday for those in the borough who have been pushing for downtown redevelopment, as the mayor and Borough Council approved Landmark Communities of Princeton as the borough's developer at a special meeting Monday night.

The borough will negotiate a redevelopment agreement with Landmark early next year.

Landmark was one of three developers interviewed by a special redevelopment selection committee. Borough Planner Richard Preiss, a member of the committee, presented its recommendation to the council.

"All the proposals were very high quality, each creative in its own way. In the end, Landmark most closely met the borough's criteria," Preiss said.

Some of the areas the committee looked at included architec-

ture, vehicular access, development, open space and parking. Landmark proposes a mix of retail and residential units in the 6.5-acre redevelopment area, which includes South, Martine and LaGrande avenues and Second Street.

Joel Schwartz of Landmark showed how the company has mixed commercial and residential in many of its projects throughout the nation, most notably in Metuchen where it won state and national awards for its Franklin Square project.

Landmark's conceptual plan for the borough calls for commercial businesses on the first level and residential units on the second along South and Martine avenues. The plan includes townhouses on LaGrande Avenue and Second Street.

Schwartz said preserving open space is a priority, so the design calls for open areas in the center

(Continued on page A-2)



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Five pipers piping

Now there's something you don't see, or hear, every day. The Watson Highlanders Bagpipe Band was one of several musical troupes who walked the streets of downtown Westfield to perform holiday songs.

# Town has new insurance company

By KEVIN B. HOWELL  
RECORD PRESS

WESTFIELD The town will have a new insurance broker for the first time in seven years, and should save taxpayers approximately \$15,000 after the Town Council accepted a bid from Commerce National Insurance Tuesday.

The approval did not come without a debate, as a representative from AGA Insurance brokers, Ray Vaughn, voiced his disapproval with the RFP (requests for proposals) process. Vaughn said his company hadn't been notified about the specifications of RFP.

The problem arose because the RFP stipulated a maximum

6 percent broker's fee. However, two of the four providers who applied bid less than 6 percent, which Vaughn argued was not specified as allowable.

However, Councilman Lawrence Goldman said that AGA should have known the details since it has worked with the municipality for years. In addition, he cited Commerce's roster of clients, which includes several municipalities and counties.

Goldman suggested that by having so many clients, Commerce has more leverage when negotiating with insurance providers and can get a better deal for the town. Goldman also said that Scotch Plains uses Commerce, and

Township Manager Tom Atkins had endorsed the company.

However, because of concerns raised by Vaughn, councilmen Matthew Albano and Rafael Betancourt said the council should redo the process in order to be fair and avoid litigation. But Councilman Carl Salisbury said there is no solid ground for litigation.

Mayor Gregory McDermott agreed with Goldman that accepting Commerce would save taxpayers money, but said it wouldn't hurt to resend the RFP for even more competitive bids.

Eventually, the Commerce bid was approved with a 5-4 vote, with all five council Democrats voting to approve.

# Developer is formally approved

(Continued from page A-1)

of the district as well as trees throughout the block. Schwartz also said that the redevelopment can spur development in other areas, especially at the nearby train station.

The main concern from council members and residents was parking. Schwartz tried to assure everyone there will be adequate parking, saying Landmark plans to use all options such as parking lots and individual garages for the residential units. In addition, the train station lot will be available on weekends, Schwartz added.

Landmark's planner, Jim Constantine, said that cars won't be a problem with downtown residents. He said that people who tend to live downtown usually have only one car per household, or even no car.

Furthermore, the target residents for downtown housing don't have school-age children, which will eliminate the major tax burden that usually accompanies new housing units, said Constantine. When the project is completed, Landmark estimated a \$500,000 tax surplus would be generated for the borough.

There were also concerns with the treatment of current business owners downtown. Preiss said Landmark took into consideration the downtown tenants during their proposal. Schwartz said the developer will build in phases, probably three or four buildings at a time, to keep downtown operating during construction.

However, every building will be demolished in the redevelopment area and businesses could be inoperative for up to six months. Schwartz agreed to meet with the borough's business professional association to show business owners the plan.

Other concerns were quelled, including Councilwoman Katherine Mitchell's fear of the use of eminent domain, which Schwartz said Landmark hasn't yet used. Borough Engineer Mark Marsden asked about the possibility for utility wires to be put underground, which Landmark representatives supported.

Residents and business owners who still object to the plan will have an opportunity to voice their concerns again when the proposal goes before the Planning Board.

# Police department to get first SUV

By KEVIN B. HOWELL  
RECORD PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS The police department will get its first four-wheel drive vehicle soon, as the Township Council Tuesday approved the purchase of a 2003 Ford Excursion XLT.

The vehicle will be purchased through a new state contract for SUVs and will cost \$30,300.48.

Two new vehicles were in the

police budget for 2002 to replace older cars. A patrol car was purchased earlier this year, and Chief Marshall Nelson saw the need for a larger vehicle that will be used mainly for more cargo space.

In a memo to Township Administrator Tom Atkins, Nelson said that the vehicle's regular use would be for the traffic safety unit, but it will also be used for an emergency response unit and command center.

Nelson said the vehicle will have standard emergency equip-

ment, but also foresees it having a cabinet for with drawers to store scene maps, school site plans, floor plans and township maps for emergencies.

Nelson also stated a roof-mounted floodlight could illuminate crime or crash scenes in the dark. The vehicle could also store various traffic signs the department uses when traffic signals are out.

The department was hoping to get a larger vehicle such as a Ford Expedition or Chevrolet Tahoe, but those models were not available.

# A whole new way to live healthy

(Continued from page A-1)

Pinkman said he started the business to give back the gift that was given to him. Years ago he was working a lucrative job that impacted his health negatively, Pinkman said. Standard medical assistance was ineffective, so he turned to massage therapy and other alternatives.

"In order to live in this area you need to endure a decent amount of stress," Pinkman said. "People in the area need ways to relax and relieve tensions. This is a high income area and people pay a price for that."

Peter Matushin, co-owner of Jetlife, a spa and lifestyle store, said customers come to his business for "jet-a-way" sessions while shopping downtown. The store, located at 221 E. Broad St., features spa rooms with aromatherapy oxygen bars.

"It's a combination of a quick spa and relaxation retail," Matushin said, who owns the

business with Donna Pudwill. "While shopping, they can come and close themselves off for 15 minutes and relax."

The spa rooms include computerized massage chairs that customers can adjust with a remote control. Matushin said the rooms have three benefits: 90 percent pure oxygen, aromatherapy and hydration through Evian water-enhanced chambers. The rooms also play relaxation music.

In addition, the store has tanning specifically for people with light disorders or Vitamin D deficiency. Matushin said that the store uses Ultraviolet A, which is a therapeutic light.

However, Matushin asserts that Jetlife is not just a spa but a single destination for healthy living needs. The store sells music, relaxation gadgets and health products.

"Westfield seems to be an area with a growing mainstream downtown area," Matushin said. "People are conscious of pamper-

ing services and are taking care of themselves."

And in May, Joyce Greenberg relocated TakeGoodCare's flagship store to downtown Westfield from Route 22 in Springfield. Greenberg, founder and CEO of the company, said Westfield offers a comforting village environment.

Greenberg said she notices three trends that affect health: people are living longer, insurance companies offer less coverage, and consumers want to take control of their health. She said TakeGoodCare meets those needs, as it's designed to help individuals take care of their health at home.

The store features product categories that include aromatherapy, bathroom and bedroom, fitness and therapy, maternity and personal care. In addition to the store, the company has an online catalogue at [www.takegoodcare.com](http://www.takegoodcare.com). The store is located on North Avenue.

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# Chase ends tragically

(Continued from page A-1)

gouge in the curb where the road ended, identifying the place Hristov became airborne. Parizem described the area as a rural road that ends with two driveways.

The chase started in Garwood in the 400 block of South Avenue at 8:50 a.m. Hristov was heading west on the street driving carelessly, crossing the center line at about 25 mph, according to Capt. William Legg of the Garwood

police. He ran several red lights while swerving to pass other cars.

"It wasn't a fast pursuit. He just refused to obey the officer's command to stop," Legg said.

Garwood Police pursued the vehicle into Westfield where it made several turns. Hristov made a right onto Central Avenue and a left onto North Avenue, where Westfield police joined the pursuit. After running red lights, he made a right onto Edgewood Avenue, a left on Clark Street then a right on Brightwood Avenue.

The police lost sight of the car at Brightwood Avenue and Prospect Street, a block from Franklin Elementary School. Legg said the police thought he made another turn or hid in a driveway. A Westfield officer investigated one of the driveways to see if the driver was hiding there and discovered the accident. The total chase lasted 10 minutes.

# Westfield votes to vacate New Street

(Continued from page A-1)

ting doesn't justify landlocking us like that," said John Mormile, a South Elmer Street resident who just found out about the plan last week. "It will create traffic problems on South Avenue. It will not be in the interest of the public. Private interest should not be above the public."

Earl Lambert, retired Westfield police officer and a 40-year resident of South Elmer Street, questioned how the council concluded that closing New Street was in the public's best interest. He said with only one exit and entrance on the road, traffic trying to turn on South Avenue will be aggravated.

Robert Cockren, town attorney, explained that New Pointe had been approved to construct an office building, but they also wanted to build a drug store on the street. The town thought a drug store and an office building would be detrimental to traffic, so further discussions brought forth the current proposal. Cockren said.

Councilman Lawrence Goldman tried to appease the residents, saying that making their street a dead end will eliminate motorists cutting through the street to avoid traffic lights.

But the residents weren't concerned with traffic volume, which baffled council members accustomed to residents complaining about cars speeding through their neighborhoods.

"I've been living there for 40 years and I never had a problem with traffic volume," said Lambert, who served as a traffic officer.

Cockren tried to reassure residents that they are better off with the current proposal instead of the original one. But residents said as long as the street stayed open, they would be satisfied.

The council urged the residents to voice their concerns when the application goes to either the Board of Adjustment or Planning Board. The ordinance passed the council 9-0.

# Walsh

(Continued from page A-1)

attorney at a Newark law firm for a little more than two years. His new job will also be in Newark.

"It's exciting to be working for the federal government," Walsh said, as he received congratulatory remarks from councilmen and others. "It's a real honor to serve the people in a different way. I wanted to do this for a long time. I approached the job as if wouldn't happen, but now it has."

He added, "I will miss helping the everyday people (in the Third Ward). It's been great to help the people and see the town's professionals deliver."

To replace Walsh, the Democratic party will submit three names for consideration, and the full council will appoint one of the three.

# Victim

(Continued from page A-1)

and forced to perform sexual acts on the boys.

The girl, who was 13 at the time of the attack, later fled to the school, but was assaulted again in the stairwell.

The lawsuit alleges Moran and Glick witnessed the girl being surrounded by the boys and did nothing to prevent the abduction.

The suit states the girl suffered severe and permanent injuries and will require future medical treatment. All five boys have been prosecuted and sentenced to varying jail terms.

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## Turkey time

On Nov. 28 members of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School DECA Chapter, an association of marketing students, sponsored their 11th annual Thanksgiving Day dinner at Black United Community Center in Plainfield. The students — more than 100 participated in fundraising and cooking — served turkey dinners with all the trimmings to nearly 200 guests. "The dinner was a huge success," said DECA Chairman Mike Hessemer. "It was great experience for all the chapter members and hopefully gave many of our guests a happy Thanksgiving."

# District searches for a solution to parking problems at Terrill

Township Committee turned down request for a police officer

By KEVIN B. HOWELL  
THE RECORD-PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — The school district is searching for a solution to the traffic hazards at Terrill Middle School, as school officials and parents believe the volume of cars in the area for the morning drop-off is unsafe for children.

According to Kathleen Meyer, community relations coordinator for the district, traffic was a concern before school began in September because of the addition of the fifth grade at the building. She said the main difficulty is exiting the school's driveway with the high volume of traffic on Terrill Road.

Meyer said that cars trying to make left turns out the driveway are backed up waiting, which causes a jam for buses entering and exiting the bus circle as well. Superintendent Carol Choye requested a traffic officer from the township, but the Township Committee said because of financial constraints it could not provide the service.

Though Scotch Plains and Fanwood share the school district and concerns have been forwarded to both councils, the schools are located in Scotch Plains and fall under the township police's jurisdiction, Meyer said. Board member Edward Saridaki suggested the district contact the Union County Police,

since Terrill Road is a county street.

Park Middle School has in the past faced similar traffic concerns, as both middle schools are located on two of the township's busier roads. However, new traffic patterns were implemented at Park, with turn restrictions to help the situation.

To ease the problem, Terrill Middle School Principal John Foulks has encouraged parents to use the Evangel Church driveway to drop off students, as the district has a working agreement with the church.

In addition, there are back lots that parents can use as officials continue to work to solve the problem.

# Cranford seeks growth grant

By NICK D'AMORE  
THE RECORD-PRESS

CRANFORD — The Township Committee decided recently to apply for a \$15,000 state Smart Growth grant to continue their study of parking issues in the downtown.

At the committee's workshop meeting Dec. 10, Kathleen Prunty, director of the Downtown Management Corporation, said a focus on parking would give the town a chance at getting the grant.

"If we stand a chance of being considered, it will be for support of the downtown plan," she said.

Commissioner Dan Aschenbach was the lone voice of dissent, saying another parking study was unnecessary.

Prunty said the application process is less involved than it was last year. The application was submitted Dec. 15.

"If we make the first cut, we'll be invited down to discuss it further," she said.

Prunty said if the township passes the second step, officials will be given a list of "pre-qualified consultants" for the township to use in their study.

An ad hoc municipal parking

committee formed in November met Dec. 10, Prunty said. "I'm confident they will come in February with recommendations for the existing and expanding parking," she said.

She said the grant could fund an economic analysis of improvements to existing parking and an additional parking setup with "either a new surface or structure."

Commissioner Phil Morin said the grant could be used to fund a second phase of parking improvements in the downtown.

"Realistically, we'll be lucky to see the grant money by the end of April or May. At least, we'll have an initial decision with what we want to do," he said.

Prunty said selling the parking study to the state as part of the township's Downtown Vision Plan would also give Cranford a better shot at the grant.

"It's saying we've adopted our vision plan and are taking action for the next step," she said.

Aschenbach said he did not think the township should conduct another parking study, because the committee already knows what needs to be done.

"I'm not going to support another study. We know what we need there. It doesn't make any sense to me," he said.

"We have all these recommendations in the vision grant. Here, we'll have another overview study and we'll be at the same

place...We'll be having another group come in and telling us what we should do," he said.

But Commissioner George Jorin said the Smart Growth grant could augment the Vision Plan.

"If we do this and get the grant from the state, maybe we can direct their consultant to look towards specifics. Right now, we're dealing with generalities," he said.

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# To pay for parking garage, Cranford may raise rates

Cost of meters could rise by 50 cents an hour

By NICK D'AMORE  
RECORD PRESS

CRANFORD — The Township Committee is considering a major increase in parking meter and permit rates to help fund the financing of a parking garage at the Cranford Crossing site.

At a Dec. 10 meeting, Robert Cagnassola and Warren Korecky of Suplee Clooney & Co. presented a projected revenue analysis based on an increase of 50 cents per hour on the meters and \$30 a quarter on the permits.

There are 666 meters in town and 375 permits. The current rates for meters are 20 cents per hour for 2-hour meters, 9-hour meters and 12-hour meters. Four-hour meters are 25 cents per hour, and 12-hour rental parking spaces are \$1.50 per 12-hour period.

At a maximum possible usage of

9 hours a day, the township would make \$360,405 in calculated annual revenue. However, Cagnassola said there is only a "55 percent level of realization" with the meters, so the township actually brings in about \$200,000.

The permits are currently \$90 a quarter and bring in \$135,000 calculated annual revenue. Cagnassola said there the township, however, gets 112 percent of realization from the permits, therefore receiving \$152,000 a year. The 112 percent comes from the over-selling of permits, Cagnassola said.

The numbers were based on a four-year average and using a 300-day year, eliminating Sundays and holidays, Cagnassola said.

With a 50-cent-per-hour increase, the township would realize an increase of \$281,458. The rate increase for permits would bring in an additional \$50,667. In total, the township would then see an increase of \$332,125.

While the Cranford Crossing parking garage is built, Cagnassola projected the township would lose about \$59,580 a year from the lost parking spaces. However, the projected revenue from the parking

garage spaces would be \$148,000 in the first year and \$124,000 in following years.

In addition to the proposed parking meter and permit rate increases, the township plans to pay for its share of the parking deck via a PILOT, or payment in lieu of taxes, agreement.

Under such an agreement, the township would receive all taxes paid by developer Kushner Companies in the first five years after completion of the project. The developer, in turn, would pay fewer taxes, with an incremental increase each year for the first five years.

In the first year, Kushner would pay about 20 percent of taxes; in the second year 40 percent, and so on until the fifth year. By year six, the township would share the revenue with the school district and Union County, and the developer would be paying 100 percent of the taxes owed.

Commissioner Phil Morin said the township would receive about \$100,000 a year in taxes without the PILOT agreement. With the agreement, the township will net approximately \$900,000 in five years, he said.



## Singing in the season

Above, the Select Choir of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School rehearses for their holiday concert, which was held Wednesday. Under the direction of Laurie Wellman, the Select Choir and a number of other choral and vocal groups performed a wide variety of holiday-themed numbers.

# Man charged with drug offense after being arrested on warrant

## SCOTCH PLAINS

Alan Lee, 51, of Plainfield arrested on drug charges after being picked up on a warrant out of North Plainfield Dec. 15.

A search following the warrant arrest revealed that Lee had a pipe used for smoking a controlled dangerous substance. The pipe also had some residue police believed to be a controlled dangerous substance.

Lee was charged with possession of controlled dangerous substance, possession of drug paraphernalia and contempt of court.

A resident from Spruce Mill Lane reported a theft of a Christmas wreath from her front door Dec. 15. The victim said that she left her apartment at 1 p.m. and returned at 2 p.m. and noticed the ornament removed.

Also, a Lake Avenue resident reported that on Dec. 12 someone removed a Christmas ornament from the front door of her apartment. The victim said that she went to the laundry room and when she returned the ornament was missing.

A Union Township resident reported while he was attending a Union Catholic High School semi-formal dance Dec. 15, someone smashed his rear windshield and flattened all four tires.

## Police Log

when someone threw a snowball at it Dec. 11.

Jason Tucker, 24, of Prospect Avenue in Scotch Plains was picked up on warrants out of Westfield and Scotch Plains Dec. 11.

A resident of Carelton Road last week reported theft of and criminal mischief to a vehicle.

James V. Leo of 90 Elm St. was picked up on a contempt of court warrant Dec. 13. He was released with a court date.

Jose Amaya, 18, of North Plainfield was charged with underage possession of an alcoholic beverage Dec. 15.

A Fanwood resident reported someone removed the driver's side mirror while the car was parked on Mountain Avenue Dec. 15.

Kevin Lewis of Elizabeth was picked up on a warrant out of Kearny Dec. 16. He posted bail and was released.

Kathy Chaillet of Scotch Plains was charged with driving while intoxicated Dec. 16. Police said Chaillet registered a .13 percent blood-alcohol content.



## Learning citizenship

The Holy Trinity Interparochial School in Westfield recently named the student recipients of the school's Christian Citizenship Award for the first marking period of the current school year. The honorees, pictured above, are in Grades 5-8 at the school.

## Briefs

### Temple offers classes on Jewish philosophers

WESTFIELD — A miniseries on Jewish philosophers is offered at Temple Emanuel-El, 756 E. Broad St.

Classes are 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8-29. Philo of Alexandria, Moses Maimonides, Mordecai Kaplan and Hans Jonas are covered in the miniseries led by Rabbi Lawrence Troster.

Admission is \$5. For more information, phone Carolyn Shane at (908) 232-6770.

### Colonial Christmas at Miller-Cory House

WESTFIELD — Elizabethtown was a city of different worlds when it was the capital of New Jersey in 1740.

City dwellers in the eastern end dressed differently from the farmers who lived in the West Fields. Not surprisingly, city folk and peasants socialized in different circles.

The Miller-Cory House Museum re-creates "A Candlelight Christmas in Elizabethtown" 2-5 p.m. Sunday. Visit the 18th-century farmhouse at 614 Mountain Ave. for a guided tour by candlelight. Refreshments will be served and the gift shop open.

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

The museum will be closed Sunday, Dec. 29 and Jan. 5. Native American wood carvings are featured when the museum goes on its winter schedule Jan. 12.

### Funds sought for earthquake victims

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Chapter of Unico National is raising funds for victims of recent earthquakes in Italy.

A goal of \$30,000 has been set for the earthquake relief fund. If you wish to donate funds, phone Randy Pisane at (908) 233-3320.

Samantha Posyton and Julia Root, all in Grades 2-4; Katherine Doremus, Alex Kuhn, Alicia Lazar, Christopher G. Shea and Laura Thompson, all in Grades 5-12.

Still lifes and mannequin studies are included in the pupils' art, created in the recently concluded fall term of the Community School.

### Seminar aims to help women in business

UNION — The New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners' Women's Business Center will offer its two-hour "Are You an Entrepreneur?" seminar in Union County.

"Are You an Entrepreneur?" is an overview program for those exploring the possibility of starting a new business.

The seminar will be held at the Small Business Development Center located at the East Campus of Kean College, 215 North Ave., Room 242. The class will be 9-11 a.m. Jan. 17.

The seminar is free of charge. For more information or to register, contact the Women's Business Center at (609) 581-2220 or email wbcassi@njawbo.org.

### Children's art on display at library

FANWOOD — Sandra Cerchio teaches "Drawing and Sketching" to children through the Community School of Scotch Plains-Fanwood.

Her pupils' work can be seen at the Fanwood Memorial Library on North Avenue into January. The pupils are Amanda J. Ekstrand, Jesse H. Haack, Jacob R. Kennedy,

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## Briefs

## Westfield church offers friendship for singles

Are you over 45 and widowed, divorced, or never married? You don't have to be alone. Join the Single's Group at Westfield's First Baptist Church each 9 a.m. each Sunday during December for coffee, cake and lively discussion about singles issues, how to cope on our own and learn from each other. It's not group therapy, it's friendship, a sharing of experiences, and good company.

Other activities include winter movie nights, summer picnics, holiday get-togethers, and more. Come visit with us at the church at 170 Elm Street, in the lower level meeting room. A \$2 donation is requested, and all are welcome. For more information please call (908) 889-5265 or (908) 889-4751.

## Aerobics instruction workshops at YMCA

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA and the National Dance Exercise Instructors Training Association are co-sponsoring two public training events for aerobic instructors Jan. 18-19.

The first event features primary aerobic certification, while the second features continuing education credits.

The five-hour workshop will give participants five American Council on Exercise continuing education credits.

Space is limited. To register, call (800) AEROBIC.

## Many gifts on sale from the DWC

WESTFIELD — The Downtown Westfield Corporation has holiday gift ideas for those who want to show their Westfield pride. Newly designed Westfield, N.J. t-shirts and hats are now available for purchase for that special someone on your holiday list.

The DWC also carries full-size Downtown Westfield umbrellas, canvas totes, and Westfield, N.J. note cards. Hats, t-shirts and umbrellas are available for \$10 each, and the totes and a set of ten note cards are available for \$5 each.

The DWC has also partnered with The Classic Basket, 411 South Avenue to feature some of the items in a customized "Downtown Westfield" basket at a price of \$60. Shoppers can visit the on-line store at [www.theclassicbasketnj.com](http://www.theclassicbasketnj.com) or contact The Classic Basket at (908) 233-5778. Shipping is also available.

## Festival of Lessons at Fanwood church

FANWOOD — "A Festival of Lessons and Carols" is 4 p.m. Sunday at the Fanwood Presbyterian Church, 74 S. Martine Ave.

This annual service features carols and hymns sung by the congregation and church choirs. Lessons are Bible readings with laypeople. Additional music is from the church's handbell choirs.

The program is under the direction of Robert Gangewere Jr., the church's music minister.

For more information, phone (908) 889-8891. The public is invited.

## Astronomy lectures for young people at UCC

CRANFORD — "Young People's Talks" on astronomy are now being offered to elementary pupils.

These free programs are 7 p.m. most Fridays in the Sperry Observatory at Union County College, 1033 Springfield Ave. Scout groups are welcome. The programs can also fulfill requirements for a merit badge in astronomy.

Robert Strausberg will discuss meteorites Dec. 27.

After each program boys and girls can view the night sky in the observatory, weather permitting.

Reservations are required for groups; e-mail [l\\_ruggiero@hotmail.com](mailto:l_ruggiero@hotmail.com) or phone (908) 233-8741. The "Young People's Talks" are sponsored by Amateur Astronomers Inc., which operates the observatory.

## Conference will address growth of gangs

GARWOOD — A conference titled "Gangs in New Jersey: An Urban and Suburban Issue" will be held 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Jan. 10 at The Westwood Restaurant.

The interactive, day-long conference is presented by Trinitas Hospital, the City of Elizabeth, the Union County Prosecutor's Office, the Union County Traumatic Loss Interventions for Youth Project, the Union County Mental Health Board and the Union County Juvenile Officers' Association.

"Gangs are a growing concern in both urban and suburban communities throughout New Jersey," said James Lape, vice president of Behavioral Health & Psychiatry at Trinitas Hospital.

"We're pleased to team with law enforcement and mental health professionals throughout Union County to raise our collective awareness of this issue and recognize opportunities to intervene in gang behavior," Lape said.

The conference's keynote presentation, titled "Gangs and Our Youth: A Growing Concern Both Nationally and Locally," will be given by Ron "Cook" Barrent, Gang Prevention Coordinator for the Division of Youth and Family Services in Albany, N.Y.

Workshops will be led by Rodger Goddard, Ph.D., director of Trinitas Hospital's Wellness Management Services; and Edwin Torres, sergeant at the Juvenile Justice Commission. They will address the issues of gang migration to the suburbs and strategies to inoculate young people against gang involvement.

The panel discussion, "Where Do We Go from Here?" will be moderated by Patricia Neary-Ludmer, Ph.D., coordinator of the Union County Traumatic Loss Coalition. Panelists will include Det. Robert Segear, president of the Union County Juvenile Officer's Association; Robert O'Leary, assistant prosecutor for Union County; and Torres.

County prosecutor Theodore Romankow, Trinitas Hospital President Gary S. Horan and Elizabeth Mayor Christopher Bollwage will also speak during the conference.

To register, call Connie Ondo at (908) 994-7452. The \$20 conference fee should be made payable to "Trinitas Hospital" and mailed by Jan. 5 to Trinitas Hospital Family Resource Center, 300 North Ave. East, Cranford, NJ 07016.

## Weavers Guild presents new curtains to Miller-Cory House

WESTFIELD — Nov. 10 was a red-letter day for the Miller-Cory House Museum, as the long-awaited curtains for the front bedroom were dedicated and hung by the Westfield Weavers Guild.

Guild members Guddy Chehayl and Widney Moore made the original curtains for the museum in 1973. But after constant use and sun damage over the years, the original curtains had disintegrated.

Before weaving the new curtains the Westfield Weavers consulted experts in the field of historic American textiles, so the fabric would be appropriate and the style authentic for the time period of the museum, 1740-1820.

S. Rabbit Goody, an author and textile historian, was consulted and accompanied Jean West and guild members to the museum to make sure the curtains would be historically accurate. The curtains are composed of fine, unmercized cotton and were woven on a loom in a plaid pattern.

The colors pick up those in the coverlet on the bed — natural white, indigo blue and turkey red. They were hemmed by hand and hung on a wire.

To pay for the curtains, the guild used money it won for one of its displays at a conference of the Mid-Atlantic Fiber Association.

Leading the dedication ceremony was Phyllis Hirsch of North Plainfield, a past president of the guild. Also attending were weavers Patricia Lambert of Lakehurst and Lois Breslauer of Scotch Plains, who also designed the pattern, and Ellen Hess of Cranford, who sewed the curtains by hand. Hess is a past vice president of the guild and a volunteer at the Miller-Cory House Museum.

The museum is located at 614 Mountain Ave. and is open 2-5 p.m. Sundays. Also on view every Sunday are volunteers in colonial dress leading tours and preparing meals over an open-hearth fireplace. For more information, call the museum at (908) 232-1776.

## With Garlic Rose, a new flavor arrives on the restaurant scene

By NICK D'AMORE  
THE RECORD PRESS

CRANFORD — There's a new flavor in the downtown dining scene.

Garlic Rose opened up on North Avenue Dec. 4, taking over the spot formerly held by Cortina's. With a menu centered around garlic and its many uses, the restaurant offers a unique taste in the downtown.

"We have an eclectic menu," said owner Marc Corbello. "We have everything from pasta to filet mignon, with garlic as the main ingredient. But it's not overpowering. We use roasted garlic which is milder than eating raw garlic."

The Cranford location is the second for the popular restaurant; Corbello opened his first Garlic Rose in Madison six years ago. He said he had been eyeing Cranford as location for his second restaurant.

"I wanted to open another location and I liked Cranford. I'm from here and I grew up here, it's my hometown. So, I was looking for the opportunity to open a second restaurant around here," he said.

"I would always pass Cortina's and say, 'That would make a nice Garlic Rose,'" he said.

Corbello has been in the restaurant business since he was 15 years old and began working at the Lodge in Cranford.

"They taught me how to make pizzas and cook," he said.

He then worked at The Office restaurant for seven years, making his way from prep cook to manager before opening up his first Garlic Rose.

"I call the one in Madison my little jewel. It's what started the whole thing," he said.

He said he is finding his restaurants now have name recognition, with patrons of the new location familiar with the Madison location.

Corbello said he is happy and has been welcomed at his new location.

