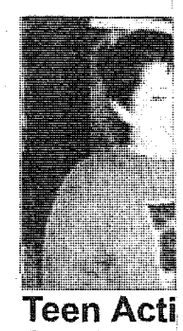
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JANUARY 26, 2006



Making Progress

Read what local officials are doing to strengthen their downtowns in 2006. **See special section inside**

Council Seat filled

David Bomgaars was sworn into the Summit Common Council on Tuesday. See story Page 2.

'Follow the Leaders' at Lincoln-Hubbard

Fourth- and fifth-grade students from Lincoln-Hubbard School presented a special program at the Summit Board of Education's meeting on Jan. 19.

See story Page 3.

Tonight is 'Internet Safety Night' for adults

"Internet Safety Night" is the title of a special "adults only" presentation that will be held tonight at 7 p.m. in the Summit High School auditorium. Agent Bill Tsigaras of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office will discuss such topics as myspace.com, AIM, monitoring software, identity theft, buying and selling online, and how to protect yourself from becoming a victim of computer crime. Juveniles are not permitted to attend.

Summit High School is located at 125 Kent Place Blvd.

'MomSense' to be presented for charity

"MomSense," a popular musical comedy review about motherhood, is coming to the Jonathan Dayton High School auditorium, 139 Mountain Ave., Springfield, tonight at 7:30 p.m. Birthday parties, extracurricular activities, tuition and baby-sitting woes are just a few of the topics covered in this clever, cabaret-style show. Created by four Manhattan moms to raise money for charity, "MomSense" features original lyrics set to classic pop and show tunes.

Tickets are $35. Proceeds will benefit the Edward V. Walton School Playground Fund.

First quarter real estate taxes due Feb.1

First quarter real estate taxes are due Feb. 1 for Mountainside, Springfield and Summit.

Mail tax payments to Tax Collector's Office, 1385 Route 22, Mountainside 07092; 100 Mountain Ave., Springfield 07081 or 512 Springfield Ave., Summit 07901

For more information, call the Mountainside Tax Collector's Office at 908-232-2400; the Springfield Tax Collector's Office at 973-912-2204, or the Summit Tax Collector's Office at 908-273-6403.

County taxes rising

Despite the lowering of the county tax rate — from .36 cents per $100 of assessed value, to .34 cents — the county portion of local residents' tax bills is expected to increase in all but one of the county's 21 municipalities.

See story and map Page 17.

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"Your Best Source for Community Information"

A Worrall Community Newspaper

Fire at St. Teresa of Avila could have been wor

By Tracy A. Politowicz
Managing Editor

SUMMIT — Perhaps there should be an 11th commandment that reads, "Thou shalt not place foliage near fire."

The St. Teresa of Avila Parish in Summit was the scene of an afternoon fire on Jan. 15, after leaves on plants on the high altar were ignited from a nearby burning candle.

In 1893, Summit's Calvary Episcopal Church, then located at the corner of Springfield Avenue and Beechwood Road, was destroyed when Christmas greens caught fire from a gas lamp used for lighting the morning service. It was the first church of any denomination in Summit. The church was rebuilt at its current location on Woodland Avenue.

On Jan. 15, St. Teresa's was mostly empty after its celebration of the 1:30 p.m. Mass. Maintenance man Leo Diaz, who serves as the sacristan on Sundays, was in a room behind the alter cleaning up. He was surprised to hear a woman "cry out." Then he smelled smoke.

Diaz ran to the altar area and saw the plants on top of the high altar on fire. He pulled the alarm, grabbed the fire extinguisher and began spraying the flames.

The plants were leftover Christmas decorations. Diaz said, "Little by little, the leaves dried up." They were flammables waiting to happen.

According to the fire department 's official incident report, when firefighters arrived on the scene 21 minutes after the alarm, they found "a moderate smoke condition with an extinguished fire."

The firefighters checked the altar area and found "a small smoldering fire in the foam base of the container" holding the plants. They hosed down the container and moved it outside. After finding no sign that the fire had spread beyond its point of origin, the firefighters began ventilating the church. They opened doors and windows, and set up large fans.

Deputy Fire Chief Joseph Houck noted there was "quite a bit" of smoke in the church.

Monsignor Robert Harahan said, "The marble altar was covered with ash and soot."

A statute of a kneeling angel located to the left of the altar was "black" from the fire debris, according to Diaz.

The church was sufficiently cleaned to enable the next Mass at 5:30 p.m. to be celebrated. Prior to that Mass, Harahan briefly explained

See **SUMMIT,** Page 2

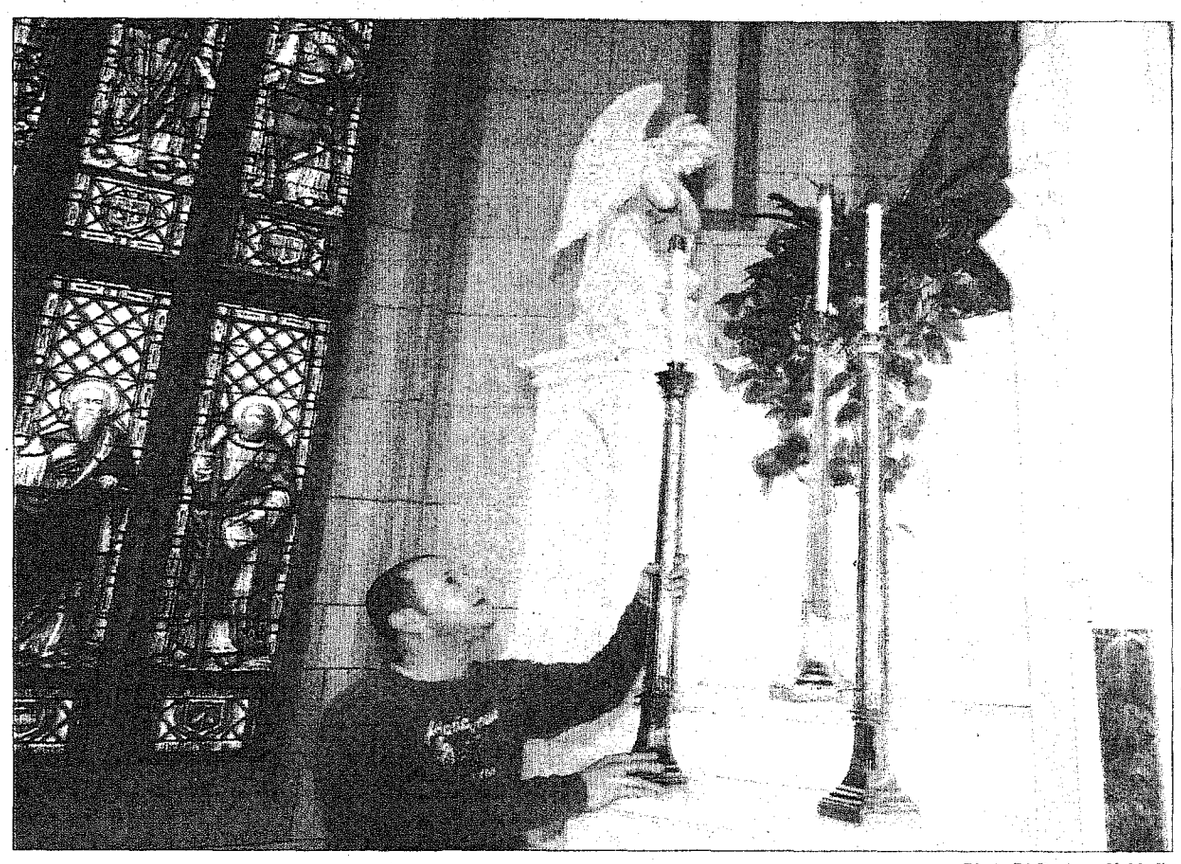


Photo By Barbara Kokkalis

St. Teresa of Avila Parish sacristan Leo Diaz places a candle near where he discovered a fire on Jan. 15. His quick actions helped to prevent any serious damage from occurring.

Here she is...



Mountainside resident Gabrielle Apigo won the Miss Teen New Jersey Galaxy pageant last month and will compete in the international Miss Teen Galaxy pageant in Florida in July. See story on Page 2.

Others eyeing Springfield laptops

By Paul Greulich
Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD — With Springfield's Florence M. Gaudineer Middle School being the first public middle school in New Jersey to offer a one-to-one laptop program for its students, it is only natural that other schools would be curious as to the workings and implementation of this technology.

Representatives from the Riverdale district visited Gaudineer recently to observe the students at work with their laptops to learn how they might at some point introduce a one-to-one program in their schools.

Springfield's Superintendent of Schools Michael Davino said he was expecting other districts to take an interest. He explaining that, during his previous work as chief administrator of the Michael J. Petrides Educational Complex in Staten Island, N.Y., the school provided the first one-to-one wireless program in the United States, a program which drew international visitors.

Davino praised the work of students and faculty for how well they have adapted to the laptops since their introduction shortly before winter break.

"Where we've gone in this short period of time is beyond my expectations," Davino said.

Though early results show that encouraging progress has been made, the laptops are not yet completely integrated into the educational program at Gaudineer. It is estimated that it may be a year and a half before the laptops are fully assimilated into the workings of the school.

Although he doesn't feel any additional pressure because Gaudineer is among the first schools in the state to utilize such technology in this way, Davino admits there is collective pressure on both the students and the faculty to make the laptop program succeed.

"Everyone wants to prove it can be done," he said.

Some parents continue to voice their uncertainty regarding the program at board of education meetings. One recurring complaint has been that the laptop program has resulted in less direct interaction between teachers and students.

Though the board tried to keep parents involved in this change and offered a demonstration at a board meeting, no demonstration has yet been arranged for parents specifically interested in how the laptops are put to work in a classroom setting.

Davino expects more schools to visit in the future to observe the fledgling program, especially as part of a statewide project currently under way organized by the Department of Information Technology, a sub-department of the state's Department of Education.

This project, referred to as a tech literacy assessment, encompasses schools in 12-14 districts, of which Gaudineer Middle School is the only one with a one-to-one laptop program. The tech literary assessment examines the skills of students by looking at samples of children's work that integrated technology into seventh-grade social studies. It is important to this assessment that the work being done by the students cannot be done without the use of technology. In this case, the assignment was to create a public service announcement encouraging people to vote. Results of the assessment are still being gathered.

Davino says that working in education always brings pressure to be sure the changes one makes bring a positive difference to the lives of the kids. In Springfield, school officials feel confident this technology will come to serve a valuable purpose in many more schools, given time.

Davino commented, "Right now, we're trying to balance the new and the old and getting people to see things a little differently."

Staff Writer Paul Greulich can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 117, or at theobserver@thelocalsource.com.

Mountainside schools ahead of menu reform

By Paul Greulich
Staff Writer

MOUNTAINSIDE — Students in Mountainside are a jump ahead of most other schools in New Jersey in their eating habits.

The state is in the process of applying stricter nutritional guidelines to all public schools. These guidelines include the general removal from school menus of nutritionally bankrupt foods and any food in which sugar is the first ingredient, e.g., soda and iced tea.

All of New Jersey's public schools must set forth a policy adhering to these changes by September 2006. The guidelines will be put into effect in the 2007-2008 school year.

Over the summer of 2005, Mountainside school officials began changing their cafeteria food selections to comply with these guidelines. The drinks now available are 100 percent juice, milk or water. Snapple and soda have been eliminated. Cupcakes, nachos and mozzarella sticks are off the menu.

French fries and ice cream have been limited to being served only twice a week. More salad and fresh fruit are available. Vending machines and snack bars are also affected by these changes.

Students are encouraged to eat a variety of foods, to include as many food groups as possible.

Mountainside's schools now adhere 100 percent to the guidelines, compared to the 50 percent of the requirements they previously met.

Mountainside Superintendent of Schools Dr. Richard O'Malley opted for a proactive approach to these diet changes.

One reason for implementing these changes earlier than other districts is to see how well they work so that any necessary adjustments can be made ahead of time.

The schools did a survey to gather public opinion regarding such cafeteria matters as satisfaction with the speed of service, appearance of food and ideas for potential improvement. Parents completed this survey online, while copies were distributed to students in school.

"We hope to use the data from this survey to adjust the new menu, while staying within the state guidelines. We feel an obligation to provide our kids with a healthy and enjoyable diet," said O'Malley.

Seventeen other states are currently in various stages of considering or adopting school nutrition regulations.

Staff Writer Paul Greulich can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 117, or at theobserver@thelocalsource.com.

Stop and look



Photo by Barbara Kokkalis

Travis Nation of Willet Hauser Architectural Glass completes the installation of a fine art faceted glass panel on Friday at one of the three municipally-owned bus shelters at the Village Green in Summit. Willet Hauser fabricated the panels based on three original designs that were commissioned by the Mayor's Partnership for Summit Arts. J.R. Prisco Inc., a contractor based in Summit, built the original shelters in the early 1950s and also prepared each of the shelters for the decorative panels.

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Common Council seat filled

David Bomgaars named to replace Michael Helmer

By Tracy A. Politowicz
Managing Editor

SUMMIT — There's no more room on the Common Council.

Its empty seat was filled when David Bomgaars was sworn in at the council meeting Tuesday.

Bomgaars was one of three candidates nominated by the Summit Republican City Committee for the seat left vacant by Michael Helmer's resignation, for family reasons, earlier this month. He was in the first year of a three-year term.

The other candidates were Dennis O'Neill and Joseph Steiner, selected by the committee at its Jan. 18 meeting from those 2nd Ward Republicans who had expressed an interest in the council seat. Their names were submitted to Frank Macioce, president of the Common Council, and City Clerk David Hughes.

At Tuesday's meeting, Councilman J. Andrew Lark "put forth the name of Dave Bomgaars for filling the council seat." It was seconded by Ellen Dickson and carried unanimously.

As 2nd Ward councilman, Bomgaars will serve on the Safety Committee and as chairperson of the Law Committee.

Previously, he held the office of councilman at large in 2001 and was a member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment; the Board of Education, for which he served as president from 2000-01, and the Mayor's Task Force on County Government. A 20-year city resident, the new councilman is retired from a career with the U.S. Comptroller of the Currency and is a captain in the U.S. Naval Reserve.

"I am honored to receive such a good endorsement from the city committee. I am excited about this position and looking forward to a good term," said Bomgaars.

He will serve through the end of 2006. The remaining year of the term will be up for election in November 2006.

Managing Editor Tracy A. Politowicz can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 115, or at theobserver@thelocalsource.com.

Mountainside girl wins state pageant

By Paul Greulich
Staff Writer

MOUNTAINSIDE — The current Miss Teen New Jersey Galaxy winner is not only a Mountainside resident but a relative newcomer to beauty pageants. Nineteen-year-old Gabrielle Apigo, a freshman at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison, began competing only recently, participating in the Miss New Jersey USA pageant last year because she felt it would be a "fun new experience."

Though she did not win, Apigo enjoyed the pageant.

"I would recommend girls try competing in pageants. They can meet a lot of new friends."

Apigo had planned to try again in the Miss New Jersey Galaxy pageant, but after learning that she was too young by a scant month, she went instead for the Miss Teen New Jersey Galaxy pageant.

For this contest, the competition was less fierce than her previous experience, but still demanded great preparation. Apigo spent six months prior to the actual judging exercising, assembling the required wardrobe, which included an interview outfit, evening gown and bathing suit, and practicing such skills as walking elegantly in high heels.

But it was no challenge to decide on a platform issue. In high school, she'd written a report on the disease Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressiva — FOP — and become interested in spreading awareness of its tragic effects. It slowly turns a victim's muscles into bone. This rare disease occurs mostly among children and is often misdiagnosed. Currently, there are 14 confirmed cases of this disease in New Jersey.

Much of Apigo's information and support comes from family friend Gary Whyte, who has worked as a volunteer at Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside for many years. He has been promoting FOP awareness ever since the daughter of a fellow volunteer was diagnosed with FOP.

Whyte helped begin a campaign that entailed contacting every mayor and board of freeholders in the state to educate them about this disease and request them to proclaim their awareness of the need for additional money for research and treatment. Congressmen and governors have also been contacted. California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and Florida Gov. Jeb Bush have issued proclamations of their support.

Apigo was glad to take this issue as her platform in the pageant. Being only one of more than 50 other hard-working young women competing for the title, she was unsure of her chances of winning.

When victory came, Apigo was honored with the much sought-after crown and a paid trip to compete in the international pageant of Miss Teen Galaxy in Florida this July.

Most importantly, Apigo's victory gave her the opportunity to attend political functions such as the governor's inaugural ball Jan. 17 where she spoke with new Gov. Jon Corzine about FOP.

Apigo enjoyed the ball and said, "I got to meet a lot of new people and talk to them about FOP awareness."

Of the new governor, she said, "I hope he does a good job for New Jersey."

Apigo plans to continue competing in beauty pageants and eventually go to medical school to pursue a career as a doctor in the hopes of continuing to work to alleviate the suffering of others.

Staff Writer Paul Greulich can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 117, or at theobserver@thelocalsource.com.

Summit church fire quickly extinguished

(Continued from Page 1)

to the congregation what had happened because there was a residual odor of smoke.

A professional cleaning service was hired by the insurance company and took "six or seven hours" over the next couple of days to complete the cleaning, according to Harahan.

He said, "I am so grateful to the fire department. They were excellent. I can't thank them enough and Leo, too."

Diaz has worked for the church for approximately six years.

Harahan indicated that, in the 10 years he has been at the parish, "nothing like that ever happened." Regardless, he vowed to "keep candles and greenery apart from each other."

Managing Editor Tracy A. Politowicz can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 115, or at theobserver@thelocalsource.com.

Learn to make maple syrup and candy on Feb. 25

While the honeybees and perennials are resting, it's just the right weather for Reeves-Reed Arboretum's sugar maple trees. When the nights are crisp and the days are warm, the century-old tree sends sap up to its limbs. Sugar-lovers can siphon off this sap to make maple syrup or maple candy in the arboretum's Maple Sugaring program.

On Feb. 25, families can learn how to identify a sugar maple tree and tap it for its sap. Indoors, they can watch the sap boil down into syrup and taste the result. Demonstrations are scheduled beginning at 9 a.m.

The fee for the Maple Sugaring program is $5 a person; there is no fee for children younger than two years old. Pancake breakfasts beginning at 8:25 a.m. are available for an additional fee.

The Maple Sugaring program and the pancake breakfast require pre-registration. Call 908-272-8787, ext. 14.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar is prepared by *The Observer* to inform residents of various community activities and government meetings. To mail a schedule, send it to *The Observer*, Attn: Managing Editor, P.O. Box 3109, Union 07083.

Today

• The Summit Arboretum Commission has scheduled its annual meeting in the Whitman Community Room of City Hall, 512 Springfield Ave., at 4 p.m.

• "MomSense," a popular musical comedy review about motherhood, will be presented in the Jonathan Dayton High School Auditorium, 139 Mountain Ave., Springfield, at 7:30 p.m.

Birthday parties, extracurricular activities, tuition and baby-sitting woes are just a few of the topics covered in this clever, cabaret-style show. Proceeds will benefit the Edward V. Walton School Playground Fund.

Saturday

• The Mountainside Recreation Department will again offer its popular digital camera class, "In a Snap." Learn how to upload digital photos to the computer, create folders and save photos, and attach photos to e-mails to share with family and friends.

"In a Snap" will be offered from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in the Learning Center at Borough Hall. For more information, call 908-232-0015.

Sunday

• A workshop called "Parenting for the Positive" will take place at 9 a.m. at Calvary Episcopal Church, 31 Woodland Ave., Summit. This is the last of a series of parenting workshops that will give parents new approaches to old problems, including helping children deal with their feelings, ways to inspire cooperation, how to set limits in behavior, creative ways to solve problems with children and how to listen to children.

No registration is necessary. A $5 donation is requested to defray expenses. Child care will be provided. For more information, call 908-277-1814.

• The Springfield Community Children's Chorus will present its Winter Concert at 3 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church at the corner of Church Mall and Morris Avenue in Springfield. Admission is free. For more information, call 973-379-0012.

Monday

• The Mountainside Recreation Department will sponsor a computer class called "I Have a New Computer! Now What?" to teach basic tips on how to operate your new computer, its hardware and software and new documents. The class will take place from 10:30 a.m. to noon in the Learning Center at Borough Hall.

Space is limited. To register, stop by the Recreation Office, 1385 Route 22 east. For more information, call 908-232-0015.

Tuesday

• Dennis Lysaght, general manager of Memorial Properties in Millburn, will discuss "Pre-Planning Memorials" at the Summit Old Guard's meeting at the New Providence Borough Hall, 360 Elkwood Ave.

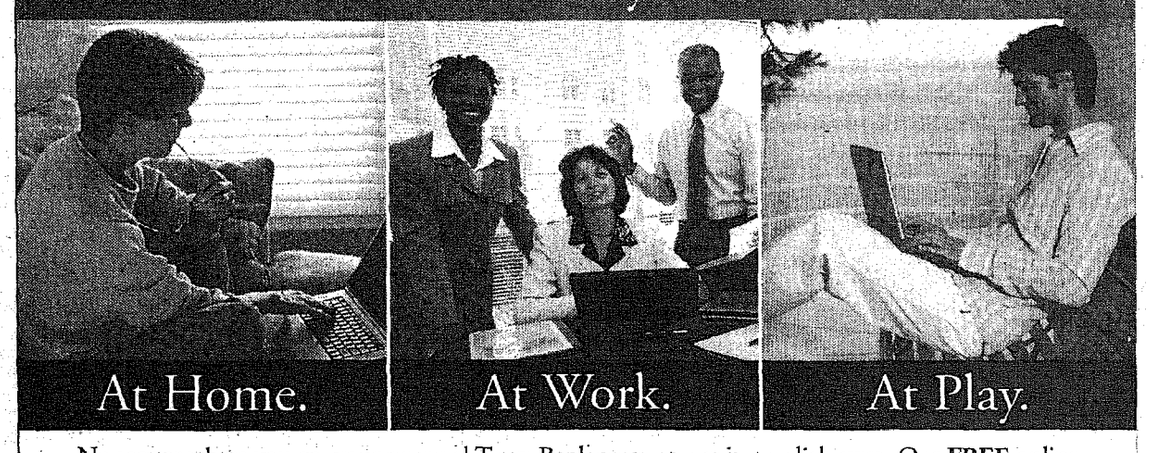
A coffee hour at 9:15 a.m. will be followed by a 10 a.m. brief business meeting. For more information, call Earl Gilkey at 908-464-2480 or access www.summitoldguard.homestead.com.

• The Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., will conclude its Lunchtime Video Series, "Classic/Classy Comedies and Mysteries," at noon. The final episode in the series will be shown, as well as a documentary profile of William Powell and Myrna Loy. Coffee and cookies will be provided. For more information, call 973- 376-4930.

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Paula Levin, Head of Lower School, with Nursery students
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Accreditation with distinction



SAGE Eldercare's Director of HomeCare Kathy Aira and Director of Nursing Kathryn Jafarzadeh display the accreditation certificate the agency recently received from the Commission on Accreditation for Home Care in New Jersey. It was the seventh year in a row that SAGE Eldercare in Summit passed its home care inspection with distinction — without deficiencies in the survey process and with no recommendations for improvement.

Lincoln-Hubbard kids 'Follow the Leaders'

By Tracy A. Politowicz
Managing Editor

SUMMIT — A group of students from the Lincoln-Hubbard School presented a special program at the beginning of the Summit Board of Education's meeting on Jan. 19.

After being introduced by school principal and program co-coordinator Matt Carlin, the fourth- and fifth-graders spoke about the program called "Follow the Leaders," which develops leadership skills.

Each student read a portion of the presentation, many from memory, without notes. Some quoted famous leaders like Peter Drucker — "Don't think I, think we" — while others explained the program format or described the five characteristics of leadership: communication, decision-making, intelligence, responsibility and self-confidence.

The six-week program began in September. Participants meet once a week after school for sessions that included readings, discussions, role-playing and guest presenters like Mayor Jordan Glatt, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Carolyn Deacon and Lincoln-Hubbard guidance counselor Jeff Lambert.

Students were given take-home assignments that pertained to the day's lesson. For example, after the session on communication skills, which took place around the holidays, students were encouraged to use those skills — like eye contact — when expressing their wants to their parents. They reported the results of their assignments at the following session.

Co-coordinator Ken Frattini, a second-grade teacher at the school, indicated he hoped the students would continue to "develop their natural abilities of leadership and inspire others."

At the conclusion of the presentation, Carlin emphasized how proud he was of the students.

Deacon said of her guest session with the program participants, "It was a delightful experience. We talked about multiple intelligence and how everyone has different talents. The students were very interested, motivated and so enthusiastic. It was a great afternoon."

She also complimented the students on their presentation at the meeting, noting they were "very poised. They did a wonderful job, as did Principal Carlin and Ken Frattini."

The students who participated in the program were Isabella Ayeras, Sam Bebout, Marcela Castro, Abe Coull, Tommy Disibio, Samantha Donohue, Stephanie Ford, Patrick Forsyth, Kerri Hannigan, Alexa Krain, Brendan Krain, Chris Laughlin, Christina Lecesse, Tom Lenz, Connor Murphy, Jake Paytas, Michael Rafizadeh, Abbey Rasweiler, Annabel Sangree, Skylar Schlesinger, Will Snyder, Sofia Vizitiu and Nick Zachara.

Carlin helped develop the original "Follow the Leaders" program two years ago when he was a teacher at Brayton School. Due to its success there, he decided to pilot it at Lincoln-Hubbard when he became principal last September.

He said, "It is a very exciting time as a first-year principal" and he strives to "continue to promote high achievement and character building" at the school. Carlin indicated he wants to build pride in the children, referring to how they treat each other and their roles in the school and community. He noted the school's mascot is a lion and the term "pride" also designates a pack of lions.

Carlin hopes to adapt the program to other grade levels in the school in the future.

The program was made possible by a grant from the Summit Educational Foundation.

Managing Editor Tracy A. Politowicz can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 115, or at theobserver@thelocalsource.com.

EVENTS

Make your own greeting cards at stamp camp

Learn how to make your own greeting cards at the Greeting Card Stamp Camp.

The class will meet Feb. 3 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the Community Room in the Mountainside Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 east.

The registration fee is $14 per person, and the class is for adults only. Register in advance at Borough Hall.

Temple to present workshops

Temple Sinai will present two workshops called "Understanding Adolescent Development: How to Stay Connected to Adolescents as They Strive to Become Separate" on Feb. 12 and March 26 from 1:15 to 2:45 p.m.

Temple Sinai, 208 Summit Ave., Summit, welcomes everyone regardless of religious affiliation or belief.

To register for the workshops or for more information, call Randy Ring at 908-273-4921.

Man battles would-be thief

Mountainside

On Jan. 18, a Mountainside man on his way home from work stopped at a 7-11 on Mountain Avenue. While inside the store, he saw a silver Infiniti pull up alongside his GMC Envoy. When he saw a man exit the Infiniti and get into his own vehicle, he ran out and opened the rear door of his car. He pulled out his work knife and informed the perpetrator he intended to stab him. At this point the would-be car thief ran back to the Infiniti. As the Infiniti attempted to flee the scene, the victim lunged after it and pierced its left rear tire with the knife. He could hear air escaping the tire as the vehicle pulled out of the parking lot. Mountainside police units spotted the Infiniti briefly as it travelled at high speeds on Route 22 east before loosing track of it.

• On Saturday, a vehicle was broken into while it was parked in the rear lot of a Mountainside restaurant. Inside the missing purse were a checkbook, a N.J. driver's license, a Kean University student ID card, a set of keys, four credit cards and approximately $100 in cash.

• On Friday, an Elizabeth resident reported her purse stolen while she was watching a movie at Loews Theatre. Inside it were a cell phone, credit cards, driver's license, $20 in cash, and possibly the victim's Social Security card.

• On Friday, Michelle Goodwin, 43, of Irvington, was arrested for outstanding warrants out of Mountainside, Middletown, Somerset, and Robbinsville.

• On Friday, a Wyoming Drive resident reported damage to the rear door of his house. When police arrived, they found scratch marks on the doorknob and pry marks on the molding around the door. They determined that entry into the residence had not been gained.

• On Jan. 13, Quawee Cureton, 23, of Newark, was arrested at the site of a crashed vehicle on Route 22 east for driving while intoxicated.

• On Jan. 11, there was a report of the burglary of a Ford van parked at a restaurant on Route 22. Known missing are a white jacket, four videos and a woman's purse containing a N.J. vehicle registration, vehicle insurance card, health insurance card, and numerous credit cards.

• A Sawmill Road resident reported that while he and his wife were away on vacation from Jan. 5 through Jan. 7, someone had pried his bathroom screen off the window and stuck it into a shrub alongside his house. Officers examined the house for any further damage and found none.

• On Jan. 5, James Roberts, 42, of Plainfield was arrested in Plainfield for an outstanding warrant out of Mountainside.

• On Jan. 4, Joseph O'Malley, 46, of Berkeley Heights, was pulled over on Route 22 west for failing to stay within his lane and for driving an unregistered vehicle. He was arrested for driving while under the influence and with a suspended driver's license as well as possession of an illegal substance.

• On Jan 4, officers received a report from the daughter of a resident of Brighton's Assisted Living on Route 22 west who said her mother had two credit cards stolen from her room. The victim's daughter discovered unauthorized activity of approximately $1,500 on the two accounts.

POLICE BLOTTER

Springfield

On Jan. 12, Orlando 'Nia" Bond, 38, of Union, was arrested on Route 22 east on an outstanding warrant out of Union County. He was also found to be driving with a suspended license.

• On Jan. 12, Josue "Josh" Martinez, 22, of Linden was arrested on Route 22 east for outstanding warrants out of Elizabeth and Westfield.

• On Jan. 12, a Green Hill Road resident discovered scratches on the hood and passenger side door of their vehicle after having parked it in the rear lot of Jonathan Dayton High School.

• On Jan. 11, Derrick D. Johnson, 43, of East Orange, was arrested at Meisel and Wabeno avenues. A warrant had been issued for his arrest. Additionally he was charged with driving with a suspended license.

• On. Jan. 11, Walidah Q. Watson, 24, of Newark, was arrested on Route 22 east for an outstanding warrant out of Newark.

• On Jan. 11, Tyrone Jones, 23, of Newark, was arrested on Fadem Road for an outstanding warrant out of East Orange.

• On Jan. 11, John Jario Arango, 23, of Hillside, was arrested on Main Street for an outstanding warrant out of Elmwood Park.

• On Jan. 10, Charles Green Jr., 37, of Orange, was arrested in Passaic for an outstanding warrant out of Springfield.

• On Jan. 10, Kenya Roberson, 31, of Newark, was arrested at a Route 22 residence for outstanding warrants out of Belmar and Newark. She was also charged with receiving stolen property and driving with a suspended license.

• On Jan. 9, Kristy Neumeister, 20, of Denville, Alan "Ace" Steinberg, 18, of Springfield, and Frank "Frankie" Miceli, 20, of Springfield, were arrested at the intersection of Morris Avenue and Center Street.

Neumeister was charged with identity theft, possession of a controlled dangerous substance, and possession of marijuana. Steinberg was charged with possession of marijuana, and Miceli was charged with possession of marijuana and underage consumption of alcohol.

• On Jan. 9, Christopher "Karriem" Finn, 31, of Irvington, was arrested for an outstanding warrant out of Essex County.

• On Jan. 9, Stephanie Davis, 35, of Newark, was arrested on an outstanding warrant out of Essex County.

• On Jan. 9, a Roselle Park resident reported their vehicle damaged in Springfield. Scratches were found on the left rear wheel well and there were dents on the left front and rear doors amounting to approximately $4,000 in damage.

• On Jan. 9, a Springfield resident got a flat right front tire after hitting a pot hole on Baltusrol Way near the intersection of Morris Avenue.

• On Jan. 5, Dashone Greene, 32, of Newark, was arrested in Essex County for an outstanding warrant out of Springfield.

• On Jan. 5, John "Jack" Ogden Bigelow III was arrested on Millburn Avenue on an outstanding warrant from New Providence and for driving with a suspended license.

• On Jan. 4, Samantha Shaw, 25, of Newark, was arrested on Springfield Avenue for driving with a suspended license and for an outstanding warrant out of East Orange.

• On Jan. 4, a Morris Avenue resident discovered that a sign they owned ended up damaged in the garbage outside their house. Damage is estimated at $500.

Summit

On Jan. 15, there was a report of the theft of a 1997 Chevrolet Lumina from a Canoe Brook Parkway residential driveway.

• On Jan. 14, Emerson Cordeiro, 27, of Newark, was arrested at Springfield Avenue for maintenance of lamps, failure to report change of address, possession of cocaine, possession of less than 50 grams of marijuana, possession of an open container in a motor vehicle and operating a motor vehicle in possession of CDS.

• On Jan. 14, Delsha Flannigan, 26, of Aliquippa, Pa., was arrested at Springfield Avenue for possession of cocaine, possession of less than 50 grams of marijuana and possession of an open container in a motor vehicle.

• On Jan. 11, Monica Blackstone, 34, of Voorhees, was arrested at Morris and Ashwood avenues for maintenance of lamps, unregistered vehicle, no proof of insurance and driving while suspended.

• On Jan. 11, Josef Campbell, 26, of West Orange, was arrested at Cedar Grove Police Headquarters for an outstanding warrant out of Summit.

• On Jan. 11, Anton Bernabela, 26, of Plainfield, was arrested at Police Headquarters for contempt of court.

• On Jan. 11, there was a report of a burglary and theft at a Hobart Avenue residence sometime between 6:20 p.m. and 7:50 p.m., this date. Known missing are a computer monitor and jewelry, unknown descriptions and value.

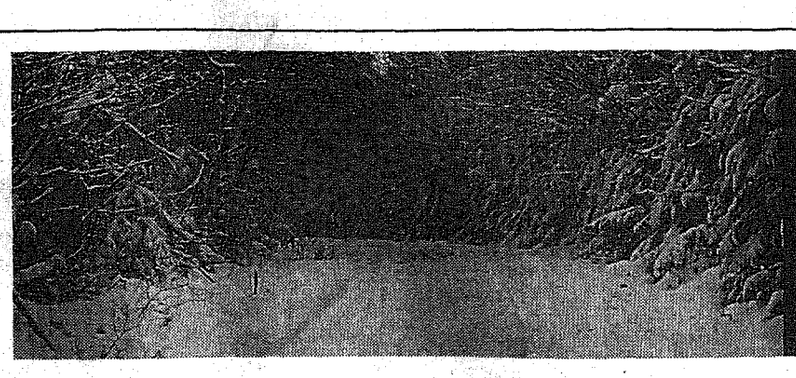
• On Jan. 11, there was a report of the theft of headlights from a 2005 Lexus RX wagon that was parked in a Springfield Avenue park and ride lot sometime between 11 a.m. and 12:37 p.m.

• On Jan. 10, there was a report of the theft of 10 reflectors from a Dale Drive residential driveway.

• On Jan. 10, there was a report of a burglary and theft at a Harvey Court residence sometime between 4 p.m. on Jan. 9 and Jan. 10. Known missing are three German World War II daggers valued at $975, $600 and $350; two German World War II swords valued at $200 and $95; a Nazi uniform belt valued at $225; five Nazi shoulder boards and collar tags valued at $35 each; a silver compact valued at $35, and miscellaneous items totaling $50.

• On Dec. 29, Jacquelin Jones, 50, of East Orange, was arrested at River Road and Greenfield Avenue for driving while suspended and contempt of court.

• On Dec. 29, Tatiana Gromyko, 49, of Cranford, was arrested at police headquarters for aggravated assault.



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COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

Not the right time

There's no denying the fact that steroid use can have potentially dangerous side effects, ranging from hair loss, heart problems, irreversible liver damage and infertility to violent mood swings. It's a growing problem among teen athletes, which, thankfully, has yet to become a serious problem in Kenilworth.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Education, officials discussed the possibility of subjecting student athletes to random drug tests to detect steroid use. While there's absolutely nothing wrong with taking proactive steps to ensure the health and safety of Kenilworth students, singling out athletes for drug tests is somewhat discriminatory. Although athletes are more likely to use steroids than non-athletic students, any random drug-testing policy instituted in the district should apply to all students. After all, drug use, in general, is a growing problem among teenagers and, if drug testing is to be done, it should apply to all students, regardless of their extracurricular activities.

It's also important to note that drug testing can be costly, especially for a middle-income district such as Kenilworth, which is already facing financial constraints. During his last weeks in office, former acting Gov. Richard Cody signed a bill requiring random testing for drugs among high school athletes involved in championship games. The measure will apply to all school districts in the state, including Kenilworth.

Perhaps in the future, random testing for steroids will become necessary in Kenilworth; but for now, it should be done on an as-needed basis, with an investigation into the necessity of a random-testing policy. Since there's always the chance that a student will become a victim of steroid use, officials should, if they hasn't already done so, make it a priority for all athletes to be properly educated about the danger that can come with continued steroid use.

For the Jersey-bashers

When former acting Gov. Richard Codey found himself disappointed with a new state slogan — "New Jersey: We'll win you over" — that a consultant had prepared for a ridiculous cost of $260,000 to NJ taxpayers, he went to the people.

The result, selected from more than 8,000 submissions of all stripes by state residents, was "Come see for yourself," a simple phrase that does quite a bit to address the overwhelmingly negative perception of New Jersey. It's a phrase that best sums up the constant rolling of eyes and oft-repeated jokes many New Jersey residents are subjected to when they venture far from the borders of the Garden State.

Would-be witticisms like "what exit?" and "the armpit of America," invariably spring to the minds of the sanctimonious in other regions of the United States when they meet someone from New Jersey. What's tragic, however, is that many people fond of Jersey-bashing haven't even taken the trouble "see for themselves." If they have, it's usually a ride up or down the turnpike after flying into Liberty Airport. This, of course, tends to make them experts on all things Jersey.

Is it fair to judge Michigan on the post-apocalyptic wasteland of Detroit? The Linden refinery and the Anheuser-Busch plant may not be the most attractive facilities in the world, but they shouldn't overshadow the natural beauty of places like Neshanic, Cape May, the mountains of Sussex County and a host of other Jersey attractions.

Though whether the new slogan will bring increased tourism is uncertain, it certainly sends the right message. It acknowledges negative perceptions of the state while encouraging visitors to put them aside for a first-hand experience.

Still, "New Jersey: You got a problem with that?" may best describe the attitude with which most Jerseyans meet criticism of their home state.

Lead by example

County Manager George Devanney unveiled a proposed $413 million county budget. If that figure doesn't shock people enough, keep in mind that last year's budget swelled $15 million beyond the original proposal — though all of that was offset by grants.

This year's budget proposal came one month after the board approved raises for its members, eight department heads and three constitutional officers. If county officials are going to ask taxpayers to make sacrifices, they should lead by example and forgo their salary increases.

The county will soon list its schedule of budget hearings, and we will be there, curious to see what kinds of cuts — or increases — are made.

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Photo By Sean Havey

ICE, ICE BABY — Quinn Halper of Summit takes a break during a recent skating lesson at the Richard Codey Arena at South Mountain.

Don't drown the celebration with political agendas

Nobody asked my opinion, but...

By Bob Milici

It's been a long time coming. From beginning to end, more than 10 years.

Thankfully, it was announced by Roselle Park Mayor Joe Delorio last week that the Federal Emergency Management Agency revised its flood map and 194 residents of Roselle Park would not have to pay flood insurance anymore. Break out the champagne, let the balloons go! This is a celebration that many of us have waited a long time for.

Though there is still some work to do, Mayor Delorio and Councilman At Large Ricky Badillo both deserve congratulations for their effort and subsequent result. They weren't the only ones supporting a revised FEMA map, but they were the catalysts in getting this job done and the ones who kept the fight going.

In a frustrating situation that many would have given up on, Delorio and Badillo kept plodding along, never giving up faith. Now, at an average of near $1,000 per year, they will save these Roselle Park residents a combined approximate $194,000 per year. Not bad, I'd say, for a couple of part-time elected officials..

This entire issue was one I raised back in 1995, immediately after taking office as 1st Ward councilman. Many 1st and 2nd Ward residents were unjustly on the FEMA flood map in my opinion, and it was my commitment to try to help them. When Badillo came on the council in the late '90s, he joined the fight.

A study I initiated showed options to remove these residents from the flood map. But without FEMA's cooperation, all options would have cost the borough hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Long story short, despite meetings with FEMA, assemblymen, state senators and congressmen, my efforts really didn't move the issue forward too much. FEMA wasn't very cooperative. So what I hoped for, just wasn't going to happen.

Sure, I helped a few 1st Ward residents get off the map, but only because they were put there incorrectly in the first place. It was a frustrating, difficult situation to deal with. During nine years on council, I spent hundreds of hours yearly on the issue, but really, with no big movement forward.

Upon leaving council, I said it was the one issue that I was disappointed that as a councilman, I could not change while in office. Happily, though I left council, the matter didn't die. Delorio and Badillo, with the support of their council colleagues, continued the battle. They engaged the services of the Army Corps of Engineers, other high-level politicians and FEMA itself. They had good support and cooperation from Don Guarriello and Ed Decker, the borough's engineering firm. With help from Assemblymen Eric Munoz and Jon Bramnick, they were able to penetrate the FEMA "wall" and get them to agree to revise the flood map.

Last week, at a packed meeting with 50 or 60 of the affected residents in attendance, Delorio made the announcement. Approximately $90 to $100 a month is a lot in today's family budget, so naturally, they were all happy. Aside from the flood insurance payments, the ridiculous thing was that we experienced a 100-year flood a few years back when Hurricane Floyd came ripping though our town with no real damage. So these people were happy, not just to save money, but because they knew being on the flood map originally was a mistake.

Unfortunately, in politics, even some positive stories have a negative side. In this, the sad truth is that 5th Ward Councilman Bob Zeglarski could not find it in his heart to join the celebration. Instead, he criticized Delorio and Badillo for inviting the 2nd Ward residents who were removed from the flood map to the municipal building an hour before the regular meeting of the Borough Council last week.

Rather than congratulate Delorio and Badillo, and rejoice with those residents who will now have extra money each month for their families, Zeglarski implied that the meeting was in violation of the Sunshine Law. Such a shame. Imagine any elected councilman criticizing anyone on the governing body for inviting residents to a meeting to let them know they will be saving approximately $1,000 per year. Unreal. But that's Zeglarski's clear record. Criticize anything positive, simply to move his political agenda forward.

