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BELLEVILLE'S BEST-SELLING WEEKLY

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2008

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Vol. 99 No. 5

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FREE TURKEYS AND MORE

Jay Bouker, left, and Jim Risoli of the Belleville Politic and Social Club set up a few baskets, which the organization is giving away to needy families this holiday season.

Required preschool could bring a district crunch

BY RICHARD DICKON
of Belleville Times

Mandated preschool is coming to Belleville, according to Interim Superintendent of Schools Melindo Persi.

The state has said Belleville must have a program for the 2009-10 school year, Persi said.

"Pre-school has been mandated by the governor [Jon Corzine]," he said.

The programs will be available to youngsters ages 3 and 4, Persi said.

"We have to look at at-risk students," he said. "We need to offer pre-school to 33 percent of that population for the coming year."

Persi said that would come out to approximately 42 children next

year. They would be split into three classes, and the school day would be six hours long.

How the district will be able to pull this off under existing and anticipated budgeting and spending restraints is the big question, he said.

"We're looking at our options," Persi said. One option is to out-source the classes to another place. The district could also look to house the classes within the existing buildings, and may consider modular classrooms as at least a temporary plan, he said.

"With the economy the way it is, I don't know if we will get the aid that we would need as an increase to do it," Persi said.

A new state law requiring all-day preschool for economically

"With the economy the way it is, I don't know if we will get the aid that we would need as an increase to do it"

Melindo Persi
Interim Superintendent of Schools

disadvantaged children has the Belleville district, like neighboring Bloomfield, scrambling to find enough classrooms and teachers, officials said.

While all-day preschool and kindergarten is a great leap forward, how the state will pay for this is still in question, according

to area officials. Officials have said many times that there needs to be the proper funding to back up mandated programs.

The requirement for pre-school next year comes on the heels of Belleville instituting all-day kindergarten for the first time this fall in all elementary schools. The move came after the district received more than \$4 million in additional aid to fund the program.

Officials have similarly said they are concerned about whether that funding will be coming again next year for the new kindergarten program, and are even more concerned now that the economy has suffered a drastic downturn in recent months.

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Nov. 21

■ A resident in the 100 block of Stephens Street reported at 10:49 p.m. that their dog had been stolen. The victim stated that a family member may have stolen the pet. Police are investigating.

■ A burglary and theft were reported to a Hyundai in the 90

block of Liberty Avenue at 7:06 a.m. The victim said the driver of a silver 2008 BMW broke the victim's car's side window and stole a global positioning system (GPS) unit, and then headed west on Liberty Avenue. Police have no suspects and the investigation is continuing.

■ A burglary and theft were reported to a Honda Accord in the 60 block of DeWitt Avenue at 7:35 a.m. The victim said the driver's side window had been smashed and a global positioning system (GPS) unit was reported stolen. Police have no suspects and the investigation is continuing.

Nov. 20

■ A theft was reported from a customer at the Safe and Secure Storage facility, 25 Main St., at 11:01 a.m. The victim said they entered the building, placed a fitness bag on the counter and left it unattended for 30 seconds, only to come back and find it gone. Police have no suspects and the investigation is continuing.

■ The victim of the theft of a Jeep Wagon on Nov. 1 had the vehicle recovered and picked it up at a storage yard, only to find that their Fraternal Order of Police shield was missing on Nov. 20. Police are investigating.

Nov. 19

■ Police arrested and charged Andres Riosreyes, 33 of Newark of

shoplifting at 2:20 p.m. He was found by store security to have tried to conceal \$132 worth of merchandise on his person, police said. He had an outstanding warrant totaling \$500 from Newark. Bail was set at \$500.

■ A burglary and theft was reported from the Disabled American Veterans building under construction at 612 Main Street at 2:30 p.m. A spokesman for the DAV said several workers left on Nov. 18 and returned on Nov. 19 to find that two drills and a hand saw were among several hand tools reported missing. Police have no suspects and the investigation is continuing.

■ A burglary and theft were reported to a residence in the 310 block of Branch Brook Drive at 7:23 p.m. The victim said they left at 8:15 a.m. and returned at 4 p.m. to find a laptop computer missing. There were no signs of forced entry. Police have no suspects and the investigation is continuing.

■ A burglary and theft were reported to a home in the 20 block

of Carmer Avenue at 6:38 p.m. Reported stolen were \$1,700 in cash, a Playstation game system with several games, and an Ipod music player. Police have no suspects and the investigation is continuing.

Nov. 18

■ A theft was reported from a vehicle at 12:39 p.m. The victim said their Land Rover vehicle was parked in the 30 block of Stephens Street when they found the windshield wiper assembly had been removed. Police have no suspects and the investigation is continuing.

Editor's note: Police news is compiled by the Sun from information provided by the police department. The information is released to the press at the discretion of the department and may not represent the total scope of police activity. Accounts that indicate charges pending against an individual do not imply guilt or innocence.

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It's logical to think that overexertion and extreme physical activity are factors that take a heavy toll on the spine and the rest of the body. And it's true that an active lifestyle will produce wear and tear. But inactivity, especially in children, can also be ultimately damaging to the musculoskeletal system.

As youngsters spend more and more time with television and computer games, and less time playing outside, they are setting themselves up for future problems. For one thing, child obesity is growing at an alarming rate. A sedentary lifestyle leaves children with under-used muscles and bones. When those muscles and bones - and that includes the spine - are subject to unusual exertion, like slinging on an overloaded school backpack, there's a good chance for injury.

Encourage your children to get involved in an activity that gets them up and moving at least a few hours each week. If they spend time in front of a computer, make sure they're set up properly. Talk to Dr. Pontoriero about ways to keep yourself healthy and ways to insure your children's future health.

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Cheerleaders rally to raise thousands

BY RICHARD DICKON
of Belleville Times

The fortunes of the Belleville High School football team have improved overall in recent years, and the coach of the high school cheerleading squad shared the success of those student/athletes at a recent Board of Education meeting.

Jen Caputo has coached the cheerleading squad for the past two years, and she told the school board, school administrators and a small audience at the Nov. 17

Board of Education about an annual event in which the squad has participated the past two falls. The event is both a showcase for the improving cheerleaders and a fundraiser for a worthy cause, Caputo said.

She said this is the second year that the squad has participated in the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer event. The event features all of the high schools that participate in Belleville's league, the NJSIAA, Caputo said.

"There is a \$100 entrance fee, plus all of the proceeds from sales

of different items, like videos, goes to the breast cancer organization," Caputo said.

Last year, the goal was to raise \$3,000, she said. "Our total ended up being more than \$3,200," Caputo said.

This year, the goal was \$5,000, and Caputo said, "I believe we will again raised more than that."

The cheerleading squad's performance showed improvement from last year to this year, she said.

Last year, the squad placed fifth out of 10. This year, it was third out of 15, Caputo said.

School Board President Joseph Longo started the conversation about the cheerleaders when he noticed Caputo seated in the audience.

Longo said, "I want people to know that you're not just a coach. There's a lot of little things you do for the squad."

As for the Susan G. Komen organization, the Web site states, "More than 25 million people have been diagnosed and 10 million could die in the next 25 years without the cures. Together, we can change this."

"Susan G. Komen for the Cure is working daily in countries around the world to empower people with life-saving information and to raise funds for the global breast cancer fight. Through initiatives, events and innovative programs, we're helping people in areas where breast cancer deaths are high and treatments are not readily available."

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GIFTED PROGRAM

Easing fears regarding changes

BY RICHARD DICKON
of Belleville Times

There was some controversy when the Belleville school district, under a state mandate, began including all students in the Elementary Gifted and Talented Program.

Some parents questioned if their children would be pulled out of necessary core curriculum classes, while parents of the students pulled out specifically for G & T felt their children might be short-changed by the move.

The three coordinators of the program presented a detailed PowerPoint computer presentation at the Nov. 17 Board of Education meeting, and tried to ease fears of one parent that their child's participation was unnecessary and might keep them from their regular studies.

Charlene DelGrande, Jacqueline Boscaino and Debra Farrand took turns going over in great specificity what the program offers to the general student population as well as those students pulled out after qualifying for the G & T program.

DelGrande said the newer program is based on the Schoolwide Enrichment Model adopted in 2006.

"One of the more influential theorists in gifted education today is Joseph Renzulli," DelGrande said. "This model is a reflection of his research."

She said it was important for parents and residents to understand that this model is in compliance with the state Department of Education, as well as the national and New Jersey associations for G&T, "and held to the highest standard of excellence."

She said the state law states that "the identification process and appropriate educational challenges must begin kindergarten or upon entrance to the school or district."

As for the SEM, it ensures that all students have an opportunity to be identified as gifted and receive enriched experiences in their area of talent. That includes English as a second language, basic skills, and special education students, while providing gifted students with an

SEE GIFTED, PAGE 7



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAEL CHIEFFO

DISPLAY, TOY DRIVE

Michael Chieffo, with the sledgehammer, is joined by Jon Servidio, Ferando Serrano, Mike Dowd, Ralph Tunis and Joe Mauriello, preparing Christmas displays for his house at 269 New St. The annual event includes a Santa visit from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13. There is also a toy drive, which this year will also benefit the family of fallen Belleville police officer Kenneth Santucci.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

District audit features zero recommendations

BY RICHARD DICKON
of Belleville Times

Interim Superintendent of Schools Melindo Persi touched on a number of issues as he spoke to the public at the most recent Board of Education meeting on Nov. 17.

Persi said he was proud of Business Administrator Edward Appleton's efforts in running the district's finances, pointing to the yearly audit report conducted by an outside auditor. "There were zero audit recommendations," he said, adding that it was a positive reflection on the job Appleton is doing.

Domicile success

The interim superintendent

spoke said the district's two domicile investigators are doing an outstanding job detecting and removing students illegally attending Belleville schools while not having a legal residence in town.

He said the registration system also keeps out non-residing students. Additionally, a "\$50 bounty" is available to any resident who reports what an allegedly illegal student, and an investigation bears out the claim.

Gold Cards

A program to allow "Gold Card" passes for senior citizens has proven popular, he said. So far, 56 have been doled out, and there is a request for at least another 35 passes, Persi said.

The interim superintendent

designed the program to offer senior citizens free access to any sports or entertainment events performed by the schools, subject to the availability of seating at the events, like plays, concerts and football games.

Early drop offs

The interim superintendent has been visiting district elementary schools in the minutes before the bell rings to start the day in the morning.

"I've been getting good input," Persi said. "We do have a problem with some students being dropped off before 8 a.m. Students should arrive no earlier than 8:15, not 7:45 or 8. We take no responsibility for students left before 8:15 a.m."

Litter problem

He has met with student leaders at the Belleville High School to discuss the problem of garbage being left in the hallways.

"The students are aware of the problem, and said they want to put up posters [to tell other students not to litter the hallways]," Persi said.

Reverse 911

With a new phone system up and running for the schools and working much better than the outdated system it replaced, Persi said the reverse 911 system that will alert parents to things like snow school closings, will be up and running by the end of the month.

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From Oct. 15 to Nov. 16, Atlantic City's casino workers did not have to breathe cigarette smoke. For a few short weeks, the casinos joined bars, restaurants, hospitals, schools, waiting areas, stores, race tracks, theaters and malls – and all the other public spaces included in New Jersey's statewide ban on smoking. The point of the ban is to clear the air and protect citizens from the well-known hazards of second-hand smoke.

The Atlantic City Council stood up to the casino industry last year when it voted to approve the ban on all gambling floors. That was the right decision.

But the casino industry did not give up. Casino owners argued that gamblers, deprived of their cigarettes, would take their money to states like Connecticut or Pennsylvania, where smoking is allowed. With the bad economy already keeping people away, they said their casinos would suffer an even greater loss.

The council caved last month and voted to repeal the

ban for at least a year, until the economy sorts itself out. So now smoking is allowed once again on 25 percent of the gambling floor.

Any percent is too much. We urge the council to reinstitute the smoking ban as soon as possible.

Second-hand smoke is two things: the smoke produced by a burning cigarette and the smoke exhaled by a smoker. Cigarette smoke contains a lot of chemicals, including the carcinogens benzene, cadmium and vinyl chloride.

According to the National Cancer Institute, approximately 3,000 non-smokers die each year from lung cancer contracted from second-hand smoke. It may also increase the risk of breast cancer, nasal sinus cavity cancer and nasopharyngeal cancer. And second-hand smoke causes approximately 46,000 deaths a year from heart disease.

"We're tired of having the almighty dollar voted over our health," Alfred Welenc, a dealer for 22 years who works at the Tropicana Atlantic City Casino and Resort, told The Record this week.

The casinos argue that in states with smoking bans, revenues drop. Lower gambling revenues translate into lower tax revenues, which pay for programs for senior citizens and people with disabilities. Lower casino revenues could also lead to industry layoffs, which have already started.

We understand the casinos are in business to make money. We understand that they are hurting economically. And we understand that losing customers is nobody's idea of a smart strategy.

We do not want more layoffs. Neither do we want to deprive senior citizens or people with disabilities of any funds.

But we cannot condone knowingly putting employees in harm's way – and making them weigh the risk of getting cancer or heart disease against the need to make a living.

– The Record

Area concerts

The Duprees will present a holiday show at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, at the South Orange Performing Arts Center.

They have made a career out of giving new life to old hits. If you take the Glenn Miller arrangements of the 1940s along with the tunes of Joni James, Frank Sinatra, Jo Stafford and Nat King Cole, and put them together, you have the sound of The Duprees.