"Cranford is a great town. The

township itself couldn't have been more welcoming and accommodating," he said. "We got a very warm reception, from the people and township. It was a very nice feeling."

Corbello said his goal is to provide people in town with good service and good food.

"I hope to accomplish a good relationship with the community and all the people in this area, by providing a good, quality restaurant people can go to and feel comfortable and get fair value for their money," he said.

"Both of my restaurants are like my home and I treat people like they are guests in my own home," he said.

Garlic Rose is open for lunch Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dinner is served from Monday to Thursday from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Sunday, from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.



EAGLE SCOUT RYAN MAINES

## Westfield Boy Scout soars like an eagle

WESTFIELD — At an Oct. 28 "Eagle Court of Honor" ceremony held at the Presbyterian Church, town resident Ryan Maines achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest attainable by a Boy Scout.

Ryan reached the rank after following the "Path of the Eagle," which requires a scout to earn at least 21 merit badges and complete a community service project. His badges included those for Citizenship in the Community, Personal Management and Family Life.

His service project involved organizing for, and completing the painting of, the dining room of the Agape Soup Kitchen in the First Presbyterian Church of Elizabeth. Ryan has been working at the soup kitchen most Wednesday evenings since 2000.

A senior at Westfield High School, Ryan follows his intellectual passions by working part-time at an architectural firm. He has also recently become a deacon in the congregation at the Presbyterian Church.

Upon attaining the rank of Eagle Scout, Ryan received letters of commendation from President George W. Bush, Senator Jon Corzine and state Senator Richard Bigger, among others.

While Ryan was honored, more than 50 other scouts from Troop 72 saw their accomplishments celebrated at the Fall Court of Honor. Scouts were recognized for participating in such troop events as a Mile Swim, Philmont Scout Ranch Trek, Mountain Bike Ride with Overnight Campout, Delaware River Canoe Trip, Cook-Out Competition and Sea Kayaking Trip.

Twenty-three members of the "Pack and Paddle Troop" were advanced in rank.

## Contest seeks out local heroes

Do you know a hero? Someone in your community who is building a neighborhood center for needy kids, developing recycling programs for their schools or helping save the life of a perfect stranger?

If so, you may be interested in knowing that Volvo Cars of North America has launched a national search for ordinary people doing extraordinary things in the areas of safety, environment and quality of life.

It's called the Volvo for Life Awards, a national public service program that celebrates and rewards these local heroes with more than \$250,000 in financial

contributions. One hero will win a Volvo car for life. To nominate someone you know, log on to [www.volvoforlifeawards.com](http://www.volvoforlifeawards.com).

Deadline to submit nominations is Feb. 28, 2003. Volvo is conducting the program in an effort to inspire people nationwide to make outstanding contributions in their own communities.

In March, Volvo will select 50 semi-finalists, who will receive a framed Certificate of Merit in honor of their accomplishments. From those 50 semi-finalists,

Volvo will select 10 finalists, who each will receive \$10,000.

Of those finalists, a panel of judges including Bill Bradley, Dr. Jane Goodall, Caroline Kennedy, Dr. Sally Ride, Eunice Kennedy Shriver and Maya Lin will name three winners, who each will have a \$50,000 donation made in their name to the charities of their choice. The top winner will receive a Volvo car for the rest of his or her life. To learn more or to nominate a hero, visit [www.volvoforlifeawards.com](http://www.volvoforlifeawards.com).

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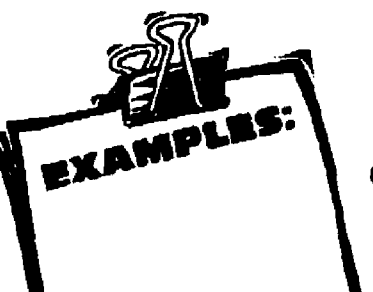
A Former Back Pain Sufferer Speaks Out...  
"Last Monday I Was Scared...  
My Back Hurt So Much I  
Couldn't Walk!"

Union County, N.J. - My back pain was horrible! I tried everything imaginable to get rid of it but nothing worked. I tried Aspirin at first. But it didn't work. It hurt so bad I couldn't even pick up my children without wincing from the pain. I went to my doctor but he told me I would just have to live with the pain and take muscle relaxers and painkillers whenever my pain got bad. But it only got worse! I was about to talk about surgery until I stumbled upon a free report offered

in my paper which revealed to me the truth about my back pain and the best proven way to get rid of it forever! I admit, I didn't believe it at all, but I ordered the free report and I haven't had one attack of pain in 6 months! If you're even remotely curious about how to end your suffering, call toll-free 1-800-229-4521 and listen to the 24 hr. recorded message to order your own copy of this remarkable report. Don't live another day in pain. Call Now! It's Free!

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# Commentary

## There is a Santa Claus

More than a century ago, on September 21, 1897, *The New York Sun* published what was to become the most widely read and quoted letter to a newspaper. Its message is as valid today as it was 104 years ago. Below is the full text of that letter and the reply written by *Sun* editorial writer Francis Pharcellus Church.

Dear Editor:  
I am eight years old.  
Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.

Papa says, "If you see it in *The Sun*, it's so."  
Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia O'Hanlon  
115 West 95th Street

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the worlds would be extinguished.

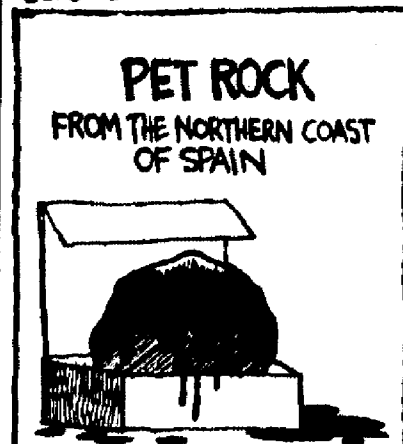
Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernatural beauty and glory beyond.

Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else more real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God he lives and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

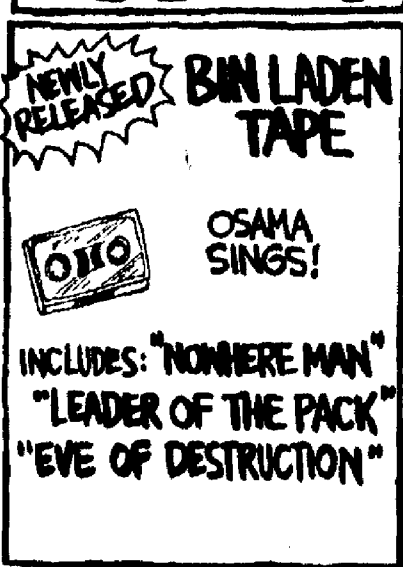
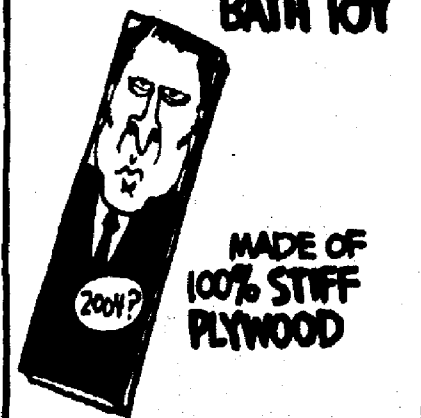
### HOLIDAY GIFTS



### JUSTICE DEPT. PATRIOTIC SPY KIT



### AL "TESTING THE WATERS" GORE BATH TOY



### Jersey Boy



Mike Deak

## Achieving harmony of wonder

All merry Christmases were alike then.

In Neshanic Station, where I tried to grow up, comfort and joy were the absolutes of the season. Pouting — my natural state of being then and now — stopped at the threat of coal in my Christmas stocking. My eyes ached with longing when I studied the Sears Christmas catalog as if it was a Kabala of toy mysticism. At night, when my throat was raw from singing carols all day in school, I watched the snow skid like tattered pieces of a dream through the warm glow of Christmas lights outlining the back porch. It was warm and cozy in bed and sleep came like an angel of mercy to erase the anxious time before Christmas morning.

Remembering those child's Christmases is at once both pleasant and sad. It is pleasant because, well, I was fortunate to have Christmases that resembled a Norman Rockwell ideal. The family was harmonious (except for arguments over whether the turkey was done) and the setting was steeped with the mystery and the beauty of the season (was that a holy star or an isolated street-light that hung in the distance over the church's live nativity?) It is sad because it is a memory of what we have lost, not just the world of wonders, but also the meaningfulness, purity, sentiment and benevolence of the season.

The cards with which we now deal most in the holiday season do not bear greetings of good cheer, but the dire credit statements of a raw January. Like members of a cargo cult, we perform our commercialistic ritual without thinking about what we are doing or why we are doing it. Sometimes I think we would all be better if we returned to the practices of childhood and made potholders for each other and cards with crayons and construction paper. It is a futile hope that we all will be prompted by childhood memories to seriously review our values, see how they have changed since the days of relative innocence and make the necessary adjustments.

I do not want to dwell on the maudlin aspects of nostalgia; you get wet if you spit too much into the wind. I could write forever about those days, about the surreptitious plans to transport Santa Claus from the firehouse to the church when their Christmas parties were on the same night. But that would take too long, so instead I will write about the joy of Christmas caroling.

It's a frosty Saturday night when we gather in the church basement to go caroling from house to house in our small town. Because I am one of the little ones they tell me to stand in front; I imagine my face has the frightened look of someone who wants to do so well so badly that he knows he is just going to screw up.

At first our voices are so enthusiastic that the adults tell us "not too loud" and at about the fifth house (Mrs. Vermeulen is going to have hot chocolate for us and animal crackers too!) our voices hang suspended in the brittle air with the brilliant clarity of a crystal rose. It is a moment of absolute still beauty as the carol's individual notes take shape in the clouds of warm breath.

Suddenly the moment is lost when the mechanical flatulence of a holey muffler (whose Studebaker is that?) forces us off the road and never again that night do we ever quite regain that perfect balance, that awesome harmony.

In that epiphany of harmony, we were the messengers of a different world, of a place of peace, love and brotherhood, where good will is exchanged freely and children and adults alike are allowed the luxury of wonder and the belief in something that is not real.

As adults, we may never again reach that moment of perfect balance and harmony, but that does not mean we should stop trying.

### Letters to the editor

## Donations needed to sustain programs

#### To the Record-Press:

Peace on earth requires more than good wishes. It means reaching out to all people. The holidays are a special time to reach out and share our joys by bringing happiness to others in our community. The United Fund of Westfield is devoted to bringing peace and joy to everyone.

The 22 member agencies of the Westfield United Fund provide year-round services and programs to Westfielders. Many programs are necessary and enriching to the quality of life during the holidays. Our agency clients say:

"Thank you for helping me feed my hungry family."

"Thank you for helping my 15-year-old daughter stay sober."

"Thank you for giving my son a safe and nurturing place to go after school, while I'm still at work."

"Thank you for providing my grandmother with a hot meal every day."

"Thank you for helping me care for my mother with Alzheimer's."

"Thank you for taking me to my dialysis treatment twice a week."

Agency services are designed for you, and are made possible by you. The holidays are brightened for children, families and elderly by special seasonal activities conducted by United Fund agencies, and the spirit of caring and sharing will continue throughout the new year.

All Westfielders are invited to become part of the caring network by contributing to the United Fund Campaign. Your gift enables 22 community agencies to meet the needs of thousands of Westfielders and helps make Westfield a better place in which to live and to work.

The United Fund is grateful to the many Westfielders who already have contributed to the 2002 campaign. Those who have not yet sent in a donation are urged to do so today. The support of each and every Westfielder is important!

From all of us at the United Fund and on behalf of our agencies, we thank you and wish you a joyful and peaceful holiday season.

MATT FORSTENHAUSLER  
President, Board of Trustees  
United Fund of Westfield

## One good law that won't cost a thing

#### To the Record-Press:

In this time of budget crisis state senators and members of the Assembly like to use the excuse of a tight state budget to say "no." The common refrain is "I support you, but we can't afford..."

Well, here's something even cash-strapped New Jersey can afford: Pass a state telemarketing no-call list law. If so many other states can afford it, then so can New Jersey. New Jersey is the only state in the

Northeast that doesn't have a no-call list law.

Elected officials fail us all the time. They fail to do anything about high property taxes, high car insurance rates and high crime rates.

Surely they can do something as simple as create a state no-call list for telemarketers to stop telemarketing harassment.

TERRY BOLAN  
South River

### 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](mailto: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.

### Record-Press

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## Are you spending more or less on holiday gifts this year?



JOEL CASTILLO  
Westfield

Same amount. It's the same budget.



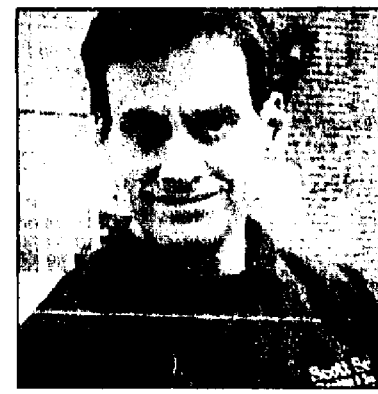
MITCHELL BEINAKER  
Westfield

Less because of the economy. Times are tight.



PATRICK BROWNE  
Westfield

I don't buy much more. My wife does.



BILL WILLIAMS  
Westfield

Oh yes. I buy more. I just had a son.



MARTIN KENNEDY  
Westfield

Probably less. The economy is not as good and jobs are not secure.



MICHAEL SCOTT  
Westfield bank manager

It's about the same.





## Lifesavers

Westfield High School seniors recently participated in an Adult Heartsaver course presented by instructors from the Atlantic Health Care system. In addition to the day of instruction, carried out in all senior health classes, Westfield High also received an automated external defibrillator donated by physicians from Atlantic. The AED, which can save the lives of heart attack victims, will be kept in the high school health office.

# Seeking 'reasonable changes' to the affordable housing rules

By RICHARD H. BAGGER

Bear Brook Road is an unexpected frontline in the battle to preserve open space and rational development in New Jersey. No more than a few twisting miles through West Windsor Township (Mercer County), Bear Brook Road is bordered by golden maple trees and oaks — plus an army of bright yellow backhoes, bulldozers and diggers. They are hard at work tearing up Bear Brook's meadows and forest after the New Jersey Supreme Court tore up West Windsor's development ordinances for the area.

The 293-acre Bear Brook tract is the latest battleground in a series of court fights — colloquially known as Mount Laurel cases — over how much control local people have over housing decisions and open space preservation in their back yards. More than a quarter of a century ago, the Supreme Court decided the first Mount Laurel case, a decision with which few reasonable people could quarrel. Rejecting Robert Frost's famous observation that strong fences good neighbors make, the court said Mount Laurel Township (Burlington County) could not use

## Guest commentary

its zoning laws as a fence to keep out poor people. Very simply, the court said, a town could not use zoning laws to make building houses to expensive that only the affluent could move in.

Fundamental fairness and common sense dictated the court's decision in Mount Laurel I. If government discrimination against citizens, what kind of democratic society could New Jersey have? The only rational solution was to expressly prohibit local governments from discriminating against the poor through the disguise of land use rules.

Once the court made these rules unlawful, that, as they say, should have been that. But nearly a decade later, the court decided to take another look. Much to the justices' dismay, the surge of cheap housing they foresaw sprouting in Bear Brook-like fields across New Jersey did not happen. While the court had torn down the barriers

to cheap housing all across New Jersey, no one was rushing in to build the housing. The court looked at this and said New Jersey was still failing its poorest citizens. The court then said, in a case known as Mount Laurel II, that it is not enough for the state's government to remove barriers of unfairness and inequality. The court said that the state had to do more; it had, in effect, to make sure that poor people could buy houses in any town in any part of New Jersey, irrespective of income. Since the justices had no framing joists and earthmovers of their own, the court created what it called "a judicial remedy for the enforcement of the Mount Laurel Doctrine." The rest of the people called it the Builder's Remedy.

It is hard to exaggerate the level of terror these two words could strike in the hearts of town leaders. In Mount Laurel II, the court decided that if no affordable housing existed, it would require municipalities to build affordable housing. And if a municipality moved too slowly to build affordable housing, the court decided that it would allow plaintiffs —

SCOTCH PLAINS — Jewish Community Center member registration for winter/spring classes begins Jan. 2 at 9:00 a.m. Non-member registration takes place Jan. 7. The JCC Winter/Spring Program Guide details each department's new offerings, so if you haven't received your copy be sure to stop by and pick one up at the reception desk.

A brief overview of winter/spring happenings follows:

The JCC Fitness Department offers an expanded series of aerobic, body sculpting and Pilates classes in addition to yoga, spinning and Taeboxing classes. Personal training and massage therapy sessions are also available. Special guests and classes are featured throughout the year. A babysitting center is conveniently located near the fitness center.

The Early Childhood Department has many classes for children from newborns (New Mom/New Baby) through full-day Kindergarten students. Extended day courses provide enrichment opportunities for a variety of age

groups. Lunch programs are available as well.

Cultural Arts and Education serves up Crafts A La Cart, Book Club discussions and Judaism class, in addition to special events throughout the year. See the Cultural Arts section for exciting changes in old favorites, such as "Hats Off to Spring" Fashion Show.

Join the Adult and Senior Services Department for art, current events discussions, exercise and Jewish culture. Meet friends and make new community connections Monday through Wednesday. Enjoy a nutritious kosher lunch before heading home.

Programs for young adults, such as Teen Fitness Day, Red Cross babysitting training, Battle of the Bands, and college prep classes for high school students (encompassing everything from trips to college campuses to SAT prep classes) round out the department.

Camp Yachad is moving full steam ahead with expanded sports and travel camps for the

upper grades in addition to the popular on-site camp for young campers. Space fills up quickly, so register early.

HYPER (Health, Physical Education and Recreation) offers a variety of healthy after-school alternatives for all children from pre-school through 12 years old. Adult basketball, volleyball and Men's Softball programs keep the young at heart on their toes.

Visit the Aquatics department to take an adult water exercise class or fine tune your swim technique. Sign the children up for swim lessons, too.

Youth and Family Services continue to nurture family values and quality time by providing opportunities to celebrate holiday traditions with JCC family and friends. Kid-Zone provides a secure, structured after school environment for kindergarten aged children through 8th grade. Check out the many vacation day programs scheduled this season to coincide with days off from area schools.

For more information, call (908) 889-8800.

## Forum highlights progress in county

The latest episode of the television show "Freeholders Forum" will focus on progress made on new education and recreational facilities in Union County in 2002, as well as other initiatives from the Board of Chosen Freeholders to improve the economy and quality of life in the county.

Entitled "Breaking Ground in 2002," the show will be aired through Jan. 4. In local communities, it will air 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Fridays on Channel 36. It will also air throughout Union County, except in Elizabeth and Plainfield, at 6:30 p.m. Mondays on Channel 57. The program features Freeholder Chairman Lewis Mingo Jr. and County Manager George Devanney.

In the past year, the county broke ground on Phil Rizzuto Park at the Union/Elizabeth border, a full-time academic facility for the Union County Vocational-Technical School in Scotch Plains and a new county police headquarters in

Westfield.

The county also started the Green the Streets program, an initiative to acquire available open space in the county's densely populated communities; the Partnership for Economic Progress to aid small businesses; a Global Freight Village to promote trade and economic growth; and College for Teens, which targeted C and C+ students to encourage them to remain on a college track.

In each 30-minute program, freeholders and guests discuss news events and issues affecting the lives of Union County residents.

"Freeholders Forum" is brought to viewers by the Board of Chosen Freeholders and is made possible through the facilities and technical direction of Union County College.

For more information about the show, call the county Office of Public Information at (908) 436-2072 or email forum@unioncounty.org.



## A little holiday music

Students at Westfield's Jefferson Elementary School performed Thanksgiving songs for teachers and family members at their annual Thanksgiving Assembly Nov. 27. Under the direction of music teacher Karen Yula, children sang, played instruments and danced to a medley of holiday songs displaying what they had learned about rhythm, tempo, tone and having fun with music.

## Campus notes

Robert Daurio of Westfield was recently awarded a Dean's Scholarship at Syracuse University.

The scholarship is given to entering students who demonstrate outstanding academic achievement in high school and are active in extracurricular and community activities. Daurio is enrolled at the university's School of Architecture.

Sona Patel of Scotch Plains was named the Edison Rotary Club's Student of the Month for November at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison.

A senior taking a heavy course load, Patel is active in student government and sports and as a peer tutor.

She also devotes many hours to working at her local Hindu temple as a religion teacher to first through third graders.

## Kenilworth municipal court will now accept credit cards

Move should make it more difficult for offenders to avoid making payments

By NICK D'AMORE  
THE RECORD-PRESS

KENILWORTH — Soon, it will be harder for offenders to get away with stiffing the municipal court.

At the Borough Council meeting Dec. 11, the council passed a resolution to provide Visa and MasterCard services at the municipal court.

Councilman Ed Galasso said the borough is waiting for the credit card companies to send the equipment and provide training for the court staff. He said the services most likely won't be available until next

year.

Galasso said he would like to see such services throughout the departments of the borough that charge fees, such as the police department for lawyer discovery fees and copy fees for police reports.

"My long-term goal is to use it wherever we can provided by law," he said.

Galasso said having credit card service will limit the amount of people "who get off on time payments and never pay us."

He said the change could bring a dramatic increase in borough revenue from fines, which would help mitigate the need for tax revenues.

"Right now, we're in arrears close to \$300,000 for uncollected fines," he said.

"I don't think we'll get the whole \$300,000, but if we get about 60 percent, we're still

looking at \$200,000 that can be put into our general fund and offset tax increases," he said.

A Sept. 5 Chronicle story reported uncollected fines in the borough have climbed to their current levels from about \$180,000 just four years ago. Approximately 60 percent of the fines are the property of the borough, with the rest going to the state.

The problem is not exclusive to Kenilworth; in September, uncollected fines in Cranford totaled about \$730,000, with about \$580,000 of that total from traffic violations.

Offenders are frequently put on time payment schedules to make good on their fines. But if payments stop, municipalities often have little recourse.

"It's just an ongoing thing," said Barbara Bitz, court clerk in Cranford. "Some people just do not pay one penny."

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Sandals Montego Bay	\$919	\$1439	Antigua		
Sandals Dunn's River	\$949	\$1499	Sandals Antigua	\$1239	\$1919
Sandals Negril Beach Resort & Spa	\$999	\$1589	Nassau (Jan 1 - Feb 12)		
			Sandals Royal Bahamian	\$1089	\$1699

\*Golf not available in Antigua and Nassau, and transfers to the golf course are included from Ocho Rios and St. Lucia resorts only. (Spa and salon services are additional.)  
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# Community Life

## It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas



NICOLE DIMELLA/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



LARRY MURPHY/CORRESPONDENT

Christmas will be here before you know it, but at least one little boy couldn't wait. Alexander Estok, 8, of Cranford, got an early holiday present and even got to meet Santa Claus at his Spring Garden Street home Monday night. St. Nicholas stopped by as part of the Cranford Police Department's "Santa's Deliveries" program. Alexander wasn't the only one getting into the holiday spirit. Above, tuba player Jesse DeLuca of the Passaic County Sheriff's Band donned a Santa cap and played a few songs to entertain weekend shoppers and strollers in Cranford Saturday.

## Area residents line up for hours to meet a goodfella

By NICK D'AMORE  
THE CHRONICLE

CLARK — The Barnes and Noble in Clark was packed with people Sunday, the parking lot was full and several people were still coming in, searching for an elusive spot.

Inside, there was a line around the aisles leading up to the cash register, every person with a copy of "A Goomba's Guide to Life" by Steven Schirripa.

Most of the people on line, however, were more interested in Schirripa for his television persona, Bobby Bacala from the hit HBO show "The Sopranos."

A supporting character and comic foil through the first three seasons of the serial drama, Schirripa character took a more prominent role in the recently-completed fourth season. After his wife was killed in an automobile accident, a recurring plotline was Bacala's relationship with

Tony Soprano's sister Janice.

Schirripa took advantage of that new prominence to write a book, and judging from the reaction Sunday he's found an audience.

Crowds gathered from the surrounding area for two hours before his appearance to meet the television mobster. There was some grumbling from those customers not on line about the crowds and the wait, but most on line were too excited to think

about much else.

At 3:30 p.m., Schirripa walked in to an ovation from the fans gathered at the bookstore, put on a Frank Sinatra Christmas album, sat down at a table in front of the register and began signing books, posing for photos and chatting with fans.

Michele Fairchild of Roselle Park was among the first in line — she showed up at the store at 1 p.m. to meet the actor.

"I didn't have to wait," she

said proudly. And the extra effort was worth it — while Schirripa plays a wise guy on television, in real life, Fairchild said, "He's a very nice guy."

Veronica Colucci of Cranford had been on line since 2 p.m. and said she came to get an autographed copy of Schirripa's book for her husband, Donald. They're both big Sopranos fans, she said.

"It's a whole family hour. I'm going to have the book personal-

ized and tell him that we hope to see him more next year," she said.

Luke Sangiamo of Linden got a couple pictures taken with Schirripa and said seeing the Sopranos star was "thrilling."

"I got two books signed," he said.

Schirripa summed up most of the fans' thoughts when someone told him they had been waiting for him for over two hours.

"But, I'm worth it!"

## Many holiday services planned

Area churches have announced their services for Christmas, which celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ.

**All Saints' Episcopal Church**, 559 Park Ave., Scotch Plains, has two Christmas Eve services and a Christmas Day service.

A Christmas pageant begins an all-ages service 5 p.m. Tuesday. Adults as well as children participate in the pageant. Carols are from the Junior Choir.

The "Festival Eucharist" service 10:30 p.m. Tuesday features an original holiday song by Michael Spassov, organist and choirmaster. Carols are from the All Saints' Choir. Spassov also leads an organ prelude 10 p.m.

Holy Eucharist will be consecrated at the two evening services and at the service 10 a.m. Wednesday.

At the **First Baptist Church**, 170 Elm St., Westfield, a chil-

dren's Christmas program is part of services 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

A candlelight service with music, readings and carols is 7:30 p.m. Tuesday.

**The First United Methodist Church of Westfield**, 1 E. Broad St., has "Family Christmas Caroling" 7 p.m. Sunday.

A children's service is 5 p.m. Tuesday. Services of "Lessons and Carols" by candlelight are 7 and 11 p.m. Tuesday.

**The Presbyterian Church**, 140 Mountain Ave., Westfield, has a family service and Christmas pageant 5 p.m. Tuesday.

Special Christmas services with Holy Communion are 8 and 11 p.m. Tuesday.

**Redeemer Lutheran Church**, 229 Cowperthwaite Place, Westfield, has a family Communion service 6 p.m.

Tuesday.

A "Carol Sing" 10:45 p.m. Tuesday is followed by a candlelight service of Holy Communion. A second Holy Communion service with carols is 10 a.m. Wednesday.

The "Year in Review" is covered at a service of Holy Communion 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31.

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**, 414 E. Broad St., Westfield, has an Advent Eucharist "Service of Lessons and Carols" 11:15 a.m. Sunday. Music is from the parish choir and a chamber orchestra.

A children's service and Christmas pageant 4 p.m. Tuesday includes music from the Children's Choir. A "Carol Sing" 10:15 p.m. is followed by a choral Eucharist service with instrumental music.

The Holy Eucharist also will be consecrated at a Christmas Day service 10 a.m. Wednesday.



NICOLE DIMELLA/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

### Sometimes the deer just don't cut it

Santa usually travels by sled, but this St. Nick preferred commuter rail on Sunday. The annual "Santa Train" took holiday celebrants of all ages from Bound Brook to Westfield for some seasonal shopping.

## New drugs bring new dangers — and they're not just for clubs

By KEVIN B. HOWELL  
THE RECORD-PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — Tootsie Rolls, Skittles and candy necklaces seem like normal favorite treats kids may carry around. But those candies, accompanied with other paraphernalia, are indicators of possible "party drug" use for teens, according to Sandee Moroso of Prevention Links Inc., a drug prevention agency in Union County.

Moroso last week made a presentation to the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Municipal Alliance Committee about the dangers of party drugs, which she says have extended beyond clubs and raves into homes, schools and everywhere teens gather.

The most popular drugs include Ecstasy, Ketamine and

GHB, also known as the date rape drug. On the street they are called Adam, Special K and Liquid X. They come in tablet, powder and liquid forms, and are easily concealed and easy to obtain, Moroso said.

Moroso explained to committee members and parents that the drugs first surfaced at clubs or parties called "raves."

Ecstasy comes in a small tablet form and has various colors and is imprinted with different logos, such as the Playboy bunny and car logos, she said.

The tablets are often hidden in boxes of Altoids, Pez dispensers or at the end of Tootsie Rolls, which makes them hard to detect, Moroso said. The drug is used to enhance users' experience at clubs, as they claim it gives them increased sense of energy and heightened sensory

perception.

Moroso said techno music at the clubs, which contains from 140 to 200 beats per minute, plays a big part, as the music works with the drug to keep users stimulated. The drug also gives users feelings of euphoria,

*"If (kids) start taking drugs at a young age, even if they stop, they will have long-term problems. And I don't mean long-term when they're 60, I mean when they're 30."*

— Sandee Moroso  
of Prevention Links, Inc.

increased sexual arousal, increased need for stimulation and a need to be touched.

However, those stimulating feelings are also accompanied by confusion, depression, sleep-

ing problems, anxiety and paranoia, Moroso explained. These side effects are felt within 20 to 40 minutes of taking the drug and can last up to six hours.

Physical side effects include increased heart rate, dehydration, hypothermia, dilated

glow sticks, which Moroso says are shined in the eyes to further dilate the pupils, and water bottles, to handle the effects of dehydration. However, the constant water intake can be harmful, as too much can make the body unbalanced, Moroso said.

