



The Westfield Leader

OUR 108th YEAR - ISSUE NO. 01-98

USPS 680020
Periodical - Postage Paid at Westfield, N.J.

Thursday, January 1, 1998

Published
Every Thursday

232-4407

FIFTY CENTS



MUSIC OF THE NIGHT...Six members of The Musical Club of Westfield will perform light opera selections for "First Night," Westfield on New Year's Eve, Wednesday, December 31. The group is comprised of, left to right, Linda Young, Gary Young, Drude Sparre Roessler, Charles Roessler, Sandra Smith and Roger Hayden. Mrs. Roessler is a native of Westfield and teaches vocal music at the Wilson Elementary School. The group will donate their "First Night" fee to the scholarship fund of The Musical Club of Westfield. Please call (908) 232-8041 for a recorded message about other events at "First Night," or visit Westfield's website www.westfieldnj.com/firstnight.

Fanwood Mayor Considering Possibility Of Congressional Run Against Mr. Franks

By SUZETTE STALKER
Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader
Democratic Mayor Maryanne S. Connelly of Fanwood confirmed last week that she is seriously considering challenging Republican Congressman Bob Franks for his Seventh District seat in November. The Seventh District includes

municipalities in Union, Essex, Middlesex and Somerset Counties. In Union County, the district spans all or parts of 17 communities, including Westfield. Mrs. Connelly, who was elected Mayor of Fanwood in 1995, said she has been meeting with a committee to explore the possibility of a Con-

gressional run, which she described as "something I've been considering for many years." Congressman Franks, a former State Assemblyman, has served three consecutive terms of two years each. The Berkeley Heights resident succeeded former Congressman Matthew P. Rinaldo, who retired in 1992

after 20 years in office. A spokeswoman for Congressman Franks said Monday he is expected to run for reelection this year. "I'd like to be part of the organization that makes policies, and since I am the Mayor, I'm close to people and understand issues at the local

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

AGENCY CONSIDERS DELAY IN 260-HEADING FOR ROUTES

FAA Considers Revamping Flight Map for East Coast To Handle Hike in Traffic

By PAUL J. PEYTON
Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader
While a state-wide organization continues to fight for ocean routing of departures from Newark International Airport, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey is now pushing for a complete revamp of the overall flight map for the eastern part of the nation — including air traffic from the metropolitan area's three major airports.

Aviation officials have said they want to address not only airplane noise but flight delays caused by increased air traffic volume.

According to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which operates the area's major airports, the number of arrivals at Newark Airport has steadily increased from 268,186 in 1983 to 462,000 in 1997, a number

significantly greater than the other two major area airports - John F. Kennedy International and LaGuardia.

Meanwhile, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) officials said Monday that they would consider a request by United States Senator Robert G. Torricelli to delay a route change for this area, which was to take effect this Thursday, January 1.

The Senator has asked for a delay in the route change until Sunday, March 1.

FAA officials were scheduled to meet with Governor Christine Todd Whitman's deputy chief of policy and planning on December 30, as this newspaper went to press, to discuss the situation.

The Governor recently asked the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) in Newark to utilize its computer enhanced technology to see if the ocean routing plan is a viable solution to reduce airplane noise over populated areas in New Jersey.

Members of the New Jersey Coalition Against Aircraft Noise (NJCAAN) have complained over a change in routes this past year which now has airplanes flying over populated areas of Union County.

A shift in the flight heading from 220 to 260 has pushed aircraft further over land, according to opponents of the plan. Aircraft used to gain altitude while flying over the Arthur Kill waterway and industrial areas.

The issue of flight patterns has been in the news since the implementation of the Expanded East Coast Plan in 1987. The plan, which was implemented without the benefit of an Environmental Impact Statement, was aimed at reducing flight delays.

After an order by Congress, such an environmental study was conducted, resulting in the Solberg Mitigation Plan, at a cost of \$6.5 million.

This plan was said to be the solution to noise problems for some 18,000 residents, mostly residing in the Scotch Plains and Fanwood area. However, when these new flight patterns were put into play in 1996, it soon became apparent that noise levels had actually increased.

Jerome Feder, one of Westfield's representatives on the Union County Air Traffic Noise Advisory Board, showed Port Authority air flight maps to the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders last January which indicated the Solberg flight patterns were not being followed.

Under Solberg, planes were supposed to proceed south of the airport for 9.5 miles before making a westerly turn to Hunterdon County.

More recently, according to NJCAAN representatives, it was discovered that airplane pilots were essentially taking a shortcut and taking off directly over heavily populated areas.

Glenn Bales, a former FAA official

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

UNION COUNTY FREEHOLDERS' ATTEMPT TO REPLACE UTILITIES AUTHORITY MADE HEADLINES

Battle Over Mayoral Nominations; Liquor Ordinance and Lowest School Budget Increase in 15 Years Topped First Six Months of '97

By PAUL J. PEYTON
Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader
Last year was a busy one in Westfield, with a number of fresh faces at the Municipal Building and Board of Education. The following is a month-by-month recap of Westfield and Union County government news as reported by *The Westfield Leader* for the first half of 1997. The second part will be published next week.

January
The new year started off with a great deal of enthusiasm, but quickly turned sour when the two political parties on the Town Council battled over the list of appointments — both paid and volunteer — to town posts, boards and commissions.

On New Year's Day, Westfield celebrated the inauguration of Thomas C. Jardim as Westfield's first Democratic Mayor in 85 years. Mayor Jardim, at the youthful age of 31, urged bipartisan support to solve what he defined as the, "malingering problems of the past."

Sworn into office with the new Mayor were fellow Democrats John J. Walsh and Lawrence A. Goldman, representing the Third and Fourth Wards, respectively, and Republicans Gail S. Vernick, First Ward, beginning her second term, and James J. Gruba, Second Ward, beginning his third term on the council. The three seats plus the Mayor's office are the most the Democrats have ever held at one time in the town's history.

On January 7, after several hours of closed door sessions separately and together, the council was forced to delay the appointments proposed by Mayor Jardim due to a stalemate between Republicans and Democrats on the council.

When the council reconvened the following Monday, the stalemate was finally ended after more discussion. When the list came down, the biggest change was a tradeoff in which the Democrats agreed to remove Anthony M. LaPorta, a former First Ward Councilman and Mayoral contender for their party, from a Plan-

ning Board seat, in return for the approval by Republicans of Marion S. Mogielnicki as Municipal Judge.

Ms. Mogielnicki, who once ran against Republican and former Mayor Bud C. Booth for a seat on the council in the Second Ward, replaced Edward J. Hobbie, a 12-year incumbent judge. Pamela McClure, a Republican former council candidate in the Third Ward and Board of Adjustment member, was named to the Planning Board in Mr. LaPorta's place.

Mr. LaPorta's removal from the board did not last long, however, as William L. Brennan, another former Democratic council candidate, declined a seat on the board after being asked to help the Mayor on several other matters.

Since Planning Board nominations do not require council consent, Mayor Jardim's decision to put Mr. LaPorta back on the board could not be stopped by Republicans.

Paul Strauchler was named to the new position of Assistant Town Attorney, a position created to put him in line to replace Charles H. Brandt as Town Attorney come 1998. Other notable appointments included Michael Diamond, a former Democratic councilman, as Public Defender and Lawrence C. Mannino, who was re-appointed to the zoning board, which he chairs.

The Board of Education announced its support for the development of an Interactive Television (ITV) studio for the district. ITV is a network of video hookups which connect students at several different sites.

Linda d. Stender was named Chairwoman of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders as the Democrats took the majority for the first time since 1992, with a 6-3 advantage. Sworn into office were Mrs. Stender, who began her second term on the board, Donald Gonçalves of Elizabeth and Nicholas P. Scutari of Linden. Freeholder Daniel P. Sullivan of Elizabeth was named Vice Chairwoman of the board.

At its reorganizational meeting, the Planning Board returned Douglas T. Schwarz and Robert T. Newell as board Chairman and Vice Chairman, respectively, for the year.

The Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce recommended that the proposed budget of \$215,000 for the Downtown Westfield Corporation (DWC), the governing body of Westfield's Special Improvement District (SID), be reduced by \$73,500.

The Board of Adjustment approved a variance for Maureen Garrels of 570 Westfield Avenue to convert her one-family home into an upscale "bed and breakfast" establishment.

Mayor Jardim announced the creation of the Westfield Expenditure

and Review Commission (WERC), to provide recommendations on the municipal budget process; the Westfield Raritan Valley Commuter Advisory Commission, to push for direct service into Manhattan, among its ultimate goals, and the Westfield Solid Waste Advisory Commission, which was assigned to address what Mayor Jardim defined as a "broken and expensive municipal solid waste disposal system."

The Board of Education approved a plan to renovate and upgrade the district's administration building on Elm Street. The cost to bring the building up to fire code safety was put at \$550,000, with an additional \$465,000 needed for restoration and repairs of the 81-year old building. The report was issued by M. Disko Engineering.

The school board rejected the former Lincoln School building, located at 728 Westfield Avenue, as a relocation site for the administration offices. Alterations for this move were placed at \$1.57 million, with an additional \$98,000 needed for moving and relocation expenses.

The school is currently leased to the Union County Educational Services Commission at \$122,000 a year.

Union County Manager Ann M. Baran unveiled a \$276.5 million budget, which represented a zero increase in the county's tax levy. The budget was turned over to the Freeholder Fiscal Affairs Committee chaired by Freeholder Walter D. McNeil for their changes.

As January concluded, developer Herman "Hy" Carlinsky pulled out of his option to purchase the Rialto Theatre from Denver-based United Artists. Plans had called for the 75-year-old landmark to be developed for a national retailer.

John M. Toriello announced that he would not seek reelection to the school board.

The month also included a sad note with passing of Reverend Charles J. Hudson, 61, the co-founder of the Center for Hope Hospice in Linden. He also said Masses at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield as a weekend assistant priest.

February
Mr. LaPorta was named to the Planning Board to fill the seat of William L. Brennan, who declined the nomination by Mayor Jardim.

Thomas Taylor declared his candidacy for the school board. He previ-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

Deadlines Told For Submittals To The Leader

Those persons preparing press releases for submission to *The Leader* are reminded that copy should be e-mailed or faxed by 4 p.m. on the Friday prior to publication. *The Leader's* e-mail address is press@goleader.com. The fax number is 232-0473. Releases, pictures and letters to the editor can also be dropped off at our office located at 50 Elm Street or through our mail slot. To ensure that submittals reach our office prior to deadline, we encourage e-mail or faxed materials.

Sports stories which occur prior to the weekend must be in by the Friday deadline. Weekend sports events must be submitted by noon on the Monday prior to the publication date. Obituaries will be accepted up to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays. All copy must be typed, double-spaced, upper and lower case, no more than 500 words in length, and include a daytime telephone number where the submitter can be reached.

For events which are planned months in advance, we encourage submission of stories as early as possible prior to the event.

Please note that in addition to making our deadlines, the publication of submittals may be delayed due to space considerations. All submittals are subject to being cut due to length, edited for style and clarification at the discretion of the editor.



JUST SWORN IN...Mayor Thomas C. Jardim reaches out to shake hands with his uncle, Union County Superior Court Judge Alexander J. Menza, after the Judge swore him as Westfield's first Democratic Mayor in over eight decades. At right is the Mayor's wife, Karen Fountain. Judge Menza retired later in the year.

Westfield School Board Reschedules Meeting

The Westfield Board of Education's next meeting, originally scheduled for Tuesday, January 6, has been rescheduled to Tuesday, January 13, at 8 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Board Room at 302 Elm Street.

A complete agenda will be available on Monday, January 12, in the Business Secretary's Office at 302 Elm Street. The public is invited to attend.

The meeting will be taped and broadcast on Channel 36 on Wednesday, January 14, at 7 p.m.; Thursday, January 15, at 10 p.m., and Monday, January 19, at 9 p.m.



VICTORY FOR RIALTO...Supporters of the Rialto Theatre in Westfield celebrated the announcement that Jesse Sayegh, President of CJM Entertainment in Cedar Grove, had agreed to purchase the landmark theater from United Artists. Pictured, left to right, are: Anthony Schilling, President of Relocation Realty in Westfield, which brokered the deal; Michele Picou, former Program Manager for Westfield MainStreet; Mr. Sayegh; former Mayor Bud C. Booth; David Owsn, spokesman for the "Save the Rialto" Committee and Mayor Thomas C. Jardim.



SCOTCH PLAINS

THE TIMES

of



FANWOOD

Scotch Plains – Fanwood

OUR 39th YEAR – ISSUE NO. 01-98

USPS 485200
Periodical – Postage Paid at Scotch Plains, N.J.

Thursday, January 1, 1998

Published
Every Thursday

232-4407

FIFTY CENTS



William A. Burke for The Times

A LIFETIME OF SERVICE...Fanwood Mayor Maryanne S. Connelly pays tribute to outgoing Police Chief Anthony J. Parenti during a special meeting of the governing body last week. Chief Parenti retired from the Fanwood Police Department after 40 years of service on December 31. He will be succeeded by his longtime friend and colleague Captain Robert Carboy, who will be sworn in as the new Chief on New Year's Day at Fanwood Borough Hall.

Fanwood Police Chief Lauded for Service During Farewell Ceremony at Borough Hall

By SUZETTE STALKER
Specially Written for The Times

Police Chief Anthony J. Parenti capped his 40-year career with the Fanwood force last week, as past and present borough officials, colleagues and others paid tribute to the law enforcement veteran at a special meeting of the governing body. The chief, who headed Fanwood's police department for 22 years, retired on December 31 in compliance with a state law reactivated more than a year ago mandating that all police and fire personnel retire upon reaching age 65.

He will still have ample opportunity to share his experience and knowledge, however. On Monday, January 5, he will assume his new role as Director of the John H. Stamler Police Academy in Scotch Plains. The chief also plans to remain active as President of the New Jersey Police Traffic Officers Association, which he founded in 1974, and as a private citizen in Fanwood.

During an emotional farewell ceremony before the council on December 23, Mayor Maryanne S. Connelly fondly recalled the chief's influence on her own life and career, as well as his vast contributions to the community.

The Mayor said she worked closely with the chief throughout her tenure on the governing body, particularly in her former role as Police Commissioner, adding that the borough should "feel privileged for knowing such a talented and committed man."

A native of Plainfield, Chief Parenti joined the Fanwood Police Department in 1957, rising up the ranks from patrolman to Chief of Police. He also served in the United States Air Force during the Korean Conflict.

Chief Parenti, whose father and late brother were also police officers, has passed on the family tradition of public service through law enforcement to his own sons, both of whom are police officers as well, one in Summit and the other in North Plainfield. The chief received a standing ovation from a crowd of about 50 well wishers, including a contingent of Fanwood officers in uniform. He described his long career as "a labor of love," and expressed his affection for the members of his department, noting that "they were my whole life, my whole heart."

Mayor Connelly presented her mentor with the first plaque made from the Fanwood Oak. The majestic

tree, which had stood on Martine Avenue for more than 300 years, was cut down in November of 1996 after it became diseased and concerns arose that it would topple.

Chief Parenti also received a commemorative American flag from several members of the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC)

International and LaGuardia.

Meanwhile, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) officials said Monday that they would consider a request by United States Senator Robert G. Torricelli to delay a route change for this area, which was to take effect this Thursday, January 1.

The Senator has asked for a delay in the route change until Sunday, March 1.

FAA officials were scheduled to meet with Governor Christine Todd Whitman's deputy chief of policy and planning on December 30, as this newspaper went to press, to discuss the situation.

The Governor recently asked the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) in Newark to utilize its computer enhanced technology to see if the ocean routing plan is a viable solution to reduce airplane noise over populated areas in New Jersey.

Members of the New Jersey Coali-

tion Against Aircraft Noise (NJCAAN) have complained over a change in routes this past year which now has airplanes flying over populated areas of Union County.

A shift in the flight heading from 220 to 260 has pushed aircraft further over land, according to opponents of the plan. Aircraft used to gain altitude while flying over the Arthur Kill waterway and industrial areas.

The issue of flight patterns has been in the news since the implementation of the Expanded East Coast Plan in 1987. The plan, which was implemented without the benefit of an Environmental Impact Statement, was aimed at reducing flight delays.

After an order by Congress, such an environmental study was conducted, resulting in the Solberg Mitigation Plan, at a cost of \$6.5 million. This plan was said to be the solution to noise problems for some 18,000 residents, mostly residing in the Scotch Plains and Fanwood area. However, when these new flight patterns were put into play in 1996, it soon became apparent that noise levels had actually increased.

Jerome Feder, one of Westfield's representatives on the Union County Air Traffic Noise Advisory Board, showed Port Authority air flight maps to the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders last January which indicated the Solberg flight patterns were not being followed.

Under Solberg, planes were supposed to proceed south of the airport for 9.5 miles before making a west-

erly turn to Hunterdon County.

More recently, according to NJCAAN representatives, it was discovered that airplane pilots were essentially taking a shortcut and taking off directly over heavily populated areas.

Glenn Bales, a former FAA official turned consultant who helped design the Expanded East Coast Plan routes, has been hired by New Jersey Citizens for Environmental Research, a group which received funding to proceed with ocean routing plan.

Mr. Bales said that since the new routes will have planes flying shorter distances before gaining altitude, more residents will be impacted by increased noise.

Noting that up until now there has not been sufficient facts put on the table to review ocean routing, Mr. Bales noted that NJCAAN would attend the meeting with the Governor's policy and planning official, Liz Murray, at which time computer-generated data, including the impact on populated areas, will be shown. The data indicates flight paths in both animated and simulated form in five-minute intervals, showing changes in altitudes.

The data, he said, will show exactly how the new routes will reduce air noise by giving airplanes room to climb in altitude before heading back over land.

NJCAAN has been unsuccessful in trying to obtain data of the new FAA routes so that similar informa-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

AGENCY ALSO CONSIDERING DELAYING ROUTE CHANGE UNTIL MARCH

FAA Now Considering Complete Revamp Of Flight Map to Handle Increased Traffic

By PAUL J. PEYTON
Specially Written for The Times

While a state-wide organization continues to fight for ocean routing of departures from Newark International Airport, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey is now pushing for a complete revamp of the overall flight map for the eastern part of the nation — including air traffic from the metropolitan area's three major airports.

Aviation officials have said they want to address not only airplane noise but flight delays caused by increased air traffic volume.

According to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which operates the area's major airports, the number of arrivals at Newark Airport has steadily increased from 268,186 in 1983 to 462,000 in 1997, a number significantly greater than the other two major area airports - John F. Kennedy

from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School. The students serve as the Honor Guard for Flags Across America, an organization which flies Old Glory over distinguished locations prior to presenting them.

The flag given to Chief Parenti was flown aboard the USS Intrepid at

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

Mayor Connelly Considering Possibility Of Congressional Run Against Mr. Franks

By SUZETTE STALKER
Specially Written for The Times

Democratic Mayor Maryanne S. Connelly of Fanwood confirmed last week that she is seriously considering challenging Republican Congressman Bob Franks for his Seventh District seat in November.

The Seventh District includes municipalities in Union, Essex, Middlesex and Somerset Counties. In Union County, the district spans all or parts of 17 communities, among them Fanwood and Scotch Plains.

Mrs. Connelly, who was elected Mayor of Fanwood in 1995, said she

has been meeting with a committee to explore the possibility of a Congressional run, which she described as "something I've been considering for many years."

Congressman Franks, a former State Assemblyman, has served three consecutive terms of two years each. The Berkeley Heights resident succeeded former Congressman Matthew P. Rinaldo, who retired in 1992 after 20 years in office. A spokeswoman for Congressman Franks said Monday he is expected to run for reelection this year.

"I'd like to be part of the organization that makes policies, and

since I am the Mayor, I'm close to people and understand issues at the local level," explained Mrs. Connelly, who has lived in Fanwood for 18 years.

Prior to becoming Mayor, which is a four-year term in Fanwood, Mrs. Connelly was the Borough Council President and Police Commissioner for eight years. She also served as Acting Mayor. Mrs. Connelly is a member of the Fanwood Planning Board, and also guided the formation of the Fanwood Historic Preservation Commission.

She holds a bachelor's degree from the College of St. Elizabeth in Con-

vent Station and a master's degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Employed by AT&T for the past 28 years, Mayor Connelly is currently a human resources executive with the company.

She also ran her own consulting business dealing with profit and loss for the firm, and said her corporate career has given her the opportunity to work with people from all over the world.

The Mayor conceded that to run against an incumbent in the heavily Republican District would be challenging, "but I won here in Fanwood, and I think I have to prove myself to voters."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

TOWNSHIP COUNCIL APPROVED RENOVATIONS FOR BROOKSIDE PARK, INCLUDING DREDGING

Fate of Scotch Plains Zoo; School District Deficit; Library Updates; Green Brook Flood Control Project Among Top Stories in 1997

By JEANNE WHITNEY
Specially Written for The Times

Editor's Note: The following is a month-to-month recap of Scotch Plains related news stories as reported by The Times in 1997. A similar story appeared on Fanwood in last week's paper.

January

Scotch Plains Mayor and state Assemblyman Alan M. Augustine left the Township Council after serving in local government since 1970. On January 1, Councilwoman Irene

T. Schmidt was sworn in as Mayor for a fourth time. Returning Councilman William F. McClintock, Jr., and newly-elected Councilman Dr. Martin Marks were sworn in for four-year terms on the all-Republican governing body.

The new council proposed a \$1.7 million bond ordinance to upgrade sewer pumping stations on the south side of town. Mayor Schmidt appointed a 14-member Downtown Committee to look at ways to expand commercial growth in the district. A jury convicted 33-year-old Kevin

Conley in the murder of 88-year-old Scotch Plains resident Dorothy Koues in her home on Skytop Drive in July of 1993. Union County prosecutors asked for a life sentence for Conley.

Later that month the council backtracked in revising zoning laws to limit secondary structures to 1/2 stories, or 18 feet in height, after Arrowwood Drive residents objected to a previous council decision that allowed a combination apartment and garage to exist at a neighboring property line.

The council hired consultants to pursue restoration funding of the pre-Revolutionary War Osborn Cannonball House at the Village Green.

A midnight fire destroyed portions of a duplex house at 2049 Mountain Avenue in the township.

Scotch Plains-Fanwood DECA marketing students assumed the roles of Mayor, council and other officials during a governing body meeting as part of a 25-year tradition of the high school's "Youth in Government" program.

Incumbent Scotch Plains-Fanwood school board members Theresa Larkin, August Ruggiero and Lillian Dettmar indicated they would run for new three-year terms in November.

Carolyn Sorge, secretary to Township Manager Thomas E. Atkins, was the first female to win approval of the council to become a township volunteer firefighter.

February

The Scotch Plains World War II Commemorative Committee announced plans to seal and dedicate a time capsule after four years of work,

to be opened in 2045. Veteran Thomas Perucci chaired the committee.

Members of the New Jersey Animal Rights organization attempted to complain to the council during a regular meeting about the conditions at the Scotch Plains Zoo but were rebuffed when officials said they could not respond to the charges since the zoo's owners, Harold and Debra Kafka, were before the township Board of Adjustment on a property maintenance violation.

Then, the state Division of Fish,

Game and Wildlife denied a permit to the Kafkas, citing reasons of "public safety and animal welfare." Mr. Kafka claimed he would continue to upgrade the six-acre facility.

A \$15.4 million municipal budget proposed at the end of the previous month represented a 3.63 percent increase over the 1996 spending plan.

Specifics about the \$362 million Green Brook Flood Control Project were revealed to residents by the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

Freeholder Chairwoman Linda d. Stender proposed an extension on a March 7 deadline for Union County

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

Deadlines Told For Submittals To The Times

Those persons preparing press releases for submission to The Times are reminded that copy should be e-mailed or faxed by 4 p.m. on the Friday prior to publication. The Times' e-mail address is goleader@aol.com. The fax number is 232-0473.

Releases, pictures and letters to the editor can also be dropped off at our office located at 50 Elm Street or through our mail slot. To ensure that submittals reach our office prior to deadline, we encourage e-mail or faxed materials.

Sports stories which occur prior to the weekend must be in by the Friday deadline. Weekend sports events must be submitted by noon on the Monday prior to the publication date. Obituaries will be accepted up to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays.

All copy must be typed, double-spaced, upper and lower case, no more than 500 words in length, and include a daytime telephone number where the submitter can be reached.

For events which are planned months in advance, we encourage submission of stories as early as possible prior to the event.

Please note that in addition to making our deadlines, the publication of submittals may be delayed due to space considerations. All submittals are subject to being cut due to length, edited for style and clarification at the discretion of the editor.



David B. Carbin for The Times

KEEPSAKES FOR TOMORROW...Joseph McCourt of the Scotch Plains World War II Commemorative Committee, left, places an item into a marble time capsule which was then placed in a glass case at the Scotch Plains Municipal Building in February. The capsule will be opened in the year 2045 to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of World War II. Pictured at the podium is Carl Axt, Commander of American Legion Post No. 209. Among the memorabilia placed in the time capsule was a copy of The Times of Scotch Plains and Fanwood.

Senator's 'KidCare' Health Insurance Initiative Now Law

Legislation establishing a "Children's Health Care Coverage" program to provide health insurance coverage for more than 102,000 children in New Jersey has been signed into law by Governor Christine Todd Whitman.

The law was sponsored by Senate President Donald T. DiFrancesco of Scotch Plains.

"We have laid the groundwork for the establishment of a program that is certain to be one of the most significant, effective programs the state has ever developed to protect the health, welfare and futures of New Jersey children," said Senator DiFrancesco at the bill signing ceremony.

"This new law will enable the state to begin to meet the pressing health care demands of children in low-income and working poor families," the Senator explained.

The initial phase of the New Jersey "KidCare" program is being implemented under a recently-enacted federal law authorizing a children's health insurance program. It will also receive funding under a new "Charity Care/Health Care" law signed into law that will appropriate the required state funding for the program.

The "Charity Care/Health Care" law will provide \$23.8 million for the balance of fiscal year 1998 and \$47.6 million in fiscal year 1999. These funds will be matched by \$44 million in federal funds in Fiscal Year 1998 and \$88 million in federal funds in Fiscal Year 1999.

Funding will be provided in succeeding years in order to enable the state to maximize available federal funding.