The group was founded in the early 1960s in Jersey City. Their first single "You Belong to Me" had previously been a hit for Jo Stafford in 1952. It was a hit in 1962. "My Own True Love" became their second hit.

The Duprees currently consists of Tommy Petillo, Jimmy Spinelli, Phil Granito and Tony Testa.

Tickets are \$53 and \$48. For more information, call 973-313-2787 or visit sopacnow.org.

Diane Moser's Composers Big Band welcomes John Mills from 8 to 11 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17, at the Trumpets Jazz Club and Restaurant, 6 Depot Square in Montclair.

Mills is a saxophonist, composer and arranger based in the musical hotbed of Austin, Texas. A stalwart of that city's diverse recording scene, he is also a core composer and woodwind performer in the Texas experimental jazz aggregation, Tina Marsh and the CO2.

He has performed as a soloist in concert with jazz artists Carla Bley, Steve Swallow, Maria Schneider and Kenny Wheeler, backed Bonnie Raitt, Dr. John, Ray Charles and Aretha Franklin on festival stages.

The cost is a \$10 cover with a \$5 minimum purchase. For more information, call 973-744-2600 or visit www.trumpetsjazz.com.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BELLEVILLE SCHOOL 3

NEW STAFF SHIRTS

Gabriel Nazzola, front left center, acting principal of School 3, takes a Bee break with some of his staff, as they introduce their new staff T-shirts, on their monthly School Three Day wearing of the shirts. Students also take a Bee break on the third day of each month. The Bee is the school's mascot. The T-shirts were supplied by the school's Home and School Association.

Letters to the Editor policy

Letters may be edited and may be published, reproduced, or distributed in print, electronic, or other forms. The views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are not necessarily those of *Belleville Times* or its affiliates. Submissions should be typed and double-spaced, and include a daytime phone number for verification. Letters that cannot be verified or are anonymous will not be published. Not all letters will necessarily be published. Please e-mail letters to the editor to bellevilletimes@northjersey.com or mail letters to Belleville Times, 90 Centre St., Nutley, N.J. 07110 or fax letters to 973-667-3904.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIN RUDNICKI

PROTECTED

Second-grader LuisAngel Matos tries on an outfit during the Belleville Fire Department's recent visit to School 5.

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Strategic Planning meeting on Monday

The Belleville Board of Education is holding an orientation session concerning the District Strategic Planning Process at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1, in the Belleville High School auditorium.

The purpose is for the community stakeholders - parents staff

members, civic leaders, elected officials, senior citizens and residents - to become familiar with the process and to volunteer to become committee members. The committees will develop a plan for the school district for years to come.

"Strategic Planning is a school

community engagement process that helps all constituencies focus on a common mission and vision for their school system," Facilitator Dan Stelluto said. "It identifies strategies and actions that motivate and inspire all to work together to make the vision happen."

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EDUCATION

Middle school principal outlines five programs

BY RICHARD DICKON
of Belleville Times

Officials have plans to help discipline middle school students that need extra behavior modification and all students who need academic assistance.

Middle School Principal Carmine Guinta outlined a series of five separate programs all aimed at helping students' academic achievements or improving behaviors of students.

At the Oct. 20 public Board of Education meeting, Guinta said he was proposing the five programs to each run from approximately Nov. 10 through May 29, with teachers paid \$31 per hour to serve students.

Two of the programs involve extra discipline for those students who may need it, he said.

First, there is central detention four days a week, from 3 to 4 p.m.

"Central detention is needed because teacher intervention has been unsuccessful," Guinta said. "It is very important."

The cost would be \$3,224 for the year, he said.

The second disciplinary program is Saturday detention, from 9 to 11 a.m. This program would serve about four students per week, and would cost \$1,600 for the year.

The first of the three academic programs would offer assistance to between 24 and 32 students at different times during the year, Guinta said. It would require three teachers for Mondays and Wednesdays, he said.

"We might have 10 students that

come all year, and the rest will rotate," Guinta said. "It keeps students from getting in academic trouble. It will allow them to come to school more academically prepared."

The second academic program is called Compass Learning, a computer-based learning tool that can serve between eight and 12 students two days a week.

"It's a Web program with very animated graphics," Guinta said. "You can't advance to the next level until you can perform at a proficiency level. The goal is to get to the proficiency level equal to your grade."

Finally, there is English as a second language from 3 to 4 p.m. Guinta said the teacher involved "has proven to be very effective. She has been able to put many students in place where they perform very well. The goal is for them to be proficient by the time they get to the high school."

Officials pointed out that programs are fully funded by the federal government and have helped the middle school meet academic standards for two years in a row.

School Board Administrator Edward Appleton said the money for all of the programs is supported by the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) programs under Titles 1, 2 and 3.

Board member Carmen Bucco said, "It should be said that the middle school has not had a major problem meeting AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress, the criteria for passing NCLB), in part because of these programs."

Guinta said that these programs, along with other supplemental services, have assisted economically disadvantaged students and so-called "latch-key kids" who parents may be absent in the afternoon by providing the equivalent of parental support.

"This has been very important in achieving AYP goals for the past two years," he said.

School Board President Joseph Longo asked Guinta to explain how the ESL program works so residents who may not understand the need for, and the value of the program can better understand.

Guinta said, "Second language skills come in time. We have the ability to take the student's native language and work with them until they're completely assimilated into the English Language arts. The teacher determines the student's skill level, and teaches lessons appropriate to that level. Eventually, they become proficient speakers of English."

Board member William Villano said he has learned that someone can speak English as a second language, but the learning skills for two languages are different.

Guinta said that among ESL students there is "a very, very large Hispanic population, but there are always one or two other languages spoken."

Villano said that with Compass Learning, while the program is Web-based, a teacher still must review a student's progress, and give permission for them to move to the next level.



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enhanced educational model, DelGrande.

The model provides benefits for students, teachers and parents, promotes the importance of teamwork, along with sharing resources, expertise and facilities that enhance the program, she said.

DelGrande said that numbers provided regarding participation at each elementary school should not be made public, because the numbers change too much as students move in and out of the district and are therefore not accurate.

The SEM is being used in neighboring districts, including Glen Ridge and Bloomfield, among dis-

tricts in Bergen County, Little Falls in Passaic County and Denville in Morris County.

"The condition of separateness" that exists between G&T students and regular education students is greatly reduced by the inclusion method used, and it has been found that students involved in SEM "were positively accepted by their peers and that the negative view of elitism did not exist," DelGrande said.

The four-year series of goals for the program began in 2006 and continues until 2010, starting with "infusing gifted lessons in grade four as well as servicing a 'pull out cluster' for grade four in the first year. In year two, that expands to grade five, while in year three it includes grades four through six. Finally, in the 2009-2010 school

year, inclusion G&T lessons will be offered for K-3, DelGrande said.

Boscaino and Farrand then talked about the 15 inclusion lessons being taught, such as "Inventors, Inventions an You!" and "The Scientific Method Exploration: Science Fair," where students start and finish a science fair project and the projects are displayed at the fair.

Fifth graders are involved in the "Shakespeare and the Elizabethan Times" lesson, where the play "Romeo and Juliet" plays a major part.

Boscaino said fifth graders also perform the "Structures: Architecture and Engineering" lesson which has proven very popular.

For sixth graders, there is the "NASA: Egg Drop," where students drop their homemade space

shuttle out the window to see if it protects its cargo of an eggs properly. "We tie it to everyday experiences," Boscaino said.

Then there is the pull out cluster, which DelGrande said is decided from multiple teacher recommendations, standardized test scores, grade point averages and the submission of a work portfolio, all part of a screening assessment.

Those students perform "an extension of the inclusion class projects," Boscaino said. For example, they would work on a project to demonstrate the strength of bridges in the architecture and engineering lesson.

The competitions and contests that include all students are made up of a National Geography Bee, the New Jersey Math League and the National Science League,

while for the pull out cluster there is the News Bowl and Current Events Challenge, both news based, and Wordbusters, which is analogy based.

"They are all designed for learning critical thinking skills," Farrand said.

In closing, DelGrande said the G&T department "believes that all children have gifts and talents. To that end, we strive to include all learners, not just a select few. 'Giftedness' can manifest itself in many different ways. Our philosophy makes sure that high achievers, special education students, and those just learning our language can awaken or discover the unique abilities they possess."

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Network seeks donations for Consumer Holiday Party

The Northwest Essex Community Healthcare Network is seeking donations for its annual Consumer Holiday Party, which will be held Tuesday, Dec. 23. To contribute, send checks payable to NECHN, 570 Belleville Ave., Belleville, NJ 07109. For more information, call Arlene Szulimowski at 973-744-7733, ext. 128.

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HERNIATED DISC?



Dr. Diego Ruiz, D.C.

For Lower back pain caused by overexertion, strain or sprain, medications and injections might offer relief. But for those suffering from chronic and more severe back pain, there has been little rescue – until now. Dr. Diego Ruiz, D.C., has recently introduced a revolutionary back pain treatment to Essex County. This is known as non-surgical Spinal Decompression.

The new Spinal Decompression procedure specializes in treating lower back pain caused by disc bulges and herniations, sciatica, stenosis, degenerative discs, arthritis and facet syndrome. The concept behind this new medical breakthrough was inspired by studying the effects of an anti-gravity environment on the human body during space travel.

The research showed that the anti-gravity environment helped relieve back pain and increased the height of the disc. This led to the development of this new technology, which now allows practitioners to recreate the effects of anti-gravity here on earth and rescue those with chronic back pain.

“For years, I’ve seen patients suffer despite multiple opinions and therapies. I’m thrilled to be able to alleviate my patient’s pain with this state-of-the-art treatment,” says Dr. Ruiz.

This non-surgical procedure is ideal for those with clinically unstable lower backs who have tried medication or have been scheduled for lengthy or alternative therapies with no success. In fact clinical studies have even shown spinal decompression is effective on patients who have already had surgery that failed.

“The procedure is non-surgical, drug and needle free and I’m excited to bring it to Belleville,” says Ruiz.

Shocking News About Surgery

The most common procedure for herniated discs thus far has been surgery. Yet a report in the New England Journal of Medicine states that “51 percent of all back surgery is unnecessary.”

According to the American Journal of Pain Management, “Decompression therapy has provided relief for

herniated intervertebral discs.”

Dr. Ruiz responds, “As a Chiropractic physician, I air on the side of skepticism, especially of anything with such profound miraculous achievement, but the majority of patients recover in a very short period of time with no documented side effects.”

Medical Breakthrough

The U.S. Public Health Service reports that the number one reason for visiting a neurologist or an orthopedist is back pain. Back Pain is the number two reason for hospitalization, second only to childbirth.

We currently spend 25 percent of our annual health care budget on lower back pain, yet it remains at epidemic proportions.

With 30 million people in pain, many struggle to find a reliable treatment and few hold hope for a permanent cure.

This is an astounding breakthrough for those who have been to numerous doctors, have tried a variety of treatment, have been told to live with it or those who were scheduled for lengthy therapy protocols or surgery. And it is affordable for all.

How it Works

Non-surgical spinal decompression creates negative pressure inside the disc, which draws in any bulging or herniated disc material, like suction. This stimulates the body to undergo a process known as “fibroblast activity” producing fresh new tissue cells. These new cells attach themselves to the torn fibers of the disc that cause its contents to bulge. In essence, it is like a bone healing so when complete, it is even stronger than before. This is truly more of a cure than a temporary remedy.



What Patients Say

“I couldn’t stand or sit for any period of time, as my leg would go numb. The pain would be so severe in my lower back then travel into my hip and buttock then go down my leg that I couldn’t work, play with or pick up my daughter.

“I was anxious and frustrated because nothing helped. After undergoing the non-surgical spinal decompression therapy at the Spinal Aid Center, I have been pain-free and back to full activities. I recommend the procedure to anyone with back pain – especially if you haven’t found help elsewhere.” Jackie Thomas.

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Free consultation for members of our community to identify possible candidates for the procedure. Simply call Dr. Ruiz at **973-751-4001**. And get the facts!



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THE GO GUIDE

Timeless holiday classic on stage

Bloomfield College has been presenting its Family Series on Saturday mornings at the Westminster Arts Center for the past two seasons. The company-in-residence that brings this series to life is Bloomfield's own Yates Musical Theatre: a family-run, professional equity theatre company that has existed for over 50 years.

Yates will perform "A Christmas Carol" on Friday, Dec. 12 at 7:30 p.m.

"The Arts Center staff wanted to make Yates' production of this timeless holiday classic a magical celebration," says Westminster Managing Director Gregory Allen. "By offering this show during 'normal' theatre-going hours, it allows more families the opportunity to enjoy it and yet still not be out all night."

"A Christmas Carol" is a musical adaptation of the tale of the



PHOTO COURTESY OF GREGORY ALLEN

Yates Musical Theatre performers are ready to try their hand at a time-honored holiday classic.

SEE CHRISTMAS CAROL, PAGE 11



ATLANTIC CITY

By Ellen Burke Rawls



0002477482-01

Cirque Dreams Holiday lights up Trump Plaza

The four-day Thanksgiving weekend has always been a popular time for a mini-vacation in Atlantic City. Aside from the enormous number of offerings of holiday feasts ranging from the casinos' gourmet rooms to sumptuous buffets, there are always special attractions booked for the weekend. Even for those who cleave to the traditional family gatherings at home for the Turkey Day, it's nice to get away from it all for the remaining three-day weekend. This weekend also presents a great opportunity to get a leg up on your Christmas shopping at the fantastic sales planned for the 100+ designer factory stores at The Walk, beginning Black Friday!