"I tell kids they don't know what type of body they have. Some can take (Ecstasy) for two years and nothing will happen. Others can take it once and possibly die," Moroso said.

Some of the long-term effects include weight loss, cardiovascular collapse, depression, memory loss, liver failure, respiratory failure and brain damage.

"If (kids) start taking drugs at a young age, even if they stop, they will have long-term problems," Moroso said. "And I don't mean long-term when they're 60, I mean when they're

30."

Moroso warned GHB is dangerous because it comes in a clear liquid form and can be slipped into drinks unknowingly. Both males and females have been victims of the date rape drug, she said.

Some of its effects include nausea, drowsiness, confusion, reduction in social inhibitions and increase in aggressive or sexual behavior. High doses of GHB may result in a coma or death, she said.

Prevention Links, the Union County division of the New Jersey Prevention Network, offers presentations to various organizations. Moroso gave a presentation to health classes at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School earlier this month.

For more information on club drugs, visit NJPN.org.

## Jamie Hurley Daley

**FANWOOD** — Jamie T. Hurley Daley, 53, died Dec. 8, 2002 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.

She was born in Huntington, N.Y., and lived in Fanwood before moving to East Brunswick.

Mrs. Daley was an assistant professor of English at Middlesex County College in Edison, where she had been on the faculty since 1993. She also was an advisor to the college's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honor society. From 1984-92 she was an adjunct instructor at Rutgers University in New Brunswick.

A 1967 alumna of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, Mrs. Daley attended Douglass College of Rutgers University before receiving a bachelor's degree from Indiana University in 1976. She earned a master's degree and doctorate in English from the University of Notre Dame in 1983.

Mrs. Daley was a religious education teacher at St. Bartholomew Roman Catholic Church in East Brunswick, where she was a

Eucharistic minister for Masses. She was a volunteer teacher at the Shoreless Lake School in Clinton and a charter member of the St. Bartholomew Columbianettes in East Brunswick.

Her mother, Gloria Schow Daley, died in 1990.

Surviving are her husband, Roger W.; her father, Barton Hurley of Charlestown, R.I.; a son, Ryan of East Brunswick; two daughters, Kristin of Manhattan and Meghan of South Bend, Ind.; and two brothers, Scott Hurley of Mystic, Conn., and Colin Hurley of Baltimore, Md.

Services were held Dec. 12 at the Brunswick Memorial Home, East Brunswick, followed by a funeral Mass at St. Bartholomew Church. Entombment was in the mausoleum at Holy Cross Burial Park, South Brunswick.

Donations may be sent to Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society Scholarship, c/o Santi Buscemi, Middlesex County College, Department of English, 2600 Woodbridge Ave., Edison, NJ 08818-3050.

## Robert Lind

**WESTFIELD** — Robert Lind, 78, died Dec. 12, 2002 in the Holly Health Care Center at Arbor Glen in Bridgewater.

Mr. Lind was born in New York City. He lived in Pompano Beach, Fla., and Westfield before moving to Bridgewater.

He was with Petrie Corp. in Secaucus for 31 years, retiring in 1986 as a senior vice president of operations. Mr. Lind served in the

Army Air Corps during World War II.

Surviving are two sons, Stephen and Scott; two daughters, Regina Somma and Melissa; his former wife, Mollie; and a grandchild.

Services were held Dec. 13 at the Bruce C. Van Arsdale Funeral Home in Somerville. Donations may be sent to American Cancer Society, 600 First Ave., Raritan, NJ 08869.

## Betty Catalon

**WESTFIELD** — Betty A. Coppola Catalon, 83, died Dec. 12, 2002 at Community Medical Center in Toms River.

She was born in Kenilworth and lived in Westfield before moving to Ortleigh Beach in 1992.

Mrs. Catalon owned the Hilltop Beauty Salon in Westfield and Cranford. She was a member of the Westfield Public School PTA.

Her husband, Thomas A. Jr., died in 1980.

Surviving are a son, Thomas A. III; two daughters, Betty and Gail

Geese; a brother, Sal Cirillo; a sister, Lucille Monahan; and five grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Saturday at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery.

Arrangements were by the Gray Funeral Home.

Donations may be sent to St. Helen's Church, Outreach Program, 1600 Highway Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090-3615 or Westfield PAL, P.O. Box 873, Westfield, NJ 07091.

## Susan Cleary Baitz

**WESTFIELD** — Susan Cleary Baitz, 53, died Dec. 14, 2002 at her home in Mountainside.

A native of Cape May, she lived in Westfield before moving to Mountainside in 1988.

Mrs. Baitz was an interior decorator with her Cleary Interiors firm, first in Westfield and more recently in Mountainside. She earned a degree in interior design from the Pratt Institute in 1978.

She earlier was a manager with

Lloyd's Furniture in Somerville, where Mrs. Baitz worked from 1973-88.

Surviving are her husband, Thomas; and a brother, Kevin Cleary of Martinsville.

Services were held Tuesday at the Higgins & Bonner Echo Lake Funeral Home. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery.

Donations may be sent to the Oncology Research Department at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

## Mildred Wright

**WESTFIELD** — Mildred H. Wright, 97, died Dec. 13, 2002 at Community Medical Center in Toms River.

A native of Englishtown, she lived in Westfield before moving to Toms River in 1973.

Mrs. Wright graduated from the Trenton Normal School (now The College of New Jersey). She was a member of the Women's Club of

Westfield as well as the Bridge Card Players and Chauncy Board Squares clubs in Toms River.

Surviving are a son, Gerald W. of Long Valley; a daughter, Joan W. Kovacs of Mantoloking; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Services were held Monday at the Anderson & Campbell Funeral Home in Toms River.

## Geneva Chamberlain

**WESTFIELD** — Geneva Chamberlain, 93, died Dec. 11, 2002 at the Norwood Terrace Health Center in Plainfield.

A native of Clifton Forge, Va., she lived in Westfield before moving to Plainfield in 1992.

Mrs. Chamberlain retired in 1978 after more than 60 years as a housekeeper and cook. She served

on the Hospitality Committee at the Bethel Baptist Church.

Surviving are two daughters, Aruba Madison of Plainfield and Almayr Hobson of Newark; 12 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren.

Services were held Monday at the Judkins Colonial Home in Plainfield.

## Obituaries

### Horace Westbrook

**SCOTCH PLAINS** — Horace Westbrook, 80, died Dec. 10, 2002 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

He was born in Southampton County, Va., and had lived in Scotch Plains since 1927.

Mr. Westbrook retired in 1986 from Johnson & Johnson, with which he was a salary analyst at company offices in New Brunswick. He worked with the J&J personnel department on programs to improve minority representation. He also was the manager of the J&J Baby Products Division in Skillman.

In addition, Mr. Westbrook worked in the personnel department of the Thomas A. Edison Job Corps Academy in Edison. He graduated from Seton Hall University and was among the first African Americans in Alpha Kappa Psi fraternity.

He was the first African American in Alpha Lodge 116, Free & Accepted Masons, in East Brunswick. Mr. Westbrook was a trustee of St. John's Baptist Church and for more than 60 years a member of that congregation.

He served in the Army during World War II.

Surviving are his wife, Jacqueline; a daughter, Dr. Susan Sawyer of Phillips Ranch, Calif.; two sons, Horace of San Antonio, Texas, and Roger of Kilauea, Hawaii; two sisters, Annie Lee Brantley of Scotch Plains and Rosabelle Johnson of Newport News, Va.; three grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Services were held Saturday at St. John's Baptist Church. Arrangements were by the Judkins Colonial Home in Plainfield.

### Thomas Coumbe

**WESTFIELD** — Thomas Courtland Coumbe, 73, died Dec. 16, 2002 at his home.

He was born in Suffern, N.Y., and lived in Westfield for most of his life.

Mr. Coumbe retired in 2001 after 15 years as a maintenance worker with Bayer Inc. in Raritan Township. He served in the Merchant Marine during World War II and was a captain on the Westfield Rescue Squad in the 1960s.

He graduated from Randolph-Macon Military Academy in Front Royal, Va. Mr. Coumbe was a parishioner of Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church.

A son, Michael T., died in 1968.

Surviving are his wife of 52 years, Phyllis McEnaney Coumbe; three daughters, Debra J. Carbone of Mahopac, N.Y., Denise DiMaria of Emerson and Mimi King of Toms River; three sons, Daniel H. of Westfield, Thomas C. of New York City and Timothy C. of Oradell; a sister, Beverlee Scheve; and seven grandchildren.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated 11 a.m. today at Holy Trinity Church, 315 First St. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery.

Arrangements are by the Gray Funeral Home. Donations may be sent to Westfield Rescue Squad, 335 Watterson St., Westfield, NJ 07090.

### Marilyn Mastrella

**SCOTCH PLAINS** — Marilyn Lois Mastrella, 72, died of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma Dec. 15, 2002 in the Cancer Institute of New Jersey at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick.

Born March 18, 1930 in Manhattan, she was the daughter of the late Harry and Marie Delamater Steinfield. Mrs. Mastrella lived in Bayonne before moving to Scotch Plains nearly 30 years ago.

She was a licensed real estate broker with Coldwell Banker in Warren until December 2001 and a member of the Million Dollar Club. Mrs. Mastrella was one of the first women bank tellers at the Chase Manhattan Bank in the early 1950s. She earned a certificate in commercial banking from the American Bankers Institute after her graduation at age 16 from George Washington High School in Manhattan.

Before going into real estate Mrs. Mastrella helped her husband, Vincent J., operate a men's wear company for more than 30 years. The Mastrellas traveled to

France, Italy, England, Israel and Turkey in their 43 years as a married couple. She celebrated her 70th birthday in Paris in 2000.

Mrs. Mastrella was a descendant from the DeLamater family, which has been represented in every major American war since the American Revolution. Her ancestors built engines for the Civil War "ironclad" ship Monitor at the DeLamater Iron Works in lower Manhattan.

A granddaughter, Katelynn Mastrella LoAlbo, died in 1992.

Also surviving are three daughters, Maureen Mastrella Stewart, Marilyn Mastrella Presti and Meredith; a brother, Allen Norton; five grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Services were held yesterday at the Memorial Funeral Home, Fairwood, followed by a funeral Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church. Burial was in Evergreen Cemetery, Clinton.

Donations may be sent to Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, 45 Springfield Ave., Springfield, NJ 07081.

### William K. Lauritsen

**WESTFIELD** — William K. Lauritsen, 71, died Dec. 5, 2002 in Bel Air, Md.

Born in Rahway, he was a son of the late William Peter and Helen Alundra Dockstader Lauritsen. Mr. Lauritsen lived in Woodbridge, Plainfield and Westfield before moving to Bel Air in 1985.

He spent 37 years with Chevron Corp. before retiring as a marketing service manager. Mr. Lauritsen graduated from Rider College.

He served in the Army Corps of Engineers during the Korean War

and was awarded a commendation ribbon.

Surviving are his wife of 52 years, Shirley Ann Mosher Lauritsen; four daughters, Karen Van Zandt of Boston, Mass., Barbara McGrath of Atlanta, Ga., Linda and Laurie Agnes, both of Bel Air; a brother, Alan of Edison; a sister, Mary Alice Hightberger of Clearwater, Fla.; and six grandchildren.

Services were held Dec. 10 in Bel Air. Donations may be sent to the American Cancer Society.

## Angelina Rasile

**SCOTCH PLAINS** — Angelina Caruso Rasile, 88, died Dec. 15, 2002 at her home.

She was born in Plainfield and lived in Scotch Plains for most of her life.

Mrs. Rasile was a homemaker and enjoyed working in her garden. She was a parishioner of St. Bartholomew the Apostle Roman Catholic Church.

Two sisters, Elizabeth and Helen, and three brothers, Henry, Ralph and Pat, are deceased.

Surviving are her husband of

65 years, August C.; a daughter, Marie B. Callahan; a brother, Albert Caruso; a sister, Viola M. Morano; three grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Wednesday at St. Bartholomew the Apostle Church, following services at the Rossi Funeral Home. Entombment was in the Woodbridge Memorial Gardens mausoleum.

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

## Cranford EMS asks for \$300,000 in 2003

By NICK D'AMORE  
THE RECORD PRESS

**CRANFORD** — Representatives of the Cranford Emergency Medical Services presented their 2003 budget proposal to the Township Committee Tuesday, asking for more than \$148,000 in operating costs and more than \$151,000 in salaries and wages.

The budget includes appropriations for training for the Emergency Medical Technicians, building maintenance, vehicle maintenance, medical supplies and equipment purchases.

The biggest expenditure was medical supplies, totaling \$44,550. Cranford Police Sgt. James Wozniak said the state requires that the emergency vehicles contain certain apparatus and supplies at all times.

"We're subject to inspection at any time. It would cover any supplies we need to order for both ambulances," he said.

Capt. Eric Mason said many of the supplies used by the EMTs are disposable, such as gloves.

"They're going through a lot of their items constantly," he said.

Also included are masks, tape, oxygen cylinders, splints and bandages.

Chief Harry Wilde said "under optimum conditions," the EMS would receive \$22,000 from the First Aid Squad and \$22,000 from the police department for medical supplies.

Also in the budget request were two emergency utility vehicles, totaling \$66,000. Wilde said the vehicles were necessary because EMS workers are currently using the spare ambulance for everyday operations.

However, he said the committee might be able to "back out" that expense if there were a vehicle that the EMS could have easy access to for routine, non-emergency operations.

He said that if the committee did want to supply a new vehicle for the EMS, he would recommend a four-by-four.

"It would be a significant asset to the whole community, if you

want to provide another vehicle," Wilde said.

Maintenance of the township's two ambulances would cost \$17,687 in the next year, according to the budget report.

One 1998 ambulance has 47,120 miles, the other is a 2000 model with 18,467 miles on it.

"The figure is reasonably accurate. It may come in lower," said Wilde of the maintenance estimate.

"It's more cost-effective to have our own people do some of the maintenance. Some things, we have to farm out," he said, citing engine replacement.

Also budgeted are the training costs for EMTs, as required by the state. According to the budget report, each EMT must obtain at least 48 continuing education credits in three years.

Building maintenance is also in the budget for the first aid building, which Wilde said was "in significant disrepair, on the border of dangerous." The maintenance accounts for \$3,960 of the budget.

Wilde said he was told that the building could last a year or more, notwithstanding a major flooding condition.

"All bets are off with a major flooding condition," he said.

Wilde said a new pre-fabricated building will be in the police department's capital budget request at an expense of \$650,000.

Earlier this year, the Township Committee made an emergency appropriation of \$95,000 to pay for the creation of Cranford Emergency Medical Services, when the volunteer First Aid Squad was unable to guarantee services.

Finance Officer Tom Grady said that appropriation should be enough for the squad to function for the rest of the year. He said the squad's operating expenses ran higher than expected, but payroll costs were not as high as expected.

The emergency appropriation must be paid in the 2003 municipal budget, which will likely be adopted next spring.

## This week

### FRIDAY

DEC. 20

**HOLIDAY PARTY** — for Newcomers Club of Westfield. The Westwood, 438 North Ave., Garwood, 7:30 p.m. (908) 654-5373 or (908) 789-4842.

**IMPERIAL BRASS** — holiday music. First United Methodist Church, 1 E. Broad St., Westfield, 7:30 p.m. (908) 233-4211.

### SATURDAY

DEC. 21

**BABYSITTER** — training for boys and girls 11-15. American Red Cross, 321 Elm St., Westfield, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 21; 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Dec. 30; 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Jan. 11. Registration required: (908) 232-7090.

**BOOK SIGNING** — "Bell Labs: Life in the Crown Jewel" by Narain Gehani. Town Book Store, 255 E. Broad St., Westfield, 2-4 p.m. (908) 233-3535.

**MESSIAH** — holiday standard in sing-along format. Presbyterian Church, 140 Mountain Ave., Westfield, 8 p.m. \$25. Tickets: (800) ALLEGRO.

### SUNDAY

DEC. 22

**SNACKTIME** — cookie exchange for Newcomers Club of Westfield, 2 p.m. Registration: (908) 654-5373 or (908) 789-4842.

**LONG, LONG AGO** — "A Candlelight Christmas in Elizabethtown." Miller-Cory House Museum, 614 Mountain Ave., Westfield, 2-4 p.m. Adults \$2; students 50 cents; under 6 free. (908) 232-1776.

**LESSONS & CAROLS** —

annual service of Fanwood Presbyterian Church, 74 S. Martine Ave., Fanwood, 4 p.m. (908) 889-8891.

### SATURDAY

DEC. 28

**RECEIPTIFICATION** — "CPR for the Professional Rescuer" class. American Red Cross, 321 Elm St., Westfield, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Registration required: (908) 232-7090.

### COMING UP

**20th CENTURY MUSIC** — "Puttin' on the Ritz" with the Westfield Symphony Orchestra and WYACT. Presbyterian Church, 140 Mountain Ave., Westfield, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 31. Adults \$25; under 14 \$12. Tickets: (908) 232-9400.

**WINTER MUSICAL** — "And the World Goes 'Round." Westfield Community Players, 1000 North Ave. West, Westfield, 8 p.m. Jan. 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25. \$15. Tickets: (908) 232-1221.

**REHEARSAL** — for all-Brahms concert of First Oratorio Singers. First United Methodist Church, 1 E. Broad St., Westfield, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 6. (908) 233-4211.

**SPA NIGHT** — for Westfield Welcome Club, 7 p.m. Jan. 7. Directions: (908) 317-5812 or (908) 301-1923.

**MINISERIES** — on Jewish philosophers. Temple Emanu-El, 756 E. Broad St., Westfield, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29. \$5. (908) 232-6770.

**"ST. JOHN PASSION"** — music by Johann Sebastian Bach, sung by Choral Art Society of New Jersey. Presbyterian Church, 140 Mountain Ave., Westfield, 8 p.m. Jan. 18. Adults \$15; students, seniors \$10. Tickets: (908) 232-1120.

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9:15AM Sunday School  
10:00AM Holy Eucharist  
Christmas Eve Services:  
4:00PM Children's Service  
10:30PM Holy Eucharist & Carols  
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**Covenant Presbyterian Church**  
291 Parsonage Hill Road  
Short Hills  
973-467-8454  
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6:30 p.m.  
"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God"

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908-233-2278 www.fbcwestfield.org

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# Two-thirds of Roosevelt School students named to honor roll

WESTFIELD — Roosevelt Intermediate School Principal Dr. Ken Shulack announced 326 students, or 67 percent of the seventh- and eighth-grade student body, were named to the first marking period honor roll for the 2002-2003 school year.

**Grade 7 Distinguished Honor Roll** — Marlee Austin, Erin M. Bange, Cameron M. Banta, Matthew S. Bluffield, Caitlin C. Burke, Jessica A. Campo, Stephen Chan, Christopher Chin, Alex Colucci, Kyle E. Cortley, Emily K. Cozzi, Joshua David, Ian Devaney, Benjamin J. Dornfeld, Jared M. Dornfeld, Rose M. Driscoll, Maya Fine Pincus, Vincent Fitzpatrick, Matthew Gralla, Aidan B. Granstrand, Britta L. Greene, Peter Griesmer, Caitlin Hewett, Melanie L. Jackson, Dean Kowalski, Benjamin E. Maimon, Joseph R. Maran, Harry Marino, Daniel E. Markowski, Catherine Marvin, Danielle R. Masterton, Matthew S. McCurdy, Rebecca L. McNulty, Pratik M. Mehta, Kimberly D. Morawski, Marissa H. Mumford, Alexandra Pecora, Josephine B. Reinhardt, Crista M. Ricci, Kimberly Ripberger, Stephanie A. Rowe, Erin C. Scialabba, James L. Sepp, Kevin Shallcross, Allison E. Sharkey, Deborah F. Siegel, Melissa Souto, Danielle E. Tepper, Elena Tinfow, Lindsay M. Tishberg, Ann-Marie Valentine, Lindsay Walsh, Cindy Wang, Michael Weinberg, Daniela Weiner, Hannah Wharam, Trevor B. Yee, Michelle Zaffuto, Eric C. Zagorski, Lisa S. Zavetz, Xinyi (Ed) Zhang.

**Grade 7 Honor Roll** — Alexandra H. Annis, Stephen Aswad, Andrew M. Bakst, Claire F. Bennett, William R. Berton, William J. Beshears, Victoria N. Binko, Laryssa M. Borkowsky, Robert J. Castelo, Andrew Castrorano, A.J. Cerami, Tyler Clark, Jordana Confino, Caitlin M. Corkery, Lauren N. Couture, Leigh Couture, Stefanie R. Crosta, Andrew Cunningham, Barbara D'Agosto, Michael Dibble, Kathryn Donovan, Emily Duskow, Evan L. Eisenberg, William S. Eisenberg, Elizabeth A. Engel, Michele Eniclerico, Josefine Eriksson, Craig Esposito, Meghan Evans, Matthew A. Feniger, Bryan Fitzpatrick, Cornelius Fitzpatrick,

Michael Fitzpatrick, Christopher Franks, Emily E. Fusco, Ariel N. Gale, Brittney R. Gallagher, Melissa A. Gallagher, Rachel E. Ganz, Katherine M. Gelman, Paige Geraghty, Joseph P. Green, Matthew F.N. Green, Jared M. Greene, Alexander M. Greenspan, Elizabeth C. Hawkins, Mita Heneck, Brandon Heroux, Benjamin Hiller, Lauren C. Huff, Rachel Iannazzone, Christine J. Kandigian, Michael Kane, Lauren Krichulsky, Anusuya Krishnan, Tim Kuehn, George Kunath, Ryan M. Kuppertschmidt, Alexander Laund, Allison Laund, Florian Leutwyler, John N. Levidy, Nicholas La Volsi, Allison F. MacDonald, Mary E. Mahoney, Katherine B. Meylor, Robert M. Miller, Zachary Minken, Gregory T. Morrissey, Haley A. Mustard, Michael A. Nanna, Kevin M. Neylan, Michael P. Nika, Gabrielle A. O'Leary, Corinne Parkinson, Joanna Protogianis, Stephanie Quinton, Jorie Richlin-Zack, Michael E. Rodman, Zachary

Rubin, Kirk K. Sabnam, Ellen R. Scariati, Tessa Schaaf, Kelly A. Seeger, Luke Shane, Megan R. Sherman, Richard Venekus, Benjamin Walker, Emily Walus, Zacharie Weingarten, Hannah P. Weisman, Georgette Williamson, Domenick Wissel.

**Grade 8 Distinguished Honor Roll** — Justin A. Adams, Stephanie P. Baeder, Luke M. Baran, Gregory H. Boyle, Emily C. Cataldo, Stephanie Christiano, Christine L. Cobuzzi, Anthony Cocuzza, Catherine Cordero, Seth I. Davidson, Emily De Rosa, Aaron E. Eisenberg, Christopher Engel, Alena Fleming, Remi G. Fornal, Claire S. Fox, Angelina I. Garneva, Emily Gee, Leanne P. Hewitt, Christopher Kalis, Anya M. Kaplan, Elizabeth J. Kline, Bryan Knapp, Anna E. Koehler, Kate Kovalenko, Bryan Krichulsky, Sarah H. Lapidus, Jennifer Laspatia, Thomas Malaspin, Kevin Maus, Melissa K. McDermott, Patrick F. McCabe,

James Meylor, Julieanne E. Niemura, Caitlyn Oster, Courtney A. Phillips, Colleen E. Psmas, Ellen Ramage, Nicole A. Reich, Matthew T. Renart, Lindsey Ann Sauerwein, Ian Schwartz, William Schwartz, Julie Anne Shelman, Marlena Sheridan, Thomas J. Sheridan, Melissa Slavin, Samantha Vitale, Heather Welham, Molly G. Williams, Benjamin Zakarin, Aron L. Zavaro.

**Grade 8 Honor Roll** — Kimberly J. Angus, Sara Anthony, Peter L. Antonelli, Matthew L. Anzalone, Seth M. Applebaum, Jeremy R. Barnes, Adam Becker, Caitlin M. Bludgus, Eric J. Brandman, Lindsay Brown, Melanie Brown, Jennifer Burns, Robert J. Cariste, Amanda Carolan, Patricia Caruana, Matthew S. Carville, Rachael S. Cauley, Tiffany Cayado, Julia P. Cederroth, Xiao Chen, Chloe E. Cherin, Christopher Chou, Theodore Chou, Kristina M.

Cofone, Jessica A. Cohen, G. Peter Cornell, Samuel J. Crawford, Tara E. Daly, Brian Davidson, Cecilia De Corral, Holly A. Desantis, Ashley Dunning, Scott Dyer, Adam G. Eisen, Samara El Sherbini, William B. Farnell IV, Jonathan D. Finkel, Nicole B. Finkel, Rachel Fischer, Andrew K. Ford, Alexander S. Forstenhauser, Sarah M. Garry, Andrew D. Gately, Melissa J. Gierckens, Patrick K. Gessner, Ilene R. Goodman, Kayley Graham, Anne G. Greenberg, Jiaming Guan, Tigest Hathi, Emma Hand, Caroline Hansen, William M. Harbaugh, Matthew K. Harris, Robert Hay III, Amanda C. Hayden, Stephen M. Heine, Kevin J. Hennessey, Phillip John, Samuel G. John, Daniel J. Johnson, Troy Johnson, Madeline C. Joyce, Daniel J. Kahner, Edward L. Kane, Adam D. Koll, Kimberly Legones, Mary Kate Luker, Claire MacDonald, Michael Marks, Christopher Mattes, Natalia Mavrogianis,

Lauren E. McCurdy, Amanda McQuade, Rebecca McQuade, John F. Mcraigher, Russell J. Miller, Nicholas Mironowich, Suzanne Morgan, Christine Mruz, Jacylin Noell, Anna A. Pullino, Sarah E. Queller, Jonathan Ramalho, Glenn Romano, Lindsey Romano, Adam T. Rubin, Peter Rukinsky, Ryan Salmon, Elizabeth L. Scanton, Brittany Shaykevich, John William Sidhom, Leanne Skorge, Bryan J. Smith, Darrell Ann Smith, Jacqueline D. Snyder, Zachary Sproull, Kate Statton, Jamie Steiner, Thomas Stewart, Colin R. Sullivan, Kelsey Sullivan, Sean M. Sullivan, Katherine L. Taylor, James N. Thayer, Julia Tomaszczyk, James Tonges, John J. Trimble, Andrea S. Turitz, Alex Vanarelli, Nicole Venutetti, Michael T. Venezia, Michael P. Verrier, Scott B. Warner, Leigh E. Weissman, Francesca Wellham, Gregory A. Whitman, Maxwell H. Wieder, Ryan Yarusi, Gabriel Yukon.

## Stender is honored for support of fire services

SCOTCH PLAINS — Assemblywoman Linda Stender of the 22nd Legislative District was presented with the honor of Legislator of the Year by the New Jersey Deputy Fire Chiefs Association in appreciation for her sponsorship of the "Fire Service Resource and Deployment Act." The awards ceremony was held Dec. 13 at the Glen Ridge Country Club.

"Firefighters are our everyday heroes. The work of the fire service personnel is vital to the safety and well-being of the residents of our communities. I am proud to sponsor legislation that will support the fire services and support them in their mission," said Stender. "I am honored to receive this award from the Deputy Fire Chiefs, and I look forward to continuing to work with firefighters in the State of New Jersey."

Assembly bill A-1775 establishes a program designed to coordinate fire service personnel and equipment throughout the state to facilitate quick and efficient responses to emergency incidents or situations where municipal fire departments and forces require outside assistance in order to protect life and property from the danger or destruction of fire, explosion or other disasters.

Other awards presented by the New Jersey Deputy Fire Chiefs Association included Fire Officer of the Year 2002, received by Battalion Fire Chief Thomas McGovern. Various photographers and staff-writers for local newspapers were also honored for their contributions to fire service personnel recognition.

## Scanlon will be selected

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders will select Deborah P. Scanlon and Angel Estrada as chair and vice-chair, respectively, of the board in 2003.

Scanlon has previously worked on initiatives to help children, families and women in need; to bring job seekers and businesses together; and to improve playground equipment and playing fields in county parks.