Under the new plan, subsidized private health insurance will be provided to eligible children from birth through 18 years of age and will include coverage for well-child, preventive, hospitalization, physician care, laboratory, prescription drug and other appropriate services.

Families with incomes below 150 percent of the official poverty level will not be required to pay co-payments. For children in families with income above 150 percent, at 200 percent or below 200 percent of poverty level, a small monthly premium will be required.

The annual income level for a family of four in New Jersey at 200 percent of the federal poverty level is \$32,100, Senator DiFrancesco noted.

"It is anticipated that the first phase of this new program will reduce the number of uninsured children in New Jersey by approximately 40 percent."

"This is a significant step toward our ultimate goal of developing a health care system that meets the needs of all of New Jersey's children and families," said Senator DiFrancesco.

"There may be no greater gift we can give our children than the gift of good health. Access to health care is what children need in order to be healthy children and to become healthy, productive adults," he added.

Senator DiFrancesco represents the 22nd Legislative District which includes Westfield, Scotch Plains, Fanwood and Mountainside.

Westfield Old Guard Announces Calendar Of January Programs

The Old Guard of Westfield, a social club for retired men in the Westfield area, meets each Thursday at the Westfield YMCA starting at 9:30 a.m.

The principal activity for the group's first meeting of the new year on Thursday, January 8, will be the installation of new officers.

The January programs following meetings are:

January 8 — "The Fanwood Recycling Center" by its Director, Alan Ebersole.

January 15 — "Revolutionary War" by Michael Yesenko, President of the Union Township Historical Society.

January 22 — "Union County Clerk's Office" by Joanne Rajoppi, Union County Clerk.

January 29 — "Drug Problems in New Jersey" by Terence Foley, Chief of the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice.

Retired men are invited to attend. For further information, please call Harold Hitchcox at (908) 233-1638.



LOOK WHAT I GOT...DECA Santa Claus, portrayed by Chris DiFabio, is pictured with a very happy child from the Interfaith Council at a holiday party sponsored by DECA.

DECA Holds Another Successful Toy Drive for Interfaith Council

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School DECA Chapter, an Association of Marketing students, concluded its eighth annual toy drive with a party for children of the Interfaith Council of Union County.

With an outpouring of community support, DECA collected gifts for 55 Interfaith families including over 120 children, and over 50 children sponsored by the Scotch Plains Welfare Department.

In addition, 40 families were "adopted" as their sponsors purchased gifts for entire families. Sponsors of the families who, through the Interfaith Council, are housed in local churches on a rotating basis, include Elizabeth Blancher, School One teachers in Scotch Plains, the River Dell School office staff, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School office staff, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Special Education Department, the high school's Student Government Association; the Kay, Atkins, Liss, Eannucci, Koster, Verducci, DeSantis and Anderson families; Melissa DeFalco, Anita Bowser, the high school's Humanities Department, Laura Blake, Classique Hair Salon, JoAnne Kennedy, the high school's Italian Club, SLAM, Shelly Conway, the high school Advanced Placement English Class, Family Investors, Inc., Kim Rowe, Rona Maykish, Rene Hermann, The Spanish National Honor Society, Marisa Anderson and the Scotch Plains Optimist Club.

"The response was overwhelming, and the Interfaith families were so happy. We want to thank everyone who contributed," said DECA Chairwoman Rianna Liss.

DECA also noted the contribution of the United National Bank and the Scotch Plains Woman's Club. Many local businesses and residents contributed to the toy

drive for which DECA estimates that in addition to the adopted families, over \$3,000 worth of toys and needed clothing articles were collected and distributed.

Congressman Franks To Discuss Medicare Changes Before AARP

The Westfield Area Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) will hold its next meeting on Monday, January 5, at The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, located on East Broad Street and Mountain Avenue.

The social hour will begin at 1 p.m., while the meeting will start promptly at 1:30 p.m. Members are requested to bring a non-perishable food item or give a donation for the Food Pantry.

Chapter President Jean Richardson has announced that Congressman Bob Franks will discuss changes in Medicare brought about by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. Mr. Franks represents the Seventh Congressional District which includes Westfield, Scotch Plains, Fanwood and Mountainside.

A question-and-answer period will follow his presentation. All members are urged to attend this informative program, Mrs. Richardson stated.

The Trips and Tours Committee will accept reservations for dinner at the Casa Vasca Restaurant followed by a performance by magician David Copperfield at the New Jersey Performing Arts in Newark on Thursday, March 12.

The cost is \$88 per person. Deposits of \$25 for reservations for a seven-day trip in May to Boothbay Harbor, Quebec City and the White Mountains, as well as a seven-day tour to Myrtle Beach, North Carolina will also be taken at the meeting.

More detailed itineraries will be available at the meeting. No reservations will be accepted without the required deposit.

Anyone interested in joining the Westfield Area Chapter of AARP is invited to attend the meeting. Applicants must be at least 50 and hold a national AARP membership. Dues are \$5 a year.

Fanwood Memorial Library Plans Storytime and Special Programs

The Fanwood Memorial Library Children's Department has announced its roster of Storytimes and special programs for children. Fanwood residents are given priority in those programs where registration is required.

In-person Storytime registration begins on Friday, January 9, at 10:30 a.m. and ends on Thursday, January 15, at 4:30 p.m. There is no fee or charge for these programs. Each program lasts approximately one half hour.

A 2-Year-Old Storytime with crafts will begin on Tuesday, January 20, and will run on consecutive Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., concluding on February 10. A parent or another responsible adult must attend with the child. Pre-registration is necessary and attendance is limited to 10 children.

A 3- and 4-Year-Old Storytime with crafts also begins on January 20, run-

ning on consecutive Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m., and also concluding on February 10. Parents are welcome to attend with their child or to stay on hand nearby in the Children's Department. A parent or another responsible adult must be present in the building.

Children younger than 3 may not attend this program. Pre-registration is necessary and attendance is limited to 15 children.

A Storytime especially for 4- and 5-Year-Olds will be held on Thursday mornings at 10:30 a.m., beginning on January 22 and concluding on February 12. Pre-registration is required and attendance is limited to 15 children.

Storytime for Children in Kindergarten through Grade 3 will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesdays. Pre-registration is not required, but a parent or another responsible adult must be on hand in the library.



INFORMATIVE SESSION...At a December weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Westfield, Rotary President Dr. D. Michael Hart, right, and Rotarian Ronald Frigerio, left, greeted guest speaker, Frank N. Goffreda, proposed President and Chief Executive Officer of The Town Bank of Westfield, currently in organization. Mr. Goffreda gave Rotarians some introductory comments, including the mission statement of the new organization, the history of the organizing group and the proposed Board of Directors. Mr. Frigerio, is Chairman of the new venture. The initial product menu available to bank users was discussed and the meeting was closed with a question-and-answer session. Mr. Goffreda is a former member of Westfield Rotary Club and plans to return as an active member in the near future.



SUPER JOB...Linda d. Stender, former Chairwoman of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, left, presents a resolution to Dr. Carol B. Choye, Superintendent of Schools for the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public School district. The resolution from the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders congratulates Dr. Choye for being named "New Jersey Superintendent of the Year" by the New Jersey Association of School Administration.

Christian Business Men Reveal Luncheon Date

The Christian Business Men's Committee will sponsor a men's business luncheon to be held on Tuesday, January 13, from 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. at Sorrento's Restaurant, 631 Central Avenue, in Westfield.

The speaker will be Brad Shafer, President of BSA Contract Furniture, Inc., headquartered in Morristown.

Mr. Shafer's firm represents major furniture manufacturers by providing sales and marketing services to commercial clientele in the tri-state area.

Attendees are invited to bring their friends, business associates, marketing professionals, entrepreneurs, or others who may be interested in Mr. Shafer's background.

The cost is \$12 per person. To make reservations, please call Bob Wishon at (908) 889-7888, or George Dick at (908) 232-1762.



TONGUE-IN-CHEEKING IT... Everlounge is one of the popular groups returning to this year's "First Night, Westfield" New Year's Eve celebration. The tongue-in-cheek 1970s lounge act regaled audiences last year with their unique music and comedy. They have performed at Windows on the World in Manhattan, as well as the Blue Collar Inn in Garwood. With the single purchase of a First Night button for \$10, participants can attend over 50 venues. Please call (908) 232-8041 for more information, or visit Westfield's website at: www.westfieldnj.com/firstnight.

'First Night' Events On Tap To Welcome in New Year

Plans are in place for Westfield's second annual family New Year's Eve celebration, "First Night," Westfield, '98. The event is a non-profit celebration of the arts and entertainment, held at various locations in the town.

The Steering Committee, headed by Julia Black of the Westfield "Y," has arranged the venues in three clusters.

The first grouping is Westfield High School, the Westfield National Guard Armory on Rahway Avenue and the Holy Trinity School on First Street.

The second is Roosevelt Intermediate School, the "Y," the Redeemer Lutheran Church on Clark Street, and the Methodist Church on Broad Street.

The third is The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, the Christian Science Church, the Municipal Building on Broad Street, the Congregational Church on Elmer Street, and the Baptist Church on Elm Street.

Walking from site to site in a given area is encouraged, although driving is also possible, according to a "First Night" spokeswoman. Sufficient parking will be available, she said.

At the Armory and the high school, from 3 to 5 p.m., children ages 4 to 12 will be able to participate with their parents or guardians in arts and crafts activities, including mask making for the Grand Procession.

Several lively, interactive entertainers will also perform at this time. A "First Night" button, which costs \$10, provides admission to these and all other "First Night" programs. Children age 3 and under are free.

The Grand Procession will begin at 6 p.m. at the Summit Bank parking lot on Elm Street. Led by a percussion band from the high school, it will proceed down Elm Street to Quimby Street, then up Central Avenue to Broad Street, ending back at Elm Street.

Everyone is invited to take part in the parade by wearing costumes and masks or carrying banners of all kinds.

At 7 p.m., the evening entertainment will begin in 28 locations. There will be singing, magic, mime, dancing, opera, hands-on art, drama, swimming, musical performances of all kinds, including the Westfield Symphony Strings, fun and laughter and physically active venues for children according to their age.

Teens will have their own activities at the high school and the Armory, including rocky mountain wall climbing, palm readers, bouncy boxing, open mike and giant twister.

Two local bands, Holly Hotches and Pee Wee's Little Adventure, will perform at 10:30 p.m. in the downtown at the intersection of Elm and Broad

Streets. At 11:45 p.m., the Optimist Club will present the Grand Finale event to usher in the new year. They will sponsor a countdown to 1998 with a ball drop at Quimby and Elm Streets.

Admission buttons may be purchased at the Westfield "Y" all evening long; also, during store hours, at Rorden Realty and The Westfield Leader on Elm Street, the Westfield Recreation Department in the Municipal Building and The Town Book Store on Broad Street, and in Garwood at King's Supermarket on South Avenue. A map and a schedule is included with the purchase of a button.

Please call (908) 232-8041 for a recorded message about the evening's activities, or visit Westfield's website at www.westfieldnj.com/firstnight.

For further information regarding the essay contest or the Interfaith Service, please call (908) 232-4606 or (908) 322-4023.

Care-Giver Group For Chronically Ill, Elderly Meets Jan. 5

A care-giver support group for those caring for the elderly or chronically ill will meet this Monday, January 5, at the Parish Center of St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church in Westfield.

The support group for meets on the first non-holiday Monday of each month at 8 p.m. at St. Helen's, located on Lamberts Mill Road.

The meetings are for information and sharing sessions. For more information, please call Marilyn Ryan at (908) 233-8757.

Miller-Cory House Museum To Mark Legend of La Befana

The Miller-Cory House Museum will open its winter season on Sunday, January 4, by celebrating the legend of La Befana with Vera Lough and Jack Petersen of Westfield.

The museum is located at 614 Mountain Avenue in Westfield and will be open to visitors from 2 to 4 p.m.

La Befana is associated with Epiphany.

"Represented as a misshapen old woman, she was really not the witch that she resembled but a good fairy searching for the lost Babe of Bethlehem and a friend to all children," said Patricia Looloian, a spokeswoman for the museum.

In Spain, Italy and throughout southern Europe, La Befana distributes presents at the Feast of Epiphany. To this day, legend says that Befana still wanders every 12th night from house to house in search of the Holy Babe, Ms. Looloian noted.

Decorated brooms are appropriate to the legend of Befana since she was a dedicated housekeeper.

The quaint museum gift shop has a wide variety of Colonial reproductions and educational books. Visitors are encouraged to browse through this shop.

Admission to the museum is \$2 for adults and 50 cents for students over 6. On Sunday, January 11, the museum will feature sausage making with Mae Frantz of Cranford. Open-hearth cooking will resume in March.

For information about the museum and its schedule of events, please call the museum office at (908) 232-1776.

Dr. King Essays Due By Tuesday, Jan. 6

Westfield students are advised that the deadline for entries in the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. essay contest is Tuesday, January 6. In each of the schools, teachers have informed their students of this year's themes for the essays.

"We hope that parents are encouraging their children to submit essays for consideration," said Sylvia Ballatt, Chairwoman of the Essay Committee. "Last year there were 19 proud and happy winners of United States Savings bonds and books."

On Monday, January 19, the winners will be announced and prizes awarded during the 11th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Service at 1 p.m. in Temple Emanu-El, located at 756 East Broad Street in Westfield.

For further information regarding the essay contest or the Interfaith Service, please call (908) 232-4606 or (908) 322-4023.



STANDING TALL... Fifth graders at Solomon Schechter Day School of Essex and Union's Cranford Lower School constructed their very own totem poles. Each student designed a section and together they built their totem poles to stand tall. The activity was part of a unit on Pacific North Western Indians. Pictured, left to right, are: bottom row, Nadav Pechthold of Springfield, and Evan Falk of Westfield; standing, Scott Leibowitz of Westfield, Matthew Ring of Springfield and Zachery Bier of Warren.



ANCIENT SYMBOLS... Holy Trinity Interparochial School sixth-grade students Beth Traflet, left, and Laura Manzano display the hieroglyphic medals that they recently created during their studies of ancient Egypt.

Want to Know When to Expect Street Sweepers in Westfield?

One of the services that the Town of Westfield provides to its residents is that of sweeping streets.

"Many residents may not even know that this service is performed, however, as the Public Works Department performs the service quickly, efficiently and, in the Central Business District, in the early hours of the morning," states Mayor Thomas C. Jardim.

In order that residents know when and how often to expect the sweeping of their street, and so that they know their tax dollars are working for them, set forth below is the street sweeping schedule for the town.

In the central business district, streets and parking lots are swept Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 5 to 7:30 a.m., weather permitting.

Outside of the central business district, all town streets are swept an average of once per month, following the same sequence as in the town's leaf collector schedule. The two sweepers operate simultaneously on the North and South sides, beginning in Zone No. 1 on the north and Zone No. 7 on the south side, and proceeding through the zones in numerical sequence.

It takes each sweeper about 12 days to make one complete pass under ideal conditions (good weather and no machine breakdowns). Therefore, under ideal conditions, it takes about two days per zone on the north side and three days per zone on the south side

(there are six zones on the north and four on the south).

After completing a pass, the sweepers immediately begin the next pass, so it is possible to have more than one pass in any one month.

During leaf collection season, November through December, the town's street-sweepers operate simultaneously on the north and south sides and follow behind the leaf collection crews.

Since there are usually at least three leaf collection passes, the town attempts to sweep at least three times during this two-month period.

Street sweepers are high maintenance vehicles which need frequent repairs and routine maintenance, such as broom replacement.

In view of this, and other time lost due to weather, emergencies or other demands, town workers safely average at least one complete pass of the town per month.

For a copy of a map setting forth the town's street sweeping schedule or to find out when sweepers are due on a particular street, please call the Department of Public Works at (908) 789-4100.

Those residents who do not believe that their street is being swept at least once per month may contact the Mayor's Hotline at (908) 789-4046.

But you didn't know New Year's is actually good for the environment! "Look at all those old resolutions you can keep recycling... Happy New Year!"

The Westfield Leader
 The Official Newspaper of the Town of Westfield and the County of Union
 — Established 1890 —
 Member of the New Jersey Press Association • Member of the National Newspaper Association •
 Periodicals - Postage Paid at Westfield, New Jersey

THE TIMES
 Official Newspaper of the Township of Scotch Plains and the Borough of Fanwood
 — Established 1959 —
 Periodicals - Postage Paid at Scotch Plains, New Jersey

**POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the offices of the newspapers at
 P. O. Box 250, Westfield, New Jersey 07091**

THE LEADER P.O. Box 250 50 Elm Street, Westfield, N.J. 07091 (908) 232-4407 • Fax: (908) 232-0473 E-mail: goleader@aol.com	THE TIMES P. O. Box 368 Scotch Plains, N.J. 07076 (908) 232-4407 • Fax: (908) 232-0473
---	--

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY WATCHUNG COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

Horace R. Corbin PUBLISHER	Gail S. Corbin GENERAL MANAGER
Paul J. Peyton MANAGING EDITOR	Suzette Stalker ASSISTANT EDITOR
Karen M. Hinds OFFICE MANAGER	Joanna B. Marsh MARKETING DIRECTOR
David B. Corbin SPORTS	

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

THE WESTFIELD LEADER & THE TIMES	
One-year subscription in county	\$20
One-year subscription out-of-county	\$24
One-year college (September to May)	\$16

We Thank Those Persons Behind The Scenes for Assistance in 1997

As we enter into another year here at *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times of Scotch Plains and Fanwood*, we would like to acknowledge those persons who have assisted us in our news gathering efforts over the past year. While public officials — both elected and appointed — are always helpful, it is those persons behind the scenes who often provide information that helps our newspapers form well-rounded editorial content.

Among those individuals we would like to thank in Westfield, are Town Clerk Joy C. Vreeland and her staff, and Martha Kietlka, the Administrative Assistant to Town Administrator Edward A. Gottko and Mayor Thomas C. Jardim. Whenever we needed information or background material, Mrs. Vreeland and Mrs. Kietlka have been more than forthcoming with the necessary information.

Mr. Gottko and Town Attorney Charles H. Brandt have also been extremely helpful in putting often detailed legal matters, such as long-winded and complex ordinances, into laymen's terms. Mr. Brandt was also a valuable resource in his capacity as Attorney to the now disbanded Fanwood Board of Adjustment.

In an effort to bring home the true meaning of Thanksgiving, we published an editorial to emphasize the efforts to help the homeless in Union County. Melba Nixon, a former long-time member of the Westfield Board of Education, was instrumental in helping us gather the necessary information from Westfield churches and the Interfaith Council.

Lorrie Korecky, Director of Community Relations for the Westfield Public Schools, has been helpful all year long in assisting our reporters — many times as they faced press deadlines — and serving as a liaison between our staff and the administrators and staff of the schools. Her counterpart in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood schools, Kathleen L. Meyer, has offered her help to provide complete coverage of the district's Board of Education.

For that matter, the staff over at the Building Department in Westfield — Kathleen Neville and Colleen Meyer and their support staff — have worked with us not only on news matters but in helping us meet our stringent weekly press deadlines as it applies to legal advertising. In that regard, we are happy to have provided this service for so many years.

In Fanwood, Borough Administrator and Clerk Eleanor McGovern and her staff have helped us out countless times in supplying background information pertaining to borough business. A special note of thanks also goes out to Ruth Page, Secretary to the Fanwood Planning Board and the Board of Adjustment, for her assistance throughout the year.

As always, Barbara Riepe, Scotch Plains Township Clerk, has been a big help to us, along with her staff, as has the Planning and Zoning Board offices.

We, unfortunately, have not always had a reporter available to attend meetings, but the staff in these offices, along with the board chairmen, have helped us fill in the gaps so that we can provide accurate information to our readers.

Township Manager Thomas E. Atkins and his staff, Carolyn Sorge and Madeline Rutkowski, have — and continue to be — valuable sources for *The Times* staff in providing us with complete information and communications pertaining to matters being considered by the Scotch Plains Township Council.

Our relationship with Union County has been made extremely pleasant over the years through the efforts of people like Annie Croom and Sarah Guddemi in the Office of the Freeholder Clerk. Lucille Masciale was always accommodating to our county reporter in supplying resolutions and other information needed to provide our readers with thorough coverage of the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Although only on board for a few months, M. Elizabeth Genievich, Clerk of the Union County Freeholder Board, has offered her full cooperation to our reporter — sometimes after working a four-hour plus Freeholder meeting.

The Public Information Office comes in handy when researching information on the county and in supplying us with stories pertaining to some of the important areas our county government is embarking on — to them we say thank you and keep up the good work.

While many of our elected officials have provided valuable assistance throughout the year, we particularly want to thank Mayors Irene T. Schmidt of Scotch Plains and Maryanne S. Connelly of Fanwood, along with Mayor Jardim of Westfield, for sharing information and insights with our reporters — resources which we believe have contributed to the quality of our newspapers.

We also would like to thank the Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce and the Scotch Plains Business and Professional Association for their assistance over the past year. Among others who deserve a mention are Jack Molenaar, Chairman, and other members of the Fanwood Downtown Redevelopment Committee, for their help this year in providing information concerning the ongoing and wide-ranging effort to revitalize the borough's business district.

We also would like to thank the numerous officials, municipal and county employees, too numerous to mention, for their help over the past year and also to those persons who submitted news releases and pictures in 1997.

The staff of *The Westfield Leader* and *The Times of Scotch Plains and Fanwood* wish all our readers, advertisers and town and county officials a happy and safe new year.

Media Needs to Put Emphasis on Being Fit Rather Than Being Thin

Today, 1 to 4 percent of high school or college girls have anorexia nervosa or bulimia. Fifty percent of 9 year old girls have dieted. The media sets an unrealistic example of the "typical woman."

Our society's ideals have actually manipulated people to starve themselves in order to "look good." After leafing through an issue of *Young and Modern* magazine, I discovered that all of the women in the photographs were thin, if not emaciated.

The media's portrayal of the waif-like woman is causing many women to have lower self-esteem, which leads to greater susceptibility of developing eating disorders.

The media needs to portray that many women cannot be as thin as models and still maintain a healthy lifestyle. I am very unhappy with the values in our society. The media is only exacerbating the common problem of eating disorders in women. The media needs to place a greater emphasis on feeling good and being physically fit, as opposed to being drastically thin.

Jamie Zimak
Westfield

Letters to the Editor

Scotch Plains Must Support a Policy To Bring Relief From Aircraft Noise

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) implemented the Expanded East Coast Plan in 1987. Designed without regard to population density, the new airplane routes introduced jet noise to previously serene New Jersey communities.

To appease record numbers of noise complaints, the FAA sought to spread the noise. In 1989, the Scotch Plains Township Council decreed that Scotch Plains would accept its "fair" share of this spreading. The outrage from its citizens was immediate: the battle for quiet had begun.

In 1990 the Scotch Plains Township Council commissioned a study by the Washington law firm of Cutler & Stanfield, specialists in airport noise. At a taxpayer cost of \$25,000, the firm concluded that relief for Scotch Plains could only be achieved as part of a plan that offered relief for the region.

In 1993, contrary to that recommendation, the Scotch Plains Council stood alone as the only municipality to support the FAA's Solberg Plan, at best providing minimal noise relief for a minimal number of citizens. The FAA attempted to implement this plan in 1996. As predicted by Cutler & Stanfield, Scotch Plains received no aircraft noise relief.

Now the FAA plans new routes that will bring more noise. As the Mayor who served in 1989 resumes office in 1998, it is time for the Scotch Plains Council to reevaluate its failure. Scotch Plains must promote a policy that protects its own citizens as well as its neighbors.

Frederick Obrock, President
Scotch Plains/Fanwood Citizens
Against Aircraft Noise, Inc.
Fanwood



POPCORN™
Titanic
A Really Big Deal
 By Michael S. Goldberg

One Popcorn, Poor • Two Popcorns, Fair • Three Popcorns, Good • Four Popcorns, Excellent

The sinking of the Titanic in 1912 was not an equally-opportunity calamity. Pity, even in tragedy, the poor get the short end of the stick. When push comes to shove midway through the spectacle, it's not women and children first, but rather, "rich" women and children first. Call writer-director James Cameron's thrilling adventure a Marxist interpretation of the Titanic disaster, exquisitely and extravagantly filmed as only a capitalist with a \$200 million budget could.

Imagining some other film winning the Academy Award for art direction is virtually inconceivable. Like the opulent accoutrements of the doomed ship, no expense is too great, too showy or too detailed to celebrate man's perceived command of his destiny. It is all a decadent and carefree whirl of deep woods, lustrous brass, imported caviar and vaunting attitudes...until the check comes in the form of an iceberg.

Mr. Cameron is to be commended. Epics of this sort, if they are to be more than mere exercises in production money excess, must exhibit balance, as well as taste. *Titanic* ingeniously combines the grandiose with the delicate, succinctly weaving its sociopolitical pronouncements with the supremely tender love story at its soft center.

In this corner, representing the poor, but certainly not the downtrodden, is Jack Dawson, penniless artist and perfectly packaged heartthrob, interpreted with stylish savvy and tradecraft by Leonardo DiCaprio. In the upper-class corner and in need of rescue is downhearted Rose Dewitt Bukater (Kate Winslet), a Philadelphia Brahmin scheduled to imminently wed her station befits.

You see, when dear pater passed on, the Dewitt Bukaters were left with only their good name. Hence, if Rose doesn't tie her fortunes to the smarmy overtures of megabore industrialist Cal Hockley (despicably realized by Billy Zane), she can kiss her aristocratic future good bye. Mother, played with an extra dash or two of class distinction, is counting on the unholy alliance to preserve her regular spot at high tea. When daughter protests, Frances Fisher as the overbearing matron scowls and pointedly asks daughter dear: "Would you rather see me as a seamstress?" Figure DiCaprio's Jack as just the guy to deliver Rose from the unpalatable match.

Speaking of the importance of money, it all starts with a group of contemporary undersea hot dogs searching for treasure aboard the sunken Titanic. Specifically, they seek a 56-carat blue diamond known as the Heart of the Ocean. A mysterious drawing is retrieved; it shows a young woman posing nude, wearing only the gem in question. Guess who the young woman was/is?

Borrowing a narrative ploy director Arthur Penn successfully used in *Little Big Man* (wherein a 110-year-old survivor of Custer's Last Stand recounts tales of the Old West), filmmaker Cameron

chooses to dreamily stretch the imagination by having present-day Rose (Gloria Stuart), at a mere 101 years of age, relate her sadly romantic, life-defining saga. It works quite wonderfully, magically transporting willing viewers to the decks of the Titanic on her maiden voyage. Bring along your handkerchief.