You'll find big-name headliners along the Boardwalk and Marina properties: Jay Leno makes one of his rare live appearances with two shows Saturday night at Caesars. Shows are 7:30 and 10 p.m. After 15 years as host of "The Tonight Show," Leno is winding down his contract with NBC, and returning to his roots of standup comedy. Prior to winning the host seat on "The Tonight Show," Leno appeared in hundreds of comedy shows around the US, and it is expected that his retirement from nightly TV will allow him the luxury of live shows. His astute commentary on politics, the economy and current events can be thought-provoking as well as hilarious. Widely recognized as an insatiable car collector and respected as a knowledgeable expert, he drove the pace car in the 1999 Indianapolis 500, and currently writes an automotive column for *Popular Mechanics* magazine. Tickets for Jay Leno are \$75, \$100 and \$125.

Trump Marina plays host to "Sir Thomas Woodward," or as the Welsh pop singer is better known, Tom Jones, who plays the Grand Cayman Friday at 9 p.m. and Saturday, at 8 p.m. Tom Jones has proven to be one of the most popular and enduring vocalists to arrive with the British Invasion of the early 1960s. Since then, Jones has sung nearly every form of popular music — pop, rock, show tunes, country, dance, and techno. His signature vocal style is a full-throated, robust baritone. He made a huge impact recording a number of film themes including "What's New Pussycat?" and "Thunderball." Some of Jones' other hits include "Delilah," and "She's A Lady." Although the ladies in his audiences no longer toss their lingerie and room keys on stage, his popularity has not diminished over the decades. In fact, continued recording successes and touring has served to regularly expand his legions of fans spanning the generations worldwide. Tickets are \$60.50, \$40.50 and \$25.50.

On Friday night Trump Plaza kicks off a brand

new holiday-themed edition of Cirque Dreams Holiday. The half-dozen or so previous editions of Cirque Dreams have been visual and musical treats for the entire family, and even New York Magazine has heralded Cirque Dreams shows "The grandest circus spectacle east of Vegas." In this latest holiday edition, over 40 holiday ornaments come to life in a musical extravaganza and are transformed into ingenious costumed characters. The international cast perform a giddy and inventive series of acrobatic, musical and dance productions. They fill the stage, air and a 20 foot tall magical tree with fantastical feats of pomp and circumstance. We're promised gingerbread men flipping through the air, snowmen magically coming to life, and reindeer taking flight overhead. "Cirque Dreams Holiday" lights up The Theater at Trump Plaza through Sunday, December 28. Shows are at 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays; 9 p.m. on Fridays; 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturdays; and 3 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets are \$35 and \$25.

Another wonderful harbinger of the holiday season is Friday night's concert by the Trans-Siberian Orchestra! One of the biggest arena attractions in rock music, the TSO is again on the road for its annual holiday tour, stopping over for a single show at AC's Boardwalk Hall.

The band's musical style is described in different terms, incorporating progressive rock, symphonic metal, and heavy metal, with influences from classical music. The group is based in New York City, but frequently tours worldwide, bringing their music to sometimes obscure areas, always creating a sensation with their fresh and unique approach to traditional Christmas music. Some of their best-known works include "Christmas Eve/Sarajevo 12/24" (a rendition of Carol of the Bells) and "Wizards in Winter," both of which are popular selections of radio DJs during the Christmas season. The band's CD releases, including the holiday-themed Christmas Eve & Other Stories, The Christmas Attic and The Lost Christmas Eve have sold more than 5 million units. Their DVD The Ghost of Christmas Eve has also achieved platinum status.

The current tour will span more than 90 cities coast-to-coast over a nine-week period. Since its first Winter Tour in 1996, TSO has been one of the concert businesses' most successful acts, consistently rating in the Top 10 for both gross revenues and audience attendance. Showtime at Boardwalk Hall is 8 p.m. Tickets for reserved seats are: \$20, \$40 and \$50.

Special Advertising Feature



CHRISTMAS CAROL

FROM PAGE 10

miserly Ebenezer Scrooge, who hates Christmas until ghosts take him on a journey into the past, the present and the future...into the lives of his poor office clerk, Bob Cratchit and the crippled, cheerful Tiny Tim. Yates Musical Theatre brings these unforgettable characters from the page to the stage, adds a melodious score and wraps it all up in a beautiful holiday pre-

sent of a production: a heart warming theatre experience intended to help put everyone in a holiday spirit.

Yates has previously captivated Westminster audiences with "Pinocchio," "Beauty and the Beast" and, most recently, "Aesop's Fables."

"The Yates Company, having done this for so many years, knows how to entertain and excite children," Allen said. "They know exactly what children like and keep their shows moving at a pace

that keeps children of all ages engaged in their stories."

All performances are held at the Robert V. Van Fossan Theatre, located on the corner of Franklin and Freemont streets. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children. To reserve tickets, call 973-748-9008, ext. 279 or purchase online at the Web site www.bloomfield.edu/westminster. The show has a 7:30 p.m. early start time and runs without intermission, ending before 9 p.m.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND CAROL SING

The Glen Ridge Choral Society is presenting a program of favorite Christmas selections in a candlelit setting on Sunday, Dec. 14 at 3 p.m. at Glen Ridge Congregational Church. Glen Ridge Congregational Church is located at 195 Ridgewood Ave., Glen Ridge. A free-will offering will be taken. For more information, call 973-743-5596.

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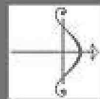
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ARRIVALS



Caitlyn Elizabeth Kramer

A third child, a daughter, Caitlyn Elizabeth, was born to Lauren, formerly of Nutley, and Michael Kramer, of State College Pa., on June 24, 2008, at Mount Nittany Medical Center, State College, Pa. She weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces, and was 21 inches long. She joins her sister Alyssa, 3, and her brother Dylan, 20 months.

Maternal grandparents are

Carol Olmsted, formerly of Nutley, of State College, Pa., and David Olmsted, formerly of Nutley, of Vero Beach, Fla. Paternal grandparents are Kathy and Jeff Flickinger, of Spring Grove, Pa., and Karla and Dennis Kramer of Salisbury, Md.

Godparents are Kristy Olmsted of State College, Pa., and Todd Kramer of York, Pa.



Anna Lucia Gingerelli

A daughter, Anna Lucia, was born 8:50 a.m. Oct. 26, 2008, at Augusta Medical Center, Fishersville, Va., to Charolette and Marc Gingerelli, of Raphine, Va. The birth weight was 6 pounds, 13 ounces, and she was 19 inches long.

Grandparents are Anne and Jerry Starace, of Montclair and Elizabeth and Robert Gingerelli of Nutley.

Great-grandparents are Tomie and R.V. Troxler of Salisbury, N.C., and Dorothy Orlando of Bloomfield.



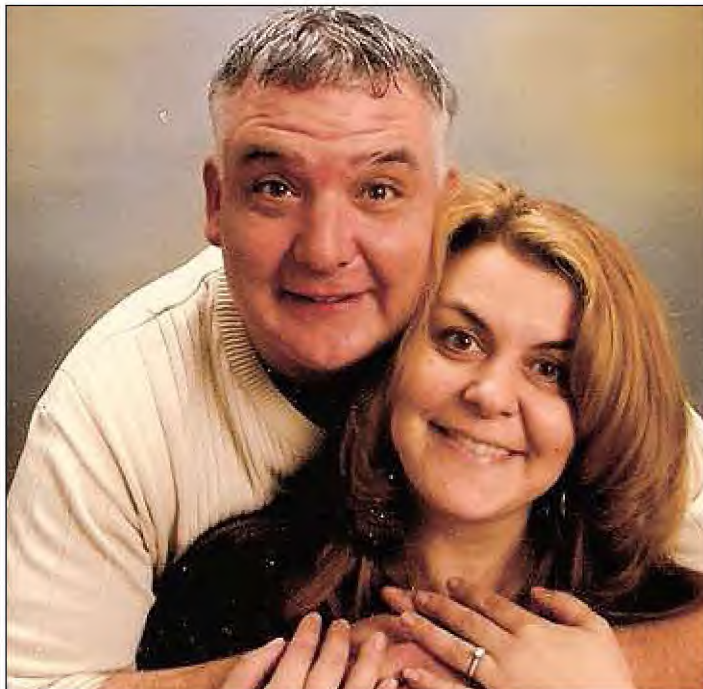
Max Oliver Fleischer

A child, a son, Max Oliver, was born to Gordana and Rich Fleischer, of Glen Ridge, on Nov. 11, 2008, 10:30 a.m. at St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston. He

weighed 6 pounds, 9 ounces, and was 20 inches long.

Grandparents are Sandy and Leonard Fort of Pennsylvania and Tereza Besednik of Croatia.

ENGAGEMENT



Maria Fano to marry Anthony Galeotafiore

Ms. Maria Rosalia Fano and Mr. Anthony Rocco Galeotafiore, 2008. A wedding is planned for both of Bloomfield, announced their engagement on Oct. 25, 2008. A wedding is planned for the fall of 2009.

Please send Birthday Club info to Debbie Tripoldi

Because of the large number of pictures sent in, the Birthday Club is only able to accept pictures of children who actually live in the four towns of Belleville, Bloomfield, Glen Ridge and Nutley. The popularity of the page has made this restriction necessary. Sorry, there can be no exceptions to this directive.

Info and pictures should be sent to Debbie Tripoldi, NJMG, 90 Centre St., Nutley, NJ 07110,

or dropped off at our office. Her phone number is 973 667-2100. Her email address is tripoldi@northjersey.com. Pictures will be accepted of children from one to 12 years. Sending the info to anyone else only delays things.

Announcements and pictures for "Arrivals" should be sent to tripoldi@northjersey.com. Her direct line is 973 667-2100. Same mailing address as above.

HOPING FOR A HOME



What a stunning mother and daughter team we have at the John A. Bukowski Shelter. Mid-night and her mom Deena are real beauties. They have been at the shelter for several months and are still waiting for a new home. You see, they lost their last one due to a fire. These girls are mirror images of one another and are gorgeous. They have soft, shiny black coats and greenish-gold eyes. What a combination. The girls have a tendency to be a little snobbish, but aren't all beauties a little stuck up? Deena and Mid-night just need a loving home, and we're sure they will be very grateful girls. Come and meet them at the John A. Bukowski Shelter for Animals, 61 Bukowski Place, Bloomfield - Phone: 973-748-0194.

HOPING FOR A HOME



Dolly was found as a stray in less than perfect shape. Apparently, some amateur tried (and failed) to crop her ears, giving them a very strange look - but this only adds to Dolly's charm. She was also very thin and disheveled-looking. After a few weeks at the shelter she is putting on weight and looks great. Dolly is as sweet as they come and she already knows how to sit on command. This girl even gives high-fives! Dolly is anywhere from 2 to 4 years old, and loves to go for long walks with the volunteers. Come and meet Dolly at the John A. Bukowski Shelter.

Shelter needs volunteers

The John A. Bukowski Shelter for Animals, Bloomfield is desperately in need of volunteers (18 years and older), particularly for the cats it shelters-especially cleaning and feeding on weekend mornings. Please call if you can help. Any amount of time is welcome. For more information call (973) 748-0194.

The community has its New Year's Party

E-mail is quicker

The deadline for press releases and photos submitted to the *Belleville Times* for upcoming community events is the Thursday before the publication date. For quicker results copy and photos can be e-mailed to bellevilletimes@northjersey.com.



LIFE IN SILVER LAKE
CHARLES BURKE

Well, now that New Year's is over, we can all cast a sigh of relief. We all slept late the next day, and boy did we have a ball. Ironically, it was the coldest night of the year, but we didn't let that hamper us.

Truffle Caterers made it look like a New Year's scene when we entered the room. The black and gold balloons were bouncing in the air, and the tables looked great with beautiful gold Christmas Trees adorning on them.

The guest list included the families of Miele, Constantino, Strumolo, Del Mauro, Carselda, Sanabria, DePanis, Molinaro, DelRusso, Conte, Minichini, Carlucci, Mangino, Cuzzo-Zarro, Lozaw, Veniero, Carnovale, Papa, DeMeo, LePond, Giangrande, Cianciulli, Marotti, Charles, Prezioso, Caggiano, Grant, Lopoma, Cappitelli, Caputo, Cesena, Ferruggia and Muccigrosso. There was also our men from Public Works, FMBA President Joe Pizzi and his men, Councilmen Notari and MacDonald, and Town

Attorney Tom Murphy.

What can we say about the buffet, other than it was delicious with Angelo Domenick as the chef.

This New Year's Party was in honor of the 2008 scholarship winners, James Grant and Giovanna Percio, who made us proud. The two made a small speech and told us of their future plans. Giovanna also helped out with the picture taking.

Of course, the highlight of the evening was the Angel Award. The winner was Raymond Veniero, who exemplifies the meaning of Angel. He is always there when you need him.

Sam Papa handled the ceremony and called upon the previous 13 Angels to join the newest Angel. The entertainment was great with Boomerang, who got everyone to their feet with their dancing shoes on.

And then the bewitching hour, "10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1....Happy New Year" rang in with Auld Lang Syne in the background, with everyone kissing and shaking hands on the New Year.

The horns, maracas, noisemakers, bubbles added to the festivities, and we can't wait until next year to celebrate New Year's again.

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Lynnes Nissan Is Getting America Rolling By Offering 25 Shares Of Nissan Stock, up to \$2,500 Over Book Value For Your Trade, And Free Tires For Life.