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<b>JACK DANIELS</b> 32 <sup>02</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>J.W. RED or DEWAR'S</b> 31 <sup>00</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>JOHNNIE WALKER BLACK</b> 50 <sup>00</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>ABSOLUT Vodka 80° Citron Mandrin</b> 28 <sup>01</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>SMIRNOFF Vodka 80°</b> 18 <sup>00</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>JOSE CUERVO Gold Tequila</b> 31 <sup>00</sup> 1.75 liter
<b>CROWN ROYAL</b> 38 <sup>09</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>SEAGRAMS 7 CROWN</b> 14 <sup>09</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>CUTTY SARK</b> 26 <sup>00</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>BEEFEATER Gin</b> 26 <sup>00</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>TANQUERAY Starling Vodka 80°</b> 24 <sup>99</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>WOLFSCHMIDT Vodka 80°</b> 13 <sup>01</sup> 1.75 liter
<b>LEEDS Gin Vodka 80°</b> 9 <sup>99</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>MALIBU RUM Coconut</b> 20 <sup>99</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>BACARDI RUM Light • Gold</b> 17 <sup>00</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>CAPT. MORGAN Orig. Spiced Rum</b> 21 <sup>29</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>BACARDI O • Limon Select</b> 21 <sup>99</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>GORDONS Vodka 80°</b> 13 <sup>00</sup> 1.75 liter
<b>SKYY Vodka 80°</b> 22 <sup>00</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>GORDONS Vodka 80°</b> 13 <sup>00</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>SEAGRAMS VO</b> 10 <sup>99</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>WHITE HORSE Scotch</b> 20 <sup>00</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>GORDONS Gin</b> 13 <sup>00</sup> 1.75 liter	<b>JOHNNIE WALKER BLUE</b> 14 <sup>00</sup> 1.75 liter

<b>750 ml FLEISCHMANN'S PREFERRED</b> 12 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L JOHN BEGG Scotch</b> 17 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L FLEISCHMANN'S PREFERRED</b> 12 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L FLEISCHMANN'S PREFERRED</b> 12 <sup>99</sup>
<b>1.75L CANADIAN MIST</b> 13 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L DEWAR'S WHITE LABEL</b> 23 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L FLEISCHMANN'S PREFERRED</b> 12 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L FLEISCHMANN'S PREFERRED</b> 12 <sup>99</sup>
<b>1.75L CANADIAN CLUB</b> 17 <sup>49</sup>	<b>1.75L FLEISCHMANN'S PREFERRED</b> 12 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L FLEISCHMANN'S PREFERRED</b> 12 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L FLEISCHMANN'S PREFERRED</b> 12 <sup>99</sup>
<b>1.75L GRANTS</b> 12 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L SEAGRAMS GIN</b> 14 <sup>00</sup>	<b>1.75L FLEISCHMANN'S PREFERRED</b> 12 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L FLEISCHMANN'S PREFERRED</b> 12 <sup>99</sup>
<b>1.75L INVERHOUSE</b> 14 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L BACARDI RUM</b> 11 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L FLEISCHMANN'S PREFERRED</b> 12 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L FLEISCHMANN'S PREFERRED</b> 12 <sup>99</sup>
<b>1.75L CLAN MACGREGOR</b> 15 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L CASTILLO RUM</b> 13 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L FLEISCHMANN'S PREFERRED</b> 12 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1.75L FLEISCHMANN'S PREFERRED</b> 12 <sup>99</sup>

<b>750 ml GENTLEMAN JACK</b> 20 <sup>00</sup>	<b>750 ml GLENLIVET Single Malt</b> 26 <sup>00</sup>	<b>750 ml KETEL ONE Vodka 80°</b> 16 <sup>50</sup>
<b>750 ml WOODFORD RESERVE</b> 23 <sup>00</sup>	<b>750 ml MacALLAN 12 Year</b> 31 <sup>00</sup>	<b>750 ml FINLANDIA Vodka 80° • Cranberry</b> 15 <sup>00</sup>
<b>750 ml DEWAR'S WHITE LABEL</b> 15 <sup>00</sup>	<b>750 ml JOHNNIE WALKER BLUE</b> 15 <sup>00</sup>	<b>750 ml ABSOLUT Citron • Kurant • Mandrin</b> 16 <sup>00</sup>
<b>750 ml JOHNNIE WALKER RED</b> 15 <sup>00</sup>	<b>750 ml BEEFEATER Gin</b> 14 <sup>00</sup>	<b>750 ml KROLEWSKA Polish Vodka 80°</b> 18 <sup>00</sup>
<b>750 ml CHIVAS REGAL</b> 25 <sup>00</sup>	<b>750 ml TANQUERAY 10</b> 22 <sup>00</sup>	<b>750 ml GREY GOOSE Vodka 80°</b> 23 <sup>00</sup>

<b>HOLIDAY CASE SPECIALS All Cases 12-Bottles 750 ml</b>	<b>NANDO Asti Spumante</b> 72 <sup>00</sup>	<b>M &amp; R Asti Spumante</b> 97 <sup>00</sup>	<b>BACARDI RUM Light • Gold</b> 108 <sup>00</sup>	<b>SMIRNOFF Vodka 80°</b> 108 <sup>00</sup>	<b>GRANTS Scotch</b> 108 <sup>12</sup>
<b>SEAGRAMS 7 CROWN</b> 111 <sup>49</sup>	<b>KORBEL Brut • Extra Dry 18-Pack</b> 140 <sup>91</sup>	<b>ABSOLUT Vodka 80°</b> 180 <sup>12</sup>	<b>DEWAR'S WHITE LABEL</b> 184 <sup>00</sup>	<b>JOHNNIE WALKER RED</b> 185 <sup>00</sup>	<b>JOHNNIE WALKER RED</b> 185 <sup>00</sup>
<b>JACK DANIELS</b> 192 <sup>12</sup>	<b>HENNESSEY VS</b> 265 <sup>00</sup>	<b>JOHNNIE WALKER BLACK</b> 288 <sup>00</sup>	<b>MOET WHITE STAR</b> 289 <sup>00</sup>	<b>CHIVAS REGAL</b> 301 <sup>00</sup>	<b>CHIVAS REGAL</b> 301 <sup>00</sup>

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<b>KEYSTONE Light 30-Pack</b> 9 <sup>00</sup>	<b>SCHAEFER 30-Pack Regular</b> 10 <sup>99</sup>	<b>CORONITA Nips</b> 15 <sup>99</sup>	<b>MIKE'S Variety Pack or SMIRNOFF Ice</b> 19 <sup>99</sup>
<b>MILWAUKEE'S BEST 30-Pack or RED DOG 30-Pack</b> 9 <sup>99</sup>	<b>O'DOUL'S Alcohol Free</b> 10 <sup>99</sup>	<b>MOLSON Canadian • Golden • Ice</b> 16 <sup>00</sup>	<b>CORONA Regular</b> 20 <sup>00</sup>
<b>BUDWEISER Regular 18-Pack</b> 9 <sup>99</sup>	<b>ROLLING ROCK</b> 13 <sup>20</sup>	<b>SAM ADAMS Lager</b> 19 <sup>00</sup>	<b>BECK'S HEINEKEN or AMSTEL LIGHT</b> 20 <sup>99</sup>

<b>AMARETTO DI AMORE Glass Set</b> 9 <sup>99</sup>	<b>BEERS of the WORLD 10 Bottle Taste Pack</b> 9 <sup>99</sup>	<b>3L LIVINGSTON CELLARS Chablis • Burgundy • Red • White • Zinfandel</b> 6 <sup>99</sup>
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<b>CROWN ROYAL Glass Set</b> 18 <sup>99</sup>	<b>FRANGELICO 2 Glass Set</b> 10 <sup>99</sup>	<b>5L BOX • FRATIZIA Chablis • Burg • Chianti • 5L BOX • PETER VELLA Chablis • Delicious Red • Blush • White • Gren • Burg</b> 8 <sup>99</sup>
<b>GRAND MARNIER Set</b> 25 <sup>99</sup>	<b>KAHLUA ESPECIAL Set</b> 17 <sup>99</sup>	<b>1L SCHWEPPES Mikers • Diet • 2L COKE • SPRITE • DIET COKE • 2L PEPSI • Regular • Diet • 24-12 oz. cans COKE • SPRITE • DIET COKE • 24-12 oz. cans PEPSI • Regular • Diet</b> 9 <sup>99</sup>
<b>REMY MARTIN VSOP Glass Set</b> 29 <sup>99</sup>	<b>STOLI GOLD Glass Set</b> 22 <sup>99</sup>	<b>3L LIVINGSTON CELLARS Chablis • Burgundy • Red • White • Zinfandel</b> 6 <sup>99</sup>

# Holiday Gift Guide

## These holiday gifts don't just educate — they entertain, too

(NAPSI) — Games that make learning fun have always gotten high grades with kids and parents. Classics like 20 Questions and Brain Quest have never been more popular and a new generation of games for kids and families are quickly catching on and finding their way into the American bedroom and the living room.

Here are some of the top-selling innovative new games for children and families that have easy-to-learn rules and focus on developing minds and, in some cases, bodies:

### For Kids

■ **Totally Gross, The Game of Science** is America's newest attempt to teach science to kids. Rated for ages 8 and up, this game by University Games explores the mysteries of physics, chemistry and biology by being gross.

■ **Dr. Seuss's Fun-in-a-Box** is the first pre-school memory game based on the work of Dr. Seuss.

■ **Mouse Round-Up** is the winner of the National Young Game Inventors' Contest. This game was created by 6-year-old Elise Veach, and challenges players to round up

their mice before the alley cat catches them and has them for supper. A great basic strategy game.

### For Families

■ **Kids Battle the Grown-Ups** is the first game designed and written by kids to stump their parents. In this clever game kids get to be kids and the grown-ups get to feel like kids. The game is played in teams and kids challenge grown-ups to know more about today's music, clothing, and sports than

the kids know about history, popular culture and literature. It is an engaging game where everyone gets involved and the kids get the last laugh!

■ **AMC's Reel Clues** is the first movie-based game that isn't for movie buffs. AMC has developed a game that redefines the way we watch movies. In this game, teams compete to collect points and create their own movie production.

■ **Abalone**, the seductive French game of strategy, is simple to learn

as Checkers, is simply the most intriguing two-person game available. This Game of the Year from France is back in the U.S.

■ **Author Mystery Puzzles** were introduced this year at AreYouGame.com and Barnes and Noble Stores. These are mystery stories and puzzles created by some of today's most popular mystery writers, including Sue Grafton, Nelson DeMille, Julie Smith and Mary Higgins Clark.

And for the party-going adults,

there is the zaniest game to hit the market in years. It is called **Fact or Crap** and it arrives direct from Australia. Fact or Crap is a game where players race to be the first to answer bizarre facts. To win you need to be the best at telling the fact from the crap. The game is available at Kmart and AreYouGame.com.

Most of these games and puzzles can be found throughout the U.S. at Toys R Us and Target as well as AreYouGame.com.

## Tips on stretching those shopping dollars

By ELLIE KAY

It seems as though holiday shopping gets more challenging every year. Not only is time as short as the buffet lines are long, but the wallet also tends to get a little thin. With holidays quickly approaching, it's never too late to think about creative ways to save money. By pinching some pennies now, rather than after the holidays, you can start 2003 off on the right foot.

As a busy mother of five, I understand just how far a dollar goes. The following five tips are strategies that I've found are helpful when trying to save money during the holidays. I think you'll find that when armed with these tips, a little time, and some shopping know-how, it will be easy to save money this holiday season.

**Price Comparisons** - One of the main skills every penny pincher knows is how to use the Sunday circulars. Most stores will match a

competitor's prices, and to find out if your favorite stores do so, simply call the customer service department and ask. If you find the store you're heading to beats competitor's prices and you've found a lower price in a circular, take the circular to the store to get the lower price. This saves more than just dollars; you also save time and gasoline by not visiting several stores to shop the sales.

**Savings Links** - When time is as short as it is around my house, you begin to realize just how helpful the Internet can be. With just a little online research, it's easy to find several money saving links that take only minutes to access. For example, at

www.mastercard.com you can sign up for local coupons through an offer from Entertainment publications, the world's leading coupon book. This is a very handy tool, especially for holiday travelers, because it features up to 50% off

discounts on hotel rooms, entertainment and recreational outlets, and dining. Go to www.mastercard.com and enter a zip code to take advantage of regional coupon savings. If you frequent these local businesses already, then it could add up to major savings. These include haircuts, restaurant discounts, movie theater passes, museum and amusement park entrance fees, and more.

**Online Prices** - When trying to save money while giving gifts, it's important to do research online for the higher priced items. Sometimes your favorite store or catalog will have a cheaper online price than what is offered in the store. And similar to price comps, if you take the online pricing with you to the store, many stores will honor that price. If not, order the item online. Admittedly, this takes a little more planning, which can be difficult during the holiday season, but if you do your research it can really

pay off. I recently bought a set of books online for a niece. While the books were not on sale in the store, the online store offered 10 percent off with any order and free shipping. I saved over \$10.

**Ask for substitutions and rainchecks** - Because there are so many more shoppers in the stores and malls during this time of year, it is common to have items out of stock. Don't let that convince you to buy a higher priced item you don't need. Instead, be sure to check with the store, because many will substitute items of equal or greater value on out-of-stock sale items. However, if the store won't substitute for an out of stock sale item, be sure to ask for a raincheck. This is great for the person on the go, because a raincheck extends the life of the sale and gives you more time to figure out how to save those dollars.

**Check the Checker** - In the flurry of holiday buying, don't let the excitement distract you. Anytime you are checking out anywhere, be sure you know what you are being charged. Over the course of a lifetime, the average person could be overcharged as much as 20%. With some stores now having an "it's right or it's free policy," just being attentive can save you some big bucks!

Ellie Kay is a best-selling author, international speaker, national radio commentator and regular on CNBC's #1 rated "Power Lunch" program. Her financial books have changed the lives of thousands of families. Her latest release is "Heroes at Home: Hope and Help for American Military Families" (Bethany House Publishers, 2002). For information on Ellie's schedule go to [www.elliekay.com](http://www.elliekay.com).

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**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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## Stuck for a gift idea? Go with a hotel getaway

(ARA) - Put down that sweater. Step away from the perfume counter. This year, give the gift everyone will enjoy and use — a hotel mini-getaway.

As the nation's hotel industry works overtime to attract business, travelers who used to scrimp on accommodations now find they can sample the most luxurious 4-star hotels and resorts at economy prices. Depending on dates and cities, an evening at an upscale 4-star hotel can be reserved for as little as \$50 to \$150 — a bargain by anyone's standards.

The holidays make a great time for gift-givers to get into the act and pamper that special someone with a night or weekend at one of the nation's most exclusive, upscale hotels. Hotel getaways can be booked in advance and make great gifts for special occasions, like New Year's, Valentine's Day, an anniversary or a birthday. Gift-givers pay for the rooms in advance, including relevant taxes, and reserve them in the recipient's name, ready for instant, no hassle check-in.

The Internet offers the most convenient way to book a hotel gift getaway. Dozens of popular hotel booking sites let customers search by city and see both hotel availability and rates. Shoppers can stretch their savings even further by checking rates, then visiting online hotelier [www.priceline.com](http://www.priceline.com), where they can pick the exact type of hotel they want and name a much lower price than what they found. With hundreds of 4-star hotels and resorts available, [priceline.com](http://www.priceline.com) can deliver savings of up to 50 percent or more.

All bookings are accompanied by a printable reservation receipt, which includes specific hotel information and a reservation number that the gift-giver can enclose in a gift card.

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# Holiday Gift Guide

## Gifts for the teenager who has everything

(ARA) - Each holiday season, parents find themselves asking a very familiar question: "What should I get the teen who has everything?"

This season in particular, parents are scrutinizing their purchasing decisions. Facing a tough economy, they are looking for versatility and the most value for their dollar.

As such, there are a few key questions that parents need to ask themselves when considering a technology purchase for their child:

1. Can my child use the item for more than one purpose? For example, school work as well as organizing their schedule?
2. Can my child take it to school? Use it during downtime on the bus?
3. What is the shelf life of the item? Will it be outdated in a month? A year? Two years?
4. How durable is the product? Can it survive my teen's lifestyle?
5. Does it come with reliable and user-friendly customer support?
6. Can it be customized to meet my child's needs?

7. Will my child think it's cool?
8. How much should I plan to invest?

With this checklist in mind, parents have the opportunity to give their teens a gift that is educational in nature, welcomed in the classroom and is a useful tool for busy social lives and downtime. Texas Instruments offers a wide variety of educational classroom technology products that are available this holiday season — and you might be surprised at what they can do.

The TI-83 Plus Silver Edition (\$130) is a faster and more powerful version of the most popular educational handheld in high school classrooms in the U.S., the TI-83 Plus. It comes pre-loaded with Handheld Software Applications (Apps) such as a spreadsheet, electronic flashcards, periodic table of elements, puzzles, an organizer and an address book. It plugs into a PC using a TI-GRAPH LINK cable and TI Connect software allowing students to download extra Apps to customize their handhelds to meet

their specific needs. Additionally, several states recommend, and in some cases require, the use of graphing handhelds on standardized tests and college entrance exams such as the SAT.

The TI Keyboard (\$40) turns TI's most popular handhelds into portable word processing tools. This means that students can take advantage of the technology they already own, and with this add-on, use it in classes beyond math and science. The TI Keyboard is one-third smaller than a traditional PC keyboard, yet it features full-size keys on a QWERTY layout. It's packaged with software for note taking and a special cradle to hold the handheld at an easy-to-see angle.

The TI-89 (\$150), which is targeted to high school AP and college-level mathematics and science courses, features the most powerful handheld functionality that TI offers. Complete with a user-friendly interface, the TI-89 comes with advanced features, such as 3D rota-

tion, symbolic manipulation, and the ability to solve with units of measure. Just like the Silver Edition, you can use a TI-GRAPH LINK cable and TI Connect software to download Apps to your TI-89 from the Internet for easy customization.

A recent survey conducted by NPD Group, Inc., a consumer research firm, found that 69 percent of respondents plan to spend the same amount as they did during the holiday season last year. Additionally, many respondents cited the need to "shop for value" this year as a result of the sluggish economy.

What parents can easily understand in making this technology purchase for their teens is the fact that these educational products do supply value — both for the pocketbook and in their teen's learning for many years to come. These educational handhelds are cost effective, kids use them everyday at school and they fill that techno-gadget craving that kids naturally have.

## Take precautions when shopping online

(ARA) — The holiday shopping season is just around the corner, and shoppers are increasingly going online to purchase gifts for friends and loved ones. Online shopping is more popular than ever.

Richard A. Sherman, advisor to the GE Center for Financial Learning, nationally syndicated columnist and publisher of "Mr. Modem's Weekly Newsletter," (www.MrModem.com), has created a list of tips to get even the most computer-wary individual comfortable shopping online.

1. Shop with Retailers You Know

If you are apprehensive about shopping online, start by purchasing an inexpensive item from a retailer you know and trust in the offline world, just to get a feel for the process.

2. Budget for Holiday Purchases

Creating a holiday shopping budget will prevent you from getting in over your head and buying items that you really can't afford. Pick a spending target and try to stick with it. An easy way to do this is by making a list of gift ideas and writing down a target dollar amount by each name. There is a

wealth of financial planning and budgeting information online — [www.financiallearning.com](http://www.financiallearning.com) is a good place to start.

3. Use a Secure Web Site

On the payment page of a Web site, look for the prefix <https://> at the beginning of the Web page address or a little closed-padlock icon in the lower right corner of your browser window. The "s" indicates a secure site. Click on the padlock icon for additional security information.

4. Pay by Credit Card

Nothing is more misunderstood in the world of e-commerce than the use of credit cards. Purchasing by credit card is the safest method of shopping online. In addition to protection, limiting your online purchases to one credit card will give you a good record of what you spent in one handy statement, helping to keep spending under control. Using more than one card can delude you into thinking you have spent less than you have.

5. Understand the Transaction

Be sure you know and understand what you are purchasing, the total price, delivery date, shipping charges (if any), return and cancellation policies, and the terms of any

guarantee.

6. Know your Consumer Rights

The same laws that protect you when you shop by phone or mail apply when you shop in cyberspace. Under the law, a company must ship your order within the time stated in its advertisements and no

more than 30 days after the order date.

7. Think

You have accumulated a lifetime of common sense, so don't put it on hold when shopping online. If your inner voice is telling you to be wary of a retailer, don't place an order.

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## Be careful when giving to charity this holiday season

(NAPSI) While charity is said to begin at home, protecting against charity fraud should begin there as well.

Although appeals for charitable contributions appear in the mail, over the phone and on the Internet throughout the year, they tend to increase during the holidays.

To guard against charity fraud, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service offers these suggestions:

- If you are unfamiliar with the charity asking for donations, request its annual report and financial statement.
- Check out unfamiliar organizations by contacting the Better Business Bureau.
- Make checks payable to an organization, not an individual.
- Be suspicious about requests for assistance that accept cash donations only.

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# Sports

## New-look Blue Devils still working out kinks

By DANIEL MURPHY  
THE RECORD-PRESS

The Westfield High boys basketball team had a breakout season last winter, but the Blue Devils are all but starting from scratch this season.

Gone are the top nine players in the rotation that led Westfield to a 16-9 season and victories in the state and county tournaments. Perhaps the only thing that remains from last year is the confidence that the Devils best record in 25 years restored into the program.

Westfield opens the season tonight, hosting Shabazz at 7 p.m. before beginning play in the Rahway Holiday Tournament Dec. 26. The Blue Devils will rely heavily on players with limited varsity experience and a group that went 16-5 on the junior var-

sity level last year.

Westfield expected to turn to three-year starter Eric Turner for most of its scoring, ball handling and leadership, but Turner was ruled academically ineligible and is no longer in the school, according to Head Coach Kevin Everly. If the loss of Turner wasn't enough to shake up the lineup Westfield has had to battle a series of injuries in the preseason that has kept the full roster from practicing together for all but one day.

"We still have to learn what everyone can do and what everyone is comfortable doing," said Everly. "Last year we had a lot of seniors who had played together for a while and all knew each other. This year the guys are still learning each other. It's been harder with all the injuries and illnesses."

Now the load will be shouldered largely by underclassmen. Everly will turn to seven juniors, four sophomores and just one senior to ignite Westfield to its second straight winning season. The young squad will experience growing pains early, but Everly hopes it can learn and adjust in time to make a run at a state tournament berth.

"You don't want to take a step back," said Everly. "Each year you want to build on the previous one. Last year we had a winning season and you want to keep that going. It may end up being a rebuilding year, but hopefully we can get on a roll, get some confidence and go from there."

Jan Cocozziello has shed his shoulder pads after quarterbacking Westfield's football team to

(Continued on page C-2)



GEORGE PACCIELLO/THE RECORD-PRESS

### Tip-off time

Pam Church and the Westfield High girls basketball team will have its hands full this afternoon, opening the season against Shabazz, one of the top teams in the state. The Devils will travel to Harrison 2 p.m. tomorrow.

## Raiders relying on versatility to take the next step

By DANIEL MURPHY  
THE RECORD-PRESS

The season may have started slow in the win column for the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High boys and girl swim teams, but the Raiders still have their sights set high.

Scotch Plains dropped both the boys and girls meets to Hillsborough and Westfield, two extremely talented teams to open the season 0-2 before facing Cranford yesterday and Elizabeth today. While the meet results may not have been what the Raiders had hoped for it hasn't quelled any hopes for a championship season.

"Every year we train for a state title," said Head Coach Jessica Hulnik. "If that's not what you are training for than what's the point of getting in the pool."

"We lost to two teams that are

very, very good, but our times have been pretty good. I've been pleased with the performances of the kids. As much as you hate to lose, their times have been very good."

Scotch Plains' boys squad won the North Public B title last year 91-79 over Northern Highlands before falling to Princeton in the Public B semifinals. The girls squad qualified for the state tournament before falling to Northern Highlands in the first round. Both squads are aiming to go further this year, though Hulnik was cautious to mention any specific goals.

"I don't want to set any limits on the kids," she said. "I want to push them to go as far as they possibly can."

The boys team welcomes back several of the key contributors of last year's sectional championship club, led by senior captains Ryan

Hauptman and Pete Bassman. Hauptman's versatility will allow him to lead the Raiders in the backstroke, butterfly, freestyle and individual medley events, while Bassman has picked up where he left off last year in the breaststroke, matching his best time from last year in the loss to Westfield.

Senior Marc Catello will swim mainly breaststroke with senior Ben Flath already equaling his best sprint freestyle time from last year. Senior Arthur King is another of many versatile swimmers Hulnik can place in any event needed, specializing in butterfly and distance freestyle.

Junior Jonathan Sheffield is one of the Raiders' top freestyle and butterfly swimmers and junior Derek Middleton can also swim many different events.

Sophomore David Hauptman

is back as one of the top sprinters in the county, with Michael Sheffield one of the best in butterfly.

Freshman Michael Fragna adds depth to the backstroke and teammate Jason Thompson could work his way into the lineup, though Hulnik hasn't decided which events yet.

"We've been pretty fortunate that we've always had good versatility here at Scotch Plains," said Hulnik. "These kids, on any given day can do any event. I can switch it up and sometimes our opponents don't know where everybody is going to be."

The same can be said for the girls squad. Senior captain Pam Cameron leads the way in the distance events, with senior captain Sara Ginsberg one of the Raiders' top sprinters. Senior Caroline Webb will swim butterfly, back-

stroke and the individual medley for Scotch Plains, with Anne Flor-Stagnato coming on strong in the backstroke and butterfly.

Senior Emily O'Connor is versatile enough to allow Hulnik to use her in several different areas, but may see most of her action in the sprints along with senior Annmarie Klimowicz.

Junior Morgan Larkin is one of the top backstroke and butterfly swimmers in the county. Hulnik expects to move junior Meral Akyuz around quite a bit between the sprint and distance freestyle events. Junior Judy Brown will swim mostly breaststroke and distance.

Sophomore Amanda Cameron will help the Raiders in a number of areas, mainly the 1M, 500 and 200 free.

"She can do it all," said Hulnik. "If I need to I can put her any

where. She's one of the best in the county."

Sophomore Jamie Quale will swim distance free and Rachel Dolgin will swim backstroke. Two freshmen are ready to step in and contribute, with Kristen Henkels swimming backstroke and free and Kate Kosenick swimming backstroke.

"We have a number of kids we can put anywhere," said Hulnik. "It's tough to tell (where we'll be strongest) right now. It's so early in the season."

Hulnik hopes a solid week of training over the holiday break, when the Raiders will get more pool time than in a typical week, will not only help the times continue to come down but also help solidify the lineup. The Raiders return from the holiday break to face Linden Jan. 2 before the boys Pirate Invitational Jan. 4.

## Francavilla, Mineo lead balanced SP-F lineup

By DANIEL MURPHY  
THE RECORD-PRESS

The potential is there for another strong season for the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High

wrestling squad, both as a team and as individuals, but there is still a lot of work left for the Raiders to do.

The Raiders could feature a lineup very dangerous in the

lower and upper weights, but several wrestlers are still working to make weight to form the ideal lineup. Scotch Plains opens the season 7 p.m. tonight against Kearny, then meets Plainfield

and East Side in a double-dual meet Saturday before competing in the John Goles Tournament Dec. 28.

Head Coach John Scholz, who takes over for Dave Bello after serving as an assistant for the past four years, sees the potential for another run at a district team title and sectional tournament berth for the Raiders, but weight issues and wrestle-offs have prevented him from finalizing the lineup just yet.

Once the Raiders' lineup is set, it will turn to two returning District 11 champions and four other regional qualifiers. Junior Derek Francavilla leads the way, moving up from 103 pounds — where he placed seventh in the state last year, winning the Union County, District 11 and Region 3 titles while going 30-0 before the state tournament — to 125. Francavilla has added the muscle to compete at 125 while keeping the quickness that made him almost unbeatable at 103.

"This will be a real good place for him," said Scholz. "He has a lot of moves in his arsenal. He'll be a stronger wrestler this year, but just as quick and explosive. He'll be very tough to score off of. He has everything it takes."

Looking to join Francavilla in Atlantic City this year is sophomore Stephen Mineo. Mineo, who won a district title at 112 last year and took fourth in Region 3, has moved up to 119. The only

thing lacking from Mineo's arsenal last year was experience, which isn't the case this year.

Junior Eric Connelly took second in the district and third in the region at 119 last year, missing out on a trip to Atlantic City by losing on criteria in his super regional match. He's looking to be at 130 this year, but a shoulder injury early in the year has slowed him down and he was hovering around 135 early in the week.

Freshman Matt Fleishner was a successful wrestler on the middle school level and will look to have a solid rookie campaign at 103 this year. Junior Ronnie Ferrera is a talented wrestler who is trying to find a spot. With Francavilla and Mineo holding down the 125 and 119 weights his best chance to crack the lineup will be at the 112 pound slot. If Connelly gets down to 130, sophomore Anthony Ferrante should be at 135.

"I think we have the best lightweights in the area," said Scholz. "They go at each other every day in the practice room. They've got some of the best practice partners in the area."

Scholz is still trying to sort out the 140, 145 and 152 pound classes, with Pedro Coit looking to nail down one of the weights when he returns from injury and Chris Sprague looking to figure into the mix, probably at 140.

Charlie Bachi is hoping to

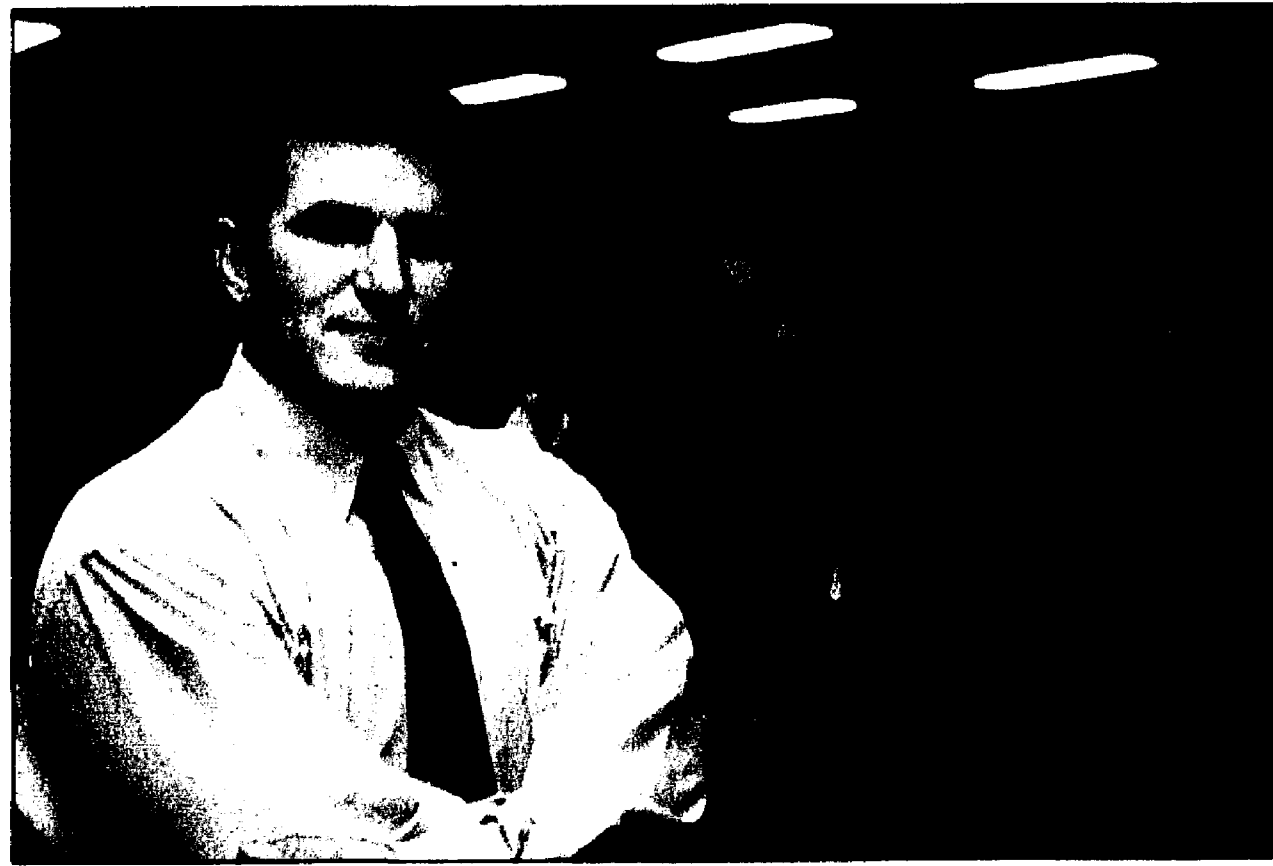
make 160, where he was a third place finisher in the district last season, but may have to wrestle-off with Andrew Silber, also a third place finishers in the district, for the 171 pound class. The worst case scenario could place a regional qualifier on the bench for the Raiders. If both can wrestle the same weights as last year they each figure to contend for a district title and advance out of the region.