At first blush, the boarding scene in Southampton, England, looks too grand, simply too majestic, to be a re-creation — surely it must be a preserved bit of celluloid, circa 1912. But it can't be. It's too sharp, even beneath the sepia overtones. Then it sets in, just where all these storied millions went. The combination of fantastic sets and computer-aided wizardry quickly captures the imagination.

Mr. Cameron, who explored the complete fix toy box to cutting edge satisfaction in *Terminator II*, this time flexes his creative muscles in a work that demands a more subtly displayed use of his technical prowess. Thus, aside from the dramatic task at hand, *Titanic* the movie also functions as the centerpiece of a film industry trade show forever in progress at a theater near you. Representing a watershed in the application of special effects technology, *Titanic* awes not by virtue of its scintillating flash, but by how seamlessly its time machine re-creates both era and aura.

The love story naturally benefits from the sweeping portent of the event. But while Miss Winslet executes a fine portrayal, the dramatic license Cameron takes in sketching Rose seems a tad much in instances, a bit too studio. For all intents and purposes the sweetheart of the disaster, the Titanic's very own homecoming queen, the winsome lass, wise beyond her years, is known to practically everyone aboard ship. Victor Garber as ship designer Thomas Andrews, along for the ride, almost seems a confidante of the troubled teen, affectionately referring to her in his dignified brogue as Young Rose.

The love affair between Rose and Jack, while credible on this movie's terms, does borrow a nuance or two from the Hollywood storeroom of doomed romances. In addition, the film's length could prove daunting to some, though actually resulting in a consumer value of sorts: At 197 minutes in length, if you were to unit price *Titanic* it would be about 4 cents a minute; a film of more average length generally costs moviegoers about 7 cents a minute.

The quick moving, tension-filled *Titanic* is big enough to absorb a hackneyed mechanism here, a slightly trite notion there. Combining socioeconomic conjecture with historical supposition and the romantically tying it all together with what really makes the world turn, *Titanic* certainly gives you your money's worth.

Titanic, rated PG-13, is a Paramount Pictures and 20th Century Fox release directed by James Cameron and stars Kate Winslet, Leonardo DiCaprio, and Billy Zane. Running time: 197 minutes.

Forecasts for the Year 1998: Trends, Guesses and Hopes

horace@goleader.com

At this time of year, everyone contemplates what's ahead. We rationalize the unpredictable. But, forecasting is best described by a "Yogi-ism" that states, "It's difficult to predict the future because of the uncertainty."

For the towns in this area, I believe it will be a dynamic and creative year. Judging from the smiling faces we see as families stroll down Quimby and Elm Streets, it will be a good year. People are confident. There will be changes, but we'll manage. And with changes, it will be a period of dichotomy as we react to bolster our institutions and traditions in the face of transformation.

Similarly, as we tend to become inward while focusing on our needs, we will be compelled to reach out and join with the activities of others more than ever before. As the issues and challenges expand, we will be faced with "defining a vision" for our communities. For unless we can find consensus in a vision, we will become confused. In any case, we will be applying considerable energy and resources to our many challenges.

Locally, hot issues will involve taxes, education, computers, electronic communication, trash incinerator debt, merchant dilemmas, traffic, parking, airplane noise, child daycare, elderly care and corporate employment stability.

To no one's surprise, taxes will go up, but government will be more active in disguising it. Governments will reach out more to involve the public. The public will get more involved. Elections and campaigns will be very active. County and state political parties will become increasingly involved in local affairs. In Westfield, there's a chance that we'll have our first independent mayor. This could top the 1997 story of our first Democratic Mayor in 84 years.

At the county level, a Freeholder will resign during the first quarter to assume a top post. The replacement will be a surprise.

The economy will stay about the same — "good but with shades of hazy." Family incomes will remain satisfactory. Local merchants will experience good results as downtown growth continues.

However, business turnovers will continue as the best composition has yet to be determined. Quimby and Elm Streets in Westfield will be closed to traffic on weekends to establish a pedestrian mall.

Scotch Plains will expand its retail store business. Mountainside and Garwood business districts will flourish. Clark will become a mall center at Central Avenue and Raritan Road. Cranford will take new initiatives to establish its identity. Medium-sized

professional businesses will accelerate throughout the region.

Sports and extracurricular activities will be a bonanza in 1998. School sports will be at their pinnacle. Summer sports, particularly softball, will experience their highest participation ever as middle age paunches roll round the bases. Bowling will be dropped from high school as our last local bowling establishment will be converted to a mall.

The education system will be tugged at from many directions. Changes are imminent but they will be hard fought as the institutions resist.

E-mail will become commonplace for administrators, teachers, parents and students. Compatible databases and computer systems will be installed so that schools can communicate with each other. You'll be able to review your child's lesson plan on the Internet. Reading, writing, arithmetic and science will be given increased emphasis as a requirement for graduation.

Our dedication to music, arts and community service will remain high. The biggest problem will be to connect those who wish to volunteer or participate with appropriate organizations. Family, ethics, morals and values will be given increasing attention. A breakthrough will occur on the plans for direct train service to Manhattan. Our quality of life will rise more through intellectual satisfaction than through material gain.

The safest prediction is that the most important things to occur next year are not listed in this article.

What do you think? Email me — horace@goleader.com

Letters to the Editor

Westfield's Downtown Holiday Decorations Added to Season

Kudos to the Downtown Westfield Corporation and any others responsible for the new holiday decorations in downtown Westfield. For five years I have lamented those dilapidated Christmas trees with their bulbs half burned out, while driving through neighboring towns admiring their lamppost decor (particularly Cranford's!).

The new wreaths are lovely and tasteful and the "Welcome Home to Westfield" banners are perfect. As my husband and I recently moved within Westfield to a home we expect to stay in a long time, the banners have unique meaning to me this year, and I am sure those who have returned to Westfield for

THE WORD™
 SLEUTHS
 BY
 JO & JOHN JACOBSON

COUNTRY DISTRICTION

The superiority, and, indeed, often times contempt felt by city people for their "country cousins" is rooted in antiquity. The legacy of this long-standing prejudice can be observed in contemporary words that were originally used to describe farmers.

Heathen, for example, stems from the Anglo-Saxon word, *heath*, meaning "country or farm." The current connotation is "one who is regarded as irreligious or uncivilized."

The evolutionary effect of this form of intolerance is also observed in the word *pagan*, which originates from the Latin word *paganus*, meaning "those who live in the country." The prevailing definition of *pagan* is "not religious; heathen."

The word that best illustrates this verbal form of discrimination against country folk, however, is *boor*, which is derived from an old Dutch word meaning "farmer." Today, a boor is defined as "a crude person with rude or clumsy manners."

Personally, we would like to see an end to this verbal prejudice against "hayseeds."

Not Going Bankrupt Tops My Resolutions For New Year's

By Louis H. Clark

I have one big resolution for 1998: Do not go bankrupt! My daughter is going to enter college this fall.

Anyone who has a son or daughter entering college and is not wealthy will understand what I mean. We spent two summers and Columbus Days in between visiting colleges. My daughter seemed to rate them in the appearance of the girls and the clothes they wore plus the ratio of boys to girls.

One of my other resolves is not to get panicky when the bills arrive. After all, the cost of tuition, etc., is only about the cost of a pretty good car, and we have two of those, but they are paid for and I have 10 years to pay off the mortgage.

I am not going to get panicky. That means that if I don't fall for some smooth talker who will "give me 20 percent on my money guaranteed."

The fact is I am pleased as punch that she's going, but I'm going to lay down the law on the curriculum. I like the humanities as much as anyone, but I am going to insist she take some business courses. Prince Charming seems to be in short supply these days, and I want her to have some knowledge of the business world as well as Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poetry.

I am a little wishy washy on my next resolve. I have always believed that when kids go to school, it's a full-time job. If they want to work, let it be during the summer, and she knows more than anyone in the world about how I feel.

I've been telling my wife about my resolves; and except for the bankruptcy clause, she approves.

When I say, "but she is so young to be leaving home," my wife just sighs. "You're remembering yourself at that age. Girls mature faster than boys, and, believe me, she knows how to take care of herself. I have taught her."

My next resolve is to thank God for having a wife who took that responsibility off my hands.

What I comes down to is that I'm going to miss her. This is the first reason before all others.

So my last resolve is my first. Change like that is the worst thing in the world, but it's got to happen or nothing will ever be new. So I'll put on a mask of joy, though I'm hating every minute of it.

POLICY ON LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

All letters to the Editor must bear a signature, a street address and a daytime telephone number so authors may be verified. Letters that are E-mailed to the Editor also must contain a daytime telephone number. Our E-mail address is press@goleader.com. Letters may be no longer than one-and-a-half pages, typewritten and double-spaced. Letters must be typed upper and lower case. All letters are subject to editing due to space limitations and style. The deadline for letters is Friday by 4 p.m., if they are to appear in the following issue.

Ruth E. Maloney
Westfield

Joan Melloan to Give Talk On the Gardens of Europe

Joan Melloan, a local travel, arts and garden freelance writer for *The New York Times*, *Philadelphia Enquirer* and *The Detroit Times*, will present a program featuring the Gardens of Europe; on Tuesday, January 13, at the Fanwood Train Station.

The slide show presentation will highlight scenes from the Alhambra Gardens in Granada, Spain, Villa Garzoni in Italy, Vallandry in the Loire Valley and Sissinghurst in Kent, England.

Currently the President of the Westfield Garden Club, Mrs. Melloan is also a Trustee of the Westfield Memorial Library and an active community volunteer.

An affiliate of the Garden Club of New Jersey, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Garden Club has won numerous awards. The club is very active in civic beautification projects. Each year members provide flowering plants for the Scotch Plains Village Green on Park Avenue at the Municipal Building, and maintain the beauty of the park by watering the plants and weeding regularly, according to club spokeswoman Liz Mangan.

Club members are also providing volunteer assistance for the improvement and beautification of the LaGrande Park in Fanwood. The Garden Club provides seasonal floral displays and wreaths to the Scotch Plains and Fanwood Public Libraries and the Senior Citizen complex on Martine Avenue in Scotch Plains.

In addition to their civic beautifica-

tion efforts, the Garden Club regularly provides flowers and monetary contributions to the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center at Lyons. They also supply floral arrangements and tray favors for Meals on Wheels, a service that brings hot meals to homebound citizens, Ms. Mangan added.

To support these activities, the Garden Club conducts an annual plant sale on the weekend before Mothers Day and a bulb sale each fall. The club meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Room at the Fanwood Train Station, located at North and Martine Avenue. Membership is open to all persons. For details, please call Sandy Manore at (908) 322-4473.

Workshop to Discuss Methadone Recovery

The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD) of Union County is offering a workshop on Friday, January 9, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Post Methadone Recovery.

This workshop will cover the physical and psychological components of methadone recovery. The cost of the course is \$50 and registration is required.

The NCADD is located at 300 North Avenue, East, in Westfield. For further information and registration, please call (908) 233-8810.



A MAGICAL TIME...Steve Johnson's Magic Variety Show is one of dozens of delightful and entertaining acts for all age groups scheduled for New Year's Eve at "First Night, Westfield." His repertoire includes magic, comedy, juggling and audience participation. Purchase a First Night button and be part of the excitement.

Dr. Alan Ducatman to Chair Community Medicine Unit

Dr. Alan Ducatman, the Director of the Institute of Occupational and Environmental Medicine at West Virginia University (WVU), has been named the Chairman of the Department of Community Medicine at the WVU School of Medicine.

Dr. Ducatman, a Westfield native and a 1968 graduate of Westfield High School, is a researcher and clinician in occupational medicine. He has been Acting Chairman of the department since the retirement of his predecessor in 1996.

The department trains physicians and other health care professionals in

designing and carrying out prevention, school and public health, and other population-based health strategies.

Dr. Ducatman, who joined the WVU faculty in 1992, was recognized for his work last month by the New England College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, which presented him with the Harriet Hardy Award. It is the third national award he has received since joining WVU.

Airman Barnett Among Sailors Serving Aboard Navy Aircraft Carrier

Navy Airman Milisha S. Barnett, the daughter of Roger A. Barnett of Westfield, is currently halfway through a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific Ocean aboard the aircraft carrier *USS Nimitz*.

The 1996 graduate of Westfield High School joined the Navy in May of 1997.

Airman Barnett is one of more than 5,000 sailors aboard the ship, which departed its homeport in Bremerton, Washington in September as the lead ship of the *USS Nimitz* Battle Group, comprised of 10 tactical aircraft squadrons, eight ships and two submarines.

Airman Barnett's ship is currently in the Arabian Gulf participating in Operation Southern Watch, supporting the enforcement of the no-fly zone over southern Iraq as mandated by the United Nations.

Aircraft carriers like the *USS Nimitz* are forward deployed around the world to maintain a United States presence and provide rapid response in times of crisis.

They serve as a highly visible deterrent to would-be aggressors and, if deterrence fails, offer the most versatile and powerful weapons available.

Scotch Plains Thrift Shop To Open for Winter Season

The Thrift Shop in Scotch Plains will welcome back its friends and encourage newcomers for the winter season at their opening on Tuesday, January 6.

The shop has been refurbished and restocked with a full line of new clothes for the family.

Shop supporters' donations have been carefully stored to provide shopping surprises. Ladies', men's and children's apparel, as well as household bric-a-brac and costume jewelry, are plentiful, according to a spokeswoman for the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Service League which operates the shop.

Warm, woolen items, fine coats and jackets, leather outerwear, ladies' furs and items to meet the needs of all are available. Shoppers will find sweaters in all sizes, hats, scarves, winter bed wear for the family and gloves and mittens.

Just as winter is now upon us, the shop has available snowsuits, coats, sweaters for toddlers and children, teenage jeans, shirts and jackets.

Designer clothes, classics in all sizes for women and suits and jackets for men are in stock for shoppers.

Household offerings include kitchen ware, decorative bric-a-brac, curtains, drapes, sheets and blankets.

At this time, donations of any new items for 1998's Christmas Boutique, antiques and collectibles, children's jackets and costume jewelry will be appreciated.

The Thrift Shop, located at 1730 East Second Street in Scotch Plains,

invites browsers, and local shoppers to visit the store every Tuesday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Donations are received each day from 10 a.m. to noon. Questions may be directed to the shop's telephone hotline answering service, at any time, by calling (908) 322-5420.

All profits from shop sales are returned to local and county charities each year.

Three-Session Program For Smoking Cessation Is Planned By NCADD

The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD) of Union County and Elizabeth General Medical Center have announced that a three-session smoking cessation program will be held this month. This Stop Smoking program is specifically tailored for counselors and people in recovery from other substance abuse. It builds on a person's existing abstinence, recovery and substance avoidance skills, according to a spokeswoman.

The sessions will take place on Tuesdays, January 8 and 15, and Thursday, January 20, at 7 p.m. at the NCADD offices at 300 North Avenue, East, in Westfield.

The cost of the three-session program is \$110. For further information and registration, please call (908) 233-8810.

Eighteen Students Awarded Degrees at Kean University

Eighteen area students graduated from Kean University in Union in August, with either a baccalaureate or master's degree.

From Scotch Plains, the graduates were Sandra Jean Baker, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Jill Susan Friedman, Master of Arts in Educational Psychology; Christine Rose Hogan, Master of Arts in Early Childhood Education/Advanced Curriculum and Teaching; Robert D. Kohn, Bachelor of Arts in Mathematical Science; Carol Westlund Kwasy, Master of Arts in Speech Pathology; Andrew Lozowski, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology; John Lawrence Pettit, Master of Arts in Educational Psychology; Yevgeniya Jane Pritsker, Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, Recreational Administration/Therapeutic Recreation, and Melanie Roxane Tucker, Bachelor of Arts as Teacher of the Handicapped.

From Fanwood, the graduates are Amy Marie Lottmann, Bachelor of Arts in Political Science-Criminal Justice, and Maria M. Ponce de Leon, Bachelor of Science in Management Science.

The graduates from Westfield are Christopher Michael Banta, Bachelor of Arts in Industrial Education; Sheri Ann Fuzia, Bachelor of Arts in Biology/Preprofessional Option; Michelle Lynn Infantino, Bachelor of Arts,

magna cum laude, Recreational Administration/Community Recreation; Annette LoRocco McCauley, Bachelor of Arts, Elementary Education/English; Jennifer Hughes McCord-Thompson, Bachelor of Arts in Earth Science, and Danielle Alexis Nolas, Master of Arts in Instructional Curriculum/English as a Second Language.

John J. Olock of Mountainside graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Public Administration and a Master of Public Administration Degree, completed through a five-year program.

Peter J. Chemidlin Named Vice President At Family Investors

Fred J. Chemidlin, Jr., President and founder of Family Investors Company, has announced the appointment of Peter J. Chemidlin as Vice President of Operations.

The new Vice President, who joined the firm in 1994, currently resides in Fanwood with his wife, Joan, and their two children.

Family Investors Company, located at 265 South Avenue in Fanwood, has been servicing the investment needs of the area's residents and businesses since 1960.



BRINGING SEASONAL CHEER...In the spirit of the season are Patient Care, Inc. staff members, pictured left to right, Rosetta Johnson, a registered nurse; "Santa;" Rhonda O'Neil, team secretary; Diane Rajkumar, Judith Hester, Team Supervisor and Nancy Press, all registered nurses. The group make up the pediatric nursing team at Patient Care, a home health care company headquartered in West Orange. Each year, the company's employees purchase and wrap holiday gifts which the team delivers to homebound children who are ill or disabled. The company serves residents of the tristate area through a network of offices. The Westfield branch is located at 120 Elm Street.

Miss Johnson Performs With Grinnell Singers During College Concert

Mary Johnson, a senior at Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa, sang Rachmaninov's "Divine Liturgy" with other members of the Grinnell Singers during a November concert in the college's Herrick Chapel. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Johnson of Westfield, and is majoring in biology at Grinnell.

The Grinnell Singers also performed a spiritual medley arranged by Joseph Jennings of Chanticleer; "Dixit Dominus," a choral work from the Colonial period composed by Francisco Corselli, which was recently discovered at the cathedral in Mexico City, and "Chanflin," a folk-song arrangement in the marenque rhythm by Tony Guzman.

They also performed "Spem in alium," Thomas Tallis's 40-part motet, and a setting of a text by the medieval mystic Hildegard von Bingen, with music composed by Frank Ferko.



LEADER IN GOVERNMENT...New Jersey State Senate President Donald T. DiFrancesco recently visited the classrooms of Rita Selesner and Judy Lasher, seventh grade social studies teachers at Terrill Middle School in Scotch Plains. Senator DiFrancesco explained his role in the New Jersey legislature to the students, who had been studying the Constitution and the government. He also answered students' questions. Pictured, left to right, are: Mrs. Selesner, Andrew Goetz, Rhea Chakraborty, Caroline Webb, Senator DiFrancesco, Alicia Lazur, Ashley McDonald, Amy Ryan, and Mrs. Lasher.

SWEARING-IN SET FOR SATURDAY AT 4 P.M.

GOP Looks to Lead Council In Providing Consumer Focus

The four members of the Republican team elected to the Westfield Town Council in November's election have pledged to lead the council in making "customer focus" the leading theme for the council in 1998.

"Every time you deal with your town government, you should feel as if you are our government's most important customer — because you are," the group said in a joint statement announcing the time and date of their swearing-in ceremony.

Second Ward Councilman Matthew P. Albano and Third Ward Councilman Neil F. Sullivan, Jr., who were re-elected on November 4, will be joined on the council in 1998 by First Ward Councilman-elect Gregory S. McDermott, in his first term, and Fourth Ward Councilwoman-elect Janis Weinstein, who is returning to council after a one-year absence, completing a Republican sweep of the four council seats.

The four will take the oath of office this Saturday, January 3, at 4 p.m. in the council chambers at the Municipal Building. All members of the community are invited to attend.

"As a group, our campaigns were centered on listening to the concerns of the citizens of this town. We plan to serve in the same manner. We hope the council will endorse our idea of 'Customer Focus '98' in which we evaluate the ways in which the citizens and merchants of this town interact with the government and make it 'customer friendly,'" Councilman Sullivan said.

Customer Focus '98 would be a program under which the town would seek suggestions from all its employees, citizens and other stakeholders in improving the customer service — and improving the efficiency of the municipal government. Every idea would be evaluated by the town administration and citizen volunteers and presented to the council for action.

"We should begin by holding a special council session, open to the public, to plan for the year," Councilman Albano added.

"The municipal department heads and the town administrator would

present their plans for the year and the public would have an opportunity to put forth ideas and suggestions for 1998. The council committees would then meet in work sessions to develop agendas and timetables for addressing the work which needs to be done," he explained.

Two ideas which will receive immediate consideration, the Republicans stated, will be Mr. McDermott's proposals to create a Directory of Town Services and appoint a "town ombudsman" to assist homeowners and business people in dealing with the frequently confusing world of municipal, county and state governments.

"We need to listen to the customers of our town services such as the families who use our parks, for example, in setting our priorities for 1998 and beyond," Mrs. Weinstein said.

"We need to maintain our parks and fields for the youth of our community at a level of quality the taxpayers expect and demand. We've proposed creative partnerships, the use of grants and other private sources and fiscal responsibility to make this a reality," she said.

*Jessica Reilly
Born to Doyle*

Michael and Linda Doyle of Westfield have announced the birth of their daughter, Jessica Reilly Doyle, on Saturday, December 13, at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Jessica weighed 8 pounds and 9 ounces and measured 21 1/4 inches in length at birth.

Her maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Walter Fogelsanger of Bedminster.

Jessica's paternal grandmother is Mrs. Patricia C. Doyle of Whitehouse.

New Year Brings Financial 'Hope' for College Students

As the new year begins, prospective college students and their families should take note that there is a new avenue by which they can reduce the financial obligations that come with the pursuit of a higher education, according to Dr. Thomas H. Brown, President of Union County College.

Effective starting in 1998, the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 provides for a HOPE "scholarship" for eligible students pursuing the first two years of post-secondary education. Technically not a "scholarship," but a tax credit, students may be eligible for 100 percent of the first \$1,000 of tuition and fees and 50 percent of the second \$1,000 through the mechanism of their federal income tax return.

The actual amount of the credit depends on the family or individual income, the amount of qualified tuition and fees paid and the amount of certain scholarships and allowances subtracted from tuition, Dr. Brown noted.

Eligible individuals may claim the credit when they file their federal income tax forms in April, 1999 for college expenses incurred and paid during tax year 1998.

To qualify, students must be en-



HOLIDAY FUN AT LIBRARY...Jennifer Ames and her mom, Brenda, enjoy making Christmas crafts together at the Westfield Memorial Library's annual Holiday Family Night.

New Tax Law is Good News For Savers and Investors

All investors have just been given some important tax relief. This is the first major tax break in 16 years that benefits Americans, no matter what their tax bracket, according to the office of the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County.

The major components of the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 that affect the individual investor are in the areas of capital gains, home sales, retirement savings, education savings and estate planning, according to Dr. Karen Enslie of the Cooperative Extension. Below are some of the highlights:

- **Capital Gains:** The new top capital gains rate on profits from the sale of stocks, bonds, property and most other investments is 20 percent, reduced from 28 percent. For individuals and families in the 15 percent bracket, the new lower capital gains rate is 10 percent.

These changes are effective retroactive to May 7, 1997. Another change to pay careful attention to is the lengthening of the holding period from 12 to 18 months on assets to qualify for the lower capital gains rate.

- **Home Sales:** Effective May 7, 1997, profits on the sale of a principal residence are exempt from taxation up to \$500,000 for married couples filing jointly and \$250,000 for singles.

- **Saving for Retirement:** It has just become easier. A new individual retirement account (IRA) choice has been created — the Roth IRA. The maximum \$2,000 contribution is not deductible but, if assets are held for five years, earnings are deductible.

The eligibility for participation phases out for couples who earn between \$150,000 and \$160,000 and singles who earn \$95,000 to \$110,000. In addition, the income level for traditional IRAs will gradually be raised to \$80,000 from \$40,000 for full contributions for couples and to \$50,000 from \$25,000 for full contributions for single taxpayers.

Also, individuals who previously were ineligible for a deductible IRA because of their spouse's participation in a pension plan, are now eligible. Penalty-free withdrawals from IRAs are now permitted prior to age 59-1/2 if the money is to be for education or first-home purchases.

- **Saving for Education:** A new type of IRA has been created for education purposes. Parents who meet income qualifications are able to contribute up to \$500 per child. The contributions are non-deductible, but grow tax free and must be withdrawn by the child's 30th birthday.

This MONEY 2000 message is sponsored by the Cooperative Extension. MONEY 2000 is a program designed to increase the financial well-being of New Jersey residents through increased savings and reduced household debt.

For further information about it and other educational programs, please contact the Cooperative Extension office at (908) 654-9854.

Seaman Cruz Completes Coast Guard Training

Coast Guard Seaman Apprentice Craig Cruz, the son of Hector Cruz of Westfield, recently graduated from the United States Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May.

During the eight-week training program, Seaman Cruz completed a vigorous training curriculum consisting of classroom academics and practical instruction on water safety and survival, military customs and courtesies, seamanship skills, first aid, fire fighting and marksmanship.

A major emphasis was also placed on physical fitness, health and wellness.

Seaman Cruz and other recruits also received instruction on the Coast Guard's three core values — honor, respect and devotion to duty — and how to apply them in their military performance and personal conduct. He will join 36,000 other men and women who are the Coast Guard's force.

Seaman Cruz is a 1994 graduate of Westfield High School.

English-Spanish Courses Set For GED Exam Preparation

A preparation course for those planning to take the General Education Development (GED) equivalency examination will be offered at Union County College throughout the spring semester in English and in Spanish.

Classes are offered twice during the semester so that students can review material covered in the GED exam at their own pace, and can take the course again until they feel ready for testing.

The course reviews the type of content covered on the GED exam, with test-taking strategies highlighted.

Students can take the GED Preparation course in English from 9:15 to 11:15 a.m. or from 6 to 8 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays, February 9 through March 23.

It will be repeated at the same times on Mondays and Wednesdays, March 30 through May 6. Both sections will be offered at the college's Cranford campus.