BLOOMFIELD, NJ – Lynnes Nissan has just announced an unprecedented plan that is sure to boost the economy and the automotive market. This opportunity is going on at both locations, Lynnes Nissan East located on 318 Bloomfield Avenue, in Bloomfield, and Lynnes Nissan West located at 59 Route 206, Stanhope.

Starting Friday, November 28th, 2008, Lynnes Nissan will be giving 25 shares of Nissan Motor Company stock, which trades on the NASDAQ stock market, to anyone who purchases a new or pre-owned vehicle!

Mr. Dominick Tozzo, owner of Lynnes Nissan, put this initiative in place because he firmly believes that rejuvenating the economy starts right here at home. "I want to boost the local economy first, which is the community that I belong to," Mr. Tozzo said. "And of course, I also want to contribute to the national economy and to the automotive industry that I've been a part of for so long. We really feel like this is a great solution that's able to touch on all three spheres of economic re-growth."

The Lynnes Automotive Family has over 55 years of family owned and

operated experience, which has enabled them to create this innovative stimulus package. As one of the nation's longest standing and most successful Nissan dealerships, Lynnes is committed to get you driving. In turn, Lynnes is passing on this benefit to their customers by giving them the opportunity to profit from 25 shares of stock while helping the economic stimulus effort. "We have never done anything like this before. We have never heard of another dealer doing anything like this. But now is the time to take creative measures to get this economy back on track," said Mr. Tozzo. "This is more than just a deal or a discount. It's an investment in the future," Mr. Tozzo said.

In addition to receiving 25 shares of Nissan Stock, customers will also get the following if they purchase a new or pre-owned vehicle from Lynnes Nissan on November 28th and November 29th: **Up to \$2,500 OVER BOOK VALUE for your trade-in; FREE TIRES FOR LIFE with the purchase of a new vehicle (excludes 350Z and GTR); and FREE LOANER VEHICLES during scheduled service visits with**



All Offers to qualified buyers. Offers cannot be combined. All offers expire 11/30/08

the purchase of a new vehicle!

Visit Lynnes located on 318 Bloomfield Avenue in Bloomfield starting Friday, November 28th and purchase a new Nissan for your 25 shares of Nissan Motor Company stock. This is the perfect opportunity to get involved by helping yourself while

helping the economy. **For more information about this sale at Lynnes Nissan/Subaru East please contact: 1-877-535-5227, or Lynnes Nissan West please Contact: 1-800-951-1966.**

W402675-02



THANKSGIVING DAY CLASSIC

Bucs, Raiders set for Thanksgiving



BY MIKE LAMBERTI
for Belleville Times

Belleville and Nutley will tee it up for the 68th time on Thanksgiving morning with a 10:30 a.m. kickoff from Doc Ellis Field.

It will be the first Belleville-Nutley game for Chris Strumolo as Belleville's head coach, but it certainly won't be new to Strumolo, who played in this rivalry as a Raider from 1989 to 1991.

During his days as a player, Strumolo was 2-1 against Belleville, with his team winning 6-0 in 1989 and 27-6 in 1991. Belleville won the middle game during that run, 21-6.

Strumolo was later an assistant coach at his alma mater for six years, so he's quite familiar with

the emotions attached to the rivalry. However, he is downplaying the significance of the game for him, preferring to place the emphasis on the current group of players.

"For me, I've been away from Nutley now for five years," Strumolo, who has led Belleville to a 4-5 record thus far, said. "I think it would be different if I had just left Nutley and came to Belleville, but it's been a while. (Strumolo was an assistant at Weequahic the past four years before coming to Belleville). I want our kids to enjoy the opportunity to play against their biggest rival. The kids who were here last year remember losing a tough game to Nutley (a 15-10 decision in the game's last seconds) and they're excited about the opportunity to get a win this

Thanksgiving."

Nutley leads the overall series, which began in 1924 and has been played continuously since 1944, 45-18-4. The Raiders have won 11 straight games in the series, with Belleville's last win coming in 1996, a 20-0 triumph at Doc Ellis Field. Nutley has dominated the series since it moved to Thanksgiving in 1984, holding a 19-3-2 advantage.

Strumolo knows what a victory will mean for his team, on a number of fronts.

First, it would assure Belleville a second straight 5-5 record, the first time since 1984 that the program can boast two seasons of .500, or better, records.

Second, it would be a tremendous send off for the Belleville

seniors and could be the start of a big season in 2009.

"It would be good for these kids to finish at .500 for a second straight year," Strumolo said. "I know it's something that would mean a great deal to them. We've had some excellent practices the past few days leading to this game and I like the way we've focussed on our assignments."

The Bucs have been led by junior Nick Herrmann, who has been exceptional all season long, both at quarterback, wide receiver and linebacker. Senior quarterback Chris Judge has been steady and running back Eddie Feliciano, a senior, had a good game in Belleville's last contest against Passaic Valley. James Colson is a talented wide receiver

Brian Antonio is the leader of a talented Belleville offensive line. Antonio is also a good defensive lineman while Anthony Silletti has been outstanding at linebacker. Dan Grosch has played well on the line.

Strumolo expects to see a well-prepared team in Nutley, which qualified for the NJSIAA, North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 playoffs this year. The Raiders (5-4) were eliminated by West Morris Central in the first round.

"They moved the ball pretty well against West Morris," Strumolo said of Nutley. "They have good size on the line and a very good quarterback and running back. Typical well coached, tough group of players in Nutley. We'll need a good effort to win."

Bucs hope to change history on Thanksgiving

BY MIKE LAMBERTI
for Belleville Times

(Second in a two-part series)

Through the 1988 season, Nutley held a 30-16-2 lead in its rivalry with Belleville, including a 4-1 mark since the series was moved to Thanksgiving in 1984. This week, we'll look back at the games from 1989 through 2007.

Heading into this year's game, Nutley leads the series with Belleville, 45-18-4.

1989: This game was actually postponed a few days after a freak snowstorm hit the area with nearly a foot of snow on Thanksgiving morning. The teams played on a bitterly cold day the Saturday after Thanksgiving and the Raiders, which had lost to Randolph in the playoffs the previous weekend, won a hard fought 6-0 game.

1990: Billy Salvatore gets Belleville on the board early and the Bucs never look back. Behind quarterback Art Caruso and running back Carmen Spina, Belleville wins impressively, 21-6.

1991: Raiders are back in the playoff hunt in '91 while Bucs are battling to finish above .500 when the teams met at the Oval on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Nutley breaks a close game open in the second half and wins, 27-6. One of Nutley's standout seniors that year was Chris Strumolo, who will complete his first year as

Belleville's head coach on Thursday. The '91 Raiders went on to the sectional final before it lost to West Morris Central.

1992: Perhaps the best game I've ever seen in my 40 years of watching this series. Nutley comes to town with a 7-1-1 mark while Belleville was 3-5. On paper, Nutley, which would play for and win the state championship 10 days later over Morris Knolls of Denville, was a clear favorite, but don't tell that to Buccaneer players like John Alvarado, Brian Harvey and Mike Citarella. In a true classic, the game finishes in a 7-7 tie as both teams miss field goal attempts in the final seconds of regulation time. Ray Kuebler scores Belleville's only touchdown. Nutley would defeat Morris Knolls, 39-6, to finish 8-1-2 in '92. Many will say that team was Nutley's best, ever, but I'd have to argue that the '88 team was equally as good.

1993: For the second straight year, the game ends in a tie as Nutley misses a close field goal in the final seconds of regulation. Anthony Caruso scores two touchdowns for Belleville, which rallies back from a 14-0 deficit to tie the game at 14.

1994: Raiders win a tough game at Belleville, 14-6.

1995: Nutley dominates at the Oval, 34-0.

1996: In John Senesky's final game as Belleville's head coach,

the Bucs win, 20-0 at Municipal Stadium. It's the last time Belleville has won a game in this series, heading into this year's game.

1997: Pat Dowling's first year as Belleville coach ends with a tough 21-14 overtime loss at the Oval.

1998: Raiders win impressively, 28-0, at a soggy Doc Ellis Field.

1999: Belleville, which hasn't won at the Oval since 1983, plays a solid first half but turnovers account for a 17-0 setback in Nutley.

2000: A well played game on a beautiful Thanksgiving morning ends with Nutley winning, 28-13.

2001: Bucs come close to snapping the Oval jinx, but Belleville can't convert on its conversions following touchdowns and lose, 14-12, to conclude Joe Troise's first year as the Bucs' head coach.

2002: One of the more lopsided games in this rivalry goes to Nutley, 41-6.

2003: Belleville holds a 9-6 lead in the second quarter of this game at the Oval, but Nutley storms back to win, 34-9.

2004: In Joe Fischer's first year as Belleville's head coach, Bucs are defeated, 28-0, at a soggy Doc Ellis Field.

2005: Raiders roll past Belleville, 44-9 to tie the biggest margin of victory in this series by a Nutley team. Belleville actually

BHS BOYS SOCCER

Addu, Mino, Fernandez garner NNJIL honors

BY MIKE LAMBERTI
for Belleville Times

The Belleville boys' soccer team had a successful 2008 season, finishing with a 10-10 record and a berth in the NJSIAA tournament.

"The kids played very well the entire season," Belleville coach Len Marino said. "We had a few tough losses, but overall, we battled and when we needed to get two wins to gain a spot in the state tournament, we got it done."

Belleville lost six games by a goal each, including tough losses to Clifton and Paramus Catholic. The Bucs were without junior captain David Silva for the entire season. Silva severely injured his knee in the pre season and underwent successful surgery that should have him back in the lineup in 2009.

"It was a tough procedure," Marino said. "He went through a five hour surgery, but he seems to be progressing well and he should be back next year."

Belleville entered the final week of the regular season with a 7-8 mark and needing two wins in its final three games to assure a state playoff berth. The Bucs got the job done with impressive wins in successive days over Newark Tech, 3-0 and Bergen Tech of Hackensack, 2-0.

"Those were tough games," Marino said. "We got some great goaltending from Julio (Felipe), excellent defense and some timely goals."

Belleville was eliminated in the state tourney by Montclair, 3-0.

"We fell behind early and against a team like that, it's tough to come back," Marino said. "Overall, we hung in there and played a good game."

Manny Addu led Belleville in scoring with 14 goals and six assists. The senior earned first team, all league, honors, as did seniors Juan Mino, a defender, and midfielder Dickson Fernandez.

Santiago Lopez, a junior midfielder and Juan Villashanay, a senior defenseman, were named second team, all league while Felipe, a sophomore and Giovanni Mino, also a sophomore, earned Honorable Mention.

Sophomore forward Brian Solano showed outstanding skills in scoring three goals. He should be a key member of next year's team, and beyond. Junior forwards Ibrahim Hayek and Diego Legelen also showed excellent potential and should help Belleville's offensive production in 2009.

Next week, we'll take a look at the J.V. and freshman teams.

SEE HISTORY, PAGE 15

HISTORY

FROM PAGE 14

holds the all time mark with a 37-point victory four decades ago.

2006: In a game played on the Monday evening after Thanksgiv-

ing, Nutley breaks open a close game and wins, 28-13.

2007: An outstanding game at the Oval goes to Nutley, 15-10, when the Raiders drive 82 yards in the final two minutes of the fourth quarter to erase a 10-8 Belleville lead.

Got news?

Submit your news items to the *Belleville Times*. For quicker results press releases and photos can be e-mailed to this address: bellevilletimes@northjersey.com. The deadline for press releases, photos and letters to the editor submitted to *Belleville Times* for publication is 1 p.m. Thursday before the following publication date. Typed material can be mailed or delivered to our office at 90 Centre St., Nutley, New Jersey 07110. Copy can also be faxed to the attention of the Times editor at 973-667-3904. Please include a name and telephone number with all submissions.

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BUSINESS Spotlight



Dr. John Cozzarelli
Chief Administrator

Essex Surgical Arts Surgery Center, LLC

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Dr. John Cozzarelli, Chief Administrator to Essex Surgical Arts Surgery Center, LLC is a graduate of Long Island University, Arnold Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy in Brooklyn, New York. After graduating in 1982 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy, Dr. Cozzarelli became a registered pharmacist and was employed by Columbus Hospital in Newark, New Jersey. In 1987, he graduated from the New York College of Podiatric Medicine, earning his Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree. Dr. Cozzarelli completed his residency at the New York College of Podiatric Medicine and Affiliated Hospitals and Institutions in New York City. In 1991, he became Board Certified in Podiatric Surgery by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery. Following in 2000, he became re-certified in foot surgery. In 2004, Dr. Cozzarelli became Board Certified in Podiatric

Acupuncture. He is also certified in Nerve Decompression Surgery by the Dellon Institute in Baltimore, MD and is a member of the New Jersey Peripheral Nerve Surgery Restoration Team at Essex Surgical Arts Surgery Center.

Dr. Cozzarelli became a Fellow of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons in 1991 and has been involved as a member of the American Podiatric Medical Association and New Jersey Podiatric Medical Association. He is also a contributing writer for Podiatry Today Magazine and locally for the *Belleville Times* and Nutley Sun's column "Ask the Foot Doctor." Dr. Cozzarelli continues to lecture nationally on topics concerning common foot and ankle problems and medications utilized in podiatry. In 2005, Dr. Cozzarelli became an Adjunct Professor in Radiology at the New York College of Podiatric

Medicine. Recently, Dr. Cozzarelli was named one of the "2008 Top Doctors" in New Jersey in New Jersey Monthly Magazine.