It's too bad that Zeglarski continually chooses to place his obvious political agenda above the real issues of Roselle Park taxpayers. I only wish that I was still on the council to join their celebrations and applaud Delorio and Badillo for continuing the fight that began 12 years ago. You see, when you are really interested in the best for Roselle Park residents, it doesn't matter who gets the job done, it just matters that it gets done. Unfortunately, Zeglarski and his advisors don't understand this.

Last Thursday was a night for celebration, not obsessive political agendas. Had I been up there, I would have been the first to shake the hands of Mayor Delorio and Councilman Badillo for seeing this through to the point of removing 194 homeowners from the flood map and the requirement of having to pay upward of $1,000 a year for it.

Thank you, Mayor Delorio and Councilman Badillo, for seeing through a fight that spanned more than a decade. One that was tough, frustrating and one that doors were closed on from the beginning.

While your colleagues, Councilmen Loren Harms, Rob Rubilla, Kevin Murphy, Rick Matarante and Sam D'Errico supported your efforts, it was you two that carried the flame and got the job done.

Keep up the fight; there are still some that need your help. But when you retire from Roselle Park politics, you'll know that at least 194 residents will no longer have to pay upward of $1,000 per year for flood insurance that they would never have needed.

Great job, guys. We're all proud of you.

A resident of Cranford, Bob Milici is a former three-term 1st Ward Councilman in Roselle Park.

Here's a look at horticultural trends for 2006

The Gardener's Apprentice

By Elisabeth Ginsburg

The nature of growing things means the horticultural industry moves more slowly than technology or finance or communication. But that doesn't mean plant breeders, merchandisers and buyers don't relish the new and different. Plant breeders are the master manipulators of the horticultural world, always trying to make things bigger, smaller, more fragrant, more colorful or hardy.

Merchandisers wouldn't make nearly as much money if they offered the same selections every year with only an obligatory four percent price increase to distinguish the current season's plants from the ones they offered last year. And, of course, the consumer also gets bored with the same old varieties. This is why the catalog merchants bend over backward to stress their new offerings. The following is a summary of some of this year's most noteworthy trends:

• Container gardening: Why dig up your plot when you can plant in a pot? Smaller spaces, less spare time and a desire for instant gratification add up to a vogue for container gardening. Containers themselves, whether they are wrought iron, terra cotta, copper, or galvanized steel, have been given a lot of space in the new catalogs. Some merchants are trying to take the guesswork out of container planting by selling plant collections along with specific containers. All the consumer has to do is buy a bag of potting mix, take a gander at the picture or diagram supplied by the merchant and fill the pot. Plant vendors also take pains to note which flowers, vegetables and fruits are especially good for container culture. As if that isn't enough inspiration, the garden magazines are devoting significant space to features on container gardening.

• Gaillardia: It used to be that Gaillardia, most notably Gaillardia x grandiflora, had a reputation for being colorful, but a bit banal. Also known as blanket flower, its reliable nature and bright yellow and red petals made it anathema to would-be garden sophisticates. Now, however, Gaillardia has become a garden hottie. Older varieties like the dwarf 'Goblin,' its yellow-flowered sibling, 'Golden Goblin' and the yellow-banded, red-petaled 'Dazzler' are sharing the limelight with an array of colorful newer introductions. Gaillardia aristata 'Fanfare,' with its trumpet-shaped petals, blazed into the spotlight last year, and remains there. The new and floriferous 'Oranges and Lemons' has orangy-yellow petals tipped in brighter yellow. Old or new, Gaillardia blooms repeatedly during the summer, tolerates poor soil and dryness and is not particularly susceptible to disease.

• Coneflowers: Once upon a time, an Echinacea Purpurea could die of loneliness in the average garden catalog. Now, growers and breeders have gone Echinacea-crazy and there are enough Echinacea species and cultivars to support a catalog dedicated exclusively to them. Favorite purpureas include 'Magnus' and 'Rubenstern,' with their large flowers and horizontal (instead of downward pointing) petals. 'White Swan' is a purpurea with white petals, as is the sweet-smelling 'Fragrant Angel.'

For people who like rather silly-looking flowers, there is 'Double Decker,' a purpurea that has the standard daisy-like array of petals, plus an additional set growing out of the central cone. 'Razzmatazz' is even fluffier, with a minimal cone. The biggest news in Echinacea, though, is the mass marketing of new orange-petaled varieties like 'Sunset' and yellow-petaled plants like 'Sunrise' and 'Harvest Moon.' Even those who can't get enough of Echinacea may become sated this year.

• Repeat-blooming plants: In the past, one annual flush of bloom was plenty for iris, daylilies and hydrangeas. Now though, consumers want more flowers for less effort, hence the introduction of cultivars that bloom repeatedly. This trend got off to a flying start with the now-ubiquitous 'Stella De Oro' daylily. Now reblooming daylily lovers who want something other than yellow can have 'Rosy Returns' in pink, peachy 'Apricot Sparkles,' or even the purple and yellow 'Thundering Ovation.'

Hydrangea aficionados can buy 'Endless Summer,' that blooms on old and new wood, meaning more months of bloom. In the iris bed, the white 'Immortality' may give you a second flush, as will other varieties like the blue and white 'Cloud Ballet'. It is wise to remember that reblooming cultivars of just about anything generally bloom most strongly the first time, and less strongly, or sometimes not at all, thereafter. Don't believe everything you read in the promotional literature.

Of course, there are lots of other trends. Rose growers are doing everything they can to create low-maintenance varieties. Anything-from bamboo to sedum-with a black stem is in vogue. Easy-care groundcovers are so hot that you wouldn't want to walk on them barefoot. It's all enough to get your heart pounding, even if all you are doing is lying on the couch thumbing through a catalog.

Elisabeth Ginsburg's gardening Web site can be found at www.thegardenersapprentice.com.

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Parents of teens: Your kids might be drinkers

The Canessa Corner

By Kevin Canessa Jr.

As a youth minister, I've heard it all. Whether it's from teenagers, parents, parishioners, whomever: thinking back on some of the comments that have been made and ideas thought about sort of brings a smile to my face.

And yet, there's one thing that still scares me — and it's about the naivete so many parents have about the use of drugs and the consumption of alcohol among the teenage community in this area.

Drinking and drug use is nothing new to the world of teenagers. It's just more accepted these days by some parents and many teens.

Here are a few examples, snippets that bring me great worry.

A parent once approached me, in my capacity as a youth minister, to tell me it was shocking that I'd allow teenagers who have had a drink to take part in activities open to the entire youth group.

I was astonished by this comment.

My response was simple.

If I were to prohibit any teen who had tried drinking or, for that matter, perhaps even drugs, from taking part in youth group activities, chances are it would be just a handful of adult volunteers and me sitting around waiting for the teenagers who wouldn't be showing up.

It's apparently staggering just how many teenagers are drinking on a regular or somewhat regular basis.

Just how is this happening? Well, one answer I've sensed from teens who are willing to talk about it is that there are parents — read this carefully now — *parents* who are willing to provide alcohol to their kids and their kids' friends.

Wow.

These people — I hope they're a stark minority — are providing substances to kids who have barely begun a maturation process and who physically can't tolerate these substances.

What is wrong with this picture?

It blows my mind a parent would buy alcohol for their children, but it's even more amazing they'd also provide it to someone else's kids.

Think about this: When an adult provides alcohol to a minor, it is the adult who is ultimately responsible for the actions of the minor.

Imagine — and I am sure this has happened somewhere — that an adult parent gives alcohol to his teenage kid and his friends. The kids decide to go out for a joy ride, drunk.

There's an accident — with injuries. Who would be held responsible? The people who provided the underage drinkers with alcohol.

This is a sad reality, but one that other parents must face. Teenagers are going out and are drinking a lot these days and, sometimes, parents don't catch on.

The sad reality of it all is that perhaps it'll take a tragic event before good parents stand up to the bad parents.

That would be the ultimate shame.

Managing Editor Kevin Canessa Jr. can be reached at 973-743-4040, ext. 106, or kcanessa@gmail.com.

In the moment

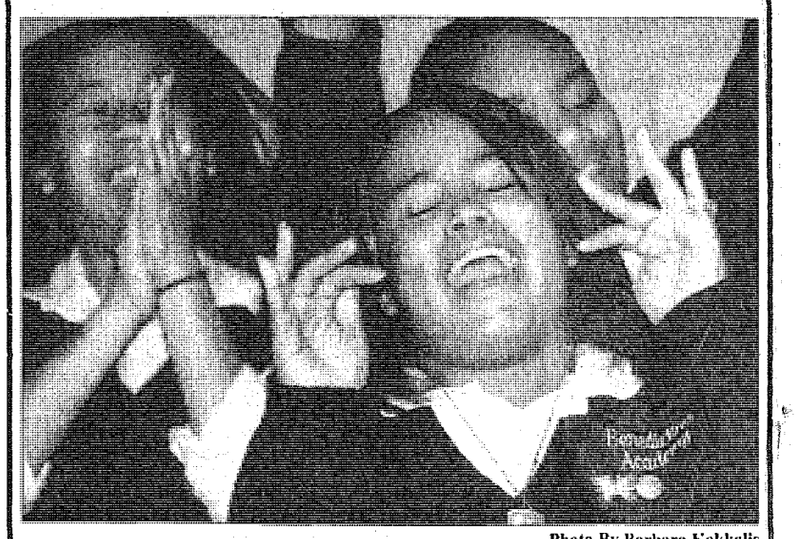


Photo By Barbara Kokkalis

Chinece Anyanaso, a ninth-grader at Benedictine Academy, sings along at a concert given by Tony Melendez, who, born with no arms, plays guitar with his feet.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Government needs a different mindset

To the Editor:

Politicians at every level bewail the high cost of government, but always wiggle out by blaming a different entity for not doing its part.

In my sophomore year on the Common Council, I pledge to work with its finance committee to keep Summit affordable. By adding up the pieces ahead of time, we can make the necessary tough tradeoff decisions this year and stop piecemeal decision-making.

Today our average resident pays $11,751 in property taxes. This burden has grown 7 percent annually for over a decade, even as inflation has disappeared. Unless we cut this in half, our senior citizens and young working class families will become extinct.

Here is the mindset it takes: compile all our 27 "lines of business" — police, schools, fire, sewers, recreation, garbage, etc. — on a single page, regardless of which independent agency delivers the service; fully load them with cost-accounting that includes pensions, medical benefits and utilities. Also attribute any related revenues, so we depict true economic impact, not just cash flow, and classify the lines of business into "mandatory," "customary," or "discretionary" per the city's legal charter.

By measuring performance properly and comparing ourselves to private sector alternatives, we'll discover several candidates for outsourcing, things that corporations can do more efficiently and that users should pay for directly as customers, instead of indirectly via our property tax envelope.

We've balanced our budget much too long with hiring freezes, across-the-board expense cuts, underfunding pensions and depleting cash surplus. Simply trimming incremental appropriation requests or cherry picking one-time revenues won't work any longer.

The whole size of local government needs shrinking. Workflow can be re-engineered with a municipal Web site that lets citizens serve themselves online. Fewer customers at City Hall means fewer staff members, allowing a part-time workforce with cheaper employee benefits.

Step one is to examine all 15 variables that go into our homeowner's tax bill and adopt a strategy for each element; balance sheet management, property reassessments and tax exemptions, in addition to existing cost controls and capital constraints. There is no need to wait for Gov. Jon Corzine's reforms.

There are only eight elected officials in town, so I understand the average citizen feels the council is responsible for all $11,751 of his tax dollars, including those passed through to our schools and the county.

How important is it for property taxes to rise only 3.5 percent, not 7 percent? Worth selling assets and discontinuing an entire line of business?

The next Constituent Night is Feb. 2 from 6 to 8 p.m. at City Hall and I'd love to get your feelings one-on-one.

Tom Getzendanner, member
Summit Common Council

Support during a trying time

To the Editor:

This is a letter of gracious thanks.

Last week I buried my daughter, MaryEllen Touris. It was one of the saddest times of my life. When I awoke to handle the day's events, I felt there would be nothing that could possibly bring me a feeling of peace or safety. I was wrong.

I want to tell the many people how much their caring words, embrace or look of sympathy meant to me. Thank you to the many officers of the Cranford Fire and Police departments as well as the EMT officers, the Union County Corrections officers and, the Union County Police & Fire Pipes and Drums for the beautiful presentation and remembrance for my daughter, MaryEllen. We are grateful to Rev. John P. McGovern and Father Chris, who took care of all of us and especially my daughter on this day of her passing to Our Lord.

I was renewed to see the many people who came to the church, which was overflowing and filled with their spirit. Thank you just doesn't seem to say enough to the very many friends of my daughter, my grandchildren, my children, our families, and so many others offering their sympathy and support.

Everyone would ask me if I needed anything and so many people brought food, listened to me and held me as well.

It was overwhelming to have so many people come to offer their condolences, the cards, flowers and efforts taken by so many to be present and to help us on this day. I want everyone who was there for us in this terrible and difficult time to know how very much we appreciate his or her affections and generous expression of love. There is no way I can thank so many people individually but I felt that special individual affection from each of you.

I felt nothing could get us through this time, but I was wrong. Because of what so many people unselfishly brought to my family in loving memory of MaryEllen, I was indeed able to feel safe and experience moments of peace.

The many gifts, embodied in the spirit of all those who gave to us, are indeed a personal tribute to my daughter MaryEllen, her beautiful children and her family. I want you all to know that you have succeeded, your efforts were meaningful, and will never be forgotten. Thank you all so very much.

Mary M. Cermak
Cranford

Toys for tots a success

To the Editor:

On behalf of the United States Marine Corps Reserve, Cranford Firemen's Mutual Benevolent Association 37 and the Cranford Fire Department, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to all the agencies, schools, residents and companies who helped in making this year's drive a huge success.

Due to their response, we were able to distribute more than 3,000 toys to local agencies, which coordinated the distribution to local area children in need. We would like to recognize the following for their continued help in obtaining our goal: the Cranford Post Office and Postmaster Wayne Orshak, Orange Avenue School, Brookside Place School, Cranford High School Wood Shop Classes, Hillside Avenue School, St. Michael School, Union County College Student Volunteer Association, and Knowledge Network.

A special thank you also to A&J Trading of Linden, which has been an active supporter for more than five years, supplying the thousands of boxes required.

Dean Russamano
Toys for Tots Coordinator

Women's freedom depends on Roe

To the Editor:

It's been 33 years since Roe v. Wade legalized abortion nationwide.

On Jan. 22, 1973, a young lawyer named Sarah Weddington successfully argued the Roe v. Wade case before the United States Supreme Court. But the ink wasn't dry on the decision before anti-choice forces began attempting to eviscerate Roe and all that the monumental decision stands for.

Anti-choice state legislators have pushed laws that require waiting periods, biased and inaccurate pre-abortion counseling and other barriers to a woman's right to choose. Anti-choice foot soldiers mustered on the sidewalks of health clinics to harass, murder and brutalize staff and patients who were attempting to gain access to the health care to which they were fully entitled.

Most baffling about the anti-choice activists, who have been waging 33 years of warfare against choice, is their wholesale rejection of the measures that would prevent the need for abortion.

They oppose comprehensive, medially accurate sex education, even though it has been proven that truthful, comprehensive sex education is effective in teaching teens responsible decision making, disease prevention and family planning.

They oppose emergency contraception and sometimes all forms of birth control. You don't have to be a rocket scientist to figure out that without birth control, there will be more unintended pregnancies and therefore an increased need for abortion services.

Over the past few years, anti-choice pharmacists have refused to fill legal prescriptions for emergency contraception because of their own personal biases. You have to wonder how many women were left with an unwanted pregnancy after a pharmacist refused to do his or her job.

In a number of states, attorneys general have tried to subpoena the personal, private medical records of women who have had abortions. Privacy is the cornerstone of Roe, and the right to medical privacy is as organic to American society as the right to speak in the public square.

Roe v. Wade is about self-determination and bodily integrity. It is about how securing these rights gives women an equal place at life's table. Justice Harry Blackmun, writing for the majority, called Roe "a step that had to be taken as we go down the road toward the full emancipation of women."

Thirty-three years of freedom — and counting.

Jeffrey Bland, president and CEO
Planned Parenthood of Greater Western New Jersey

Scouts thank breakfast participants

To the Editor:

The Clark Cub Scout Pack 145 committee sends a sincere thank you to everyone who attended the Pack's Pancake Breakfast on Jan. 7 at the Brewer Municipal Building cafeteria. Attendance by many persons from diverse backgrounds demonstrated the overwhelming support that Cub Scout Pack 145 has consistently received from the community. The event was also a success due to the many Cub Scouts and their parents who rolled up their sleeves to set up for the event and clean-up afterwards, preparing and serving food in the kitchen, as well as spreading the word to their family and friends about the event. One Cub Scout family spread the word sufficiently to attract 14 people to the breakfast alone! It is also important to thank Ralph Bernardo and the Recreation Department of the Township of Clark for permitting the use of the cafeteria.

Cub Scout Pack 145 Committee
Clark

Meeting minutes requested

To the Editor:

At Cranford's Jan. 1 reorganization meeting, there was a motion made to change the township's insurance broker from Bank of America to Hale Insurance Brokerage, an entity politically connected to Union County Democrats. Commissioner Bob Puhak voiced serious concerns about the decision to switch brokers and requested a reasonable two-week delay so that due diligence could be performed. Specifically, Mr. Puhak stated that the township's insurance review committee, which includes insurance professionals living in Cranford, had not even been notified of the possible change, let alone consulted. It seemed completely reasonable to modestly delay the vote to take advantage of the professional advice readily available. Mayor Dan Aschenbach, however, asserted that the insurance review committee had reviewed Hale Insurance and recommended terminating Bank of America in favor of Hale. The Cranford Democrats would not permit any delay.

A week or so later, I read a letter to the editor written by a member of the insurance review committee. He indicated that the insurance review committee had not been notified in 2005 about changing Cranford's insurance broker. In fact, when the insurance review committee reviewed the issue in 2004, the committee advised against any change.

Now, Mayor Aschenbach is calling for a "pay to play" panel. I hope this is not a transparent attempt to shift the focus from his Jan. 1 public statements. Mayor Aschenbach must promptly produce insurance review committee minutes, letters or any other evidence supporting his version of the facts. If he fails to do so, we can only conclude that this change is a favor to a politically connected broker.

David Robinson
Cranford

Timing of pay-to-play panel questionable

To the Editor:

There are times when we all must pause, reconsider, and then marvel at the audacity of our elected Cranford officials. Such a time is at hand now, with Dan Aschenbach announcing his enthusiasm for establishing a panel to study the ill effects of pay-to-play. My wonder at this comes not from the idea but of its timing. It was Dan and his fellow Democrats who rammed through the appointment of a politically connected insurance broker at the Jan. 1 reorganization meeting.

If as he says, Mr. Aschenbach needs guidance concerning such ill effects he need only has to look to his right for an example. After all, our Township Attorney, Robert Renaud — a very active fundraiser for the Union County Democratic machine and special counsel to the Union County Freeholders — can provide a wealth of such advice.

There is nothing like having home grown talent available to give you real insight into a serious problem.

George Steinbach
Cranford

County not benefitting from railroad

To the Editor:

A recent news article about the Morristown & Erie railway going through Union County towns stated that the freight train cannot go through without an additional $10 million to $15 million.

M&E's chief executive officer, Gordon Fuller, has the nerve to say this after spending nearly $10 million of public funds attempting to repair the two defunct freight lines through Union County.

That's a huge financial miscalculation for an old freight line boss like Fuller. Union County taxpayers can think of many more productive ways to spend $15 million. Why must we throw "good money after bad" to support Fuller's Folly? It's a bottomless pit that Union County Freeholders got suckered into and now have a way out! Take it!

I agree with Assemblyman Jon Bramnick's recorded comment, "I would never vote for another penny for this. If there is anything we should study into non-existence, it is this railroad. There's been absolutely no evidence for the need for this railroad."

M&E in one breath claims that its freight train project will get trucks off the road. With the next breath, they mumble something about building truck depots along the line to deliver products brought from the port. They say they are creating new jobs, but not in Union County, New Jersey or anywhere in the United States for that matter.

I have been present at numerous meetings where Union County residents have asked Fuller what customers M&E has along the freight line. He has always refused to answer. At last, we do have an answer! Fuller's M&E freight train fiasco has a customer, Tosco Refinery, which manufactures plastic pellets.

We are paying a fortune for Fuller to bring plastic pellets to a company in Morris County that manufactures compact disk cases. If the truth be told, Mr. Fuller knows this freight line has nothing to do with economic development in Union County. Money will be made, but not for the people who are funding this folly. Money has already has been made by M&E Railway, a privately held short line freight company. Stop them from draining millions of dollars more from public funds for their private interests.

Arlene Murphy
Roselle

Rahway board member should resign

To the Editor:

At a recent Rahway High School PTO meeting, a parent asked about the new School Resource Officer assigned to the high school. Principal Edward Yergolonis informed the members that an SRO had been assigned to the high school and middle school. It was Officer Dawn Rodger.

The appointment by the Police Department to make Officer Rodger an SRO is not controlled by the school board, but ethical conduct dictates that she should resign the position of school board member.

One of the duties of the SRO is to "abide by school board policies and shall consult with and coordinate activities through the school principal, but shall remain fully responsive to the chain of command of the law enforcement agency in all matters."

A school board member is a liaison between the community and the school. Policies are formulated with the input of the community, parents and students.

A police officer works under the command of the law. A board member cannot remove themselves from each situation in which there may be an issue of conflict. For example, school disruptions about a school issue.

Both of these positions require single mindful attention. Let's not short change either position by thinking one person can serve in both capacities.

Therefore, I urge Officer Rodger to resign from the school board, allowing her time to nurture the new position of SRO and making room for another dedicated individual to fill the school board position.

Linda Freeman
Rahway

Freeholders should lead by example

To the Editor:

Our new governor, Jon Corzine, has informed us that New Jersey is $6 billion in debt and everyone should be prepared to help shoulder the burden to return prosperity to our state.

This past week the freeholders in Union County enacted a freeze on hiring, notified the taxpayers of a tax increase and voted themselves a 5.3 percent pay raise. That's certainly the way to lead by example. They get health benefits, cars and pensions. What a great part-time job!

It's time for the residents of Union County to let our freeholders know of our concerns. Why don't they show some class and rescind their pay raise and some of their health benefits? The taxpayers would greatly appreciate it.

Sy Mullman, former mayor
Springfield

Winter star

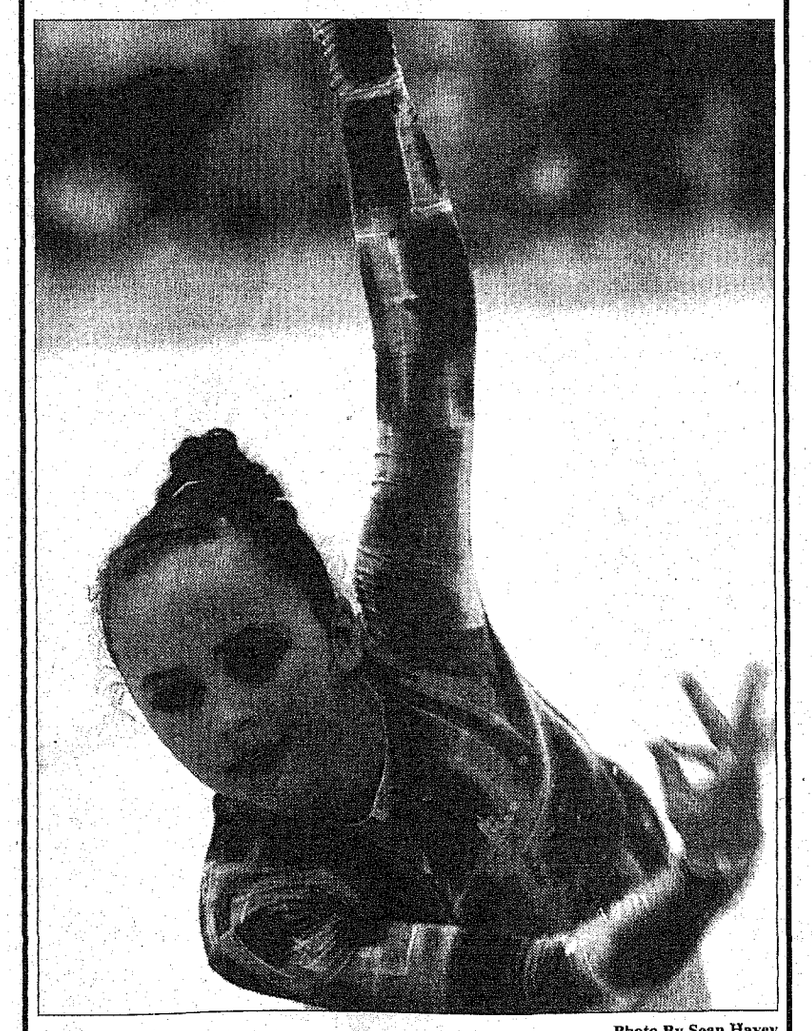


Photo By Sean Havey

Alicia Vilnyanskiy performs her dance routine at the Winter Stars Invitational at the Rahway Recreation Center.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that applications will be heard at a public meeting of the Mountainside Planning Board on February 9, 2006 at the Mountainside Municipal Building, 1385 Route 22, Mountainside, NJ 07092.

Zahkar Vaynberg, 1279 Old Farm Road, Block 16.K, Lot 101 - Air dome for over proposed above ground pool, contrary to Sections 1009(c)(6) ground projection over 3.75%, 1009(c)(7) lot coverage 30%, 1003(e)(1)(E) existing driveway in side yard, 1003(e)(1)(A) accessory structure over 600 square feet.

Nextel Communication, 1193 Route 22, Block 23.C, Lot 6.A - Continuation of construction of a cell tower.

Criscitiello Residence, 1041 Prospect Avenue, Block 5.A, Lot 9- Two story cabana, contrary to Sections 1003 (e)(1)(E) accessory structure in side yard, 1003(e)(2)(B) accessory structure exceeds 16ft. high, 1003(e)(1)(A) accessory structure exceeds 600 square feet.

Monoc, 1139 Spruce Drive, Block 5.T, Lot 24.B - Administrative offices, training facility, parking of ambulances including overnight parking, contrary to Section 914(b)(19) insufficient parking.

Kelly, 1429 Woodacres Drive, Block 3.E, Lot 14 - Addition in rear yard, contrary to Sections 1009(c)(5) existing lot area under 15,000 s.f., 1009(c)(5) existing lot width under 100 ft., 1009(c)(5) existing insufficient lot area within 150 ft. of street line, 1009 (c)(6) foundation area over 15%.

Applications are subject to the Mountainside Land Use Ordinance and are subject to bulk variances, if required.

Other issues may be discussed and action may be taken.

Ruth M. Rees
Planning Board Secretary
U135715 OBS Jan. 26, 2006 ($19.50)

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD

Take notice that the following decision was made at the regular meeting of the Board of Adjustment held on Tuesday, January 17, 2006:

Application # 2005-16

Applicant: JOSEPH MEEHAN AND SAMUEL RODRIGUEZ

Site Location: 2 KIPLING AVENUE

Block: 2803 Lot(s): 1

For: A variance with regard to fence height to permit a six-foot high fence along a side yard of the subject property.

Was: APPROVED

Said application is on file in the Office of the Secretary of the Board of Adjustment, Annex Building, 20 North Trivett Avenue, Township of Springfield, NJ and is available for public inspection.

Robert C. Kirkpatrick
Board Secretary
U135569 OBS Jan. 26, 2006 ($11.25)

BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE
COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following proposed ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside in the County of Union, New Jersey, held on the 17th day of January 2006 and that said ordinance will be taken up for further consideration for final passage at the meeting of said Mayor and Council to be held in the Municipal Building, 1385 Route 22, Mountainside, New Jersey on the 21st day of February 2006 at 8:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as said matter can be reached, at which time and place all persons who may be interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same.

Judith E. Osty, RMC, CMR
Borough Clerk
BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDINANCE 1102-2006
AN ORDINANCE REGULATING SANITARY PRACTICES AT PLACES OF COSMETOLOGY, HAIR AND NAIL STYLING

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Borough, and the employees, and patrons of cosmetology establishments deems it appropriate to establish a registration requirement and enact sanitary regulations for such establishments operating within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the sanitary regulations contained in this ordinance have been recommended by the Board of Health; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Mountainside, County of Union, State of New Jersey that the following ordinance be adopted:

Title: REGISTRATION AND SANITARY REQUIREMENTS FOR ESTABLISHMENTS FOR COSMETOLOGY, HAIR AND NAIL STYLING

Section I. Purpose. The purpose of the ordinance is to preserve and protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Borough, and the patrons and employees of Establishments for Cosmetology, Hair and Nail Styling, by establishing a registration requirement and minimum sanitary practices for such establishments, both of which shall be enforceable by the Board of Health.

Section II. Definitions. As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

A. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - The Westfield Board of Health or such other person(s) or agency designated by the municipality to provide municipal sanitary/health services.

B. ESTABLISHMENT FOR COSMETOLOGY, HAIR AND NAIL STYLING - Shall include all places, business, establishments, salons, and shops, regardless of the type of ownership, which provide any or all of the services generally associated with beauty parlors, hair styling, barbers, makeup application, and nail salons including all establishments and services regulated by the New Jersey State Board of Cosmetology.

Section III. State License and Borough Registration Required.

It shall be illegal for any person, corporation, partnership or sole proprietorship to open and/or operate an Establishment for Cosmetology, Hair and Nail Styling or any facility using barber and/or beauty shop, cosmetology, hair styling and/or nail salon equipment within the Borough without first obtaining a New Jersey State Board of Cosmetology license to operate such a business, and without first registering with the Borough as required herein.

Section IV. Registration Requirement.

A. Every Establishment for Cosmetology, Hair and Nail Styling shall complete a short registration form provided by the Health Department which shall include the address of the Establishment, the hours and days of operation, the name and address of a contact person for the Establishment, a copy of the New Jersey State Board of Cosmetology License for the facility, and other such relevant information as the Health Department shall request, and provide payment of the registration fee. The registration shall be good for one year unless it is revoked sooner.

B. The registration fee for any Establishment for Cosmetology, Hair and Nail Styling in the Borough shall be $50 annually.

C. The Health Department shall be responsible for collecting the registration forms and fees and keeping accurate records of same.

D. The registration of an establishment in the Borough shall be deemed automatically revoked if the New Jersey State Board of Cosmetology License for the facility is revoked or suspended.

Section V. Sanitary Performance Standards:

It shall be illegal for Establishments for Cosmetology, Hair and Nail Styling (Establishments), in the Borough, to fail to adhere to the sanitary standards listed below:

A. Requirements for all Establishments:

1. Use of an Establishment as sleeping quarters is prohibited.
2. Every Establishment shop and all appurtenances or equipment therein shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition at all times.
3. Every Establishment shall be well lighted, well ventilated, and shall be provided with an adequate supply of hot and cold water.
4. The use of mugs, shaving brushes and dusting brushes is prohibited.
5. Razors, scissors, clippers, pinchers, needles and all other instruments shall, after each use, be sterilized by immersion in a suitable and approved solution, or by some other method approved by the Board of Health.
6. Combs and brushes shall be cleaned after each use with soap and water and then shall be sterilized in the manner described above or by some other manner approved by the Board of Health.
7. Attendants shall wear clean, washable outer coat or uniforms.
8. The headrest, if used, shall be protected with fresh paper or laundered towel for each patron.
9. Attendants shall wash their hands with soap and water between serving each patron.
10. Individual paper neckbands or freshly laundered towels shall be used and not reused unless laundered.
11. No alum, astringent, antiseptic or other preparation shall be used in stick form. If used at all, it shall be applied in the form of a powder or liquid on a freshly laundered towel or some other clean material that has not been used by another patron.
12. Powder puffs and sponges, except single service items, shall not be used.
13. The use of any cosmetic, acid, solution or any article or material that may be injurious to the skin, hair or health is prohibited.
14. Waste disposal shall be daily and disposed of in a manner acceptable to the Board of Health.
15. Personnel shall have appropriate licenses as issued by the New Jersey State Board of Cosmetology. Such licenses shall be displayed in the establishment where the public can view them.

B. Additional Nail Salon Requirements:

1. Instruments that contact the customer, i.e. sanding disks, stones, etc. shall be single use items or be sterilized between each customer.
2. Instruments and gauze and tissues that are contaminated with blood shall be single use, properly disposed of or sterilized after contamination.

Section VI. Violations and Penalties.

A. The Board of Health shall enforce the provisions of this ordinance.

B. In addition to, and not in limitation of, any other penalties provided for violations of sanitary health codes in the ordinances of the Borough, under state statute, or otherwise available at law, any person or establishment which violates any provision of this ordinance shall upon conviction thereof, be subject to a fine not exceeding the maximum amount established in N.J.S.A.40:49-5 or by imprisonment for a time not to exceed ninety (90) days or both. A separate offense shall be deemed committed for each and every provision of this ordinance, which is violated, and for each and every day that each and every such violation occurs or continues.

Section VII. Unannounced Department of Health Inspections.

All Establishments for Cosmetology, Hair and Nail Styling shall be subject to unannounced Department of Health inspections to ensure the protection of the citizens, employees and patrons and compliance with all sanitary and health requirements.

Section IX. Severability.

Every section of this ordinance, or part thereof, shall be considered a separate provision to the extent that if any portion shall be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid that it shall not effect the remaining parts of this ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED THAT, any pre-existing ordinance provisions, which are contrary to the provisions of this ordinance, are hereby repealed.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication as provided for by law.

U135730 OBS Jan. 26, 2006 (90.75)

BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE
COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following proposed ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside in the County of Union, New Jersey, held on the 17th day of January 2006 and that said ordinance will be taken up for further consideration for final passage at the meeting of said Mayor and Council to be held in the Municipal Building, 1385 Route 22, Mountainside, New Jersey on the 21st day of February 2006 at 8:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as said matter can be reached, at which time and place all persons who may be interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same.

Judith E. Osty, RMC, CMR
Borough Clerk

ORDINANCE 1103-2006
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE STORMWATER CONTROL ORDINANCE AND REQUIRING THAT ENTITIES OTHER THAN THE BOROUGH BE DESIGNATED UNDER SECTION 10B(2) TO MAINTAIN THE STORMWATER FACILITIES EXCEPT WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW

WHEREAS, the Borough of Mountainside has recently adopted Ordinance No. 1090-2005, the model Storm Water Control Ordinance, promulgated by New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to implement the regulations contained in N.J.A.C 7:8-4.1; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 1090-2005 will require, in many cases, that new development and redevelopment in the Borough include the construction, maintenance and inspection of storm water control facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Ordinance provides developers a range of options to chose from in addressing storm water, some of which are more costly, and require more maintenance, than others; and

WHEREAS, to the extent permitted by law, the Borough desires require that entities other than the Borough be required to maintain these storm water facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside, County of Union, State of New Jersey that the current Section 10 of the Borough's Storm Water Control Ordinance, Ordinance No. 1090 - 2005, be amended as follows:

I. The following language shall be added to the end of the current ordinance at Section 10:

D. Borough Not Responsible for Maintenance;

1. The Borough of Mountainside shall not be designated under Section 10 of the Storm Water Control Ordinance as the person responsible for maintenance of storm water facilities constructed under this ordinance or the corresponding state regulations, unless such designation is:
   a. Required by law;
   b. Specifically approved by the Planning Board/Zoning Board and the Governing Body;
   c. Required because the property is owned by the Borough of Mountainside.
2. Responsibility for maintenance of storm water facilities constructed for development or redevelopment of **non-residential** properties shall be retained by the non-residential property owner, unless designation of an alternate responsible person is approved by the Planning Board/Zoning Board.
3. Responsibility for maintenance of water facilities constructed for **residential** development or redevelopment, shall be retained by the owner or vested in a homeowner's association or other similar entity as may be approved by the Planning Board/Zoning Board, except as provided for in Section 10 B (3) of this ordinance.
4. Prior to issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy for any construction, which includes the construction of storm water facilities under this ordinance, the appropriate documents shall be recorded in the County land records evidencing the designation of the responsible person for maintenance of the storm water facilities for each affected property. Proof of compliance with this provision shall be evidenced by submission of a copy of the filed document. including deed book and page reference to the Borough Building Department.
5. Notwithstanding the above, the Planning Board/Zoning Board shall be permitted, upon a finding of sufficient cause, to approve the designation of the Borough or other public entity as the responsible person for maintenance of the storm water facilities required under this ordinance. Such approval shall be conditioned upon the applicant providing a resolution of the governing body or other public agency accepting such designation. The Planning Board/Zoning Board may also condition the designation of the Borough, or other public agency, as the responsible person upon the provision of a long-term maintenance guarantee, in accord with N.J.S.A. 40:55D-53, or such alternate funding as it may deem appropriate. The amount of such funding shall be based upon a reasonable estimate, provided by a licensed engineer and accepted by the Mountainside Borough Engineer, of the cost of maintenance and repair of the storm water facilities over the next twenty years.
6. Should any person designated as the responsible person pursuant to the requirements of this ordinance fail to conduct the required maintenance and repair of the storm water facilities, the Borough of Mountainside reserves the right to conduct the required maintenance and repairs and to charge the cost of same to the responsible person and/or the benefited property owners as a tax lien on the property. Except in the case of an emergency, the Borough shall provide seven (7) days advance written notice to the responsible person before undertaking repair or maintenance of the storm water facility. This provision shall be included in all documents designating the responsible person including the document(s) filed with the County land records pursuant to Section 10 D (4) above.

II. The last sentence of Section 10 D (4) which states ~~"The Borough of Mountainside will require the posting of a two year maintenance guarantee in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:55D-53."~~ shall be deleted.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, as follows:

1. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication as provided by law.
2. The municipal clerk shall provide a copy of the ordinance upon final passage to the County of Union, and same shall be deemed approved by the County sixty days after the date of submission to the County, unless notice to the contrary is received prior to the expiration of that sixty day period.
3. If the provisions of any section, subsection, paragraph or clause of the ordinance shall be judged invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such order or judgment shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of any section, paragraph, or clause of this ordinance.
4. Any existing ordinance provisions which are contrary to the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

U135737 OBS Jan. 26, 2006 (71.63)

NOTICE OF BID

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the Borough Clerk of the Borough of Mountainside for:

CONTRACT 2006-2 - INSTALLATION OF WATER SLIDE AND RELATED WORK AT MOUNTAINSIDE COMMUNITY POOL
CONTRACT 2006-3 - INSTALLATION OF LIGHTS AT DEERFIELD SOFTBALL FIELD
CONTRACT 2006-4 - INSTALLATION OF

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

WORSHIP CALENDAR

BAPTIST

EVANGEL BAPTIST CHURCH - "SERVING CHRIST IN THE 21st CENTURY." - 242 Shunpike Rd., Springfield. Rev. Frederick Mackey, Sr. Pastor. Sundays: 9:30 AM Bible School for all ages - Nursery through Seniors: Spanish Sunday School 9:30 am and 5:30 pm. 10:30 AM Worship Service and Nursery care - 5:30-7:00 PM AWANA Club Program for Children ages 4-11; 6:00 PM Evening Service & Nursery care. Wednesdays: 7:15 PM Prayer, Praise and Bible Study: Junior/Senior High Ministry. Active Youth Ministry; Wide-Range Music Program. Ample Parking. Chair Lift provided with assistance. All are invited and welcomed to participate in worship with us. For further information contact church office (973) 379-4351. Mondays - 7:00 pm - ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE.

JEWISH-CONSERVATIVE

TEMPLE BETH AHM 60 Temple Drive, Springfield. 973-376-0539. Mark Mallach, Rabbi. Richard Nadel, Cantor. Marilyn Garlen, President. Beth Ahm is an egalitarian, Conservative temple, with programming for all ages. Weekday services Mon.-Fri. 7:00 AM Sun.-Thurs. 7:45 PM Shabbat (Friday) 6:00 PM & 8:30 PM Shabbat day 9:30 AM & sunset; Sundays, 8:30 AM. Festival & Holiday mornings 9:00 AM. Family and children services are conducted regularly. Our Religious School (third-seventh grade) meets on Sunday and Tuesday. There are formal classes for both High School and pre-Religious School aged children. The synagogue also sponsors a Pre-School Women's League, Men's Club, youth groups for sixth through twelfth graders, and a busy Adult Education program. For more information, please contact our office during office hours.

JEWISH-ORTHODOX

CONGREGATION ISRAEL OF SPRINGFIELD 339 Mountain Avenue, Springfield. 973-467-9666. Chaim Marcus, Rabbi; Alan J. Yuter, Rabbi Emeritus; Solomon Greenfield, President. Congregation Israel is a Modern Orthodox synagogue. There are two daily weekday morning Minyans at 6:15 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. Daily weekday Mincha/Maariv services are also held. Call the shul office for times. There are two Shabbat morning services at 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. as well as Junior Congregation at 9:30 a.m. the Nursery School conducts classes for children aged 2 1/2 to 4. A summer camp is also available to children of this age. Adult classes are held three nights a week with two weekly Teen classes. We have an active Senior Set and very active Jr. NCSY and Sr. NCSY chapters for pre-teens. Our Sisterhood, Adult Education and Youth groups provide a wide array of communal programming. For further information call the synagogue office at 973-467-9666.

JEWISH - REFORM

TEMPLE SHA'AREY SHALOM 78 S. Springfield Avenue, Springfield, (973) 379-5387. Joshua Goldstein, Rabbi; Amy Daniels, Cantor/Education Director; Nina Greenman, Pre-School Director; Mindy Schreff, Family Life Educator; Edward Fink and Hank Rottenberg, Co-Presidents. Temple Sha'arey Shalom is a Reform congregation affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism. Shabbat worship, enhanced by volunteer choir, begins on Friday evenings at 8:00 PM, with monthly Family and Alternative Worship. Saturday morning Torah study class begins at 9:15 AM followed by worship at 10:30 AM. Religious school classes meet on Saturday mornings for grades K-3; on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for 4-7; and Tuesday evenings for post bar/bat mitzvah students. Preschool classes are available for children ages 2 1/2 through 4. The Temple has the support of an active Sisterhood, Brotherhood, Renaissance Group and Youth Group. A wide range of programs include Adult Education, Social Action, Interfaith Outreach, Singles and Seniors. For more information, call the Temple office, (973) 379-5387.