At the Elizabeth and Plainfield campuses, students can take the GED Preparation course at the same times on Tuesdays and Thursdays, February 10 through March 19, and again from March 24 through April 30.

The college will also offer the course in Spanish from 6 to 8 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, February 10 through March 19, and again from March 24 through April 30 at the Elizabeth campus only.

Those interested in further information may call the college's Division of Continuing Education and Community Services at (908) 709-7600.



IS YOUR NAME "BILLY"?...A friendly goat from the farm animal section of the Staten Island Zoo greets second graders from Jill Slivinski's class at Elementary School One in Scotch Plains. The group, along with two other second grade classes from the school, visited the zoo on a recent field trip. Pictured, from left to right, are: Sonali Patel, Jared Meyer, Gregory Rappaport and Jaclyn Lazarett.

School One Second Graders Visit Staten Island Zoo

Second graders at Elementary School One in Scotch Plains recently went on a field trip to the Staten Island Zoo in New York. The group of youngsters toured the zoo's aquarium, tropical rain forest and African Savannah exhibits.

The leopards and the baboons seemed to be the children's favorites in the African Savannah section, while the sharks and eels seemed to be the most popular stops in the aquarium section, according to a School One spokeswoman.

The children then headed outdoors

to visit the zoo's collection of international domestic farm animals, which includes sheep, goats, turkeys, peacocks, llamas, and rabbits. In this section of the zoo, the children were allowed to feed rye crackers to some of the animals.

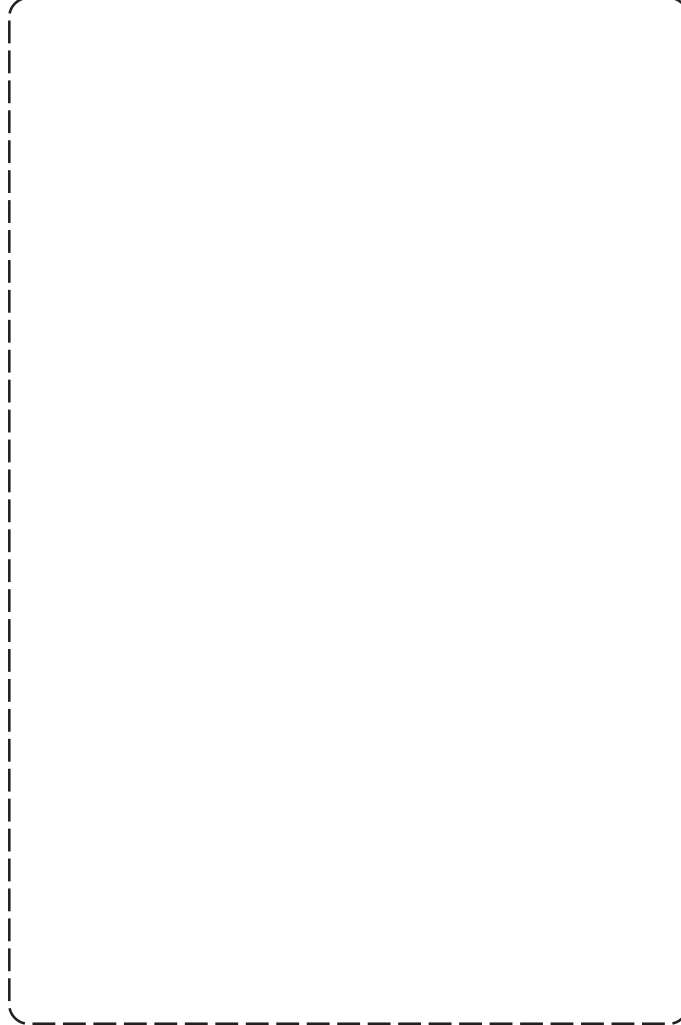
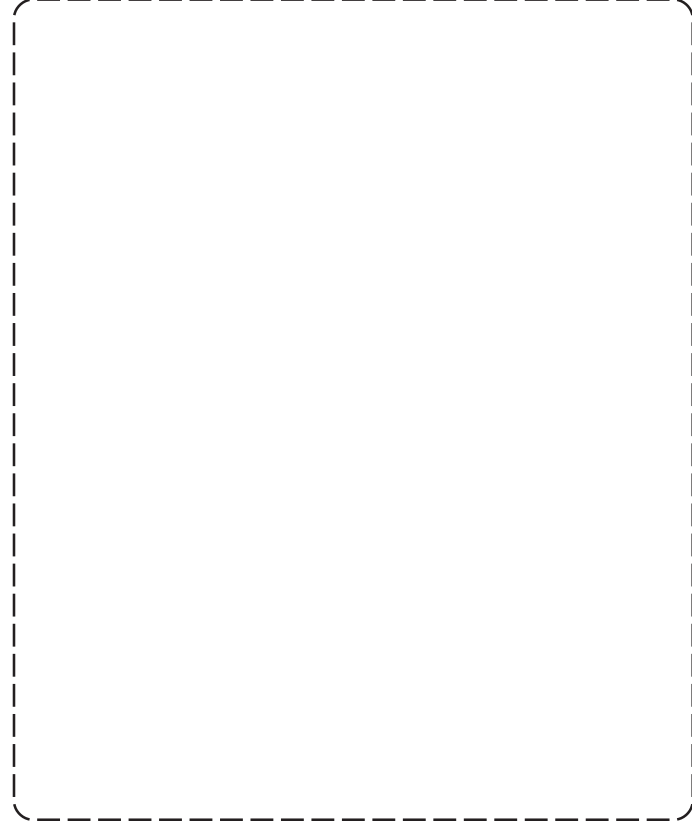
The group's final activity was a presentation on the rain forest by a zoo staff member. At the end of her talk, the staff member brought out several rain forest animals for the children to see close up and to touch, if they wished. These animals included a green iguana and a rainbow python.



A DAY OF BEAUTY...During the half-day sessions of teacher conference week, Brownie Girl Scouts from McGinn Elementary School's Troop No. 640 were treated to an afternoon of beauty at the Union County Vocational-Technical Schools in Scotch Plains. Senior cosmetology students practiced their washing, curling, braiding and manicuring skills on the second-grade girls. Displaying the finished product, pictured left to right, are: Daneen Easley, Jayne Dzaback, Emily Meehan, Annie Smith and Francesca Lumetta.



LEADING BANJOIST...Cynthia Sayer is not only internationally acclaimed as one of the leading jazz banjoists, but also known for her vocal, entertaining and multi-instrumental talents. Ms. Sayer, who has played with such artists as Bill Cosby, Marvin Hamlisch and George Segal, will entertain at "First Night, Westfield." She has been on tour and writes and records music and has performed at the White House and with the New York Philharmonic.



Dudick & Son
40 North Avenue • Garwood
Tele: (908) 789-1790 • Fax: (908) 233-3544

When constructing a kitchen or bath, the home owner should have complete confidence that the project will be designed and completed by educated professionals in a timely manner within budget.

Quality Kitchens & Baths

We are your source for complete kitchen and bathroom remodeling

- Custom Cabinets
- Whirlpools
- Home Offices
- Corian Tops
- Steam Units
- Entertainment Centers

Satisfying Customers For 50 Years
Showroom Hours: M-F, 9-5 • Sat. 9-12
All other hours by appointment

Abbot Tile
Elegance, Quality, Service

The most exquisite collection of handmade tiles, murals, decorative borders, marble, domestic & imported tile, onyx, granite, limestone, tumbled stone

Custom Fabrication of:
• Corian • Marble
• Granite • Limestone

908/968-0018
For the personal service and selection you deserve

Colonial Square Mall, U.S. Route 22 East • Green Brook, NJ 08812
Located in Loehmann's Mall

Educational Services Center Offers SAT Prep Course

The Educational Services Center, an established tri-state Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) training facility, has announced that it is offering preparation courses in February and March for the SAT I, spring exams in Scotch Plains, Summit, Edison and Metuchen.

This course teaches test taking techniques in addition to improving mathematics and verbal skills.

Experienced, licensed high school teachers, experts in preparing students for the SAT's, conduct eight, three-hour sessions for classes of 10 to 17 students. The cost of the course is \$315 including books. Students can arrange for free, additional help with the instructor.

Marcia Frankel, Director of the Educational Services Center, stated that "knowing how to take a test is as important as knowing the material."

She says that Educational Services Center's SAT Preparation Courses

"help students feel relaxed, assured and self-confident."

The center guarantees that students will improve their scores, or they can retake the course free of charge next season, a spokesman for the center stated.

To register, or for more information, please call (800) 762-8378.

Scotch Plains Students Earn Academic Honors

James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia has announced that students from Scotch Plains have been named to the Dean's List and the President's List for the fall semester of 1997.

Named to the Dean's List were Michelle L. Ferrara, Melissa M. McDonald, Sara J. Simberg and Erin A. Zielenbach.

Megan E. McEneely was named to the President's List.



UNIQUE DESIGN... Nancy Tepper of Westfield, a Kean University student, was recently recognized by Littman Jewelers for her unique design solution for the store's jewelry display. She was one of several students participating in a design project for her class in "Interior Design Studio II" at the university. Pictured at the Littman Jewelers' Livingston store, left to right, are: Fred Kenitz, Manager; Bob Canfield, District Manager; Ms. Tepper, and Len Littman, President of Littman Jewelers.

Literacy Volunteers Reveal Winter Workshop Schedule

Literacy Volunteers of America—Union County Affiliate, has announced its new 1998 winter schedule for the training of tutors. The first program is a Basic Literacy Workshop which will be held at the Union Library, Main Branch.

Registration will take place on Monday, January 5, from 6:30 to 8 p.m., with classes scheduled for Wednesdays, January 7, 14, 21 and 28, and February 4 and 11, from 6 to 9 p.m.

The second program is an English as a Second Language Workshop, to be held at the Mountainside Library, Constitution Plaza. The classes are scheduled for Tuesdays, February 3, 10, 17 and 24, and March 3 and 10, from

6 to 9 p.m.

The last workshop is also an English as a Second Language workshop to be held at Elmora Library, located at West Grand Street in Elizabeth. Classes are scheduled for Saturdays, February 7, 14 and 21, and March 7, 14, 21 and 28, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

There is a workshop fee of \$15 to cover supplies. For additional information or to register for any of the workshops, please call (908) 925-7755.

Westfield Library Plans Registration For Toddler Time

The Westfield Memorial Library, 550 East Broad Street, has announced that registration begins on Wednesday, January 7, at the library for Toddler Time Stories, which will be held on Wednesday, January 21, from 1:30 to 2 p.m.

Children must be 2½ years old, be registered in person and be Westfield Library members.

Toddler Time is a one-session introduction for youngsters and accompanying adults to storytime, special collections and other services of the library.

The 30-minute program consists of audience participation in finger games, songs and very simple stories.

Local Residents Among DeVry Institute Grads

DeVry Institute of Technology in Pomona, California has announced its recent graduates and their employment at local and national companies.

Peter Paiva of Scotch Plains graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Technical Management degree and is now employed at Heritage Inks International in Edison.

Gustavo Pares of Westfield graduated with an engineering technology degree and is employed with Bid Services in Asbury Park.

If you want a job done fast, give it to a busy person.

—Anonymous

Coldwell Banker Offers Tips For Choosing Listing Agent

Selling a home may be the largest financial transaction of an individual's life, and can have an impact on one's net worth and financial security, according to real estate experts.

Coldwell Banker has offered the following suggestions for choosing a real estate agent, to ensure that the transaction is handled properly and that the homeowner is able to obtain an optimum selling price.

According to Coldwell Banker, one way to find a good real estate agent is by personal referral. Ask neighbors and friends who have recently sold a house if their agent did a good job.

A homeowner interested in selling might also call the manager of their local Coldwell Banker office, describe the kind of service they're looking for, and ask for a recommendation.

Norwegian Courses Planned for Spring

Union County College will offer two, non-credit courses in Norwegian during the spring semester featuring conversation and grammar skill development, as well as cultural awareness.

Professor A.H. Roholt-Moen of Westfield, a professor of modern languages at the college who was born in Norway, will present "Norwegian I" and "Norwegian II."

They will cover basic speaking, reading, and writing skills, and provide information on the Norwegian culture. Class activities will include interactive exercises and role playing.

Both native speakers and those learning Norwegian for the first time will have an opportunity to hone their skills through these courses, according to a spokeswoman for the college.

The courses will offer featured field trips to outside Norwegian cultural establishments and Norwegian food festivals at the college.

"Norwegian I" will be held from 7 to 9:30 p.m. on Fridays, February 13 through March 20. "Norwegian II" will be held from 7 to 9:30 p.m. on Fridays, March 27 through May 8.

No class will be held on April 10 due to the college's closing for Good Friday. Both courses will be conducted at the college's Cranford campus.

Those interested in further information may call either the college's Division of Continuing Education and Community Services at (908) 709-7600 or Professor Roholt-Moen at (908) 709-7574.

A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step.

—Chinese Proverb

If a prospective seller has access to the Internet, they may call up coldwellbanker.com and look for resumes of local sales associates on the web site.

Once a prospective seller has the names of two or three recommended sales associates, they are advised to ask each one to come to their home and make a presentation of his or her credentials and services.

This job interview step is especially important if a friend or relative wants to be the homeowner's listing agent, according to Coldwell Banker. Selling a house is an important responsibility, and a homeowner will want to choose the person who can do the best job, the firm maintained.

Prospective sellers are advised to ask a Coldwell Banker sales associate about the firm's 22 point Seller Services Guarantee, which details all of the service a Coldwell Banker agent will provide to a person selling their home.

On occasion, a real estate agent will inflate their estimate of the market value of a house to flatter a prospective seller and get the listing. This strategy will interfere with the timely sale of a house, according to Coldwell Banker.

A Coldwell Banker sales associate will provide a written price analysis of a house, including examples of similar homes that are currently on the market and those that have recently sold.

The listing price should be based on prevailing market conditions and what similar houses are selling for. The agent does not determine the market value of a house. Active buyers do.

For help in finding a real estate professional in the desired area, please call the manager of the local Coldwell Banker office. Offices in the greater New York region are part of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, the nation's largest real estate brokerage firm, with more than 400 offices and 15,000 sales associates.

Interfaith Singles List Meetings for January

Interfaith Singles, a support group for single adults over 45, will hold weekly discussions on successful single living throughout the month of January. Continental breakfast, for a \$2 donation, is available.

The meetings will take place at the First Baptist Church, 170 Elm Street, in Westfield, on Sundays, January 4, 11, 18 and 25, from 9 to 10:30 a.m.

For further information, please call (908) 233-2278.

Contact
We
Care

FULL PAGE AD

FULL PAGE AD

— Directory to Religious Services —

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
559 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains
(908) 322-8047
The Reverend R. S. Griffiths, Interim Rector
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Wednesday, New Year's Eve, 9 a.m., Holy Eucharist.
Sunday, 8 and 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist.
Monday, 12:30 p.m., Overeaters, and 7:30 p.m., Boy Scouts Troop No. 104.
Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Co-Dependents Anonymous, and 8 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous.
Wednesday, 9 a.m., Holy Eucharist.
Thursday, noon, All Anon.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD EVANGEL CHURCH
1251 Terrill Road, Scotch Plains
(908) 322-9300
Sunday, 9:30 a.m., Sunday school, 10:45 a.m., Morning worship, and 6 p.m., evening worship.
Wednesday, 7 p.m., Prayer meeting and Bible study.

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
539 Trinity Place, Westfield
(908) 233-4250
The Reverend Kevin Clark, Pastor
Sunday 9:30 a.m., Sunday School for all ages; 11 a.m., worship service with sermons by Reverend Clark; Communion served on the first Sundays and Baptisms on the fourth Sundays of each month.
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., New Members Class; 7:30, prayer service and Bible study.
Friday, 7 p.m., Weekly Youth Fellowship led by the Reverends James Turpin and Terry Richardson, Associate Ministers.
Monday through Thursday, 3 to 8 p.m., Student Tutorial and Mentoring Program. If interested, please call the church for an appointment.

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
108 Eastman Street, Cranford
(908) 276-2418
The Reverend George Freyberger, Pastor
Sunday, Second Sunday after Christmas, 8:30 and 11 a.m., Services of worship with Holy Communion and Reverend Freyberger presiding, and 9:45 to 10:45 a.m., Adult Forum and Sunday church school.
Tuesday, 10 a.m., Charity Sewing, and 7:30 p.m., Sunday school teachers.
Wednesday, 8:30 p.m., Children's Choir, and 8 p.m., Worship and music.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
1781 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains
(908) 889-5556
Sunday, 10 a.m., sacrament meeting; 11:10 a.m., Sunday school, and 12:10 p.m., Priesthood/Relief Society.
Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Youth activity (12 to 18 year olds).

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MOUNTAINSIDE
1459 Deer Path
Deer Path and Meeting House Lane
(908) 232-9490
The Reverend Dr. Christopher R. Belden, Pastor
Sunday, 10:30 a.m., worship service with nursery care during service, and Holy Communion served the first Sunday of each month.
Men's Group meets the second Monday of the month at 10 a.m.
The choir meets Thursdays at 8 p.m.
There is ample parking and handicap accessibility.

CONGREGATION ARI YEHUDA
1251 Terrill Road, Scotch Plains
(908) 541-4849
Located rear entrance of Assembly of God Evangel Church
Saturdays, 10 a.m., worship services.
Jewish and gentile believers in the Messiah of Israel.

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL
1920 Cliffwood Street, Scotch Plains
(908) 889-1830
George Nudell, Rabbi
Friday, 8:30 p.m., service.
Saturday, 9:30 a.m., service.
Sunday, 9 a.m., Minyan.
Thursday, 7 a.m., Minyan.

ECHO LAKE CHURCH CHRIST
East Broad Street at Springfield Avenue, Westfield
(908) 233-4946
Dr. Ellis Long, Minister
Sunday, 9:30 a.m., Sunday school; 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., Sunday worship.
Wednesday, 7 p.m., Bible class.
Portuguese Speaking Services: Igreja De Cristo New Jersey, New York, Sunday, 6 p.m., Sunday school; 7:30 p.m., Sunday worship, and Tuesday, 8 p.m., Bible study.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
524 South Street, New Providence
(908) 404-5177
The Reverends Murdoch MacPherson and Michael Gebhart, Pastors
Sunday, 8:30 and 11 a.m., Worship services with Eucharist, and 9:40 a.m., church school forums.

FANWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Martine & La Grande Avenues, Fanwood
(908) 889-8891
The Reverend Stephanie Miller-McLane, Interim Pastor
Wednesday, New Year's Eve, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thrift Shop; 4 p.m., Genesis and Westminster Ringers; 4:45 p.m., Calvin and Westminster Choir, and 7:30 p.m., Chancel Ringers.
Thursday, New Year's Day, Initiation of "The Year of the Bible," 10 a.m., Brunch in the dining room.
Sunday, Epiphany, 10 a.m., Worship, Communion and special music, with Dr. David Cassie preaching.
Monday, 7:30 p.m., PNC and Commission Heads.
Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Commissions.
Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thrift Shop; 4 p.m., Genesis-Westminster Ringers; 4:45 p.m., Calvin-Westminster Choir, and 7:30 p.m., Small group.
The church is wheelchair accessible and has accommodations for hearing- and visually-impaired persons.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WESTFIELD
170 Elm Street
(908) 233-2278
Dr. Robert L. Harvey, Minister
Wednesday, New Year's Eve, "First Night '98," 11 p.m. to 2 a.m., Singles 45-plus New Year's Eve Party.
Thursday, New Year's Day, office closed.
Friday, office closed.
Sunday, 9 a.m., Later Faith Singles Continental Breakfast and discussion group, and learning hour for children and adults; 10:30 a.m., worship service with Reverend Harvey preaching; 5:15 p.m., Youth Choir, and 6 p.m., Youth Supper and Youth Group.
Monday to Friday, Mobile Meals prepared for delivery.
Monday, 12:15 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, and 7:30 p.m., Barbershoppers rehearsal.
Tuesday, 12:15 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, and 7:15 p.m., Adult Bible Study.
Wednesday, 5:15 and 7:30 p.m., Weight Watchers.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
257 Midway Avenue, Fanwood
(908) 322-8461
Sunday, 11 a.m., worship and Sunday school for children and young adults up to age 20.
Christian Science Reading Room, on premises, open Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Wednesday, 7 to 8 p.m.
Wednesday, 8 p.m., evening testimony service.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
422 East Broad Street, Westfield
(908) 233-5029
Sunday, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., services and Sunday school.
Wednesday, 8 p.m., evening meeting.
Christian Science Reading Room, 116 Quimby Street, open daily from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Thursday, 6 to 8 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
125 Elmer Street, Westfield,
(908) 233-2494
The Reverend Dr. John G. Wightman, Pastor
Wednesday, New Year's Eve, 7 p.m. to midnight, "First Night" Westfield '98.
Sunday, Second Sunday after Christmas, 10 a.m., Worship service with Communion and Reverend Wightman preaching and church school.
Visitors are always welcome.
The sanctuary is accessible to persons who are disabled.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1171 Terrill Road, Scotch Plains
(908) 322-9222
The Reverend Sam Chong, Pastor
Sunday, 10:30 a.m., worship with nursery care for infants and toddlers.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1 East Broad Street, Westfield
(908) 233-4211
The Reverend David F. Harwood, Senior Minister
Sunday, 9 a.m., Seeker's worship service and Seeker's Sunday School for children 9 to 8:45 a.m., Church school for children and youth and Continuing Education classes for adults; 10:30 a.m., Fellowship time; 11 a.m., Morning worship (the John Wesley Covenant service); Child care is available during both services and the education hour; noon, Branch open to the community; 4:30 p.m., Handbell Choir; 5:30 p.m., Youth Choir; 6:15 p.m., Snack Supper, and 6:35 p.m., Youth Fellowship.
Monday, Wesley Hall Nursery School reopens, and 8 p.m., Cornerstone Team III Group.
Tuesday, 9:30 a.m., Bible study; 3:30 p.m., Primary Choir and Kids Discover and Create; 6:30 p.m., Hife and Drum; 7:30 p.m., Membership, Outreach and Evangelism, and 8 p.m., Church Meeting Night.
Wednesday, 3:30 p.m., Wesley Choir and Kids Discover and Create; 7:30 p.m., Disciple III; 7:30 p.m., Property Management and Evenson, and 8 p.m., Women's Retreat and Getting Acquainted With Your Bible.
Thursday, 7 p.m., Gratorio Choir, and 8:30 p.m., Sanctuary Choir.

GRACE ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1100 Boulevard, Westfield
(908) 233-3938 or (908) 232-4403
The Reverend Stanford M. Sutton, Jr., Pastor
Sunday, 9:30 a.m., Sunday school with classes for all ages; 11 a.m., Morning worship (nursery provided) with Reverend Sutton preaching on "Your Heart-Before-God;" 3 p.m., Service at the Westfield Center, Genesis ElderCare Network; 5:30 p.m., Prayer time, and 8 p.m., Evening worship with Intern John McGowan speaking.

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
250 Gallows Hill Road
Westfield
(908) 233-8533
Father Dimitrios Antokas, Pastor
Sunday, 9 a.m., Matins; 10 a.m., Divine Liturgy; 11:15 a.m., Sunday school, and 11:30 a.m., fellowship hour.
Weekdays, 9 a.m., Divine Liturgy.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN WESTFIELD
140 Mountain Avenue
(908) 233-0301
The Reverend Dr. William Ross Forbes, Senior Pastor
Sunday, 8 a.m., Worship service with Communion and Reverend Christina L. McCormick preaching; 8:45 a.m., Coffee fellowship; 9:15 a.m., Church school for all ages; 10:30 a.m., Worship service with Communion and Reverend Christina L. McCormick preaching and church school through grade 3; 11:40 a.m., Youth Choir; 11:45 a.m., Coffee fellowship; 5 p.m., Middle School Fellowship, and 7 p.m., High School Fellowship.
Monday, 9 a.m., Monday Morning Craftsmen, and 7 p.m., Boy Scout Troop No. 72.
Tuesday, 9:30 a.m., P.W. Board meeting; 1 p.m., P.W. Mission, and 7:30 p.m., Session meeting.
Wednesday, 4 a.m., L.O.G.O.S.
Thursday, 9:30 a.m., and 1 p.m., P.W. Circle meeting.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
Clark and Cavanaugh Avenues, Westfield
(908) 232-1517
The Reverend Paul E. Kritsch, Pastor
Sunday, 8:30 and 11 a.m., worship services; 9:50 to 10:30 a.m., Sunday Family Bible Hour, and Sunday morning nursery available.
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Evening worship service, Holy Communion will be celebrated at all worship services.
The church and all rooms are handicapped accessible.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE HEART
Westfield Avenue and First Street, Westfield
(908) 232-8137
The Reverend Joseph Mastello, Pastor
Sunday, 5:30 p.m., Evening Mass.
Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9 and 10:30 a.m., and noon.
Italian Masses: 11 a.m., except in July and August.
Daily Masses: 7 and 9 a.m.
Intercessory Prayer, Monday, 8:45 a.m.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE HEART
1571 South Martine Avenue, Scotch Plains
(908) 889-2100
The Reverend John F. Kennedy, Pastor
Saturday, 5:30 p.m., Mass.
Sunday, 7:45 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and noon, Mass.
Weekdays, 7 a.m., 8 a.m., and 9 a.m., Mass.
Holy Day Eves, 7:30 p.m.
Holy Day Masses, 6:45 a.m., 8 a.m., noon and 7:30 p.m.

Reconciliation
Thursday before First Friday, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, 10 to 11 a.m. and before 5:30 p.m. Mass.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW THE APOSTLE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
2032 Westfield Avenue, Scotch Plains
(908) 322-5192
Reverend Michael A. Merlucci, Pastor
Wednesday, New Year's Eve, 5 p.m., Mass.
Thursday, New Year's Day, 9 and 10:30 a.m. and noon, Mass.
Saturday, 5 p.m., Mass.
Sunday, 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and noon, Mass.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS TAX ASSESSMENT LIST
THE TAX ASSESSMENT LIST FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS FOR THE 1998 TAX YEAR WILL BE OPEN FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION ON MONDAY JANUARY 5, 1998 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 9:00 A.M. AND 4:30 P.M. IN THE TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE, ROOM 122, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 430 PARK AVENUE, SCOTCH PLAINS.