In the past, Dr. Cozzarelli served as Medical Director for the State of New Jersey for the Podiatric Independent Physicians Affiliation and on a peer review committee for Prudential Health Insurance Company. He was also named Quality Assurance Director for Pedal Management, a network of podiatric physicians. Currently, Dr. Cozzarelli is on staff at both Mountainside Hospital and Clara Maass Hospital. In addition to Essex Surgical Arts Surgery Center, Dr. Cozzarelli maintains his private practice, Podiatry Associates of Belleville, P.C. in Belleville, New Jersey.

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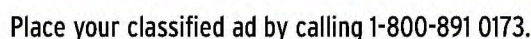
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Watch your health over the holidays

Navigating the Holidays without Sacrificing Your Health

Family feasts, lunch with friends and baskets of goodies arriving at the office – the holidays are filled with opportunities to enjoy food, fun and the company of loved ones. But they're also rife with risk for anyone trying to eat healthy.

"Research suggests that those people who are vulnerable to excess weight, gain more weight over the holidays," says Karen Miller-Kovach, chief scientific officer of Weight Watchers International. "That's not surprising given the increased stress, temptations and consumption of high-calorie and high-fat foods that come with the holiday season."

It is possible to get through the holidays with your good intentions – and your waistline – intact. Here's advice for dealing with some food-related obstacles commonly faced during this busy time.

Avoid the party binge

Before you head out to a holiday party, dine at home on healthy fare that will keep you feeling full, like lean protein and fiber-rich vegetables. Curbing your appetite ahead of time will help you keep control at the party.

When on the road

First, skip the appetizer. Appetizers are often fried and can pack more calories than the entree.

Second, watch out for calorie overload that's caused by eating the entire portion normally served in restaurants.

Gift that keeps giving

Food baskets are often packed with empty calories. If you're giving a gift basket, look for ones that offer more healthful items – such as fresh fruits. If you receive a gift basket, consider simply thanking the giver for their sentiment and then discretely re-gift the item to your local charity.

Once the rush is over

Once this hectic season passes, a scientifically-based approach to weight loss, such as Weight Watchers Meetings and Weight Watchers Online, can provide you with the tools and information you need to embark on a healthy lifestyle, lose weight and keep it off. Visit www.WeightWatchers.com.

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Alex

Helping is new Red Cross director's goal

BY LINDSEY KELLEHER
for Belleville Times

An ample supply of blood can save people's lives.

The newly appointed executive director of the Montclair-Glen Ridge-Nutley Red Cross Chapter, Michelle Esposito will have several tasks to juggle, but raising blood donations and collecting more blood are among two of her most important goals.

"I think the statistic is only 5 percent of eligible people donate, and in this area only 3 percent of those eligible donate," Esposito said. "It's something so simple to save a life, and one pint can save three lives."

Appointed to the director position two weeks ago, Esposito oversees a six-person professional staff and many volunteers. She has spent 12 years with the local Red Cross chapter, serving as a volunteer and an employee.

With the merging of chapters in the three towns, the Red Cross operation has become bigger and it can help more people with a greater number of volunteers, Esposito explained.

According to Esposito, the Montclair-Glen Ridge-Nutley Chapter has 300 volunteers, many assisting in areas such as transportation and emergency response.

"She has done a very good job of making all employees feel part of the team," said Walt Smith, the chapter chair.

During her time serving in the Red Cross, Esposito has experienced large-scale disasters and tragedies such as Hurricane Katrina and dealing with the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

"Sometimes it takes a great tragedy or a disaster to pull everyone together, but you see how the community wants to help," Esposito said. "It was inspiring, and people are very creative in what they do to raise money."

The Montclair-Glen Ridge-Nutley Chapter holds several blood drives each year, including monthly drives at its Montclair and Nutley offices, and about one drive each semester at Montclair State University.

"There is a great need for donating blood, and everyone will eventually know someone who has needed blood," Esposito said.

What's unique about seeking blood donations in locations such as MSU, Esposito explained, is that different sororities or clubs sponsor the drive and volunteers promote it.

Esposito learned about volunteer opportunities at the organization from a Red Cross volunteer whom she met while employed in

a local steakhouse after graduating from college. Inspired by the chance to assist the Red Cross, Esposito volunteered to drive senior citizens to and from visits with doctors and hospitals.

Nearly three years after volunteering as a driver, Esposito became a staff member and worked with then-executive director, Jackie Schneider, on the chapter's annual budget.

Esposito became the chapter's director of volunteers, and then was appointed as the interim executive director.

When the Red Cross chapter holds its Annual Holiday Party in December, Esposito will be happy to meet in person the volunteers

and staffers.

"It's important that they brought someone on who knows the community well," said Doris L. Burn, the director of transportation and social services.

"We hope to continue these services, grow these services and stress how important the Red Cross is," Esposito said.

"We want to be there to help people."

The writer is an editorial assistant at The Montclair Times.



ADAM ANIK/FOR BELLEVILLE TIMES

Michelle Esposito, the newly appointed director of the Montclair-Glen Ridge-Nutley Chapter of the American Red Cross, stands outside the building at 63 Park St. in Montclair.



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HINT: About 1.3 million Americans live with rheumatoid arthritis, according to the Arthritis Foundation.

OBITUARIES

Catherine Marchesano

A Mass of Christian burial was offered for Catherine Marchesano (nee Stefanelli) of Glen Ridge Nov. 22 in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Montclair, after the funeral from the LaMonica Memorial Home, Livingston.

Mrs. Marchesano passed away Nov. 19 in Clara Maass Medical Center, Belleville.

Born in Newark, Mrs. Marchesano lived in Belleville before moving to Glen Ridge 40 years ago. She received a BSN from Keuka College in New York, and served as the assistant director of nurses for Columbus Hospital many years ago. Mrs. Marchesano was a member of the Women's Auxiliary of the Essex County Medical Society.

Predeceased by her parents, Theresa "Daisy" and Ernest Stefanelli, she was the wife of Joseph Marchesano, M.D.; mother of Maria Adams, Joseph Marchesano Jr., Jon Marchesano, Joanne DiGeronimo and Jeffrey Marchesano; sister of Anthony Stefanelli M.D., Theresa Kelly and Ernest Stefanelli, and grandmother of Samantha, Joseph, Victoria, Andrew, Julia, Richard and Jeffrey.

Michael G. Coppla

A Mass was offered for Michael Coppla, 37, Nov. 24 at St. Mary's Church, Nutley, after the funeral

from the S.W. Brown & Son Funeral Home.

Born in Newark, he has lived in Morristown and Belleville before moving to Franklin two years ago.

He is survived by his father, Harold T. Coppla Sr.; his brothers, Harold T. Coppla and his wife, Patricia, John Coppla and William Coppla; his sisters, Joan Bornemann and her husband, Mark, Mary Lampariello and her husband, Scott, Peggy Coolican and her husband, Michael, Barbara Coppla, Cathy Ritz and her husband, Lewis and Colleen Vasold and her husband, Art. He was predeceased by his mother Margaret (Davis) Coppla.

Vincent J. Rubino

A Mass was offered for Vincent J. Rubino, 86, Nov. 26 at St. Anthony of Padua Church, Belleville, after the funeral from the Biondi Funeral Home of Nutley.

Mr. Rubino passed away Nov. 23 at Saint Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston.

Mr. Rubino was born in Newark and resided in Belleville for many years before moving to Nutley several years ago.

He was employed as a truck driver for Budweiser Anheuser-Busch, Inc. for 30 years before retiring in 1984. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and was an Air Medal recipient.

He is survived by his sons, Vincent J. Rubino Jr. and his wife,

Angela, and Thomas DeMaio and his wife, Marguerite. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Vincent J. Rubino III, John A. Rubino, Kimberly Wilders, Danielle DeMaio and Jessica DeMaio. He was predeceased by his wife, Vera (nee Saulino) Rubino.

Helen (Cilento) Brindisi

A Mass was offered for Helen (Cilento) Brindisi, 89, of Cedar Grove Nov. 26 at St. Catherine of Siena R.C. Church, Cedar Grove, after the funeral from Shook's Cedar Grove Funeral Home.

Mrs. Brindisi passed away Nov. 23 at Arbor Glen Nursing Home.

Born on Oct. 26, 1919 in Ariano, Naples, Italy, Mrs. Brindisi arrived in America at the age nine with her parents, Leonardo and Rafaella Cilento, sister, Mary, and brothers, Michael and Mario. They settled on a farm in Pinebrook. Mrs. Brindisi was too young to work on the farm, so she attended Monteville's historic one room school house. She often said that she learned to speak English in school, not because the teacher had taught her, but the fact that no one else spoke Italian. Married to Nickolas Brindisi in 1938 at age 19, she moved to Belleville, where they lived 48 years and raised four children, Anthony born in 1939, Peter born in 1942, Nicholas born in 1952, and Maryann born in 1954. After 34 years as a home-

maker raising and educating her children, she decided to obtain her own GED and thereafter enrolled at Essex County Community College from which she received her associate's degree in 1978. She and her husband retired to Toms River in 1985, returning to be closer to their grandchildren in 1995. Her husband, Nickolas, passed away in 2000 and she moved to Cedar Grove.

She was predeceased by her husband in 2000; son, Anthony in 2000, and daughter, Maryann in 1986. She is survived by her son, Peter and his wife, Joan Brindisi; her son, Nicholas and his wife, June Brindisi; grandchildren, Peter Jr., Katherine, Christina and Nicole; great-grandchildren, Gianina, Julia and Nicolas.

Also surviving are many nieces and nephews.

Kathleen B. Tremmel

A Mass was offered for Kathleen B. Tremmel, (nee Landino), 68, a lifelong resident of Nutley Nov. 15 at Holy Family Church, Nutley, after the funeral from the S.W. Brown & Son Funeral Home.

Mrs. Tremmel passed away Nov. 14.

She is survived by her husband, Edward C. Tremmel Jr.; her children, Barbara De Blasi, Debbie M. Zecchino, Edward C. Tremmel III and Salvatore Tremmel; her sisters, Mary Ann Konopinski, Joyce York and Dr. Susan A. Furnari, and eight grandchildren.



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Worship services for Bethany Lutheran Church are held at 9 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. year-round. Child-care is available. Everyone is welcome.

Kids' fun night

Pastor Nancy S. Moore and the members of Bethany Lutheran Church are sponsoring a weekly 'Kids' Fun Night' on Wednesdays, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the church hall (please enter via the New Street door). There will be ping-pong, games, activities and refreshments. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun.

Healing prayers

Pastor Nancy S. Moore of Bethany Lutheran Church administers healing oil to all interested worshippers during prayers following each worship service. This brief, special practice is held at Bethany on the first Sunday of every month directly after the regular 9 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. worship services. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sunday Afternoons with Iglesia Luterana

The Lutheran Latino service, Iglesia Luterana, is held every Sunday at 1 p.m. in the sanctuary of Bethany Lutheran Church. The Rev. Nancy S. Moore presides over

the service and the distribution of Holy Communion every week. Once a month, she delivers a sermon that is simultaneously interpreted into Spanish. Diaconal ministers Pedro Dulanto and Madeline Dulanto, assist the pastor in the worship service spoken entirely in Spanish.

This community of worshippers hosts many different religious and social activities every week at Bethany including nightly ESL Classes at 8:30 p.m. during the week and Folk Dances beginning at 7:30 p.m. every Monday and Friday.

Bethany Lutheran Church is a "Reconciling in Christ" parish. It is the stated policy of this congregation to welcome and fully include persons of every race, age, gender, marital status, ability and sexual orientation. The church is located at 188 New Street, Belleville. Call 973-759-1555.

Christ Episcopal Church

Thanksgiving Dinner

The annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be offered on Thursday, Nov. 27 at 6 p.m. The dinner is free and open to the public. Those wishing to attend are asked to phone the parish so that the parish can prepare sufficient food.

First Sunday of Advent

Christ Church has announced

its observance of The First Sunday of Advent on Sunday, Nov. 30, with the singing of the Great Litany in Procession and Eucharist at 10 a.m. The Rev. Paul Walker, Vicar of Christ Church, will officiate and preach.

The First Sunday in Advent is the beginning of the Christian church's liturgical cycle. The season of Advent encompasses the four Sunday before Christmas.

Ornament collection

Christ Church is collecting donations of old glass Christmas tree ornaments for use in the decoration of this year's Holiday Tree in the Public Library in Belleville. Father Paul Walker and Father Randy Webster at Christ Church decorate the tree for the library each year, and this year they wish to use antique or old glass ornaments. Persons wishing to make donations should know that the ornaments will not be able to be returned to the donors. Donors also need to know that the ornaments must be brought to Christ

Church for keeping until the tree is ready to be displayed because the library does not have sufficient space for their storage.

World AIDS Day

Christ Church has announced a community-wide observance of World AIDS Day on Monday, Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m. The service is being co-hosted by The Oasis, a social justice ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Newark for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Straight persons. The Rev. Paul Walker, Vicar of Christ Church, will officiate at the Eucharist, and The Rev. Kevin Morris, chaplain at Christ Church Hospital, will be the evening preacher. Persons having names they wish to be remembered on that day are asked to phone the parish.

Three panels of the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt will be on display from Sunday, Nov. 30 through Sunday, Dec. 7. Viewing is available from 12 noon through 7 p.m. To make arrangements to

view the panels, phone Father Walker at 973-751-0616.

Holiday Dinner and Show

Christ Church has announced its fifth annual Holiday Dinner and Show for Saturday, Dec. 6. The show is called "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." Tickets for the event are \$30, which includes a full dinner, and may be purchased by phoning the parish. The doors open at 6:30 p.m., dinner is served at 7 p.m. and the show begins at 9 p.m. The show will highlight the talents of Miss Twinkle Montgomery and her friends.