LUTHERAN

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH 639 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, 07081, 973-379-4525, Fax 973-379-8887. Remo Madsen, Pastor. Our Sunday Worship Service takes place at 10 a.m. For information about our midweek children, teen, and adult programs, contact the Church Office Monday through Thursday, 8:30-4:00 p.m.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL, 229 Cowperthwaite Pl., Westfield, Rev. Paul E. Kritsch, Pastor. (908) 232-1517. Beginning Sunday, July 6, Summer Worship Times are as follows: Sunday Worship Services, 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning Nursery available. Wednesday Evening Worship Service, 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion is celebrated at all worship services. The church and all rooms are handicapped accessible

METHODIST

SPRINGFIELD EMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (SEUMC) - welcomes all of God's children. Be renewed and strengthened through upbeat Sunday Worship at 10:30 AM. Express God's love through outreach ministries. Praise God through music with our professional music ministers, Ginny Johnston and Dan Crisci. Grow in your faith through Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. Improve relationships through an affordable Counseling Center (CCHD). SEUMC is located at the far BACK end of Church Mall, #40, near Morris and Mt. Aves in Springfield. 973-376-1695, seumc1@verizon.net

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Summit is located in the heart of town on the corner of Kent Place Boulevard and DeForest Avenue. Church School and Bible Study is held at 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m.; the emphasis of which is to always have a "good week" because of Paul's reminder to us in his letter to the Romans "that ALL things work together for good for those who love God and are called according to his purpose". The sermons are uplifting, Biblically sound and guaranteed to keep you awake. The music and weekly children's message are memorable. All are welcome to hear the Good News of God's love and salvation through Jesus Christ. Our church also offers nursery care, after worship refreshments and fellowship, and many lively programs for everyone. Come worship with us and find out how you too can have a "good week". Call the church office or Pastors Gina or Rich Hendrickson, Senior Co-Pastors for more information at 908 277-1700.

PRESBYTERIAN

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 1459 Deer Path, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092. You are invited to join us in Worship Services on Sundays at 10:30 am. This is a place for you to enjoy uplifting music and relevant messages that will energize and inspire you. We offer a warm and friendly environment with Bible study, Sunday school and active adult and youth groups. For further information, please contact Dr. Christopher Belden, Pastor at 908-232-9490.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 210 Morris Ave. at Church Mall, Springfield, 973-379-4320. Sunday School Classes for ages 3yrs. - Senior High 9:00 a.m. in our Parish House, Sunday morning worship service 10:15 a.m. Children's Church is held during the worship service; Nursery care and facilities are provided. Opportunities for personal growth through worship, Christian Education, Choir, ongoing church activities, and Fellowship. Holy Communion is held the 1st Sunday of every month; The Ladies Evening Group-3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.; Kaffeeklatsch-1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m.; Men's Fellowship-2nd Saturday of each month at 8:30 a.m.; Choir-every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. in the Chapel. We also host various Outside group meetings: Springfield Garden Club, Children's Community Choir, Learning Disabled Group; and Alanon. For information about any of our programs or services, call Gesele at the Church Office: 973-379-4320, Mon. through Fri., 9:00 a.m.-12 noon; 1:00pm-4:00pm

ROMAN CATHOLIC

THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES, 300 Central Avenue, Mountainside, 908-232-1162. Celebrate the Lord's Day: Anticipated Mass 5:00pm, Sunday at 7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am. Weekdays: Monday-Friday 7:30am, Saturday 8:00am, Sacrament of Reconciliation, Saturday at 1pm. Perpetual Adoration Chapel for personal prayer and devotion. www.ollmountainside.org, office@ollmountainside.org.

THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JAMES, 45 South Springfield Avenue, Springfield, New Jersey 07081.973-376-3044. SUNDAY EUCHARIST: Sat. 5:30 p.m. Sun. 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m., 12 Noon. Reconciliation: Sat. 1:00-2:00 p.m. Weekday Masses: 7:00 & 8:00 a.m.

UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST

UNITARIAN CHURCH IN SUMMIT, 4 Waldron Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901. 908-273-3245. www.ucsummit.org. Rev. Vannessa Rush Southern, Minister, Emilie Boggis, Assistant Minister, Mitchell Vines, Music and Choir Director. Sunday Services and religious education classes at 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM. Adult Education and other programs.

NOTE: All copy changes must be made in writing and received by Worrall Community Newspapers No later than 12:00 Noon, Fridays prior to the following week's publication.

Please address changes to:
Connie Sloan
Worrall Community Newspapers
1291 Stuyvesant Ave.
P.O. Box 3109, Union, N.J. 07083 U/W

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AT THE LIBRARY

Library to present children's programs

The Mountainside Public Library, Constitution Plaza, will present two winter reading programs for children.

Stories and nursery rhymes will be shared during "Toddler Time" with 2-year-olds and their adult caregivers on Wednesdays, from 10:30 to 11 a.m. This session will run from Feb. 1 through Feb. 22.

"Preschool Storytime" is scheduled for 3- and 4-year-olds on Thursdays from 2 to 2:30 p.m.

This program will run from Feb. 2 through March 9.

Registration and proof of age are required. To register or for more information, call 908-233-0115.

Photography exhibit of New Jersey scheduled

The Donald B. Palmer Museum, part of the Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., is hosting an exhibit called "New Jersey Images" by photographer Robert A. Parker through Feb. 16.

The museum is open on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; on Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and on Sunday, from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Because the museum room is also used for closed meetings, call ahead at 973-376-4930 to verify that the exhibit room is open.

Library to host book discussion groups

The Mountainside Public Library, Constitution Plaza, will host two book discussion groups throughout the winter and spring.

The Reader's Roundtable is now meeting on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the library meeting room. This reading group specializes in classics, literary works and non-fiction titles.

The Pageturners book discussion group will meet on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. beginning Feb. 9. This reading group will read and discuss best-sellers, popular fiction, mysteries, and other areas of contemporary fiction. The first book selection is "A Thread of Grace."

Registration is required for either program. To register or for more information, call 908-233-0115.

Video series to finish

The Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., will conclude its Lunchtime Video Series, "Classic/Classy Comedies and Mysteries," on Tuesday at noon.

The final episode in the series will be shown, as well as a documentary profile of William Powell, a "true gentleman," and Myrna Loy, "so nice to come home to."

Boasting one of the best supporting casts of any of the films in this series, this time the murder mystery is at sea, and it's the band leader who's growing stiff and cold.

The sixth installment is in black and white, and runs 86 minutes. Made in 1947, it is not rated.

The double-documentary disc is hosted by Kathleen Turner. It is in both color and black and white, and runs 77 minutes.

It was made in 1990 and is not rated.

Bring a brown bag lunch to the program. Coffee and cookies will be provided.

For more information, call 973-376-4930.

Artists' Showcase to be held at library

The first Artists' Showcase sponsored by the Friends of the Mountainside Public Library, Constitution Plaza, will be held Feb. 12 from noon to 4 p.m.

All of the work exhibited will be original, one-of-a kind pieces. They will include oils, acrylics, watercolors, photography, sculpture, mixed media and more.

A highlight of the Artists' Showcase will be a silent auction featuring fine art works donated by the participating artists.

Admission is free. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call the library at 908-233-0115.

Seniors celebrate Christmas



Springfield Seniors Ruth Lodato, Dolores Litzbauer, Emma Steinmacher, Mary Stolz and Helen Hrycyshyn enjoy the club's Christmas party at the Sarah Bailey Civic Center in the township Dec. 29.

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And the winner is...



Mountainside residents Joanne Johan and her mother, Evelyne Holcomb, display the Sony Vega Rear Projection HDTV that Holcomb won in the Town Planner's 2005 Sweepstakes. The Town Planner is published by Worrall Community Newspapers, which also publishes *The Observer*.

OBITUARIES

Edward Bialis

Edward Bialis, 80, of Mountainside died Jan. 11 in Overlook Hospital, Summit.

Born in Newark, Mr. Bialis recently moved to Mountainside. He served in the Navy.

Darlene Keller

Darlene Marie Keller, 40, of Cranford, formerly of Mountainside, died Dec. 16 in Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick.

Mrs. Keller was an occupational therapist at the Jardine Academy in Cranford for four years. Before that, Mrs. Keller worked at Children's Specialized hospital, Mountainside, in the rehabilitative technology department.

Surviving are her husband, Gregory Celikyol; a daughter, Charlotte; her father, Robert Keller, and two sisters, Linda Dickison and Donna Klein.

A celebration of life for Mrs. Keller is scheduled for Jan. 29 at 2 p.m. at the Unitarian Society, 176 Tices Lane, East Brunswick.

Thomas Lauricella

Thomas G. Lauricella, 90, of Mountainside died Jan. 16 in Overlook Hospital, Summit.

Born in Yonkers, N.Y., Mr. Lauricella lived in the Bronx, N.Y., Riverdale, N.Y., Milford, Md., and Englewood before moving to Mountainside in 1968. He also maintained a summer residence in Deerfield Beach, Fla., for many years.

Mr. Lauricella was the owner of Thomas Lincoln Mercury, a car dealership in Mountainside, for 38 years. He served as a sergeant in the Army during World War II. Mr. Lauricella was a member of the Suburban Golf Club in Union and the 200 Club in Union County.

Surviving are a daughter, Sharyn Hargadon; a son, John; a sister, Gloria McLarty, and three grandchildren.

Winifred Veghte

Winifred W. Veghte, 90, of Summit died Jan. 15 in the Cranford Health and Extended Care Center, Cranford.

Born in Irvington, Mrs. Veghte lived in Delanco for most of her life before moving to Summit. She was a payroll clerk for the Chatham Board of Education for seven years before retiring in 1981. Mrs. Veghte was a volunteer for the Summit chapter of the American Red Cross for 20 years.

Surviving are two daughters, Jane Riordan and Susan Mc Nulty; four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

JDHS to host college workshop

The Guidance Department of Jonathan Dayton High School will sponsor a program on financial planning for the parents of college bound students Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the school's Senior Cafeteria.

The program, called "The Art of Paying for College," will be presented by Education Funding Consultants Association, a nonprofit, independent national organization of educational and financial professionals.

A representative of the organization will present a comprehensive workshop to demonstrate how it is possible to fund a college education despite rising costs.

To make a reservation, call the Guidance Office at 973-376-1025, ext. 5246.

PUBLIC NOTICE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

LIGHTS AT DEERFIELD BASEBALL AND SOCCER FIELD

Each contract is separate. Plans for each contract will be available on January 27, 2006.

Bids will be opened and read in public at the Municipal Building, 1385 Route 22, Mountainside, N.J. on February 10, 2006 at 2:00 P.M., prevailing time.

Bids shall be in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by the Borough Engineer. Proposal blanks, specifications and instructions to bidders may be obtained at the office of the Borough Clerk at the Mountainside Municipal Building, 1385 Route 22, 1st Floor, Mountainside, N.J.

Bidders will be furnished with a copy of the Plans and Specifications by the Engineer, upon proper notice and payment of a check for twenty-five dollars ($25.) for each contract, payable to the Borough of Mountainside, said cost being the reproduction price of the documents and is not returnable.

Bids must be made on the Borough's form of bid and must be enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed to the Borough Clerk, Borough of Mountainside, 1385 Route 22, Mountainside, N.J. and hand delivered or sent via certified mail at the place and hour named. Bids shall be endorsed on the outside of the envelope with the name and address of bidder and the contract name.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond equal to ten percent (10%) of the full amount of the bid, not to exceed $20,000.00, and made payable to the Borough of Mountainside as a Proposal Guaranty.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L.1975 C.127 (NJAC 17:27).

The Borough of Mountainside hereby reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to award the contract to any bidder whose proposal, in the Borough's judgement, best serves its interest.

Judith E. Osty, Borough Clerk

U135956 OBS Jan. 26, 2006 ($24.75)

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE
COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following proposed ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside in the County of Union, New Jersey, held on the 17th day of January 2006 and that said ordinance will be taken up for further consideration for final passage at the meeting of said Mayor and Council to be held in the Municipal Building, 1385 Route 22, Mountainside, New Jersey on the 21st day of February, 2006 at 8:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as said matter can be reached, at which time and place all persons who may be interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same.

Judith E. Osty, RMC, CMR
Borough Clerk

ORDINANCE 1104-2006
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER X, SECTION 1.14, SECTION a. AND b., OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE, NEW JERSEY REGARDING MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR USE OF THE MOUNTAINSIDE COMMUNITY POOL

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside, County of Union, State of New Jersey, that Chapter X, Section 1.14-a. and Section 1.14-b. of the Borough Code be, and the same is amended and restated as follows:

10-1.14 Fees Established:

a. The resident and full time employee membership fees and guest fees shall be as follows:

1. Family Membership:		
(i) Family Membership		$245.00
(ii) Each unmarried child over 21 living at home or parent living with the family		85.00
2. Single Membership 16 years of age or older		125.00
3. Senior Citizen Membership: 62 years of age or older		85.00
4. A child under the age of 16 joining as part of of a family, single or senior citizen membership of a relative, if both the child and the membership are resident		125.00
5. A resident person age 14 or 15 employed by a family as a parent's helper joining that family's membership		125.00
6. Guest daily fee:	Weekend/ Holidays	Weekdays
(i) Adult	9.00	7.00
(ii) Under 18 years of age	7.00	6.00
7. House guest weekly fee (non-resident eating and sleeping in member's home:		
(i) 18 years of age or younger		25.00
(ii) Over 18 years of age		30.00

8. Individuals on active military duty who are residents shall be admitted free.
9. A family membership composed of only two persons shall be entitled to ten complimentary guests.
10. A single membership shall be entitled to five complimentary guests.
11. A senior Citizen membership shall be entitled to two complimentary guests.
12. A family or single membership shall receive two complimentary guest passes if the membership fees paid in full on or before April 15 of the membership year

b. Non resident membership fees and guest fees shall be as follows:

1. Family Membership		
(i) Family membership		$455.00
(ii) Each unmarried child over 21 living at home parent living with family		85.00
2. Single Membership: 16 years of age or older		230.00
3. Senior Citizen membership: 62 years of age or older		190.00
4. A child under the age of 16 joining as part of a family, single or senior citizen membership of a relative, if both the child and membership are non-resident		
5. A non-resident person age 14 or 15 employed by a family as a parent's helper joining that family's membership		230.00
6. Guest daily fee:	Weekend/ Holidays	Weekdays
(i) Adult	9.00	7.00
(ii) Under 18 years of age	7.00	6.00
7. House guest weekly fee:		
(i) 18 Years of age or younger		25.00
(ii) over 18 years of age		30.00
8. Registration fee payable for first year membership only:		
(i) Single Membership		35.00
(ii) Family Membership		20.00

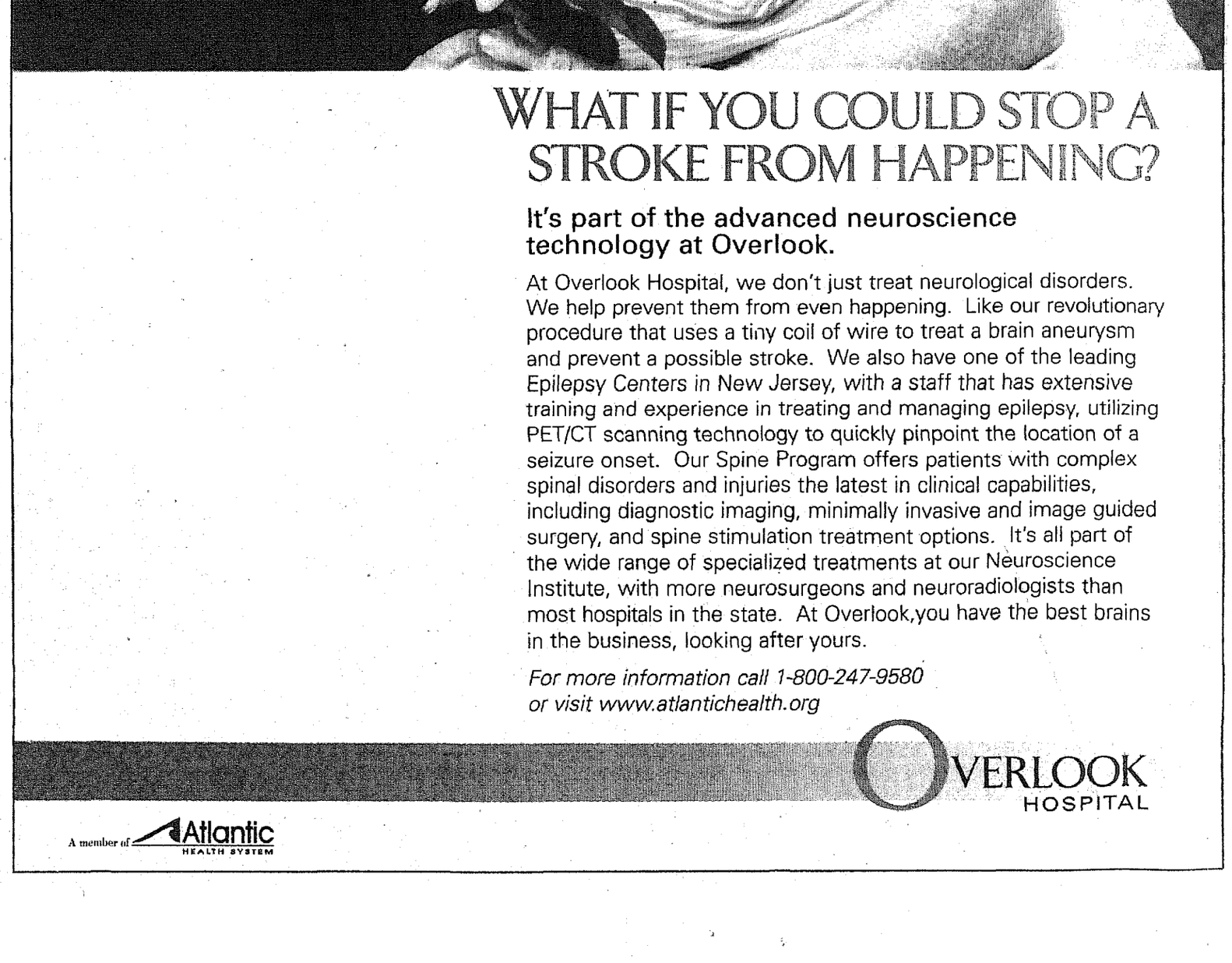
9. A family membership composed of only two persons shall be entitled to ten complimentary guests.
10. A single membership shall be entitled to five complimentary guests.
11. A senior Citizen membership shall be entitled to two complimentary guests.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that all other sections of Chapter X shall remain unchanged.

This Ordinance shall take effect twenty days after the first publication hereof after final passage.

U135732 OBS January 26, 2006 ($72.00)

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SPORTS

No. 1 Rams impress

By Jeff Cummins
Staff Writer

HILLSIDE - Here's a scary thought for any teams getting ready for the Central Jersey, Group 2 girls' basketball playoffs: Roselle just showed off a new weapon in its arsenal last Friday.

By now, most teams in the section are well-versed in the dominant low-post performances of twins Femi and Taiwo Oyelola, but for a while, it looked like Hillside had figured the Rams out, using the outside shooting of senior guard Hassanah Oliver to take the lead and seize control of the game's pace in the second quarter.

That's when Ashley Washington asserted herself, giving the Rams an outside shooting game of their own and someone who could handle the ball and settle the team down.

Suddenly, Roselle used a multi-faceted attack and the versatility enabled the Rams to come back for a 54-46 win.

"It was very important because we were waiting for Ashley to play this whole season," Taiwo Oyelola said. "I feel like she's been in a slump. I feel like she woke up today, and I'd like to see her play more like this every game."

If Washington continues to play more like she did last Friday, the Rams, who improved to 10-1, will be a very tough "out" when the state playoffs begin Feb. 27.

Consider that for much of the first half, Hillside, which fell to 6-8, looked every inch

The hungrier team, playing with a sense of desperation that's to be expected from a squad that knows it has little room for error to make the state playoffs by the Feb. 4 cutoff date.

Add the fact that Roselle looked a little tentative and it's pretty obvious why Hillside was taking it to the Rams in the early going.

Washington gave the Rams a spark with 13 points, including two 3-pointers and eight rebounds. The Mountain Valley Conference teams were headed for halftime even until

Airika Hurling heaved up a shot from half court at the end of the first half that went in off the glass to give Roselle a 30-27 lead at the end of 16 minutes of play.

That shot instantly brightened Roselle's mood. The Rams ran off the court with a burst of energy that continued throughout the second half.

"That was exciting," Washington said. "It gave us a spark for the second half."

As the second half commenced, Roselle was able to use its versatility, with

Washington continuing to threaten Hillside from the perimeter, while the Oyelola twins pounded the Comets inside, combining for 24 points and 29 rebounds.

Ultimately, that versatility was just too much for Hillside, which never recovered from Hurling's heroics.

Despite Hillside's setback, the Comets got outstanding performances by Oliver and fellow senior Porscha Isom, who teamed up to torment Roselle in the first half. Even as the game clock wound down, Oliver continued to hit jumpers in the lane, remaining such a thorn in the Rams' side that several Roselle fans could be heard omplimenting Oliver's play as the game neared its finish.

In many ways, though, this was probably one of Roselle's biggest wins of the year. As one team member admitted after the game, the Rams were "flat" early on, yet they still found a way to "gut out" a win when they weren't playing their best game of the season.

Roselle has the mental toughness to win a game just by playing hard, gritty basketball, something that bodes well for their state playoff hopes.

There's little doubt the Rams are physically tough enough as well. On two occasions, the Oyelola sisters went up for rebounds, only to come crashing down to the floor on their backs after fighting for rebounds.

"Since we're the No. 1 team in the county, we know everyone will be gunning for us," Taiwo Oyelola said. "They're not just going to roll over for us."

The fact that the Rams realize that should be cause for opposing coaches to start stocking up on antacids.

(See **Roselle girls'** on Page 10)

Conference foes battle

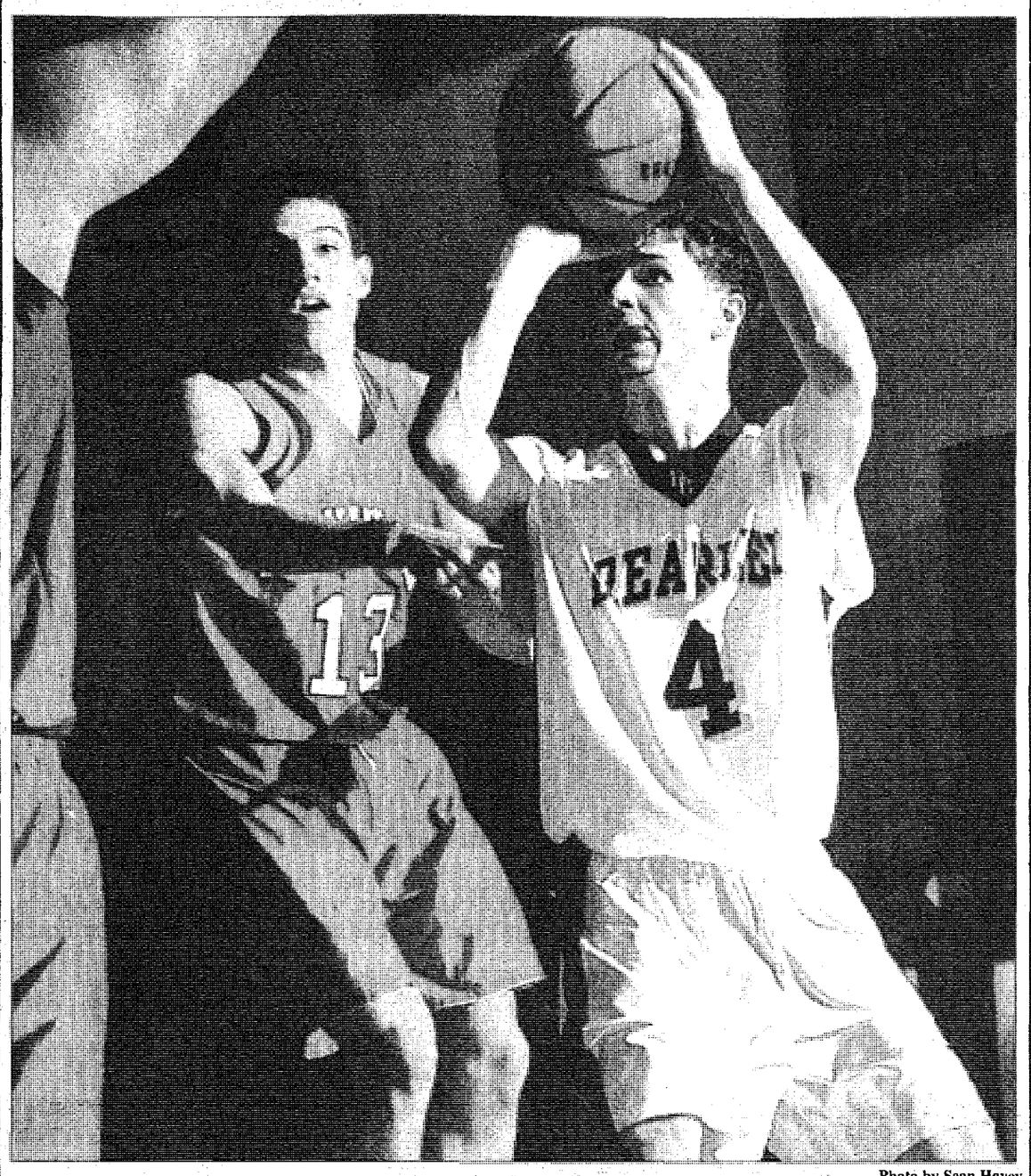


Photo by Sean Havey

Dennis Hoag of Brearley, at right, had a team-high 18 points and Bryan Caicedo of Roselle Park netted 21 in this Jan. 17 Mountain Valley Conference boys' basketball game in Kenilworth. Roselle Park defeated Brearley 66-57 to win its fifth straight and improve to 10-1. Brearley entered Tuesday's home game vs. Manville with a 5-6 mark. Roselle Park was to play at Dunellen last night and Thursday will host Dayton at 4 p.m. The Panthers opened the season with a 65-62 win at Dayton on Dec. 16 in Springfield.

Game of the Week

Cranford girls' basketball is sparked by Dolan effort

By Jeff Cummins
Staff Writer

CRANFORD - The ball clanged off the rim and Lindsay Dolan grabbed it, landing by herself, with nobody else challenging for the rebound. A more fitting ending wasn't possible.

For much of last Saturday afternoon's girls' basketball game, Dolan seemed to rise above the fray, even when she was in the middle of the scrum under the basket, fighting for the ball. Cranford head coach Brian Chapman chose to use Dolan sparingly, since she was coming off a flu-like illness.

Still, when Dolan was in the game, she was the deciding factor, preventing Union Catholic's Courtney Harris from getting the ball where she wanted it. Dolan's ownership of the paint tipped the game in Cranford's favor, as the Cougars survived a non-conference battle for a 28-23 win over Union Catholic, which dropped to 6-4.

If you didn't know Dolan, a junior, had been sick, there was no way you could tell from her performance. Throughout the game, she prevented Harris from getting good position, a fact that visibly frustrated Harris.

"Lindsay just played really hard and boxed her (Harris) out," junior guard Lisa Levonas said. "She did her job and we came out on top because of it."

Throughout most of the first quarter, Dolan was the critical figure in establishing Cranford's dominance, helping to forge an 8-0 lead. In fact, Cranford, which improved its record to 10-4 with a third consecutive triumph, nearly held the Vikings scoreless in the first quarter, until a Union Catholic jump shot with 16 seconds remaining in the first quarter narrowed Cranford's advantage to 8-2 at the end of the period.

With two minutes remaining in the first quarter, Chapman employed a critical part of his strategy, resting Dolan for the equivalent of an entire quarter so that she'd stay out of foul trouble – and so that she'd be fresh whenever she played.

"We wanted Lindsay, when she was in there, to go all out and not worry about how many fouls she had," Chapman said. "She also had one of the worst illnesses I've ever had a kid who played for me have. So a combination of the two things was why we were picking and choosing her minutes."

Chapman took a calculated risk, taking Dolan out midway through the third quarter, and finally returning her to the game with 4:14 remaining. Fortunately for Cranford, Samantha Cartwright and Rebecca Flanagan kept things under control until Dolan returned.

"Courtney (Harris) was having a little trouble scoring, and we had a lead, so I really wasn't that worried," Dolan said. "I don't really have a problem with sitting out. Whoever is in there can play."

Another reason Cranford never lost control of the game was its tenacious defense, the bedrock principle that the Cougars' success is based on. It's a defense that seemed to contest every shot and every pass. Nonetheless, there was one person in the gym who felt the Cougars still could have been better on defense.

"I'm a little bit of a stickler," Chapman said. "I would tell you that we didn't contest all of them. That's what we do. We like to play defense. Our kids subscribe to that theory. I'm very lucky to have kids who want to play defense."

Cranford's defense was deceiving at times, as well. Many times Union Catholic would bring the ball up the court with little problem and on many occasions it looked as if there were going to be open shots or easy passes, but at the last second Cranford always got a hand in the face, or jumped in front of a pass to force a turnover. There were numerous times that Cranford players went diving for loose balls, something Union Catholic didn't start to do until the second half.

Cranford's aggressiveness also frustrated a couple of Cranford residents, Ally Walls and Leslie Hendricks, who play for Union Catholic. Cranford's defense limited Walls' playmaking ability, while Hendricks suffered the same fate as Harris, leaving her unable to get the ball where she could mount effective scoring threats.

Denying the basketball certainly doesn't produce gaudy statistics. However, Levonas finished with 11 points and seven rebounds, while Dolan contributed 10 points and four boards.

Still, Cranford's no-frills approach has blazed a winning path and the Cougars will take the victories over the statistics every time.

NOTES: Cranford's only game against Union Catholic last year was a 29-21 setback at Rahway in the quarterfinals of the Union County Tournament. Union Catholic reached the final when Walls made a buzzer-beating shot to oust Roselle Catholic in the semifinals at the Elizabeth Dunn Sport Center.

Union Catholic last won the UCT in 2001, but has been in the final every year since that season. Roselle beat UC in the 2002 final, RC beat UC in the 2003 final and Scotch Plains beat UC in the 2004 and 2005 finals.

This year's tournament should be more wide open, with a number of teams having a shot at winning it.

Cranford was scheduled to host Irvington Tuesday afternoon and today is scheduled to play at Elizabeth at 7 p.m.

Cranford is in good position to gain a high seed for the North 2, Group 3 playoffs. The cutoff date is a week from this Saturday, which is Feb. 4.

Upcoming Cougars schedule:
Jan. 24: played Irvington home
Jan. 26: at Elizabeth, 7 p.m.
Jan. 27: at Montville, 7 p.m.
Jan. 30: Westfield, 4 p.m.
Feb. 2: Shabazz, 4 p.m.
Feb. 3: Kowal Games at Rahway
Feb. 7: Scotch Plains, 7 p.m.
Feb. 9: at Linden, 4 p.m.
Feb. 17: at Ridge, 7 p.m.
Feb. 22: at Bridgewater-Raritan, 7 p.m.

Behind the scenes

Competition heats up among rivals

By Jeff Cummins
Staff Writer

CRANFORD - Athletes want to win every time they compete, regardless of their opponent.

However, there's something a little bit different when you know your opponent well, the way you would when you face an opponent from your hometown, one you've known your whole life.

You'll always try just a little bit harder when your opponent lives across the street. You'll want to know you've got those bragging rights if you ever need them.

Maybe that's why some fans seemed confused during the girls' basketball game last Saturday afternoon between Cranford and Union Catholic. Two prominent Union Catholic players, Leslie Hendricks and Ally Walls, hail from Cranford, leading some in the stands to cheer for each team, at times.

Of course, it was a little different from the players' perspective. Did they feel some extra adrenalin, knowing they were facing opponents who lived in their town?

"Yeah, there definitely is (a little more adrenalin)," Walls said. "We usually don't meet up with them during the season. This year is different. Last year we went up against them in the counties, but there definitely is a little extra push."

Cranford came out on top 28-23 to improve to 10-4 with its third consecutive victory. Union Catholic fell to 6-4.

Last Thursday, Union Catholic was ranked No. 4 in Union County and Cranford No. 5.

The teams normally do not meet in regular season play. Union Catholic defeated Cranford 29-21 at Rahway last year in the Union County Tournament quarterfinals.

Cranford junior guard Lisa Levonas insisted that any matchup against Walls and Hendricks worked to Cranford's advantage, because the Cougars would have a better scouting report on them than they would on almost any other opponent.

Junior center Lindsay Dolan admitted there was something a little more special when your opponents live in your town, but she, too, wouldn't expand much on the sense of rivalry.

"We haven't played Union Catholic in the season, not since I've been at Cranford," Dolan said.

"We always see them in the county tournament and they beat us both times. Seeing Ally (Walls) and Leslie (Hendricks) - they come to open gym in the summer sometimes so we know they are good shooters - we knew we had to take care of Lisa (Levonas) and Amanda (Porter), who were covering them. I think we did a good job of that."

This time, Cranford emerged with the upper hand, which seemed like a relief to Dolan and Levonas, among others. Still, if history means anything, there's a good chance the two teams could meet again in the UCT. As a Cranford resident, is Walls looking forward to a possible rematch in the county tournament against her neighbors?

"I definitely am," said Walls, whose youthful resilience showed no ill effects from the defeat.

"I definitely am, I can tell you that."

This time, Cranford is celebrating. Next time, who knows?

There could still be some Cranford people celebrating, it might just be a different group of people from Cranford.

This one is mine!

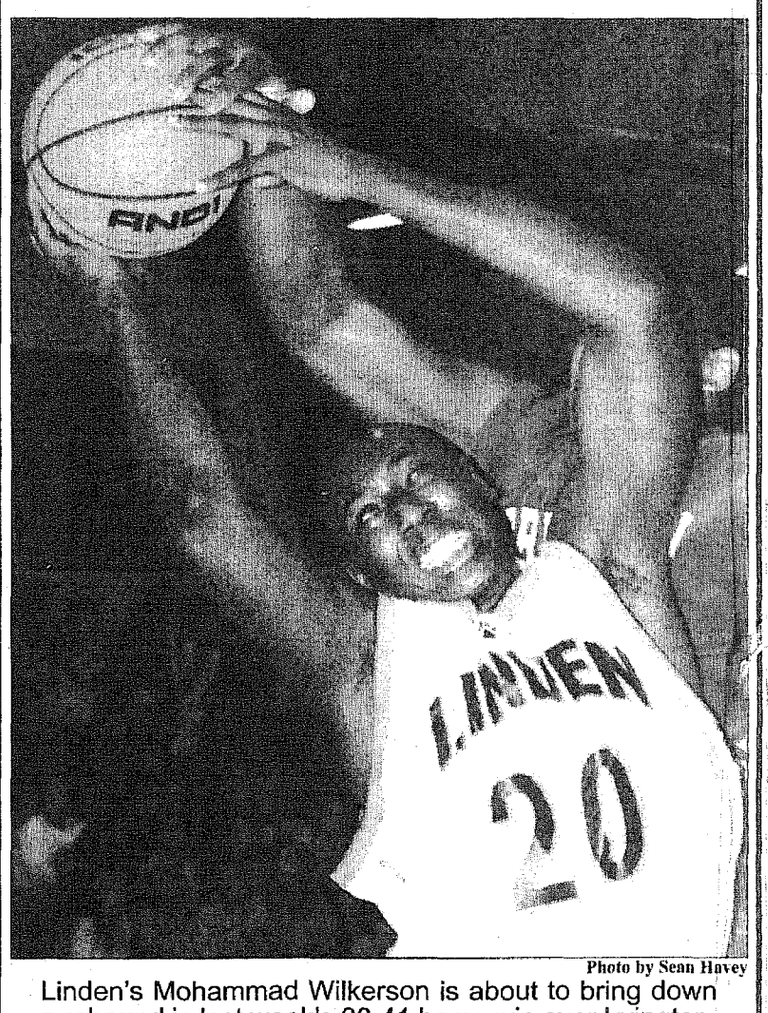


Photo by Sean Havey

Linden's Mohammad Wilkerson is about to bring down a rebound in last week's 66-41 home win over Irvington. The Tigers took a 10-4 record into Tuesday's home game against Kearny. The Tigers are scheduled to play at Newark East Side today at 4 p.m.

INSIDE
Page 10 - Roselle Catholic boys' basketball surprises Rahway
Page 11 - Union winter track teams set school records
Page 12 - Johnson ice hockey squad playing much better

Winning Performances to Remember
Boys' Basketball - Cranford's Simon Smith nets 25 in successive games.
Girls' Basketball - RP's Katie Bundy has 20 points, 13 boards, 4 steals.
Wrestling - Rahway, Union County's top team, begins week 10-0.
Track - RC's Joe Kropa, Bobby Tretola Group 1 high jump champs.
Swimming - Elizabeth's Jennifer Rodriguez first in 500-yard freestyle.
Bowling - Union's Veronica Arias rolls a 226 vs. Scotch Plains.

Quotable
"We haven't even started yet," said Elizabeth athletic director Ray Korn when asked about the interviewing process of the new Minutemen head football coach. "We have all the resumes and will now begin a selection process. We hope to have a new coach by the end of February."

R. Catholic stuns Rahway with complete team effort

Junior guard Guzman nets season-high 21

By JR Parachini
Sports Editor

ROSELLE – It didn't matter that Rahway senior forward Earl Clark poured in a game-high 26 points.

It didn't matter that Louisville head coach Rick Pitino was in the stands watching one of his prized recruits.

It didn't matter that the Indians went on a 12-0 run in the first quarter to take a 12-point lead.

Roselle Catholic, which opened the season with a 50-44 setback at Rahway back on Dec. 16, didn't let any of that affect it.

The Lions came to play and performed together as a team in every sense of the word in pulling off a stunning 69-58 come-from-behind Mountain Valley Conference victory over their Union County rival Jan. 18 at RC's Coach Hagan Court.

RC was sparked by everyone who took to the hardwood, with junior guard Michael Guzman leading the way with a season-high 21-point performance.

Sophomore forward Frank Szczepanik, who stands 6-10, came off the bench to score 11 points, netting eight in a second quarter that RC outscored Rahway by a 22-16 margin to pull to within 37-33.

RC really won the game in the third quarter, outscoring Rahway 26-12 in an eight-minute span that saw the Lions drive to the basket, hit 3-point field goals, grab rebounds off the glass and play relentless man-to-man defense that limited Rahway to just four field goals. The Lions will be hard-pressed to play a better quarter this season.

RC scored the last eight points of the third quarter to take a 59-49 lead heading into the fourth. While the Lions made only two field goals in the final eight minutes, the last one on a game-ending dunk by senior forward Aldo Fleurantin – who finished with 12 points, with 10 of them coming in the second half – the closest Rahway got to challenging the lead was 63-58 with one minute remaining.

RC's fifth straight victory improved its record to 6-5. Rahway dropped to 10-4 after having a three-game winning streak snapped.

Clark, who made his decision to attend Louisville on a basketball scholarship before the season began, tried to take over in the fourth quarter, but the Lions simply wouldn't let him.

"I think we did alright against him," said Guzman, in his first year as a starter for veteran RC mentor Pat Hagan. "We knew that we had to finish the game off strong. We wanted to push the ball because we felt they were tired."

After beginning the season with a much different lineup minus a number of quality players lost to graduation, RC made a statement by playing Rahway close in the season-opener for both.

"Now, we've raised the bar even more," said Hagan, in his 26th season at the helm.

"Even though we were down in the first quarter, there was still a lot of game to be played.

"We have young kids and it will take a while, but you still never know. Our kids always seem to rise to the occasion. We may not be as talented as some of the teams we play, but our kids will stick with them. We have over-achieved a bit."

A three-point field goal by Guzman, who is a Roselle resident, tied the game at 9-9 in the first, but a dunk by Clark that followed was the springboard to a 12-0 run that gave Rahway a 21-9 lead late in the period.

You could say it was a basket by All-State pitcher Nick Nolan right before the first-quarter buzzer that might have awoken the Lions. The senior guard's only points of the game cut Rahway's lead to 21-11 heading into the second quarter.

Szczepanik quickly hit the first of his four field goals in the quarter to start the second and did well inside against Clark and the chiseled Ishmyl Johnson, Rahway's senior center who was one of the top defensive football players in Union County this past season.

"People are going to realize that he's this 6-10 player and even though he is only a sophomore, that does not mean he can't go out and play," Hagan said of Szczepanik.

RC scored five of the quarter's final seven points, with Guzman scoring right before the halftime buzzer to bring the Lions to within four at 37-33. Junior guard Bryan Godfrey and sophomore guard Brendan Trelease hit key 3-point field goals in the period.

RC's outstanding third quarter began with a layup basket by Guzman. The Lions eventually tied the game at 40-40 almost two minutes in when Guzman made the second of his two 3-pointers.

"Mike did a great job for us, settling the team down and making a couple of big shots," Hagan said. "How many steals did he have when we doubled down on Earl? Mike did a great job of handling the ball at the end of the game as well."

RC's first lead since 2-0 came when Trelease netted his second 3-point field goal with 5:03 remaining in the third, giving the Lions a 43-40 advantage.

Rahway would tie the game at 43-43 and 46-46 thanks to sequences of a basket and then a free throw from Clark, but RC would take the lead for good at 48-46 with three minutes remaining in the period after another basket by Guzman.

RC dominated the close of the period, with sophomore forward Matt Henn of Hillside scoring consecutive baskets before Fleurantin did the same to close the quarter.

Clark scored eight points and Johnson four for the Indians in the third and that was it.

A packed Lions' Den could now sense that an upset was there for the taking.

"Performances from Aldo and Guzman prevented us from imploding," Hagan said.

"Matt is another sophomore who is going out and playing hard and learning that he can play despite being only a sophomore."

A basket by sophomore guard Jerelle Louis, who made two 3-pointers in the first half, opened the fourth quarter for Rahway. Guzman answered with his final basket to bring the lead back up to 61-51.