MICHAEL A. ROSS
TAX ASSESSOR
1 T - 1/1/98, The Times Fee: \$13.26

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, CHANCERY DIVISION, UNION COUNTY, DOCKET NO. F-13298-96.
BANKERS TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE OF ADVANTA HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST 1992-1 UNDER THE POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT DATED AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1991, PLAINTIFF vs. RONSON L. SANCHEZ, BRENDIA ANNI SMITH; ADVANTA LEASING CORP.; ET AL, DEFENDANT.
CIVIL ACTION, WRIT OF EXECUTION, DATED OCTOBER 1, 1997 FOR SALE OF MORTGAGED PREMISES.
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, on the 4th Floor of the Bank Building, 24 Rahway Avenue, in the City of Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY THE 7TH DAY OF JANUARY A.D., 1997 at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.
The judgment amount is \$53,665.52.
The property to be sold is located in the municipality of ELIZABETH in the County of UNION and the State of New Jersey. Commonly known as 905 OLIVE STREET, ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY.
Tax LOT NO. 1443, BLOCK NO. 8.
Dimensions of Lot (Approximately) 25.00 feet wide by 100.00 feet long.
Nearest Cross Street: Situate on the NORTHERLY side of OLIVE STREET 50.00 feet from the WESTERLY side of HENRY STREET.
There is due approximately the sum of \$55,199.49 together with lawful interest and costs.
There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.
The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale.
RALPH FROELICH SHERIFF

EPSTEIN, EPSTEIN, BROWN AND BOSEK, Attorneys
245 Green Village Road
P.O. Box 901
Chatham Township, New Jersey
07928-0901
CH-753458 (WL)
4 T - 12/11, 12/18,
12/25/97 & 1/1/98
Fee: \$189.72

ST. HELEN'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Lamberts Mill Road and Railway Avenue, Westfield
(908) 232-1214
The Very Reverend Monsignor James A. Burke, Pastor
Saturday, 5:30 p.m., Mass.
Sunday, 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., 12:15 and 6:30 p.m., Mass.
Daily Masses: 7:30 and 9 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S BAPTIST CHURCH
2387 Morse Avenue, Scotch Plains
(908) 232-6972
The Reverend Kelmo C. Porter, Jr., Pastor
Sunday, 9:15 a.m., Sunday school, and 11 a.m., Sunday worship.
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Mid-week prayer service.

ST. LUKE'S AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH
500 Downer Street, Westfield
(908) 233-2547
The Reverend Leon E. Randall, Pastor
Sunday, 9:30 a.m., church school, and 10:30 a.m., Worship service.
Wednesday, 11:30 a.m., prayer service.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
414 East Broad Street, Westfield
(908) 232-8506
The Reverend Eric K. Hinds, Curate
Thursday, 9:30 a.m., Holy Eucharist with Healing Rite.
Sunday, 7:45 a.m., Holy Eucharist (Rite I), and 10 a.m., Holy Eucharist (Rite II) and Church school.
Tuesday, 3:15 p.m., Children's Choir rehearsal.
Wednesday, 7 a.m., Holy Eucharist.

SCOTCH PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH
333 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains
(908) 322-5487
The Reverend Charles Carter, Interim Minister
Sunday, 8:15 a.m., Contemporary worship; 9:30 a.m., Sunday school and Christian Education classes; 10:45 a.m., (first and third Sundays), prayer and praise services (first and third Sundays), and 7 p.m. Baptist Sunday Fellowship.
Wednesday, 7 p.m., Midweek prayer and Bible study.

TEMPLE BETH O'R/BETH TORAH
111 Valley Road, Clark
(732) 381-8403
Rabbi Shawn B. Zell
Thursday, 6:55 a.m., Minyan.
Friday, 7 a.m., Minyan, and 8:30 p.m., Shabbat.
Saturday, 9:15 a.m., Shabbat; afternoon Mincha, Seuda, Maariv and Havdalah.
Sunday, 9 a.m., Minyan.
Monday, 6:55 a.m., Minyan.
Tuesday, 7 a.m., Minyan.
Wednesday, 7 a.m., Minyan.

TEMPLE EMANUEL
756 East Broad Street, Westfield
(908) 232-6770
Rabbi Charles A. Krolloff
Friday, 7 a.m., Minyan; 9 a.m., Parenting Group, and 8:15 p.m., Shabbat service.
Saturday, 10 a.m., Minyan, and 10:30 a.m., B'nai Mitzvah of David Lizmi and David Eisenberg.
Sunday, 8:15 a.m., Minyan, and 5 p.m., Youth Group meeting.
Monday, 7 a.m., Minyan; 12:30 p.m., Sisterhood meeting; 7 p.m., Service of Comfort, and 7:30 p.m., Israeli dancing.
Tuesday, 7 a.m., Minyan; 9:30 a.m., Bible class, and 8 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
Wednesday, 7 a.m., Minyan; 7:30 p.m., Meditation class; 3 Nights in the Tropics' course and Youth Committee meeting, and 8 p.m., Men's Club meeting.
Thursday, 9 a.m., Minyan, and 7:30 p.m., Adult B'nai Mitzvah class.

TERRILL ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH
1340 Terrill Road, Scotch Plains
(908) 322-7151
Sunday, 9 a.m., Children's choir; 9:30 a.m., Sunday school and adult Bible study; 10:45 a.m., Morning worship; 5:45 p.m., Youth Group; 6:15 p.m., adult choir, and 7 p.m., evening worship.
Wednesday, 7 p.m., prayer service.

TERRILL ROAD BIBLE CHAPEL
535 Terrill Road, Fanwood
(908) 322-4053
Sunday, 11 a.m., Family Bible hour and Sunday school.
Thursday, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Ladies' Bible study.
Nursery provided for all meetings.
Please telephone Allan Wilks at 322-1929 or Paul Haggan at 322-9867.

WILLOW GROVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1961 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains
(908) 232-5678
The Reverend Kenneth G. Hetzel, Minister
Wednesday, New Year's Eve, 9 p.m., Watch Night service and fellowship.
Sunday, 9 a.m., Sunday school; 10 a.m., Fellowship time; 10:30 a.m., Morning worship with Communion and Reverend Hetzel preaching on "Now They Come"; 6:30 p.m., Junior High Fellowship, and 7:45 p.m., Senior High Fellowship.
Monday, 7:15 p.m., Prayer meeting.
Wednesday, 8 p.m., Mid-week Bible study resumes.
Thursday, 10 a.m., Mid-week Bible study resumes, at 7:30 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
Throughout the week, small groups meet in homes for prayer and Bible study.
The church and all meeting rooms are handicap accessible.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, CHANCERY DIVISION, UNION COUNTY, DOCKET NO. F-1304-97.
BENEFICIAL NEW JERSEY, INC. D/B/A BENEFICIAL MORTGAGE CO., PLAINTIFF vs. DELFIN HERRERA and ELVIRA SANCHEZ HUSBAND AND WIFE AND CILIA S. SANCHEZ, DEFENDANT.
CIVIL ACTION, WRIT OF EXECUTION, DATED OCTOBER 16, 1997 FOR SALE OF MORTGAGED PREMISES.
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, on the 4th Floor of the Bank Building, 24 Rahway Avenue, in the City of Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY THE 7TH DAY OF JANUARY A.D., 1997 at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.
The judgment amount is \$123,446.82.
1. MUNICIPALITY: ELIZABETH.
2. STREET ADDRESS: 815 KILSYTH ROAD.
3. TAX LOT NO.: 477, BLOCK NO.: 11.
4. THE NUMBER OF FEET TO THE NEAREST CROSS STREET: APPROXIMATELY 180 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION OF KILSYTH ROAD AND NORTH AVENUE.
5. THE DIMENSIONS OF THE PREMISES: APPROXIMATELY 122 FEET BY 50 FEET.
6. THE FULL LEGAL DESCRIPTION CAN BE FOUND IN BOOK 4073 PAGE 124 IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OR REGISTER OF UNION COUNTY.
There is due approximately the sum of \$126,740.64 together with lawful interest and costs.
There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.
The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale.
RALPH FROELICH SHERIFF

WILLIAM E. POWERS, JR., Attorney
737 Stokes Road
P.O. Box 1088
Medford, New Jersey 08055-9962
CH-753460 (WL)
4 T - 12/11, 12/18,
12/25/97 & 1/1/98
Fee: \$185.64



SUCCESS IN SCOUTING... Chris Owens, left, and Matt McCool, both Westfield High School seniors and members of Boy Scout Troop No. 72 in town, recently achieved Eagle Scout status, the highest rank within the Boy Scouts of America. They each completed a leadership and service project as part of their Eagle Scout requirements.

Westfield Boy Scouts Cited For Achieving Eagle Status

Boy Scout Troop No. 72 in Westfield recently honored Matt McCool and Chris Owens with the Eagle, the highest rank in Boy Scouting.

Matt has been a member of Troop No. 72 for six years and currently serves as an Assistant Junior Scoutmaster.

In his progress toward Eagle, Matt has earned 21 merit badges. His leadership and service project was for the Union County Bureau of Park Operations, Division of Parks and Recreation.

He "adopted" a parcel of land in the Watching Reservation that was in need of major improvement. With the help of scouts and adults from Troop No. 72 and friends, Matt was able to remove trees from the trails, install erosion control devices, reroute badly eroded trails, remove exotic plants, pick up litter, and improve a badly damaged picnic area.

Matt is a senior at Westfield High School. He also works two part-time jobs.

Chris has also been a member of Troop No. 72 for six years. He is a past

senior patrol leader, now serving as an Assistant Junior Scoutmaster.

Chris' Eagle project was an improvement to the cross country track that runs through Tamaques Park in Westfield. Improvements included the removal of roots and protruding rocks from the existing trail, some erosion control measures and the addition of new wood chips. Trail markers were also added to make the path easier to follow.

Chris is also a senior at Westfield High School and hopes to attend Penn State University in the fall. In addition to his involvement in scouting, Chris is a volunteer with the Westfield Rescue Squad.

Troop No. 72, which has 75 registered scouts, is sponsored by the Quakers Bible Study group and the Session of The Presbyterian Church in Westfield, and meets at the church on Monday evenings.

Members can select from a variety of activities including merit badge classes, camping and backpacking trips, canoe trips, bicycle trips and historic medal hikes.



HELLO, ST. NICK... Santa Claus made an early Christmas visit to Calvary Nursery School and Child Care in Cranford, topping off a month of special holiday observances. Helping to welcome him to the three-year-old class were Bridget Gautier, left, and Paul Cassaro.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, CHANCERY DIVISION, UNION COUNTY, DOCKET NO. F-000208-97.
COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS, INC., PLAINTIFF vs. DORIS MIRANDA, ET AL, DEFENDANT.
CIVIL ACTION, WRIT OF EXECUTION, DATED OCTOBER 14, 1997 FOR SALE OF MORTGAGED PREMISES.
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, on the 4th Floor of the Bank Building, 24 Rahway Avenue, in the City of Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY THE 7TH DAY OF JANUARY A.D., 1998 at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.
The judgment amount is \$156,996.47.
MUNICIPALITY: Elizabeth.
COUNTY: Union, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.
STREET AND STREET NO.: 438 Franklin Street a/k/a 438-440 Franklin Street.
TAX BLOCK NO. AND LOT NO.: BLOCK NO.: 21, LOT NO.: 26 and p/o 24.
DIMENSIONS OF LOT: 33.20 feet x 100 feet.
NEAREST CROSS STREET: 291.80 feet from the intersection of 5th Street.
There is due approximately the sum of \$161,129.33 together with lawful interest and costs.
There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.
The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale.
RALPH FROELICH SHERIFF

My heart is a bargain today. Will you take it?
— W.C. Fields

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, CHANCERY DIVISION, UNION COUNTY, DOCKET NO. F-88885-95.
SPENCER SAVINGS BANK, S/LA, PLAINTIFF vs. DONALD J. LONGO, ET AL, DEFENDANT.
CIVIL ACTION, WRIT OF EXECUTION, DATED MAY 9, 1996 FOR SALE OF MORTGAGED PREMISES.
By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, on the 4th Floor of the Bank Building, 24 Rahway Avenue, in the City of Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY THE 14TH DAY OF JANUARY A.D., 1998 at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.
The judgment amount is \$31,827.62.
The property to be sold is located in the City of Elizabeth in the County of Union and the State of New Jersey.
Commonly known as: 466 Fourth Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey.
Tax Lot Number 5 in Block Number D.
Dimension of Lot: 109 feet x 25 feet x 105 feet x 25 feet approximately.
Nearest Cross Street: Loomis Street.
There is due approximately the sum of \$33,692.15 together with lawful interest and costs.
There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.
The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale.
RALPH FROELICH SHERIFF

JONES AND JONES, Attorney
45 Essex Street
Hackensack, New Jersey 07601
CH-752638 (WL)
4 T - 12/18, 12/25/97,
1/1 & 1/8/98
Fee: \$155.04

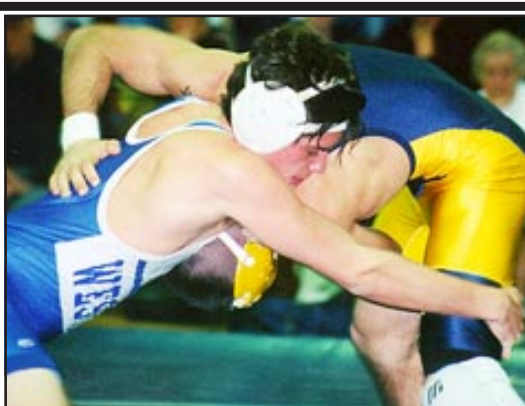
Crossword Puzzle

Answers On Page 15

THE WEEK IN SPORTS



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
CLEARING THE WRISTS... Blue Devil 140-pound wrestler Nick Friedman, bottom, attempts to break the wrist grip of Phil Torino of Roselle Park.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
TRYING A TAKEDOWN... Senior Dan Todd of the Blue Devils, left, makes an attempt to take Nick Cilento of Roselle Park to the mats in the 125-pound finals.

GEWIRTZ HITS FOR 25 POINTS Raider Boys Crumble Columbia in Classic

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School boys' basketball team won its third straight game of the season, by bouncing Columbia High School, 62-51, in the opening round of the Cindy Pools Classic at Scotch Plains on December 27. Senior guard Dave Gewirtz led the assault by sinking 25 points.

Gewirtz sent Columbia reeling when he nailed 14 points in the first quarter to give the Raiders a 20-7 lead over the Cougars. Things evened in the second quarter, as the Cougars out shot the Raiders, 19-16.

With a 36-26 lead at the half, the

Raiders virtually traded point for point with the Cougars in the second half. Senior Raiders Jeff Feighner and Donald Patterson hit for 10 and nine points, respectively. Junior Ben Martinez and sophomore Ron Jenerette had seven points each, and senior Doug Bishop added four points.

Carl Thompson led Columbia in scoring with 16 points, followed by Keith Middleton with 10 points and Doug Thompson with eight. The Raiders improved to 3-0, while Columbia slipped to 1-2.

Columbia	7	19	10	17	51
Scth Plns-Fnw	20	16	9	15	62

Raider Basketball Storm J. P. Stevens' Cagers, 41-39

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls' basketball team evened its record to 1-1, by downing the Hawks from J.P. Stevens High School, 41-39, on December 22 in Scotch Plains.

Junior Nikki McCoy led the Raiders in scoring with 17 points. Katie Feighner and Christine Bowers hit for

seven points apiece, and Bianca Gray added six. Captain Kate Vanderheyden had three points, and Jeannie McCoy contributed one.

Lauren Elwood of J.P. Stevens led all scoring with 20 points. Teammates Megan Beebe and Dana Honcharuk had 11 points and six points, respectively.

Vikings Climb the Mount; Tumble St. Dominic, 32-25

Revenge must have been on the Union Catholic High School girls' basketball team's mind as they avenged last year's last-second 36-33 loss to Mount St. Dominic, coming from behind and winning 32-25 in Scotch Plains on December 27.

Last year, the Vikings let a big half-time lead slip from their grasp; but, this year, the Vikings rallied from a 18-16 deficit, holding Mount St. Dominic to

only seven points in the second half.

Viking Katie Santo put in 13 points, seven in the second quarter, to lead all scorers. Jen Britton sank seven points, while Devin McDonald and Lisa Lott hit for four points each. Kathryn Rooney and Heather Paleczny added two points apiece.

Union Catholic lifted its record to 2-0 while Mount St. Dominic slid to 2-1.

Mt. St. Dominic	4	14	3	4	25
Union Catholic	3	13	8	8	32

Freshmen Soccer Girls Post Winning Season

Not only was Westfield High School's ninth grade girls' soccer team one of the most victorious in recent history, they were also one of the largest. Boasting 27 girls, they ended the season with a 9-3-3 record — the best in five years.

"We had only five goals scored against us out of 15 games," noted Coach Bob Rietzke. "We scored 42 goals and had 9 shutouts for the season." Rietzke was assisted by Pat Romano throughout the season.

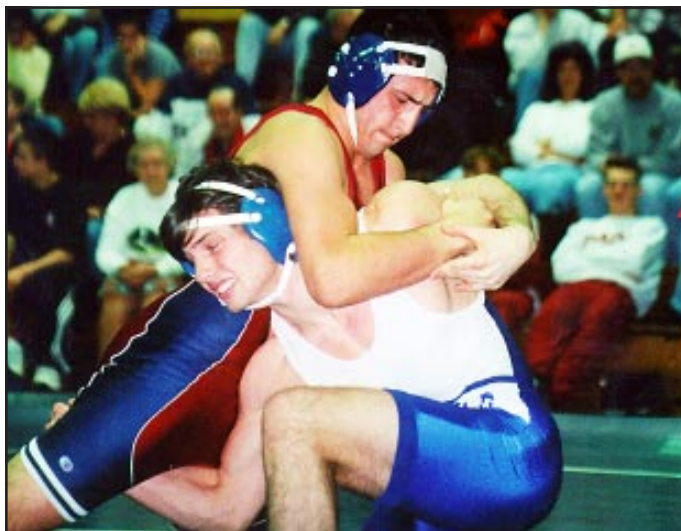


WINNING 9TH GRADE DEVILS...Members of the team include, in alphabetic order, Ingrid Arnold, Margaret Brautigam, Meredith Campbell (captain), Julie Cleaves, Jessica Cohen, Jenna Davino, Katherine Dobson, Peggy Doerr, Chelsea Doyle, Jenny Fowler, Nichole Herttua, Susan Hinds (goalie and captain), Jenny Korecky (captain), Lauren Kroncke, Alexandra Lee, Karen Manahan, Carolyn Matthews, Leanne Meriton, Kristin Messina, Jessica Meylor, Vanessa Muller, Patty Oslislo, Elynn Parness, Megan Rodd, Jessica Smith, Amy Sobala, and Shell Tamboli.

Kashlak Becomes State Ice Hockey Scoring Leader

Westfield High School ice hockey junior center Ronnie Kashlak has been on a scoring tear this season. Kashlak has scored 29 goals and added 13 assists to total 42 points in only eight games to become the state ice hockey scoring leader.

Blue Devil Brandon Kape has scored 10 goals and added 10 assists to rank eighth among the public schools scoring leaders. Josh Falcone has scored nine goals for the Blue Devils.



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
DOING THE FIREMAN'S TAKEDOWN... Blue Devil senior wrestler Mike Baly slips under Kevin Kolbeck of Roselle Park in the second period of the 160-pound finals during the Blue Devil Classic on December 27 in Westfield. Baly got all he could handle from Kolbeck, as he pulled out hard-fought 6-5 victory.

Union Catholic to Challenge WFAN 66ers in Basketball

Union Catholic High School in Scotch Plains will be the site of the Challenge Basketball game between the WFAN 66ers from WFAN Sports Radio in New York City and the Union Catholic faculty team, Rocky's Rockets.

The game is scheduled for next Thursday, January 8, in the Union Catholic gym, 1600 Marine Avenue. Tip-off will be at 8 p.m.

Rocky's Rockets are coached by Rocco Lettieri, Director of Athletics at Union Catholic and Bruce Douglas, a member of the Physical Education and Health Department.

Mary Cullinane, Karen Pesche, Karen Piasecki and Lisa Kawalec join Bob Wischusen and Joe Hoffman, husbands of staff members; Al Wright, a teacher at Union Catholic, boy's varsity basketball coach Steve Petruzelli, freshman coach Brian Chapman and assistant coaches Don Doherty and Tom McCloud on the team.

The women on the team have all played basketball in high school, college or are currently playing in women's leagues in the area.

The roster for the WFAN team is undecided, however John Minko will coach the WFAN 66ers and Chris "Mad Dog" Russo, a sports talk show host, will make an appearance.

Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and senior citizens. Group rates are available for teams and their coaches interested in attending. Advance notice is requested to be included in the "Welcome Announcements."

Throughout the evening there will be refreshments, special drawings and an exciting half-time contest. WFAN players will remain after the game to sign autographs and talk with the fans. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Technology Fund at Union Catholic.

Please call (908) 889-9475 for tickets and further information.



Chris Russo



John Minko

DEADLINE INFO.
 Sports deadlines are:
 All sports that take place during the week MUST be submitted by FRIDAY, 4 P.M.
 Weekend sports ONLY will be accepted up till Noon on Monday. Articles must be typed, double spaced, upper and lower case and no longer than 4-1/2 pages.
NO EXCEPTIONS

BALY WINS 160; TEZUCAR, FRIEDMAN, TODD TAKE 2ND

Roselle Park Matmen Secure Victory at Blue Devil Classic

By DAVID B. CORBIN
 Specialty Writer for The Westfield Leader and The Times

The very strong Roselle Park High School wrestling team took top honors at the Blue Devil Invitational Wrestling Tournament held in Westfield on December 27, totaling 197 points. Westfield High School, with the leadership of Mike Baly, Dan Todd, Onur Tezucar and Nick Friedman, placed fifth with 95 points.

Baly, in the 160-pound finals, had his work cut out for him when he narrowly defeated a tenacious Kevin Kolbeck of Roselle Park, 6-5. Baly, seeded first drew a bye, then won by majority decision over Brad Pether of Howell, 10-2.

No points were scored in the first period, then Kolbeck went ahead, 1-0, on an escape early in the second period. Baly seized the lead, 2-1, when he scored on a throw-by takedown. Kolbeck escaped, but Baly again took him down as the lead increased to 4-2. Kolbeck added another escape and the score was 4-3, as the third period began.

Within two-seconds, Baly increased his lead to 5-3 on an escape. As time slowly ticked off the clock, both wrestlers were warned for stalling. Kolbeck received a point because Baly had been warned once before. With only seconds

remaining, each wrestler was penalized one more point for stalling and Baly had pulled out a strategic, 6-5, victory.

Todd faced two-time state qualifier Nick Cilento of Colonia at 125, and fell victim to a pin in 1:50. Cilento scored on a duck-under takedown, a two-point tilt, then caught Todd in a cradle pinning combination. Todd pinned Clem Walker of Morristown in 1:57, then pinned Mike Davis of Colonia in 5:03 to reach the finals.

Friedman pinned Dan Rodrigues of Howell in 5:50, then pinned Tom Phillips of Morristown in the semifinals in 1:31. Friedman battled well with two-time Region 3 place-winner Phil Torino of Roselle Park at the 140-pound class and dropped a 7-2 decision.

Torino scored on a takedown with :49 left of the first period. In the second period, Torino added an escape and a single-leg, back-trip takedown to take a 5-0 lead. Friedman scored on two escapes to close the score to 5-2; however, Torino sealed the bout when he got another takedown with :23 remaining.

In the 152-pound finals, Tezucar was felled by Eric Swick of Roselle Park in 1:36. Swick, who recorded his 94th high school career victory, had placed in the top six in the state on two occasions. Earlier, Tezucar pinned Jason Grubi of Morristown in :35, then won by default over Ryan Voliva of Piscataway in the semifinals.

Senior Jeff Kivetz defeated Dave Napoli of Colonia, 8-2, then lost to Sean Marosy of Piscataway in the semifinals in 3:52. In the third-place consolation round, Kivetz held a 4-1 lead over Ryan Birch from Dover, but was caught in a bar-arm pinning combination in the final minute of his bout.

At 189, Rich Hatfield defeated David Alverado of Morristown in 1:52, then lost to Joe Grasso of Colonia in the

semifinals in 5:46. Hatfield faced Jason Vargas of Roselle Park for third place and, after scoring on several takedowns and near falls, Hatfield pinned Vargas in 3:37.

Brian Williams, at 215, lost his first match to Jeff Rose of Morristown in :58, but came back to defeat Keori Gedelec of Colonia in 4:32.

TEAM SCORES:
 (RP) Roselle Park 197, (P) Piscataway 134, (H) Howell 122.5, (C) Colonia 107.5, (W) Westfield 95, (D) Dover 70, (M) Morristown 50

TERMINOLOGY:
 d.-Won by decision-3 team points
 p.-Won by pin-6 team points
 md.-Major decision-4 team points
 tf.-Technical fall-5 team points

CHAMPIONSHIP BREAKDOWN:
 103: — Chris Hrabar (P) d. John Colingato (H), 9-5

112: — Joey Camacho (D) d. Ed Wittaker (H), 9-2

119: — Joe Herits (C) d. David Goad (H), 10-5

125: — Nick Cilento (C) p. Dan Todd (W), 1:50

130: — Craig Frost (RP) d. Shaun Marosey (P), 4-2 (Overtime)

135: — Joe DiPillo (C) d. Kevin Ickles (H), 9-7

140: — Phil Torino (RP) d. Nick Friedman (W), 7-2

145: — Chris King (RP) p. Adrian Vargas (D), 3:49

152: — Eric Swick (RP) p. Onur Tezucar (W), 1:36

160: — Mike Baly (W) d. Kevin Kolbeck (RP), 6-5

171: — Doug Schnong (RP) md. Rogelin Figueroa (D), 16-5

189: — Joe Grasso (C) d. Tom Deandhany (P), 7-6

215: — Pat Apello (RP) md. Jeff Rose (M), 16-2

Hwt: — Mike Munoz (RP) p. Shawn Dowe (C), 2:17

KASHLAK 'KASHES' IN 5 GOALS

Devil Skaters Crumble Cranford Icers, 9-1

By ANDREW CAMBRIA
 Specialty Writer for The Westfield Leader and The Times

The Westfield High School Ice Hockey Team continued their winning ways by skating past Cranford High School, with an impressive score of 9-1 on December 23. The local rivalry match-up was played before a packed house at Warinanco Park in Roselle.