Sophomore Mark Fabiano is looking to have a breakout year at 189. "He didn't get out of the district last year," said Scholz, "but he'll be a force to be reckoned with. He's aggressive, strong, and tough and wrestles hard."

Senior Matt Loomis is hoping to make 215, but still has a lot of work ahead of him to return to the weight where he finished second in the district last season and would be one of the favorites to capture the title this year. Mark Gianacci could figure into the mix there as well.

If Matt Loomis doesn't make 215 he could be wrestling off with his brother Andrew, a junior, for the heavyweight slot.

"On paper we have a very strong lineup," said Scholz. "We'd love to try to repeat as district champions. The kids are working hard. We're hoping in the next two weeks everyone will be at the weight class they want to wrestle."



GEORGE PACCIELLO/THE RECORD-PRESS

John Scholz takes over the reigns of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High wrestling team this season, hoping to lead the Raiders to a second consecutive District 11 team title.

## Veteran Devil squad ready to claim elusive crown

By DANIEL MURPHY  
THE RECORD-PRESS

The Westfield High bowling team has been knocking on the door of a state championship the last two years. With all of their top bowlers back again this year the Blue Devils are hoping to finally breakthrough and capture the elusive crown.

Westfield has won the Watchung Conference and North Jersey Section 2 titles the past two years and also captured last year's Union County Tournament title, while finishing fourth in the state last year and fifth the year before.

The same group is back for a third run at the state title, but is trying to take it one step at a time.

"Our first goal is always to win the conference," said Westfield Head Coach Mike Tirone. "The next thing is the county and then we'll go from there. Our main goal is the conference and the county, when that's over we'll look at the section and then the states."

And despite the talent returning and already being dubbed as the favorite for the state title, Tirone knows there is a long road to travel. Westfield got off to a slow start, falling to Union in a dual meet 3-4, but has bounced back

with strong performances in Bishop Ahr Classic and the Westfield Tournament Sunday, where it took third.

"We're trying to get the guys to have more confidence," said Tirone. "We have to come together as a team and work on the things we need to do to get better. The competition is outstanding this year."

"I think we're one of the top teams in the state, but that doesn't mean anything if you can't prove it. As the season progresses I think we'll prove we are."

Leading Westfield is senior Willy Maskett. He's gotten off to a hot start, averaging 214 through

three matches and two tournaments with a 667 series in the last match.

Seniors Matt Rothstein and Scott Villa are each back for their fourth year in the lineup, and Tirone feels comfortable putting any of the three seniors at the anchor position without any drop off.

"At any time any one of those three can be as good as anyone in the state," said Tirone.

Junior Andrew Royston is back for his third season in the starting lineup after finishing 11th in the state last season. He had a 646 series in the Westfield

Tournament Saturday.

Junior Brian Sanders is slated to round out the Westfield lineup after sitting out the first two months. He's been a two-year starter and when he returns in February will round out a very balanced and dangerous Westfield lineup.

Filling in until he returns is junior David Palmer, who had a 201 preseason average. Palmer got off to a slow start, but has bowled better recently after changing to a different ball.

"We're pretty solid up and down the lineup," said Tirone.

Westfield finished third at the

second Westfield Tournament held at Jersey Lanes in Linden Saturday with 2,918 pins. Royston led the team with a 646 series, followed by Villa's 613 and Maskett's 608. West Orange, who Westfield will eventually meet in the sectional tournament, won with a 2,997 total, followed by Central Regional with 2,931. County rivals Roselle Catholic was fifth, Linden seventh and Union 20th.

Westfield's next tournament will be the Brick Tournament Jan. 11 in Point Pleasant, followed by the highly competitive Mid-Winter Classic at Carolier Lanes Jan. 18.



NICOLE DIMELLA/THE RECORD-PRESS

## Rarin' to go

Co-captain Jen Russell and the Scotch Plains-Fanwood girls basketball team is ready to get the season started, opening up at Cranford 4 p.m. today.

## YOUTH SPORTS

### SOCCER

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood U-12 Sparks soccer team ended their regular season with a close 1-0 victory over the Cranbury Little Falcons.

The Sparks will play the Little Falcons again in the championship game, however, the Sparks will be playing for fun as they have already locked up first place in Flight 3 by winning all nine regular season games, 5-0, by shutout.

The game was a tough battle which was won by sheer determination. The Sparks offense of Becca VonLangen, Enka White, Olivia Francavilla, Jennie Altman, Brittany Harris and Gabby Clarke did not get many opportunities against a tough and physical Cranbury defense. Near the end of the first half, Sparks leading scorer Gabby Clarke took a long pass from Sam Bremer in the backfield and drove to the net to put the Sparks on the board.

The second half found Cranbury with the wind at their backs and the Sparks in for a brutal defensive battle. Despite being overwhelmingly out shot in the second half the Sparks defense held. Midfielders Allison Goldberg, Britney Veeck, Kim Sheilus, Sheryl Markovitz and Corinne Walker were constantly on the move against a persistent and aggressive Cranbury offense. The Little Falcons were on an all-out offensive drive, breaking into the backfield several times, but were turned back by the superb play of Sam Bremer, Gina Egido and Gabrielle Pinho. The Little Falcons did not back down, constantly attacking and pressing. Sparks goalie Jaclyn Law was definitely the MVP of the game, repeatedly stopping what looked to be unstoppable shots on goal. Law has been invaluable this season, giving up only four goals while posting six shutouts. The Sparks will move up to MNJYSA Flight 2 in the spring.

### ST. HELEN'S BASKETBALL

#### 5th/6th grade girls win opener

The St. Helen's 5th/6th grade girls basketball topped Immaculate Conception 8-4 to win its season opener.

St. Helen's was down 2-0 at the half then

they came into the second half ready to score. Kathleen O'Neil started off the half with a steal and ran the court to complete her lay-up. Following Kathleen's start Cassie Simcox took a good shot, but unfortunately she missed, but she didn't give up she got her own rebound and had an easy layup. Cassie scored again to finish the game with four points. Jaclyn LaSpata had a great outside shot to give St. Helen's eight points.

Offense is not everything though, and the St. Helen's defense was outstanding. Kate Sheridan, Meghan Brody, Sara Connery, Carolyn Dyer, and Jordan Harries kept Immaculate Conception to two points until the very last second of the game.

#### 7th/8th grade girls win two

The St. Helen's 7th/8th grade girls basketball team won both games this weekend to improve its record to 7-1. In the Metuchen league, St. Helen's routed St. Francis of Metuchen. Ten girls got into the scoring act. Kathryn Runno led the way with 14 points. Breanne Delaico followed with eight points. Erin Miller (5 steals) was next with seven points. Ali Macdonald (nine rebounds), Gab O'Leary (5 assists) and Rose Dnscoli (4 assists) had six points each. Claire Bennet had a monster game on the boards with 17 rebounds to go with four points. Allison Oberlander had five points plus the game's only 3-pointer. Stephanie Stodyszka had four points, seven rebounds, and six steals. Krissy Wendel had six rebounds and two steals.

In game two, OLP of New Providence was overmatched as St. Helen's won big. Twelve of the 13 girls scored for St. Helen's, led by Erin Miller's 11 points, four steals and five assists. Gabrielle O'Leary, Elizabeth Harbaugh and Kathryn Runno each scored eight points. Claire Bennet had six points and 10 rebounds. Casey el Kouray, Stephanie Stodyszka, Krissy Wendel and Rose Dnscoli (4 assists) all scored four points. Ali Macdonald, Danielle Infantino and Breanne Delaico chipped in with two apiece. Allison Oberlander had three assists and two steals as St. Helen's upped its Union County league record to 2-0. The girls play two more games this weekend, take a Christmas break, then play four games in three days.

## Jones a special player in Big East

Rutgers junior defensive back Nate Jones was named Co-Special Teams Player of the Year, and first team All-Big East as a kick returner, by the Big East Conference.

Jones, a 200 graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, was joined on the all-league team by teammate Shawn Seabrooks, a second-team All-Big East pick as a defensive back. The All-Big East teams are voted on by the league's head coaches, who are not permitted to vote for their own players.

Jones had an outstanding season for the Scarlet Knights, both as a kick returner and a starting cornerback. The 5-10, 175-pound resident of Scotch Plains, N.J., was the No. 1 kick returner in the Big East, and No. 6 nationally, averaging 28.3 yards per return.

Jones had two 100-yard kick-off returns for touchdowns, at Tennessee and at Syracuse, becoming only the second player in Big East history (Nate Terry of West Virginia, in 1997) to accomplish that feat. Jones also blocked two kicks during the year, including a field goal attempt against Syracuse that was scooped up by

teammate Brandon Haw and returned 90 yards for a touchdown.

Jones, a two-time Special Teams Player of the Week selection by the Big East in 2002, also started all 12 games at cornerback for the Scarlet Knights, finishing the season as the Scarlet Knights' third leading tackler with 84 stops. He also recorded two interceptions, recovered two fumbles, and intercepted two passes. Jones has also been named to the Verizon/CoSIDA Academic All-America squad (second team).

## SPORTSCENE

### SKATING CENTER OPEN

The Warrancio Ice Skating Center is open for the 2002-2003 season. Open hockey will be held Wednesdays from 12:30-2:30 p.m. Participants must be 18 years or older with proper identification. Helmets with cage and shield are required. Admission is \$7. Admission to the general sessions is \$5 for adults and \$4 for children (17 and under) and \$4.25 for senior citizens (62 and over with proper ID). Skate rentals are available for \$3. Discount cards are also on sale. Group and private lessons and hockey clinics are also available.

Skating sessions will be: Tuesdays 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.; Wednesdays 10 a.m.-12 p.m.; Thursdays 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.; Fridays 10 a.m.-12 p.m., 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.; 6 p.m.-8 p.m. (family session); 8:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m.; Saturdays 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 1 p.m.-3 p.m., 8:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m.; Sundays 1 p.m.-3 p.m., 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m.

## HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR

(all times p.m. unless otherwise noted)

**FRIDAY, DEC. 20**  
Boys Basketball  
Cranford at Scotch Plains, 4  
Shabazz at Westfield, 7  
Girls Basketball  
Scotch Plains at Cranford, 4  
Westfield at Shabazz, 4  
**Swimming**  
Scotch Plains at Elizabeth, 4  
**Wrestling**  
Scotch Plains vs. Kearny, 7  
Westfield vs. East Side, 4  
**SATURDAY, DEC. 21**  
Wrestling  
Scotch Plains at Plainfield/East Side  
Westfield at Kearny Tournament, 10 a.m.  
Girls Basketball

Westfield at Harrison, 2  
**Ice Hockey**  
Westfield at Wayne Valley, 9:10  
**MONDAY, DEC. 23**  
Boys Basketball  
Scotch Plains vs. South Brunswick, 1  
Girls Basketball  
Scotch Plains at Bridgewater-Raritan, 1  
**THURSDAY, DEC. 26**  
Boys Basketball  
Westfield vs. J.P. Stevens,  
Railway Holiday Tournament

## Blue Devils

(Continued from page C-1)

an 8-3 record this fall, and will start at small forward. He should be the Devils' leading scorer, with a strong outside shot and the ability to get to the rim.

The starting backcourt will be manned by two sophomores, point guard Billy Hearon and shooting guard Eric Hayes. Hearon will need to distribute the ball and limit turnovers while Hayes will be called on for perimeter scoring.

Senior captain Bobby Wilt, a 6 foot 5 center, is the most experienced player on the squad and will have to shoulder the inside-scoring load and rebounding duties. Junior Joe Korfmacher, 6-3, will start alongside him at power forward.

Tyson Blackman was expected

to start at power forward but is still recovering from a broken right leg he suffered early in the football season. He also sprained his left ankle and has been slow to regain the explosiveness that made him a threat down low. He will miss at least the first game of the season, but isn't expected to be out for long.

Junior Terrence Bryant will provide depth at the guard position, with sophomore Brian Power and junior Andrew Simmenberg adding frontcourt depth.

"This team is tough to gauge," said Everly. "We're doing everything okay, but nothing great and nothing poorly. We're not executing as well as I had hoped, but we're a young team and everything is new. If we keep working hard and give a lot of effort it will come in time."

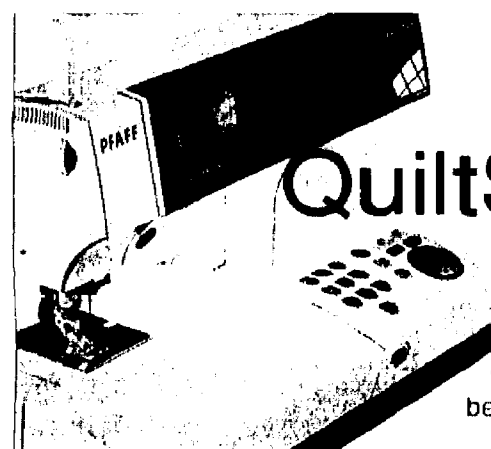
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I told her that's a little too far for us to go.  
And our trucks can't cross the glaciers & snow.

"Don't worry," she said, "I'll send down a reindeer.  
Just hook up your truck and soon you'll be here.  
If you need any parts the elves will just make them.  
But, when it comes to your tools, you'd better take them.  
The elves don't use high tech tools like you do.  
Though they are good with a roll of duct tape or two.  
But the magic of heating is beyond them all.  
And that's the reason I need a service call."

Before I hung up, there was a tap at the front.  
A reindeer greeted me with a snort and a grunt.  
A truck was hooked up and, away we flew.  
I thought, "I've got to get myself a reindeer or two."

I arrived to the cheering of hundreds of elves.  
All huddled together trying to warm themselves.  
The work was simple, a thermocouple was bad.  
And it was way to long since service had been had.

I finished my work and fired the furnace up.  
Mrs. E gave me hot cocoa in a shiny red cup.  
"A Gold Service Agreement is just what you need:  
it'll prevent this from happening." And Mrs. E agreed.  
About the time, Mr. E finally got home.  
Mrs. E glared at him. "What a night you picked to roam!"

He looked confused, so I described what had just occurred.  
"Comfort," he said, "Holiday comfort, that's the word.  
In our consumer world, comfort is a true gift.  
I give them presents, but you give spirits a lift.  
So for your customers, I'll add comfort next year.  
Just in case you're out servicing our furnace here."

So happy holidays from all of us to you.  
Here's to comfort and hoping your furnace stays true.

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## BEST BETS THIS WEEK

### Christine Lavin at Arts Center

**WATCHUNG** — Since the Watchung Arts Center has coffee-house and jazz programs for its music, it doesn't usually sell tickets in advance or online.

The Arts Center is making an exception for its post-Christmas show 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28: Christine Lavin. She recently recorded her first studio album in five years with 12 new songs that have never been on CD.

Opening is one of her former cohorts, Julie Gold, the writer of the 1990 Bette Midler standard "From a Distance."

Tickets are \$20 each. Dessert and coffee are served at intermission. For tickets, visit [www.watchungarts.org/folk](http://www.watchungarts.org/folk) or phone (908) 753-0190.

The Arts Center is on the Watchung Circle, about 1 mile north of Route 22.

### Auditions set for Levin play

**WESTFIELD** — Director John Correll of Westfield Community Players is holding open auditions for Ira Levin's "Dr. Cook's Garden" 7:30 p.m. Jan. 6 and 8 in the WCP theater at 1000 North Ave. West, Westfield. (908-232-9568)

An idyllic New England town is the backdrop for this chilling suspense story about the good Dr. Cook, who makes house calls at any hour — especially for particularly vexing patients. When his young protégé returns home for a visit, an ethical dilemma is uncovered. Is it going too far to do away with disagreeable people who are a blot on the fair community? The younger man's attempt to make his mentor see reason on this point brings on the gripping climax of the play, pitting two doctors against each other in a scene of unforgettable, breath-stopping suspense.

The cast requirements are as follows: Dr. Cook, 60s; Younger man, 20s-30s; Middle-aged man, 50s; Middle-aged woman, 40-60; Elderly woman, 50s-70s

The show opens March 8 and continues Friday and Saturday evenings through March 22. All tickets are \$12.

### Live models in art classes

**WATCHUNG** — Have you imagined yourself painting a portrait using a live model?

The Watchung Arts Center has set up a "Life Drawing Studio Group" to help you out. Classes in the Arts Center's studio begin after New Year's and run to the beginning of spring.

Wednesday classes are 7-10 p.m. Jan. 8, 22, Feb. 5, 19, March 5 and 19. Saturday classes are 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 11, 25, Feb. 8, 22, March 8 and 22. All classes utilize poses of short to medium duration.

Fee is \$15. Subscriptions are available. For full information, visit [www.watchungarts.org](http://www.watchungarts.org) or phone (908) 753-0190.

The Arts Center is on the Watchung Circle, about 1 mile north of Route 22.

### Youth art classes to begin

**WATCHUNG** — School-age art classes at the Watchung Arts Center start anew after Christmas.

Each class is aimed at a specific age group and/or interest. The schedule:

"Young Adult Atelier" for teens, 4:30-6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7-March 11. Pencil, charcoal, India ink, pastel and watercolor are used the first five weeks. Acrylic on canvas is covered the following five weeks. Tuition of \$130 includes all supplies.

Acrylic painting for children, 4:30-6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8-March 12. Boys and girls ages 6-12 can use acrylics to make their own classics. Tuition of \$108 includes all materials.

Drawing for children, 4:30-6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9-March 13. Boys and girls ages 6-12 can use pencils, charcoal, pastels and watercolors to create their own drawings. Tuition of \$105 includes all materials.

All classes are in the studio on the first floor of the Arts Center. The studio is adjacent to a gallery where boys and girls can see works from professional artists. Arts Center members receive a \$10 discount per class.

For membership, registration and other information, visit [www.watchungarts.org](http://www.watchungarts.org) or phone (908) 753-0190. The Arts Center is on the Watchung Circle, about 1 mile north of Route 22.



The St. Petersburg Ice Ballet will bring "Sleeping Beauty on Ice" to Central Jersey next month.

## 'Sleeping Beauty on Ice' is coming to area next month

**NEW BRUNSWICK** — The world-renowned St. Petersburg State Ice Ballet brings all the mystical romance and excitement of a glittering winter Russian palace to the State Theatre with a performance of "Sleeping Beauty on Ice" on Thursday, Jan. 30 at 7 p.m.

Set to the music of Tchaikovsky, this captivating production portrays the classic fairy tale of the cursed Princess Aurora who falls into a deep sleep, only to be awakened 100 years later by the kiss of a prince.

Under the skilled guidance of choreographer Konstantin Rassadin of the Kirov Ballet, this troupe of 35 talented Russian skaters have delighted audiences and gathered enthusiastic reviews all over America and Europe.

"Sleeping Beauty on Ice" provides enchanting

entertainment for the whole family with magnificent costumes, elaborately designed stage sets, and the sheer visual brilliance of the graceful dancers gliding across the stage.

Tickets for this performance are on sale now for \$38 (Premium Orchestra/Loge), \$34 (Orchestra/Front Balcony), \$26 (Rear Orchestra/Balcony), or \$18 (Gallery). The State Theatre box office is located at 15 Livingston Ave.

For telephone ticket orders or information call (732) 246-7469 or toll free (877) STATE-11 Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Wednesday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Patrons may order tickets online at [www.StateTheatreNJ.org](http://www.StateTheatreNJ.org) or listen to audio clips. For group sales information, call (732) 247-7200, Ext. 536.

## New Year's Eve concert will be tribute to Berlin

**WESTFIELD** — Rehearsals are under way for the much-awaited concert, "Puttin' On The Ritz: The Music Of Irving Berlin, America's Songwriter," to be held on New Year's Eve at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield.

"The Westfield Young Artists' Cooperative Theater, Inc. (WYACT) and the Westfield Symphony Orchestra (WSO) will again join forces to present this holiday event celebrating the music of America's most prolific songwriter in an effort to bring performing arts to the community and the state," said Cynthia Meryl, WYACT Artistic Director. "We at WYACT are delighted to again be working with the WSO and Maestro David Wroe."

"Puttin' On The Ritz" will take place 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31, at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield, 140 Mountain Ave. Tickets (\$25 for adults, \$12 for students) are available at these Westfield locations: Westfield Symphony Orchestra Office, 224 E. Broad St.; The Towne Book Store, 255 E. Broad St. and Lancaster's, 76 Elm St. Proceeds will benefit WYACT's free summer program and WSO's educational programs. For more information, call WYACT at (908) 233-3200 or the WSO at (908) 232-9400.

The concert will feature

"Steppin' Out With My Baby," "Let Yourself Go," "Cheek To Cheek," and "Puttin' On The Ritz," tunes the whole nation sang, introduced in *Blue Skies*, *Follow The Fleet*, and *Top Hat*, three of Berlin's 18 movie scores and made famous by the incomparable Fred Astaire and Ginger Rodgers.

Baritone Todd Kubrak and Jon Christian Hoche will lead the men in "Oh, How I Hate To Get Up In The Morning" and the title song from "This Is The Army," a 1942 Berlin musical review that comprised 300 soldiers. Berlin donated the \$10,000,000 proceeds to the Army Relief Emergency Fund.

He won the Academy Award that year for writing the song that would become the anthem for homesick servicemen overseas, "White Christmas," sung in the New Year's concert by mezzo-soprano Lindsay-Rose Sinclair.

Berlin wrote "God Bless America" as a "peace" song, not a "war" song. Kate Smith introduced it on her radio show on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1938. Meryl, mezzo-soprano and Broadway veteran, the WSO, and the cast will close the evening's entertainment with this stirring piece.

The performers in the Concert are WYACT veterans, who have all played leading roles for

## 'Joseph' is returning to State Theatre

**EDISON** — Plays-in-the-Park is the annual series of summer stock musicals and plays at Roosevelt Park in Edison.

For the eighth year Plays-in-the-Park is presenting a winter musical, "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." Showtimes at the State Theatre in New Brunswick are 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27; 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28; and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 29.

"Dreamcoat" was written by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice before they hit big with "Jesus Christ Superstar."

Returning this year to the cast are Billy Piscopo as Joseph, Bill Nicolosi as Jacob and David DeSio as the Pharaoh. Kathleen Campbell is the narrator. Actors from previous productions and

actors new to this production round out the cast.

"Dreamcoat" is directed by Michelle Massa, who also handles choreography. Music is under the direction of Mark Baron.

Admission is \$5 and all seats are reserved. For tickets, phone (877) STATE 11 or visit the State Theatre box office in downtown New Brunswick.

For full information, visit [www.playsinthepark.com](http://www.playsinthepark.com) or phone (732) 548-2884.

Funding for Plays-in-the-Park is in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State through a grant administered by the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission. Additional funding is by the Friends of Plays-in-the-Park.

## Barbara Cook to ring in New Year

**NEW BRUNSWICK** — Well-accomplished in bringing the finest in performing arts to New Jersey, the State Theatre will have its New Year's Eve performer, Barbara Cook ring in the New Year.

Cook, a superlative Broadway singer, is best known for her role as Marian in the original Broadway production of "The Music Man" and her performances in New York City cabarets.

During this concert, her unmatched phrasing brings new life to songs you've heard a thousand times in her show "Mostly Sondheim," which was nominated for Best Special Theatrical Event at the 2002 Tony Awards. Cook's emotionally honest approach to a song perfectly compliments the intricate, sophisticated, witty lyrics and music by Stephen Sondheim, as well as other Broadway greats. Accompanied by musical director and pianist Wally Harper, Cook's joyful, seemingly effortless vocalizing is ideal to welcome in the New Year.

After the concert, audience members can party into 2003 on the State Theatre stage. With cocktails, buffet dinner, dancing, live music from Nicky Addeo, and good fun, this promises to be an experience to remember all year. Tickets for this performance are on sale now for \$38 (Premium Orchestra/Loge), \$34 (Orchestra/Front Balcony), \$26 (Rear Orchestra/Balcony), or \$18 (Gallery). The State Theatre box office is located at 15 Livingston Ave.

For telephone ticket orders or information call (732) 246-7469 or toll free (877) STATE-11 Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Wednesday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Patrons may order tickets online at [www.StateTheatreNJ.org](http://www.StateTheatreNJ.org) or listen to audio clips. For group sales information, call (732) 247-7200, Ext. 536.

To become Solstice Supporters, the cost is \$500 per couple, which includes two concert tickets, an invitation to the Post-concert Reception and Dinner, and a special acknowledgement during the evening recognizing you as a lead-



BARBARA COOK

ing supporter.

A portion of all tickets purchased is tax-deductible. A portion of the ticket price that includes the Post-concert Reception is tax-deductible. For an invitation to become part of the New Year's Eve Special Event, call (732) 247-7200, Ext. 512.

Tickets for this performance are on sale now for \$60 (Premium Orchestra/Loge), \$50 (Orchestra/Front Balcony), \$40 (Rear Orchestra/Balcony), or \$25 (Gallery).

For telephone ticket orders or information call (732) 246-7469 or toll free (877) STATE-11 Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Wednesday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Patrons may order tickets online at [www.StateTheatreNJ.org](http://www.StateTheatreNJ.org) or listen to audio clips.



The cast rehearses a number from "Puttin' on the Ritz."

WYACT: Abigail Sparling played Fiona and tenor James Kilduff played Charlie in "Brigadoon" at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ-PAC), and Mr. Kilduff also played Tonetti in "The Gay Divorce" in the Kean Arts

Incubator Festival; Lindsay-Rose Sinclair played Erzulie and baritone Jon Christian Hoche played Daniel in "Once On This Island" at NJ-PAC and both were outstanding in last year's concert; Todd Kubrak played Lucky in

last summer's "Dames At Sea" at AAT, and both Kubrak and Hoche were featured as MacCaffrey and Stewpot respectively in "South Pacific." Meryl and tenor Brian Maslow will round out the cast.

# HOLIDAY DINING

## Give kids clear message on drinking

(NAPSI) At holiday time, even people who drink little alcohol the rest of the year often indulge in the season of good cheer. But experts caution that adults, especially parents, should consider what impressions their celebratory drinking might make on young children.

The example adults set when they use alcohol during the holiday season can be critical, according to the Leadership to Keep Children Alcohol Free, an organization led by more than 30 Governors' spouses working to prevent drinking among children. Surveys show 20 percent of American 12-year-olds have tried alcohol; by the time kids reach eighth grade, this rises to more than 50 percent. Among those same eighth graders, one in four

has been drunk at least once. Sending a message to kids that alcohol use is fine if you have a good "reason" such as the holidays can only make the problem greater.

What can parents do to protect their children and send the right message about alcohol at holiday time and all year around? Here are several suggestions that may help to keep your children alcohol free during the holidays:

■ Drinking is illegal for kids. Let your children know you don't approve of underage alcohol use and the holidays are no exception.

■ If you have alcohol on hand, keep track of the supply. But get together with other kids plenty of opportunities to sneak drinks. Be especially alert during holiday parties. Let children know that holiday

drinks, such as eggnog and punch, may contain alcohol.

■ Make sure you set the right tone for holiday entertaining. Let your kids see you put out alcohol-free beverages and plenty of food for the party, to show that adults don't have to drink to have a good time.

■ If your kids want to host their own holiday party, discuss the ground rules with them before the party. State on the invitation that adult chaperones will be on hand during the entire time. When the guests arrive, stay visible and available just don't join the party.

The holiday season is a time for

celebration, but it also presents an opportunity to give kids balanced messages about alcohol use. Let them know you can enjoy the season of "good cheer" without alcohol.

The Leadership to Keep Children Alcohol Free is a nationwide initiative committed to reducing the harm of childhood drinking. The Leadership offers a free booklet, *Make a Difference: Talk to Your Child About Alcohol*, which describes ways parents can talk to children about the problems associated with alcohol and the risks of childhood drinking. To order or download the booklet, visit [www.alcohol-free-children.org](http://www.alcohol-free-children.org).