The better news for RC was that when he scored there was only five minutes remaining as the Lions were able to shave off three minutes and still have a 10-point cushion.

A free throw by Clark and then a missed free throw and offensive rebound and put-in by him cut RC's lead to five points at 63-58. However, there were only 60 seconds remaining for the Indians after what would be Clark's final points.

Szczepanik made his three free throws down the stretch, with one also coming from Godfrey.

After a turnover by Clark with 13 seconds remaining, RC brought the ball up past half court. Instead of just dribbling the remaining seconds away, Fleurantin decided to put an exclamation point on an unexpected victory by jamming the ball through the hoop right before the final second ticked away.

"We knew we had to run our stuff, stay calm and play our game," Guzman said. "We played very well as a team and got everyone involved."

RC hopes to keep it going Friday night in Clark when it next takes on Johnson for the first time this year.

"We knew we had to play better defense after the first time we played them," Hagan said. "We did everything better. We were much more aggressive. This means that we will have to work even harder in practice."

NOTES: Rahway suffered its first conference defeat.

Johnson finished with 16 points and Louis with 10 for Rahway, which last lost at Teaneck 73-63 on Jan. 8.

Clark scored 15, Johnson 11, Simmons eight and Louis five in last Friday's 60-26 home win over North Plainfield.

For RC last Friday, Henn netted 16, Fleurantin 10 and Nolan seven in a 72-57 setback at Johnson.

The Lions were also defeated at Hillside by a score of 67-44 Monday.

Szczepanik netted a team-high 15 points, while Henn added 10 and Guzman seven.

•

Rahway	**21**	**16**	**12**	**9**	**- 58**
Roselle Catholic	**11**	**22**	**26**	**10**	**- 69**

•

RAHWAY: Earl Clark 9-1-5-26, Ishmyl Johnson 6-0-4-16, Christian Johnson 1-0-0-2, Jerelle Louis 2-2-0-10, Steven Keker 1-0-0-2, Wendell Simmons 0-0-2-2. **Totals:** 19-3-11-58.

ROSELLE CATHOLIC: Michael Guzman 7-2-1-21, Frank Szczepanik 4-0-3-11, Aldo Fleurantin 4-0-4-12, Bryan Godfrey 1-2-1-9, Brendan Trelease 0-2-0-6, Matt Henn 3-0-2-8, Nick Nolan 1-0-0-2. **Totals:** 20-6-11-69.

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RAHWAY (11-4)
12-16 (H) Rahway 50, Roselle Catholic 44
12-18 (A) American Christian 66, Rahway 55
12-20 (A) Rahway 61, Hillside 44
12-22 (A) Rahway 82, St. Mary's, Elizabeth 63
12-26 (H) Rahway 63, Scotch Plains 45
12-29 (H) St. Peter's Prep 55, Rahway 53
12-30 (H) Rahway 59, J.P. Stevens 50
1-3 (H) Rahway 70, Roselle 44
1-6 (A) Rahway 86, Roselle 55
1-8 (A) Teaneck 73, Rahway 63
1-10 (H) Rahway 54, Johnson 45
1-11 (H) Rahway 80, Oratory Prep 25
1-13 (H) Rahway 66, Union Catholic 45
1-18 (A) Roselle Catholic 69, Rahway 58
1-20 (H) Rahway 60, North Plainfield 26
1-24 St. Mary's of Elizabeth, home
Upcoming:
1-26 at Governor Livingston, 4 p.m.
1-28 at Elizabeth, 6:30 p.m.
1-31 at Newark Central, 4 p.m.
2-4 Hillside at Recreation Center, 7:30 p.m.
2-10 at New Brunswick, 7 p.m.
2-11 at Millburn, 7 p.m.

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ROSELLE CATHOLIC (6-7)
12-16 (A) Rahway 50, Roselle Catholic 44
12-19 (H) Morristown-Beard 66, Roselle Catholic 55
12-20 (A) Roselle Catholic 66, North Plainfield 45
12-28 (H) Bishop Ahr 46, Roselle Catholic 44
12-30 (H) Curtis, Staten Island 67, Roselle Catholic 60
1-5 (A) St. Mary's Elizabeth 74, Roselle Catholic 61
1-7 (A) Roselle Catholic 60, St. Peter's Prep 51
1-8 (H) Roselle Catholic 59, Morris Catholic 41
1-10 (A) Roselle Catholic 66, Roselle 55
1-14 (H) Roselle Catholic 55, Governor Livingston 50
1-17 (H) Roselle Catholic 69, Rahway 58
1-20 (A) Johnson 72, Roselle Catholic 57
1-23 (A) Hillside 67, Roselle Catholic 44
1-25 Oratory Prep, home
Upcoming:
1-28 vs. St. Mary's at Dunn Center, 5 p.m.
1-30 Union Catholic, 7 p.m.
1-31 at Wardlaw-Hartridge, 4 p.m.

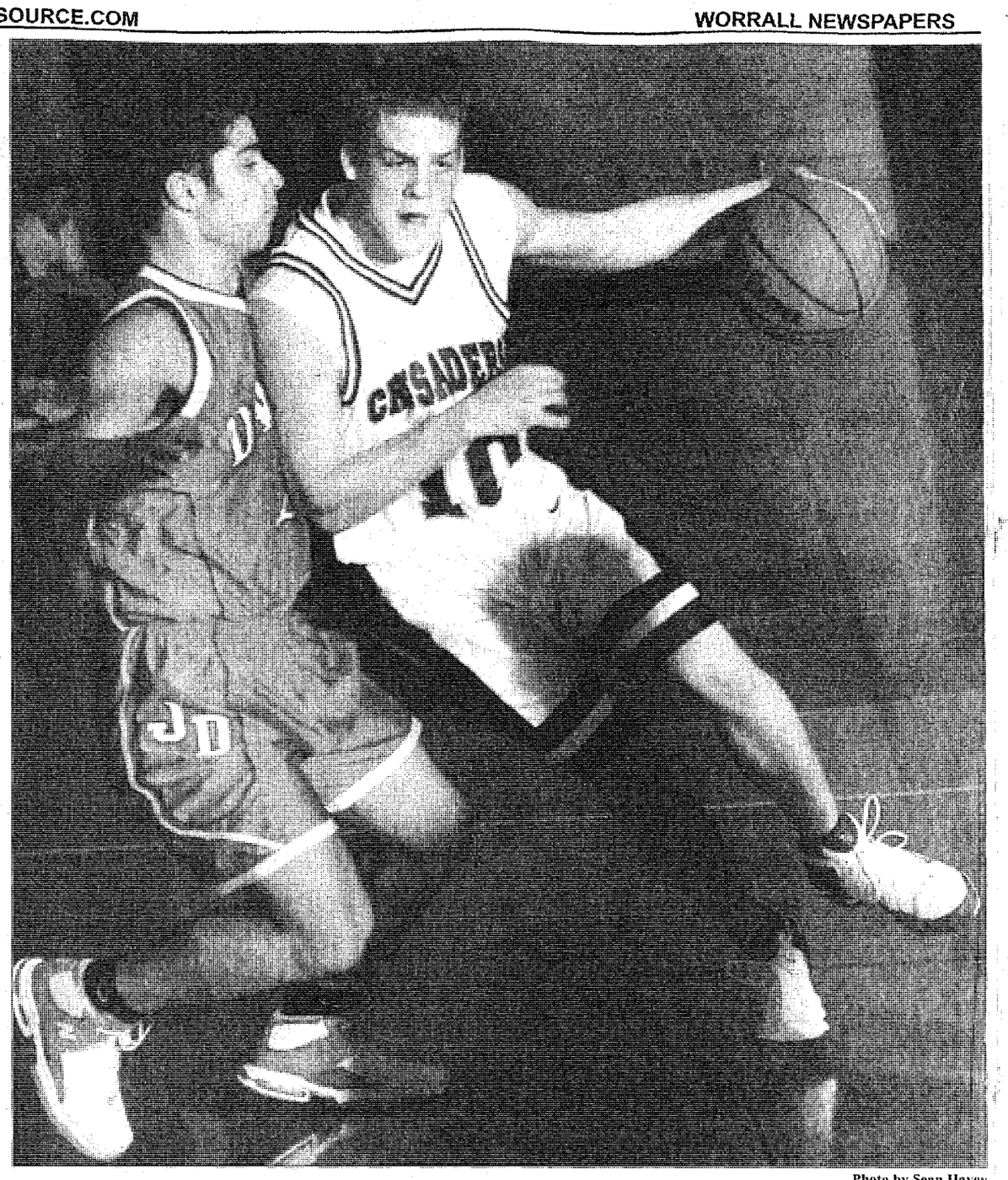


Photo by Sean Havey

The Johnson boys' basketball team is sparked by the play of senior guard Bobby Dunn, No. 10 at right. Shown here trying to dribble past Dayton's Dan Shabat, Dunn has helped the Crusaders reach a position where they have a chance to make the state playoffs.

Johnson takes big step forward with quality victory over Lions

By JR Parachini
Sports Editor

Taking a big step forward.

It was quite a challenge for the Johnson boys' basketball team to halt Roselle Catholic last Friday night at home.

The Lions came to Clark with a five-game winning streak and were fresh off a surprise 69-58 home win over Rahway two nights earlier.

RC did quite well to limit Rahway standout senior Earl Clark, even though he did pour in a game-high 26 points in front of his future college coach, Louisville's Rick Pitino.

Nonetheless, Johnson played a consistent game against RC, outscoring the Lions in every quarter, and pulled away with a convincing 72-57 Mountain Valley Conference triumph.

Johnson, ranked in ninth in Union County this week, improved to 7-5 with the victory and moved one step closer to qualifying for the Central Jersey, Group 2 playoffs.

The state playoff cutoff date is one week from this Saturday - Feb. 4.

Johnson's first scheduled game this week was at Oratory Prep Tuesday night in Summit.

Junior forward Brian Kelly continues to perform like one of the top players in Union County, netting a game-high 27 points against RC. He also did well to grab 11 rebounds and block four shots.

Kelly connected for 18 points in the first half, with Johnson taking a 38-29 lead at halftime.

Senior guard Dustin Pflug also had a hot hand for the Crusaders as he scored 12 points and grabbed eight board.

Senior guards Bobby Dunn and Chris Greet scored 10 and eight points respectively.

Sophomore forward Matt Henn, a Hillside resident, paced the Lions with a 16-point effort.

NOTES: Johnson is scheduled to play at Roselle today at 4 p.m. and Saturday is at New Providence at 2 p.m.

Both Roselle and New Providence won Monday. Roselle defeated Montclair Immaculate 61-54 in Roselle to improve to 3-11, while Immaculate fell to 8-5. Joshua Clark scored 22 points and Jerae Prather 16 to pace the Rams.

New Providence improved to 6-6 after beating North Plainfield 69-57 in North Plainfield. Pioneer junior guard Steve Siracusa paced all scorers with a 28-point effort.

•

Upcoming Crusaders schedule:
Jan. 26 at Roselle, 4 p.m.
Jan. 28 at New Providence, 2 p.m.
Jan. 31 Hillside, 7 p.m.
Feb. 3 Governor Livingston, 7 p.m.
Feb. 4 vs. Cranford at Rahway Recreation Center
Feb. 10 North Plainfield, 7 p.m.
Feb. 14 Newark Central, 7 p.m.
Feb. 16 at Union Catholic, 7 p.m.

Roselle girls' bounce Hillside

(Continued from Page 9)

NOTES: With last Thursday's No. 1 Union County ranking came a 57-48 home win over a 6-5 Roselle Catholic team on the same day.

The Rams should garner very high seeds for the UCT and Central Jersey, Group 2.

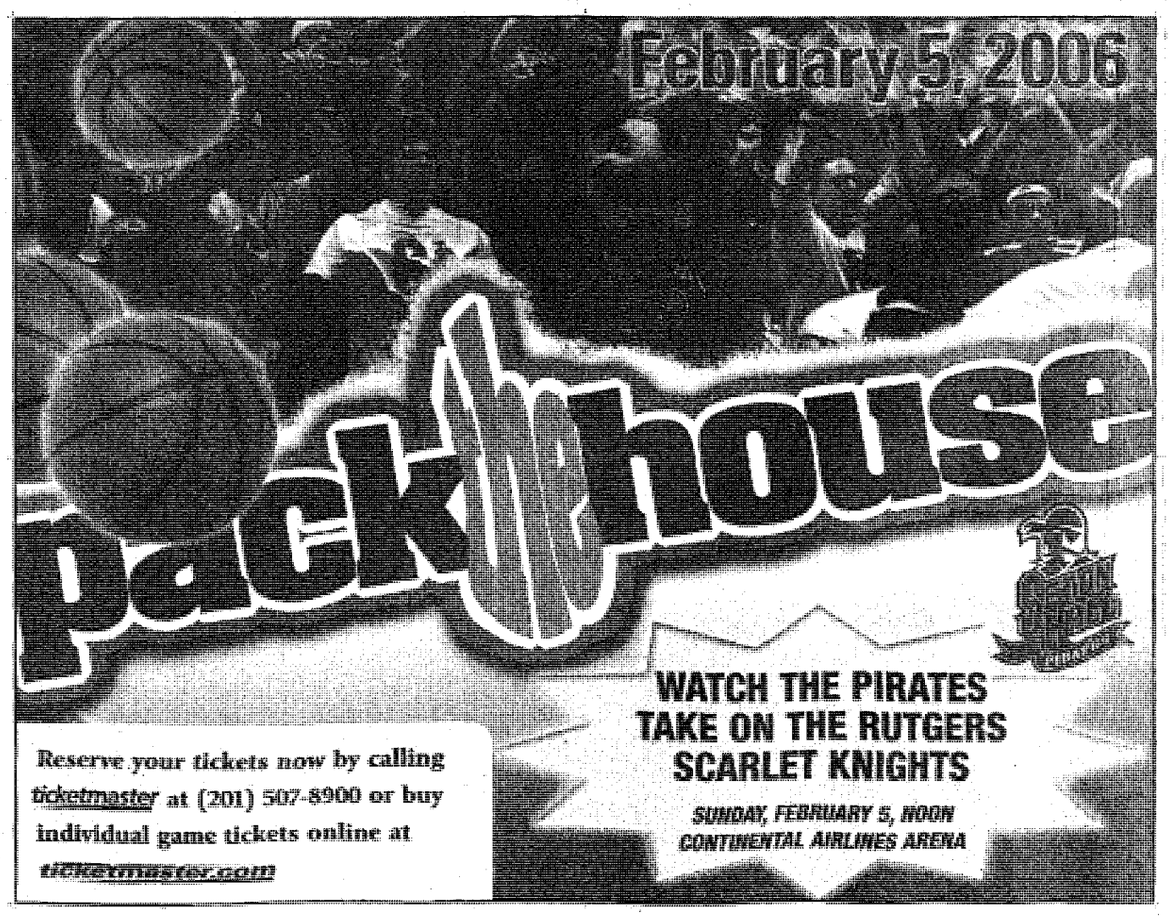
Roselle was to host Union Catholic Tuesday afternoon and today are scheduled to play at Johnson at 4 p.m. Roselle won the UCT for the first time in 2002 and then captured North 2, Group 2 that same season.

Hillside has work to do if it wants to make the grade in Central Jersey, Group 2, with the cutoff date Feb. 4.

The Comets rebounded quickly with a 44-31 non-conference win at Lincoln of Jersey City last Saturday to improve to 7-8. Oliver scored a game-high 18 and Isom 12.

•

Upcoming Rams schedule:
Jan. 24: played at Union Catholic
Jan 26: at Johnson, 4 p.m.
Jan. 31: at Dayton, 7 p.m.
Feb. 2: at New Providence, 7 p.m.
Feb. 6: at Linden, 4 p.m.
Feb. 7: Gov. Livingston, 4 p.m.
Feb. 10: North Plainfield, 4 p.m.
Feb. 14: Mount St. Mary, 4 p.m.
Feb. 17: Johnson, 4 p.m.



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Union winter track squad sets boys', girls' records

Farmers achieve feats at Group 4 Relays

What a performance for the Union winter track and field teams!

The Farmers broke two school indoor records at last Saturday's Group 4 Relays at Princeton's Jadwin Gym.

The boys' 4x800 meter relay team set a new record of 8:42.62, shattering the old mark of 8:52.42 set during the 1999-2000 season.

Running for the Farmers were Olu Ogunye in 2:10, Rich Zhang in 2:14, Chris Cubias in 2:11.9 and Mike Sacca in 2:06.6.

The girls' 4x200 meter relay team also established a new mark of 1:51.52, breaking the old time of 1:54.06 set earlier this season.

The Farmer sprinters were Ashley Battle in 28.2 seconds, DeJahna Claiborne in 28.8, Zainab Bisiolu in 27.5 and Nicole Bryant in 26.5.

The 4x200 team also had Union's best finish of the day in the girls' competition, placing ninth.

The boys' top relay of the meet was the shot put relay of Dave Barragan at 43-5.25 and Kyle Von Linden at 43-3.75, whose total of 86-9 placed ninth overall.

Union girls' third in county meet

At the Union County Girls' Championships Monday at the Dunn Sport Center in Elizabeth, Union placed eighth out of 20 teams with 13 points.

Union scorers included Nicole Bryant third in the 60-yard high hurdles in 8.7 and third in the 440-yard in 66.0 - both earning the Farmers six points - and Bisiolu sixth in the 60-yard dash in 7.8 seconds for one point.

Farmers also excel vs. Westfield, Elizabeth

Union teams also excelled against host Elizabeth and Westfield on Jan. 13 at the Dunn Sport Center, with the girls' beating Elizabeth 52-16 and Westfield 48-20 for a 2-0 record and the boys' falling to Elizabeth 40-28 and downing Westfield 55.67-12.33 for a 1-1 mark.

For the girls' against Elizabeth, Nicole Bryant was first in the 55-meter high hurdles in 8.4 seconds. Ashley Battle was second in 9.2 and Tolu Oyetunde third in 9.3.

Zainab Bisiolu was first in the 55-meter dash in 7.7, Battle second in 7.9 and Elizabeth third in 8.0. Stephanie Genna was first in the 1,600 meters in 6:02.6, Elizabeth second in 6:12 and Elizabeth third in 6:50.

Bryant was first in the 400 meters in 66.7, Oyetunde second in 68.5 and Elizabeth third in 71.0. Krystal Alvarez was first in the 800 meters in 2:49, Tamara Dumarsais second in 2:55 and Elizabeth third in 3:02.

Union won the 1,600 meter relay in 4:38.3 behind Bisiolu in 69.9, Katelyn Reiter in 70.8, Oyetunde in 70.9 and Bryant in 66.9. Elizabeth was second in 5:10.

Elizabeth won the shot put at 31-9.5, was second at 28-5.5 and Danielle Morency was third at 27-2.5. Reiter won the high jump at 4-6, Francesca Bonny was second at 4-3 and Elizabeth third at 4-3.

In the high hurdles, Bonny came in at 10.9 and Reiter at 9.4. In the 440, Bailey came in at 77.2, Filsaime at 77.6 and Chen at 81.0. In the 60, Bailey came in at 8.3 and Filsaime at 8.5.

Against Westfield, Bryant was first in the 55 hurdles, Battle second and Oyetunde third. Bisiolu was first in the 55 dash, Battle second and Westfield third.

Genna was first in the 1,600, with Westfield second and Westfield third. Bryant was first, Oyetunde second and Westfield third in the 400. Alvarez was first, Westfield second and Dumarsais third in the 800.

Union won the 1,600 meter relay, with Westfield second. Westfield won the shot put at 28-6.25, with Morency second at 27-2.5 and Magnolita Monheur third at 26-4.75. Westfield won the high jump at 4-10, with Reiter second at 4-6 and Westfield third at 4-6.

For the boys' against Elizabeth, David Lewis was first in the 55 hurdles in 8.4, Elizabeth second at 8.5 and Jamal John and Tobi Oyetunde tied for third at 8.9. Latif Brewer won the 55 dash in 6.5, with Marques Wallace second at 6.7 and Elizabeth third.

Elizabeth won the 1,600 in 5:09 and was second at 5:12. Olu Ogunye was third in 5:13. Elizabeth also won the 400 in 57.6, with Elizabeth second in 58.6 and Adewale Sangobiyi third in 62.0. Elizabeth also won the 800 in 2:16.3, with Elizabeth second at 2:18.2 and Chris Cubias third in 2:18.7.

Elizabeth captured the 1,600 meter relay in 3:56.2, with Union second in 4:07.2 behind Wallace in 59.9, Oyetunde in 62.8, Tracy Daughtry in 62.2 and Lewis in 62.3. Kyle Von Linden won the shot put at 44-5, Paul Prokopovich was second at 43-5.5 and Kyle Scheuermann was third at 40-2. Elizabeth won the high jump at 5-6, with Oyetunde and Elizabeth tied for second also at 5-6.

In the 60, Highsmith finished in 7.3, Disbrow in 7.3, Sangobiyi in 7.3 and Umejei in 7.3. J. Ogunmoye finished the mile in 5:26, Sheikh in 5:26.5, Belford in 5:38 and Imbornone in 6:03.

Sangobiyi finished the 440 in 62.0, Disbrow in 62.1, Jones in 63.0, Highsmith in 64.7 and Umejei in 66.0. Kizabe Zongwe was 2:30.1 in the 880, Sheikh 2:32.1, Cheng 2:33.0, Belford 2:36.2 and Omisakin 2:38.0. Raffaele was 34-5.25 in the shot put, Wycko 34-7.25 and Pierre 36-5.

Against Westfield, Lewis did quite well to win the 55 hurdles in 8.4, while John and Oyetunde were tied for second in 8.9.

Brewer won the 55 dash in 6.5, with Wallace second in 6.7 and Yannick Jones, Daughtry and Westfield tied for third in 7.1.

Ogunye on the 1,600 in 5:13, Cubias was second in 5:15 and Westfield third in 5:17. Westfield won the 400 in 61.4, Westfield was second in 61.7 and Disbrow third in 62.1. Cubias won the 800 in 2:18.7, Rich Zhang was second in 2:21.7 and Ben Li third in 2:22.1.

Union captured the 1,600 meter relay in 4:07.2 and Westfield was second in 4:21.2. Von Linden won the shot put at 44-.5, Prokopovich was second at 43-5.5 and Scheuermann was third at 40-2.

In the high jump, Oyetunde did well to finish in first at 5-6. Westfield was second at 5-0 and John and Zongwe tied for third at 5-0.

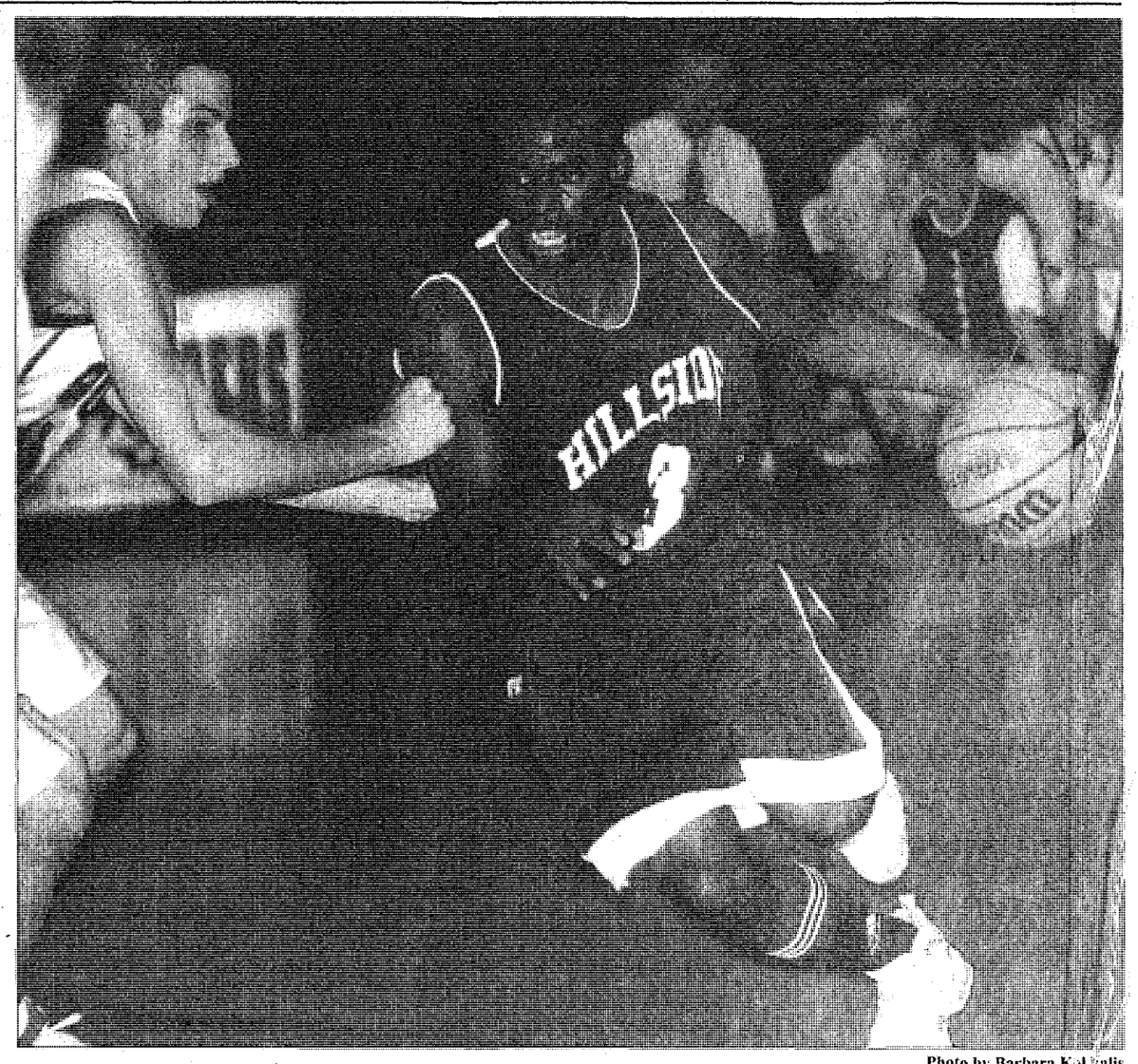


Photo by Barbara Kolialis

Two of the best guards in Union County are senior Kenny Watson of Hillside, No. 3 at right, and junior Tom Amalfe of Governor Livingston, No. 24 at left. The teams met in Berkeley Heights last Thursday, with Hillside coming out on top 68-57.

Hillside boys' hoops one of hottest teams at the moment

By JR Parachini
Sports Editor

The Comets are out of sight!

Hillside's boys' basketball team is one of the hottest around at the moment.

The Comets extended a winning streak to eight games Monday after dominating visiting Roselle Catholic 67-44 in Mountain Valley Conference play.

One thing RC has that Hillside doesn't is a win over the Indians. Rahway defeated Hillside 61-44 in Hillside back on Dec. 20, which was the second game of the season for Hillside and the third for Rahway.

The Lions upset visiting Rahway 69-58 on Jan. 18 for their fifth straight victory. After setbacks to Johnson 72-57 on the road last Friday night and to Hillside, RC's record stood at 6-7 as of Tuesday.

Hillside's record was 11-2 as of Tuesday. The only other team the Comets lost to was Colonia by a 56-42 score in the Joe Silver Tournament final at Hillside on Dec. 30.

Hillside will get another chance to beat Rahway on Feb. 4, which is the state playoff cutoff date. The Comets will face the Indians at the Rahway Recreation Center at 7:30 that night.

Hillside and Rahway, which was 11-4 going into Tuesday afternoon's scheduled home game against St. Mary's of Elizabeth, are vying for high seeds for the upcoming Central Jersey, Group 2 playoffs.

Rahway reached the final the past two seasons, falling to New Brunswick in 2004 and to Raritan in 2005.

Hillside lost to Summit in last year's North 2, Group 2 final.

The Comets have not won a sectional title since last winning North 2, Group 2 for the fifth consecutive year back in 1994.

Colonia is situated in North 2, Group 3 this season, so Hillside and Rahway don't have to concern themselves with that Middlesex County opponent.

The state playoffs will commence around New Jersey on Monday, Feb. 27.

In Monday's win over RC, Union transfer Armond Lucas poured in a game-high 18 points to lead the Comets. Javonn McCluney pitched in with 12 points, while Gabe Paul added 11 and Justin Matthews nine.

Last Saturday, Hillside took care of Bridgewater-Raritan 59-57 in Bridgewater. Lucas paced the Comets in this win as well with 16 points, while Paul netted 15, McCluney 13, Kenny Watson seven and Matthews six.

Hillside's other two wins last week were at home against Roselle 66-26 on Jan. 17 and at Governor Livingston 68-57 on Thursday.

McCluney had a hot hand for Hillside in the win over Roselle, pouring in a game-high 22-point performance. Watson scored 12 and Paul, Matthews and Lucas eight each.

Ingram, Nolan, Murray, Araneo, Glynos impress

To be honored at Feb. 12 Hot Stove Dinner

The Union County Baseball Association will honor a number of student-athletes during award ceremonies on Feb. 12 at the 70th Annual Hot Stove League Baseball Dinner, which begins at 1 p.m. at the L'Affaire Banquet Center, 1099 Route 22 East, Mountainside.

The dinner is sponsored by the Union County Baseball Association, in cooperation with the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Union County Department of Parks, Recreation and Facilities.

Among the male student-athletes who will be honored are outfielder Jamar Ingram of Cranford, catcher Mike Murray of Westfield and pitcher Nick Nolan of Linden, the 2005 Union County Player of the Year.

The three will share the Edward Cooper Memorial Award for Most Valuable Scholastic Baseball Player.

Ingram is a 2005 Cranford High graduate at Lafayette College, while Murray is a senior at Westfield and Nolan a senior at Roselle Catholic.

Ingram and Murray were First Team All-State in 2005 and Nolan Second Team.

Among the female athletes who will be honored are two shortstops: Jackie Araneo of Union, a First Team All-State selection with Montclair-Kimberley, and Daria Glynos of Kenilworth, who was named Union County Player of the Year by the Star-Ledger.

The two will share the Banyasz Brothers Memorial Award for Most Valuable Scholastic Softball Player. Araneo is now playing at Princeton University.

The Union County Baseball Association also will induct four new members into the Union County Baseball Hall of Fame during the award ceremonies. Fred Henderson of Rahway, Ed Kovac of Hillside, John Langan of Linden and Lou Sneizak of Elizabeth will be honored.

The special guest speakers at the awards dinner will be Willie Wilson of Summit, the former star outfielder and basestealer for the Kansas City Royals, and Keith Hamilton of Montvale, the former 12-year defensive tackle for the New York Giants.

"We're very pleased to have Willie Wilson and Keith Hamilton as guest speakers at this year's Hot Stove League Awards Dinner," said Freeholder Chairman Al Mirabella. "We hope that family members and friends of all the award recipients will enjoy the Sunday afternoon ceremonies and support youth baseball and the new inductees into the Union County Baseball Hall of Fame."

In addition to the new Hall of Fame inductees, the Hot Stove League Baseball Dinner also will honor many other young athletes and local baseball teams for their achievements in 2005.

Tickets for the dinner are $35, with proceeds going to help fund the Union County Summer Youth Baseball League for youngsters 8 to 15 years and the Fall Teen League.

Since 1937, the annual Hot Stove League Dinner has been the primary fund-raising effort for the Union County Baseball Association's summer and fall programs.

Tickets are available for $35 and may be obtained by calling 908-527-4910.

NOTES: Nolan was the winning pitcher in last year's Union County Tournament championship game at Linden's Memorial Field, leading RC to a 6-2 victory over Dayton.

The Lions had one of their best seasons ever in 2005, fashioning a 24-8 record that also included a share of the Mountain Valley Conference-Mountain Division title with Governor Livingston. It was RC's first conference crown since 1991.

Summit baseball evaluations upcoming

Every season Summit Junior Baseball holds player skill evaluation sessions prior to selecting teams. All baseball players are required to attend a skill evaluation session.

The following skill evaluation sessions are scheduled:

Feb. 4: Baseball, grades 3 and 4, Summit High School gym, 3 p.m.

Feb. 11: Baseball, grades 5 and 6, Summit High School gym, 3 p.m.

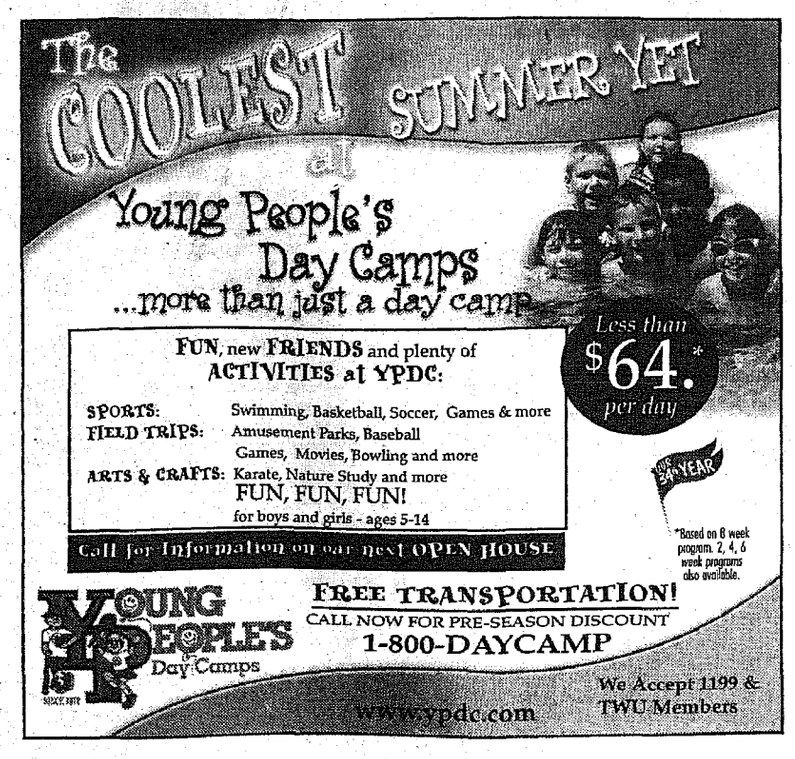
Feb. 13: Makeup session for anyone missing the prior skill evaluation sessions will be at LCJ Summit Middle School, 6 p.m.

March 4: Suburban League, grades 7, 8 and 9, skill evaluation session will be at Summit High School gym, 5 p.m.

March 7: Makeup session for Suburban League will be at LCJ Summit Middle School gym, 6 p.m.

Summit Girls Softball League players will be notified separately of the date and time of their skill evaluations. More information may be obtained by calling Richard Apostolik at 908-273-6529.





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Johnson hockey winning

The Johnson ice hockey team began the week with a three-game winning streak after beating Millburn 5-1 in West Orange last Saturday to improve to 5-10.

Before that victory, the Crusaders defeated St. Rose 10-0 on Jan. 17 and then edged Livingston 2-1 on Jan. 18, both of those games taking place at Warinanco Ice Skating Rink in Roselle. Bill Benton scored two goals in the win over Millburn, while goaltender Scott Klimchak came up big with 20 saves.

Klimchak had 25 saves in his win vs. Livingston. Mike Merfert netted two goals in the second period for all of the Crusader scoring. Ed Mironski assisted on both goals. Vinnie Ferdinandi and Matt Dell Andrino scored twice and Jozef Kopel had a goal and three assists vs. St. Rose.

Johnson has rebounded nicely from an 0-7 start.

The Crusaders were scheduled to skate against Millburn last night at Warinanco and Tuesday is scheduled to play West Orange at 8:30 p.m.

The Crusaders will then skate against Manasquan Wednesday night at 6 at Warinanco.

Here's a look at leading scorers as of Tuesday:

Goals
Jr. For. Matt Dell Andrino, 5
Fr. Def. Vinnie Ferdinandi, 5
Jr. Def. Tommy Benton, 4
Assists
Fr. For. Jozef Kopel, 8
Tommy Benton, 5
Sr. Def. Alex Nucera, 5
Points
Jozef Kopel, 12
Tommy Benton, 9
Matt Dell Andrino, 9

Dayton girls' basketball bounces back

The Dayton girls' basketball team bounced back from a very tough 46-14 loss at Roselle on Jan. 12 to win its next four games as of Tuesday.

Dayton sported a 9-4 record as of Tuesday night's scheduled game at Technology and had won six of seven.

Winners of Central Jersey, Group 1 last year - the team's first-ever sectional championship - the Bulldogs are seeking to gain as high of a seed as possible for the upcoming North 2, Group 1 playoffs. The cutoff date is Feb. 4 and the states start Feb. 27.

In a 40-16 home win over Bound Brook last Friday, Dayton received a team-high 12 points from freshman standout Jacqueline Kuczynski, nine from Valerie Upton and seven from Katelyn Viverito.

Dayton also defeated Brearley and Newark Central last week after coming off a win over Manville by a 43-27 score at home on Jan. 13. Dayton defeated Brearley 38-35 on Jan. 17, with Kuczynski netting 22 points. Dayton scored the game's final seven points to steal the win. Sami Kennedy added six points and Viverito four.

Kuczynski topped her scoring effort in Thursday's 50-38 win at Newark Central with a season-high 24 points. She alsograbbed 10 rebounds.

Dayton is scheduled to host St. Mary's of Elizabeth today at 4 p.m., host Roselle Tuesday night at 7 and host Governor Livingston Feb. 3 at 7.

Union has winning streak snapped: Union had a six-game winning streak snapped last Thursday when it fell at non-conference foe Bayonne 56-34. Union entered Tuesday afternoon's home game against Shabazz with an 8-4 record and had won eight of 10 after an 0-2 start.

Senior Sophia Iloh scored five of her 12 points in the fourth quarter, including the game-winning basket with 30 seconds left, to lift the Farmers past a 9-3 Westfield team 40-38 on the road on Jan. 17.

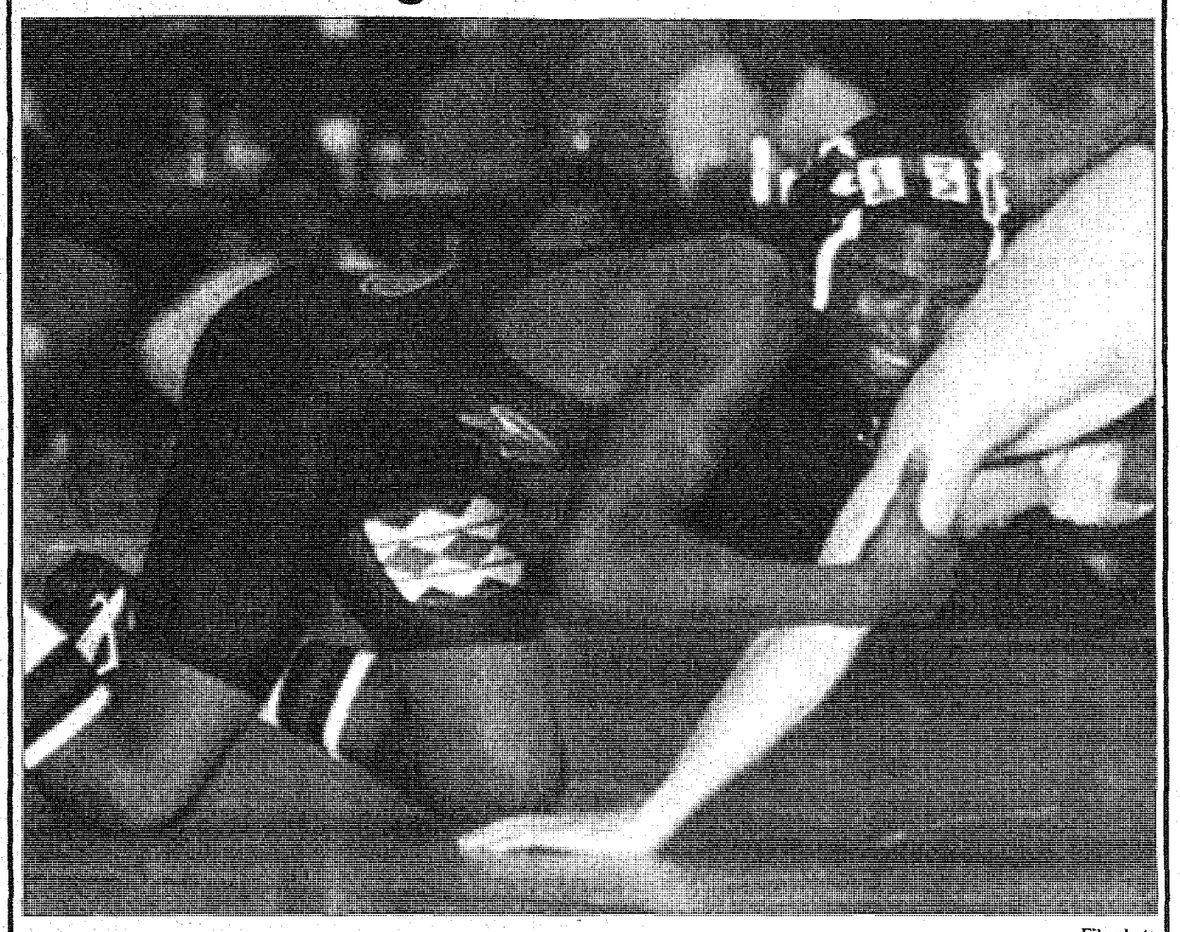
Roro Johnson scored 10 points for Union and Angela Nascondiglio nine.

Summit tops 8-1 Hanover Park: Summit was 6-6 as of Tuesday after two big wins last week. The first was a 55-42 home triumph over an 8-1 Hanover Park team Jan. 17. Junior forward Danielle Scott paced Summit with 18 points and 15 rebounds.

Summit then defeated host Parsippany 60-55 in overtime Friday.

Summit was to play at Morris Hills Tuesday night and tonight is to host Weequahic at 7.

UCT wrestling next weekend



File photo

Rahway senior Darrion Caldwell, left, will attempt to become just the fifth wrestler to win four Union County Tournament titles next weekend. The UCT will begin at Union High School on Feb. 3 at 5 p.m. and conclude with the finals on Feb. 4 at 3 p.m. Caldwell won crowns at 103 as a freshman, at 119 as a sophomore and at 135 as a junior. He is ranked No. 1 in the state at 152 and is undefeated. Other 4-time UCT champs include Larry Guarino and Dave Bubnowski of Union and Craig Frost and Dan Appello of Roselle Park.