The victory lifted the Blue Devils to the 5-2 mark, while Cranford dropped to 4-5. The last time the two teams met in the Cron Tournament two weeks earlier, the Blue Devils handily defeated the Cougars, 13-6. Westfield has beaten Cranford four straight times.

The Blue Devils wasted no time finding the back of the net, as freshman standout Brandon Kape scored first. Kape's goal was assisted by junior forward Josh Falcone, who had two goals and three assists on the night. Junior Ronnie Kashlak added two goals in the first period to make the score 3-0. Kashlak's goals, which came less than a minute apart, were assisted by senior Brendan Hickey and Falcone.

The Cougars registered only four shots on goal in the first period. Defensive efforts were led by the defense line of assistant captain Bryan Gates and junior Kevin Anton. Both players helped senior goalie Brian Garrison save the few shots on net.

The Devils' first line continued to be strong on offense in the second period. Within 50 seconds, Falcone scored with an assist from Gates. Later in the period,

Kashlak netted another goal for the Devils, making the score 5-0.

In the third period, Junior Mike Bird assisted Kashlak to make the score 6-0. Soon after Kashlak's goal, the Cougars finally answered by making the score 6-1.

Kashlak, Falcone and Gates all scored in the third period for Westfield to make the final score 9-1.

Captain Brendan Hickey said, "We played well defensively. Our goal was to shut out their best player (John Healy) and we were able to do that. The best part of the game was having all of our fans there supporting us."

Coach Brian LaFontaine knows he needs to keep his squad on track to a 500 or better record in order to qualify for the State Tournament. "If we keep improving, we have a great chance at the state tournament and maybe making it a little further. The heart of our season comes in January," commented LaFontaine.

Viershilling, Dec Compete for James Madison U.

Two local athletes from James Madison University (JMU), Lisa Dec and Dawn Viershilling, both graduates of Westfield High School, are members of the JMU women's gymnastics team. The JMU women's gymnastics team will open its season January 16 against Temple University, the University of Maryland, and Ursinus College.



Lisa Dec



Dawn Viershilling

**It's Our Business
 To Build New Business**

At Welcome Wagon, we're here to help your business. We visit new residents, new parents, and newly-engaged couples in your area, and let them know who you are, where you are and what you have to offer. It's a valuable service to them and an invaluable and affordable way for you to increase sales. And because we do it all in such a genuinely warm and personalized way, consumers have a good feeling toward you even before they meet you.



Debbie Lubranski
 SCOTCH PLAINS, NJ
 REPRESENTATIVE
 (908) 233-4797

Joan Biedell
 WESTFIELD, NJ
 REPRESENTATIVE
 (908) 232-0887



SOCCKER SUPPORT...Fred Geissler, President of the Westfield Soccer Association (WSA), presents a \$10,000 check to Darlelle M. Walsh, Vice President and Facilities Chairwoman of the Westfield Board of Education, to support the renovation of the Roosevelt Intermediate School athletic field. Accompanying him are players from the WSA, pictured left to right, Dana Spass, Lawrence Kao, Staci Spass and Joe Geissler. More than 1,900 boys and girls from ages 6 to 18 throughout the town are members of WSA. The renovation was also made possible through a \$20,000 donation from the Westfield "Y," for a walking track surrounding the field.

Powerful Columbia Subdues Raider Girls in Classic, 54-22

The undefeated Columbia High School girls' basketball team proved to be too much for the young Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls, as they won, 54-22, in the first round of the Cougar Classic in Cranford on December 27.

The Cougars zoomed to a 20-4 first-quarter lead and increased it to 34-10 at half time. Marcie Dickson put in 12 points, blocked five shots and grabbed

eight rebounds for Columbia.

Cougar Jasmine Wright led all scoring with 14 points. Raider Kate Vanderheyden sank 10 points to lead the Raiders. Katie Feighner and Bianca Gray each had four points, and Nikki McCoy added three for the Raiders.

Columbia upped its record to 3-0, while the Raiders dropped to 1-3.

Columbia	20	14	13	7	54
Scotch Plains-Fanwood	4	6	7	5	22



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
VANDERHEYDEN...Senior Kate Vanderheyden of the Raiders looks for a way to penetrate the strong Columbia High School defense. Vanderheyden, the Raider team captain, played very well and did manage to score 10 points against the Columbia High School Cougars in Cranford on December 27. The Cougars defeated Scotch Plains-Fanwood, 54-22.

F-SP PAL Wrestlers Come Out on Top in Tournament

Over 200 young wrestlers met at Union High School for the annual Union Take-down Tournament on December 14. This tournament, seen as a prelude to the wrestling season, featured teams covering most of Union County. The Fanwood-Scotch Plains team was led by Head Coach Tony Melendez and Assistant Coach Chuck Silber.

The following wrestlers entered the tournament, coming out on top and placing in one of the top-four spots in each of their respective weight classes:

- Mike Ridge — 50 pounds — third place
- Matt Fleissner — 55 pounds — fourth place
- Derek Francavilla — 65 pounds — first place
- Bill Bowman — 70 pounds — fourth place
- Eric Connolly — 75 pounds — first place
- Anthony Ferrente — 80 pounds — fourth place
- Lucas Francavilla — 90 pounds — first place

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on January 15, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey, the Scotch Plains Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing to consider the appeal of: **Jewish Community Center of Central New Jersey** for permission to amend its previously-approved Site Plan of the property located at **1361-1391 Martine Avenue (Block No. 10301, Lot No. 16 and Block No. 10401, Lot No. 101)** Scotch Plains, to allow for the following modifications:

- Installation of changeable message identification sign whereby free-standing signs are considered Conditional Uses pursuant to Section 23-5.h of the Zoning Ordinance. Variance(s) may be required.
 - Installation of additional lighting on the building and the removal and relocation of other site lighting.
 - Installation of grass pavers.
- Such additional variances or other relief, including design and other waivers, that may be required under the circumstances.

George and Eleni Filippatos for permission to add 6,480 square feet to the existing restaurant, a non-conforming use in the R-1 Zone, and to add 12,200 square feet of retail space to the property located at **1900 Raritan Road (Block No. 13901, Lot No. 9)**, Scotch Plains. The proposed retail space is prohibited in the R-1 Zone pursuant to **Section 23-3.5** of the Zoning Ordinance thereby requiring a Use Variance. Said expansion of the existing restaurant use requires a Use Variance from **Section 23-6.1.a.3** whereby no non-conforming use may be expanded.

If the above Use Variances are granted, an application for Site Plan Approval will follow.

All interested persons may be present and be heard.

The file pertaining to this application is in the office of the Zoning Board of Adjustment, 430 Park Avenue, 2nd Floor, Scotch Plains, and is available for public inspection during regular office hours.

Linda M. Lies
Secretary to the
Zoning Board of Adjustment
Township of Scotch Plains
1 T - 1/1/98, The Times Fee: \$47.94

Viking Cagers Stagger Rahway Girls, 48-21

The Union Catholic High School girls' basketball team immediately and aggressively took control of the game, as they stormed into Rahway and poured a 48-21 deluge on the Indians on December 23.

Senior Viking center Devin McDonald forged her way to 13 points in Indian territory and settled for a game-leading nine rebounds. Seven of McDonald's points came in the first quarter when the Vikings outscored the Indians, 16-4.

By the end of the first half, the game was already out of range, as the Vikings increased their lead to 29-8. Senior Kathryn Rooney sank 10 points, and Jen Britton added eight for the Vikings. Jessica Ballweg, Imbriaco, Karasiewicz, Heather Paleczny and Katie Santo all contributed two points apiece, while Lisa Lott added one point for the Vikings.

Union Catholic upped its record to 1-0.

Union Catholic	16	13	11	8	48
Rahway	4	4	8	5	21



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
VANDERHEYDEN...Senior Kate Vanderheyden of the Raiders looks for a way to penetrate the strong Columbia High School defense. Vanderheyden, the Raider team captain, played very well and did manage to score 10 points against the Columbia High School Cougars in Cranford on December 27. The Cougars defeated Scotch Plains-Fanwood, 54-22.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS PLANNING BOARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Planning Board of the Township of Scotch Plains will hold a special public hearing on **MONDAY, January 12, 1998**, at 8:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey to consider the application of K. Hovnanian at Scotch Plains 1, Inc./The Reserve/Donato which proposes an emergency access bridge for their proposed 116 unit townhouse site plan, at 175 Union Avenue, Block No. 4901, Lot No. 3.

In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, any person that might require special needs should be in touch with the Board offices during normal business hours so that their needs may be addressed (visually or hearing impaired, wheelchair bound, etc.).

All interested persons may be present and be heard. The file pertaining to this application is in the Office of the Planning Board and is available for public inspection during regular office hours.

Barbara Horev
Secretary to the
Planning Board
1 T - 1/1/98, The Times Fee: \$26.01

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, CHANCERY DIVISION, UNION COUNTY, DOCKET NO. F-6640-96.
COLUMBIA NATIONAL, INCORPORATED, PLAINTIFF vs. CELONY DAMUS, ET AL. DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION, WRIT OF EXECUTION, DATED FEBRUARY 25, 1997 FOR SALE OF MORTGAGED PREMISES.

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, on the 4th Floor of the Bank Building, 24 Rahway Avenue, in the City of Elizabeth, New Jersey on **WEDNESDAY THE 21ST DAY OF JANUARY A.D., 1998** at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The judgment amount is \$174,699.44. Property to be sold is located in the City of Elizabeth, County of Union, State of New Jersey.

Premises commonly known as 1160 Mary Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey, BEING KNOWN AS Lot No. 938, Block No. 12 on the official Tax Map of the City of Elizabeth.

Dimensions: (approximately) 43.25 feet by 137.00 feet by 66.12 feet by 138.58 feet.

Nearest Cross Street: Walnut Street. There is due approximately the sum of \$173,282.51 together with lawful interest and costs.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale.

RALPH FROELICH
SHERIFF
WILLIAM M. E. POWERS, JR., Attorney
Suite No. 505, Sentry Office Plaza
216 Haddon Avenue
Westmont, New Jersey 08108
CH-753506 (WL)
4 T - 1/1, 1/8
1/15 & 1/22/98 Fee: \$165.24

WATCHUNG CONFERENCE:

December 22:

Plainfield 45, North Plainfield	35
Plainfield	14 10 5 16 45
North Plainfield	6 15 5 9 35
Union 50, Union Hill	32
Union	13 10 16 11 50
Union Hill	14 4 7 7 32

December 23:

Elizabeth 54, East Side	30
Newark East Side	6 2 11 11 30
Elizabeth	14 13 6 21 54
Union 50, Linden	34
Union	17 12 10 11 50
Linden	3 17 4 10 34
Roselle Catholic 35, Cranford	29
Roselle Catholic	7 8 12 8 35
Cranford	11 8 4 6 29

December 27:

Orange 86, Union	54
Orange	17 23 17 29 86
Union	12 12 17 13 54
Union Catholic 32, Mount St. Dominic	25
Mt. St. Dominic	4 14 3 4 25
Union Catholic	3 13 8 8 32
Elizabeth 55, Dickinson	17
Dickinson	2 2 4 9 17
Elizabeth	22 10 11 12 55
Cranford 58, J. P. Stevens	35
Shabazz 48, Barringer	31

SPORTS DEADLINE
Please refer to the deadline box on Page One for sports deadlines. Deadlines will be ADHERED to with NO EXCEPTIONS. Articles will be accepted by e-mail at: sports@goleader.com



LOCAL CHAMPS...Linda Stender, left, former Chairwoman of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, presents a resolution to Tom Breznitsky of Scotch Plains, second from left, coach of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Varsity Soccer Team, after the team won the state's Group 3 Championship. The team, which also won the 1997 Union County and Watchung Conference championships, secured the Group 3 Championship by defeating the sixth-ranked Brick Memorial High School, 2-1, on November 21 at the College of New Jersey in Ewing. Also receiving congratulations from Mrs. Stender, on behalf of the Freeholders, pictured left to right, are: Captains Adam Koster, Jeff Gillie, and Michael Milberger, all seniors from Scotch Plains.

Bayonne Erupts in 2nd Half; Bombs Raider Girls, 54-31

The youthful Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School girls' basketball team was not able to keep up with the pace of the very strong Bayonne squad in the second half, losing, 54-31, on December 23 in Bayonne. The Raiders' defensive strategies could not hold up against the powerful offensive siege of Bayonne.

Scoring by either team was nearly nonexistent in the first quarter, as the Raiders held a 2-1 lead. Fortune changed in the second quarter, as Anna Zambrowska and Ewa Kubiak led Bayonne to a 17-point burst in the second quarter while the Raiders managed to score seven points.

The 19-point wave produced by

Bayonne in the third quarter swept away the Raiders' chances of winning. The Raiders were down, 37-17, as the fourth quarter began.

Raiders Katie Feighner hit for eight points; Christine Bowers scored six points, and Kate Vanderheyden added four points. Wendy Underwood put in three points, while Jeanne McCoy, Samantha Kanarek, Bianca Gray, Kourtney Gray and Sarah Anderson contributed two apiece. Zambrowska and Kubiak had 16 each for Bayonne.

Scotch Plains-Fanwood	2	7	8	14	31
Bayonne	1	17	19	17	54

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, CHANCERY DIVISION, UNION COUNTY, DOCKET NO. F-17719-96.

G.E. CAPITAL MORTGAGE SERVICES, INC., PLAINTIFF vs. EUNEL MONTEAGUDO ALFREDO TELGAULO, OCCUPANT, DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION, WRIT OF EXECUTION, DATED OCTOBER 20, 1997 FOR SALE OF MORTGAGED PREMISES.

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, on the 4th Floor of the Bank Building, 24 Rahway Avenue, in the City of Elizabeth, New Jersey on **WEDNESDAY THE 28TH DAY OF JANUARY A.D., 1998** at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sales.

The judgment amount is \$191,292.91. The property to be sold is located in the CITY OF ELIZABETH in the County of UNION, and the State of New Jersey.

COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 414 CHILTON STREET, CITY OF ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY.

TAX LOT NO.: 164, BLOCK NO.: 13. Dimensions of the Lot are (approximately) 50 feet wide by 206.96 feet long, very irregular.

NEAREST CROSS STREET: Situated on the WESTERLY side of CHILTON STREET, distant 159.11 feet from the NORTHERLY side of ORCHARD STREET.

There is due approximately the sum of \$196,289.64 together with lawful interest and costs.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale.

RALPH FROELICH
SHERIFF
WILLIAM M. E. POWERS, JR., Attorney
737 Stokes Road
P.O. Box 1088
Medford, New Jersey 08055-9962
CH-753505 (WL)
4 T - 1/1, 1/8
1/15 & 1/22/98 Fee: \$165.24

PETILLO & STERN, Attorneys
Suite No. 300
1170 Route No. 22, East
Bridgewater, NJ 08807-2926
CH-753501 (WL)
4 T - 1/1, 1/8
1/15 & 1/22/98 Fee: \$179.52



David B. Corbin for The Westfield Leader and The Times
WILD AND CRAZY BOUT...At 171, Raider Doug Keeton, top, has control of Mike Aurilia of Sayreville and eventually pulls out an exciting 13-9 victory.

Viking Boys Stumble, 78-52; Tripped by Roselle Catholic

The Union Catholic High School boys' basketball team were tripped up, 78-52, in the opening round of the Tri-County

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS PLANNING BOARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at the Planning Board Meeting of the Township of Scotch Plains held on December 15, 1997, the application of K. Hovnanian at Scotch Plains I, Woodland Avenue, Block No. 15801, Lots Nos. 4, 5, 9 and 10, for Preliminary Major Subdivision approval was memorialized by the Board. The file pertaining to this application is in the Office of the Planning Board and is available for public inspection during regular office hours.

Barbara Horev
Secretary to the
Planning Board
1 T - 1/1/98, The Times Fee: \$15.81

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, CHANCERY DIVISION, UNION COUNTY, DOCKET NO. F-3339-97.
DAISY M. MORALES, ET ALS., PLAINTIFF vs. DAISY M. MORALES, ET ALS., DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION, WRIT OF EXECUTION, DATED OCTOBER 20, 1997 FOR SALE OF MORTGAGED PREMISES.

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, on the 4th Floor of the Bank Building, 24 Rahway Avenue, in the City of Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY THE 14TH DAY OF JANUARY A.D., 1998 at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sale.

The judgment amount is \$132,160.18. All that certain land and premises situated in the City of Elizabeth, County of Union, State of New Jersey, being more particularly described as follows:

Lot No. 670; Block No. 4 on the Tax Map of the City of Elizabeth.
Nearest Cross Street: Summer Street.
Approximate Dimensions: 50.00 feet x 100.00 feet x 50.00 feet x 100.00 feet.

Being more commonly known as: 560 Grier Avenue a/k/a, 560-562 Grier Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07206.

There is due approximately the sum of \$135,670.01 together with lawful interest and costs.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale.

RALPH FROELICH
SHERIFF
HILL WALLACK, Attorney
202 Carnegie Center
Princeton, New Jersey 08543-5226
CH-753470 (WL)
4 T - 12/18, 12/25/97,
1/1 & 1/8/98 Fee: \$165.24

PUBLIC NOTICE

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

Proposed Flood Elevation Determinations for the Township of Scotch Plains, Union County, New Jersey

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency
ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY:
Technical information or comments are solicited on the proposed modified base (1% annual chance) flood elevations shown on your community's preliminary Revised Flood Insurance Rate Map. These base flood elevations are the basis for the floodplain management measures that the community is required to either adopt or show evidence of being already in effect in order to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The proposed base flood elevations modify the base flood elevations shown on your community's presently effective Flood Insurance Rate Map.

DATES:
The period for comment will be ninety (90) days following the second publication of this proposed rule in a newspaper of local circulation in the community.

ADDRESSES:
Preliminary Revised Flood Insurance Rate Maps showing the proposed modified base flood elevations and their delineation are available for review at the Township of Scotch Plains Engineering Office, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey.

Send comments to:
The Honorable Irene Schmidt
Mayor of the Township of Scotch Plains
430 Park Avenue
Scotch Plains, New Jersey 07076

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Frederick H. Sharrocks Jr., Chief
Hazard Identification Branch
Mitigation Directorate
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Washington, DC 20472
(202) 646-2796

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
The Federal Emergency Management Agency gives notice of the proposed determinations of modified base flood elevations, in accordance with Section 110 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (Pub. L. 93-234), 87 Stat. 980, which added Section 1363 to the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (Title XIII of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (Pub. L. 90-448)), 42 U.S.C. 4001-4128, and 44 CFR 67.4(a).

These elevations, together with the floodplain management measures required by Section 60.3 of the program regulations, are the minimum that are required. They should not be construed to mean the community must change any existing ordinances that are more stringent in their floodplain management requirements. The community may at any time enact stricter requirements on its own, or pursuant to policies established by other Federal, State, or regional entities. These proposed elevations will also be used to calculate the appropriate flood insurance premium rates for new buildings and their contents.

Pursuant to the provisions of 5 USC 605(b), the Administrator, to whom authority has been delegated by the Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency, hereby certifies that the proposed flood elevation determinations, if promulgated, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. A flood elevation determination under Section 1363 forms the basis for new local ordinances, which, if adopted by a local community, will govern future construction within the floodplain area. The elevation determinations, however, impose no restriction unless and until the local community voluntarily adopts floodplain ordinances in accord with these elevations. Even if ordinances are adopted in compliance with Federal standards, the elevations prescribe how high to build in the floodplain and do not prohibit development. Thus, this action only forms the basis for future local actions. It imposes no new requirement; of itself it has no economic impact.

Proposed base flood elevations along flood sources studied in detail are shown on the Preliminary Revised Flood Insurance Rate Map. Lessees and owners of real property in the Township of Scotch Plains, are encouraged to review these maps and related materials at the address cited above. The proposed base flood elevations are as follows:

Source of Flooding	Range of Base Flood Elevations #Depth in feet above ground *Elevation in Feet (NGVD)	
	Existing	Modified
Blue Brook	*136	*136
	*196	*198
	*196	*198
	*243	*240

2 T - 1/1 & 1/8/98, The Times Fee: \$234.60



David B. Corbin for The Leader and The Times
DOMINANCE...Luke Cerchio, top, of the Raiders thumps Nick Fiora of South Plainfield, 20-4, in the 145-pound bout.



David B. Corbin for The Leader and The Times
The Westfield Leader and The Times have the capabilities of making large color posters (24x18 and smaller) of sports photos or any photos you may wish to be reproduced. Prices are reasonable. Call David Corbin at (908) 232-4407 or e-mail Dave for information at dave@goleader.com.

POSTERS

The Westfield Leader and The Times have the capabilities of making large color posters (24x18 and smaller) of sports photos or any photos you may wish to be reproduced. Prices are reasonable. Call David Corbin at (908) 232-4407 or e-mail Dave for information at dave@goleader.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SCOTCH PLAINS LIST OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTY AUTHORIZED FOR PUBLIC SALE PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a)

PROPERTY MINIMUM BID PRICE
Lot No. 15 of Block No. 7303 \$60,000.00

BIDDERS SHALL TAKE NOTICE OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. The Township Council of the Township of Scotch Plains has determined that the real property known as Block 7303, Lot 15 on the Tax Map of the Township of Scotch Plains, also known as 2682 Plainfield Avenue, "Property" is not needed for public use and appears to conform to the zoning ordinances of the Township of Scotch Plains.

2. The Property is hereby offered for public sale pursuant to the Local Lands and Building Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a). The Township Council has set a minimum acceptable bid price of \$60,000.00 for the aforesaid Property.

3. The open public auction for the property shall occur in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 430 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey, on January 13, 1998, such date being no earlier than seven (7) days following the advertisement herein required, at not less than the minimum acceptable bid price of \$60,000.00. Except as otherwise provided herein or by law, and subject to right of the Township Council to accept or reject the offer, the highest bidder shall be deemed to have accepted the offer.

4. The Property shall be conveyed by Bargain and Sale Deed. With Covenants Against Grantor Acts, the Property to be described by Lot and Block designation on the Scotch Plains Township Tax Map, or such other description furnished by the purchaser and acceptable to the Township. The balance of the payment shall be made at the time of closing or certified check for the full amount of the accepted bid price plus recording costs and costs for a survey and/or title search of the Property, if such survey and/or title search are necessary.

5. The Property is sold in "as is" condition. No representations are made as to the condition of the Property, and no representations are made as to the dimension or description of the Property herein. All descriptions furnished are only furnished for the convenience of prospective purchasers.

6. The sale shall be further subject to zoning and other municipal ordinances and applicable state, municipal, county, federal or other statutory provisions. The conditions as aforesaid shall be incorporated in the deed of conveyance of the Property and be deemed to be covenants running with the land. The Township Council may, by Resolution, waive all or part of the restrictions encompassed in this paragraph. Possession shall be delivered upon closing of title. The Township of Scotch Plains makes no warranties of title either implied or express. The Township of Scotch Plains shall be held harmless from any damages, claims, and/or causes of action whatsoever in the event that the Township is unable to convey marketable title to the Property, subject to the conditions set forth above, for any reason whatsoever.

2 T - 1/1 & 1/8/98, The Times Fee: \$175.44

RICCA AND MELENDEZ SEIZE FOURTH PLACES

Raiders Place Six in Rugged Hunterdon Mat Tournament

By DAVID B. CORBIN
Specialty Written for The Westfield Leader and The Times

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School wrestling team entered the extremely tough Hunterdon Central Christmas Classic in Flemington on December 27 and had six wrestlers place in the top five. Several of the best high school teams in New Jersey competed along with 12th-ranked national power St. Marks of Wilmington, Delaware.

Juniors Josh Ricca and Tony Melendez each placed fourth in their respective weight classes. Senior Frank Thorne, junior Jim Feeley and sophomores Mike Natale and Mike Grabel came home with fifth-place finishes for the Raiders.

Melendez, wrestling at 130, pinned Hua Hoon Kim of Hanover Park in :52, then dropped a tough 3-1 decision in the semifinals to Sean Brewer of Hunterdon Central who eventually won the tournament.

Ricca, at 152, advanced by defeating Jeremy Ferguson of Governor Livingston in the preliminaries, then was shifted to the wrestle-backs when he lost to tournament champion Mike Carr of Hunterdon Central. Ricca earned his fifth-place position when he pinned Russ Letto of East Brunswick.

Thorne won his first bout at the 215-pound class by pinning Tom McDermott of Manalapan, then was beaten by Chris Gaskill of Lenape. In the wrestle-backs, Thorne pinned Frank Terzina of Sayreville, then pinned Rob Rosant of Old Bridge.

At 135, Natale defeated Chris Gati of South Plainfield, 4-2, then beat Brian Carlson of Old Bridge, 6-1, for fifth place. Grabel pinned Paul Bruno of Hanover Park 144, then won by a 6-1 decision over Steve Cole of Manalapan.

After losing his first match, heavyweight Jim Feeley roared back to pin Tom Krahl of East Brunswick in 3:46, then edged Mike O'Brien of Manalapan, 4-3.

Senior Luke Cerchio won his first bout against Nick Fiora of South Plainfield in the 145-pound class, starting off by scoring four points on two double-leg takedowns. Later, Cerchio added an escape and another takedown, then nailed Fiora with a beautifully performed lateral drop takedown which put Fiora on his back. Cerchio continued his domination and finally won, 20-4, by technical fall in 5:26.

At 125, sophomore A. J. Romeo dropped a wild 14-8 decision to Jesse Slavich of Sayreville, then won by fall over Tom Ehrhardt of Governor Livingston in 2:10.

Raider Mike Keeton pulled out an exciting 13-9 victory over Mike Aurilia of Sayreville in the preliminary round at 171. After several exchanges of takedowns,



David B. Corbin for The Leader and The Times
THE ESCAPE...Raider Tony Zardecki successfully escapes the grasp of Brett Sanderlin of Lenape in his 189-pound class bout.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, CHANCERY DIVISION, UNION COUNTY, DOCKET NO. F-20223-91.
AMERICA'S MORTGAGE SERVICING, INC., PLAINTIFF vs. HAFEEZA RASUL A/K/A DENISE STANFORD, ET AL., DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION, WRIT OF EXECUTION, DATED OCTOBER 28, 1993 FOR SALE OF MORTGAGED PREMISES.