## Two warm, sweet treats for the holiday season

(NAPSI) For many people, nothing warms up a cold winter day like a mug of hot chocolate or a steaming cup of cappuccino. Now it's possible to package that feeling for a delectable holiday gift. All it takes is a jar, a little decoration and a little imagination. Just add water.

The gift of a dry mix—whether it's for rich, creamy Hot Chocolate or for an aromatic Cappuccino—can be a delicious way to give a taste of the holiday spirit to the hard-to-shop-for people on your list. Recipe jars like these can also be given for other events, such as housewarming, tree-trimming parties or even to heat things up on Valentine's Day.

These two recipes offer the natural sweetness of Domino Sugar for a fresh flavor each time a cup is brewed. After layering the dry ingredients, add a personal touch by selecting colorful fabric, ribbon or trinkets and attaching a recipe card. Other ways to make a gift jar unique include pairing the mix with homemade holiday biscuits or cookies. Or add some zip to the mix itself with chocolate chips, mini marshmallows or cinnamon sticks.

For additional baking tips and tricks or to access a database of

over 675 other recipes, visit [www.dominosugar.com](http://www.dominosugar.com).

**Cappuccino Mix in a Jar**  
Makes 3 cups dry mix  
1 cup instant coffee creamer  
1 cup instant chocolate drink mix

2/3 cup instant coffee crystals  
1/2 cup Domino Granulated Sugar  
1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon  
1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg

Layer all ingredients in a jar to give. To reconstitute, mix all ingredients thoroughly. To prepare a single serving, add 3 Tbsp. mix to 6 oz. hot water and stir well. Store in an airtight container.

**Hot Chocolate Mix in a Jar**  
Makes 3 1/4 cups dry mix  
1 3/4 cups nonfat dry milk powder  
1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder

1/2 cup firmly packed Domino Brownulated Sugar  
1/4 cup Domino Granulated Sugar

Layer ingredients in jar to give, seal tightly. To reconstitute mix ingredients well. For a single serving, add 8 oz. freshly boiled water to 1/2 cup mix in heatproof mug. Stir until completely dissolved.

## Keep holiday meals free from bacteria

(ARA) - The holidays are coming up and many of us have plans for entertaining. Whether it's a buffet for a large group or a family party, when we are cooking for people we care about, we want to present the perfect meal and to keep them safe. But all too often cooking and serving food for groups can result in unintended gastrointestinal consequences. So, when you plan to entertain, plan food safety into your meal preparation.

By following some basic food safety precautions while storing, preparing and serving food, we can ensure that our guests will be well fed and protected at the same time.

Food safety experts at the U.S. Department of Agriculture caution that party buffets can pose a special hazard. Foods served in this way are often left out for long periods of time, making them susceptible to harmful bacteria. Unlike microorganisms that can cause food to spoil, bacteria cannot be smelled or tasted. Poultry, especially turkey, and ground beef are two popular meats to serve at gatherings, but they are also very likely to carry bacteria such as salmonella and e-coli that cause foodborne illnesses.

The USDA offers the following guidelines for preventing the spread of bacteria through food:

Always wash hands before and after handling food. All kitchen utensils and dishes should be kept clean and washed with soap, not just rinsed, when you switch from one food to another during the preparation process. Food should be served on clean plates that have not been used for raw meat.

Cook food thoroughly to safe temperatures. Good meat thermometers (designed for each kind of meat) are essential.

For testing your holiday turkey, which should be cooked to 180 degrees for a whole bird, use a programmable digital thermometer like those offered by Acu-Rite. It has a probe that you place in the roast and a monitor that sticks to the outside of the oven with magnets or can be placed on the countertop for easy reading. The probe and monitor are attached by a 3-foot long ovenproof cord. So, you can monitor your meat temperature without ever opening the oven. It comes preprogrammed to USDA standards for a variety of foods and has an automatic alarm to let you know when your meat is done.

Roast beef, veal and lamb should be cooked to at least 145 degrees for medium rare doneness. The Acu-Rite combination oven/meat thermometer gives both the ambient temperature of the oven and the internal temperature of the roast on a single face. It is perfect for the cook who prefers a traditional dial face, but wants the convenience and safety of precise temperature readings.

For ground beef, which should be cooked to 160 degrees, try a specially designed burger thermometer. The SureGrip Digital Burger Probe from Acu-Rite is designed to ensure that proper readings of burger patties. It features a bent tip, long stem, and an easy-to-grip handle that also provides ease of use.

Use shallow containers to store food in the refrigerator or freezer. This ensures that when it is heated it will cool rapidly and evenly. Hot foods should be reheated to 165 degrees, and should be served on several small platters rather than on one platter. The rest of the hot food should be kept in the oven at 200 to 250 degrees or in the refrigerator until serving time. This will ensure that foods will be held at a safe temperature for the longest time possible. When buffet platters become empty, replace them rather than adding fresh food to a dish that has been sitting out. Food may have become contaminated from being at room temperature too long, and from contact with people's hands.

Keep track of your buffet table. Don't allow foods to sit at room temperature for more than two hours.

Keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold. Hot foods should be held at 140 degrees or warmer. Chafing dishes, slow cookers and warming trays will do the trick. Cold foods, which should be at 40 degrees or colder, can be kept in bowls of ice, or should be replaced often.

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# Imperial Brass will herald the holidays

WESTFIELD — For centuries, the celebration of Christmas and special holidays has been heralded by the sounds of brass. This tradition will be kept alive again 7:30 p.m. Friday with an encore appearance of the 25-member Imperial Brass, under the direction of Patrick Burns at the First United Methodist Church, 1 E. Broad St.

This concert, part of the Friday Evening Classics series, is a free event intended to bring many styles of music and performance to Westfield and surrounding communities.

Burns has chosen music which will not only heighten seasonal spirits, but will also transport the listeners into an atmosphere of "music of yesterday" with renditions of traditional tunes such as "White Christmas," "The Christmas Song," "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," and "Santa Claus is Coming to Town," and many more.

The concert will open with "A Christmas Festival," one of the all-time favorites composed by Leroy Anderson. "When You and I were Young Maggie," a tune familiar to many, will be given special treatment when it is performed as theme and variations on the Euphonium. The program comes complete with an audience and brass sing-along of favorite carols including "Hark, The Herald Angels Sing," "Feliz Navidad," "Joy to the World" and "Silent Night." Classics such as Mozart's overture to "The Magic Flute" and Bizet's "Farandole" will also add to the enjoyment of this seasonal concert.

Highlighting the evening's program will be several arrangements by Mark Frech, currently one of the premier arrangers in the brass band world and bass trombonist in Imperial Brass.

Imperial Brass, founded in January, 1991, has maintained a high standard of performance excellence, including four appearances at the N.Y. Brass Conference and the winning of the 1994 and 1995 Northeastern Brass Band

Competition. Featured guest artists have included Philip Smith, the principal trumpeter of the N.Y. Philharmonic, as well as Andrew Barryman, Robert and Nicholas Childs, Derek Garside, Chris Jaudes, David Nesbitt, Derek Smith, Warren Vache and Roger Webster.

The all-brass instrumentation affords a unique opportunity for musicians in the New Jersey area to play challenging literature. The band's repertoire includes a wide range of styles: brass band classics, contemporary, classical arrangements, music from Broadway, and popular.

Burns currently serves as Adjunct Professor of Music Theory and Composition at Montclair State University and also teaches instrumental music in the Caldwell-West Caldwell Public Schools in New Jersey. As a clarinetist, he has performed with the Metropolitan Opera Summer Orchestra, the Broadway revival production of "Camelot" starring Robert Goulet, and the New Jersey Chamber Music Society for broadcasts on National Public Radio and New Jersey Network Television. He is the founding director of the Bloomfield Youth Band (1986-present) and also currently directs Imperial Brass. His music for symphonic band has been performed by many outstanding ensembles, including the United States Army Band and is published by Daehn Publications, Wingert Jones and TRN. He has been featured as guest conductor and clinician in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Washington, D.C.

For concert information call the church office at (908) 233-4211 daily 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. No tickets are required. Although this is a free concert, generous donations will be accepted to offset necessary ongoing expenses required to insure to continuation of the Friday Evening Classics. There is plenty of free parking in the church lot, adjacent to Ferris Place, accessible from Prospect Street.

**Theater**  
**CIRCLE PLAYERS**  
416 Victoria Ave.,  
Piscataway  
(732) 968-7555  
"An Enchanted Evening:  
Music from the Golden Age of  
Broadway" 8 p.m. Dec. 21, 27,  
28, 3 p.m. Dec. 22. Admission  
\$12.

**FORUM THEATRE**  
314 Main St., Metuchen  
(732) 548-0582, www.  
forumtheatrecompany.com  
"A Winnie the Pooh  
Christmas Carol," or Dickens  
crosses A.A. Milne. To Dec. 29.  
Admission \$15, group rates  
available. Call for showtimes.

**GEORGE STREET  
PLAYHOUSE**  
9 Livingston Ave.  
New Brunswick  
(732) 246-7717,  
www.georgestreetplayhouse.org

"Let Me Sing: A Musical  
Evolution" of show tunes and  
standards. To Jan. 4. Admission  
\$55-\$36, discounts available.  
Call for showtimes.

**VILLAGERS THEATRE**  
475 DeMott Lane, Somerset  
(732) 873-2710,  
www.villagerstheatre.com

"A Christmas Carol,"  
Charles Dickens standard in a  
kid-friendly production. 7 p.m.  
Dec. 20, 21, 3 p.m. Dec. 22.  
Admission \$10.

**STATE THEATRE**  
15 Livingston Ave.,  
New Brunswick  
(877) STATE 11;  
www.statetheatre.org

"Joseph and the Amazing  
Technicolor Dreamcoat," early  
Andrew Lloyd Webber musical.  
8 p.m. Dec. 27, 2 and 8 p.m.  
Dec. 28, 2 p.m. Dec. 29.  
Admission \$5.

**Dance**  
**THE NUTCRACKER**  
(American  
Repertory Ballet)  
1 and 4:30 p.m. Dec. 21, 22  
State Theatre, 15 Livingston  
Ave., New Brunswick  
(877) STATE 11;  
www.statetheatre.org

Tchaikovsky's holiday  
standard. Admission \$34-\$16.  
**THE NUTCRACKER**  
(Ms. Doreen's "Fabulous  
Feet" Dance Ensemble)  
1 and 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22  
Metuchen High School  
400 Grove Ave., Metuchen  
(732) 548-5278

Tchaikovsky's holiday  
standard. Admission \$12, \$10.  
**THE NUTCRACKER**  
(New Jersey Ballet)  
Dec. 20-24, 26-30  
Paper Mill Playhouse  
Brookside Dr., Millburn  
(973) 376-4343;  
www.papermill.org

Tchaikovsky's holiday  
standard. Admission \$53-\$25;  
discounts available. Call for  
full show schedule.

**Concerts**  
**BARBARA COOK**  
8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31  
State Theatre, 15 Livingston  
Ave., New Brunswick  
(877) STATE 11;  
www.statetheatre.org

Broadway/cabaret singer  
with a "Mostly Sondheim" pro-  
gram. Admission \$60-\$25. New  
Year's Eve dinner-dance fol-  
lows; admission \$225.

**IMPERIAL BRASS**  
7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20  
First United Methodist  
Church  
1 E. Broad St., Westfield  
(908) 233-4211

Holiday concert of the  
Manhattan-based band.  
Donation.

**CHRISTINE LAVIN**  
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28  
Watchung Arts Center  
Watchung Circle, Watchung  
(908) 753-0190;  
www.watchungarts.org/folk

Singer-songwriter in a  
rare non-Manhattan concert.  
Admission \$20.

**"LEGENDARY LEAD  
SINGERS OF  
THE TEMPTATIONS**  
5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21  
Brook Arts Center, 10  
Hamilton St., Bound Brook  
(732) 469-7700

Leading up to the "Motown  
All-Star Reunion" (see below).  
Admission \$100, \$75; includes  
reception.

**MESSIAH (New Jersey  
Symphony Orchestra)**  
2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21  
St. Paul's Church, Princeton  
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21  
Presbyterian Church,  
Westfield

(800) ALLEGRO;  
www.njsymphony.org  
Handel oratorio in sing-  
along format. Admission \$25.

**MOTOWN ALL-STAR  
REUNION**  
8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21

Somerset County Vo-Tech  
Vogt Dr., Bridgewater  
(908) 526-8900, Ext. 7219  
"Legendary lead singers"  
from The Temptations plus The  
Marvelettes. Admission \$50-  
\$30.

**Museums**  
**AMERICAN HUNGARIAN  
FOUNDATION**  
300 Somerset St.,  
New Brunswick  
(732) 846-5777

Open 11 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Tuesday-Saturday, 1-4 p.m.  
Sunday (closed Dec. 25, Jan. 1).  
Admission \$5.

Festival of Trees, to Jan.  
26.

Recent additions "From  
the Old World to the New  
World," to April 20.

**CORNELIUS LOW  
HOUSE**  
Middlesex County Museum  
1225 River Rd., Piscataway  
(732) 745-4177

Open to the public 1-4 p.m.  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,  
Friday and Sunday (closed Dec.  
24, 25, 31, Jan. 1).

"UnCommon Clay: New  
Jersey's Architectural Terra  
Cotta Industry," to May 30,  
2003.

**EAST JERSEY  
OLDE TOWNE**  
1050 River Rd., Piscataway  
(732) 745-3030, (732) 745-  
4489;

www.cultureheritage.org  
Historical village in what  
was once Raritan Landing.  
Open to the public 8:30 a.m.-  
4:15 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 1-4  
p.m. Sunday (closed Dec. 24,  
25, 31, Jan. 1).

Victorian ornaments, to  
Feb. 23.

**MILLER-CORY  
HOUSE MUSEUM**  
614 Mountain Ave.,  
Westfield  
(908) 232-1776

Open 2-5 p.m. Sunday  
(closed Dec. 29, Jan. 5). Adults  
\$2; students 50 cents; children  
under 6 free.

"A Candlelight Christmas  
in Elizabethtown," Dec. 22.

**Galleries**  
**BARRON ARTS CENTER**  
582 Rahway Ave.,  
Woodbridge  
(732) 634-0413

Open to the public 11 a.m.-4  
p.m. Monday-Friday, 2-4 p.m.  
Saturday-Sunday (closed Dec.  
24, 25). Free admission.  
"Train 582 2002," to Dec.  
27.

**DIVERSITY ART  
GALLERY**  
Union County Baptist  
Church

4 Valley Rd., Clark  
(732) 574-1479

Open to the public 1-4 p.m.  
Sunday or by appointment.

Seasonal and veterans art,  
to Jan. 5.

**J. CACCIOLA GALLERY**  
Route 202, Bernardsville  
(908) 204-9900

Open 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Tuesday-Saturday or by  
appointment (closed Dec. 25).

"Small Pleasures: A  
Holiday Celebration," to Jan. 3.  
**MONTGOMERY CENTER  
FOR THE ARTS**

124 Montgomery Rd.,  
Skillman  
(609) 921-3272

Open to the public 10 a.m.-3  
p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 1-4 p.m.  
Sunday (closed Dec. 25).

Creative Artists Guild  
show, to Dec. 22.

**PRINTMAKING COUN-  
CIL**

**OF NEW JERSEY**  
440 River Rd., Branchburg  
(908) 725-2110;  
www.printnj.org

Open 11 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Wednesday-Friday, 1-4 p.m.  
Saturday (closed Dec. 25).

Juried members show, to  
Jan. 18.

**TOMASULO GALLERY**  
Union County College  
1033 Springfield Ave.,  
Cranford

(908) 709-7155;  
www.ucc.edu

Open to the public 1-4 p.m.  
Monday, Saturday; 1-4 and 6-9  
p.m. Tuesday-Thursday.

"Bearing Witness" from  
Helen M. Stummer, to Dec. 19.

**WATCHUNG  
ARTS CENTER**  
Watchung Circle, Watchung  
(908) 753-0190;  
www.watchungarts.org

Open to the public 1-4 p.m.  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday,  
Saturday; 1-7:30 p.m. Thursday  
(closed Dec. 25).

"No Holds Barred" photog-  
raphy show, to Dec. 28.

# Circle Players mark golden anniversary

PISCATAWAY — The Circle Players, marking their golden anniversary this year, for their holiday show present "An Enchanted Evening: Music from the Golden Age of Broadway."

This program of 40's and 50's show tunes is in a cabaret setting inside the Circle Playhouse, Piscataway. Showtimes are 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21 and 28; 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22; and 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27.

Singing these standards are Roger Hayden of Westfield, Michelle Russell of Raritan, Esther Cohen, Jon Heron and Pat Powers-Wry. Accompaniment is by Joyce Kay, piano.

Hayden played Emile in "South Pacific" for the Cranford Dramatic Club, a community theater troupe of which he is the vice president. The trained baritone sang in more than 20 operas before going into musical theater. His roles also have included El Gallo in "The Fantasticks" and Sweeney Todd in "Sweeney Todd."

Russell returns to the Circle Playhouse, where she was Svetlana in the 80's musical "Chess" last summer. She has been Mrs. Claus in "Songs for a New World," Lucy in "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," Sister Robert Anne in "Nunsense," Cordelia in "Fishtales," and Sara Jane Moore in "Assassins."

Cohen recently played Lucy

Harris in "Jekyll and Hyde" at the Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank. The summer stock and community theater actress has been Audrey in "Little Shop of Horrors," Sally Bowles in "Cabaret," Sister Amnesia and Sister Robert Anne in "Nunsense."

Heron, director of "An Enchanted Evening," has had a solo cabaret show in Manhattan clubs. At the Circle Playhouse he has played Slywell J. Fox in "Sly Fox," Rough in "Angel Street" and Geoffrey Duncan in "The Sisters Rosensweig." Heron also was Dr. Sloper in "The Heiress" for the Westfield Community Players.

Powers-Wry is a regular for the Circle Players: Fraulien Schneider in "Cabaret," Berthe in "Pippin," Bunny in "Gimme!" Like Heron she has had a solo cabaret show in Manhattan. She also has played Mrs. Medlock in "The Secret Garden," Joanne in "Company," Golde in "Fiddler on the Roof" and Rose in "Gypsy." In the 1990s Powers-Wry was the director for "Talking With ..." and "Rodgers & Hart" at the Villagers Theatre in Somerset.

Admission is \$12. For reservations and driving directions, phone (732) 968-7555.

The Circle Playhouse is at 416 Victoria Ave., off Vail Avenue between New Market Road and South Washington Avenue.

Fax us your news! (908) 575-6683

Sure, there are some great eateries around the neighborhood. You just have to know where to look...

Pat's Cafe is a great place full of good people, but you'll really want to go there for the food.

Her recipes reflect real down-home tastes, and a barbecue sauce to write home about ... See you there!

*Rich, Chicken and more*

**PAT'S**  
228 W. Scott Avenue, Rahway  
off of S. Georges Ave. near Rahway Blvd.  
Mon-Fri 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday 7 a.m.-1 p.m.

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Lawrence Van Jackson, *The New York Times*

**"A LIVELY AND FUNNY MUSICAL!"**  
Robert Dominguez, *Daily News*

**"WITTY, TOUCHING, COMPELLING, ENTERTAINING, AND FUN!"**  
Edward Buttrick, *Gannett Journal News*

**"STEPHEN MO HANAN IS SIMPLY STUPENDOUS!"**  
David F. Richardson, *WOR Radio*

**"NANCY ANDERSON IS SUPERB!"**  
Donald Lyons, *New York Post*

**"ROBERT ARI IS A HOOT!"**  
Marilyn Shiao, *Variety*

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Linda Winsor/NEWSDAY

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Bruce Weber/NY TIMES

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**"I STRONGLY RECOMMEND IT!"**  
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in  
**Say Goodnight Gracie**

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HELEN HAYES THEATRE  
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Any 3 pcs. Sushi in a Café Roll... \$5.95  
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(last lunch special only)

**15% OFF DINNER**  
Not to be combined with any other offers. Exp. 1/1/03

**B.O.B.** 278 North Avenue • Westfield, NJ 07090  
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Tel 908.389.1131 • 389.1132 • Fax 908.389.1133

# Real Estate

## REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

### CRANFORD

110 Burnside Ave. from Relocation Resource International to Domenick Petracca for \$325,000.

12 Central Ave. from Tania D. & Danielle D. Piazza to Margaret T. Lane for \$495,000.

109 Cranford Ave. from George Giaquinto Jr. et al. to Michael & Veronica Jennings for \$420,000.

34 Henley Ave. from Robert J. Quattro et al. to Tracy L. Espiritu et al. for \$305,000.

130 Herning Ave. from Carl J. & Ida Vogelzang to James & Kathleen Ruka for \$332,500.

165 Hillcrest Ave. from Richard A. & Lauren A. Stivala to Paul H. & Alexandra Ronsvig for \$321,100.

5 Mendell Ave. from Christopher M. & C. Kirby to Thomas & Karen Ruby for \$351,000.

321-102 North Ave. East from Michael & Veronica Jennings to Aleksandr & Larissa Shiteynberg for \$305,000.

3E Parkway Village from Nicholas & Maria Gimnakouras to Josephine DeLazaro for \$155,000.

### FANWOOD

78 Hunter Ave. from Robert Hooijberg et al. to Dennis J. & Ellen M. Sherry for \$392,000.

345 La Grande Ave. from William J. & Carol M. Madden to Brian Green et al. for \$272,900.

18 Mary Lane from Iris Donovan to Terrence & Dawn Cassara for \$220,000.

241 North Ave. from Stephen & Jacqueline Byrne to James & Barbara Vierschilling for \$27,500.

### GARWOOD

317 Willow Ave. from Thomas S. & Karen Ruby to Korine Dankowski for \$220,000.

### KENILWORTH

290 Boulevard from Ernest & Paul Vitale to Gary M. & Sandra K. Skwarek for \$230,000.

351 Coolidge Drive from Gene R. & Joanne Scutari to John P. Sisler et al. for \$275,000.

610 Jefferson Ave. from Zickgraf Trust to Doreen O'Brien for \$200,000.

410 Lafayette Ave. from Ernest H. Tomaso III & Donna Tomaso to Elshiekh Enterprises L.L.C. for \$265,000.

59 S. 19th St. from Wagner & Fatima Nogueira to Juan & Maria C. Brion for \$242,000.

### SCOTCH PLAINS

4 Blackbitch Road from Linda Kutner to John & Maria C. Reilly for \$605,000.

1037 Collar Ave. from Suzanne F. Pinto to Daniel J. Hauck for \$157,000.

1918 Church Ave. from Andrew W. & Evelyn C. Zachar to Renee & Homayoun Payami for \$359,000.

1930 Church Ave. from Luis & Dolores Avila to Richard Dobyns for \$272,500.

2341 Concord Road from Jerome Pumo Jr. to Russell H. & Star D. Jones for \$345,000.

312 Cook Ave. from L.C. Grimaldi 2001 Trust to Ludwika Nighan for \$360,000.

317 Cook Ave. from Edward J. & Judith L. Byvzdnak to Harry M. Byrne et al. for \$350,000.

1710 Cooper Road from Christopher & Maria Pecoraro to Thomas J. & Mary G. Gottlieb for \$470,000.

2056 Elizabeth Ave. from Peter M. Rosenbluth to Christopher J. & C. Dickscheid for \$275,000.

2636 Parview Drive from Alfredo S. & Ana M. Prada to Albert & Julie Y. Wong for \$725,000.

10 Fieldcrest Drive from Stewart B. Kean to Jay M. & Diane Griffith for \$425,000.

1784 Front St. from Donald T. DiFrancesco to Joseph DeRose & Son Inc. for \$125,000.

221 Harding Road from Thomas J. & Roxanne Cempola to Sharon Burton et al. for \$314,900.

8 Johnson St. from Robert E. & Priscilla Bullock to Vegan Investment L.L.C. for \$108,414.

11 Malanga Court from Corey H. & Charnelle Anderson to David Boyd for \$192,500.

2094 Meadowview Drive from Michael Mandel to Christopher Boissonneault for \$245,000.

1 Ravine Court from Gertrude Syvertsen to Norman E. & Kathleen Syvertsen for \$265,000.

2677 Skytop Drive from Charles W. Asbury Jr. & Nancy Asbury to Philip D. Ross et al. for \$395,000.

356 Stout Ave. from William & Barbara Celentano to Ronald R. Minio for \$380,000.

19 Swans Mill Lane from Thomas L. & Deanna Gerbacher to Salvatore W. Ventura et al. for \$861,000.

37 Tisbury Court from Herbert & Janet Leibowitz to Mary B. Hampson for \$310,000.

2301 Westfield Ave. from Jennifer Connolly to Guy Checchio for \$42,500.

2348 Westfield Ave. from Michael Juzefyk L.L.C. to Rehbar & Hanna M. Tayyabkhan for \$415,000.

### WESTFIELD

731 Austin St. from Daniel P. & Lee A. Verderese to Jeffrey D. Sprungel for \$419,900.

17 Breezeknoll Drive from Mark & Tracy Gordon to Marc L. Reitman et al. for \$829,500.

115 Cacciola Place from James A. Holland to Akbar Moghaddas et al. for \$335,000.

715 Carleton Road from Darrin L. & Margaret Coy to Gautam & Charu Parekh for \$436,000.

722 Central Ave. from Wanda F. Solosy to Ivan Mokrytsky et al. for \$238,000.

614 S. Chestnut St. from John B. & Anne K. Humiston to Alexander & Laurisa Koval for \$267,000.

518 Cory Place from Richard & Jacqueline Bodner to Matthew J. & Denise M. Salvato for \$405,000.

145 W. Dudley Ave. from Stephen & Susan M. Miller to Matthew S. & Virginia L. Quinn for \$530,000.

708 Garfield Ave. from Gary Duels to B&G Properties for \$370,000.

210 Harrison Ave. from Barbara I. Duris to Robert W. Duris for \$192,100.

785 Hyslip Ave. from Luis Tischler to Daniel P. & Lee A. Verderese for \$520,000.

159 W. Madison Ave. from Morris A. & Elizabeth Perkins to Needlepoint Homes L.L.C. for \$200,000.

7 Max Place from Max Hill Estates Inc. to Yonius A. Rakda for \$811,900.

25 Tunaques Way from Xinoming Wang & Yumping Song to Lianzhu Liang et al. for \$324,000.

915 Willow Grove Road from Richard F. & Judith P. Shuman to Raymond & Patricia Martucci for \$574,000.

### BERKELEY HEIGHTS

7 Cardinal Court from Paul J. Pertusi & R. Widyawati to Hsueh-Cheng Huang for \$356,000.

43 Cornell Ave. from John A. & Melissa Pavese to Christopher & Bethany Nikolich for \$431,000.

30 Dell Lane from Walter & Barbara J. Egan to Valentin J. & Maria T. Olmo for \$450,000.

60 Lenape Lane from Robert & Lillian J. Bland to Adam R. Hecht for \$516,000.

251 Lorraine Drive from Richard L. & Deborah L. Jensen to William P. & Clare M. Fennell for \$531,500.

271 Lorraine Drive from Gary & Lauren Mertz to Thomas J. & Roxanne Cempola for \$561,000.

682 Plainfield Ave. from James H. & Claudia Fuess to Rosegate Development L.L.C. for \$82,500.

16 Sawmill Drive from Lorraine & Michael Kealey to Tyrone F. & Michelle C. Sergio for \$391,000.

7 Sherbrook Drive from Bernard J. Trombley et al. to Antonio & Deborah Bucci for \$510,000.

12 Springholm Drive from Richard K. & Diana M. Spencer to Prudential Residential Services for \$330,000.

12 Springholm Drive from Prudential Residential Services to Raji Sen for \$330,000.

420 Timber Drive from David N. Light to Robert & Kathleen K. Guidice for \$428,000.

14 Whispering Way West from Todd H. & Jennifer B. Murphy to Sheng Tsao et al. for \$388,000.

### NEW PROVIDENCE

88C Candlewood Drive from George Testa to Richard & Karen Kuller for \$560,000.

133 Central Ave. from Peter & Joan C. Petersen to John T. & Caryn L. Wolak for \$603,000.

90 Crest Road from John D. & Sharon M. Simone to John C. & Elizabeth A. Ertman for \$645,000.

4 Egger Court from John DeSimone Inc. to Daniel M. & Nancy S. Valeria for \$699,000.

175 Elkwood Ave. from Eleanor Nuchenson to Luis D. Deicus et al. for \$450,000.

116 Fairview Ave. from Drew & Debra J. Marchetta to Michael Gaydos et al. for \$345,000.

14 Hillary Place from Wilbert L. & Club 1999-2002. Anne is a

## Firm honors Weber

WESTFIELD — Anne Weber, a consistent top achiever in the Burgdorff ERA Westfield Office, has been honored for the second time this year, once as Sales Agent of the Month for October with five units and a dollar volume of over \$1.7 million, and last September achieved Listing Agent of the Month status.

Weber has been a Realtor since 1999, and has been one of our consistent top-producers. She is a member of the New Jersey Association of Realtors' Million Dollar Sales Club from 1999 to 2001 and is a member of the prestigious Burgdorff ERA President's

Club 1999-2002. Anne is a Burgdorff Specialist. This designation represents the completion of an advanced course that is available for those agents who have achieved a certain level of production, which enhances the agent's ability to buy and sell real estate at the highest possible professional level.

A lifetime resident of Union County and a current resident of Scotch Plains, Weber can provide her customers with first hand knowledge and experience regarding area schools, neighborhoods, recreation and cultural opportunities. Active in the Scotch Plains community, she has spent numerous hours volunteering for many school functions and sporting events.

You may contact her on her direct line (908) 518-5285 or e-mail her at Anne Weber@burgdorff.com.