Cranford swimmers best Rahway, New Providence

Get back over .500 mark with 8-6 record

The Cranford swimming team splashed its way over the .500 mark on Jan. 17, downing Rahway by a convincing score of 111-57 at the Rahway Y to improve to 7-6.

"This was an important meet for us," Cranford head coach Barbara Kolesa said. "I didn't want our team to look past Rahway. It is a team capable of beating us if we aren't careful and don't try our hardest."

The meet started well for Cranford. In the 200 medley relay, Cougar swimmers Sean French, Matt Duescher, Steve Jurpalis and Haley Brown placed first and the team of Elizabeth Woglom, Blaire Fraser, Mark Bagniewski and Mary Kate Miller finished second.

"After that race, I knew we came to swim and do well," assistant coach Colleen Donnelly.

Javier Nino took first in the 200 freestyle, followed by Laurel Klappholz in third place. The 200 individual medley was won by Duescher, with Allison Harty in third place. French won the 50 freestyle, with Mike Walano placing third.

Cranford was leading by a score of 41-21 at the break.

The meet resumed with the 100 butterfly. This was a sweep for Cranford, with Brown placing first, Fraser second and Frances Kenajjian third.

"I think that was the first time we went 1-2-3 all year," said Brown, a junior.

Rahway staged a mini rally in the 100 freestyle. Cranford placed third behind Jurpalis and fourth behind Thomas Hearon. The Indians picked up 11 points in that race.

Cranford bounced back in the 500 freestyle, with Miller placing first, Heather Lee third and Gregory Mease fourth. Cranford got back the 11 points it lost in the previous race.

The 100 backstroke was won by French, while Delia DeBlass placed second. The 100 breaststroke produced the second 1-2-3 finish for Cranford, with Brown placing first, Bagniewski second and Kim Ulaky third.

The last race of the meet was the 400 freestyle relay. The team of Klappholz, Brown, French and Miller took first to forge the final score.

"This meet gave me a chance to swim some swimmers in 'off' events and gave others a chance to swim in races and earn us points," Kolesa said. "This was a meet where everyone contributed to our win."

Cranford hosted New Providence last Thursday at the Cranford Pool and Fitness Center and came away with a hard-fought 88-82 triumph to improve to 8-6.

"If there were point spreads in high school swimming, Cranford would have been the underdog today," Kolesa said. "They've beaten us the past couple of years, and while a win was not impossible, it was going to require many great swims. We got those great swims!"

The meet started well for Cranford. A first-place showing by Steve Jurpalis, Mark Bagniewski, Matt Duescher and Sean French and a third by Mary Kate Miller, Natalie Laucius, Johnathan Van Ostenbridge and Mike Walano in the 200 medley relay gave Cranford a quick six-point lead.

The cushion grew to 11 points after the 200 freestyle, with a first by Javier Nino, third by Laurel Klappholz and fifth by Greg Mease.

"That was the start of our great swims," Donnelly said. "Mease's swim was especially impressive because we scored points and kept them from scoring. Points were going to be hard to get today."

New Providence narrowed the margin somewhat in the 200 IM, despite Van Ostenbridge's second- and Elizabeth Woglom's fifth-place finish.

"I was expecting a push by New Providence sometime during the meet," Kolesa said. "They are too good to be down by so many points. I was hoping we could respond to their push."

Cranford responded to New Providence's first surge in the 50 freestyle. Powered by a first by French, fourth by Duescher and fifth by Bagniewski, Cranford was able to build a four-point lead into a six-point advantage.

New Providence then pushed back in the 100 butterfly. Duescher took second and Laurel Klappholz placed fourth, with Cranford's lead dwindling down to just two points. Now it was Cranford's turn to respond to New Providence. Powered by a first by French, third by Jurpalis and fourth by Walano, Cranford was able to extend its lead to 11 points.

The 500 freestyle produced a third by Nino, fourth by Miller and fifth by Heather Lee to minimize the impact of New Providence's first- and second-place finishes.

"This was another example of a great swim," Donnelly said. "We expected Nino and Miller to do well in this race. Lee's fifth place effort was a pleasant surprise and prevented New Providence from scoring points."

Cranford rebuilt a double-digit lead after the 200 freestyle relay, with a first by Jurpalis, Klappholz, Walano and French and a third by Delia DeBlass, Bagniewski, Jenna Pfarr and Van Ostenbridge.

In the 100 backstroke, despite a second by Jurpalis, a fourth by DeBlass and a fifth by Frances Kenajjian, Cranford's lead shrank to eight points. In the 100 breaststroke, Bagniewski finished first in the most exciting race of the meet, followed by Natalie Laucius in fourth.

Going into the last race, Cranford's lead was still eight points.

"Here we go again," Kolesa said. "The meet was going to be decided by the last race. We needed at least a second to win. A third place would only give us a tie. The swimmers worked too hard for a tie."

Cranford responded with a second by Duescher, Klappholz, Van Ostenbridge and Nino and a third by Miller, Walano, Lee and Laurel Hartmann.

"Even though the meet was won once we took second place, it was still important for us to do well," said Walano, a junior. "We wanted to give it our best shot."

RP Rec wrestlers turn in stellar performances

Roselle Park Recreation wrestling hosted its annual Roselle Park Dads Club Rob Kinney Memorial Tournament at Roselle Park High School last week, with youngsters in the Pee Wee, Bantam, Midget, Junior and Intermediate divisions turning in stellar performances.

Here's a look at Roselle Park results:

Pee Wee: Anthony Caruso, third; Tyler Crown, first; Vincent Figueredo, first; Thomas Harris, fourth; Phil Lagana, fourth; Tyler Lieberman, second; Joe McGovern, fourth; Mark Montgomery, third; Sal Pecorella, second; Nick Sanchez, second; Valentino Ambrosio, second.

Bantam: Brad Carle, second; Joe DeVito, second; Josh Gergich, first; Chris Gural, first; Josh Valente, third.

Midget: Alex Krynicki, first; Steve Loevsky, third; Don Picciano, fourth; Marc Signorello, third; Bobby Vail, first; Phil Woods, third.

Junior: Vic Pozsonyi, third; Brendan Leary, second.

Intermediate: Dan Pisauro, third; Luke Lavista, third; Steve Kalkandis, third; Eric Gedman, third; Nick Longo, first; Jim Severet, third; Matt Krynicki, second; Connor Gabriel, second; Russ Benner, first; Frankie Yuro, second; Dennis Carroll, first.

Sinatra, Milici lift R. Park bowlers

The combination of Anthony Sinatra and Nicholas Milici were just too much last week, leading the Roselle Park bowling team to a Mountain Valley Conference victory over Governor Livingston. In what was the league's Handicap "Bumper" week, the two teams, neck and neck in the standings squared off against each other to obtain better positioning in the standings.

On its way to a total scratch margin of 3,514 to 3,085, the Panthers took seven of eight scratch points to increase their impressive season scratch record to 47-9. The Panthers are challenging Union Catholic for the MVC's top spot.

"Going into the match, we were 40-8 and UC was 41-7," Roselle Park coach Vince Fucci said. "So we really needed to excel against Governor Livingston and we did. I was very proud of the team.

The two top teams square off later this season in what may very well determine the MVC champion.

On the team's way to the 429-pin match victory, Milici rolled a 562 series and Sinatra a 539 to lead the Panthers. Within their individual series, Sinatra rolled a 199, while Milici posted two games of 193. Helping secure victory was a team-high game of 213 rolled by Fred Vilas and a strong 169 game from Bryan Ehnes.

"It seems we're getting more consistent as a team as the season progresses," Fucci said. "Vilas and Sinatra really stepped up in the match."

Other strong efforts for the Panthers included a 495 series by Marc Dos Santos, a 461 series by Mike Marshall and a 460 series by Ehnes.

Milici leads the Panthers with a 188 average, which as of last week was second by one pin in the MVC. Dos Santos follows with a 171 average, while Vilas has posted a solid 165 average for the season.

Union rolls past Scotch Plains

Union defeated Scotch Plains 2-1 last Thursday after falling to Linden 2-1 two days earlier in competition that took place at Hy-Way Bowl in Union. Union's junior varsity defeated Linden 3-0 before falling to Scotch Plains 2-0.

•

Here's a look at Union's varsity scores:
Jan. 19: Union defeated Scotch Plains 2-1 - Union improves to 8-4.
Veronica Arias 226-202-159-587
Charles Sansone 207-181-181-569
Jeff Thomas 145-178-205-528
Joe Rodriguez 197-152-141-490
Jessica Arias 161-136-165-462

•

Jan. 17: Linden defeated Union 2-1
Jeff Thomas 243-171-132-546
Veronica Arias 169-158-202-529
Charles Sansone 189-168-169-526
Joe Rodriguez 195-159-154-508
Nick Del Duca 180-140-174-494

••

Here's a look at Union's junior varsity scores:
Jan. 19: Scotch Plains defeated Union 2-1
Mike Churus 141-142-184-467
Deral Ingram 151-122-193-466
Lashanna Armour 148-155-159-462
Frank Santangelo 138-144-172-454
Kireem DeWindt 136-141-151-428

•

Jan. 17: Union defeated Linden 3-0
Jessica Arias 170-166-177-520
Frank Santangelo 136-180-203-519
Lashanna Armour 156-183-157-496
Mike Churus 183-157-147-487
Deral Ingram 156-148
Carlos Torres 192

Springfield Nettes post 2 impressive wins

The Springfield 5th and 6th grade Nettes upped their record to 5-1 with two impressive wins last week. First came a 30-18 win over Chatham. Trailing 18-17 in the fourth quarter, the Nettes scored the last 13 points to pull away with a 12-point triumph.

Captain Anna Lies played well in the fourth quarter, scoring nine of her game-high 17 points. Lies also had nine steals and four assists.

Captain Emily MacDonnell poured in 11 points, while Jennifer Kuczynski directed the offense with two points and five steals.

Earlier in the week, the Nettes defeated a previously-undefeated Green Brook team by the score of 33-23. A solid team defensive effort once again proved too much for the opposition to handle.

Captains Anna Lies, Jennifer Kuczynski and Emily MacDonnell dominated on both ends of the court. Kuczynski had a solid all-around game, highlighted by her half-court buzzer-beating 3-pointer at the half.

Kuczynski finished with nine points, four rebounds and four assists, while Lies had five points, four assists and eight steals.

Emily MacDonnell led Springfield with 13 points and also had three steals. Brooke Lantier netted four points and added four rebounds and two steals in her best game of the season.

Krista Delia had another good defensive effort, coming up with two steals.

Allison Weber also played well, grabbing four more rebounds. Beanne Mooney had a fine effort, scoring two points.

The team's unsung heroes continue to be the young group of 5th graders that add stifling defense every game. Those key players are Katelyn Condon, Jessica Condon, Rachel Usdin, Lindsey Gaon, Jessica Farber and Amanda Stein.

The Nettes are scheduled to host Green Brook Saturday in a rematch.

St. James the Apostle teams victorious

The 6th grade girls' basketball team at St. James the Apostle of Springfield remains undefeated in Union County CYO League play after two strong wins last weekend.

Springfield defeated OLP, New Providence 25-13 on Saturday, with Anna Lies leading all scorers with an 11-point performance. Annyssa Herlihy and Emily MacDonnell netted four apiece, while Brooke Lantier and Casey Sheehey each had a basket. Herlihy, Lantier and Kristin Hankerson all provided strong defense and rebounding.

On Sunday, Springfield downed St. John's of Clark 22-10. Lies and MacDonnell scored nine and eight points, while Krista Delia had four and Herlihy one. Herlihy, Lantier and Sheehey all provided strong defense, while MacDonnell and Lies each had five steals.

The 5th grade girls' squad had an exciting 31-29 win over Chatham, with Allison Weber leading all scorers with 15 points. Beanne Mooney added six, Heather Fritzen four, Dana Gearity four and Nicole Bunge two.

Deirdre McElroy had two assists in the fourth quarter and in-bounded against Chatham's aggressive press to Weber and Mooney, who consistently pushed the ball downcourt. Melanie Rossamando, Kayla Aljure, Megan Cieri and Lea Ginefra all provided aggressive defense and rebounding, while Weber made the game-winning shot with 27 seconds remaining.

The 6th grade boys' team defeated Westfield 25-20 behind a 15-point performance from Nico Izzi. Harvey Rison gave Springfield the lead with an end-to-end layup. Dylan Curry and Brendan O'Reilly played well on defense.

The 5th and 6th grade Blue team won an exciting 22-21 game in overtime against Garwood. St. James trailed 16-5 at the start of the fourth quarter before rallying to force OT. Jason Saimpy, Johnathan Medina, Jesse DiCocco, Christian Schmidt, Nick Pearl, Brendan Cross and Brendan Ulizio also excelled.


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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Cantor's version of 'Diary of Anne Frank' disappoints

By Jeff Cummins
Staff Writer

Carolyn Cantor wrote in her director's notes that when she was approached to direct "The Diary of Anne Frank," at the Paper Mill Playhouse, she read the original play, and then read Wendy Kesselman's 1997 adaptation, choosing to go with the latter.

Maybe she should have gone with the original.

Part of the problem is that many people will expect the original, though Cantor implores audiences in her director's notes to go into this version of the play with no preconceived notions. Unfortunately for Cantor, it's human nature to remember how you felt the last time you saw a production. "The Diary of Anne Frank" is a play that touches audiences on many different levels, and shakes their foundation to its core. Therefore, it's unrealistic to expect audiences to watch the play without comparing it to previous performances of the same play.

This version of "The Diary of Anne Frank" moves at a pace that's accelerated much too quickly, though it benefits from excellent performances by nearly every cast member. There are instances of levity that have been added, as have several references to adult topics, none of which seemed appropriate.

Some of the original play remained, but important portions of the story weren't addressed as thoroughly as they might have been, particularly the relationship between Anne and Peter Van Daan. This production seemed to move quickly through the initial discomfort between the two, and doesn't adequately show how their relationship develops.

In the next-to-last scene, the Nazis discover the secret annex where the Frank and Van Daan families have been hiding. Unfortunately, the scene moves much too quickly, and doesn't properly convey the sense of terror the audience should experience.

Still, "The Diary of Anne Frank" is a theater experience that shouldn't be missed. In this production, Jeff Talbott made the most of his role as Mr. Kraler. In a scene in which Mr. Kraler comes up to warn the people staying in the apartment that one of his employees may suspect they're hiding in the building, Talbott generates a real sense of fear in the audience, much more so than the many loud messages played throughout the production that attempt to simulate radio broadcasts and messages given through bullhorns.

Peter Hybart, who performed in "The Diary of Anne Frank" on Broadway, excelled at showing the fatherly side in his performance as Otto Frank, and captures the essence of a quiet family man who soberly leads his loved ones through trying circumstances, while maintaining diplomatic relationships with the other people in the apartment.

Shana Dowdeswell conveys the emotional buoyancy of youth in her portrayal of Anne Frank and adds an interesting energy to Anne, which doesn't seem out of place somehow. Michael Stahl-David was solid as Peter Van Daan.

Isabel Keating was impressive, for the most part, as Edith Frank, though the scene in which she demands that Mr. and Mrs. Van Daan, played by David Wohl and Nancy Robinette, leave the apartment did not seem realistic at all. Still, Keating captured the quiet desperation of Edith's character, portraying a woman trying to lead her family in a nearly hopeless situation.

Considerable compliments should go to Michael Rupert, who performed the role of Mr. Dussel. Though he's older than most actors who have played Mr. Dussel, Rupert has outshined many who've gone before him.

"The Diary of Anne Frank" still remains one of the great stories of all time. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 973-376-4343 or log on to www.papermill.org.

Jeff Cummins may be reached at jcummins@thelocalsource.com.



Shana Dowdeswell, left, as Anne Frank, and Dana Powers Acheson, right, as Margot Frank, performing in 'The Diary of Anne Frank,' at the Paper Mill Playhouse. To purchase tickets, call 973-376-4343.

Even more wacky entertainment predictions for 2006

By Helen Argers
Correspondent

If you've read Part One, you know I predicted that King Kong will have a devastating effect on the new leading men in Hollywood. All will have to grow in height and transplant hair all over their bodies to equal the savoir-faire of the big monkey-lover. Going on to television, I predicted, the new "Survivor" will be located in New York City — with difficult quiz questions about the history of the area such as "Who's buried in Grant's tomb?" If they answer: "Grant," they lose, for a real cosmopolitan would answer, "Who cares?"

More Television — 2006 Predictions: With ghostly presences on so many successful television series, such as "Medium" and "Ghost Whisperer," the next big 2006 hit will be titled: "I Love Dead People." The heroine in each episode will call up a famous dead person and have a torrid affair with him. I predict the most torrid will be with Napoleon, in which the heroine discovers the reason he always had his hand on his stomach. He was holding his pants up. She introduces him to Velcro and that enables him to take his hand from his belt and fully embrace a woman — which distracts him from world domination and changes history. Another ghostly lover could be Robin Hood, who will be taught modern thinking, resulting in his being persuaded that robbing from the rich and giving to the poor will disturb the nation's economy, so he'll start splurging on the rich and ignoring the poor, until Maid Marion appears in time to remind him that that was the same spin King John used for hoarding all the gold. Whereupon Robin reverts to his usual self and hides out in Central Park, ready to rob the rich on their way to Lincoln Center, but he does not find gold sacks, just Goldman-Sachs broker cards, playbills and opera glasses, which, when distributed to the poor, are tossed back. So Robin decides he doesn't understand the modern world.

Other big TV successful shows in 2006 will be a combination of "Dancing With The Stars" and "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" called: "Stars Dance and Clean Your House." Of course, if the stars turn out to be the minor celebrities usually on such shows, you wouldn't want them in your house, except they'll do windows and clean your bathroom with full wattage smiles, as long as the cameras keep rolling. Another hit show to watch for is a combination of "Nanny" and "Commander In Chief" that will be called: "Nanny Puts Congress On Naughty Chairs."

Broadway — 2006 Predictions. Revival after revival has brightened the great white way, but Rodgers and Hammerstein have been overdone and "The Phantom of the Opera" — through it seems like a revival, is still running, so I predict for 2006, a new version of the operetta, "Naughty Marietta" will hit the boards, only with a today's edgy casting, including Harvey Fierstein and Queen Latifah as the romantic singing couple. They may not be able to hit the high notes, but they will hit the funny bones, which is all that's required for a sell-out.

Classical Music — 2006 Predictions. A young Chinese violinist will be featured with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra at NJPAC and win raves, especially considering that he/she is only 2 years old. Needing two hands to hold up the violin, he/she will omit the bow and rely on pizzicato or finger plucking of the 18th Century violin on loan from the NJSO's prized golden strings collection. In the middle, he/she drops the Stradivarius and the concertmaster faints. But the infant prodigy continues jumping on the violin to turn it into a timpani instrument and gets rave reviews for "daring drumming." Advance news of a NJPAC's coming 2006 show: "A Pygmy Tribe's Taboo Drums And Blow Guns." This international coup of not only the music but the tribe — not even discovered by archeologists — have already been signed up by Larry Goldman.

Books — 2006 Predictions: In the nonfiction category, the big seller will be: "Lose Weight By Holding Your Breath,"subtitled: "Cadaver Tips For Body Slimming." Coming soon in the fiction category, a slew of "DaVinci Code" steals: "The Rembrandt Conspiracy," "The Van Gogh Cabal," "The Renoir Plot," "The Corot Collusion" and "The El Greco Gripe." Other fiction favorites will be another Jane Austen novel, this time written by yours truly, titled, "Jane Austen's Atlantic City Romp," that has a heroine with a Jane Austen complex who uses her Austen passion to solve an Atlantic City murder. Already the advance sales on this copywritten masterpiece guarantees not only all Jane Austen fans will be reading it, but all New Jersey Atlantic City players and all murder mystery fans. It can't miss.

State politics — 2006 Predictions: Jon Corzine, pleased by the good reaction to his refusing to take his salary as governor to ease the NJ budget, will continue in this gracious vein by converting Drumthwacket into efficiency apartments and renting them out to fill the state's coffers. That will necessitate a new NJ slogan: "New Jersey — Where Corzine's Casa Is Your Casa."

Final overall predictions for 2006 — you and I and Worrall newspapers will continue to flourish. So enjoy this year, and if none of these predictions come true, they shouldn't have.

Dance company set to strut its stuff at Kean University's Wilkins Theatre

Teatro Sí, the premier Hispanic theater arts company of New Jersey, in association with Kean University, is proud to bring to the New Jersey stage for the first time a performance by one of the most renowned dance companies in the world.

This dance company from Spain has been called a "Soul Stirring Tour-de-Force of Theater" by *The New York Times* and *The Village Voice* states "Noche Flamenca satisfies!"

Noche Flamenca will perform at the Wilkins Theatre at Kean University in Union on Sunday at 7:30 p.m.

Noche Flamenca's vitality, energy and passion have won accolades around the world, with raves and standing ovations in Egypt, United States, Canada, Portugal and Spain. Because the company's core group of artists have devoted years to its goal, Noche Flamenca has continually delved deeper and deeper in its quest for a profound art.

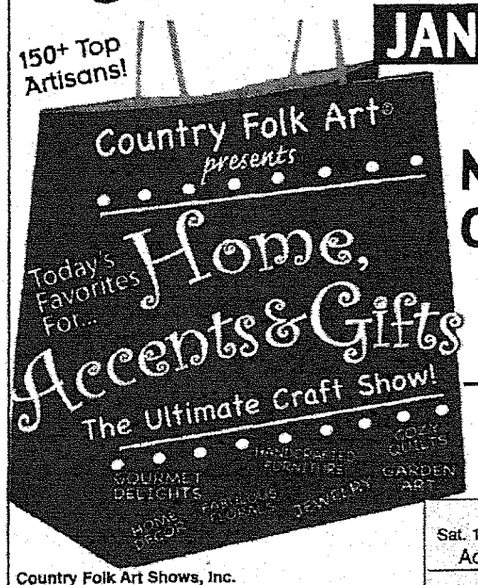
Tickets are $30 and $20 for reserved seating and are available by calling the Wilkins Theatre box office at 908-737-7469.

Purchase online at www.WilkinTheatre.com.

For more information call Teatro Sí at 908-301-9496 or visit www.TeatroSi.com and www.NocheFlamenca.com.



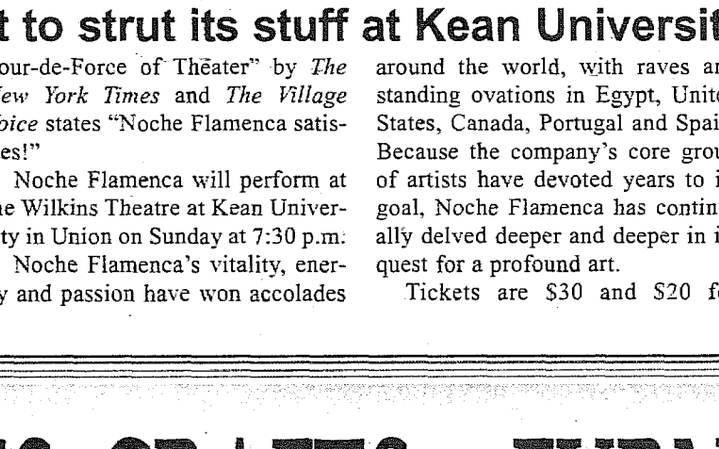
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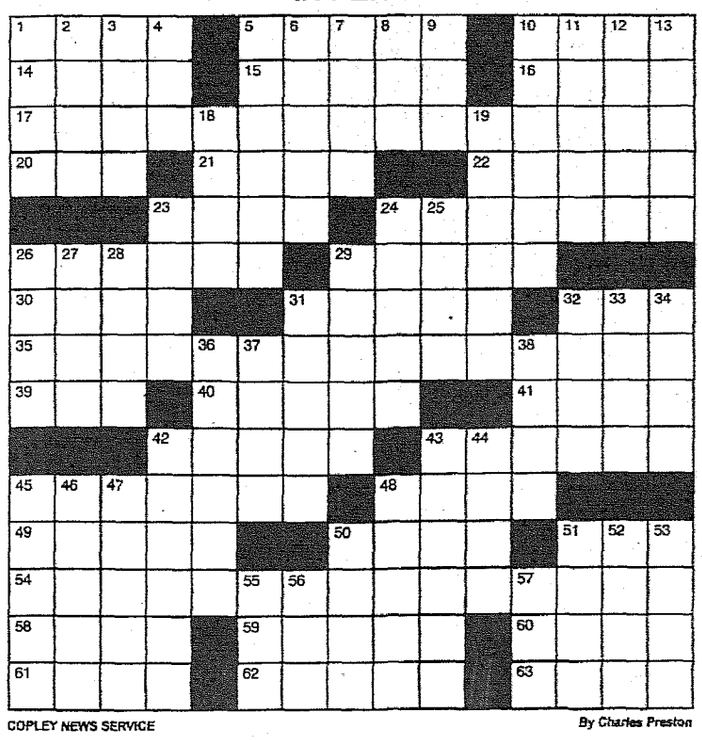
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21 Female kin
22 Nearly a strike
23 Donkey's call
24 More solemn
26 Dismay
29 Beer holder
30 Highland group
31 Actress Verdugo
32 Striped stinger
35 Barely hold on
39 Peeper
40 Attired like a judge
41 Quadrangle
42 More despicable
43 Niche
45 Returned a portion
48 Dreary forecast
49 Small egg
50 Matador's adversary
51 Loutish fellow
54 Advances precariously
58 Advantage
59 Cowboy contest
60 Candid
61 Ownership document
62 Jerk
63 Schoolbook

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2 Similar to
3 Cain's father
4 Convened
5 Easygoing
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7 Dude
8 Formicary resident
9 Stadium cheer
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11 Homer work
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23 Gunshot sound
24 Fast start?
25 Big top
26 Muscle fatigue
27 Be in the band
28 Window feature
29 More cunning
31 Abated
32 Noggin
33 Deserve
34 Whirlpool
36 Mounts the soapbox
37 Snoot
38 Tatum's dad
42 Acted mulish
43 Drive-in employee
44 Melee
45 Propelled a punt
46 Dodge
47 Protrude
48 Pilot's acknowledgment
50 Ocean motion
51 Handle adversity
52 Zenith
53 Can blemish
55 Museum display
56 Pull a trailer
57 Poppycock

ANSWERS APPEAR ON PAGE 24

What's Going On?

FLEA MARKET

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
January 28 & 29, 2006
EVENT: 2 Day Flea market & Collectible Show.
PLACE: Arthur L. Johnson High School, 365 Westfield Ave., (off Raritan Road), Clark.
TIME: 9-5PM Indoors & Outdoors.
DETAILS: For your shopping pleasure vendors will be selling a variety of new merchandise, crafts, gift items, collectibles & garage/tag sale items!
ORGANIZATION: Sponsor By: Clark UNICO. For information call 201-998-1144.

DINNER-BANQUET

FRIDAY, SATURDAY
February 3rd and 4th
EVENT: National Eastern Jurisdiction Convention.
PLACE: Sheraton Hotel, 199 Smith Road, Parsippany, New Jersey.
TIME: Friday and Saturday 9am-5pm, Banquet Saturday.
PRICE: Donation is $35.
ORGANIZATION: International FAMM and OES
INFORMATION: For more information Call Arlene at 973-372-7237

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Four students in Macy's Thanksgiving Parade

Four talented and very lucky students from Front & Center for Performing Arts performed in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in 2005 and were also featured on the recording, including a solo by Christopher Murphy, of South Orange. Thousands of children from across the country attended auditions in New York City in July and only 450 were selected to perform in the parade. Only 10 were selected to record the sound record, including Austin Bommer of South Orange, Brianna Zonin of East Hanover and Kaela O'Connor of Essex Fells.

The students were coached for their auditions by their teachers at Front & Center and spent several days at rehearsals in New York City learning the routines and vocals for the Parade. Gail Brickman, director of Front & Center, called the occurrence "a phenomenal event and learning experience for parents and students, as well as a milestone for Front & Center."

Three of the students, Bommer, Zonin and O'Connor, also perform in Front & Center's Performing Arts Company and recently performed in the Center's Broadway Gala Fund-raiser. The gala included a concert, reception and silent auction which raised money for the Center's scholarship fund. Featured in the concert were such Broadway stars as Sandra Joseph, "Phantom of the Opera's" Christine, Thomas Cannizarro, who can be seen in "Spamelot," and Ron Bommer, who is currently in Andrew Lloyd Webber's new musical, "The Woman in White."

Full and partial scholarships, based on financial needs and other criteria, are now available for students in kindergarten through 12th grade for classes in ballet, lyrical, jazz, tap, hip-hop, musical theater, acting and voice. As part of the scholarship application process, students will complete an audition and interview process, as well as supply appropriate documentation. Registration for spring, which begins in February, is in full swing and scholarships are available.

Front & Center, a charter member of the Association of International Dance Teachers, is endorsed by both Broadway Dance Center and New York City Dance Alliance. Front & Center boasts three professional dance studios, a voice studio and a homework room, as well as viewing monitors for parents. At their State-Of-The-Art facility in Springfield, students have the opportunity to take a variety of classes from September through June, and in the summer participate in the Triple-Threat Workshop program for all ages prekindergarten through grade 12. The center was founded by Gail Brickman, who has a number of university degrees, in drama and dance.

Gail's business partner, Renee Palermo, has taught dance and drama at New York University, The Joffrey School and NYC Ekite. She has a bachelor's degree in fine arts from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts in Acting with a concentration in Dance Education and the Actor Teacher. As a performer, her credits include "The Wizard of Oz" at Madison Square Garden, the national tour of "Cats" and "A Chorus Line" and regional productions at The Paper Mill Playhouse, Walnut Street Theatre and the Fulton Opera House.

The faculty is comprised of working professional actors including Daisy Hobbs who is presently appearing in The Paper Mill's "Cinderella" and Rob McClure who has been seen at both The Paper Mill and on Broadway. Teachers regularly attend theater conferences to expand the techniques offered at Front & Center.

At a recent Dance Teacher Magazine Conference in New York City, they had the opportunity to study with some of the most prominent master teachers in dance education today. Highlights included the Movin' Out workshop with dance captain and lead dancer, Ian Karney; master class with legendary jazz pioneer and teacher, Luigi; master class with renowned New York City-based and internationally renowned Bob Rizzo, and auditioning workshop and performance by Donna McKechnie, original Cassie in Michael Bennet's "A Chorus Line."

To learn more about Front & Center and to receive more scholarship information, check out their Web site at www.front-n-center.com, call 973-258-1123 or send a message by e-mail to info@front-n-center.com.

HOROSCOPES

Jan. 30 to Feb. 5

ARIES, March 21 to April 19: A miscue in judgment could be very costly. Address the questions or doubts you are harboring about a friend or associate as soon as possible.

TAURUS, April 20 to May 20: Figure out a way to add a creative flair to your work or business. Practice caution when a partner or colleague comes to you with ideas for expansion.

GEMINI, May 21 to June 21: Open your mind to a plethora of ideas or concepts this week. Something that once seemed difficult or impossible falls comfortably within the realm of reality.

CANCER, June 22 to July 22: A speculative venture or investment has great potential for success. Take time, do your homework and eliminate as much of the guesswork as possible.

LEO, July 23 to Aug. 22: It is time to take off the blinders where a partner or mate is concerned. Do not allow a nebulous involvement to interfere with your domestic or professional duties.

VIRGO, Aug. 23 to Sept. 22: Your body relays an important message about your physical well-being. Strive to get to the bottom of a gnawing ailment or source of discomfort.

LIBRA, Sept. 23 to Oct. 23: A period of frustration or delays comes to an end. Make a conscious effort to get back on track with a domestic relationship, home improvement project or relocation plan.

SCORPIO, Oct. 24 to Nov. 21: Avoid feeding into deception or creating a misunderstanding in a close personal relationship. Communicate your feeling with clarity and simplicity.

SAGITTARIUS, Nov. 22 to Dec. 21: You are privy to a very active imagination. Find a way to document and utilize many of the creative ideas that will flit through your mind this week.

CAPRICORN, Dec. 22 to Jan. 19: Take a close look at your values and discover what drives or motivates you to be your best. Friendship and love given or received are sure to get top ratings.

AQUARIUS, Jan. 20 to Feb. 18: It is important that you present yourself with the utmost integrity. Follow through with promises made and protect the secret of a family member or loved one.

PISCES, Feb. 19 to March 20: Relax and enjoy a behind-the-scenes role this week. A lot of your thinking might take place on the mental plane, where fantasy and ideals run rampant.

If your birthday is this week, you should take full advantage of a wonderful period of inspiration. The saying, "Look at the bright side," applies to you as you choose to mentally rise above negativity, doubt or fear to embrace the good in every situation. There is a tendency toward idealism. You are encouraged to think through your plans before moving into action in order to circumvent disappointment or overshooting your goals.

Also born this week: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mario Lanza, Rick James, James Joyce, Morgan Freeman and Alice Cooper.

Your Christmas list is done... what about your gift to you?

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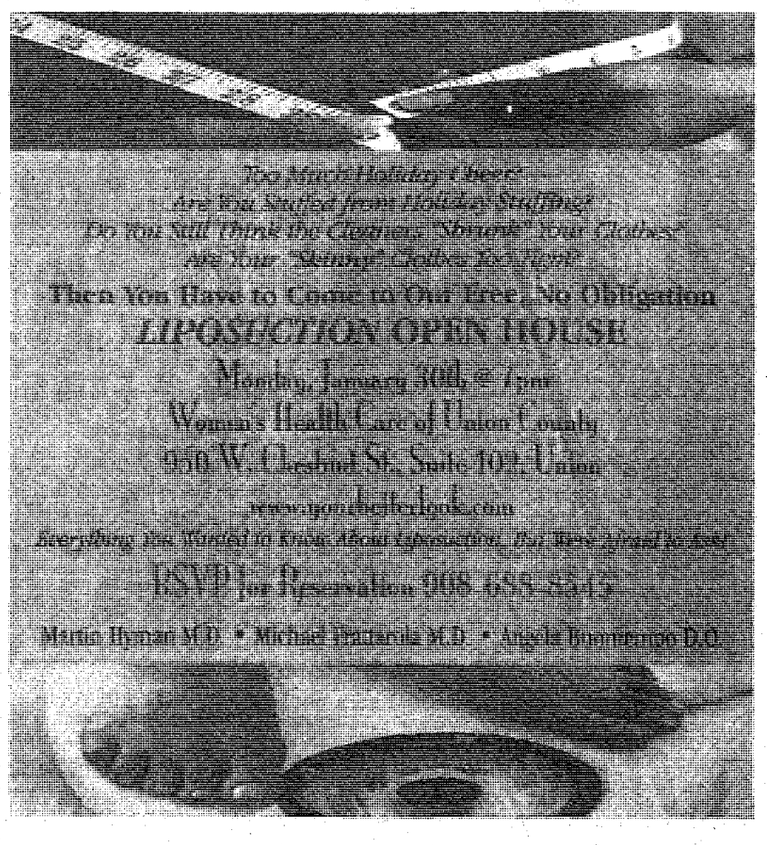
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UTA



Stepping Out

Stepping Out is a weekly calendar designed to guide our readers to the many arts and entertainment events in the Union County area. The calendar is open to all groups and organizations in the Union County area. To place your free listing, send information to: Worrall Community Newspapers, 463 Valley St., P.O. Box 158, Maplewood 07040. Faxes may be sent to 973-763-2557.

'Inspired by Love'



Odarka Polanskyj Stockert and Kathryn Wylie-Marques of Glendalough's Muse will perform in 'Inspired by Love: Medieval to Modern,' a Harp and Flute Concert at 8 p.m. on Feb. 10 at Museum of Early Trades and Crafts in downtown Madison. For more information, call 973-377-2982.

Art Shows

THE ARTS GUILD OF RAHWAY, located at 1670 Irving St., Rahway, presents "A Separate Reality: An Eclectic Exhibition of Realistic Visual Artworks," from Wednesday to Feb. 10, with an opening reception on Jan. 15 from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission is free. Featured artists include Thomas Andersen, Aileen Bassos, Allen Maertz, Jennifer Mazza, Douglass Newton, Leah Oates, Roger Sayre, Charlotte Schulz, Rebecca Sittler, Brian St. Cyr and Randall J. Stoltzfus. The exhibition will be curated by Samantha Mae Dorfman. For more information, call 732-381-7511, or log on to www.rahwayartsguild.org.

LANDSCAPES will be the focus of "Landscope: Recent Landscape Imagery," at the Arts Guild of Rahway, 1670 Irving St., Rahway, from Feb. 19 to March 17 with an opening reception on Feb. 19 from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission is free. Featured artists include Patricia Brentano, Peter Giaccio, Laura Lou Levy and Roger Tucker. For more information, call 732-381-7511, or log on to www.rahwayartsguild.org.

THE VISUAL ARTS CENTER of New Jersey will present the third exhibition in its Emerging Artists Series, continuing through Feb. 3. This special exhibition will showcase the work of five Master of Fine Arts candidates who will be graduating in 2006. The artists all attend New Jersey colleges and universities offering Master of Fine Arts programs. The artists chosen are Stephen Shingler from Montclair State University; Neil Callander and Jeffrey Thompson from Mason Gross School of Fine Arts, Rutgers; Lydia Viscardi from William Patterson University; and Todd Doney from New Jersey City University. For more information, call 908-273-9121, or log on to www.artcenternj.org for more information on classes, exhibitions and special events.

THE DONALD B. PALMER MUSEUM at the Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., Springfield, plans the following exhibits:

- Robert Parker, through Feb. 16.
- Louis Winarsky, Feb. 21 through March 30.

For information on these exhibits and other programs at the Donald B. Palmer Museum, call 973-376-4930.

BERKELEY HEIGHTS ARTIST NANCY ORI is featured at a permanent exhibit at Berkeley Heights Public Library, 290 Plainfield Ave., Berkeley Heights. For information, call 908-464-9333.

"SIMPLY ART," works by Lydia R. Watson, will be presented at the Children's Specialized Hospital, 150 New Providence Road, Mountainside, from Feb. 4 through March 31 in the PT Wing. Art can be viewed daily using the Ambulance entrance. The event is free. For additional information, call 908-233-3720, ext. 5379.

"IMAGES OF CHILDREN," works by Jennifer Foglia, will be presented at the Children's Specialized Hospital, 150 New Providence Road, Mountainside, from Feb. 4 through March 25 in the east wing. Art can be viewed daily using the Ambulance entrance. The event is free. For additional information, call 908-233-3720, ext. 5379.

Books

GORDON T. WARD will appear at The Town Book Store, 255 E. Broad St., Westfield, on Feb. 4 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., to promote his new book, "Life on the Shoulder: Rediscovery & Inspiration Along the Lewis & Clark Trail." If you are unable to attend this event, you may call the store at 908-233-3535 and reserve a copy of the book.

THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN BOOK GROUP will meet at Barnes and Noble, 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

THE "LORD OF THE RINGS" READING GROUP meets the first Wednesday of the month at Barnes and Noble, 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call 732-574-1818.

KEAN UNIVERSITY'S OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS and *The Star-Ledger* have partnered to publish a new book titled "World of Wonder: Exploring the Realms of History, Science, Nature and Technology." The book brings together 90 of the most fascinating subjects surveyed by the World of Wonder series. The book is now available for purchase in the Kean University book store and on the Web site of *The Star-Ledger* at http://www.nj.com/worldofwonder.

ROBERT ALEXANDER, best-selling author of "The Kitchen Boy," will talk about his latest book, "Rasputin's Daughter," on Feb. 1 at 7 p.m. at Cranford Community Center, 220 Walnut St., Cranford. For more information, visit www.robertalexanderbooks.com.

Classes

THE DUCRET SCHOOL OF ART is located at 1030 Central Ave. and is situated on a seven-acre campus in a historic residential area of Plainfield. The school offers full-time and part-time day and evening classes in fine art, graphic design/computer graphics and illustration. For information call 908-757-7171, fax: 908-757-2626, or visit the Web site at www.duCret.edu.

LIBERTY HALL MUSEUM on Morris Avenue in Union has scheduled its popular Lunch and Learn series, which is free to members of the public who are invited to bring their lunch and learn. Lunch and Learn takes place on a Tuesday from 12:15 to 1 p.m. Space is limited, so call 908-527-0400 for a reservation.

Liberty Hall Museum, 1003 Morris Ave., Union, chronicles more than 200 years of New Jersey and U.S. history. The museum is open to the public Wednesdays through Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sundays, from noon to 4 p.m., April through December. For more information about upcoming Liberty Hall events or for reservations, call 908-527-0400.

Concerts

CROSSROADS IN GARWOOD will feature the following:

Every Monday, Open Mic Night.
Every Tuesday, Jazz Jam.
Every Wednesday, karaoke night.

The Crossroads is located at 78 North Ave., Garwood. For information, call Lee at 908-232-5666, or visit the Web site, www.xxroads.com.

COFFEE WITH A CONSCIENCE CONCERT SERIES of Westfield has resumed. All shows start at 8 p.m. and the doors always open at 7:30 p.m. Admission is $15 and will benefit the AIDS quilt. For information, call 908-412-9105, press 2. Other concerts will take place at the First United Methodist Church of Westfield, 1 E. Broad St., corner of North Ave., Westfield.

SUBURBAN COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER will host the following concerts:

- Meet the Woodwinds, with New Jersey Youth Symphony coach Diana Charos, on March 5 at 2 p.m.
- Meet the Brass, with New Jersey Youth Symphony coach Remoh Moseley, on April 23 at 2 p.m.

The concert series continues at the Suburban Community Music Center, 570 Central Ave., Murray Hill. For the 18th year, the Suburban Community Music Center, in cooperation with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, will host the Meet the Orchestra series for children ages 3 to 8. For more information, call 908-790-0700.

FRED EAGLESMITH and the Flying Squirrels will perform at The Sanctuary Concerts, 240 Southern Blvd., Chatham, with special guest Alastair Mook on Feb. 11 at 8 p.m. Admission is $20 and includes home-baked desserts and coffee. For information, call 973-376-4946, or log on to www.sanctuaryconcerts.org.