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, on the 4th Floor of the Bank Building, 24 Rahway Avenue, in the City of Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY THE 21ST DAY OF JANUARY A.D., 1997 at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sale.

The judgment amount is \$63,249.03. All that tract or parcel of land and premises, situate, lying and being in the City of Elizabeth in the County of Union and State of New Jersey, more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the Northwest-westerly line of Jefferson Avenue, distant North-easterly 60.00 feet from the intersection of the said line of Jefferson Avenue with the Northeastly line of Fairmount Avenue; thence (1) North 62 degrees 37 minutes West 130.00 feet to a point; thence (2) North 27 degrees 23 minutes East 33.50 feet to a point; thence (3) South 62 degrees 37 minutes East 130.00 feet to a point in the said Northwestly line of Jefferson Avenue; thence (4) South 27 degrees 23 minutes West 33.50 feet along the said line of Jefferson Avenue to the point and place of BEGINNING.

BEING also known as No. 606 Jefferson Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

There is due approximately the sum of \$68,707.47 together with lawful interest and costs.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale.

RALPH FROELICH
SHERIFF
WILLIAM M. POWERS, JR., Attorney
737 Stokes Road
PO Box 1081
Medford, New Jersey 08055-9962
CH-750614 (WL)
4 T - 12/25/97, 1/1,
1/8, & 1/15/98 Fee: \$208.08

reversals and escapes. Keeton scored on an escape, a takedown and back points in the final :30 of the bout.

Senior Tony Zardecki lost a 7-4 heart-breaker at 189 to Brett Sanderlin of Lenape. Zardecki battled to within one point of Sanderlin; however, his desperate takedown attempt with just seconds left was successfully countered by Sanderlin.

After losing his first bout at 103 to tournament runner-up Roberto Ramos of South Plainfield, sophomore David Loewinger defeated Tim Troxel of Jefferson, 7-2.

Raider Head Wrestling Coach Dave Bello, being quite aware of the stiff competition offered by the tournament, stated, "Our varsity and junior varsity boys experienced quite a bit of quality wrestling and I feel they had the opportunity to understand high level wrestling."

TERMINOLOGY:
d-Won by decision
p-Won by pin
md-Majority decision
tf-Technical fall

CHAMPIONSHIP BREAKDOWN:

103: — Jake Beltz (Hunt. Cen.) d.

Viking Boy Cagers Drop 2nd; Fall to Highlanders, 52-38

Quentin Jordan hit for 18 points; however, the Union Catholic High School boys' basketball team could not maintain a half-time lead and were toppled by the Highlanders of Governor Livingston, 52-38, in Berkeley Heights on December 23.

The Vikings held a 21-18 lead at the half, but the Highlanders, knowing their own turf, raged with a 16-9 third-quarter edge and an 18-8 fourth-quarter trouncing. Dan Guyton led the Highlander defense with a convincing 17 rebounds while scoring 16 points, 14 which were scored in the second half.

Chris Jefferson hit for eight points and Franzou Simon had seven points, while Kwaku Morgan and Khalif Smith added three points and two points, respectively, for the Vikings.

Union Catholic fell to 0-2 while Governor Livingston evened at 1-1.

Union Catholic 9 12 9 8 38
Gov. Livingston 7 11 16 18 52

Roberto Ramos (S. Plainfield), 9-7

112: — Tom Doerr (S. Plainfield) d.

Brett Vanderveer (Gov. Livingston), 3-1

119: — L. A. Collier (St. Mark's) md.

Pete Tarricone (Hunt. Cen.), 13-1

125: — Bruce Kelly (St. Mark's) md.

Joe Celestano (S. Plainfield), 16-3

130: — Sean Brewer (Hunt. Cen.) d.

Tim MacLellan (Old Bridge), 7-5

135: — Craig Hantson (Jefferson) d.

Matt Hennessey (Hunt. Cen.), 8-6 Over-time

140: — James Lavalle (Hanover Park) p.

Brian Foster (Buena), 3:05

d. Dave Castellini (Buena), 6-2

152: — Mike Carr (Hunt. Cen.) d.

Kevin Langereis (Hanover Park), 10-4

160: — Dave Williams (St. Mark's) md.

Barry Nichols (Hanover Park), 20-11

171: — Justin Jackson (St. Mark's) md.

Nick Szymchik (Manalapan), 18-4

189: — Brian Santoro (St. Mark's) p.

P. J. Villani (Hanover Park), 3:15

215: — Pete Santoro (St. Mark's) p.

Evan Krinis (Hunt. Cen.), 5:00

Hwt: — John Testa (St. Mark's) p. Joe Pinella (Sayreville), 3:06

WATCHUNG CONFERENCE:

December 22:

Emerson 64, Plainfield 56 (OT)
Plainfield 15 8 10 16 65
Emerson 17 11 10 12 44

December 23:

Newark East Side 49, Elizabeth 38
Newark East Side 12 19 8 10 49
Elizabeth 4 10 12 10 36
Cranford 69, Caldwell 55
Cranford 17 16 12 24 69
Caldwell 8 9 19 19 55

Union 64, Linden 60
Union 17 17 13 17 64
Linden 16 16 14 14 60
St. Benedict's Prep 83, Shabazz 51
Shabazz 15 11 12 13 51
St. Benedict's 20 18 27 18 83

December 27:

Union 71, Colonia 55
Union 14 13 29 15 71
Colonia 12 16 11 11 55
Irvington 60, Bloomfield Tech 55

Rahway 'Y' Outswims FSP 'Y' Coed, 113-90

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA (FSPY) Coed swimming team put up a brave battle, but were defeated, 90-113, in the second dual meet of the season.

Every swimmer gave it their best and many swimmers achieved better times than in the previous dual meet.

FSPY put in a great effort in the individual medleys. In the 100-yard individual medley, Andrea Molowa took second place for the 9-10 year olds with a great race in the 200-yard medley, and took second place for the 13-14 year olds. Angela D'Addona also placed second for the 15-18 year olds.

In freestyle, Michael Miller and Neil Merchant took first and second, respectively, for the 8-and-under group. In addition, there were strong finishes in the other age groups, with Terry Juba and Jeanne Clark getting second and third, respectively, for the 9-10 year olds; Katie D'Addona grabbed a third for 11-12's. Anthony D'Erro took a third for 13-14 year olds, and, for the 15-18 age group, Chris Wetlesen took second place in a close and very exciting finish.

Emily Kaplowitz opened up the breaststroke events by winning for the 8-and-under group. Jessica Moran and Kathryn Nalibielny swam well to take second and fourth, respectively, for the 9-10 year olds, as did Jessica Schor and Peter Miller for the 11-12 year olds.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY, CHANCERY DIVISION, UNION COUNTY, DOCKET NO. F-7619-97.
GMAC MORTGAGE CORPORATION
FKA GMAC MORTGAGE CORPORATION
OF PA, A PENNSYLVANIA CORPORATION, PLAINTIFF vs. FRANCISCO MUNOZ AND GLORIA MUNOZ HIS WIFE, BUILDERS INC., DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION, WRIT OF EXECUTION, DATED OCTOBER 6, 1997 FOR SALE OF MORTGAGED PREMISES.

By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, on the 4th Floor of the Bank Building, 24 Rahway Avenue, in the City of Elizabeth, New Jersey on WEDNESDAY THE 21ST DAY OF JANUARY A.D., 1997 at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day. All successful bidders must have 20% of their bid available in cash or certified check at the conclusion of the sale.

The judgment amount is \$149,492.29. The property to be sold is located in the City of Elizabeth, County of Union and State of New Jersey.

It is commonly known as 607 Grier Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey. It is known and designated as Block No. 4, Lot No. 750.

The dimensions are approximately 25 feet wide by 142 feet long. Nearest cross street: Situate on the northwesterly line of Grier Avenue, 83.95 feet from the southwestly line of Summer Street.

Prior lien(s): None.

There is due approximately the sum of \$153,441.12 together with lawful interest and costs.

There is a full legal description on file in the Union County Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff reserves the right to adjourn this sale.

RALPH FROELICH
SHERIFF
STERN, LAVINTHAL, NORGAARD AND KAPNICK, Attorneys
Suite 300
293 Eisenhower Parkway
Livingston, New Jersey 07039-1711
CH-753493 (WL)
4 T - 12/25/97, 1/1,
1/8, & 1/15/98 Fee: \$185.64

Devang Doshi and Jonathon Williams each put in great efforts for their respective age groups.

In the backstroke events, great performances were put in by Merchant, Michelle D'Addona, Megan Gartner, Sean Dolgin, Brian Many and Hayley Middleton for the 8 and unders. Sarah Quale and Mary Bash had a strong race, taking a first and second place, respectively, for the 9-10 year olds. For the 11-12 age group, Chloe Sundstrom and Whitney Smallwood battled with each other for second and third place in what proved to be a very close finish for all swimmers. Katie McDonough finished fourth.

In the 100-yard race, Jennifer Harrison and Laura O'Neill took third and fourth place, respectively, for the 13-14 age group, and a brilliant swim by Amit Doshi and Richard Khan in the 15-18 age group gave FSPY a first and third place, respectively.

Michael Miller and Stephen Moonesar gave FSPY another first and second-place finish, respectively, for the 8-and-under butterfly event. For the 9-10 age group, Molowa placed second with good efforts from Mary Walsh and Clark. Jessica Schor took first place in the 11-12 year-old 50-yard swim, with strong finishes by both Ariana Ramesar and Katie D'Addona.

In the 100-yard butterfly event, Megan MacGillivray took third, and Christine Feury took fourth with an improved time.

PUBLIC NOTICE

SHERIFF'S SALE

Fate of SP Zoo; School District Deficit; Library Updates; Green Brook Flood Control Project Among '97 Top Stories

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

input on the Green Brook proposals.

So far, eight candidates — including incumbents Mrs. Dettmar, Mr. Ruggiero and Mrs. Larkin — had registered to run for three seats on the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education in the April election. The board approved a \$41.9 million budget, with a 2.6 percent increase over last year.

Board member Edward J. Saridaki, Jr., called the budget "very sound." The Board of Education recognized 30 members of Terrill Middle School's "Select Chorus" for their performance in Madison Square Garden's Paramount Theater in *A Christmas Carol*. Scotch Plains residents Norman and Marie Sevell donated \$100,000 towards the construction of a new gymnasium at the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA.

March

The Scotch Plains council approved a three-point tax hike for a municipal budget of \$15,330,811 for the year. The council okayed a measure that would allow more than 100 low-to-moderate income housing units to be built near Weldon Materials quarry on Union Avenue.

United States Congressman Bob Franks proposed delaying Union County's decision on the "upper portion" of the Green Brook Flood Control Project for a year after some county residents questioned the need for 11 acres of detention basins in Watchung Reservation. Mr. Franks said he would seek \$100,000 in federal funds to study alternatives.

The owners of the Scotch Plains Zoo asked for a hearing before the New Jersey Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife, which had earlier denied their operating permits. Mr. Kafka later pleaded guilty in Scotch Plains Municipal Court to charges of inadequate housing of certain zoo animals and was fined over \$5,000.

A state Superior Court judge then appointed Union Township Attorney Martin B. O'Connor, 2nd, as custodian to oversee the operation of the Scotch Plains Zoo.

Heavy winds landed a tree on the dugout and stands at the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Youth Baseball Little League Association playing field soon after it was renovated.

The Suburban Municipal Joint Insurance Fund (JIF), of which Scotch Plains is a member, was cited for the best safety record in the state.

The Scotch Plains Volunteer Rescue Squad completed 60 years of service in the township.

April

In the Scotch Plains-Fanwood school elections, township lawyer Thomas Russo defeated incumbent Mrs. Dettmar, while incumbents Mrs. Larkin and Mr. Ruggiero were returned for another term. Voters also approved a 1.64 percent tax increase for the school budget.

The Township Council agreed to support the Green Brook Flood Control measures and urged Union County Freeholders, in a resolution, to "resist any attempts to delay or abandon the plan of protection."

Township Welfare Director Maria Santo urged the council to keep its local welfare system after the state "Work First" legislation proposed to centralize welfare under a county-wide system.

The township contracted with the not-for-profit Garden State Animal Rescue, Inc., for animal control services at \$20,000 yearly.

The agency is a spin-off of Garden State Kennels in Stirling that was charged with violating a court order last year in the township by releasing two potentially dangerous dogs to their owner.

The council considered \$300,000 worth of improvements to Brookside Park.

May

Township police arrested Stephen Sarnowski, 34, who they believed was responsible for more than 50 area burglaries since November, 1996 after he broke into a house on Edgewood Terrace, taking nearly \$20,000 worth of items.

More than \$130,000 in cash and stolen items, as well as weapons, were discovered at his mother's Cranford home and a rooming house in Kenilworth, where he lived.

The township was hit with costs for recycling that were double those of the previous year. Mayor Schmidt attributed the increase to deregulation of an industry that received tax credits and subsidies over the past 10 years. Officials said they feared the high costs may lead some to abandon recycling altogether in favor of throwing it away, saying "it will be cheaper."

New Jersey was recognized in the past for its relatively high — 60 percent — recycling rate, officials noted.

Scotch Plains-Fanwood Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Carol B. Choye, was awarded a 3.6 percent salary hike to \$138,778 and a five-year employment contract by a majority of the school board. The board also approved a new \$180,000 program at Coles Elementary School for an estimated 15 autistic preschoolers.

The board voted to eliminate the Iowa Standardized Test of Basic Skills for first graders, calling the tests "out-of-date." When parents questioned the board about "levels" or "tracking" of students in district middle school classes, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Dr. John R. Crews, said he would seek to elimi-

nate the practice altogether.

Other parents questioned a gym class for students on varsity athletic teams that meets only four days a week, while other gym classes meet five. Dr. Crews claimed the four-day-a-week class meets state requirements.

The board agreed to revamp the duties of the Language Arts and Social Studies Supervisors in the district. Two supervisors were assigned to share middle school responsibilities while one supervises elementary grades, and the other, the high school. The Board of Adjustment approved modular classroom additions for the district's three elementary schools.

Members of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School music groups performed four days in Florida's Walt Disney World Magic Kingdom.

The Kafkas withdrew an appeal over the state's refusal to issue them operating permits, after Mr. Kafka admitted guilt earlier in the year in Scotch Plains Municipal Court to zoo-related violations, which would prevent him from securing a new permit in any case, for at least two years.

The United States Department of Agriculture charged the Kafkas with improper maintenance of farm animals at the zoo. Mr. Kafka said he hoped to find a "curator" for the zoo but the state Department of Environmental Protection closed the zoo after the Kafkas failed to supply plans for relocating animals from the facility within 15 days.

The council approved a \$295,000 bond ordinance for Brookside Park improvements that included dredging the pond, and adding fountains, walking paths and landscaping.

The council also agreed to limit signs on public buildings to 200 square feet on a front facade, from a former 10 square feet.

A team of five Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School marketing students garnered awards as one of the top eight entries in a national DECA competition.

Competing with 10,000 other students nationwide, juniors Adam Baumwoll, David Gewirtz and Adam Koster, Brian Spitzer and Jeffery Gillie planned and organized a township business directory.

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Class of 1997 graduated June 18 with a prom at the Berkeley Plaza in Berkeley Heights.

The council urged the Technology Advisory Committee to recommend a plan of action in dealing with communications companies that request towers in the township.

The council sought to split \$7,000 in costs with dissatisfied Shirewood subdivision residents in beautifying a water retention basin after officials said developers abandoned the project and residents called the basin "unsightly."

The fifth annual Freddie Spencer Memorial Bicycle Race is held. Councilwoman Joan Papan said it looked like Bell Atlantic would give the township the go ahead to use utility poles for holiday decorations after she wrangled with them for permission last fall.

June

Former Scotch Plains Republican Mayor and Green Brook Flood Control Commissioner Boyd Lawrence "Larry" Newcomb died of a stroke on June 3 at age 70.

Council members remembered him as the "ultimate volunteer" for his dedication to the township over the last 30 years.

Long-time resident Theodore Bassman was appointed to replace Mr. Newcomb on the Flood Control Commission as the township's representative.

Township resident Scott J. Moynihan, 39, was sworn in as a state Superior Court Judge in Union County after resident and state Senator Donald T. DiFrancesco nominated him two years earlier.

Warren Township real estate developer Mitchell Berlant said he would buy the Scotch Plains Zoo property from the Kafkas but former zoo owners, Frank and Louise Terry, who still hold the mortgage on the zoo property, rejected the bid. The Terrys operated the zoo for nearly 40 years until 1993.

There are plans for most of the 70 animals to be moved to other facilities, state officials said.

The township moved ahead with plans to restore the Osborn Cannonball House by asking the New Jersey Historic Trust office for a \$35,000 grant, and also proposed an \$80,000 bond ordinance for the work.

The township Volunteer Fire Department signed on its first female member, Carolyn Sorge. Ms. Sorge works as a secretary to Township Manager Thomas E. Atkins.

The Planning Board okayed development of the Woodlands Estates after 12 years of debate.

The municipal parking lot was repaved and nine spaces added.

July

The Scotch Plains Post Office on Park Avenue began a year-long renovation and expansion project after 36 years. A "postal store" and 200 new rental boxes highlight the planned improvements. In the meantime, a trailer at the site will provide services.

The council announced that property taxes would be \$23 higher on the average assessed house than expected due to the impact of the Board of

Education and Union County budgets.

The Green Brook Flood Control Commission agreed to form an independent task force to hammer out solutions for the disputed upper portion of the flood control project.

A lawyer representing former Scotch Plains Zoo owners Frank and Louise Terry revealed that the Kafkas had sold the zoo to Mr. Berlant on June 26 for \$338,000.

It was expected that Mr. Berlant would pay off the mortgage on the zoo property by September 1.

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood school district Head of Special Services, Susan Tillis, announced she would leave after two and a half years to take a similar position in a smaller Bergen County district.

Retired Director of Special Services Eleanor McClymont announced her return on an interim basis to manage the \$1.8 million department when Ms. Tillis leaves August 1. The Board of Education voted to support mandatory membership in the New Jersey School Boards Association at a cost of \$23,000 annually.

Some board members said it serves as a lobbying antidote at the state level to the New Jersey Education Association, whose membership is primarily teachers.

One hundred residents petitioned the board to expand sports programs in the middle schools and ninth grade. The petition said, "with the increase in student enrollment, opportunities in interscholastic sports have not expanded adequately."

Township Clerk Barbara Riepe celebrated 40 years on the job with a surprise party thrown by the council during a televised meeting.

August

A car driven by 72-year-old resident Mary Loh plowed into the side of the township library on a Saturday morning, causing structural damage to the building but no injuries. The library is closed on summer weekends.

Ms. Loh told police the gas pedal stuck and that she lost control of the vehicle. She was not cited for any violations, police said. Library Director Norbert Bernstein said it would cost several thousand dollars and a of couple months to repair the damage.

Scotch Plains resident Roland M. Beetham, 78, a former Mayor of Cranford, was killed in a private plane crash in Warren. He was piloting alone when his twin-engine Cessna 337 crashed and caught fire after 10 minutes in the air.

Ten thousand Business and Services Directories were mailed out in the township, and members of the Scotch Plains Business and Professional Association said the response has been overwhelmingly positive.

Councilman Marks proposed an ordinance to outlaw "scavenging" during the spring clean-up when residents have refuse piled at the curbs.

Council members agreed to allow a telecommunications company to install one mile of fiber optics cables in the northwest corner of the township, after a two-year delay. Officials admitted concern that the township would be "overrun with wires and poles" in the future if they did not consider an overall policy before okaying the deal.

The Scotch Plains Baptist Church celebrated its 250th year, making it one of the oldest churches in the state.

State Senate President and township resident Donald T. DiFrancesco signed legislation into law, as Acting Governor, that would appropriate \$350,000 for "Partnership for a Drug Free New Jersey."

Republican Freeholder Henry W. Kurz saw red when New Jersey's Democratic United States Senators, Frank Lautenberg and Robert Torricelli, voted to kill federal funding for the upper portion of the Green Brook Flood Control project.

The *Star-Ledger* reported that the two senators subsequently agreed to work with Congressman Bob Franks on a new version of a bill to resolve the \$55 million upper portion conflicts.

The entire \$362 million project was put on hold until Congress reconvened the following month.

Mr. Berlant, the new owner of the former Scotch Plains Zoo property, agreed to pay off a \$355,000 mortgage on the property held by the original owners of the zoo, the Terrys, by August 28.

September

Dr. Choye welcomed back an estimated 4,300 children to district schools on September 3. She called the township "a school community dedicated to high quality education."

However, later this month, the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School is ranked 50 out of 58 in a *Star-Ledger* survey among similar schools. Dr. Crews responded that an optional 43-minute period attended by 30 percent of students was left out of the survey information, which in turn lowered the school's ranking.

He said instructional time was equal to Westfield High School if the option was factored in. Westfield ranked 17th in the same survey. Board member Richard Meade asked about the "other 70 percent" of district students who do not attend the optional period, saying, "this is something we should look at."

The board hired Diane Kelly who will share district supervisor duties

with Patricia Boland in Language Arts and Social Studies.

School administrators noted that Evergreen offices were renovated over the summer and that three new modular classrooms for elementary schools, costing \$745,302, would be usable by November. The units were purchased with reserve funds.

Tony's Pharmacy on East Second Street closed after 22 years, with owner Tony Accocella saying, "I just turned 65. I felt 40 years in the business was enough."

He also said managed health-care programs cut into his profit margin.

The council rezoned a collection of 24 lots totaling 12 acres at Jerusalem Road and Broadway, near the Westfield border, for a proposed 250-unit senior citizen housing complex.

Investors with the proposed complex called Broadway Associates said they were interested in buying township-owned property valued at \$1 million, at the site.

The council agreed to meet with Chairman of the Green Brook Flood Control Task Force, Frank Meeks, 3rd, in seeking support for the Army Corps of Engineers Green Brook flood control project.

The township received \$200,000 from state gasoline tax funds to improve Glenside Avenue between Skytop and Deerpath. Parking for anyone other than emergency personnel is eliminated around the south side fire house.

Governor Christine Todd Whitman visited the offices of *The Times* on a swing through the area at Westfield's *Fest!Fall* street festival.

October

The Township Council balked at a proposal by the Union County Utilities Authority to lease the county incinerator for 25 years to Ogen Martin Systems of Union, Inc. in Rahway after the bottom dropped out of the local garbage disposal industry when federal courts struck down a waste flow regulation policy, leaving the county burdened with \$293 million worth of debt and the incinerator scrambling for business.

"How can we tell trash haulers what to do?" Mayor Schmidt responded, since the township does not regulate garbage collection for residents. Six other communities in Union County, including Fanwood and Westfield, are in a similar situation.

Dr. Choye admitted the school district is \$700,000 in the hole.

"Our savings account is at zero. We need \$700,000 for the modular classrooms and tuition," she said.

A rise in insurance rates and special education tuition is cited for the disparity.

"We tried to do too many things in one year," Dr. Choye said, describing the budget melee as "a convergence of circumstances."

The council decided to keep township welfare services local and independent from the proposed "Work First New Jersey" county-wide system. Township officials claimed they can keep expenses low, services personalized and fraud to a minimum by administering services from town hall.

Freeholder Stender told the township Planning Board that Union County economic growth depends on developing its transportation systems, including expansion of the New Jersey Turnpike, the East-West Light Rail Link, an Intermodal Freight System, dredging Port Elizabeth and developing the Route No. 82 corridor.

The Planning Board okayed nine new cellular telephone antennas for placement on water tanks on Jerusalem Road. The antennas are owned by Smart SMR of New York, Inc. Bell Atlantic, AT&T and Comcast antennas are already at the same site, officials said.

Township Library Director Norbert Bernstein celebrated 25 years on the job. He hinted that the library is looking toward automation by next spring.

The council approved an ordinance to outlaw "scavenging."

Residents William and Gracelynn Aberdeen and their two children fight to avoid returning to their native Trinidad under new United States immigration laws. Congressman Franks interceded to speed their application process to stay.

Scotch Plains Day plans are dampened by rainy weather, as happened the previous year.

November

School board President, Dr. Donald E. Sheldon, said the board must share some of the responsibility for the unrecognized \$700,000 budget shortfall. Board member Richard R. Meade admitted, "We were not following a tight fiscal process. That was wrong."

Board member Albert J. Syvertsen denied the board was made aware in advance that administrators were "overrunning the budget." Auditors examined the district's order, cancellation and reorder of three modular classroom units and a \$50,000 cafeteria food service shortfall.

The board moved to transfer \$662,814 from the district's unreserved fund balance to cover expenses until the new fiscal year, emptying the unreserved fund account.

Township Council members objected to the notion of a \$13.50 surcharge per ton on garbage hauled to the county incinerator as part of the 25-year lease proposal with Ogen-Martin Systems to pay off the \$283 million worth of related debt. The fee is included as part of the \$50 per ton

FAA Considers Revamping Flight Map for East Coast

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tion can be generated to compare the FAA plan against that of the ocean routing plan.

FAA officials have consistently rejected ocean routing, saying the plan will force airplanes to fly greater distances, thus costing airlines more money by burning more fuel.

The FAA indicated a few weeks ago that it still intends to implement the 260-degree route, which will send several hundred jets over Clark, Dunellen, Edison, Green Brook, Linden Middlesex, Piscataway, Rahway, South Plainfield, and parts of Woodbridge. The new routing will result in the shifting of 25 percent of Newark Airport's departing flights.

Mr. Feder has said the change from the previous 220-degree heading, where airplanes climbed over industrial areas and the Arthur Kill before reaching an altitude of 3,500 feet before flying over residential areas, to the 260-degree heading will result in airplanes flying 1,000 feet lower when traveling over populated areas. This, he noted, will significantly increase noise levels in populated areas.

The FAA has said the new revised flight paths included in the revamping of the decade-old flight map, would take advantage of new satellite technology that was not available when the current map was drawn.

Tom Bosco, the Port Authority's Liaison to the FAA, told reporters at Monday's press conference that the Expanded East Coast Plan was designed when the three major metro-

politan airports were handling 800,000 flights, the least of which were from Newark.