Judith A. Sagan, Vice President/Manager of Burgdorff ERA's Westfield, added "It's obvious that hard work and dedication to her clients' need have resulted in high production in yet another fabulous month for October. We are very proud of Anne and congratulate her in her many outstanding accomplishments."

## "Mr. Decker-Sells!"



**Bill Decker**  
ERA Mooker Realty  
908-272-2570 x28

I realize that using "Mr. Decker" is a bit formal. After 30 years of teaching in the Cranford School System it seems to be the most appropriate for former students, their parents and the many others I've met. However, this periodic ad will focus on Real Estate!

This year I will be honored at the "Quarter Century Club." That's 25 years of selling Real Estate. In a business not known for its longevity, I consider this quite an honor. I have been a member of the Million Dollar Sales Club many times - including 1997 through 2001.

Also I've been an ERA "Beyond Excellence" participant 4 of the last 5 years. This award honors the top sales associates in the country for ERA. In short - "Mr. Decker - Sells!"

Let me put my knowledge, experience and caring dedication to work for you. Call Mr. Decker at 908-272-2574 x28 if you're thinking of buying or selling!

### Home of the Week New Listing



Cranford \$349,900

**ERA Meeker Realty Co.**  
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A Convenient Guide to Finding the Home of Your Choice in the Community of Your Choice.

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**YOUR office call**  
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May Your Home be Filled With  
The Simple Joys of the Holidays  
and May all Who Gather There  
Feel the Warmth and Peace  
This Lovely Season Can Bring.

Coldwell Banker  
Westfield Office  
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## UNION COUNTY MORTGAGE RATES

PRODUCT	RATE	PTS	APR	% DOWN	LOCK	PRODUCT	RATE	PTS	APR	% DOWN	LOCK	PRODUCT	RATE	PTS	APR	% DOWN	LOCK
<b>Black River Mortgage Co</b> 908-679-6800						<b>Kentwood Financial</b> 800-353-6896						<b>Pan Am Mortgage</b> 908-561-8050					
30 YR FIXED	6.000	0.00	6.170	5%	60 DAY	30 YR FIXED	6.000	0.00	6.130	5%	60 DAY	30 YR FIXED	5.750	1.00	5.980	5%	30 DAY
15 YR FIXED	5.375	0.00	5.540	5%	60 DAY	15 YR FIXED	5.375	0.00	5.500	5%	60 DAY	15 YR FIXED	4.875	2.00	5.120	5%	30 DAY
1 YR JUMBO	2.450	0.00	4.240	20%	60 DAY	30 YR JUMBO	6.250	0.00	6.380	10%	60 DAY	OPTION ARM	2.450	0.00	4.170	10%	60 DAY
20 Year Fixed: 5.875% 0 points 6.0 APR												Any Income-Any Credit-First Approval-Purchase or Refi					
<b>Columbia Bank</b> 800-522-4167						<b>Liberty Mortgage</b> 800-562-5200						<b>Partners Mortgage</b> 708-341-8050					
30 YR FIXED	6.500	0.00	6.525	20%	60 DAY	30 YR FIXED	6.000	0.00	6.000	5%	45 DAY	30 YR FIXED	5.750	0.00	5.790	5%	60 DAY
15 YR FIXED	5.375	0.00	5.415	20%	60 DAY	15 YR FIXED	5.500	0.00	5.500	5%	45 DAY	15 YR FIXED	5.125	0.00	5.170	5%	60 DAY
1 YR ARM	4.000	0.00	3.791	20%	60 DAY	30 YR JUMBO	6.125	0.00	6.125	5%	45 DAY	30 YR JUMBO	6.000	0.00	6.040	5%	60 DAY
Call for jumbo mortgage rates						Never any application fee. Very low closing costs						E-mail address: partnersmga@aol.com					
<b>Commo/Fmr Commonwealth Bk</b> 800-924-9091						<b>Lighthouse Mortgage</b> 800-784-1341						<b>Sunbelt Federal S &amp; L Asso</b> 713-568-0665					
30 YR FIXED	5.875	0.00	5.879	5%	60 DAY	30 YR FIXED	5.500	3.00	5.580	5%	45 DAY	30 YR FIXED	5.125	0.00	5.185	20%	75 DAY
15 YR FIXED	5.250	0.00	5.290	5%	60 DAY	15 YR FIXED	4.875	3.00	4.878	5%	45 DAY	15 YR FIXED	4.125	0.00	4.207	20%	75 DAY
30 YR JUMBO	6.125	0.00	6.129	5%	60 DAY	30 YR JUMBO	5.625	3.00	5.680	10%	45 DAY	1 YR ADJ	5.000	0.00	5.000	20%	75 DAY
Close at home No Broker Fee No App Fee!						Consistently lower than the rest! Open 7 days a week 9-9						15 yr & 1yr ARM to \$500,000 depending on downpayment					
<b>First Savings Bank</b> 732-726-5450						<b>Loan Search</b> 800-591-3279						<b>Synergy Bank</b> 800-694-3856					
30 YR FIXED	5.500	3.00	5.780	5%	60 DAY	30 YR FIXED	6.125	0.00	6.181	5%	60 DAY	30 YR FIXED	6.125	0.00	6.170	5%	60 DAY
15 YR FIXED	4.875	3.00	5.393	5%	60 DAY	15 YR FIXED	5.375	0.00	5.410	5%	60 DAY	15 YR FIXED	5.500	0.00	5.570	5%	60 DAY
5/1-30 YR	5.000	0.00	4.407	5%	75 DAY	30 YR JUMBO	6.250	0.00	6.290	5%	90 DAY	10-1-30 YR	6.000	0.00	5.430	10%	60 DAY
15 year fixed is biweekly						www.loansearch.com						Other products available please contact us for more details & rate info					
<b>Hudson City Savings Bank</b> 201-967-1900						<b>National Future Mortgage</b> 800-291-7900						<b>United Trust Bank</b> 800-429-8266					
30 YR FIXED	6.125	0.00	6.138	5%	90 DAY	30 YR FIXED	5.750	0.00	5.890	0%	60 DAY	30 YR FIXED	6.000	0.00	6.019	5%	60 DAY
15 YR FIXED	5.625	0.00	5.646	5%	90 DAY	15 YR FIXED	5.250	0.00	5.370	0%	60 DAY	15 YR FIXED	5.500	0.00	5.531	5%	60 DAY
10/1-30 YR	5.750	0.00	5.278	5%	90 DAY	30 YR JUMBO	6.125	0.00	6.290	0%	60 DAY	20 YR FIXED	5.875	0.00	5.887	5%	60 DAY
www.HudsonCitySavings-Bank.com						Low rates & lower fees! 12 yrs in business Exp Prof LO's											
<b>Investors Savings Bank</b> 800-252-8119																	
30 YR FIXED	6.125	0.00	6.200	5%	90 DAY												
15 YR FIXED	5.625	0.00	5.750	5%	90 DAY												
5/1-30 YR	5.000	0.00	4.430	5%	90 DAY												
Loans to \$1.5 million dollars Percentage down varies on jumbos																	
Rates are supplied by the lenders and presented without guarantee. Rates and terms are subject to change. Lenders interested in displaying information should contact C.M.I. @ 800-426-4565. Contact lenders for more information on other products or additional fees which may apply. C.M.I. and the NJN Publications assume no liability for typographical errors or omissions. Rates were supplied by the lenders on December 12, 2002. NIP-not provided by institution																	
<b>VISIT ALL LENDERS @ www.cmi-mortgageinfo.com</b>																	
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# CLASSIFIEDS

To Place Your Ad Call:

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## WHEEL DEAL

For Just \$35.95 we'll run your Auto, Van or Truck for 4 weeks. **CALL FOR DETAILS**  
Private Party Only. Prepayment Required.

## MERCHANDISE BEST BUY

Items from \$0-\$100 3 lines, 1 wk...\$4.50 per ad **CALL FOR DETAILS**  
Private Party Only. Prepayment Required.

## MERCHANDISE BIG DEAL

Items from \$101-\$5000 5 lines, 1 wk...\$25.99 per ad **CALL FOR DETAILS**  
Private Party Only. Prepayment Required.

## CLASSIFIED HOURS

For your convenience our Classified Center is open:  
**Monday-Friday 8am-6pm**  
**Saturday 8:30am-12:30pm**

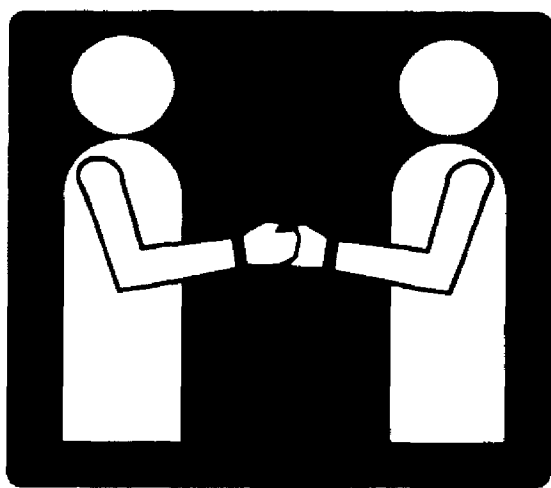
## CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

Friday by 5pm for next week's publication.  
**Fax: 1-877-305-2100**

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The Brand New Lincoln

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LINCOLN

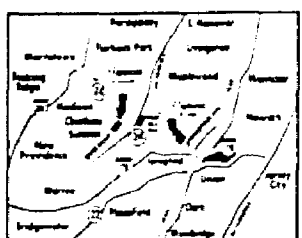


## 2003 Lincoln Aviator

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- Brushed nickel accents
- Aircraft aluminum components
- Rear park assist
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### Certified Pre-Owned by BMW

Financing Available Through BMW Financial Services

**MANY MORE TO CHOOSE FROM!**

#### X Series

01 X5 3.0 Black 27,540 mi

#### Z Series

97 Z3 2.8 Blue 45,818 mi  
00 Z3 2.3 Silver 35,052 mi

#### M Series

99 M3 Conv Black 25,127 mi

#### 3 Series

99 323i Black 54,487 mi  
00 323i Silver 25,364 mi  
00 323iC White 31,281 mi  
99 323i Blue 36,542 mi  
00 323i Black 41,711 mi  
00 323i Silver 48,995 mi  
00 323i White 50,856 mi  
01 325i Blue 12,507 mi  
99 325i Green 28,365 mi  
99 328i White 15,158 mi  
00 328iC Blue 26,218 mi  
00 328i Bronze 30,205 mi  
00 328i Black 30,689 mi  
00 328iC Blue 35,356 mi

#### 5 Series

01 525i Black 17,280 mi  
99 528i Blue 36,877 mi  
99 528i Green 41,376 mi  
99 528i Green 53,514 mi  
00 528i Blue 36,515 mi  
00 528i Blue 40,065 mi  
00 528i Silver 44,968 mi  
98 540i Blue 57,235 mi  
00 540i White 27,836 mi  
00 540i Black 38,472 mi

#### 7 Series

98 740iL Beige 47,936 mi  
00 740iL Blue 29,552 mi  
00 740iL Blue 31,220 mi  
00 740iL Blue 37,995 mi  
00 740iL Anthracite 41,205 mi  
00 740iL Wine 52,893 mi  
01 740iL Blue 27,602 mi  
01 740iL Black 42,452 mi  
01 740iL Anthracite 59,384 mi

Certified Pre-Owned

2000 BMW 328i

BMW Will Make Your First Payment!



Stk. #BP56186, VIN #YJR56186, 4 dr, 6 cyl, automatic transmission, power str/ABS/locks/seats/mirrors/trunk, AIR, tilt, cruise, r/del, alum whls, sunrt, leather, rads, int wip, 30,689 mi, \$3500 cap cost red + \$300 sec dep + \$525 bank fee = \$4325 due at lease incept. Ttl pymts \$11,362. Ttl cost \$15,387. Purchase option \$14,588. 39 mo closed end lease w/10,000 mi/yr; 20c thereafter.

Certified Pre-Owned

2000 BMW 740i

BMW Will Make Your First Payment!



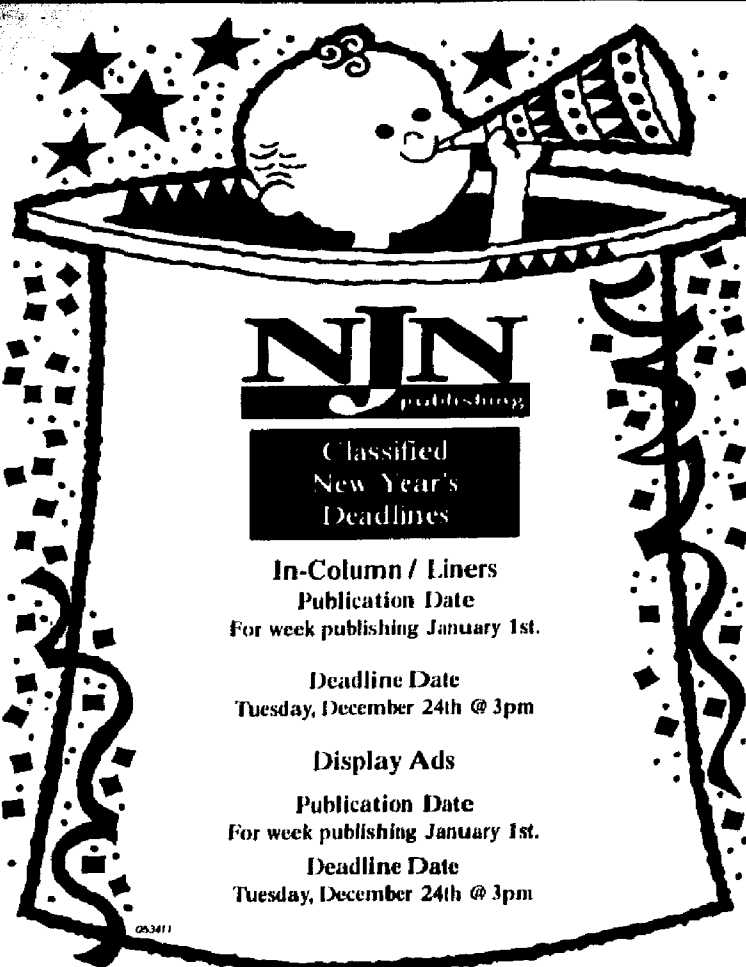
Stk. #BP77711, VIN #YDN77711, 4 dr, 8 cyl, automatic transmission, power str/ABS/wind/locks/seats/locks/trunk/mir, AIR, tilt, cruise, r/del, b/s mldgs, sunrt, leather bckts, cons, int wip, dual air bags, 31,220 mi, \$2025 cap cost red + \$500 sec dep + \$525 bank fee = \$3050 due at lease incept. Ttl pymts \$18,164. Ttl cost \$20,714. Purch opt \$20,525. 39 mo closed end lease w/10,000 mi/yr; 25c thereafter.

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Prices include all cost to be paid by consumer, except for licensing, registration fees and taxes. Not resp. for typos. Pictures are for illustrative purposes only. Lessee resp. for excess wear & tear. Lease subject to primary lender approval. \*Purchase or lease a Certified Pre-Owned BMW vehicle through BMW Financial Services by December 31st, and BMW will make your first payment. Vehicle must be a Certified Pre-Owned BMW, financed through BMW Financial Services, NA, LLC, (subject to credit approval) and contracted October 1, 2002 through December 31, 2002. Only certain lease, OwnersChoice and retail contract terms are eligible (see your participating BMW center for details). Customer's financial obligations begin with second payment due under contract. 28 models excluded. Payments based on actual price as determined by BMW center. Down payment requirements depend on customer credit qualifications. At lease end, customer may be responsible for excess mileage and/or excess wear and use charges. On leases, you acquire no ownership rights in vehicle unless purchase option is exercised. See participating BMW center for complete details on BMW making the first payment for you. For more information, call 1-800-334-4BMW, or go to [bmwusa.com](http://bmwusa.com). ©2002 BMW of North America, LLC. The BMW name and logo are registered trademarks.



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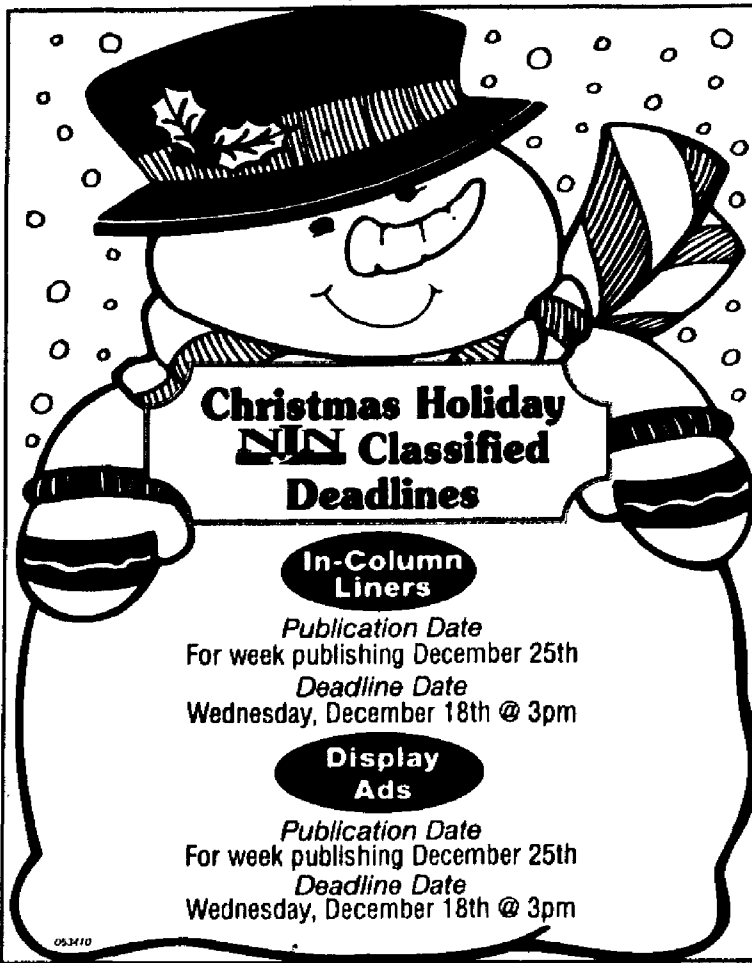
**Classified New Year's Deadlines**

**In-Column / Liners**  
Publication Date  
For week publishing January 1st.

**Deadline Date**  
Tuesday, December 24th @ 3pm

**Display Ads**  
Publication Date  
For week publishing January 1st.

**Deadline Date**  
Tuesday, December 24th @ 3pm



**Christmas Holiday NJN Classified Deadlines**

**In-Column Liners**  
Publication Date  
For week publishing December 25th

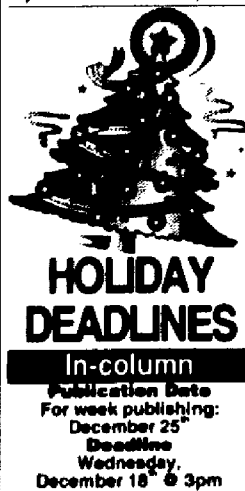
**Deadline Date**  
Wednesday, December 18th @ 3pm

**Display Ads**  
Publication Date  
For week publishing December 25th

**Deadline Date**  
Wednesday, December 18th @ 3pm

**Announcements**  
**Announcements 110**

**BUY NEW JERSEY FOR \$379!** The New Jersey Press Association can place your 25-word classified ad in over 150 NJ newspapers throughout the state - a combined circulation of over 2 million households. Call Diane Trent at NJPA at 609-406-0600 ext. 24, email dtrent@njpa.org or visit [www.njpa.org](http://www.njpa.org) for more information. (Nationwide placement available)



**HOLIDAY DEADLINES**

**In-column**  
Publication Date  
For week publishing: December 25<sup>th</sup>

**Deadline**  
Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> @ 3pm

**Display**  
Publication Date  
For week publishing: December 25<sup>th</sup>

**Deadline**  
Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> @ 3pm

**NJN**

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or Call 1-888-BENZ-BMW

**Announcements**  
**Announcements 110**

**NEW YEAR'S DEADLINES**

**In-column**  
Publication Date  
For week publishing: January 1<sup>st</sup>

**Deadline**  
Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> @ 3pm

**Display**  
Publication Date  
For week publishing: January 1<sup>st</sup>

**Deadline**  
Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> @ 3pm

**NJN**

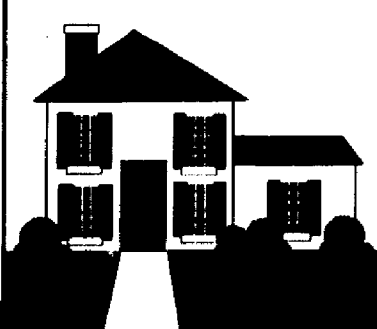
**General Help 240**

**AMERICA'S AIR FORCE**  
Jobs available in over 150 careers, plus: "Up to \$18,000 Enrollment Bonus" "Up to \$10,000 Student Loan Repayment" "Up to 100% Tuition assistance" "High Tech training" High school grade 10 or prior service members from any branch, call 1-800-425-USAFA or visit [airforce.com](http://airforce.com)

**ATTENTION!!** Be your own boss. P/T-FT \$25-\$65/hr. No experience necessary. Mail order. Call toll free. HB International 1-800-622-1374 [www.ticket2cash.com](http://www.ticket2cash.com)

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**CLASSIFIEDS**  
*Build Results*

**FORGET THE STICKER... WE WILL DEAL!**

**ALL MAKES • ALL MODELS • PRICED FOR IMMEDIATE SALE!**

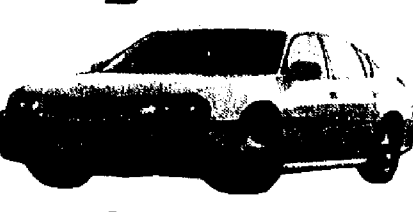
**NEW 2003 CHEVROLET Malibu**



**\$199**

4 door, 6 cyl, auto, p/s, p/b, air, airbags, buckets, 24hr rsdse asst, cruise, tilt, p/w, p/b, cass w/cd player, rr defrost. Vin# 34652172. Stk# 3682. MSRP: \$19,435. Price incl \$400 Coll Grad Rebate (if qual) & \$750 Chevy Lease Loyalty Rebate (if qual). Based on 36 mo closed-end lease. Total due at inception \$1605. Incl \$1195 customer cash, 1st mo payment, 40 security dep and tax. Purch Optn: \$10,217 avail at lease end. Total Cost: \$8570.


**NEW 2002 CHEVROLET Impala**



**\$16.131**

Automatic, 6 cylinder, p/s, p/b, air cond, 4 door, 24 hr rsdse assist, cruise, tilt, tint, power windows, power door locks, AM/FM stereo w/CD, rear defrost. MSRP: \$21,145. Vin# 39175533. Stk# 3914. Price includes: \$3000 Factory Rebate, \$750 lease loyalty (if qual), \$1164 Dealer Discount and \$400 College Grad Reb (if qual).

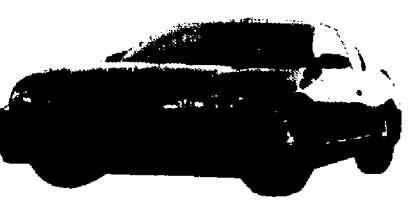
**NEW 2003 CHEVROLET Cavalier**



**\$11.700**

2 door, 4 cylinder, automatic, p/steering, p/brakes, air, airbags, bucket seats, 24 hour rsdse asst, tinted glass, AM/FM stereo w/CD player, rear defrost. Vin# 37137588. Stk# 3876. MSRP: \$18,315. Price includes \$400 Coll Grad Rebate (if qual), \$750 Chevy Lease Loyalty Rebate (if qual), \$3000 Factory Rebate & \$465 Dealer Discount.

**NEW 2003 CHEVROLET MONTE CARLO**



**\$18.200**

2 door, 6 cylinder, automatic, p/steering, p/brakes, air conditioning, dual airbags, buckets, 24 hour rsdse asst, cc, tilt, tint, p/windows, cassette w/CD, rear defrost. MSRP: \$23,695. Vin# 30122665. Stk# 3617. Price includes: \$3000 factory rebate, \$1345 Dealer Disc, \$400 college graduate (if qual) & \$750 Lease Loyalty Reb (if qual).

**NEW 2003 CHEVROLET S10 EXT CAB**



**\$12.270**

2 door, automatic transmission, 4 cylinder engine, power steering, power brakes, air conditioning, 24 hr rsdse assist, tint, CD player. MSRP: \$16,899. Vin# 38141584. Stk# 3841. Price includes: \$3000 factory rebate, \$465 Dealer Discount, \$400 college graduate (if qual) & \$750 Lease Loyalty Rebate (if qual).


**NEW 2003 CHEVROLET VENTURE EXT**



**\$22.018**

4 door, 6 cyl, automatic, p/steering, p/brakes, rear heat & air conditioning, dual airbags, keyless entry, 24 hr rsdse asst, cruise, tilt, tint, p/windows, p/locks, CD, rear defrost. MSRP: \$28,080. Vin# 3D169173. Stk# 3828. Price includes: \$3000 Factory Rebate, \$1912 Dealer Disc, \$400 college graduate (if qual) & \$750 Lease Loyalty Reb (if qual).

**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**

Automatic transmission, 6 cylinder p/steering, p/brakes, air conditioning, rear defrost, dual airbags, bucket seats, cassette, tint, tilt, 27,039 mi. Vin #X8155211.

**WARRANTY AVAILABLE!**

**1999 CHEVROLET VENTURE**




**\$12,956**

7 Pass, auto, 6 cyl, p/steering, p/brakes, air cond, p/windows, p/locks, rr defr, dual airbags, cassette, tint, cc, tilt, 34,215 mi. Vin# X2D39555.

**WARRANTY AVAILABLE!**

**2000 CHEVROLET Impala**

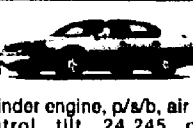


**\$12,958**

Automatic transmission, 6 cylinder engine, p/s/b, air cond, p/w, rear defrost, airbags, tint, cruise control, tilt, 24,790 mi. Vin #Y9137344.

**WARRANTY AVAILABLE!**

**2001 CHEVROLET Impala**

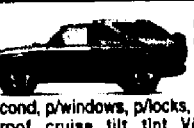


**\$14,953**

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

**WARRANTY AVAILABLE!**

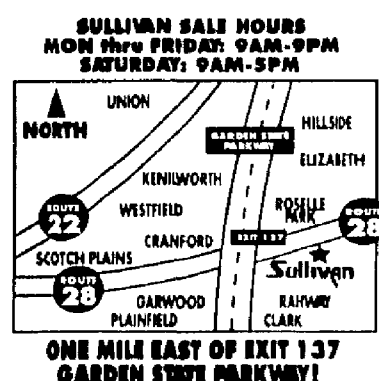
**2001 CHEVROLET BLAZER LT**



**\$16,976**

Auto trans, 4x4, 6 cyl, p/s, p/b, air cond, p/windows, p/locks, p/tr rsear, rear defrost, dual airbags, cassette, leather, sunroof, cruise, tilt, tint, Vin# 12151999. 23,850 mi.

**WARRANTY AVAILABLE!**



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Serving New Jersey For Over 45 Years!

**CHEVROLET**

**CHEVROLET**

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Want to make a move?  
Check the classified ads first.

**classified first**  
the first place to look for everything

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Prices include all costs to be paid by the consumer except for licensing, registration and taxes. Prices available on in-stock units only. Leases are subject to primary lender approval. Lessee responsible for maintenance, repair, excess wear & tear. 12K mi/yr, 20¢/mi thereafter. \*0% financing on select new 2002c vehicles in stock, to qualified buyers, must have primary lender approval. †To qualify for college graduate rebate must have graduated from an accredited 4 yr college within the last 6 months. ‡To qualify must currently be in GMC lease. See dealer for details. Photos used for layout purposes only. Offers cannot be combined with any other offer. Not responsible for typographical errors. Offers expire 1/1/03.



# ready to get a new car?

**Check the  
classified ads  
first.**

Want to get into a new car fast? Get into the classified section first. Classified ads offer the widest selection of new and used vehicles in the market. Plus, classified ads are the most convenient way to comparison shop features, prices and payments.

Ready to ride? Check the classified section first.

**classified  
first**  
the first place to look for everything

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## General Help 240

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**CHILD CARE**  
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## General Help 240

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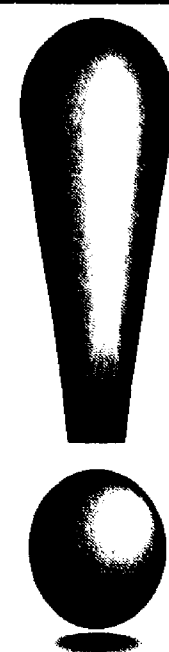
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Lease Per Mo. 39 Mos.

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Lease Per Mo. 39 Mos.

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**\$429**

Lease Per Mo. 39 Mos.