Toy Drive

Christ Church has announced its annual Toy Drive for children of the clients of The Care Closet. Toys will be distributed on Saturday, Dec. 13 at 2 p.m. at Christ Church. The parish is accepting donations of new and gently used toys, which should be unwrapped. Donations may be left at the parish.

SEE WORSHIP BRIEFS, PAGE 24

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Program	Rate	Points	Fees	% Down	APR
American Enterprise Bank of FL 877-247-7107 www.aebmortgage.com					
30 yr fixed	5.750	0.000	\$399	20%	5.772
15 yr fixed	5.500	0.000	\$399	20%	5.537
30 yr FHA	6.125	0.000	\$399	5%	6.148
30 yr Jumbo Conforming	6.500	0.000	\$399	20%	6.509
5 STAR National Lender rated by Consumers. FDIC Insured Bank (C) 10611 Deerwood Park Blvd., Jacksonville, FL 32256					

Program	Rate	Points	Fees	% Down	APR
Liberty Mortgage Services, Inc. 800-562-5200 http://www.libertymortgageservices.com					
30 yr fixed	5.750	0.000	\$400	20%	5.772
15 yr fixed	5.375	0.000	\$400	20%	5.412
40 yr fixed	6.875	0.000	\$400	20%	6.896
30 yr FHA	5.875	0.000	\$300	5%	5.892
CALL TODAY AND JOIN "RATE WATCHERS" FOR FREE! (A) 74 South Powdermill Road, Suite 3, Morris Plains, NJ 07950 L040452					

Program	Rate	Points	Fees	% Down	APR
1st Constitution Bank 888-519-7677 http://www.1stconstitution.com					
30 yr fixed	6.125	0.000	\$695	20%	6.165
15 yr fixed	5.875	0.000	\$695	20%	5.941
5/1 ARM	5.750	0.000	\$695	20%	4.679
30 yr jumbo	6.375	0.000	\$695	20%	6.390
Reverse Mortgages Available, Call for Details! (C) 2650 Route 130, Cranbury, NJ 08512					

Program	Rate	Points	Fees	% Down	APR
Atlantic Stewardship Bank 973-904-1122 http://www.asbnw.com					
30 yr fixed	6.125	0.000	\$164	20%	6.140
15 yr fixed	5.875	0.000	\$164	20%	5.900
5/1 ARM	5.625	0.000	\$164	20%	4.586
30 yr jumbo	6.500	0.000	\$164	20%	6.516
App fee refunded most programs, loans to \$2.5M, Police/Firemen (C) 630 Godwin Ave, Midland Park, NJ 07432					

Program	Rate	Points	Fees	% Down	APR
Spencer Savings Bank 800-363-8115 http://www.spencersavings.com/					
30 yr fixed	6.125	0.000	\$690	20%	6.197
15 yr fixed	5.750	0.000	\$690	20%	5.868
5/1 ARM	5.625	0.000	\$690	20%	4.672
7/1 ARM	5.875	0.000	\$690	20%	4.997
Loan Amts up to \$1,000,000. Call for Rates to \$2,000,000. (D) 611 River Drive Center 3, Elmwood Park, NJ 07407					

LENDERS, TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS FEATURE CALL BANKRATE.COM @ 800-509-4636

Fixed rate mortgage trend

Wall Street Journal Prime Rate

Rates effective as of 11/20/08. © 2008 Bankrate, Inc. <http://www.bankrate.com>. LEGEND: (A) Mortgage Banker, (B) Mortgage Broker, (C) Bank, (D) S & L, (E) Credit Union. "Call for Rates" means actual rates were not available at press time. Conventional loans are based on loan amounts of \$165,000. Jumbo loans are based on loan amounts of \$435,000. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Lock Days: 30-60. Annual percentage rates (APRs) are based on fully indexed rates for adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs). The APR on your specific loan may differ from the sample used. Fees reflect charges relative to the APR. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. Bankrate, Inc. does not guarantee the accuracy of the information appearing above or the availability of rates and fees in this table. All rates, fees and other information are subject to change without notice. Bankrate, Inc. does not own any financial institutions. Some or all of the companies appearing in this table pay a fee to appear in this table. If you are seeking a mortgage in excess of \$417,000, recent legislation may enable lenders in certain locations to provide rates that are different from those shown in the table above. We recommend that you contact your lender directly to determine what rates may be available to you. To appear in this table, call 800-509-4636. To report any inaccuracies, call 888-509-4636.

24 WORSHIP BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 23

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2008 BELLEVILLE TIMES

Individuals wishing to assist with the distribution of the toys on Saturday, Dec. 13 are also being sought. Persons wishing to volunteer are asked to phone the church. The Care Closet distributes packages of paper products, cleaning products and personal hygiene items to persons with Families First cards.

Food Drive

Christ Church has announced a food drive to replenish and restock the pantry of The Mary and Martha Soup Kitchen. Gifts of non-perishable items are needed to keep up with the demands of the

soup kitchen, which now serves meals each Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 12 Noon to 1:00 P.M. Individuals and organizations wishing to make contributions of canned goods or financial gifts are asked to contact the parish at 973-751-0616. Volunteers are also always needed to maintain the soup kitchen's ongoing operations. Persons wishing to volunteer are asked to phone the parish.

Christ Church is an inclusive church in the Anglican tradition, located at 393 Washington Ave., Belleville. For more information, call 973-751-0616.

St. Mary's Church

Family Mass

St. Mary's Family Mass is every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in Msgr. Walsh Hall (church basement). Come worship with contemporary music in the spirit of community.

Blood drive

The Blood Center of New Jersey Bloodmobile will be in front of St. Mary's Church on Sunday, Nov. 30 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. All donors will receive a \$20 gift card.

The Giving Tree

The Christmas 'Giving Trees' are now in St. Mary's Church and Monsignor Hall. All gifts must be dropped off to the church by the week of Dec. 14. The tree will be adorned with tags of wishes from those who rely on help from char-

itable agencies. Take a tag from the tree, purchase the requested gift, wrap the gift decoratively and place the tag back on the gift so it will go to the appropriate agency.

St. Mary's Parish is located at 17 Msgr. Owens Place, Nutley. Call the church at 973-235-1100.

Holy Family Church

Rosary Society

The Rosary Society recites the Rosary after the 8:45 a.m. Mass on the first Saturday of the month. All are welcome.

Remember to bring in your gifts with the gift tag attached for the Giving Tree.

Christmas Party to be held

Thursday, Dec. 4 at 6 p.m. at The Chandelier. See Erma Mastro for details.

Christmas Concert

Holy Family Church invites all to join them for their Centennial Christmas Concert as the Garden State Orchestra brings the joy of Christmas season to all on Sunday, Dec. 14 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Refreshments and raffle will follow. Tickets are \$20 at the door, but may be obtained prior to the concert through the Holy Family Ministry for \$10. Children under 10 are free. For more information, call Debbie at 973-610-1346.

To reach the rectory at Holy Family Church, 28 Brookline Ave., Nutley, call 973-667-0026.

Kelly Nash is Municipal Clerk. Her number is 973-450-3310 or fax 973-759-1631. Victor Canning is township manager. His number is 973-450-3322 or fax 973-759-8022.



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A time to give praise and to give thanks

“Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth or the earth and the world were formed, from everlasting to everlasting Thou art God.” Psalm 90:1,2.

When our forefathers landed on these shores for the first time in 1607, they planted a cross, knelt down and dedicated this land to the Glory of God and the spreading of the gospel. Not too many years later in 1620, a band of struggling pilgrims longing for freedom to worship God as they believed, landed on these shores. They brought with them, not only their worldly goods, but also a hope and faith that God would bless and prosper them in this new land. They endured many hardships, nevertheless on that first Thanksgiving Day in Plymouth, they bowed to thank God for His loving-kindness and the bountiful harvest they shared. However, after

four centuries of experiencing God’s blessing, our nation may soon face His judgement.

America has limited God and in some cases denied His very existence in the forming and shaping of our country. Sure, going to church once a week is okay, just don’t get fanatical about it. And while you’re at it, don’t allow your ‘personal religious convictions’ to taint your moral view of this country, or the world. After all we are a secular, progressive society and everyone has a right to do their own thing, no matter how offensive – so get with the times. And yes, keep prayer out of schools and away from public functions. And while you’re at it, just remove all monuments that have any reference to the Holy Scripture on them. We are a nation built on a secular law and our government has nothing to do with the laws of God. All these things are an offense to society and the vision

some would have for our country. I beg to differ. God has everything to do with our existence.

In the Book of Galatians we read, “Be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap.” America, are we sowing the seeds of our own destruction? I say, Yes! - If we forget the God of our forefathers and the principles upon which this country was founded. There are tragic consequences when we banish God’s Word and His law from our lives and allow them to be torn down and destroyed by those who would misinterpret or malign the tenets

upon which this country was established. You have but to scan the pages of history to discover the truth of this hypothesis. We are living in awesome and dangerous times. Never before has the entire world been inflamed by such hatred and an insidious enemy who would seek to destroy, not only our way of life, but out very existence as a people and a nation. Friends, we must remain strong and diligent in the face of such a threat if we are to preserve our freedom and religious liberty.

So, I ask the question, What will you do this Thanksgiving Day? In the words of Edmund Burke, let us

remember, “The best way for evil to triumph, is for good men to do nothing.” I urge you to remember all the many blessings this nation has received and to give thanks to God our Creator – Redeemer – Sustainer and may His name ever be praised in this great land. Also, pray for our leaders and all those who serve this country daily. Let us remember ‘Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord’ and may I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving Day!

*Pastor George McCulloch
Montgomery Presbyterian Church*

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1/3 Ct. T.W.	"A"	\$550.00	\$198.00
1/3 Ct. T.W.	"AA"	\$750.00	\$298.00
1/2 Ct. T.W.	"A"	\$950.00	\$398.00
1/2 Ct. T.W.	"AA"	\$1,500.00	\$598.00
3/4 Ct. T.W.	"A"	\$1,700.00	\$698.00
3/4 Ct. T.W.	"AA"	\$2,200.00	\$898.00
1 Ct. T.W.	"A"	\$2,400.00	\$998.00
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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2008 BELLEVILLE TIMES

Ornament collection

Christ Church is collecting donations of old glass Christmas tree ornaments for use in the decoration of this year's Holiday Tree in the Public Library in Belleville. Father Paul Walker and Father Randy Webster at Christ Church decorate the tree for the library each year, and this year they wish to use antique or old glass ornaments. Persons wishing to make donations should know that the ornaments will not be able to be returned to the donors. Donors also need to know that the ornaments must be brought to Christ Church for keeping until the tree is

ready to be displayed because the library does not have sufficient space for their storage.

Christ Church is an inclusive community church in the Anglican tradition, located at 393 Washington Ave., between Joralemon and Essex Streets, Belleville. For more information you may phone the church at 973-751-0616.

Teen programs

The Belleville Public Library offers many fun and educational programs for teens. Students in grades 7-12 are invited. Come and check out the Teen Center located on the first floor of the library.

Holiday Craft - Cookie Mix in a Jar: Saturday, Dec. 6 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Make a creative gift that you just might be able to eat, too. Register for this program by contacting teen librarian, Karyn Gost at 973-450-3434 or kgost@bellepl.org.

Games: Every Tuesday and Thursday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Come and relieve some stress with Wii, Guitar hero, DDR and board games.

Teen Web page

Visit Belleville Public Library's teen web page: www.bellepl.org/teen. Any questions, contact teen librarian, Karyn Gost.

The site consists of four sections: Current Events, Resources, Links and Web sites for teens and BPL Teen Volunteer information.

Internet classes

Time to get smart on the Internet again at the Belleville Public Library. The remaining class is: Internet Questions and Answers on Dec. 16. All classes begin at 10 a.m. in the Teen Center.

'Between the Covers' book discussion group

Join the book discussion group at the Belleville Public Library each Wednesday at 1 p.m. Weekly discussions continue through Jan. 14, 2009.

Call Discussion Leader Cindy LaRue at 973-450-3434 for more information.

Brown Bag it @ the Library

You bring your lunch, the Library provides an hour of entertainment.

On Tuesdays of each week through Dec. 16, you can 'Brown Bag it @ the Library' while watching the Cary Grant classics, listening to art lectures, trying Wii Bowling, hearing about what the handwriting of famous people means

and more.

Come to the Library to get a listing of all activities. For more information call the Circulation Desk.

Kaplan College test prep and financial aid seminars

The Belleville Public Library is offering free Kaplan seminars to help college-bound students prepare for college tests and financial aid.

The following seminar remains: PSAT - What does your score mean? On Monday, Jan. 12, 2009. Contact, Karyn Gost at 973-450-3434 to register.

Visit NYC museums for free

Free passes are available at the Belleville Public Library for the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the American Museum of Natural History. Call the library for more information.