That number has risen to an estimated 1,169,000 flights in 1997. Newark now has the most traffic — over 100,000 more than LaGuardia.

After hearing the new proposal for rerouting, Pamela Barsam-Director of Scotch Plains, Executive Director of the 5,000-member NJCAAN, said the plan is great for a long-range solution but that the FAA needs to address the increased air noise in the meantime.

Under ocean routing, departing Newark flights would fly towards the Arthur Kill and out over the Raritan Bay to the Atlantic Ocean east of Monmouth County before proceeding south or west and back over land.

Mr. Bales said the ocean routing could be implemented in about a year if the FAA decides to go in that direction.

"I definitely feel that ocean routing will provide relief to the greatest number of people. But I don't think that will happen over night," he said.

Monday's conference was arranged by Senator Torricelli. Meanwhile, legislators including State Senate President Donald T. DiFrancesco of Scotch Plains and Assemblymen Richard H. Bagger of Westfield and Alan M. Augustine of Scotch Plains have all written the Governor, asking her to pressure the Port Authority to actively oppose the new 260-degree turn for airplanes.

Police Chief Anthony Parenti Cited for 40 Years of Service

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Pier 86 in New York; over Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, the police academy and at Fanwood Borough Hall, according to Cadet Technical Sergeant Kelvin Brooks, a member of the Junior ROTC.

Former Fanwood Mayor Theodore "Ted" Trumpp, who was in office when Chief Parenti assumed command of the force in 1975, noted the latter had brought the police department into the modern era, adding "he was an asset to the borough and one who will be missed."

Captain Robert Carboy, the chief's successor and longtime colleague, praised him as "a teacher, a mentor,

fee, a cost which will incline over the life of the contract based on the Consumer Price Index.

The council ignored the November 15 deadline to commit to the leasing deal, with Mr. Atkins saying, "It would not be prudent to decide by then. There are too many unknowns right now."

The council released a letter saying the township was looking into purchasing the 6.5-acre former zoo property.

Thirty Park Middle School choristers were selected to perform in *A Christmas Carol* at The Theater at Madison Square Garden throughout the holiday season.

December

A consulting engineer for the township on the \$1.83 million sewer pumping station upgrade project discovered through a *Star-Ledger* article that two owners of a Roselle Park construction company contracted to do the sewer work were convicted of bribery, theft and extortion in a half-million dollar bribing scheme and have been sentenced to three years in jail.

The township canceled the contract while offering the owners of Consolidated Design and Building Corporation a hearing on the cancellation.

The township library looks at bids for \$180,000 to automate or computerize its systems. Later, Fanwood Memorial Library asked to come aboard on the project at a slight savings to the township. The automation could take up to a year and a half to complete.

Mr. Atkins estimated a \$440,000 budget increase to the \$15.8 million for next year. He said he will try something new by giving council members a written overview of the major areas and trends in spending by the township in January.

"I think I've done it backwards in the past," he said. "I think we've spent too much time on details."

The Downtown Development Committee asked for \$30,000 from next year's budget to pursue plans to rename East Second Street "Centre Boulevard," to identify the downtown as "Towne Centre," develop a logo, add sidewalk benches, commercially develop empty property along Park Avenue and, most surprisingly to some officials, add a Colonial facade to the existing Municipal Building.

Chairman of the committee, Arthur Grisi, called the current building, "not appealing."

Recreation Director Laura Sanson Botto announced that fees at the Scotch Hills Golf Course will go up next year.

Former resident Tom Turnbull announced plans to buy a former warehouse on Plainfield Avenue for his Soccer Skills and Drills, Inc., school. It was announced that Councilwoman Joan Papan will be sworn in as Mayor for 1998 on January 1 at 1 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

a boss...but also a friend." He also credited the chief with having pulled him out of "dire straits" at times during their years together in law enforcement. "If it weren't for him, I wouldn't be here today," he remarked.

Chief Parenti, in turn, commended the council for naming Captain Carboy to succeed him. The captain will be sworn in as the new chief of police on January 1 during an 11 a.m. ceremony in the council chambers. The governing body's annual reorganization meeting will begin there at noon.

Former Republican Councilman Andrew J. MacDonald, Grand Knight of the Father John S. Nelligan Council No. 5730 of the Knights of Columbus, presented a resolution from the Knights honoring the chief on his retirement.

Several other outgoing officials were also cited by the council that evening. Councilman Dr. Chester R. Lindsey, who retired from the governing body on December 31, received a presentation from the Mayor and council in recognition of his service during two non-consecutive terms.

Dr. Lindsey, who began his optometry practice in the borough 40 years ago, thanked fellow members of the governing body, as well as the community, for the opportunity to serve as a council representative.

"I've enjoyed our council sessions, especially the times we all had a laugh," the councilman remarked nostalgically, adding that he intended to continue bringing forth ideas in the future and "not fade away."

Democratic Councilwoman Karen M. Schurtz praised her Republican colleague for his ability to address issues and for his wit, which she said "helped to relieve some of the anxiety and stress" which sometimes occurs when the governing body must deal with tough issues.

Mayor Connelly presented a resolution to outgoing Fire Chief Daniel Librandy, noting that his position as head of the department required "monumental effort and time."

A member of the Fanwood Volunteer Fire Department for a decade, the chief has been a ranking officer for six years and had been chief for the past two. He will be succeeded by another longtime firefighter, John Piccola, in the new year.

Last August, Chief Librandy championed the purchase of a 1988 used support utility vehicle for the fire department, which the council approved that same month. The one-ton, ambulance-style unit will enable firefighters to transport all their necessary equipment to the scene of an emergency in one trip.

A resolution was also read commending Charles H. Brandt for his service as attorney for the now defunct Fanwood Board of Adjustment. Mr. Brandt, who was absent from the meeting, served as attorney to the board for 16 years. He had also provided legal counsel to the Fanwood Planning Board for 14 years.

In addition, George Weiss, the producer and director of Fanwood's Channel 35, was presented with a resolution recognizing his efforts in filming and broadcasting meetings of the governing body, as well as special events such as Fanwood's downtown holiday celebration on December 7 and the "Fanny Wood Day" festivities in September.

The governing body passed a resolution to retain the services of Fanwood Welfare Director Maria Santo, rather than consolidate these services with the Union County program. Councilman Lindsey, Chairman of the Education, Health and Welfare Committee, said maintaining services locally would better serve the needs of borough residents.

Officials also approved a resolution confirming Stephen J. Szanto as a member of the Fanwood Volunteer Fire Department, and another authorizing a professional service contract for Abeles Phillips to review the borough's Master Plan.

Mayoral Nominations; Liquor Ordinance and Lowest School Budget Increase Topped First Six Months of '97

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ously served from 1984 to 1987.

The Rialto Theatre gained new life when Jesse Sayegh, President of CJM Entertainment in Cedar Grove, agreed to purchase the theater from United Artists. CJM also agreed to purchase the Bellevue Theatre in Upper Montclair.

The DWC approved a budget of \$226,000 for 1997. The plan included \$40,000 for holiday season lights, \$43,000 for downtown and restaurant guides and the Welcome Home to Westfield holiday program. An additional \$88,500 was included for grant writing, the director's salary, supplies and a quarterly newsletter.

Another \$15,200 was included for expanding existing services in the downtown such as trash disposal, along with the addition of power washing of sidewalks.

Dr. B. Carol Molnar announced her intention to seek a fourth term on the school board.

North Jersey Newspapers reached an agreement to purchase Forbes Newspapers, Inc., a deal which included *The Westfield Record*, *The Cranford Chronicle* and *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Press*. North Jersey was given 60 days to review Forbes' records as part of its letter of intent to purchase the papers. North Jersey is an affiliate of MediaNews Group, Inc., out of Colorado.

North Jersey purchased the *Suburban News* along with the Independent Press of New Providence and Berkeley Heights and the *Summit Herald* in 1990.

The school board race officially began at the end of the month with six candidates seeking three seats on the nine-member board. Joining Dr. Molnar and Mr. Taylor were Mark Kabakow, Michael Kessler and Patrick Keenoy. Michael P. Madaras decided at the last minute to seek reelection after telling *The Leader* that he would not run for office.

The school board introduced a \$50.5 million spending plan on February 25, representing a 0.95 percent increase over the previous year's spending plan, the lowest increase in 15 years. The budget called for an increase of 2.47 percent in the school portion of town property taxes.

The Town Council honored the late Albert J. Moeller by naming a baseball field at Tamaques Park in his honor. Mr. Moeller was instrumental in the success of Westfield's American Legion baseball program. A plaque was erected at the park in his memory. Attending the meeting were six past commanders of the Martin Wallberg Post No. 3.

The county Freeholders introduced ordinances to authorize the spending of \$5.1 million to create the county's first magnet high school for intense studies in mathematics, science and technology. An existing 53,000-square-foot building on the campus of the Union County Vocational-Technical Schools in Scotch Plains was proposed for the site.

March

James Hely announced his resignation from the Westfield Town Council after 11 years. Mr. Hely was opposed only two of the six terms his was elected as the Fourth Ward representative. He was defeated in the race for Mayor by Ronald Frigerio in 1984.

The Westfield Democratic Town Committee decided on Donnell Carr as their top choice to fill Mr. Hely's seat. Also included on the list of three choices for Town Council consideration were Rosemary Millet and Madeleine Korfmacher.

The Republican-controlled council approved the recommendation put forward by Councilman Goldman, the Chairman of the Democratic Committee.

The Democratic majority on the Freeholder board unveiled an ordinance to replace the nine members of the Union County Utilities Authority (UCA) with a new, seven-member authority.

While Democrats said the purpose of their decision was to get an authority that would be responsive in addressing the imminent era of post-waste flow controls, Republicans called the move political, since their party's majority was being yanked in favor of an all Democratic authority.

A Superior Court judge ruled in April against the Freeholders' action, thus putting back into place the original UCA commissioners.

The legal action was brought by the counsel for the UCA.

The Westfield Town Council unveiled a budget of \$22.27 million, a spending plan which represented an increase of \$428,799 over 1996. Also, it was revealed by the state's Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) that the Westfield Inspection Station was on the list of DMV stations slated to be closed.

The council unveiled an eight-month budget for the SID of \$184,000. The governing body also agreed to provide a bridge loan of \$59,000 to get the DWC up and running before its first infusion from property tax revenues on August 1. The Chamber came out in support of the budget.

The school board adopted a budget of \$50.61 million on March 27. The budget included an amount of \$44,947,718 to be raised through property taxes.

April

The Union County Democratic Party selected Chester Holmes, a former Rahway City Councilman and UCUA commissioner; Alexander Mirabella, a former Roselle Park councilman, and Deborah Scanlon, a member of the Union Board of Education, to run against Republican Freeholder incumbents Frank H. Lehr, Henry W. Kurz and Edwin H. Force.

Freeholders faced a protest from avid golfers over the county's proposed new telephone reservation system for the county's three public golf courses. The county also proposed a ban on metal spikes shoes on the courses.

In its last action before the school board election, the Board of Education, in light of new additions to Wilson Elementary School on the north side of town and Jefferson Elementary School on the south side, approved a redistricting plan to reduce the district's overcrowding problem. Twelve new classrooms, six at each school, opened in the fall of 1997.

Faced with two budget questions under a change in state law, Westfield voters approved both parts of the \$44 million school tax levy. Voters also reelected Dr. Molnar and elected Mr. Taylor and Mr. Kessler to the Board of Education.

Coming off of a devastating election result in 1996, the local Republican Party selected Gregory S. McDermott, the son of former state senator and current county GOP leader Frank X. McDermott, to run in the First Ward, and Christian A. Sepe, an accountant, in the Fourth Ward. They joined incumbents Matthew P. Albano, an attorney representing the Second Ward, and banking executive Neil F. Sullivan, Jr., in the Third Ward.

The Democrats chose Marc A. McCabe, employed by an insurance brokerage and risk management firm, in the First Ward; attorney Kenneth Rotter in the Third Ward, and Mr. Carr, an electrical engineer, in the Fourth Ward.

The Freeholder board introduced a county budget of \$287.7 million, representing a decline of .5 percent in the county tax levy. A total of \$151.7 would be raised through taxes.

The Freeholder board established an Economic Development Committee as a standing committee of the board.

The Westfield Planning Board approved the applications of Trader Joe's for the site of the former A&P and, more recently, Foods & Things and Sir Puffs Cafe, in the former Burgdorff, Realtors, both on Elm Street. Trader Joe's was described as a mix of a supermarket, grocery store and international gourmet shop.

The cigar lounge, which will also be the new site of the Westfield Pipe Shop, was described as a retail cigar business offering pipes, tobacco and tobacco accessories. The business also serves desserts, specialty coffees and has an Espresso Bar. Memberships are offered where cigar smokers can gather and watch sporting events on a giant TV screen.

May

The Town Council introduced a redrafted ordinance which amends the town law as it applies to the service of alcoholic beverages in restaurants.

Representatives of the Westfield Municipal Alliance/PANDA (Preventing Alcohol and Narcotics Abuse) and the Parent-Teacher Council (PTC), along with the Westfield/Mountainside Ministerium Associates, opposed the ordinance.

The amendment called for a change in the law as it applies to conditional licenses. If approved, the change would have allowed these restaurants to have a bar area to serve drinks. Currently, the three restaurants with restricted licenses are only allowed to serve drinks at restaurant tables where meals are served, or in the lounge area for patrons waiting for a table.

Susan Jacobson was named President of the school board for the third consecutive year. Danielle M. Walsh was named the new Vice President.

The council adopted the SID budget of \$184,000. SID Chairman Jo-

seph Spector called the approval of the budget the "end of a long and thoroughly debated issue."

The council decided to proceed with its application to the state's Neighborhood Preservation Grant Program in an effort to revitalize the Central Avenue corridor.

The Freeholder board announced the formation of a new Economic Development Department. As part of the initiative, the Freeholder committee on economic development and a Council of Economic Advisors were created and report to the County Manager.

Scotch Plains police nabbed Stephen Sarnowski, 34, of Kenilworth, in connection with 27 burglaries in Westfield since November of 1996. Police recovered \$130,000 in currency, as well as thousands of dollars worth of goods and several weapons.

Cranford, Westfield and Scotch Plains police officials participated in the joint press conference held at the Scotch Plains Police Department.

The DWC launched a national search for an executive director.

Unbeknownst to Democrats on the council, the Republican majority held an unannounced press briefing at the offices of *The Leader*, at which time they said they would not support the redrafted liquor ordinance. Councilmen Sullivan and Gruba originally supported the ordinance on first reading.

The ordinance was withdrawn the following week due to lack of support on council. Mayor Jardim accused GOP council members of partisan politics since the issue had been discussed at length, including participation by Police Chief Anthony J. Scutti, at a council conference meeting following the press briefing. No Republicans, however, referred to their decision during the meeting.

Vivien Cook retired as Music Director of the Madrigal Singers, a 16-voice ensemble specializing in the music of Europe's Renaissance era. Ms. Cook performed with the group for over 30 years.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment rejected an application for a 12-unit apartment building on Lamberts Mill Road.

A baby girl was found abandoned outside of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. The baby was taken to Overlook Hospital in Summit and reported to be in good condition. Authorities launched a wide search, including contacting numerous hospitals, to try and find the parents or other family members.

Michele M. Picou left her position as Manager of the Westfield MainStreet program, to become Director of the Cranford downtown improvement program.

The Freeholders adopted a \$278.69 million budget, 6-3, with Republicans voting against the plan.

The Westfield "Y" expressed interest in purchasing the Lincoln School building for use as a day care center. An open forum was scheduled with residents living near the building to get their thoughts on the proposal. The Union County Educational Services Commission, which leases the school as a high school for special needs students, also expressed interest in buying the building.

Mayor Jardim removed Councilwoman Vernick as Chairwoman of the council's Transportation, Parking and Traffic Committee. Mrs. Vernick accused the Mayor of removing her as way to get revenge for her role in defeating the liquor ordinance. The Mayor, though, cited the councilwoman's leadership qualities for his action, which he questioned, as the main reason for her removal as committee Chairwoman.

Michael J. Lapolla was named the new Union County Manager, replacing Ann M. Baran, who announced her resignation earlier in the month to take a leadership position with the newly-created Gateway Center for Development at Kean University of New Jersey.

Mr. Lapolla, a former Freeholder Chairman in the 1980s, was previously Assistant Prosecutor for the county.

June

The Planning Board granted a subdivision to develop Clarence Street, a paper street. The application was based on combining a single lot with property owned by the town, to create four lots where four Colonial-style homes would be built.

The end of an era was marked with the closing of Westfield Drugs & Surgical on East Broad and Elm Streets. Co-owners Steven Baer and Herbert Fleishman had operated the store for 18 years. The storefront had been a drug store since around the turn-of-the-century.

Deputy Police Chief Owen M. McCabe and Officer Charles A. Haller announced their retirements from the Westfield Police Department after a combined 58 years.

Robert W. Brennan announced his retirement after 31 years as Tax Assessor of Westfield, Kenilworth and Garwood. Annmarie Switzer succeeded him.

A 16-year-old was charged with aggravated assault and possession of a weapon for unlawful purposes in connection with allegedly firing a semiautomatic, air-propelled paintball handgun at a Westfield police officer.

The purchase agreement for the sale of the Rialto Theatre from United Artists to CJM Entertainment in Cedar Grove was closed, thus saving the 75-year-old landmark following a great deal of community pressure.

Mr. Sepe withdrew as the Republican candidate for the Fourth Ward seat on the council. The Republicans eventually selected Janis Fried Weinstein, who lost her bid for a council seat the previous November, to fill the vacancy on the GOP ticket.

The council decided against continuing discussions on the school district's administration building and the Lincoln School building. The council had discussed the possibility of turning the Elm Street building into a community center, with the district's offices moving over to Lincoln. Their interest faded, however, when it was revealed Lincoln would need an additional 12,000 square feet to house maintenance facilities and computer operations for the district.

The following week Superintendent of Schools, Dr. William J. Foley, recommended that the district keep its administrative offices at the Elm Street building. The cost of renovating the Elm building was placed at \$774,000, compared to the \$4.4 million to move to Lincoln, including construction of a new maintenance facility.

Patrick Gaines was named the new Executive Director of the Westfield Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Gaines was previously the Administrative Director of the Des Moines Metro Opera in Iowa and was second horn with the Omaha Symphony Orchestra and the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra in Nebraska.

The council decided to approve the vacating of the right-of-way on Clarence Street, an undeveloped street between Scotch Plains Avenue and Lamberts Mill Road, thus paving the way for development of four Colonial-style homes on a seven-acre parcel. The Villane family plans to develop the other side of the street, which has been on town maps for some 30 years.

The school district announced the retirement of Samuel H. Hazell, Principal of Edison Intermediate School; Edward J. Braynock, Principal of McKinley Elementary School, and Kelley Kissiah, Director of Intermediate Education and former Principal at Jefferson Elementary School.

The Freeholder board took action to remove county accounts from First Union Bank due to the depository's fingerprinting policy for non-account holders.

Mayor Connelly Considers Running For Congress

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

level," explained Mrs. Connelly, who has lived in Fanwood for 18 years.

Prior to becoming Mayor, which is a four-year term in Fanwood, Mrs. Connelly was the Borough Council President and Police Commissioner for eight years. She also served as Acting Mayor. Mrs. Connelly is a member of the Fanwood Planning Board, and also guided the formation of the Fanwood Historic Preservation Commission.

She holds a bachelor's degree from the College of St. Elizabeth in Convent Station and a master's degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Employed by AT&T for the past 28 years, Mayor Connelly is currently a human resources executive with the company.

She also ran her own consulting business dealing with profit and loss for the firm, and said her corporate career has given her the opportunity to work with people from all over the world.

The Mayor conceded that to run against an incumbent in the heavily Republican District would be challenging, "but I won't be here in Fanwood, and I think I have to prove myself to voters."

WESTFIELD POLICE BLOTTER

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

- A Westfield woman reported to police that someone had used her credit card number without proper authorization.
- A man reported that someone left deep scratches on the driver's side and passenger's side doors of his vehicle while it was parked on Elm Street.

- A Resident of Michael Drive reported that two wooden figurines of the television characters "Bart and Homer Simpson" were removed from his front lawn.

- Two residents of Sinclair Place, who live next door to one another, reported the theft of United Postal Service and Priority Mail packages from outside the front entrances of their homes.

The packages were later recovered in Fanwood minus the merchandise, according to police.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

- The theft of 17 checks was reported from a Westfield residence, authorities

said.

- Police reported that a Central Avenue business was burglarized by a male suspect who was seen on the roof of the establishment but managed to flee.

The suspect was described as a male in his 20s, between 5 feet 10 inches and six feet tall, with a dark complexion, slender build, and wearing a black ski cap.

Several radios which had been stolen from the business were found at the rear of the building where the suspect had fled, according to police.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

- Police reported that a Park Street resident received harassing telephone calls.

- Brian Rooney, 18, of Fanwood and a 17-year-old juvenile were arrested and charged with possession of under 50 grams of marijuana on New England Drive near Lamberts Mill Road, according to police.

Bail for Rooney was set at \$500, while the juvenile was turned over to a guardian, authorities said.

WESTFIELD FIRE BLOTTER

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22

- Twelve hundred block of Boulevard - unintentional alarm.

- Five hundred block of Clifton Street - carbon monoxide detector activation.
- Four hundred block of Poe Avenue - system malfunction.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

- Three hundred block of Clark Street - unintentional alarm.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

- Two hundred block of East Dudley Avenue - automobile accident.
- Five hundred block of Carleton Road - unintentional alarm.

- Five hundred block of Hillcrest Avenue - system malfunction.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

- Six hundred block of Central Av-

enue - assist police.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

- Six hundred block of Carleton Road - unintentional alarm.

- SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

- Five hundred block of Parkway Av-

enue - carbon monoxide detector activation.

- Two hundred block of Springfield Avenue - unintentional alarm.

- One hundred block of Sunnywood Drive - good intent call.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

- One hundred block of Hawthorne Drive - smoke scare.

- Eleven hundred block of Boulevard - smoke scare.

- Two hundred block of Springfield Avenue - smoke scare.



ADVOCACY ADDRESSED... Westfield residents Stuart and Beverly Awbery, right, join Patricia Lombreglia, Board President of the Northern New Jersey Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, based in Parsippany, at the chapter's annual meeting, held recently at GPU Service, Inc., in Parsippany. The chapter offers programs and services for people affected by Alzheimer's disease, who reside in Union, Bergen, Passaic, Hudson, Essex, Morris, Warren, Sussex, Hunterdon, Somerset and Middlesex Counties. For additional information on chapter services and resources, please contact the chapter at 299 Cherry Hill Road, Parsippany, 07054, or call (973) 316-6676.

FAA Considers Revamping Flight Map for East Coast

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

turned consultant who helped design the Expanded East Coast Plan routes, has been hired by New Jersey Citizens for Environmental Research, a group which received funding to proceed with ocean routing plan.

Mr. Bales said that since the new routes will have planes flying shorter distances before gaining altitude, more residents will be impacted by increased noise.

Noting that up until now there has not been sufficient facts put on the table to review ocean routing, Mr. Bales noted that NJCAAN would attend the meeting with the Governor's policy and planning official, Liz Murray, at which time computer-generated data, including the impact on populated areas, will be shown. The data indicates flight paths in both animated and simulated form in five-minute intervals, showing changes in altitudes.

The data, he said, will show exactly how the new routes will reduce air noise by giving airplanes room to climb in altitude before heading back over land.

NJCAAN has been unsuccessful in trying to obtain data of the new FAA routes so that similar information can be generated to compare the FAA plan against that of the ocean routing plan.

FAA officials have consistently rejected ocean routing, saying the plan will force airplanes to fly greater distances, thus costing airlines more money by burning more fuel.

The FAA indicated a few weeks ago that it still intends to implement the 260-degree route, which will send several hundred jets over Clark, Dunellen, Edison, Green Brook, Linden Middlesex, Piscataway, Rahway, South Plainfield, and parts of Woodbridge. The new routing will result in the shifting of 25 percent of Newark Airport's departing flights.

Mr. Feder has said the change from the previous 220-degree heading, where airplanes climbed over industrial areas and the Arthur Kill before reaching an altitude of 3,500 feet before flying over residential areas, to the 260-heading will result in air-

planes flying 1,000 feet lower when traveling over populated areas. This, he noted, will significantly increase noise levels in populated areas.

The FAA has said the new revised flight paths included in the revamping of the decade-old flight map, would take advantage of new satellite technology that was not available when the current map was drawn.

Tom Bosco, the Port Authority's Liaison to the FAA, told reporters at Monday's press conference that the Expanded East Coast Plan was designed when the three major metropolitan airports were handling 800,000 flights, the least of which were from Newark.

That number has risen to an estimated 1,169,000 flights in 1997. Newark now has the most traffic — over 100,000 more than LaGuardia.

After hearing the new proposal for rerouting, Pamela Barsam-Brown of Scotch Plains, Executive Director of the 5,000-member NJCAAN, said the plan is great for a long-range solution but that the FAA needs to address the increased air noise in the meantime.

Under ocean routing, departing Newark flights would fly towards the Arthur Kill and out over the Raritan Bay to the Atlantic Ocean east of Monmouth County before proceeding south or west and back over land.

Mr. Bales said the ocean routing could be implemented in about a year if the FAA decides to go in that direction.

"I definitely feel that ocean routing will provide relief to the greatest number of people. But I don't think that will happen overnight," he said.

Monday's conference was arranged by Senator Torricelli. Meanwhile, legislators including State Senate President Donald T. DiFrancesco of Scotch Plains and Assemblymen Richard H. Bagger of Westfield and Alan M. Augustine of Scotch Plains have all written the Governor, asking her to pressure the Port Authority to actively oppose the new 260-turn for airplanes.



CRIME SPREE ENDS...Law enforcement officers display a cache of money, valuables and weapons recovered following the May 27 arrest of Kenilworth resident Stephen Sarnowski in Scotch Plains on charges of burglary and theft. The suspect is believed to have committed more than 50 burglaries in several area communities over a six-month period, including five in the township. Pictured, left to right, are: Detective John Rowe of the Westfield Police Department, Investigator Donnell Joyce of the Scotch Plains Police Department, Scotch Plains Police Chief Thomas O'Brien, and Officer Arthur Bruschetti of Scotch Plains, who made the arrest.

William A. Burke for The Times