Dance

Y-SQUARES, a local square dance club, meets Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Frank K. Hehnly School, Raritan Road, Clark. The fee for each lesson is $4. For information, call 908-298-1851, 732-381-2535 or 908-241-9492.

THE SUMMIT INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS group has begun a new season with sessions on Fridays at 8 p.m. at the Connection, Morris Avenue at Maple Street, in Summit. Beginners are welcome, no partners are needed. All sessions begin at 8 p.m.; newcomers may arrive at 7:30 p.m. for extra help. Admission is $2 for the evening. Call 973-467-8278 for information and a flier listing the season schedule.

DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY IN ELIZABETH. Pick your choice of social dancing, $9 per person, or Latin dancing, $10 per person, at the Bayway Polish Club, 625 Pulaski St. For information, call 908-355-3131.

TEATRO SI presents "Noche Flamenca," a celebration of Iberian dance, on Sunday at 7:30 p.m., at the Wilkins Theatre at Kean University in Union. Tickets are $30; $20 for students and children. For tickets and information, call 908-737-7469, or log on to www.wilkinstheatre.com.

"TEA DANCE: A DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA" is not your grandmother's tea. Kean University notes this even is for mature audiences. "Tea Dance" takes place on April 15 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $25: $20 for alumni, faculty, staff and seniors; $15 for students. For tickets and information, call 908-737-7469, or log on to www.wilkinstheatre.com.

BALLET MESTIZO ... THE BEST OF COLOMBIA will be presented on April 29 at 7:30 p.m. at the Wilkins Theatre on the campus of Kean University in Union. Tickets are $25: $20 for alumni, faculty, staff and seniors; $15 for students. For tickets and information, call 908-737-7469.

LUNA LOUNGE hosts "Tasty Thursdays" with DJ Richie, who spins raggaeton and hip hop. Patrons must be 21 or older, dress is casual but trendy. Parking is available. Luna Lounge is located at 1906 E. St. Georges Ave., Linden. Call 908-925-4120 for details.

Grants

THE UNION COUNTY BOARD OF FREEHOLDERS invites local nonprofit organizations, individual artists and scholars to apply for funding from the 2004 Union County HEART — History, Education, Arts Reaching Thousands — grant program. To request HEART grant information, contact the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, 633 Pearl St., Elizabeth 07202; call 908-558-2550, Relay users dial 711; or send inquiries via e-mail to culturalinfo@ucnj.org.

Hobbies

THE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB INC. meets at 295 Jefferson Ave., Union, behind Home Depot on Route 22 East. The club is open to the public Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. For information, call 908-964-9724 or 908-964-8808, send inquiries via e-mail to TMRCInc@aol.com or visit the Web site at www.tmrci.com.

THE HARVEST QUILTERS OF CENTRAL NEW JERSEY will meet the first Monday of each month at Cozy Corner Creations quilt shop, Park Avenue, Scotch Plains.

KNITTING GROUP meets every Monday from 10 a.m. to noon. Knitters are encouraged to bring a favorite project to the Springfield Barnes & Noble Café. For more information, call 973-376-6581.

HICKORY TREE CHORUS, an award-winning women's chorus singing four-part a cappella harmony in barbershop style, meets every Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the New Jersey Youth Symphony Music Center, 570 Central Ave., New Providence. Open to residents of both Essex and Union counties. To learn more about Sweet Adelines, Hickory Tree and its quartets, women and teen-aged girls who sing are urged to visit the Web site, hickorytreechorus.org., send a message by e-mail to info@hickorytreechorus.org., or call 973-966-6815.

Jazz

LANA'S RESTAURANT in Clark will offer dinner and live jazz with Warren Vache every Thursday, beginning at 7 p.m.

For information, call 732-669-9024.

JAZZ IS BACK AT THE COVE! "Wednesday's Jazz Cocktails" will feature the house band, Tempo, playing at Dusty's Place on Monday, formerly known as The Cove, 112 Chestnut St., Roselle. Saturday Jazz Showcase features top acts from the New York Metropolitan area. For information, call 908-241-5675, or 908-241-1224. Patrons may also send a message by e-mail to salange@bellatlantic.net.

LIVE JAZZ PERFORMANCES will be featured every Friday at 9:30 p.m. at 22 West Restaurant and Lounge, 2185 Route 22, Union. Patrons must be 21 and older. For more information, call 908-206-0060.

Kids

TALES FOR TOTS PRESCHOOL STORYTIME will be offered at Barnes and Noble, Route 22 West, Springfield, Mondays and Thursdays at 11:30 a.m., and the Kids' Writing Workshop, Saturdays at 10 a.m. For information, call 973-376-8544.

CALLING ALL BUDDING ARCHITECTS — come learn about building castle cards! What's small enough to fit in your pocket, yet big enough to hold an entire medieval jousting tournament? Amazing building cards. Create a castle. For boys and girls 8 and up, today at 4:30 p.m., at Barnes and Noble, Route 22 West, Springfield. For information, call 973-376-8544.

CELEBRATE THE YEAR OF THE DOG on Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at Barnes and Noble, Route 22 West, Springfield, on Jan. 19 at 4:30 p.m. For information, call 973-376-8544.

Music

THE PEACEMAKERS salute peace leaders from around the world with a concert on March 31 at 7:30 p.m. at the Wilkins Theatre on the campus of Kean University in Union. Tickets are $15; $12 for alumni, faculty, staff and seniors; $10 for students and children. For tickets and information, call 908-737-7469, or log on to www.wilkinstheatre.com.

JOIN MATTHEW HARPER for an evening of chamber music by today's leading New Jersey area composers at "Ars Vitalis, The New Jersey New Music Forum," on April 26 at the Wilkins Theatre on the campus of Kean University in Union. A pre-concert panel discussion will take place at 7:30 p.m.; the concert begins at 8 p.m. Admission is free. For information, call 908-737-7469, or log on to www.wilkinstheatre.com.

WBGO HOSTS AN OPEN JAM at The Crossroads, 78 North Ave., Garwood, on Tuesday at 9 p.m. Call 908-232-5666 for more information, or log on to www.xxroads.com.

Radio

TRI-COUNTY RADIO ASSOCIATION will meet at 8 p.m. the first and third Mondays of the month at the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church on Old Raritan Road in Scotch Plains. For information, call 908-241-5758.

Scripts

PREMIERE STAGES, the new Actors' Equity Association theater program at Kean University, is currently accepting play submissions for the Premiere Stages Play Festival from professional playwrights born or currently residing in New Jersey, as well as in the surrounding areas of New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. There is no fee required to submit a play to the Premiere Stages Play Festival. To request entry guidelines, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Laura Kelly, producing assistant, Premiere Stages is at Kean University, 1000 Morris Ave., Union 07083.

Singles

SINGLES MIX AND MINGLE, every Thursday, starting at 7 p.m. Enjoy live entertainment and free finger food at Cafe Vivace, 1370 South Ave., and Terrill Road, Fanwood. Admission is free. Call 908-753-4500 for details.

Theater

YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS will compete for the 2006 fourth annual Young Playwrights Competition for New Jersey High School Students, sponsored by The Theater Project, Union County College's Professional Theater Company. First-, second- and third- prize winners will receive $600, $400, and $200 U.S. savings bonds, respectively. The winning scripts will be honored with professional script-in-hand performances during New Jersey Family Week at the theater in March when professional theaters in New Jersey offer free programming for young people. The contest is open to students in New Jersey in grades nine to 12. Scripts at any stage of completion are eligible. Deadline for submission is Jan. 31. There is a $5 entry fee. Mail to The Theater Project, Union County College, 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016. Call 908-659-5189.

WORRALL Community Newspapers

Valentine's Day Contest

Enter to Win Tickets to The Color Purple & Dinner for 2 at Ruth's Chris Steak House in Weehawken, NJ

GRAND PRIZE WINNRER

2 tickets to the February 14th showing of The Color Purple & a $100 gift certificate towards dinner for 2 at Ruth's Chris Steak House

2 additional winners will receive tickets to the February 16th showing of The Color Purple

The Color Purple has opened to rave reviews and is one of the hottest tickets on Broadway.
Ruth's Chris Steak House is located in Weehawken, NJ with a view of the Manhattan Skyline.

ENTER TODAY TO WIN!!

Entry Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Mail to: Worrall Community Newspapers P.O. Box 3109, Union, NJ 07083

Winners will be contacted on the week of February 6th. Winners name will be published in our Febuary 9th issues. Contest not open to employees of WCN or Ruth's Chris Steak House.

Celebration of Robert Burns draws international talent

New Jersey's celebration of the life and work of the poet Robert Burns just got a lot bigger with the announcement that Caledon — Scotland's celebrated Three Tenors — will make their NJ debut at the Saturday event in Summit. Combined with the previously-scheduled roster of talent, Burns Night will be the Garden State's premiere Scottish heritage event in 2006.

New Jersey will again join a long list of global destinations that will host celebratory dinners in tribute to the life, works and spirit of the great Scottish poet, Robert Burns. While all will honor Burns, few of these destinations will be able to compete with Clan Currie's stellar list of entertainers, led by Caledon, the celebrated three tenors from Scotland, and Local Hero, one of America's premiere Scottish country dance trios.

Hosted by the Clan Currie Society, the traditional Burns Supper will be on Saturday at the Grand Summit Hotel in Summit. The evening will begin with a cocktail hour at 7 p.m., followed by dinner, dancing and entertainment at 8 p.m.

Celebrated annually on, or about, the Bard's birthday, Burns Suppers traditionally adhere to a time-honored format, which includes the eating of a traditional Scottish meal, the drinking of Scotch whisky, and the recitation of works by, about, and in the spirit of the Bard.

According to event chairman Robert Currie, "We are absolutely delighted to be hosting our fifth annual dinner with the most stellar collection of entertainers and personalities in our history. I can't think of a better way to liven up the otherwise gloomy month of January than with a rousing evening of food, drink, music and dance, all presented in the wonderful Scots tradition of a Burns Supper. "

Caledon — Scotland's outstanding trio of tenors — is comprised of Alan Beck, Jamie MacDougall and Ivan Sharpe. When joined with Musical Director Michael Barnett, there's always a party.

Caledon is equally at home whether inspiring the 55,000 soccer crowd at Scotland's Hampden Park Arena with a stirring new version of "Flower of Scotland" or on the stage of the world-famous Sydney Opera House, singing to a packed auditorium of music lovers.

Scottish first minister, The Right Honorable Jack McConnell, said of the group, "Caledon have brought our traditional music into the 21st century, and their unique vocal style and modern interpretation of Scots classics have brought them fans from across the globe. They are great ambassadors for modern Scotland."

Having recently completed sell-out tours of North America, Australia and New Zealand, Scotland's "three divine voices," *Edinburgh Evening News*, returned home last summer to perform at the Edinburgh Festival. Accompanied by the Scottish Fiddle Orchestra, "On a Beautiful Scottish Evening" was filmed beneath the magnificent backdrop of a floodlit Edinburgh Castle. The recording, containing Caledon's wonderful arrangements of great Scottish classics like "Loch Lomond;" "My Love Is Like A Red, Red Rose," and "Auld Lang Syne," has recently been released on DVD, video and compact disc.

In addition, "Scottish Evening" is currently airing on US Public Television television stations to great acclaim. The program made its broadcast debut in October 2005 to more than 7,000,000 viewers and is now scheduled to appear on an additional 150 PBS stations. A second PBS special is now in the planning and initial meetings with the network have proved very productive.

"The Power and the Passion," Caledon's exciting new album of powerfully emotive Scots songs, recorded with a full symphony orchestra, was released in October from R.E.L. Records. To learn more about this dynamic musical force, visit www.caledonmusic.com.

Favorites from the "Pipes of Christmas" and last making their Burns Night debut in 2005, Local Hero trio features fiddler Paul Woodiel, pianist Susie Petrov, and flutist/piper, Christopher Layer. All three possess impressive musical credits.

Leonard Bernstein described Paul Woodiel as "a first-class performer, one who combines spirituality with intellect." A versatile purveyor of a wide array of styles associated with his instrument, he is a three-time champion of the New England Fiddle Contest who is taking time off from his duties as Concert Master for the Broadway musical, "The Color Purple" to play for Burns Night.

Currently, Woodiel is featured extensively on Private Astronomy, a new album of Bix Beiderbecke's music conceived by Geoff Muldaur, and available on Deutsche Grammophon, scheduled for touring performances in Europe the spring of 2006.

A gifted multi-instrumentalist, Christopher Layer plays the Irish 'Uilleann' Pipes, Simple System Wood Flutes, Pennywhistle, Scottish Highland Bagpipes and Scottish Small Pipes, Bassoon, Electric and String Basses. Layer's authentic grasp of traditional music comes from his childhood experiences in his home where music making and was a family affair.

His classical skills where honed at The Hargreaves School of Music at Ball State University, Muncie, Ind., and the prestigious Indiana University School of Music, Bloomington. His orchestral appearances include: The National Symphony or Kennedy Center, The Pittsburgh Symphony, The St. Louis Symphony and The Baltimore Symphony, among many others. Since 1996, he has been the principal pipe soloist and flautist for the Trinity Irish Dance Company of "Riverdance" fame.

He has appeared at the Moab Music Festival, the Aspen Summer Music Festival, the Bard Chamber Music Festival, The Bard Music Festival at Lincoln Center, the Indiana Fiddler's Gathering and the New World Festival and numerous dance and music festivals in Asia, Europe and North America.

Susie Petrov stumbled upon Scottish music when she discovered Scottish country dancing as a teenager. While working on her bachelor's degree in piano performance at the Peabody Conservatory, Petrov began to research and play traditional Scottish tunes. Her work as a dance pianist has taken her across the USA and Canada and on to Scotland and Europe.

In 1988, Susie released her solo recording, "Hold the Lass" and started her own ensemble Local Hero with Paul Woodiel. Christopher Layer joined them in the early 1990s. They have performed for concerts, dances and festivals in the eastern USA, Canada and in the north of Scotland. They released their debut recording "Peace and Plenty" in 1996.

Susie's latest publication is a collection of Scottish music, which she researched while teaching at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow.

Evan Thomson Cattanach, one of the great men of the whisky trade will guide guests through the tasting of two classic single malt scotches; Talisker and Cragganmore.

A native of Kingussie, Scotland, Cattanach began his career with single malt whisky in 1961 with the Scottish Malt Distillers — the production arm of Johnnie Walker. He spent the next 33 years managing the production of single malt whisky. He worked in all four of Scotland's whisky-producing regions at 15 different distilleries. During his career, Cattanach has worked at some of the most revered distilleries in Scotland.

Today Cattanach is one of trade's superstars, who regularly travels the globe as an ambassador for the industry. Cattanach was named a "Keeper of the Quaich" in 1993 by the whisky trade society of the same name. In recognition of his service to the industry, he was recently elevated to the position of "Master Keeper of the Quaich" in April of 2005 in a ceremony at Blair castle in Scotland. One of the highlights of the evening will be Cattanach's dramatic delivery of Burns' "Address to a Haggis," an integral part of every Burns Supper.

Rounding out the already impressive list of performers and entertainers are Ronnie Stewart and Ken Hoare from Catskill, N.Y. A skilled fiddler and storyteller, Stewart is a regular Clan Currie favorite at both the Burns Night and "Pipes of Christmas" programs.

Pipe Major David Palladino will lead a corps of pipers and drummers from West Milford High School.

The history of the Burns Supper goes back to the poet's birthplace of Alloway, Scotland where, five years after his death in 1796, nine of his friends gathered in a cottage to pay tribute to his memory. They continued to meet annually at various times of the year until Burn's official biographer had established the correct date of his birth. It was not long before the practice of meeting on this date was being observed throughout Scotland.

The basic format for the evening has remained unchanged since that time and begins when the host invites the company to receive the haggis, which is piped into the ballroom with great fanfare and then presented to the audience via the reading of Burns' classic ode to Scotland's native dish. The haggis will again be provided by one of New Jersey's finest purveyors of Scots delicacies, Stewart's of Kearny.

In addition to the haggis, which is accompanied by neeps and tatties — mashed turnips and potatoes — the evening's menu, or Bill O' Fare as it is better known, includes Cock-A-Leekie Soup, an entrée choice of roast beef or salmon, and Scotch trifle. Dinner guests will also enjoy Walkers shortbread and Scotch trifle for dessert.

The cost for the Burns Supper is $100 per person, which includes a five-course meal, whisky tasting, and Scottish entertainment. A cash bar is available for beer, wine, or soda. Complimentary tastings of Dewar's 12 scotch whisky will be served during the cocktail hour. The Grand Summit Hotel is also offering a block of rooms at a special discount rate for dinner guests, for further information contact The Grand Summit Hotel at 908-273-3000.

Reservation forms can be downloaded from the Society's Web site at: http://www.clancurrie.com/pdfs/BurnsNight_012806_Ticket_Order_Form.pdf

Dinner reservations may also be made by mailing a check made payable to The Clan Currie Society, specifying the entrée selection of salmon or roast beef, along with a name, address, and phone number, to: The Clan Currie Society, P.O. Box 541, Summit 07902-0541. For more information, contact the Society at 908-273-3509.

The Clan Currie Society, a NJ-based, international, non-profit cultural and educational organization, is active in preserving and promoting highland heritage at Scottish Games, ethnic festivals, as well as community groups and classrooms. With more than 2,500 members worldwide, the society is quickly becoming one of the largest Scottish heritage organizations in the world.

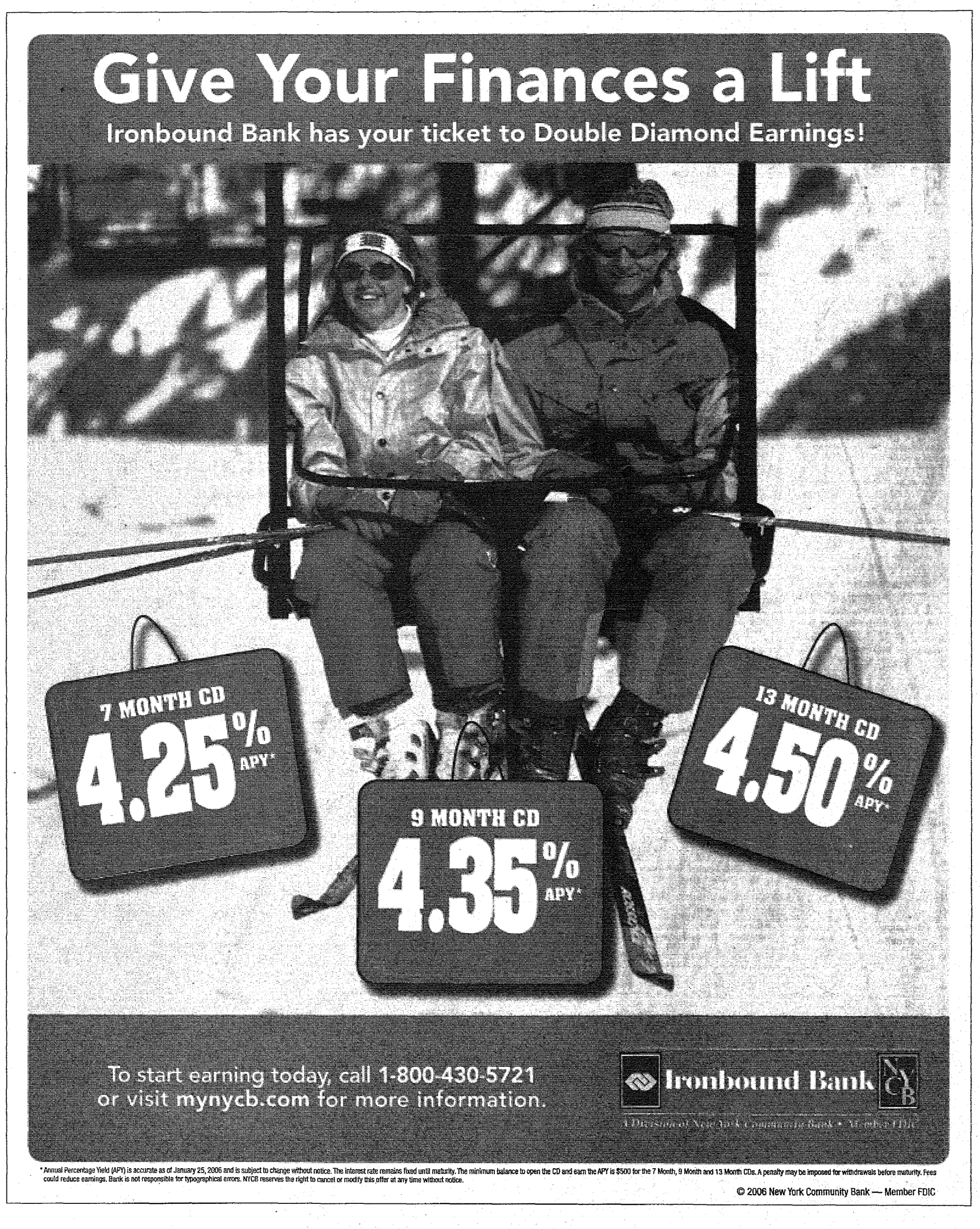
The society has been recognized as the Honored Clan at a number of Highland Games and gatherings, including the Brodick Games on the Isle of Arran, the Clanjamfry Scottish Festival in Memphis, and the Bonnie Brae Scottish Games in Millington, New Jersey. The organization started as a family name society in Glasgow, Scotland in 1959 to further the knowledge and appreciation of the MacMhuirich bardic dynasty.

The MacMhuirichs — the Gaelic name for Currie — served for more than 700 years as professional poets to the Lords of the Isles and later to the MacDonalds of Clanranald. The Red Book of Clanranald, one of Gaelic Scotland's literary treasures, was penned by successive generations of the MacMhuirich family.

Today, the organization is a leading American-based foundation that focuses on celebrating the Scots-Gaelic origins of the Currie name as well as producing programs and events to honor Scotland's rich culture and ancestry. The Society also hosts the annual Tartan Day observance at the Ellis Island Immigration Museum.

The Society also produces a number of highly successful concerts featuring Scottish music and Gaelic poetry readings. Clan Currie is now venturing into the field of documentary filmmaking with a concentration on Scottish themes.

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UNION COUNTY

WORRALL NEWSPAPERS | WWW.LOCALSOURCE.COM | THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2006

Seven and a half years, 8,000 hours

You just can't imagine the impact on Pat Fay and his wife Gloria five years ago when they were told the news that their young twin sons Sean and Ryan both had the brain disorder autism. Fay, the tall Cranford detective with the bright red hair and hearty laugh is as likeable a guy you are going to find.

The couple was thrown into the lonely world of not knowing what to do, insurance companies that didn't care, and at the time not knowing just how many other parents shared their fate. Fay decided to fight back. He calls it the "battle of seven and a half years 8,000 hours," both on behalf of his kids and the growing numbers of others facing the same disorder.

Left Out

By Frank Capece

Medically, autism is seen as a spectrum disorder that impacts differently on the individuals affected. Often it shows up in combination with other disabilities. It is defined as "a brain disorder that affects a person's ability to communicate, to reason and to interact with others."

Last week, Fay welcomed a large group of friends and supporters to a restaurant in Scotch Plains. The wine and cheese party was one of the fund-raising activities to promote awareness to the problem. Fay welcomed the guests, laughed and kidded. There is a difference, Fay is on a mission.

Fay became a member of the New Jersey State Development Disabilities Commission. He serves on its legislative Committee. He has testified on the terrible insurance rules which deny coverage to the needs of these kids. It turns out, since the kids never lost any skills they previously had, they aren't covered, thus putting a terrible financial burden on the parents.

Fay thrust himself into the Center for Outreach and Services for Autism. The numbers he speaks are devasiting. It is estimated that one in every 166 births will experience autism. Since 1990 there has been a 172 percent increase in incidents of the brain disorder.

Fay worked with his fellow Irishmen to gain funding from the St. Patricks Day Parade fund raising effort. He candidly says as to the reasons for the disorder, "I honestly don't know, I just don't know yet." The watch word is yet

Fay talked about parents who get the terrible news, and really don't know where to turn. Fay and his allies hope to set up a service at Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside to provide counseling and advice to the parents and affected kids. He works with others to promote monthly meetings in houses where the affected parents can get together to assist each other.

Get Fay alone for a few minutes and he will plead with parents to get early diagnosis. "Early diagnosis may reduce the symptoms by as much as two-thirds" he says. He speaks about applied behavior and teaching new skills that may include interventions before or between episodes.

Fay set up the New Jersey Coalition for Autism Awareness to improve fund raising. He bought in heavy weight fund-raisers like James Dougherty from the County Corrections Operation, Edward Fitzgerald from the County Prosecutors office, and Jerry Dobbins and Barbara Bilger from Cranford.

In between, Fay is completing his requirements for a master's degree in public administration from Kean University.

Come April 29, there will be a silent auction and cocktail party at the Etown Complex on Morris Avenue in Union to raise more dollars. The event will run from 7 to 11 p.m. The mission statement looks to "enhance the overall awareness of autism in the general public." If you need another reason to go, spending a little time with Pat Fay is as good a motivational experience as you are bound to find.

An attorney, Frank Capece is a resident of Cranford.

County taxes will increase

By Lauren DeFilippo
Staff Writer

Word was mum on the county's 2006 proposed executive budget at the Board of Chosen Freeholder's agenda meeting last week.

But two days earlier, on Jan. 17, County Manager George Devanney announced that the proposed budget had reached $413 million.

That proposed budget is 5.9 percent larger than last year's adopted budget of $390 million.

Last year, Devanney's proposed budget came in at $374.7 million, $15.3 million less than the budget adopted — though the $15.3 million difference can be largely attributed to grant money received by the county.

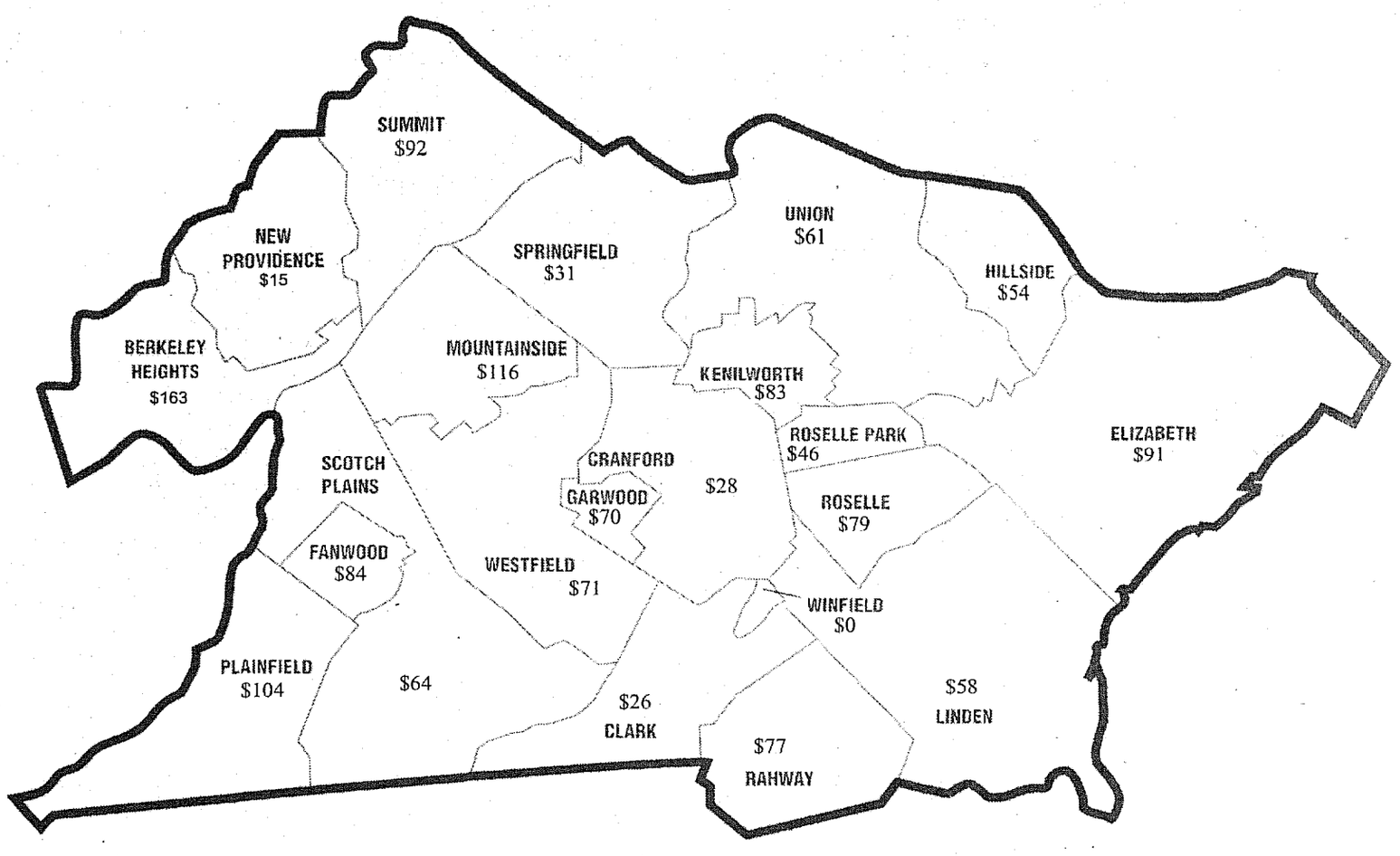
The county's debt service is scheduled to increase by 3.5 percent, to more than $38 million, according to the proposed executive budget.

In 2005, the county's debt service was at $36.8 million.

And, despite the lowering of the county tax rate — from .36 cents per $100 of assessed value, to .34 cents — the county portion of local residents' tax bills is expected to increase in all but one of the county's 21 municipalities.

The average increase is $67.24 across the county.

Estimated county tax increases by municipality



Source: Union County Office of Public Information

The Township of Berkeley Heights will see the greatest increase at $163, while New Providence will face the smallest impact, with an increase of $15.

The Township of Winfield will experience neither and increase nor a decrease. It's tax rate will remain at $69.

Last year's $390 million budget included a $12.5 million increase in taxes.

Businesses protest fee hike, enforcement

By Lauren DeFilippo
Staff Writer

RAHWAY — Local business owners turned out at least week's meeting of the Union County Utilities Authority.

They showed up to voice their disapproval about an increase in the rate for the disposal of waste at the Union County Resource Recovery facility.

Westfield resident Jerry Infantino, speaking for the handful of business owners there, said that the group was not so much opposed to the increase in the fee, but rather the UCUA's "selective enforcement" of its policies.

All waste is supposed to be dumped at the the Rahway facility or one of two transfer stations in either Elizabeth or Linden.

However, local businesses are getting the short end of the stick by following the rules, Infantino said.

By going to a county facility, they pay $86.69 per ton of waste dropped off. However, some firms transport their waste to facilities outside the county for cheaper rates, and therefore get more of a percentage of waste collection jobs and contracts throughout the county.

"Nobody wants to deal with Union County garbage rates," Anthony Galuzzo told the board.

Infantino said he visits the Rahway facility only four times a week. "That's $2,000 per month," he told the commissioners. "What am I supposed to do, eat it?"

Additionally, Infantino cited that even though larger companies cannot provide the same quality of service that smaller firms can, they can knock out their competition by offerring lower dumping fees.

That practice leads not only to lost profits for the rule-abiding businesses, but also the UCUA, Infantino said .

With fewer people using the facility, they take in less of the cost from depositing the waste at the center.

"They're not getting the money and they're not doing anything about it," Infantino said.

Neil Cohen, who serves as general counsel to the Utilities Authroity said he ordered a transcript of the Jan. 18 meeting in order to address each and every issue raised by the public.

Cohen said he hopes to report back to the board as soon as possible.

Now, with the approval of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the UCUA can set its rate at $94 per ton, and smaller firms, like Infantino's stand to lose even more business.

In a letter dated Jan. 6, UCUA Executive Director Joseph Spatola told Resource Recovery customers that the new rate would be in effect as of Feb. 1, 2006.

The DEP actually approved a peak rate of $99, but that fee includes a tax of $5 per ton that is expected to be implemented by the state of Pennsylvania for the use of landfills in the state, Spatola said in the letter.

The UCUA will not implement the $5 per ton tax until the Pennsylvania Legislature enacts a law authorizing the imposition of the tax, the letter said. Spatola wrote that that increase is expected to be effective on July 1.

Infantino said that the such a deadline did not offer businesses like his the ability to provide enough notice to its customers.

Though the business owners did not outright disapprove of the increase, they did charge the commissioners and administration of the UCUA with the task of cracking down on firms that sidestep the Authority.

"It's pathetic," Infantino said. "Nothing makes any sense."

However, one thing Infantino did know for sure, was that he and his peers would be back before the commissioners of the UCUA next month.

This issue dates to the late 1980s, when the state legislature passed a law requiring each county to construct a transfer station for the disposal of waste. The law is commonly referred to as "waste flow."

At that time, each of the county's 21 towns were charged the same rate to dump its waste at the county facility, and were required to do so. The dumping fee at that time was set at $138 per ton, Infantino explained.

However, the system was not free from faults. Some contractors sidestepped the regulation, and transported waste to a Pennsylvania locale.

The Union County Resource Facility opened its doors in 1993. At that time, the rate was set at $90 per ton.

Just three years later, in 1996, the United States Supreme Court ruled that the state's waste-flow system was illegal. With the regulation removed, few businesses frequented county's facility. The dumping fee was lowered again to $50 per ton in order to make the county facility more competitive. Later, in 1997, the county opted to lease half of their facility to an outside firm, Covanta, in order to defray costs, for 25 years.

Companies using the facility then had an option to either sign a usage contract with Covanta or the UCUA. However, Infantino said that the UCUA required businesses looking to use the facility to sign a 25-year agreement that would garantee trash amounts for the period of the agreement. Therefore, he said he signed with Covanta, and not the county.

By 2002, Covanta filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. In 2003, the UCUA again proposed raised rates to to keep the UCUA "financially, self-liquidating and maintain satisfactory service," Spatola said. The proposal was met with outcry similar to that displayed at the Jan. 19 meeting. In 2004, the UCUA again raised its dumping fees in order to comply with state regulations.

An early foundation in health care



Photo Courtesy of Jim Lowney

Union County Freeholder Rick Proctor speaks last month with Thomas Bistocchi, superintendent of Union County Vocational Schools about the construction of a new building to house the Allied Health/Medical Science Program at the UCVTS in Scotch Plains.

Firing range plans move forward

By Lauren DeFilippo
Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD — Renovations planned for the Union County Sheriff's Firing Range and Training Facility located at the site of Houdaille Quarry in Springfield are slowly moving forward.

Captain Vincent Manning said the groundbreaking for a new facility is still a couple of years off.

In fact, the opening of the new facility is on a five-year track for completion, and has been estimated to cost $353,000.

Manning said the project was staggered so as to not significantly impact the county's budget all at once.

The Springfield site, which will also eventually house the county's regional animal shelter, also houses three separate firing ranges, two of which are operated by the Sheriff's Department.

The two ranges allow individuals to aim at targets 25 yards, and 50 yards away.

Currently, only the 25-yard range, featuring 13 ports, or lanes for individuals to shoot in, is open for use.

Monday through Friday, the range is open to police officers for weapons training and qualification. A fee of $5 per person is applied, and picked up by the local police department.

On Sundays the range is open to civilian shooters. A fee of $5 per person, per hour is applied.

Capt. Manning, who is assigned to the Crime Scene Unit within the Sheriff's Department, said a renovation of the 50-yard facility is needed because the 25-year-old structure is antiquated and cannot meet current training standards.

Manning said the weapons' training that officers receive is mandated by the Office of the Attorney General.

As per those regulations, officers must train on a 25-yard range while using a handgun.

However, that same range is not appropriate for training in the use of more powerful, semi-automatic weapons.

At its Dec. 15 meeting, the Board of Chosen Freeholders unanimously approved two separate resolutions relating to the project.

Both contracts will be funded through the county's capital account.

The first, for an amount not to exceed $32,000, was awarded to T&M Associates, of Red Bank. As part of the project, the firm will be responsible for the next phase of the facility's renovation.

Previously, the firm had completed a cost analysis for the renovations, for approximately $10,900.

The contract was exempt from the public bidding process because it is considered a "professional services" contract.

Additionally, the board also approved a second contract, for $1,575 for the New York firm Copius Consultants.

According to documents relating to the resolution, the firm will be conducting initial site evaluation and inspections of the range to make sure the county is in compliance with federal Environmental Protection Agency standards.

The existing structure is covered, but semi-outdoors, Manning said. The new structure will be designed in the same manner, he said for better ventilation.

Having an indoor range is more costly, and subject to Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations, as well as those from the EPA.

The new range will also boast 10 ports.

Additionally, Manning, a weapons instructor for 16 years, said that a renovated facility will make officer weapons' training more effective.

The new facility will allow for a computerized training program, making results more accurate.

It will also be a great deal easier to clean up, he said.

Lauren DeFilippo can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 119 or unioncountyb@thelocalsource.com.

Countdown to St. Paddy's Day



The Union County Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee will host its annual 'Celebrity Bartender' fund-raiser Sunday from 2 to 7 p.m. at the Kenilworth Veterans Center, 33 South 21st St., Kenilworth. Entertainment will include the Irish-American Pub Rock sound of Sullivan's Jack and pipe bands. For tickets or more information, contact Matt Glackin at 732-382-6718 or Kathy Noonan-Rotando at 908-352-1477.

Learn about nature at Trailside

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders will offer a workshop about schoolyard habitat enhancement titled "WILD School Sites" for kindergarten through 12th grade teachers, at Trailside Nature and Science Center on Jan. 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"This program is one of a new series of teacher training workshops at Trailside that qualify participants for NJDOE credits," said Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski. "Its convenient location in the 2,060-acre Watchung Reservation provides the perfect classroom to have fun while learning about the environment."

Teachers, students and wildlife all benefit from habitat improvement activities. These projects sensitize students to the needs of wildlife, and enable them to make a small difference right where they live to benefit local species. Having an outdoor classroom enables teachers to take field trips without leaving the school grounds.

The stewardship skills that students develop in their outdoor classroom may reflect in a greater sense of responsibility for the entire school.

Participants in the WILD School Sites teacher training workshop will receive six NJDOE professional development credits as well as a copy of the book, "Homes for Wildlife: A Planning Guide for Habitat Enhancement on School Grounds," the WILD School Sites booklet, grant information, landscaping information and ideas for curriculum integration.

Space is limited and pre-registration is required for the Jan. 28 workshop. The fee for this teacher training session is $20 per person. Light morning refreshments will be provided, but bring a lunch.

For additional information on this workshop or for a complete brochure of Trailside's winter adult workshops and teacher training programs, call 908-789-3670 or visit www.ucnj.org/trailside.

Trailside Nature and Science Center is located at 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside. The center is operated by the Union County Department of Parks, Recreation and Facilities.

• Children of all ages, when accompanied by an adult, can discover the preparations, precautions and the "do's" & "don'ts" of hiking, on Feb. 4 from 1 to 2 p.m. during Trailside Nature and Science Center's Outdoor Adventure series.

Learn how to use a trail map, read trail blazes and lead the group down a marked trail. Trailside is a facility of the Union County Department of Parks, Recreation and Facilities and is located at 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside. Call 908-789-3670 for more information.

• Adults, ages 18 and older, can celebrate President's Day weekend with a multi-dimensional, historical presentation from 7:30 to 9 p.m. on Feb. 17. Museum educator and lecturer Stacy Roth will explore reasons why tea was important in 18th century America.

A unique tea tasting will follow this costumed presentation of tea lore, history, poetry and songs. This free program is made possible in part by funding from the NJ Council for the Humanities.

Trailside is located at 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside. Call 908-789-3670 for more information.

• Children of all ages, when accompanied by an adult, can see how 100 percent real maple syrup is made from the sap of a sugar maple tree on Feb. 18 from 1 to 2 p.m. Find out what you need to collect sap and take part in a taste test to try to identify the real thing. Pre-registration is required. The fee is $4 a person for Union County residents and $5 a person for non-county residents.

Trailside is located at 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside. Call 908-789-3670 for more information.

• Children of all ages, when accompanied by an adult, can discover the many strategies of survival used by plants and animals during the winter months on Feb. 18 from 3 to 4 p.m. Hike through the nursery trail to look for deer paths and other animal signs as part of Trailside's annual February Festivities program. Stop by the Backyard Wildlife Habitat to see which animals are visiting the feeding station and conclude around a campfire with hot chocolate and marshmallows. The fee is $4 a person for Union County residents and $5 a person for non-county residents.

• On Feb. 18 from 10 to 11 a.m., children, ages 6 and up, accompanied by an adult, can learn about the 21 different species of snakes living in New Jersey.

COUNTY NEWS

Moms Club of Union area holds open house

Are you a stay at home Mom living in Union, Cranford, Rahway, Roselle, Roselle Park or Kenilworth?

A support group designed for the stay at home mother of today will meet Feb. 6, at 10:15 a.m. at the Roselle Park Public Library. Club members participate in a variety of activities for mothers and children. The club is the first, largest and fastest growing support group specifically for at home mothers. To learn more now, call Mary at 908-601-4759.

County awards grant to hospice center

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders announced that a $600,000 grant has been awarded to the Center for Hope Hospice and Palliative Care on Raritan Road in Scotch Plains.

The grant is the final installment of an overall $1.3 million funding package that will go to build a new inpatient hospice facility, named after the center's late co-founder and president, Peggy Coloney.

"The Center for Hope has long taken the lead in providing comfort and security for the most vulnerable of our fellow citizens, regardless of their ability to pay," said Freeholder Chester Holmes. "I am proud to see the County help them arrange funding for this project."

The grant money comes from the federal HOME Investment Partnership Program. Designed to create affordable housing, this program awards blocks of grants to state and local governments. Union County administers the HOME funds for municipalities within its borders. It reviews proposals from nonprofit organizations to determine their eligibility under federal guidelines, and distributes the block grant accordingly.

The Center for Hope is a nonprofit organization founded in the late 1970s. It provides physical, emotional and spiritual support for individuals facing a life-limiting illness.

Fresh Air Fund seeks Union area volunteers

The Fresh Air Fund's Union area volunteer leaders are currently seeking committee members and host families to ensure that summer 2006 is special for New York City children.