Belleville Library blog

Keep abreast of library events, news and happenings from the comfort of your home computer by visiting our Weblog at <http://blog.bellepl.org>. Don't forget the other library services offered

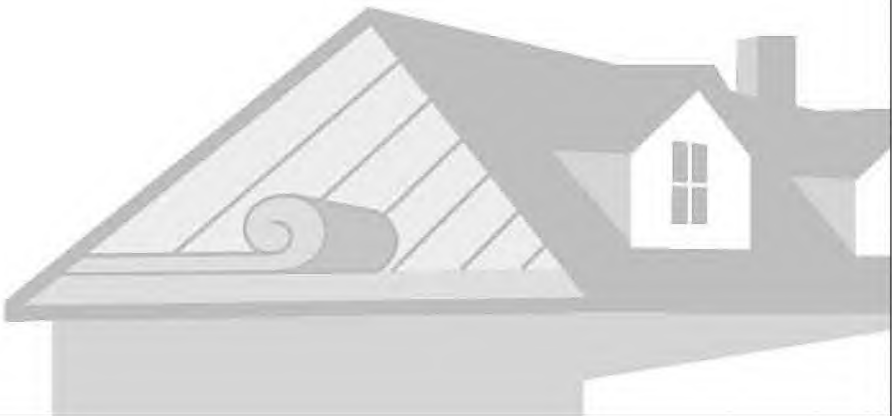
SEE BOOKMARKS, PAGE 27

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

For the answer to this week's puzzle, turn to the classified section.

BOOKMARKS

FROM PAGE 26

online, such as: JerseyClicks, a multiple database search for encyclopedia, magazine, newspaper and journal articles; ListenNJ, a service that allows the user to download audiobooks for listening on their computer or MP3 player; and our reference staff e-mail, ref-

erence@bellepl.org for all other inquiries. All these services are offered free of charge to Belleville Library cardholders, and can be accessed from our Web site at <http://www.bellepl.org>.

Vault Online Career Library

The Belleville Public Library has acquired the Vault Online Career Library, the leading source of career information on the Web.

It makes researching employers, industries and career subjects much easier and more efficient. This new online resource contains downloadable guides on careers, employers and career topics. There are over 3,500 company profiles, over 1,100 career advice articles, and industry and occupational profiles.

This database is available on the library's homepage. Go to

www.bellepl.org and click on the Vault logo.

The Belleville Public Library is located at 221 Washington Ave., Belleville. Hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For further information call 973-450-3434.

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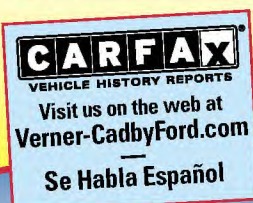
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AREA EVENTS

*PLEASE NOTE: Items for Area Events must reach our office by 3 p.m. the Friday before the publication date. Publication depends on space available. Dial area code 973 on listed phone

numbers, unless otherwise noted.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK...

District 4 blood bank, hosted by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 493, Friday, Nov. 28

(tomorrow) from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at VFW Post 493, 271 Washington Ave., Nutley. For directions, call 235-9661.

Annual Santa's Arrival in Nutley, sponsored by the Nutley Chamber of Commerce, to be

held Friday, Nov. 28 (tomorrow) at 2 p.m. (rain date: Nov. 29 at 10 a.m.) at the Nutley Park Oval. Santa and Mrs. Claus will ride in on the back of a beautiful, antique, red convertible driven by their favorite reindeer, Danny Geltrude of Geltrude & Company.

The mayor's office is also providing a mailbox for letters to Santa, so be sure to write and bring your wish lists. Slipped Disc Entertainment, as well as the Nutley High School Brass Ensemble and students of TK Music will fill the air with Christmas music. The first 500 children to arrive will receive goodie bags. They will also be collecting for the Nutley chapter of the American Red Cross. Bring donations of non-perishable items such as pasta, jarred sauces, cereal, rice, beans, chili, tuna and canned vegetables.

Holiday boutique & bake sale, hosted by the Women's Auxiliary of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Saturday, Nov. 29 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 30 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Parish Hall, Prospect and Harrison streets, Nutley.

Belleville High School Class of 1978, 30th reunion planned for Saturday, Nov. 29 at the Clarion Hotel, Edison, from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. \$55 includes dinner and live music. Cash bar. Bring your favorite 70s music and high school yearbook and pictures. Contact Rich Cavanaugh at 732-457-1970 or Lori Castro at 201-259-7031, or e-mail Lorisflowers@yahoo.com for more information.

2009 Entertainment Books, Northern New Jersey edition, now available for \$25 each from the Nutley Jaycees. Contact Mike Paulino at 667-7315 for more information.

2009 Entertainment Books, Northern New Jersey edition, now available for \$25 each from Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Knights of Columbus. Contact Fred Bunce at 667-7663 for more information.

Bus ride to Taj Mahal, sponsored by Belleville UNICO, Sunday, Nov. 30, with a continental breakfast at 8 a.m., at Piano's, formerly Hathaway's, 36 Broad St., Bloomfield, at 8 a.m., with bus leaving on time at 8:50 a.m. Donation of \$30 includes tips, \$25 coin return and \$10 food coupon. To reserve seats, call 667-9576 and follow with a check to confirm reservation. No last minute cancellations. Make checks payable to: Belleville Chapter of UNICO National, and mail them to: Josephine Gencarelli, 52 Myrtle Ave., Nutley, NJ 07109.

Holiday luncheon & sale, hosted by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Gratia #751, Monday, Dec. 1 from 12 noon until 1:30 p.m. at St. Mary's, Msgr. Walsh Hall, Nutley. The luncheon will consist of sandwich, soup, dessert and beverage. There will also be a white elephant and bake sale. Tickets are \$7. For more information, call 667-7851.

The American Red Cross, Montclair-Glen Ridge-Nutley chapter, is offering monthly training courses in Adult, Infant and Child CPR, AED (automated external defibrillator) and First

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Randy Leeds
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- **Reduce Outside Noise**
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EVENTS

FROM PAGE 28

Aid. This month's classes are scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 3, Dec. 10 and Dec. 17 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at 169 Chestnut St. The first class on Dec. 3 will address Adult CPR and AED only. The following class scheduled for Dec. 10 will teach students about infant and child CPR /AED, and the last class on Dec. 17 will teach first aid. Both the Dec. 3 and Dec. 10 classes must be attended to receive infant and child CPR certification. For more information and pricing, call 667-3818.

'The Santaland Diaries,' by David Sedaris, adapted by Joe Montello, a co-production with What Exit? Theatre Company, previews Thursday, Dec. 4 and opens Dec. 5 through Dec. 20, Thursdays and Fridays at 8 p.m. and Saturdays at 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. at Luna Stage, 695 Bloomfield Ave., Montclair. Tickets are \$20. Go to www.lunastage.org or www.whatexittheatre.com or call 744-3309 for more information and reservations. Luna Stage is wheelchair accessible.

EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS...

Christmas boutique, to be held Saturday, Dec. 6 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Franklin Reformed Church, 45 Hillside Crescent, Nutley. Vendors and crafters wanted. Contact Linda at 661-2936 or Kris at 667-4262 or e-mail Brenda6782@Verizon.net for more information.

Christmas sale, hosted by the Nutley Historical Society, to be held Saturday, Dec. 6 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Nutley Museum, 165 Church St.

Christmas Spectacular, at Radio City Music Hall, bus trip with Traveling Friends to New York City to see the Rockettes and Santa Claus in a dazzling show on Tuesday, Dec. 9. The bus will leave Bloomfield at 8:30 a.m. \$84 per person. For more information, call 748-6406.

Annual Holiday Party, hosted by the American Red Cross, Montclair-Glen Ridge-Nutley chapter, for their dedicated volunteers and friends, Friday, Dec. 19 at 12 noon at the Montclair Chapter House, 63 Park St., Montclair. RSVP by Dec. 10, 746-1800.

Michael Amante concert, Feb. 13, 2009, with bus departing

from Nutley at 6 p.m. for an 8 p.m. show. Orchestra seats and bus transportation, \$79 per person. Call Marie at 256-0499.

'Mary Poppins' on Broadway, March 1, 2009. Orchestra seats. Bus leaves from Nutley at 6 p.m. for an 8 p.m. show. Call Marie at 256-0499.

'South Pacific' on Broadway, musical, comedy/drama. March 19, 2009. Orchestra seats. \$145 per person. Bus leaves from Nutley at 6:15 p.m. Call Travel With Marie at 256-0499.

Nutley UNICO 50th Anniversary Gala, to be held Thursday, April 23, 2009 at 7 p.m. at Nanina's in the Park, Belleville. Save the date and join this festive commemoration of 50 years of service to the Nutley community. The planned festivities include great food, live entertainment, memorabilia and a series of special presentations. Net proceeds from the event to benefit local and national charities and the Nutley UNICO Scholarship Program.

Essex County's Housing and Community Development Division, is offering financial assistance to low and moderate income homeowners who need to make improvements to their one to three-family homes. The

program is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through the Community Development Block Grant program. For more information or to obtain an application, contact the Essex County Home Improvement Program (HIP) at 655-0200.

Nurse Family Partnership (NFP), a free, voluntary program, is available to women who are pregnant with their first child and live in Essex County. A nurse regularly visits the first time mother-to-be in the comforts of her home. Services continue until the baby's second birthday. This program is not associated with protective services, and all information is kept in confidence. For more information, call 482-2774, ext. 138 or e-mail or nfp@yccs.org.

Gateway Pregnancy Center, of Irvington and Elizabeth, helps needy women and their babies. Nutley women collect the following items regularly for this organization: car seats, infant seats, strollers, cribs, bassinets and gates (no clothing or toys). Call Nancy at 661-4779 and she will pick up the items.

Free transportation, to medical

appointments for Montclair, Glen Ridge and Nutley, for residents 60 years of age or over who are mobile or require minimal assistance. Sponsored by the Montclair-Glen Ridge-Nutley chapter. All rides are by reservation at least one week in advance. Call 667-3818 for more information.

Voter registration nights, absentee ballots, change of party affiliation, Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Bloomfield Republican headquarters, 38 Broad St., Bloomfield.

REUNIONS...

Bloomfield High School Class of 1969, 40th reunion planned for Oct. 10, 2009 at the Hilton in Woodbridge. Contact Jay Baumgardner at 809-6191 or jashuddey@aol.com or mvargo@optonline.net.

FAIRS, FLEA MARKETS, ETC...

Nutley Museum, open first and third Sundays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Call 667-1528 or visit the Web site www.nutleyhistorical.society.org for more information.

SEE EVENTS, PAGE 30

BELLEVILLE ★ TIMES

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Treasure Chest at Cerebral Palsy Center, 7 Sanford Ave., Belleville (opposite Clara Maass Medical Center). Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 751-0200 for more information.

Nutley Family Service Bureau **thrif shop**, 172 Chestnut St.,

open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday evenings from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and every other Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. All proceeds benefit the Nutley Family Service Bureau. Donations are welcome. To volunteer, call Jolinda Griwert at 667-6322 or Kathy Coughlin at 284-1208.

HEALTH & FITNESS...

Nutley Singles 3-mile Walk, for ages 40 to 55, hosted by the Nutley Singles Walking Group, 6 p.m. every Thursday at Yantacaw Park, Nutley, Centre Street and Park Drive. Use the Centre Street entrance. Bring money for optional dinner after walk. Call 667-0379.

Heart2Heart Program, designed for people with early stage congestive heart failure, to begin at the Senior Care and Activities Center, 110 Greenwood Ave., Montclair. This two-day-a-week program provides medical monitoring, meal planning with a nutritionist, exercise and activities. In addition, a family support group is in formation. For more information, call 783-5589, ext. 16 or visit

www.SeniorCareCenter.org.

Stroller class, meets Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Reclaim your body and shed post-baby pounds while exercising in the fresh air and bonding with other moms. Class designed to tone and strengthen. All equipment provided. Led by a personal trainer. E-mail happennise@aol.com or call 661-3283 for more information.

Fitness class, Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Nutley. \$10 per class or \$75 for eight classes. Cardio moves to music, floor exercises, calisthenics, Pilates-based moves and stretching. E-mail smdunnfit@optonline.net or call 201-294-5493 for more information.

Free blood pressure readings, by registered nurse, 10 a.m. to 12 noon every Friday, Montclair-Glen Ridge-Nutley Red Cross, 169 Chestnut St. No appointment necessary. Call 667-3818. Blood drives held on the third Tuesday of each month.

MEETINGS...

Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Gratia #751 meet on the first and third Mondays at 7:30 p.m. in St. Mary's Parish Center, Nutley. For more information, call 667-7851.

Ladies Auxiliary to Stuart E. Edgar Post 493, Veterans of Foreign Wars to hold a business meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Post Home, 271 Washington Ave., Nutley. Membership is open. For more information, write to Stuart E. Edgar Post 493 Auxiliary, 21 Spurr Pl., Nutley, NJ 07110. The Auxiliary sponsors many important programs benefiting veterans and their families.

W&T Retirees Club, meets the second Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Recreation Senior Building, in the park on Belleville Avenue. Looking for more retirees to join. For more info, call Ann at 777-4223.

Belleville AARP #2051, meetings held on the first Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. at the Mill Street Senior Building, 25 Franklin Ave., Belleville. New members welcome. Call Ann at 777-4223 for more info.

Nutley Old Guard, meets Fridays at 9 a.m. at 44 Park Ave. Non-military social organization for retired and semi-retired men seeking new members from Nutley and vicinity. Refreshments, guest speakers, bowling, golf and bocci teams, bus trips, luncheons, newsletter.

Belleville Optimist Club, meets Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. at Branch Brook Manor, 13 Washington Ave., Belleville. Call Gabe Nazzola at 696-6562.

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November 2



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Nutley
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Madison Hesse
Belleville
November 17



Gabrielle Salzarulo
Nutley
November 14



John David Fusaro
Bloomfield
November 17



Dhianna Jo'el Perry
Bloomfield
November 7



Ava Noel Bruzzio
Nutley
November 16



Max Haberman
Glen Ridge
October 28



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December Birthday Club

Entry Coupon

Child's Name: _____

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December Birthdate: _____

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Phone Number: _____

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 13, 2008. PHOTOS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED PAST THIS DATE!