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Exc. cond. \$2,800  
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161,820 mi. needs a little  
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obo. Contact Rich Bennett  
at Somerset Messenger  
Gazette 908-575-6718

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dr. fully loaded, exc. cond.,  
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LWB '95 gin w/tan lthr. gd  
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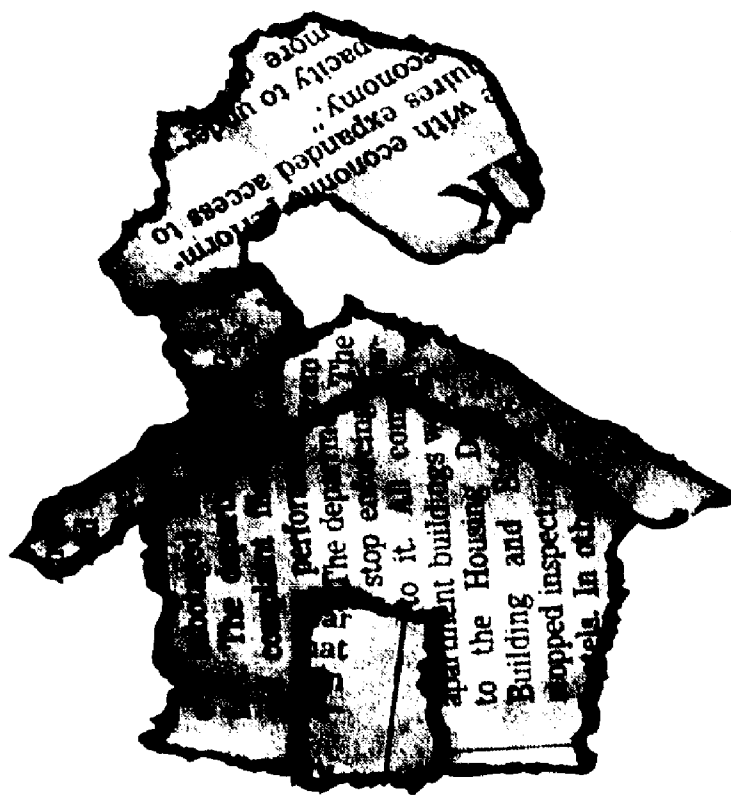
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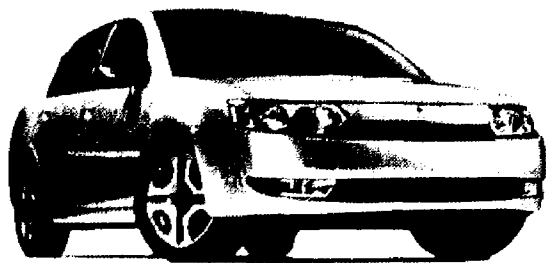
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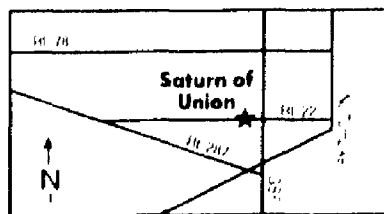
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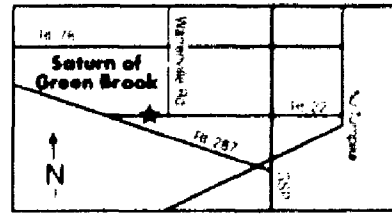


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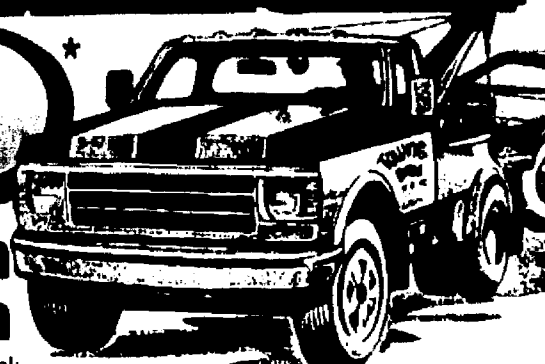
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**\$5950**

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**\$7950**

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**\$8950**

### 1997 Oldsmobile Cutlass SL

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**\$8950**

### 1998 Ford Windstar GL

4 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brk/wind/lck, A/R, AM/FM stereo, CD, cruise, int w/p, heat mats, heated mirrors, convenience gip, MSRP \$14,445. VIN #31522527. 48 mo closed end lease w/12,000 mi/yr. 15¢ thereafter. \$0 due at lease signing. 10 pmts \$199.50. 11¢ cost \$10,148. Plus opt. at lease end \$2,987.70.

**\$9950**

### 2002 Ford Escort SE

4 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brk/wind/lck, A/R, AM/FM stereo, CD, cruise, int w/p, heat mats, heated mirrors, convenience gip, MSRP \$14,445. VIN #31522527. 48 mo closed end lease w/12,000 mi/yr. 15¢ thereafter. \$0 due at lease signing. 10 pmts \$199.50. 11¢ cost \$10,148. Plus opt. at lease end \$2,987.70.

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**\$10,550**

### 1996 Ford Explorer XLT 4x4

4 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brk/wind/lck, A/R, AM/FM stereo, CD, cruise, int w/p, heat mats, heated mirrors, convenience gip, MSRP \$14,445. VIN #31522527. 48 mo closed end lease w/12,000 mi/yr. 15¢ thereafter. \$0 due at lease signing. 10 pmts \$199.50. 11¢ cost \$10,148. Plus opt. at lease end \$2,987.70.

**\$10,950**

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### 1997 Ford Explorer XLT 4x4

4 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brk/wind/lck, A/R, AM/FM stereo, CD, cruise, int w/p, heat mats, heated mirrors, convenience gip, MSRP \$14,445. VIN #31522527. 48 mo closed end lease w/12,000 mi/yr. 15¢ thereafter. \$0 due at lease signing. 10 pmts \$199.50. 11¢ cost \$10,148. Plus opt. at lease end \$2,987.70.

**\$9950**

### 1996 Lincoln Town Car Signature

4 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brk/wind/lck, A/R, AM/FM stereo, CD, cruise, int w/p, heat mats, heated mirrors, convenience gip, MSRP \$14,445. VIN #31522527. 48 mo closed end lease w/12,000 mi/yr. 15¢ thereafter. \$0 due at lease signing. 10 pmts \$199.50. 11¢ cost \$10,148. Plus opt. at lease end \$2,987.70.

**\$10,550**

### 2002 Ford Focus SE Comfort

4 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brk/wind/lck, A/R, AM/FM stereo, CD, cruise, int w/p, heat mats, heated mirrors, convenience gip, MSRP \$14,445. VIN #31522527. 48 mo closed end lease w/12,000 mi/yr. 15¢ thereafter. \$0 due at lease signing. 10 pmts \$199.50. 11¢ cost \$10,148. Plus opt. at lease end \$2,987.70.

**\$10,950**

### 1998 Audi A4 1.8T Quattro

4 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brk/wind/lck, A/R, AM/FM stereo, CD, cruise, int w/p, heat mats, heated mirrors, convenience gip, MSRP \$14,445. VIN #31522527. 48 mo closed end lease w/12,000 mi/yr. 15¢ thereafter. \$0 due at lease signing. 10 pmts \$199.50. 11¢ cost \$10,148. Plus opt. at lease end \$2,987.70.

**\$13,950**

### 2001 Ford Taurus SES Wagon

4 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brk/wind/lck, A/R, AM/FM stereo, CD, cruise, int w/p, heat mats, heated mirrors, convenience gip, MSRP \$14,445. VIN #31522527. 48 mo closed end lease w/12,000 mi/yr. 15¢ thereafter. \$0 due at lease signing. 10 pmts \$199.50. 11¢ cost \$10,148. Plus opt. at lease end \$2,987.70.

**\$14,950**

### 2002 Ford Taurus SES

4 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brk/wind/lck, A/R, AM/FM stereo, CD, cruise, int w/p, heat mats, heated mirrors, convenience gip, MSRP \$14,445. VIN #31522527. 48 mo closed end lease w/12,000 mi/yr. 15¢ thereafter. \$0 due at lease signing. 10 pmts \$199.50. 11¢ cost \$10,148. Plus opt. at lease end \$2,987.70.

**\$14,950**

### 1997 Ford Expedition XLT Sport 4x4

4 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brk/wind/lck, A/R, AM/FM stereo, CD, cruise, int w/p, heat mats, heated mirrors, convenience gip, MSRP \$14,445. VIN #31522527. 48 mo closed end lease w/12,000 mi/yr. 15¢ thereafter. \$0 due at lease signing. 10 pmts \$199.50. 11¢ cost \$10,148. Plus opt. at lease end \$2,987.70.

**\$15,950**

### 2000 Ford Windstar SEL Wagon

4 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brk/wind/lck, A/R, AM/FM stereo, CD, cruise, int w/p, heat mats, heated mirrors, convenience gip, MSRP \$14,445. VIN #31522527. 48 mo closed end lease w/12,000 mi/yr. 15¢ thereafter. \$0 due at lease signing. 10 pmts \$199.50. 11¢ cost \$10,148. Plus opt. at lease end \$2,987.70.

**\$16,950**

### 2000 Ford Explorer XLT 4x4

4 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brk/wind/lck, A/R, AM/FM stereo, CD, cruise, int w/p, heat mats, heated mirrors, convenience gip, MSRP \$14,445. VIN #31522527. 48 mo closed end lease w/12,000 mi/yr. 15¢ thereafter. \$0 due at lease signing. 10 pmts \$199.50. 11¢ cost \$10,148. Plus opt. at lease end \$2,987.70.

**\$17,950**

### 2002 Ford E350 Club Wagon XLT 15 Pass.

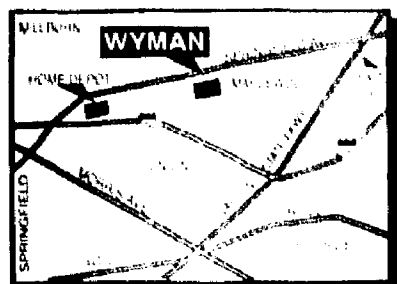
4 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brk/wind/lck, A/R, AM/FM stereo, CD, cruise, int w/p, heat mats, heated mirrors, convenience gip, MSRP \$14,445. VIN #31522527. 48 mo closed end lease w/12,000 mi/yr. 15¢ thereafter. \$0 due at lease signing. 10 pmts \$199.50. 11¢ cost \$10,148. Plus opt. at lease end \$2,987.70.

**\$19,950**

### 2000 Ford Expedition XLT Sport 4x4

4 cyl, auto trans, pwr str/brk/wind/lck, A/R, AM/FM stereo, CD, cruise, int w/p, heat mats, heated mirrors, convenience gip, MSRP \$14,445. VIN #31522527. 48 mo closed end lease w/12,000 mi/yr. 15¢ thereafter. \$0 due at lease signing. 10 pmts \$199.50. 11¢ cost \$10,148. Plus opt. at lease end \$2,987.70.

**\$19,950**



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<b>\$10,495</b>	<b>\$25,995</b>	<b>\$26,995</b>	<b>\$11,595</b>	<b>\$28,995</b>
<b>2001 FORD EXPLORER XLT</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>2001 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>1999 NISSAN PATHFINDER SE</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>2000 FORD EXPLORER XLS</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>2002 ISUZU RODEO</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693
<b>\$23,995</b>	<b>\$18,995</b>	<b>\$14,995</b>	<b>\$15,995</b>	<b>\$28,950</b>
<b>2001 BUICK PREZENTATION</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>1999 SATURN SL-2</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>2002 BUICK CENTURY</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>2002 CHEVY IMPALA</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>2002 FORD MUSTANG LX</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693
<b>\$28,130</b>	<b>\$8,595</b>	<b>\$14,995</b>	<b>\$15,995</b>	<b>\$14,900</b>

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<b>2002 MERCEDES C140</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>2001 VOLVO S-80 2.9</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>2001 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS LS</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>2002 BUICK CENTURY</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>2002 CHEVY IMPALA</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693
<b>\$399 Mo.</b>	<b>\$399 Mo.</b>	<b>\$269 Mo.</b>	<b>\$229 Mo.</b>	<b>\$259 Mo.</b>
<b>2000 CHEVY CAVALIER Z-24 CONVERTIBLE</b> 2 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>2002 FORD WINDSTAR</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>2002 CHRYSLER PT-CRUISEN</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693	<b>2002 LINCOLN LS</b> 4 dr. auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, tilt, cruise, cass. CD, 17,000 miles VIN#225693
<b>\$199 Mo.</b>	<b>\$295 Mo.</b>	<b>\$299 Mo.</b>	<b>\$199 Mo.!!!</b>	<b>\$359 Mo.</b>

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**2002 LAND ROVER**  
**DISCOVERY SE**  
4 dr. 4x4, auto. air, p/s, p/b, p/w, p/locks, leather, moonroof, alloy wheels, 7,700 miles, VIN#2A764682. Lease for \$399 mo., 39 mo., \$2250 due.

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<p><b>SAVE \$5907 ON A NEW 2002 CHEVROLET</b></p> <p><b>Malibu</b></p> <p>LS - 4 DOOR</p> <p>Std Equip Incl: 3.1L V-6, auto OD trans, pwr strng/brks/seat/wind/locks/mirr, Uglis, AIR, tilt, cruise, r/del, alum whls, Opt Equip Incl: CD/Cass, ripple, Slt#2768, VIN#2M719436, MSRP \$20,900, incl. \$3000 factory rebate, \$1000 Bonus Cash &amp; 400 GMAC Recent coll grad rebate if qual.</p> <p><b>\$14,993</b></p>	<p><b>SAVE \$5756 ON A NEW 2002 CHEVROLET</b></p> <p><b>TrailBlazer</b></p> <p>EXT - 4 DOOR 4X4 - 7 PASS</p> <p>Std Equip Incl: 4200 V6, auto OD trans, pwr strng/brks/seat/wind/locks/mirr, deep t/gls, LT Trim, tilt, cruise, alum whls, roof rack, AIR, r/del, Opt Equip Incl: wll tires, stereo w/6 disc CD changer, Slt#5847KT, VIN#26107852, MSRP \$34,145, incl. \$2000 fact rebate \$400 GMAC Recent Coll Grad Rebate if qual.</p> <p><b>\$28,389</b></p>
<p><b>SAVE \$6632 ON A NEW 2002 CHEVROLET</b></p> <p><b>S10</b></p> <p>LS - EXT. CAB PICKUP</p> <p>Std Equip Incl: Pwr strng/brks, Uglis, AIR, Opt Equip Incl: 4300 V6, auto OD trans, LS trim, pwr wind/locks/mirr, rem keyless entry, deep t/gls, mats, alum whls, AM/FM stereo w/CD, locking diff, tilt, cruise, Slt#5833KT, VIN#28219899, MSRP \$21,329, incl. \$3000 factory rebate, \$1000 Bonus Cash &amp; 400 GMAC Recent coll grad rebate if qual.</p> <p><b>\$14,697</b></p>	<p><b>SAVE \$6939 ON A NEW 2002 CHEVROLET</b></p> <p><b>S10</b></p> <p>LS - EXT. CAB 4X4 PICKUP</p> <p>Std Equip Incl: 4300 V-6, pwr strng/brks, 3rd door, AIR, split front bench, Opt Equip Incl: auto OD trans, slgd r/wind, CD, cass, deep Uglis, alum whls, wll tires, tilt, cruise, pwr wind/locks/mirr, remote keyless entry, Slt#5854KT, VIN#28234543, MSRP \$24,338, incl. \$3000 factory rebate, \$1000 Bonus Cash &amp; 400 GMAC Recent coll grad rebate if qual.</p> <p><b>\$17,399</b></p>
<p><b>SAVE \$5583 ON A NEW 2002 CHEVROLET</b></p> <p><b>SILVERADO 1500 PICKUP</b></p> <p>Std Equip Incl: pwr strng/brks, Uglis, tilt, gages, Opt Equip Incl: 4800 V-6 locking diff, auto OD trans, deep Uglis, b/s mldgs, chrome grille, chrome steel whls, stereo, CD, h/d suspension, AIR, 40/20/40 seat, Slt#5878KT, VIN#22108659, MSRP \$22,581, incl. \$2000 factory rebate, \$1000 Bonus Cash &amp; \$750 Lease Loyalty Rebate if qual.</p> <p><b>\$16,998</b></p>	<p><b>SAVE \$4916 ON A NEW 2002 CHEVROLET</b></p> <p><b>Impala SEDAN</b></p> <p>Std Equip Incl: V-6, auto OD trans, Uglis, AIR, pwr strng/brks/wind/locks/mirr/trunk, tilt, r/del, split frt bench, w/covers, cass, Opt Equip Incl: pwr seat, mats, cruise, Slt#3749F, VIN#39128448, MSRP \$21,715, incl. \$2000 factory rebate, \$1000 Bonus Cash &amp; \$750 Lease Loyalty Rebate if qual.</p> <p><b>\$16,799</b></p>
<p><b>SAVE \$4618 ON A NEW 2002 CHEVROLET</b></p> <p><b>ASTRO CARGO VAN</b></p> <p>Std Equip Incl: 4.3L V-6, auto OD trans, pwr strng/brks, AIR, b/s mirrs, bckts, Opt Equip Incl: glass side &amp; rear doors w/deep Uglis, Slt#5897KT, VIN#38110137, MSRP \$22,214, incl. \$2000 factory rebate &amp; \$750 Lease Loyalty Rebate if qual.</p> <p><b>\$17,596</b></p>	<p><b>SAVE \$5749 ON A NEW 2002 CHEVROLET</b></p> <p><b>VENTURE EXTENDED VAN</b></p> <p>Std Equip Incl: pwr strng/brks/wind/locks/mirr, tilt, cruise, 3.4L V-6, auto OD trans, Opt Equip Incl: remote keyless entry, mats, front &amp; rear AIR, ABS, side air bags, deep Uglis, r/del, wll tires, alum whls, stereo, cass, Slt#5535KT, VIN#3808976, MSRP \$27,410, incl. \$2000 factory rebate, \$750 Lease Loyalty Rebate if qual &amp; \$1000 bonus cash</p> <p><b>\$21,691</b></p>

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# Automotive/Classified

## Mazda makes an up-to-date statement with minivan

BY MARK MAYNARD

Copley News Service

Minivan is a nasty word to many people — to many people who really could use one.

The topic's not open to discussion for many people, however. They won't consider a minivan, and they don't want to be seen driving one — maybe even riding in one.

Not all minivans are created in the dowdy light of family chores, however. And even though it's an image resisted by many, once you've had a minivan, it's hard to return to the space constraints of a sedan or sport-utility vehicle.

For a mode of transportation that gets no respect, the minivan is an ideal vehicle. It's more fuel-efficient than an SUV, and there's more carrying capacity for just about everything from kids, their pets, their friends and bicycles to the in-laws and goodies from a shopping spree.

Even the ride height is slightly elevated for better on-road views, and the step-in height is comfortable.

Picking your poison comes in a variety of shapes and sizes.

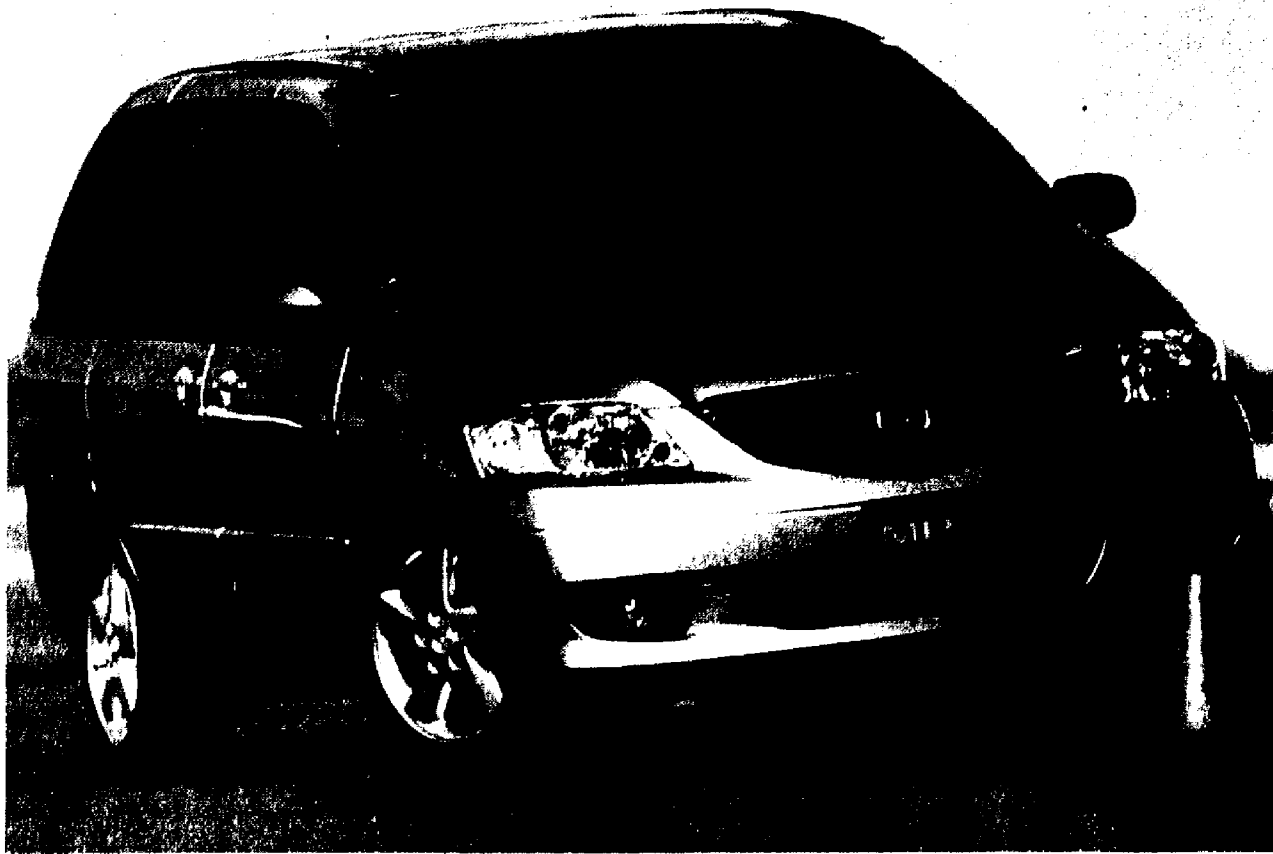
The Mazda MPV is a small minivan that has crossover traits of a sedan for nimble drivability and a van's 7-passenger seating. It is also a desirable offering because of its quality construction.

Pricing starts at \$23,120 for the LX and \$26,520 for the ES. Both come with the 200-horsepower V-6 engine and 5-speed automatic transmission.

This year, the LX gets more standard features, and the ES has a few standard items made optional, dropping the MSRP by about \$1,200.

The ES comes with such extras as leather upholstery, 17-inch alloy wheels (with locks), a power-adjustable driver's seat and remote locking.

The test van's sticker price of



Mazda makes an up-to-date statement with minivan

\$29,345 included a number of options, but they seem modestly priced.

The four seasons package (\$425) adds a rear heater, larger windshield washer tank, heavy-duty battery, heavy-duty rear defogger, transmission oil cooler, a larger radiator and extra cooling fan, heated mirrors, heavy-duty wiper motor and 3,000-pound towing capacity.

A power moonroof is \$700 and an in-dash 6-disc CD changer is \$450, which are better deals than you can get at an aftermarket firm, plus they are covered by the Mazda warranty.

Among the other Mazda

advantages are the 3-year, 50,000-mile warranty (Mazda believes its buyers like to drive) and a free tank of gas.

A family of four might never outgrow the MPV. The front buckets seats are full and supportive with a flip-up tray table and cup holder between, which allows an adult to slip into the back.

The second row has two bucket seats that cleverly slide together as a bench for more traditional kid-carrying duty. Push them apart when the siblings are old enough to demand their own territory — or when the grown-ups go out with friends.

For the passengers, all rows

have theater seating — slightly raised — for better views. And there are plentiful storage areas, hand grabs, cup holders and grocery-bag hooks.

Also special for a van are side door windows that can be opened, and these are power-operated, which is very handy for parents and dog owners. The power side doors are handy, but an \$800 option.

The third row, three-belt bench will fold flat into the floor or flip backward to make a tailgating seat. Converting the "Tumble-Under" third-row up or down — is about 30-second process that even a kid can do without a parent's help.

The fold-flat seat design is a

good feature for people with large pets.

There's abundant space for a kennel, and the step-up or jump-in height is lower than getting into an SUV. That matters for owners of older or heavier pets that demand to be lifted into the back.

A rear air conditioning unit is standard on the topline model.

And, for bringing home a refrigerator, screen doors or a large-screen TV, the second row of seats can be removed and lifted without causing bodily harm.

Last year, Mazda beefed up the driveline with a 200-horsepower 3.0-liter V-6 — upgraded from the 170-horsepower, 2.5-liter — and a 5-speed automatic with "slope control" to prevent the transmission from repeated shifts or seeking for the optimum gear on long interstate grades.

The MPV handles the power smoothly, and there's enough engine torque for rapid stop-light getaways and unhesitant passing power. Few owners will complain about the fuel mileage of 18 mpg around town and 24 on the highway.

Because Mazda has a younger audience, its vehicles have a sportier driving attitude. And because of its smaller mass, the MPV can get out of its own way. The chassis feels solid, and the suspension is firm for reduced body roll but still a comfortable ride.

Road harshness and textures are not transmitted to the cabin and there is a refined touch to the steering, accelerator and brakes. The power-assisted brakes have 4-channel ABS and electronic brake force distribution, another unexpected feature.

Other safety features include dual front air bags and front side air bags.

Minivans lead tough lives; their owners don't have to. The MPV is a convincing reason to

let your ego take a walk while you drive ... a seven-passenger vehicle.

### SPECSBOX

2003 Mazda MPV ES  
Body style: 7-passenger minivan

Drive system: Front engine, front-wheel drive

Engine: 3.0-liter DOHC 24-valve V-6

Horsepower: 200 at 6,200 rpm

Torque: 200 foot-pounds at 3,000 rpm

Transmission: 5-speed automatic

Acceleration: 0-60 mph, n/a

Fuel economy: 18 mpg city, 24 highway

Fuel tank: 19.8 gallons

### DIMENSIONS

Wheelbase: 111.8 inches

Height: 69.1 inches

Width: 72.1 inches

Length: 187.6 inches

Curb weight: 3,812 pounds

Cargo area: 17.2 cubic feet behind third row; 53.7, third row folded; 127, second row removed

Tow rating: 2,000 pounds

Front head/leg/shoulder room: 39"/40.8"/59.8 inches \*41 inches without sunroof

Middle row head/leg/shoulder room: 37.4/37.6/60.8 inches

Rear head/leg/shoulder room: 38.3/35.6/58.1 inches

### PRICING

Base price: \$26,520, including \$520 destination charge; price as tested, \$29,345

Options on test vehicle: fog lights, \$250; roof rack, \$200; in-dash 6-disc CD changer, \$450; power moonroof, \$700; 4-seasons package, \$425; and power sliding doors with power windows, \$800

Warranty: 3-year/50,000-mile bumper-to-bumper; 24-hour roadside assistance; loaner car program

Where assembled: Japan

PLUSES: Compact and classy

MINUSES: Big dashboard

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Brand New 2003 Chevy **Malibu** 4 DOOR SEDAN

3.5L V6, 170hp, 4 spd auto trans, pwr str ABS, wind/locks, 6-disc stereo, AM/FM stereo, CD, sunroof, leather seats, 17" alloy wheels, 48 mo closed end lease w/ \$1,000 GM rebate used as cap cost reduction. \$14,140 cash \$199.15/mo pymnt & \$1000 GM Rebate used as cap cost reduction. \$14,140 cash \$199.15/mo pymnt & \$1000 GM Rebate used as cap cost reduction. \$14,140 cash \$199.15/mo pymnt & \$1000 GM Rebate used as cap cost reduction. \$14,140 cash \$199.15/mo pymnt & \$1000 GM Rebate used as cap cost reduction.

**SAVE \$3985**

**\$199** Or Buy For Only **\$14,140**  
Lease Per Mo. 48 Mos.



Brand New 2002 Chevy **Monte Carlo** SS - COUPE

3.8L V6, 4 spd auto trans, pwr str ABS, wind/locks, 6-disc stereo, AM/FM stereo, CD, sunroof, leather seats, 17" alloy wheels, 48 mo closed end lease w/ \$1,000 GM rebate used as cap cost reduction. \$24,999 cash \$283.28/mo pymnt & \$1000 GM Rebate used as cap cost reduction. \$24,999 cash \$283.28/mo pymnt & \$1000 GM Rebate used as cap cost reduction. \$24,999 cash \$283.28/mo pymnt & \$1000 GM Rebate used as cap cost reduction.

**SAVE \$4441**

**\$24,999**  
BUY FOR



Brand New 2003 Chevy **Impala** SEDAN

4 door 3.5L V6, 170hp, 4 spd auto trans, pwr str ABS, wind/locks, 6-disc stereo, AM/FM stereo, CD, sunroof, leather seats, 17" alloy wheels, 48 mo closed end lease w/ \$1,000 GM rebate used as cap cost reduction. \$16,911 cash \$224.44/mo pymnt & \$1000 GM Rebate used as cap cost reduction. \$16,911 cash \$224.44/mo pymnt & \$1000 GM Rebate used as cap cost reduction. \$16,911 cash \$224.44/mo pymnt & \$1000 GM Rebate used as cap cost reduction.

**SAVE \$4189**

**\$224** Or Buy For Only **\$16,911**  
Lease Per Mo. 48 Mos.



Brand New 2003 Chevy **VENTURE** MINIVAN

V6, auto trans, pwr str ABS, wind/locks, AIR, AM/FM stereo, CD, sunroof, leather seats, 17" alloy wheels, 48 mo closed end lease w/ \$1,000 GM rebate used as cap cost reduction. \$20,828 cash \$283.28/mo pymnt & \$1000 GM Rebate used as cap cost reduction. \$20,828 cash \$283.28/mo pymnt & \$1000 GM Rebate used as cap cost reduction. \$20,828 cash \$283.28/mo pymnt & \$1000 GM Rebate used as cap cost reduction.

**SAVE \$4217**

**\$283** Or Buy For Only **\$20,828**  
Lease Per Mo. 48 Mos.

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