Each summer, close to 5,000 children, ages 6 to 18, enjoy two-week vacations with volunteer host families in suburban and small town communities across 13 northeastern states from Maine to Virginia and in Ontario, Canada. Local Fresh Air Fund volunteers recruit and interview host families, check references and coordinate Friendly Town Program activities in their communities.

Union County volunteers need help to create another fun-filled summer for children from New York City's low-income communities.

"In Brooklyn, you don't see a lot of grass," explains Shanay, a 13-year-old girl from Brooklyn, "There are not too many parks where you can go without your parents being scared."

In 2006, The fund continues its 129-year-old tradition of serving children with a wide variety of special events and volunteer opportunities. For more information on how to join the local Fresh Air volunteer team, call Laurie Landau at 973-467-9054 or The Fresh Air Fund at 800-367-0003, or visit www.freshair.org.

Ice skating center open for season

Warinanco Ice Skating Center, a facility of the County of Union, is open for the 2005-06 ice skating season on

Skating sessions will be as follows:

• Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

• Wednesdays, from 10 a.m. to noon.

• Fridays, from 10 a. m. to noon, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and from 6 to 8 p.m., which is a family session during which children ages 17 and younger must be accompanied by an adult, and from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

• Saturdays, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., from 1 to 3 p.m. and from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

• Sundays, from 1 to 3 p.m., from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and from 8:30 and 10:30 p.m.

This schedule may be subject to change on holidays.

Dogs in a row



Photo By Sean Havey

Cranford residents bring their dogs to the health department for vaccinations Jan. 14.

www.localsource.com

Internet Directory

Agape Family Worship Center	http://www.agapecenter.org
American Bank of New Jersey	http://www.asbnj.com
Burgdorff ERA	http://www.burgdorff.com
Crossroads Christian Fellowship	http://www.ccfou.org
DaunnoDevelopmentCo	http://www.daunnodevelopment.com
ERA Village Green	http://www.eravillagegreen.com
Eye Care Center of NJ	http://www.eyecarenj.com
First Night of Maplewood/So. Orange	http://community.nj.com/cc/firstnight-soma
Forest Hill Properties Apartments	http://www.springstreet.com/propid/389126
Grand Sanitation	http://www.grandsanitation.com
Holy Cross Church	http://www.holycrossnj.org
Hospital Center at Orange	http://www.cathedralhealthcare.org
JRS Realty	http://www.century21jrs.com
LaSalle Travel Service	http://www.lasalletravelservices.com
Mountainside Hospital	http://www.AtlanticHealth.org
Nutley Pet Center	http://www.nutleypet.com
Pet Watchers	http://www.petwatchersnj.com
Rets Institute	http://www.rets-institute.com
Skincare Products	www.marykay.com/chandrac
South Orange Chiropractic	http://www.sochiro.com
Summit Area Jaycees	http://www.angelfire.com/nj/summitjc
Suburban Essex Chamber of Commerce	http://www.suburbanessexchamber.com/secc
Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad	http://www.summitems.org
Synergy Bank	http://www.synergyonthenet.com
Trinitas Hospital	http://www.trinitashospital.com
Turning Point	http://www.turningpointnj.org
Union Center National Bank	http://www.ucnb.com
Unitarian Universalist Church	http://www.firstuu.essex.nj.uua.org
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Advertise your tax service every week in your local Worrall Community Newspaper.
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One more resolution: sign up to become an organ and tissue donor

With the coming of the New Year, many people reflect upon their lifestyle and resolve to make changes for the better. Quit smoking, lose weight, get back on the treadmill standing idle in the corner are all promises made to improve a person's own well-being.

But what if you could do something as quick and simple as filling out a form to save eight lives and help 50 others to function better physically and without pain?

The New Jersey Organ and Tissue Sharing Network is encouraging people who are 18 years and older and a resident of New Jersey to do just that: Become an organ and tissue donor. All it takes is signing up for the New Jersey Organ and Tissue Donor Registry. It is a one-time, charitable act with beneficial effects far-reaching into the future.

Or a person can declare their intent to be a donor by indicating it on their New Jersey driver's license. If applying for the first time or when renewing, drivers will be asked if they would like the "Organ Donor" designation to appear on their license. Through New Jersey's new digital driver's license application, they can easily answer "Yes."

But an equally important step is to discuss this decision with family members. If they understand the decision in advance, they will be supportive and better able to carry out the desire to help others through donation.

Support can also be given by ordering a "Donate Life" especially license plate from any NJ Motor Vehicle Commission agency. It features "The Gift of Life Rose," designed by the NJ Sharing Network in an effort to promote awareness about organ and tissue donation.

The license plate may be purchased for newly leased or purchased cars, or to replace current plates. All monies raised from the sale and renewals of "Donate Life" plates goes to the Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Education Fund, established to inform the public about the urgent need for organ donation and the life-saving benefits of organ transplants.

One donor can save the lives of eight people awaiting an organ transplant and enhance the lives of up to 50 others in need of tissue grafts to heal burns, restore or give sight, reconstruct bone and more.

Across the country more than 90,000 people are waiting for transplants, and the number grows daily. Sometimes the wait lasts for years; other times a donor match is never found. Every day 17 potential recipients die while waiting for a donation that could save their lives. Only by increasing the number of donors can the gap be closed between those in need and matches available.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
TOWNSHIP OF UNION
BOARD OF EDUCATION
COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the Township of Union Board of Education, in the County of Union, for the furnishing of the hereinafter described labor, material and equipment for Proposed Union High School Wireless Alert Security System, 2350 North Third St., Union, NJ, and opened and read in public at the Township of Union Board of Education Offices, 2369 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey 07083, on February 10, 2006, at 10:00 A.M. prevailing time. Bids to be received for this work shall be Combined Bids for all work required.

Bidding Documents may be examined at the office of Potter Architects, L.L.C., 410 Colonial Avenue, Union, New Jersey 07083, during business hours. A copy thereof may be procured in person only after January 27, 2006, at the Architect's office for the purpose of bidding. Bidders shall notify the Architect in advance prior to obtaining bidding documents. Documents will not be mailed. A deposit in cash or check to the order of said Architect in the sum of $100.00 is required, which is non-refundable.

No bid will be accepted that does not conform to the Project Manual. Bids must be made on standard bid forms in the manner designated by the Project Manual, must be enclosed in sealed envelopes bearing the name and address of the bidder, the contract being bid on the outside thereof, addressed and should be delivered in person to the Owner. Owner will not be responsible for bids sent by mail or delivery service.

Each bid shall be accompanied by the following:

1. Guarantee payable to the Township of Union Board of Education that bidder, if the Contract is awarded to him, will enter into a contract therefor. Guarantee shall be in the amount of 10% of the bid, but not in excess of $20,000.00 and may be in the form of certified check, cashier's check or bid bond.
2. Certificate from a surety company stating that it will provide the bidder with a bond in such sum and form as is required in the Specifications.
3. Affidavit showing prequalification in accordance with the standards of and by the New Jersey Department of the Treasury, Division of Building and Construction, for bids $20,000 and over, for prime bidders and subcontractors, in accordance with the requirements of the Department of the Treasury.
4. A statement setting forth the names and addresses of all stockholders owning 10% or more of the stock in the case of a corporation, or 10% or greater interest in the case of a partnership, or acknowledgment that no person or entity has 10% or greater proprietary interest in the Bidder.

Bidders are notified as follows:

1. Addendum may be issued by the Owner in accordance with the Project Manual up to seven (7) business days prior to receipt of bids and the bidders are obligated on their own initiative to make inquiry for and examine such addendum, if any.
2. No bid may be withdrawn after the date of receipt.

Bidders are notified that they must comply with the provisions of N.J.S.A.34:11-56.37 and 34:11-56.38 et seq. (Wages on Public Works) and that the contract to be awarded in the case shall contain a stipulation that the wage rate must be paid to workmen employed in the performance of the contracts shall not be less than the prevailing wage rate as determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry of the State of New Jersey.

Bidders are notified that they must comply with the provisions of P.L.1999, c.238 (The Public Works Contractor Registration Act), which became effective on April 11, 2000.

Bidders are notified that they must comply with the provisions of N.J.S.A.52:31-1 to 52:33-4, the statutes on the use of domestic materials on public work.

Bidders are put on notice that the Owner is an exempt organization under the provisions of the New Jersey State Sales and Use Tax (N.J.S.A.54:32B-1) et seq.) and is not required to pay sales tax.

All bidders are put on notice that they are required to comply with all rules and regulations and orders promulgated by the State Treasurer pursuant to P.L.1975, c.127 and with all provisions of N.J.S.A.10:2-1 through 10:2-4 (Affirmative Action), and N.J.A.C.17:27.

The Owner reserves the right to consider the bids for sixty (60) days after receipt thereof, and further reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities in any bid or bids, and to make such awards as may be in the best interest of the Owner.

By order of the Township of Union Board of Education, in the County of Union, New Jersey.

Mr. James J. Damato, Board Secretary
Township of Union Board of Education
2369 Morris Avenue
Union, NJ 07083

U135564 UNL Jan. 26, 2006 ($60.92)

TOWNSHIP OF UNION

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the ordinance hereinbelow set forth below was introduced at a meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Union in the County of Union, held on January 24, 2006 and that said ordinance will be further considered for final passage at a meeting of the Township Committee at the Municipal Building, 1976 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey on February 14, 2006 at 7:30 o'clock P.M.

EILEEN BIRCH, Township Clerk

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NEW CHAPTER ENTITLED "DISORDERLY CONDUCT", IN THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union in the County of Union as follows:

Section 1. **Disorderly conduct.**

A person is guilty of an offense: if with purpose to cause public inconvenience, annoyance or alarm or recklessly creating a risk thereof he:

A. Fights in a public place or challenges another person in a public place to a fight;
B. Creates a hazardous or physically dangerous condition by an act which serves no legitimate purpose of the actor.
C. Maliciously and wilfully disturbs another person by loud and unreasonable noise;
D. Uses offensive words in a public place which are inherently likely to provoke an immediate violent reaction;
E. Disrupts any lawful assembly or meeting of persons without lawful authority;
F. Obstructs vehicular or pedestrian traffic without lawful authority;

Section 2. Any person violating any provisions of this chapter shall, upon conviction thereof, be subject to one or more of the following: imprisonment in the county jail or in any other place provided by the municipality for the detention of prisoners for any term not exceeding 90 days or by a fine not exceeding $1,250 or by a period of community service not exceeding 90 days, to become effective on the effective date of this section.

Section 3. **Severability**

If any section, paragraph, subparagraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the specific section, paragraph, subparagraph, clause or provision so adjudged and the remainder of the Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

Section 4. **Repeal of Prior Ordinances**

Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed to the extend of any such inconsistencies.

Section 5. **Effective Date**

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately after publication in the manner provided by law.

U135726 UNL Jan. 26, 2006 ($35.34)

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE QUICK AND CONVENIENT!

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF UNION

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the ordinance hereinbelow set forth was finally passed and approved at a meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Union in the County of Union, held on January 24, 2006. The twenty-day period of limitation within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such ordinance can be commenced as provided in the local bond law, has begun to run from the date of the first publication of this first publication of this statement.

EILEEN BIRCH, Township Clerk

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DESIGN, ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY, CONSTRUCTION AND INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE WIDENING OF ELMWOOD AVENUE BETWEEN SAVITT PLACE AND MORRIS AVENUE HEREINAFTER ENUMERATED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE FINANCING OF THE COST THEREOF BY THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union in the County of Union:

Section 1. Authority is hereby given for *the design, construction and inspection* services in connection with the widening of Elmwood Avenue between Savitt Place and Morris Avenue in the Township of Union *in the County of Union as set forth* in Section 2 hereof.

Section 2. The items authorized shall consist of, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) Design and permitting services in connection with the widening of Elmwood Avenue between Savitt Place and Morris Avenue *and modification of the traffic signal* at the intersection of Elmwood Avenue and Morris Avenue; and

(b) Acquisition of right-of-way in Block 4101, Lots 1.01, and Block 300, Lot 2 needed to widen Elmwood Avenue between Savitt Place and Morris Avenue; and

(c) Construction services to widen Elmwood Avenue between Savitt Place and Morris Avenue, including utility relocation, drainage improvements, curb, apron and sidewalk installation, road reconstruction, and modifications of the traffic signal at the intersection of Elmwood Avenue and Morris Avenue; and

(d) Construction Administration and Inspection services in connection with the widening of Elmwood Avenue.

Section 3. The sum of **$1,000,000.00** is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of such property. The sum so appropriated shall be met from the proceeds of the bonds authorized, and the down payment appropriated by this ordinance. No part of the cost of said purpose shall be assessed against property specially benefited.

Section 4. It is hereby determined and stated that (1) the making of such improvement (hereinafter referred to as "purpose") is not a current expense of said Township, and (2) it is necessary to finance said purpose by the issuance of obligation of said Township pursuant to the Local Bond Law of New Jersey, and (3) the estimated cost of said purpose is **$1,000,000.00** and **$50,000.00** of said sum is to be provided by the down payment hereinafter appropriated to finance said purpose, and (4) the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes necessary to be issued for said purpose is **$950,000.00**, and (5) the cost of such purpose,as hereinbefore stated, includes the aggregate *amount of $200,000.00 which* is estimated to be necessary to finance the cost of such purpose, including accounting, engineering and inspection costs, *legal expenses and other expenses*, including interest on such obligations to the extent permitted by Section 40A:2-20 of the Local Bond Law.

Section 5. It is hereby determined and stated that moneys exceeding **$50,000.00** appropriated for down payments on capital improvements or for the capital improvement fund in budgets heretofore adopted for said Township are now available to finance said purpose. The sum of **$50,000.00** is hereby appropriated from such moneys to the payment of the cost of said purpose.

Section 6. To finance said purpose, bonds of said Township in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding **$950,000.00** are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to said Local Bond Law. Said bonds shall bear interest at a rate per annum as may be hereafter determined within the limitations prescribed by law. All matters with respect to said bonds not determined by this ordinance shall be determined by resolutions to be hereafter adopted.

Section 7. To finance said purpose, bond anticipation notes of said Township in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding **$950,000.00** are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to said Local Bond Law in anticipation of the issuance of said bonds. In the event that bonds are issued *pursuant to this ordinance, the aggregate amount of notes hereby authorized to be* issued shall be reduced by an amount equal to the principal amount of the bonds *so issued. If the aggregate amount of outstanding bonds and notes issued pursuant to this ordinance shall, at any time, exceed the sum first mentioned in this section, the moneys raised by the* issuance of said bonds shall, to not less than the amount of such excess, be applied to the payment of such notes then *outstanding.*

Section 8. Each bond anticipation note issued pursuant to this ordinance shall be dated on or about the date of its issuance and shall be payable not more than one year from its date, shall bear interest at a rate per annum as may be hereafter determined within the limitations prescribed by law and may be renewed from time to time pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law. Each of said notes shall be signed by the Chairman of the Township Committee and Township's Chief Financial Officer and shall be under the seal of said Township and attested by the Township Clerk. *Said officers are hereby authorized* to execute said notes and to issue said notes in such form as they may adopt in conformity with law. The power to *determine any matters with respect to* said notes not determined by this ordinance and also the power to sell said notes is hereby delegated to the Governing Body along with the Chief Financial Officer who is hereby authorized to sell said notes, either at one time or from time to time, in the manner provided by law.

Section 9. *It is hereby determined and* declared that the period of usefulness of said purpose according to its reasonable life is a period of **twenty years** computed from the date of said bonds.

Section 10. It is hereby determined and stated that the Supplemental Debt Statement required by said Local Bond Law has been duly made and filed in the office of the Township Clerk of said Township, and that such statement so filed shows that the gross debt of said Township, as defined in Section 40A:2-43 of said Local Bond Law, is increased by this ordinance by **$950,000.00** and that the issuance of the bonds and notes authorized by this ordinance will be within all debt limitations prescribed by said Local Bond Law.

Section 11. Any funds received from the County, the State of New Jersey or any of their agencies, or any funds received from the United States of America or any of its agencies in aid of such purpose shall be applied to the payment of the cost of such purpose, or, if bond anticipation notes have been issued, to the payment of the bond anticipation notes, and the amount of bonds authorized for such purpose shall be reduced accordingly.

Section 12. The Capital Budget is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith, and the resolutions promulgated by the Local Finance Board showing full detail of the amended Capital Budget and Capital Program, as approved by the Division of Local Government Services, is on file with the Township Clerk and is available for public inspection.

Section 13. This ordinance shall take effect twenty days after the first publication hereof after final passage.

U135731 UNL Jan. 26, 2006 ($100.44)

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS

(L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO:
DARNELL J. DAVIS, SR., his heirs, devisees, and personal representatives, and his, their or any of their successors in right, title and interest

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to serve upon ZUCKER, GOLDBERG & ACKERMAN, ESQS., plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 200 Sheffield Street, Suite 301, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092-0024, telephone number 1-908-233-8500, an Answer to the Complaint and Amendment To Foreclosure Complaint filed in a civil action, in which MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. is plaintiff, and DARNELL J. DAVIS, SR., et al., are defendants, *pending in the Superior Court* of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Union County, and bearing Docket F-359-06 within thirty-five (35) days after **1/26/2006** *exclusive of such date, or if published* after **1/26/2006,** (35) days after the actual date of such publication, exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, judgment *by default may be rendered against you* for the relief demanded in the Complaint and Amendment To Foreclosure Complaint. You shall file your Answer and *proof of service in duplicate with the* Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex-CN 971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, together with *your check in the sum of $135.00* representing the filing fee in accordance with the rules of civil practice and procedure.

This action has been instituted for the *purpose of (1) foreclosing a Mortgage* dated 08/10/2005 made by Darnell J. Davis, Sr., as mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration System as nominee for *EquiFirst Corporation recorded on* 09/01/2005 in Book 11326 of Mortgages for Union County, Page 122 which Mortgage was assigned to the plaintiff, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. by Assignment Of Mortgage which is unrecorded at this time; and (2) to recover possession of, and *concerns premises commonly known as* 1278 Dartmouth Terrace, Union, NJ 07083.

If you are unable to obtain an attorney, you *may communicate* with the New Jersey Bar Association by calling 732-249-5000. You may also contact the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of venue by calling **908-353-4715.** If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services office of the County of venue by calling **908-354-4340.**

Darnell J. Davis, Sr., his heirs devisees, and personal representatives, and his, their or any of their successors in right, title and interest are made party defendants to this foreclosure action because executed plaintiff's obligation and mortgage being foreclosed herein and may be liable for any deficiency and because the owners of record of the mortgaged premises being foreclosed herein and for any lien, claim or interest may have in, to or against the mortgaged premises.

DONALD F. PHELAN, CLERK
SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
File XCZL 73964
U135579 UNL Jan. 26, 2006 ($39.99)

PUBLIC NOTICE

SEALED BIDS will be received from bidders classified under N.J.S.A.27:7-35.1 et seq.; in the NJDOT MULTIPURPOSE ROOM, New Jersey Department of Transportation, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08625; until 10:00 A.M. on 3/2/06 and opened and read for:

Route 82/County Route 629 (Morris Avenue), Cont. No: 001950174 Streetscape and Intersection Improvements; From Lousons Road to Orchard Street, *Township of Union & City of Elizabeth,* Union County
Federal Project No: STP-7528 (106)

DP No: 05161

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of P.L.1975, c.127 N.J.A.C. 17:27. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-44, for Federal aided projects; bidders must register with the New Jersey Department of Treasury, Division of Revenue, prior to the time of contract execution. Appropriate proof of registration should be provided to NJDOT as soon as possible after receipt of the Notice of Award.

Pursuant to the "Public Works Contractor Registration Act", N.J.S.A. 34:11-56.48 et seq. (P.L.2003, c.91), bidders must register with the New Jersey Department of Labor, Division of Wage and Hour Compliance.

The Department, in accordance with Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat.252 U.S.C., 49 C.F.R., Parts 21 and 23 issued pursuant to such Act, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 will afford minority business enterprises full opportunity to submit bids in response to this *invitation and will not discriminate against* any bidder on the grounds of race, color, sex, national origin, or handicap in the contract award.

Drawings and specifications for the proposed work are available at Bid Express web site www.bidx.com. You must subscribe to use this service. To subscribe *follow the instructions on the web site.* The fee is $35.00 per month for unlimited access to view and download the documents and additional $95.00 per month *for unlimited access to download the* plans, directly payable to Bid Express. Drawings, special provisions, and bid documents may be inspected (BUT NOT OBTAINED) by contracting organizations at our various Design Field Offices at the following locations:

200 Stierli Court
Mt. Arlington, NJ
973-770-5141

Route 79 & Daniels Way
Freehold, NJ
732-308-4025

1 Executive Campus
Route 70 West
Cherry Hill, NJ
856-486-6624

New Jersey
Department of Transportation
Division of Procurement
Bureau of Construction Services
1035 Parkway Avenue
PO Box 605
Trenton, NJ 08625

January 26, February 2, 9, 2006
U135711 UNL ($118.58)

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the ordinance set forth below was introduced at a meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Union in the County of Union, held on January 24, 2006, and that said ordinance will be further considered for final passage at a meeting of the Township Committee at the Municipal Building, 1976 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey on February 14, 2006 at 7:30 o'clock P.M.

EILEEN BIRCH, Township Clerk

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 266-55 ENTITLED "SCHEDULE XIV: PARKING PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES", IN THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union in the County of Union, as follows:

Section 1. There shall be added to Chapter 266-55 entitled "Schedule XIV: Parking Prohibited at All Times" the following:

Name of Street	Side	Location
Whitewood Road	North	For a distance of 67 feet from Yorktown Road from the northwest corner apex

Section 2. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately after publication in the manner provided by law.

U135722 UNL Jan. 26, 2006 ($16.74)

Public Notice

Take Notice that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:4-56.6, Application has been made to the MVC of NJ, Trenton NJ, to receive title papers authorizing the sale for a 1999 Grt. Dane Trailer 1PNV532BB0XH215842. Objections, if any, should be made immediately within 10 days of this advertisement in writing to MVC of NJ, Special Title Unit, P.O.B 017, Trenton, NJ 08666-0017.

U135032 UNL Jan. 19, 26, 2006 ($12.10)

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
County of Union

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT a Public Hearing will be held by the **COUNTY of UNION** on February 23, 2006 and March 9, 2006, to discuss the diversion of Green Acres property in the amount of .09 acres (part of Lot 1.10, Block 59) in exchange for .20 acres vacant property in Hillside (Lot 5, Block 1601) for the purposes of installing a bridge to connect the Main Campus of Kean University to the East Campus of Kean University. The Public Hearing scheduled for February 23, 2006, will be held at Kean University-East Campus, Ruth Horowitz Alumni House, 215 North Avenue, Hillside, New Jersey 07205, at 7:00 P.M., or as soon thereafter as said matter can be reached.

The Public Hearing scheduled for March 9, 2006, will be held at the County Administration *Building, Freeholders' Meeting* Room, Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth, New Jersey, at 6:30 P.M. to consider the conveyance of property to Kean University *to accommodate the above.*

The participating party in the above diversion is Kean University.

Written comments should be forwarded *to the Clerk of the Board, County of* Union, Board of Chosen Freeholders, Attn: Kean-Green Acres Diversion Application, Union County Administration *Building, 6th Floor, 2 Elizabethtown* Plaza, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07207. It is requested that these comments be provided prior to the close of business on March 6, 2006.

Persons desiring to comment at the hearing will be required to register at the hearing by listing their name and address *on a sign-in sheet.* In order to assure an orderly process and inclusion of all desiring to speak, the Chairperson will call persons from such list in the order *received. A report on the advantages* and disadvantages of the proposed Diversion Application and an environmental assessment report will be available upon request *at the cost of photocopying (approximate*ly $7.50) at the Clerk of the Board, County of Union, Board of Chosen Freeholders, Union County Administration Building, 6th Floor, 2 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07207.

The consideration of whether to allow the diversion will be made at the next following regular meeting of the **UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS.** This notice is intended to comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13.6 and N.J.A.C. 7:36-21.4(b) governing public hearings on the sale or exchange of County property and the diversion of Green Acres funded County Park Land.

NICOLE L. TEDESCHI
CLERK OF THE BOARD
U135620 UNL Jan. 26, 2006 ($33.02)

BOROUGH OF ROSELLE PARK
UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following proposed ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roselle Park, in the County of Union, New Jersey, at a public meeting held on January 19, 2006 and that said ordinance will be taken up for passage on February 16, 2006, at 7:30 p.m. prevailing time, or as soon thereafter as said matter can be reached, at the regular meeting of said Mayor and Council to be held at the Borough Hall in said Borough of Roselle Park, and that all persons interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning same.

By order of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roselle Park.

Donna L. Corrigan
Deputy Borough Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 2167

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 43-95 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF ROSELLE PARK REGARDING COMPENSATION FOR BASKETBALL REFEREES

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Roselle Park, County of Union, and State of New Jersey, that Chapter 43-95 of the Code of the Borough of Roselle Park is hereby amended to read as follows:

SECTION I. Chapter 43-95, Position created; compensation, is hereby amended to read as follows:

There is hereby created the position of Basketball Referee in the Recreation Department in the Borough of Roselle Park, County of Union, State of New Jersey, to be compensated as set forth herein, effective January 1, 2006:

Position	Salary
Basketball Referee	$15.00 per game

U135605 UNL Jan. 26,2006 ($23.25)

NOTICE OF HEARING

TOWNSHIP OF UNION NOTICE OF HEARING ON APPLICATION CALENDAR NO. 3048. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on *February 15, 2006 at 7:30 p.m.*, a public hearing will be held before the Union Township Zoning Board of Adjustment ("Zoning Board") to consider an application made by Victor Silva (the "Applicant") for a variance from the requirements of the Township of Union Land Development Ordinance (the "Ordinance") to permit a *front yard setback of twenty-three feet* eight inches (23'8") whereas a front yard setback of twenty-five feet (25') is required by section 170-50 of the Ordinance. The property is located at 825 Meeker Road (Block 3805, Lot 54) on the tax map of the Township of Union, and is in the RA (single family) zone. The application includes a request for waivers, variances, exceptions or other relief as may be deemed necessary or results from the recommendations of the Zoning Board in its professional review.

Any person or persons affected by this application may have the opportunity to be heard at the public hearing to be held by the Board of Adjustment on February 15, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 1976 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey.

All documents relating to this application may be inspected by the public between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. in the office of the Secretary of the Board of Adjustment in the Municipal Building, Building Department, 1976 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey.

Gregory F. Kinzel, Esq.
625 Union Avenue
Elizabeth, NJ 07208
Attorney for Applicant,
Victor Silva

U135581 UNL Jan. 26, 2006 ($21.86)

TOWNSHIP OF UNION

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that an ordinance, the title of which is hereinbelow set forth, was finally passed and approved by the Township Committee of the Township of Union in the County of Union, at a public meeting held at the Municipal Building, Friberger Park, Union, New Jersey, on January 24, 2006.

EILEEN BIRCH, Township Clerk

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DESIGNATION OF RESTRICTED PARKING SPACES FOR USE BY PERSONS WITH SPECIAL VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND FIXING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF", adopted on June 12, 1984 and identified as Ordinance No. 3729, IN THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

U135721 UNL Jan. 26, 2006 ($10.70)

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the ordinance set forth below was introduced at a meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Union in the County of Union, held on January 24, 2006, and that said ordinance will be further considered for final passage at a meeting of the Township Committee at the Municipal Building, 1976 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey on February 14, 2006 at 7:30 o'clock P.M.

EILEEN BIRCH, Township Clerk

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DESIGNATION OF RESTRICTED PARKING SPACES FOR USE BY PERSONS WITH SPECIAL VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND FIXING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF", adopted on June 12, 1984 and identified as Ordinance No. 3729, IN THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union in the County of Union, as follows:

Section 1. Section 2, subparagraph (bw) of the above entitled ordinance is hereby *amended to add the following:*

A handicap parking spot directly in front of 324 Oregon Street.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall become *effective immediately after publication in* the manner provided by law.

U135729 UNL Jan. 26, 2006 ($16.28)

NOTICE OF HEARING

Please take notice that an application has been made by Nu Star Gas, Inc. for a *variance from the requirements of the* Township of Union Land Development Ordinance for site plan approval as to permit construction of a storage shed of 21' x 13', and to add two *additional fuel* dispensers, located at 1384 Morris Ave., which is in violation of section(s) 170-51, 170-140(E) and 170-140(G) of the Land *Development Ordinance.*

Any person or persons affected by this application may have the opportunity to be heard at the public hearing to be held by the Board of Adjustment *on February* 1, 2006 at 7:30pm in the Municipal Building, 1976 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey.

All documents relating to this application may be inspected by the public between the hours of 9:00am-4:00pm in the office of the Secretary of the Board of Adjustment in the Municipal Building, Building Department, 1976 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey.

Fredric H. Pearson,
Attorney for Applicant,
Nu Star Gas, Inc.

U135598 UNL Jan. 26, 2006 ($14.42)

TOWNSHIP OF UNION

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that an ordinance, the title of which is hereinbelow set forth, was finally passed and approved by the Township Committee of the Township of Union in the County of Union, at a public meeting held at the Municipal Building, Friberger Park, Union, New Jersey, on January 24, 2006.

EILEEN BIRCH, Township Clerk

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 266-56 ENTITLED "SCHEDULE XV: NO STOPPING OR STANDING", IN THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

U135724 UNL Jan. 26, 2006 ($7.91)

TOWNSHIP OF UNION

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that an ordinance, the title of which is hereinbelow set forth, was finally passed and approved by the Township Committee of the Township of Union in the County of Union, at a public meeting held at the Municipal Building, Friberger Park, Union, New Jersey, on January 24, 2006.

EILEEN BIRCH, Township Clerk

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 266-61 ENTITLED "SCHEDULE XX: LOADING ZONES", IN THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION, UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

U135725 UNL Jan. 26, 2006 ($7.91)

TOWNSHIP OF UNION

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that an ordinance, the title of which is hereinbelow set forth, was finally passed and approved by the Township Committee of the Township of Union in the County of Union, at a public meeting held at the Municipal Building, Friberger Park, Union, New Jersey, on January 24, 2006.

EILEEN BIRCH, Township Clerk

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE I OF CHAPTER 254-1 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UNION PERTAINING TO DRUG-FREE ZONES.

U135723 UNL Jan. 26, 2006 ($7.44)

TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE
NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following proposed bond ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Hillside, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, held on the 17th day of January, 2006, and that said ordinance will be taken up for further consideration for final passage at the meeting of said Township Council to be held at its meeting room in the Municipal Building, Liberty & Hillside Avenues, Hillside, New Jersey, on the 7th day of February, 2006, at 7:30 P.M., or as soon thereafter as said matter can be reached, at which time and place all persons who may be interested therein will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the same.

A copy of this ordinance has been posted on the Bulletin Board upon which public notices are customarily posted in the Municipal Building of the Township, and a copy is available up to and including the time of said meeting to the members of the general public of the Township who shall request such copies, at the office of the Clerk in said Municipal Building in Hillside, New Jersey.

Janet S. Vlaisavljevic
Township Clerk
Township of Hillside
County of Union
State of New Jersey

BO-06-002
BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE DEMOLITION OF UNSAFE BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF HILLSIDE, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF $1,085,700 TO PAY THE COST THEREOF, TO MAKE A DOWN PAYMENT, TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Hillside, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. The Township of Hillside, in the County of Union, State of New Jersey (the "Township") is hereby authorized to demolish unsafe buildings and structures at various locations in, by and for the Township, including the following addresses on North Broad Street: 1422-26, 1439-47, 1444-46, 1448 and 1450-54, and such other locations as determined by the Township's Building Inspector. Said improvement shall include all work, materials and appurtenances necessary and suitable therefor.

Section 2. The sum of $1,085,700 is hereby appropriated to the payment of the cost of making the improvement described in Section 1 hereof (hereinafter referred to as "purpose"). Said appropriation shall be met from the proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized and the down payment appropriated by this ordinance. It is hereby determined and stated that the Township has been approved for a loan in the amount of $1,034,000 from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs ("NJDCA") - Demolition Bond Loan Program. The Township's obligation to repay the NJDCA loan shall constitute the issuance of bonds pursuant to this bond ordinance. Said improvement shall be made as a general improvement and no part of the cost thereof shall be assessed against property specially benefitted. However, the properties on which buildings or structures are demolished, as more specifically described in Section 1 of this bond ordinance, shall be subject to liens for the costs of such demolition pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:48-1(15). Further, the owners of such properties shall also be liable for the costs of such demolition pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:48-1.1.

Section 3. It is hereby determined and stated that (1) said purpose is not a cur*rent expense of said Township*, and (2) it is necessary to finance said purpose by the issuance of obligations of said Township pursuant to the Local Bond Law (*Chapter 2 of Title 40A of the New Jersey* Statutes, as amended; the "Local Bond Law"), and (3) the estimated cost of said purpose is $1,085,700, and (4) $51,700 of *said sum is to be provided by the down* payment hereinafter appropriated to finance said purpose, and (5) the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes necessary to be issued for said purpose is $1,034,000, and (6) the cost of such purpose, as hereinbefore stated, includes the aggregate amount of $7,000 which is estimated to be necessary to finance the cost of such purpose, including architect's fees, accounting, engineering and inspection costs, legal expenses and other expenses, *including interest on* such obligations to the extent permitted by Section 20 of the Local Bond Law.

Section 4. It is hereby determined and stated that moneys exceeding $51,700, appropriated for down payments on capital improvements or for the capital improvement fund in budgets heretofore adopted for said Township, are now available to finance said purpose. The sum of $51,700 is hereby appropriated from such moneys to the payment of the cost of said purpose.

Section 5. To finance said purpose, bonds of said Township of an aggregate principal amount not exceeding $1,034,000 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the Local Bond Law. Said bonds shall bear interest at a rate per annum as may be hereafter determined within the limitations prescribed by law. All matters with respect to said bonds not determined by this ordinance shall be determined by resolutions to be hereafter adopted.

Section 6. To finance said purpose, bond anticipation notes of said Township of an aggregate principal amount not exceeding $1,034,000 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the Local Bond Law in anticipation of the issuance of said bonds. In the event that bonds are issued pursuant to this ordinance, the aggregate amount of notes hereby authorized to be issued shall be reduced by an amount equal to the principal amount of the bonds so issued. If the aggregate amount of outstanding bonds and notes issued pursuant to this ordinance shall at any time exceed the sum first mentioned in this section, the moneys raised by the issuance of said bonds shall, to not less than the amount of such excess, be applied to the payment of such notes then outstanding.

Section 7. Each bond anticipation note issued pursuant to this ordinance shall be dated on or about the date of its issuance and shall be payable not more than one year from its date, shall bear interest at a rate per annum as may be hereafter determined within the limitations prescribed by law and may be renewed from time to time pursuant to and within limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law. Each of said bond anticipation notes shall be signed by the

Businesses jump on board to support New Jersey students

The Business Coalition for Educational Excellence at the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce and Elizabethtown Gas, a subsidiary of AGL Resources, have joined forces to support the State Scholars-NJ Program to help ensure that middle and high school students in Union County challenge themselves to help prepare for their futures in either college or the workplace.

Elizabethtown Gas recently donated $15,000 to BCEE to fund Union County's participation and, on Jan. 18, hosted a program kick-off meeting with Union County educators at the company's headquarters, 1085 Morris Ave., Union.

"Elizabethtown Gas is proud to sponsor the State Scholars-NJ Program for Union County students," said Don Carter, vice president of Elizabethtown Gas. "We recognize that the business community must be part of the solution to secure a skilled workforce for the future. This program encourages students to challenge themselves to develop the thinking skills they will need for college and work."

The cornerstone of the BCEE's Learn to Earn family of programs, the State Scholars-NJ Program, defines a menu of rigorous courses that students should take in school. The course of study for the State Scholars Program includes four years of English, three years of math — algebra I and II and geometry — three years of lab science — biology, chemistry and physics — three years of social studies, one semester of economics and two years of the same foreign language.

"The State Scholars-NJ Program promotes the proven relationship between improved student performance in high school and the ability of students to reach their fullest potential," said Dana Egreczky, president of the BCEE, at the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce. "We are grateful to Elizabethtown Gas for generously sponsoring this program for Union County students."

Comprehensive research shows a direct relationship between demanding high school courses, especially in mathematics, college completion rates and success in the workplace, whether or not students choose to attend college.

In addition to the State Scholars-NJ Program offered by the BCEE, business organizations in 13 other states are implementing similar efforts, focusing on strategies to bring about sustained high school improvement.

Other LDE programs include: School Counts, the Technology Challenge and Work the Money.



Photo Courtesy of Joan Barro

Sister Regina Martin, principal, is joined by, Gina Nanchanatt, Amy Petrocy, Natalia Daniel and Lauren Tower, standing, and, seated, Nicole Telleri, Michelle Frost and Lindsey Kowalsky.

Just swipe it!



Summit resident Lois Umana swipes his Teen Activity Card at the front desk of the Summit YMCA. The new Teen Activity Cards give teen members access to the Y's Teen Center, Monday through Thursday, from 3 to 5:30 p.m.

Seton's Bloustein Scholars named

Sister Regina Martin, principal of Mother Seton Regional High School in Clark, announced the 2006 Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars.

Among those named were Natalia Daniel of Linden, Michelle Frost of Colonia, Lindsey Kowalsky of Union, Gina Nanchanatt of Union, Amy Petrocy of Carteret, Nicole Telleri of Clark and Lauren Tower of Union.

These students are enrolled in advanced placement courses, and the Seton Distinguished Scholars prograr throughout their four years in attendance at Mother Seton

The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, a independent agency of the state of New Jersey, administe the Garden State Scholarship Program, which includes th Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar and Urban Scho ar awards. Students may use these awards to continue the education at New Jersey institutions of higher education.

Deadline nears for Arbor Day essay contest

The Union County freeholders are sponsoring an Arbor Day Essay Contest this year to encourage the recognition of the importance of trees in the communities. All entries must be postmarked by Monday.

"The Arbor Day Essay Contest is a great way to get children thinking about trees," said Freeholder Deborah Scanlon, liaison to the Union County Shade Tree Advisory Board. "It is also a wonderful way to motivate children to use their writing skills."

The contest is open to all sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students in Union County. Students can enter short essays of 150 words or less or poems of any style.

The topic of the essay or poem is the importance of trees to neighborhoods and to Union County.

First-place winners will receive $50 and second and third place will receive $25 each. Winners will be announced at each grade level, an their awards will be presented at a reg ular freeholder meeting.

To enter the Arbor Day Essay Cor test for 2006, ask your school princ pal for the rules to the Union Count Young Writers Contest.

For more information, call Nic Polanin, a member of the Union Cour ty Shade Tree Advisory Board, at 908 526-6293 or residents can e-mai Polanin@rcre.rutgers.edu.

Making a World of Difference CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Catholic Schools Week

January 29 - February 4, 2006

234220

•FAITH•KINDNESS•OPPORTUNITY•SPIRITUALITY•LEADERSHIP•RESPECT•TEAMWORK•INDEPENDENCE•CARING•COMMUNITY•FAMILY•Academic Excellence•Love•

MORAL VALUES•COMMITMENT•SERVICE•HONESTY

Surround your child with what you value most!

St. Agnes School

"A Wonderful Place To Be"

Open House Tuesday January 31st, 9:30-11:00 AM

Registration For New Students

Thursday & Friday February 2nd & 3rd 9:00-11:00 AM

Pre-K for 3 & 4 Year Olds
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Foreign Language K-8
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Saint James the Apostle School

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Open House

January 29, 2006 • 1-3:00 PM

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Mrs. Patricia Dolansky, Principal

41 South Springfield Avenue, Springfield

234101

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Call for information • 908-889-1600, extension 302

"Inspiration takes many forms at Union Catholic High School, where uncompromising academic standards, faith, diversity, and technology fuse to create a distinct college preparatory program."
U.S. News & World Report

Union Catholic Tradition Meets Tomorrow

Visit www.unioncatholic.org to learn more!

SCHOOL NEWS - REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2006-2007 will begin with CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK - January 30 until February 3. There are openings for all day Pre-K 3 & 4, Kindergarten and Grades 1 thru 8.

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Good Shepherd Academy
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Hot Lunch Program, School Uniforms

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5 Days a week, 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM
Includes before and after care

All Day Kindergarten
5 days a week - 8AM-2:45 PM
Optional before and aftercare

Grades 1 thru 8
Optional before and aftercare for all grades

SPECIALS
Art, Music, Computer Classes
Physical Education

234103

EDUCATION

Amateur Astronomer to present lectures

On Friday at 8:30 p.m. in the Sperry Observatory, Amateur Astronomers Inc. will present "The Exploration of Saturn" given by Al Witzgall.

Witzgall has a bachelor of science degree in planetary geology from Kean University and is a long time member of Amateur Astronomers Inc. He will present new information obtained from the Cassini spacecraft that is currently orbiting Saturn, as well as basic information about the planet.

If weather permits, a celestial viewing of Saturn and its largest satellite, Titan, will take place throughout the evening using the club's two large telescopes.

In addition to the monthly meetings on the third Friday of each month from September through May, more informal meetings are held on the remaining Fridays at Sperry Observatory.

At 7:30 p.m., a program for younger audiences is offered with topics that include the constellations and the solar system. Arrangements can be made for groups to attend by contacting bigjody1@netzero.com.

At 8:30 p.m., programs for the general public are presented. All meetings and lectures have no admission fee and are open to the public.

For more information on Amateur Astronomers Inc. and directions, call 908-276-STAR or visit www.asterism.org.

Course offered on Baltic Sagas

Union County College Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education will offer the course "Baltic Sagas" from Feb. 14 through March 21.

The course will discuss marauding Vikings, armored knights, war, tsars and empresses, rockets and Communism, which are all part of the heritage of the Baltic. It will cover tales of strong-willed men and women, courage, love, murder, greed, seduction and intrigue.

The course will be presented by Cranford resident Karl Heinze, who recently published, "Baltic Sagas — Events and Personalities that Changed the World!" which takes an intriguing look at the Baltic Sea region and its important parts in history.

"This is not a comprehensive history of the region, but I have selected events and personalities that were important to the area and had an interesting story," Heinze explained. "I have included several scenes throughout the book that are based on historical events, but to which I have sometimes added reasonable assumptions as to dialogue and incidents."