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Center presents its Seven Fishes Dinner

The Center for Italian & Italian-American Culture, Inc. in Cedar Grove is hosting a Seven Fishes Dinner on Sunday, Dec. 7, at Luce on Bloomfield Avenue in Caldwell.

Prices for the dinner are \$70 for members and \$80 for nonmembers. Prices include tip, gratuities, wine, coffee, soda and tea.

Every year, the center re-creates the tradition of the Seven Fishes dinner for its members and friends.

There are many foods and traditions associated with celebrating Christmas in Italy. Many are regional or local, which accounts for the variety and differences from one area to another. Families and friends gather on Christmas Eve (la Vigilia di Natale) for a special dinner consisting of a variety of fish dinners.

In Italy, where a large amount of residents are Catholic, the Christmas Eve dinner is magro, i.e., meatless. This follows the original church teaching of not eating meat on the vigil of solemn and holy days.

Although this church teaching has since changed, the traditions of serving and eating fish on Christ-

mas Eve has remained. Some traditions involve eating a particular number of different fish, seven or 12, numbers with biblical references and religious significance.

The main entrees of the meal will consist of at least one pasta dish prepared with fish, followed by a variety of other fish dishes and vegetables.

The most typical of the Christmas Eve fishes are eel (capitone) and dried salted cod (baccala). The

eel is symbolic of eternity and long life. When placed in a ring it resembles a serpent biting its own tail, the uninterrupted circle of life.

Ring shaped sweets are also symbols of eternity or long life. There are many regional homemade Christmas sweets. Christmas Eve is a time for sharing traditions with family and friends.

The meal begins with appetizers, which include fried calamari, eel, seafood salad, polpo (octopus), sal-

ad and mussel soup.

The main course includes squid ink pasta with shrimp and crabmeat, lobster ravioli in champagne sauce, St. Peter's fish with white beans and spinach, oven roasted halibut, shrimp stuffed with crabmeat. Vegetables will complement the meal. Wine will be served.

Dinner will end with assorted homemade desserts, prepared by chef Anthony Pucciarello.

To make reservations, contact

the center at 973-571-1995 or 973-571-1116.

The Center for Italian & Italian-American Culture is a non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting and preserving the culture and heritage of Italy. It offers programs such as Italian classes, lectures, film series, regional gourmet dinners, collaborative programs with universities and colleges, a yearly women's program and children's programs.

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SUPPORTING THE VETERANS

Danielle Digori's fourth graders at Belleville School 10 stand behind posters they created and displayed for Veterans Day. Pictured, from left, are Joshua Abrego, Leslie Ann Reyes, Dominic, Donato Borino, Darrin Davis and JanMichael Bayawa.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARILYN MCGRATH



ESSEX COUNTY

Little Explorers Camp coming up

Registration for the Essex County Little Explorers Winter Camp is underway.

The three-day camp is geared for children from kindergarten to third grade and will teach students about nature using fun, hands-on activities.

The camp operates from Monday, Dec. 29, to Wednesday, Dec. 31. It takes place at the Essex County Environmental Center, 621B Eagle Rock Ave. in Roseland.

"We have planned an exciting group of programs that will keep young children active and captivate their minds during the winter break. At our Environmental Center, the classrooms extend outside of the building, onto our trails, woods and river so we can provide exciting, hands-on activities for children to learn about nature and the environment," Essex

County Executive Joseph DiVincenzo said. "I invite families to enroll in our three-day camp for a winter adventure."

"Forest Explorers" for children in kindergarten and first grade will be held from 9 a.m. to noon. Campers will enjoy stories, craft activities and forest adventures.

Guided nature walks will be followed with a treat of warm cocoa. Animal tracking, winter birds and campfire storytelling are some of the themes that will be explored.

"Wildlife Detectives" for children in second and third grades will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. Campers will explore the wooded, wetland forest around the Environmental Center and learn about the forest in winter time.

Animal tracking, woodpeckers and campfire storytelling are some

of the themes that will be explored.

All campers should dress appropriately for winter because exploring the outdoors is part of the camp curriculum.

The cost is \$75 per child or \$30 per child per day. Registration fee includes a snack and class materials.

For more information and registration packet, call the center at 973-228-8776 or www.essexcountynj.org.

The Essex County Park System was created in 1895 and is the first county park system established in the United States. It consists of more than 6,000 acres and has 18 parks, five reservations, an environmental center, a zoo, ice skating rink, roller skating rink, three public golf courses, golf driving range, three off-leash dog facilities and a castle.

IRS sets standard mileage rates

The Internal Revenue Service today issued the 2009 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning on Jan. 1, 2009, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups, or panel trucks) will be:

■ 55 cents per mile for business miles driven

■ 24 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes

■ 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations

The new rates for business, medical and moving purposes are slightly lower than rates for the second half of 2008 that were raised by a special adjustment mid-year in response to a spike in gasoline prices.

The rate for charitable purposes is set by law and is unchanged from 2008.

The business mileage rate was 50.5 cents in the first half of 2008 and 58.5 cents in the second half.

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Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo Jr., fourth from left, presents Ana Santos, third from left, executive assistant and scheduler to the Essex County executive, and the Honorable Augusto Amador, fifth from left, Newark East Ward councilman, with Star of Essex County Awards. Also pictured are Assemblyman Albert Coutinho, State Senator Teresa Ruiz and Essex County Sheriff Armando Fontoura.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GLEN FRIESON/ESSEX COUNTY



ESSEX COUNTY

Executive honors Portuguese natives

The beautiful melodies of Portuguese music moved the audience during the 2008 Essex County Portuguese Heritage Celebration on Thursday, Nov. 20.

During the program, Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo Jr. presented Star of Essex Awards to the Honorable Augusto Amador, Newark East Ward councilman, and Ana San-

tos, executive assistant and scheduler to DiVincenzo.

The honorees were recognized for their many positive contributions to the cultural, civic, political and economic history of New Jersey – especially in Essex County.

“Essex County has been shaped and developed by the various cultures and ethnicities of the people who have lived and worked here. Celebrating the heritage of our neighbors will help us understand and embrace our diversity,” DiVincenzo said. “Councilman Amador and Ana Santos have embraced their ethnic heritage and worked diligently to preserve its culture in the City of Newark and Essex County.”

Amador, a native of Murtosa, Portugal, immigrated to the United States in 1966 and settled in Newark to continue his education at Rutgers University-Newark. Over the years, he developed a record of public service and philanthropic activities.

He was elected as Newark’s East Ward councilman in 1998 and is currently serving his third term in office.

He became the first person of Portuguese heritage to serve the City of Newark, when he was elected to the Newark Board of Education in 1993. In addition, he served as Newark’s deputy mayor and as a member of the Newark Parking Commission.

Amador began his professional career in 1969 at Public Service Electric & Gas, where he continues as a performance administrator. He has received numerous honors for his community involvement, including the PSE&G Spirit of Leading and Challenge of Car-ing Awards.

He also serves as president of LISA, a local youth soccer league, and is a member of several organizations, including the Portuguese-American Congress, the Ironbound Boys’ Club Advisory Board, the Ironbound Citizens United and the Friends of St. James Hospital.

“I am what I am today because of the hard work of my staff and the support of my wife and children. I want to thank the county executive for this honor and for his continued support,” said Amador. “My father always told me to be proud of my heritage and that life would take care of itself if I was always honest and kind to people. I have modeled my life and career after this advice.”

Ana Santos was born to Portuguese parents in Venezuela, where she lived for her first seven years. After spending a year and a half in Portugal, her family relocated to the United States and settled in Newark, where she went to Ann Street School and graduated from East Side High School.

She joined Essex County 19 years ago in the Board of Chosen Freeholder’s Office, where she met DiVincenzo, who was a freeholder at the time. She is known as the ‘go-to person’ for scheduling and information in the County Executive’s Office. Her ability to communicate with constituents in English, Spanish and Portuguese is an asset. She is also the mother of one daughter, Juliana.

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**30
MPG
HWY!**



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Red, 4-Dr., Auto, 4-Cyl., P/ABS Brks/SWinds/Lks/Mirrs, Air, Dual Air Bags, Alarm, Keyless Ent., CD, VIN #9U025249. Stk #MW90404. MSRP: \$17,115. Lease: \$2499 Dwn Pyl. + \$0 1st Mo. Pyl. + \$0 Bank Fee + \$0 Sec Dep. = \$2499 Due At Incep. Ttl. Pyls: \$2376. Ttl. Cost: \$4875. P/Opt. At Lease End: \$11,295.90. Mileage allow: 12,000 mi./yr. 15¢ mi. thereafter. Must finance through US Bank. Purch opt. fee \$350. Disposition fee: \$395. Lease includes \$500 Mitsubishi Owner Loyalty Rebate (if qual) & \$500 Military Rebate (if qual).

\$99 LEASE PER MO. 24 MOS.*

**26
MPG
HWY!**



New 2009 Mitsubishi **OUTLANDER ES**

Gray, 4-Dr., SUV, FWD, Auto, 4-Cyl., P/ABS Brks/SWinds/Lks/Mirrs, Air, Dual Air Bags, Cruise, Alarm, Keyless Ent., CD, VIN #92003049. Stk #MW90432. MSRP: \$20,925. Lease: \$2499 Dwn Pyl. + \$0 1st Mo. Pyl. + \$0 Bank Fee + \$0 Sec Dep. = \$2499 Due At Incep. Ttl. Pyls: \$8356. Ttl. Cost: \$10,857. P/Opt. At Lease End: \$9416.25. Mileage allow: 12,000 mi./yr. 15¢ mi. thereafter. Must finance through US Bank. Purch opt. fee \$350. Disposition fee: \$395. Lease includes \$500 Mitsubishi Owner Loyalty Rebate (if qual) & \$500 Military Rebate (if qual).

\$199 LEASE PER MO. 42 MOS.*



New 2009 Mitsubishi **ECLIPSE GS**

White, 3-Dr. Hatch, Auto, 4-Cyl., P/ABS Brks/SWinds/Lks/Mirrs, Air, Dual Air Bags, Keyless Ent., Alloys, Alarm, CD, VIN #9E028275. Stk #MW90240. MSRP: \$21,774. Lease: \$2499 Dwn Pyl. + \$0 1st Mo. Pyl. + \$0 Bank Fee + \$0 Sec Dep. = \$2499 Due At Incep. Ttl. Pyls: \$7938. Ttl. Cost: \$10,437. P/Opt. At Lease End: \$8827.34. Mileage allow: 12,000 mi./yr. 18¢ mi. thereafter. Must finance through US Bank. Purch opt. fee \$350. Disposition fee: \$395. Lease includes \$1500 Factory Rebate, \$500 Mitsubishi Owner Loyalty Rebate (if qual) & \$500 Military Rebate (if qual).

\$189 LEASE PER MO. 42 MOS.*



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White Pearl, 4-Dr., Auto, 4-Cyl., P/ABS Brks/SWinds/Lks/Mirrs, Air, Dual Air Bags, Keyless Ent., Alarm, CD, VIN #9E019460. Stk #MW90216. MSRP: \$21,877. Lease: \$0 Dwn Pyl. + \$0 1st Mo. Pyl. + \$0 Bank Fee + \$0 Sec Dep. = \$0 Due At Incep. Ttl. Pyls: \$11,952. Ttl. Cost: \$11,952. P/Opt. At Lease End: \$6781.87. Mileage allow: 12,000 mi./yr. 18¢ mi. thereafter. Must finance through US Bank. Purch opt. fee \$350. Disposition fee: \$395. Lease includes \$2000 Factory Rebate, \$2000 Mitsubishi Owner Loyalty Rebate (if qual) & \$500 Military Rebate (if qual).

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Titium Pearl, 4-Dr., SUV, Auto, V6, PB/ABS Brks/SW/Lks., Air, Dual Air Bags, Alum. Whls., CD, VIN #5E082440. Stk. #MW90367N. 32,986 Mi.

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27
MPG
HWY†



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26
MPG
HWY†



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26
MPG
HWY†



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SUBARU

Two receive organization's Mille Grazie Award at dinner

Andrew Garruto of Nutley received the Mille Grazie Award during Belleville Unico's 15th Annual Columbus Day Awards Dinner Dance. He was accompanied by Barbara and Clara Garruto.

Eugene Antonio also received the Mille Grazie Award.

The organization presented the

Man of the Year Award to Belleville Mayor Raymond Kimble, the Positive Image Award to Belleville resident Susan La Morte and a special Veterans Award to Marine Corps Cpl. Carlo DeloRusso, who recently finished his tour of duty in Iraq.

Submitted by Manny Alfano.



Andrew Garruto, center, of Nutley receives the Mille Grazie Award during Belleville Unico's 15th Annual Columbus Day Awards Dinner Dance. He is pictured with Barbara and Clara Garruto.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MANNY ALFANO

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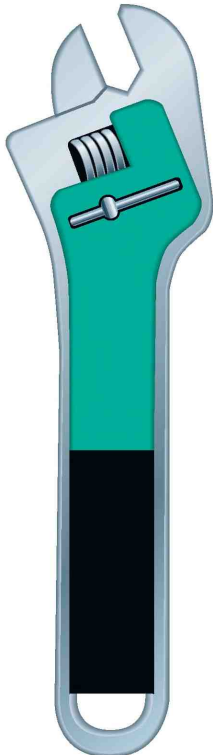
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9	7	2	6	4	8	3	5	1
5	3	6	2	1	9	4	8	7
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