The stories focus on such events as The Crusades, the Hanseatic League, Peter the Great, Catherine the Great, the Winter War of 1939, the beginning of the Space Age, and the fall of Soviet Communism.

Heinze's book is published by virtualbookworm.com Publishing Inc. and is available through Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble.com.

To register for the course at Union County College, call the Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education at 908-709-7600.

Classes are offered in caregiver certification

The Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education is offering "Child Care: Professional Practices," a course in its Children's Care-Giver Certificate Program which began Jan. 17 and runs from 6 to 9 p.m. at Roselle Park High School. It is Tuesdays and Thursdays and runs through Feb. 16. Part II of this course begins Feb. 21 and continues through March 23.

By taking this course, one will prepare for a supervisory position and will cover topics such as guidelines for state manuals, procedures for establishing a day-care center, resume writing, and interview techniques.

The cost of each section of the course is $185. To register, contact the Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education at 908-709-7600.

Electronics technician is just a course away

If you are interested in becoming an electronics technician, come to Union County College. The Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education offers courses toward an Electronics Technician Certificate Program.

No previous knowledge or experience is necessary to enroll in courses for this certification program. The program will prepare a person for employment as electronics technicians and electronics systems troubleshooters.

"Introduction to Electronics and Electricity" provides an overview of key concepts such as the understanding of general operation and common applications for major electronic and electrical components. Students will learn to recognize typical failures and use the appropriate test equipment to measure critical AC and DC signals. This course will begin Monday. The course cost is $350.

"Troubleshooting Analog Systems" covers topics related to analog circuitry commonly used in electronic and electromechanical machines. Students will gain practical information about linear and switching power supplies, major signal amplifier circuits, and will learn to develop and apply efficient troubleshooting techniques and procedures. This course will begin on Feb. 27. The course cost is $475.

"Troubleshooting Digital Systems" covers topics related to digital circuitry commonly used in electronic and electromechanical machines also. Students will gain practical information about logic devices, microprocessors and memory devices.

They will also come to understand general operation and typical applications PLY — Programmable Logic Controllers. This course begins on April 3. The course cost is $435.

The above courses will be held at the UCC Bayway Center, 720 Clarkson Ave., Elizabeth, on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6 to 10 p.m. For more information or to register, call the Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education at 908-709-7600.

Learn art of floral design

The Union County College Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education offers a Floral Design Certificate Program.

"Introduction to Floral Design — Part 1" begans Monday. This course will teach students how to use fresh flowers to make eye catching floral arrangements.

Students will become familiar with the proper tools needed to create beautiful designs and will experience hands-on work with wiring, taping, tubing, and corsage preparation.

"Introduction to Floral Design — Part 2" will further enhance one's ability to create beautiful floral arrangements. Students will complete one arrangement during each class session. The course begins Feb. 23.

"Design Concept, Balance, Color, Texture and Harmony" will begin March 6. This course will cover a multitude of design shapes and styles and color balancing.

Students will learn the color chart basics for monotone colors, color groupings and multi-color designs.

"Introduction to Modern Design" will begin March 27. This course will introduce the many different aspects of the concept of style. Students will become familiar with the European, Classical, Oriental and Victorian design.

Other topics covered include styles for weddings, receptions and business affairs, with an emphasis on candle arrangements and table presentation.

Each of these courses is offered on UCC's Scotch Plains campus at 1700 Raritan Road in the Horticulture Lab, West Hall, Room 338 of the Union County Vocational Technical High School and each course costs $300.

For more information on registering for these courses, contact the Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education at 908-709-7600.

Food service industry courses are offered

The Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education will be offering advanced courses in its Restaurant Management/Culinary Arts Certificate program.

Both courses begin on Tuesday and will be at the Roselle Community School, located at Abraham Clark High School, 122 East 6th Ave., Roselle. Each course cost $95.

The first course, "Food Service Industry Analysis," will be from 6 to 8 p.m.

In this course, the student will participate in the critical review and analysis of food service operations, materials and equipment based on current reports in trade journals and peri-

Making a World of Difference CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Catholic Schools Week January 29 - February 4, 2006

234221

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www.holyspiritunion.org
Full day Kindergarten
PreK = 8:45 - 11:45AM
Foreign Language - gr. 6,7,8
Art/Music program
Computer lab - gr. K - 8
Before/After Care Programs
Sports Program
REGISTRATION FOR NEW STUDENTS:
February 15 & 16, 2006
Time: 9:00 - 11:00AM; 1:00 - 2:00PM
MIDDLE STATES ACCREDITED
HOLY SPIRIT WHERE GOD'S CHILDREN COME TOGETHER
234095

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BRIGHTER MINDS.
BRIGHTER DREAMS.



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Call or visit your local Catholic school.
January 29 - February 4, 2006

High School Registration
Saturday
February 4, 2006

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Mother Seton Regional High School
Invites 6th, 7th and 8th grade girls to its
Open House
Tuesday, January 31, 2006
7:30-9:00 p.m.
Registration
Class of 2010
Saturday, February 4, 2006
9:00 a.m.
732-382-1952
Mother Seton Regional High School
Valley Road, Clark
www.motherseton.org
234096

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Union
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Visit the School on
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from 9:45 am to 11:30 am
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*Field Trips
*Interdisciplinary curriculum
*Instrumental instruction program
*Wireless Laptops for classroom use
Middle States Accredited
Registration for 2006-2007 school year
Pre-Kindergarten (must be 4 years old by September 30th)
Kindergarten (must be 5 years old by September 30th)
through eighth grade registration
Thursday, February 9, 2006
9 a.m. - 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
234080

EDUCATION

Life Center to offer classes this spring

Union County College's LIFE — Learning is For Ever — Center is offering free classes for seniors 65 and older and began Monday.

The LIFE Center offers free college level classes at senior centers, senior housing complexes and other sites in Union County. The courses are taught by Union County College faculty members and adjunct staff.

A typical course is offered for two hours once a week and is available at no cost to all Union County senior citizens. Participating seniors may take as many courses as they wish at all locations.

Courses are offered on a variety of topics, including art, literature, history, biology, nutrition and drama. For a listing of the classes and locations, call Roberta at the LIFE Center at 908-965-2990.

Medical office coding program to begin

The Union County College Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education is once again offering courses in its Medical Office Coding Specialist certificate program.

By enrolling in this certificate program, one can gain the necessary administrative assistant skills to work in or manage a medical office. The courses cover medical coding, medical office procedures and medical terminology. To enroll, one must have a high school diploma or equivalent.

"Procedures in the Medical Office, Ethical and Legal Responsibilities" began Monday. In this course, students will learn the basic knowledge necessary to work in a medical office, including the language of insurance, managed care terminology, and insurance policies and procedures.

Medical billing will be taught with an overview of bookkeeping and the processing of insurance forms. Students will become familiar with the ethical and legal responsibilities that are required in a medical setting.

Medical litigation that is relevant to malpractice and insurance fraud will be discussed. The course, "Introduction to Medical Terminology," is a prerequisite for this course. The course cost is $180.

"Introduction to Medical Terminology" will begin Tuesday. In this course, students will receive an overview of anatomy, focusing on the human body and its skeletal, pulmonary, digestive, cardiovascular and reproductive systems.

Students will become familiar with the terminology used in a medical office daily. The course cost is $215.

"Medical Insurance Billing" will begin Friday. In this course, students will learn the difference between medical billing and medical coding, and will provide an overview of the role of the medical insurance billing specialist. Topics include medical billing basics such as the health insurance claim form, the claims submission, the reimbursement process, private insurance, managed care systems, and Medicare plans. The course cost is $299.

For more information on the Medical Office Coding Specialist Certificate Program, contact the Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education at 908-709-7600.

College offers courses in real estate

The Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education at Union County College is again offering courses for those in the Real Estate industry. These courses are approved by the New Jersey State Board of Real Estate Appraisers.

"Real Estate Sales: Principles of Real Estate" will cover topics such as property interests, mortgages, deeds, title closing, liens, real estate law and ethics, agency relationships, and real estate calculation.

This course meets Real Estate Commission requirements for the NJ Sales Licensing Examination. The course will begin Monday and will be held on the college's Cranford campus at 1033 Springfield Ave. It will also be offered Feb. 6 at the college's Scotch Plains campus at 1700 Raritan Road. The course cost is $350.

"Introduction to Real Estate Appraisal" is a prerequisite course to all the other appraisal courses. This course will cover the appraisal profession, real estate and its appraisal, the real estate marketplace, the appraisal process, building construction, data collection, site valuation, and the cost approach.

Students will be required to pass a final exam upon the completion of the course. This course will begin Tuesday on the college's Scotch Plains campus at 1700 Raritan Road. The course cost is $325.

"How to Complete the Uniform Residential Appraisal Form" will cover site valuation, purpose of separate site value, sources of data, specific data, collection of data, income and expenses data, applying data, improvements, description, construction, internal and external data, cost approach part 2, income approach, direct sales comparable approach, and reconciliation.

Students will be required to pass a final examination. This course begins Feb. 28 and will be on the college's Scotch Plains campus at 1700 Raritan Road. For more information or to register, call the Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education at 908-709-7600.

Resume, interview workshops to begin

Start the year with a new approach to employment enhancement. Whether you plan to stay within your existing place of employment or wish to move to another employer in order to move up, preparation is the key to success in the marketplace.

Gain a competitive edge by attending three workshops in resume writing and job interview techniques to be offered during January and February at Union County College. Participants may attend one or more of the programs as their needs require.

The workshops are designed for people who wish to upgrade their status in a chosen field, people who recently experienced a layoff, those who believe they may face a job loss or those who want to change direction and start an entirely new career path.

New graduates will also benefit from the workshops. The seminars are practically oriented and provide participants with significant opportunity to address their own personal concerns. Considerable dialogue is encouraged to enable participants to learn from their peers as well as from the instructor.

Make Your Résumé Work for You will enable participants to discover the rationale behind effective résumé and cover letter writing.

The class will review the mechanics of writing a résumé and cover letter that are clear, concise and highlight one's individuality. Role playing will be included as time permits.

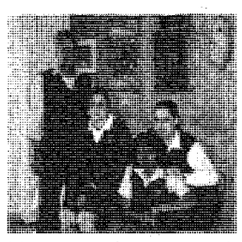
This workshop will be Feb. 4 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Cranford campus. For more information, call the college's Department of Economic Development and Continuing Education at 908-709-7600.

Catholic Schools Week

January 29 - February 4, 2006

St. Theresa School
Compassion • Responsibility • Excellence in Learning
540 Washington Avenue, Kenilworth, NJ 07033
OPEN HOUSE
for PreK 4 - 8th grade
February 1 • 9:00am to 11:00am
• Early Childhood Program for 4 year olds (1/2 and Full Day Sessions)
• Full Day Kindergarten • Before & After Care Program
• Foreign Language Program
• Science and Computer Lab
• Sports Program • Hot Lunch Program
MIDDLE STATES ACCREDITED
Principal: Sister Marisa DeRose, FMA
For more information or an appointment:
Call 908-276-7220
www.icatholiczone.com
234097

Searching for the right high school?
Benedictine Academy
is
The Smart Place to Be
- All female college preparatory program, grades 9-12
- 100% college acceptance for past 10 years
- A sport for every season
- Middle States Association accredited
- National Service-Learning Leader School
- Private education in the Benedictine tradition since 1915


Listen, Learn, Love and Lead at BA!

Parents and prospective students: come Thursday, 2/2, at 7:45 AM for light breakfast and to see BA in session.
6th and 7th graders, join us for fun on Amy Day, Feb. 20.
To register, call Ms. Branco, 908-352-0670 x 104 by Feb. 16.

Benedictine Academy
840 North Broad Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07208
908.352.0670 Fax 908.352.9424
234108

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY SCHOOL
PRE-SCHOOL thru EIGHTH GRADE
Open House
Sunday, January 29, 2006 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Visit all three buildings: Pre-school, Kindergarten and Main (Gr. 1-8)
Catholic Schools
Character • Compassion • Values
• Certified Teachers • Hot Lunch Program
• Before/After School Care Program • After School Clubs and Activities • Fully Equipped Computer Lab
420 Inman Avenue Colonia • 732-388-1662
Visit our website www.sjvs.net
234094

St. Michael's School
Cranford
Open House
Sunday - January 29, 10am - 1pm
Wednesday - February 1, 12:30pm - 2pm
We are thriving faith based community where children become independent thinkers and responsible young adults grounded in Catholic tradition.
- Full- or half-day Pre-K3 and Pre-K4
- Elementary Program K - 8
- Before- after-care program
- Attractive class sizes
- Challenging curricular offerings
- Extra-curricular enrichment program
- State-of-the-art computers in every class
- Instructional & competitive sports program

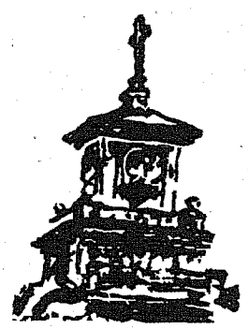
Call us at 908-276-9425
Visit our website at www.stmichaelscranford.com
Middle States Accredited

Saints Mary and Elizabeth Academy
170 Hussa Street Linden, NJ 07036



Fully Accredited Middle States School
Full Day Pre-K thru 8th Grade
Departmental and Remedial Classes
Art, Computer Classes, Music,
Physical Education, Counseling Services
Internet Access in all classrooms
Breakfast and Hot Lunch Programs
Spanish • Health
Full Sports Program
Extended Care
7:15 - 8:15am & 2:30 - 6:00pm
Certified Teachers
For more information visit our Web Page
www.smeacademy.org
908-486-2507
234132

All Girls & GREAT!!! Come see for yourself...
MOUNT SAINT MARY ACADEMY
A Tradition of Excellence in Mercy Secondary Education for Young Women
7th Grades - Come to spend a day this Spring!
8th Grades - Visit now before time runs out!
9th & 10th Grades - Thinking of a change?
Do come to visit soon!



Grades 9-12
100% College Acceptance
Varsity Sports
Transportation Available
1645 Highway 22 @ Terrill Road
Watchung, New Jersey
908-757-0108 x4506
mountsaintmary.org
234111

St. Joseph the Carpenter School
140 E. 3rd Avenue • Roselle
908-245-6560
"The Miracle on 3rd Avenue"
Working for an Educated Tomorrow
St. Joseph's (a Pre-K through 8th grade school) offers a **Welcoming** and **Safe Christian Environment,** where ideas are encouraged, shared, and respected.
Open House
Sunday, January 29, 2006
11:00 am - 1:00 am
Tuesday, January 31, 2006
9:00 am - 11:00 am
OPEN ENROLLMENT
MIDDLE STATES ACCREDITED
234100

Catholic Schools
Character. Compassion. Values.
St. John the Apostle School
"Inspiring Mind and Soul"
Middle States Accredited
Progressive Educational Curricula
Dedicated Certified Staff
3 & 4 year old Pre-K Program
Full Day Kindergarten
World Language (K-8)
Comprehensive Fine Arts Program
Before & After Care Programs
Bus Transportation
State-of-the-Art Computer/Research Lab
Classroom Internet Connections
Reimbursement Available
For information, please call 732-388-1360 or email Sister Donna Marie, O.P., Principal at dmobrienop@sjanj.org
DATES TO REMEMBER
OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, January 29
10:00am - 1:00pm
Pre-K - 7th Grades
Tuesday, January 31
9:00am - 10:00am
Kindergarten - 7th Grades
REGISTRATION
Pre-K - 7th Grades
Sunday, January 29
10:00am - 1:00pm
Tuesday, January 31
9:00am - 10:30am
Wednesday, February 1
1:00pm - 2:00pm
Valley Road - Clark/Linden, NJ • www.sjanj.org/school

ORATORY
ONE BEVERLY ROAD • SUMMIT, NJ • 908.273.5771 ext.11 • www.oratoryprep.org
Challenging...



Leading...
Educating
...Your Son's Future
OPEN HOUSE
For Prospective 7-12 Graders
Sunday, January 29th, 2006
4-5 PM
Roman Catholic college preparatory day school for boys in grades 7-12
Total Enrollment 270 students
Teacher to Student ratio - 1:10
99% College Placement
Acceptances to: Cornell, UPenn, UVA Tufts, NYU, Johns Hopkins, Harvard
Recognized for our excellence by colleges and universities across America.

Community Classified

Call (908) 686-7850

SALES HOURS

Place your ad online 24/7 with Ad Owl
http://www.localsource.com
or call a Classified Consultant
Monday through Friday
9:00 AM - 5 PM

ADDRESS

Classified Advertising
Worrall Newspapers
P.O. Box 3109
Union, NJ 07083

Phone: 908-686-7850 Fax: 908-686-4169

Offices where ads can be placed in person:

UNION COUNTY
1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union

ESSEX COUNTY
463 Valley Street, Maplewood
266 Liberty Street, Bloomfield

NEWSPAPERS

UNION COUNTY
Union Leader
The Eagle
The Progress
The Observer

ESSEX COUNTY
News-Record of Maplewood & South Orange
West Orange Chronicle • East Orange Record
Orange Transcript • The Glen Ridge Paper
Nutley Journal • Belleville Post
Irvington Herald • Vailsburg Leader
The Independent Press of Bloomfield

RATES

CLASSIFIED RATES
20 words or less.....$20.00 per insertion
Additional 10 words.....$6.00 per insertion
Display Rates.....$25.50 per column inch
Contract Rates Available
Blind Box Number.....$20.00 per insertion

BEST BUY

CLASSIFIED COMBINATION RATES
Ad appears in all 14 newspapers
20 words or less.....$30.00 per insertion
Additional 10 words.....$10.00 per insertion
Display Rates.....$47.50 per column inch
Contract Rates Available

DEADLINES

In-column 3 PM Tuesday
Display - Space reservation 5 PM Friday
Ad Copy 12 noon Monday
Business Directory 4 PM Thursday

ADJUSTMENTS

Adjustments: We make every effort to avoid mistakes in your classified advertisement. Please check your ad the first day it runs! We cannot be responsible beyond the first insertion. Should an error occur please notify the classified department. Worrall Community Newspapers, Inc.. shall not be liable for errors or omissions in cost of actual space occupied by item in which error or omissions occurred. We can not be held liable for failure, for any cause, to insert an ad. Worrall Community Newspapers, Inc. reserves the right to reject, revise or reclassify any advertisement at any time.

CHARGE IT

All classified ads require prepayment.
Please have your card and expiration date.

VISA DISCOVER MasterCard AMERICAN EXPRESS

SPECIALS

EMPLOYMENT

20 words $23.50 or $33.50 combo
All ads include fax or email link upgrade to allow applicants to ***apply online***

GARAGE SALES

30 words $31.00 or $45.00 combo
Garage Sale signs, price stickers, balloons, helpful hints, inventory sheet and Rain Insurance.

ECONOMY CLASS

20 words $8.00 or $12.00 combo items for sale under $200.00 One item per ad price must appear.

AUTOS FOR SALE

20 words - 10 weeks $39.00 or $59.00 combo no copy changes

SEARCH or PLACE YOUR LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS ON THE INTERNET http://www.localsource.com

E-Mail your ad to us at class@thelocalsource.com OR Fax: your ad to us at (908) 686-7850

EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED

$1,000-$3,425 WEEKLY!! Typing From Home. Data Entry Workers Needed Online Immediately. Everyone Qualifies. No Experience Required. Never Leave Your Home. NO Selling. Amazing Opportunity! Guaranteed Program! www.DataEntryPro.com

$1750 WEEKLY Income!! Nationwide Company Now hiring Envelope Stuffers! Easy Work From Home! Exciting Bonuses! Written Guarantee! Free information: Call Now 1-800-480-9440

1000 ENVELOPES= $5000. Receive $5 for every envelope stuffed with our sales material. Guaranteed! Free Information: 24 hour recording 1-800-423-2089.

$1325 WEEKLY POSSIBLE!! Earn Cash Daily! Stay Home! Mailing our brochures. Real Opportunity. Free info! Call Now 1-800-679-1640 24 hours

2006 Postal Positions $14.80-$36.00+/hr. Federal hire with full benefits. no Exp. Apply Today 1-866-297-7126 ext. 215

AIRLINE MECHANIC-Rapid training for high paying Aviation Career. FAA predicts severe shortage. Financial aid if qualify. Job Placement assistance. Call AIM 888-246-4723.

AVERAGE POSTAL employee earns $57,000/year minimum. Starting pay $18.00 hour. Benefits/paid training and vacations. No experience needed. 1-800-554-1775 reference #4301.

AVON REPS Wanted(all areas). Unlimited Earnings Potential, Health Insurance, Savings Plan, Scholarship Programs, Free Training. Start Today -$10.00 Call 973-761-4644.

BOROUGH OF KENILWORTH
SENIOR CLERK/DEPUTY
BOROUGH CLERK'S OFFICE

Full Time position. Requires strong written skills, ability to multi-task: attendance at night meetings: transcription skills and numerous varied duties. Knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel required. Good benefits.

Contact the Borough Clerk at 567 Boulevard, Kenilworth, NJ 07033 for an application. EOE

Billing Clerk
Part Time

Long Term Care facility in West Orange seeks billing clerk for part time position, 15-18 hours per week. Must have PC literacy and good aptitude with numbers. Ability to multi task. Strong follow through and phone skills required.
Submit resume with salary requirements to: Daughters of Israel-HR, 1155 Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange, NJ 07052. Fax to: 973-731-4961.
email:sgoodman@doigc.org
web site-www.doigc.org

BUS DRIVER - Part Time driver needed for PM rush hour shuttle. Valid commercial driver's license, Class B with passenger endorsement is required. Applications available at Borough Clerk's Office, 110 East Westfield Avenue, Roselle Park. Call 908-245-0666 for further information.

HELP WANTED

BOROUGH CLERK
Borough Of Roselle, Union County
Candidate must hold a Registered Municipal Clerk certification. Seeking a highly motivate and organized individual capable of handling multiple tasks and able to effectively supervise staff. Must have strong communication and customer service skills. Salary dependent of qualifications and experience. Excellent benefits package offered. Please send resume, cover letter and salary history to Dave Brown, Borough Administrator, 210 Chestnut Street, Roselle, NJ 07203.

Classified Representative
Worrall Community Newspapers is seeking a person to work in the classified department of our 14 weekly community newspapers in Essex and Union Counties. Will answer inbound calls and make outbound sales calls to generate new business. Will train qualified individuals. Must type 40 WPM and have basic computer skills. Must be customer oriented with good phone etiquette.

9 am - 5 pm, Monday thru Friday.

401K +benefits. Stop by our office at 1291 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union and fill out an application. Or fax resume: **908-686-4169** attn: Tom Y. or e-mail: **shop@thelocalsource.com**

CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL
Borough Of Roselle, Union County
A Construction license is required and Building Sub-Code and HHS licenses are preferred. Seeking customer service oriented individual who possesses strong managerial and administrative skills including ability to effectively supervise staff, enforce UCC and municipal ordinances and conduct plan review. Must have excellent oral and written communications skills. computer experience and a valid NJ driver's license are necessary. Salary is dependent on qualifications and experience. Excellent benefits package offered. Please send resume, cover letter and salary history to Dave Brown, Borough Administrator, 210 Chestnut Street, Roselle, NJ 07203.

CLERICAL/ADMINISTRATIVE Positions, US Government. Earn $12-$48/hour Full Benefits/Paid Training. Positions with US Government available. Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Wildlife and more! Toll Free 1-800-320-9353 ext 2002

CLERK - Part Time for Westfield law firm, filing, photocopying, and switchboard relief. 4 to 5 hours per day, 5 days per week. Call Mrs. Milia, 908-233-5575

COUNTER HELP , experience helpful Monday- Friday 9:00am-3:00pm. Apply in person between 2:00pm-5:00pm. Mr. Sub 641 Chestnut St, Union..

Drivers
$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$

Do you earn $52k per year?
Do you get 2 days off per week?

Drive Dedicated and, like the rest of our drivers, you'll get the pay, time-off, miles, and benefits you deserve. Current openings in your area offer familiar operation - work a set shift delivering to customer sites within 300 miles of your home. Average $1,000 per week, $52K per year, and enjoy 2 days off each week! Plus, take advantage of our full benefits options; medical, dental, vision, prescription, life, 401K retirement and more! Call today, paid orientation is available at a service center near you. Travel and meals are provided. EOE. Subj to d/s mos class A exp reg. Dump trailer exp preferred.

1-800-723-0848
$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$

DRIVERS: ARE you looking for a dedicated job to get you home more? Job openings listed in your area. Positions generally offer: Weekly home time, local runs get you home daily. Average $800 to $!000 per week. cpm earnings vary by position. Steady weekly pay, dedicated listings include owner-ops, teams, flatbed, part time, more. Check openings at www.HotDDJ.com and enter sweepstakes - one lucky class A driver will win a new Polaris ATV in March. Register by phone , learn more about jobs. Call 1-888-423-8446. CDL experience required.

DRIVERS: AS a Class A Driver you're looking for one thing: Miles! Drive with a company that has the freight to keep you running and starts you out at 40 to 42 CPM. Assigned trucks, full benefits, home time. you can count on. EOE 3 months experience required. 1-877-452-5627.

DRIVER- Mfg. needs driver for local part pick-ups. Possibly some distant delivery's or odd jobs included. CDL Preferred. Send resume to HR Mgr. Fenevations 251 Monroe Ave. Kenilworth, NJ 07033, email rtm@fenevations.com, Fax 908-686-4749.

DRIVER COVENANT Transport. Regional Runs Available. Excellent pay and benefits Experienced drivers. Teams, O/O and students welcome. Refrigerated Now Available. 888-MORE-PAY (888-667-3729)

DRIVER/COMPANION part time. Elderly woman needs help with running errands in Morristown. Requires NJ driver's license, references, and friendly personality. Contact Irene 973-762-4352.

DRIVERS - DRIVING School graduates. Tuition reimbursement. No waiting for trainers. Passenger policy. No NYC. Guaranteed hometime. Dedicated and regional available. USA TrucK 866-483-3413.

DRIVERS:" WE HAVE IT ALL" 9 paid holiday, vacation, personal and sick pay health benefits. 401k. Average $1250 plus weekly We need 3 years experience. CDL-A Hazmat, Clean MVR. 866-476-6843.

DRIVER - LOCAL Company seeking full time person to drive van and occasional truck Monday-Friday, 8:00-4:30. Lifting required. (Dennis) 908-686-2426.

DRIVERS WANTED: Suburban Essex Cab Company seeking part/ full time help.
30- 50 hours week. Good pay. Steady work. 973-762-5700

DRIVERS - Part Time . Monday- Friday, 3 hours daily, 8.00-9:30am and 2:30-4:00pm. $10.00 per hour. Springfield, 973-379-7733.

ELECTRICIAN'S HELPER. Will train dependable person commercial wiring. Call 732-574-1984

EXECUTIVE LEVEL PAY without executive level stress. Working part time from home 1-800-582-2772

EMT'S CERTIFIED, All shifts, top pay. Maplewood. Call: 973-313-0221.

GENERAL OFFICE Help. Looking for full time person with basic computer and customer service skills. Excellent benefits with 401K program. Call Murphy for an interview. Monday - Thursday, 9:00am to 5:00pm or fax to: 908-928-1603.
e-mail mou-@lacklandselfstorage.com

Local P&D and Dedicated Road Opportunities Now Available

Central Transport and its local service provider, JWA, are seeking drivers for local P&D and dedicated road runs from our terminals in SECAUCUS and SOUTH PLAINFIELD.
These are career opportunities with a stable, rapidly growing carrier that offers excellent wages and opportunity.

Home Daily / No Weekends!
Local - $18.80/hr to start w/LTL experience
Road - $950/wk
$18/hr to start for dock work
Vacation / Holiday Pay
Health Benefits

CDL A with hazmat Required
Minimum 6-12 Months Experience

What Are You Waiting For?
Stop By or Call Recruiting Today:
(800) 331-1176
email: jwacorp@yahoo.com

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR with black seal license needed for Westfield Presbyterian Church to supervise staff of 4, perform minor repairs. Salary based upon experience. Send resume to 908-317-9218 or lisadumont@westfieldpc.org.

MOVIE EXTRAS* Earn $150-$300 Per Day. All Looks, Types Needed. TV, Music, Videos, Commercials, Film, Print, No Experience necessary. Call 7 days 1-800-260-3949 ext. 3002

MEDICAL ASSISTANT/Medical Biller needed in a busy office. Computer experience necessary. Please fax resume to: 973-736-8964, Attention Sandy.

MOVIE EXTRAS, Actors, Models! Make $100-$300/day No Exp. Reg., FT/Pt All looks needed! 1-800-714-7341.

NURSING
VITAS, the nation's leading provider of hospice care, currently has opportunities for dedicated caregivers to join our team serving patients and families throughout North Jersey;

BE PART OF OUR TEAM!
Experience the satisfaction of one-on-one patient care!

RNs
Per Diem- Flexible hours

Continuous Care
LPNs- Primarily nights
CHHAs/CNAs- Dual certification preferred

For immediate consideration, e-mail your resume to doreen.foy@vitas.com, or fax to 732-544-3891. Please visit our website to apply online at: www.vitas.com, and view the video message from our staff to you entitled "Consider a Career in Hospice."
EOE/AA/M/F/D/V.
VITAS
Innovative Hospice Care

HELP WANTED

PRODUCTION WORKER Wanted. No experience required. Full Time. 7:30-4:00pm. Orange location. Call Dan, 973-673-8349

RECEPTIONIST;SUMMIT-based company seeks receptionist/ office adman. Duties include telephone answering, filing, and other administrative functions. Knowledge of Micro Soft Office a plus. Pleasant office environment., competitive benefits. Please fax credentials to: Mr Maltino, CSO 908-522-1644.

RETAIL - BUSY optical office looking for part time days, evenings, Saturdays. No experience necessary, we will train.908-686-6814 or 973-338-7575.

Social Service Field Support Worker

Part Time 20 hours per week. Applicant must have a car to use for work and valid NJ Driver's License. Travel expenses are reimbursed. Requires contact with Kinship families, scheduling home visits, assessing eligibility, intake and assessment form and matching services with available resources. Serving the Eastern Union County and Upper Middlesex county area. Will train. Send resume to Pat Nardone @ The Children's Home Society of NJ, 635 S. Clinton Ave, Trenton, NJ 08611, fax 609-394-5769,email pnardone@chsofnj.org

SALES REPRESENTATIVES, We are so confident in our leads we pay you to run then even if you don't sell.
Are you a self motivated positive person? Are you presently earning $1000-$1500 per week? Qualified guaranteed income during training period. Qualified $2000 SIGN ON BONUS. We offer... a solid training program with 2-3 Pre-set qualified confirmed leads daily. With our "NEW" credit process means all leads are pre-approved before you run the appointments. Management opportunities. Unlimited income potential. Call Eric 888-566-9144.

SECRETARY - The Borough of Mountainside is seeking service minded, energetic, self-motivating person to fill the position of Secretary for the Building, Zoning, Engineering, and Public Works departments. Duties include: initial contact with residents and contractors, phone work, filing and correspondences. Excellent benefits, 35-hour work week and a great office atmosphere! Please fax resumes Attention: George McGrath at 908-232-6902.

HELP WANTED

SALESPEOPLE FULL & Part time people needed to fill sales/stock positions for busy hardware store. Right candidate must have great communication skills, be organized, able to handle multiple challenges, & work well under pressure. Must be able to work nights & weekends. Bilingual applicants a plus Please call 973-923-1234.

SECRET SHOPPERS NEEDED For Store Evaluations. Get Paid to Shop. Local Stores, Restaurants & Theaters. Training Provided, Flexible Hours, Email Required 1-800-585-9024 ext. 6333.

SECRET SHOPPERS needed . Pose as customers for store evaluations. Local stores, restaurants and theaters. Training provided. Flexible Hours, E-mail required. 1-800-585-9024 ext. 6069

THE NEW Jersey Air National Guard is looking for young men and women. Get free college tuition. Free vocational training, college credits. Call 1-866-466-5264. www.108arw.ang.af.mil.

This is creating MILLIONAIRES! Earn $1,000. Daily with absolute proof! 97% of this business is automated! "Three Step Success System". 24hr info line: 1-800-887-1897.

THERAPIST: GHS Child & Parent Services SLP, "CF", OT, PT positions available in Passaic, Essex, Hudson, Bergen and Morris Counties. Great Benefits-Sign on bonus. 212-684-0077 ext 103; 973-641-3770.

THOMPSON & CO. is looking for people who want to learn the auto parts business. Advancement available for eager and intelligent workers. Hiring day shifts, night shifts, and drivers. 908-688-5600.

WESTFIELD PRESBYTERIAN Church seeks secretary to create newsletter, flyers and plan trips and special events. Must be organized, creative and proficient in Word or Wordperfect. Send resume to (908)317-9218 or lisadumont@westfieldpc.org.

ADVERTISE TODAY!
CLASSIFIED ADS GET RESULTS!
CALL US AT
908-686-7850

A free press
is the strength behind democracy.

At Worrall community Newspapers, reporters learn what it takes to become good reporters. Why? Because reporting for one or more of our weekly newspapers means becoming involved in the communities we serve. From news stories to features, from council coverage to police blotters, from community events to the Board of Education, reporters are the eyes and ears of all of our readers.
Worrall Newspapers, which publishes 18 newspapers serving 26 towns, has openings for reporters in its Essex and Union County regions. If you think you have what it takes to be a reporter, send resume and clips to Tom Canavan, P.O. Box 3109, Union, N.J. 07083, or fax to (908) 686-4169.

Be part of a company whose mission is to preserve democracy.

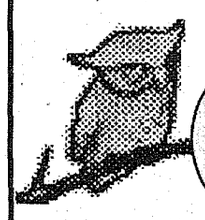
Worrall Newspapers is an equal opportunity employer.

ADVERTISING SALES SUPPORT

Worrall Community Newspapers is looking to fill (2) Advertising sales support positions. Ideal candidate will have the opportunity to grow within the company. Strong customer service and telemarketing skills are necessary to excel in this position. Position has flexible hours.
Send resume to Jornegri@thelocalsource.com.
Fax: 908 686-4169 or call for
an appointment 908-6876-7700 Ext. 149.

ADVERTISING SALES

Worrall Community Newspapers is looking for aggressive sales people for outside Advertising sales. Salary and commission, car allowance, health and 401K benefits available.
Send resume to Jornegri@thelocalsource.com.
Fax: 908 686-4169 or call for
an appointment 908-6876-7700 Ext. 149.



WHY WAIT FOR TOMORROW WHEN YOU CAN DO IT *NOW*
Place A Classified Ad To Your Convenience With *AD OWL*
Any Day, Any Time

Worrall Community Newspaper's 24/7 Online Classified Ad Taking Application

Ad Owl will alloy you to build your own ad, preview it, and pay for it on line using any major credit card.
Ad Owl web site will be secured using 128-bit encryption, so you can feel safe about using your credit card online.
Ad Owl wants you to view the price and ad before paying for it.

www.localsource.com

Choose a County, a publication and *Ad Owl* will help you build your Classified ad

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EACH WEEK hundreds of Public Notices are published in New Jersey's daily and weekly newspapers! The New Jersey Press Association has created a Internet database where these notices are posted, njpublicnotices.com. You have access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to statewide sheriff sales, foreclosures, RFP, bids for schools, town meetings, variances, plus many other types. Search for notices manually or subscribe to Smart Search and have notices sent to your email address automatically. Go to: www. njpublicnotices.com for more information and to subscribe

PERSONALS

ADOPTION: A childless married couple seeks to adopt newborn. . Will have a stay-at-home parent Financial security. Expenses paid. Alison & Dean. (ask for Erin/Adam) 1-800-841-0804.

PREGNANT THINKING Adoption? Talk with caring people specializing in matching birthmothers with loving families nationwide. Expenses paid. Toll Free 24/7. One True Gift Adoptions. 866-921-0565.

INSTRUCTION

SELF IMPROVEMENT

TRAIN AT HOME. Become a Pharmacy Technician-Paralegal- Medical Office Assistant. Call 1-800-625-7053.

MISCELLANEOUS

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

$1,000 GIFT DONATE your car. Free fast pick-up. Max IRS deduction. Abused women's network 1-800-307-3682 Se Habla Espanol.

BEDROOM SET- 8 pc cherry sleigh bed, dresser, mirror, chest and 2 nite stands. . New in box. Value $3500 sacrifice $1675 Can deliver. 732-259-6690

BEDROOM SET- sleigh bed, triple dresser, w/mirror, chest and nite stand. . New in box. Value $2300 sell $975 Can deliver. 732-259-6690

Discount Smokes! Marlboro $28.49/carton, Newport $24.99. Premium cartons from $10.99. 30 day satisfaction quarantee. New Customers get $5 off. Ordersmokesdirect.com or call toll free 866-215-1069.

DINING ROOM SET double pedestal table 6 chairs, lighted hutch buffet. New in box. list $3000 sell $1475 Can deliver! Call 732-259-6690

FREE DIRECTV Satellite for 4 rooms. Free Tivo/DVR and HDTV. 220 Channels including locals. $29.99/month. First 500 orders get FREE DVD Player. 800-360-9901. Promo #14700

MATTRESS SETS- New pillow top, Brand name new in plastic with warranty. Queen $135, King $195. Call: 732-259-6690

ESTATE/HOUSE SALE

ESTATE SALE 1616 Andrew St. N., UNION Fri. & Sat., 1/27 & 28, 9-3 Retro 50s Eames-style DR & BR sets; day beds, silver, chests, trunks, bar stools & beer adv., Hi-Fi & records, game table, 60s kitchenette, bric-a-brac, lots of costume jewelry; kitchen, linen, basement, garage & flowerpots. Dir: Morris Ave or Vauxhall to Burnett to R on Stanley Terrace to L on Andrew St. N. Absolutely no checks accepted! No calls or early birds.

EAST ORANGE, Apartment Sale, 299 South. Harrison Street, Apt 4AW, January 29 to February 5th. Unique Queen bedroom set, dark wine leather sofa set $1K, 7" Plasma Tv $150 with warranty, Tons of miscellaneous items, new nursing uniforms $7.00. All sizes. Also loving chihuahua needs good home. (Missy) 973-223-6815.

WANTED TO BUY

ANTIQUE & OLDER FURNITURE,

Dining Rooms • Bedrooms,

Breakfronts • Secretarys, Etc.

Call Bill

973-586-4804

AAAA LIONEL, American Flyer, Ives and other trains and old toys. Collector pays highest cash prices. 1-800-464-4671, 973-425-1538.

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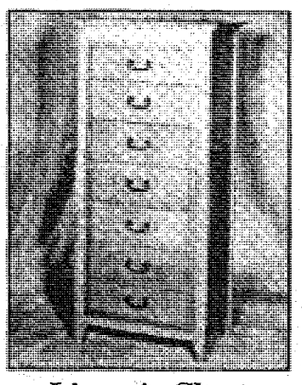
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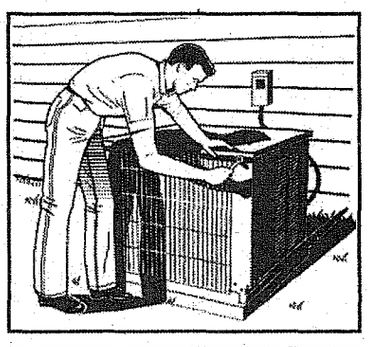
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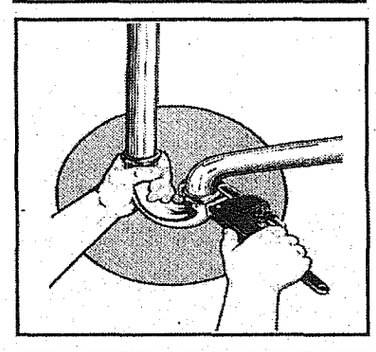
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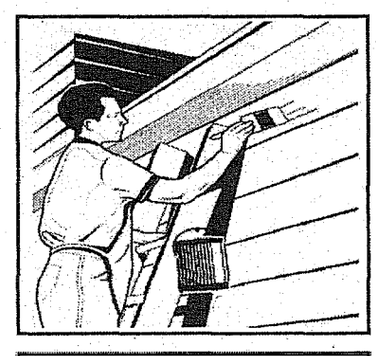
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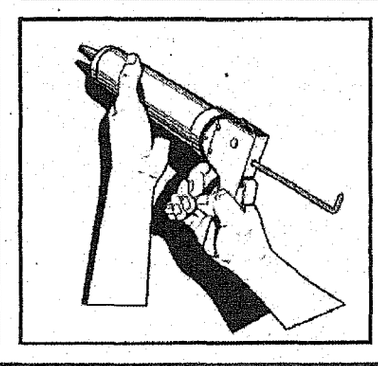
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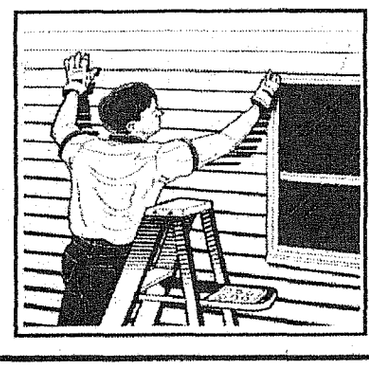
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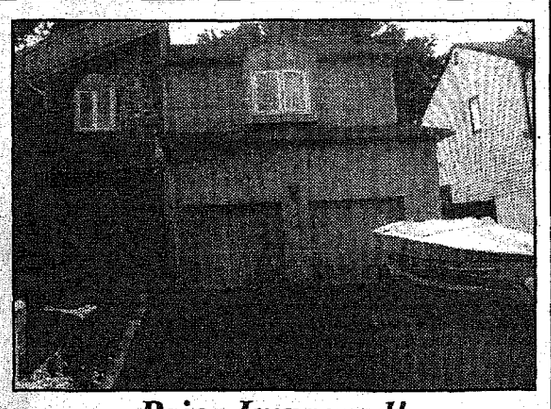
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REAL ESTATE

The house of the future may arrive sooner than you expect

If the phrase "The House of the Future" makes you think of old reruns of "The Jetson's," think again. Recent innovations in intelligent home design won't turn your house into a Space Age marvel or a jumble of confusing gadgets, but they will help it run more efficiently and economically. Plus, it will allow you to make changes now to ensure you can stay and live in your home safely for years to come.

So nix your preconceptions — the future of home design is all about technology, planning and simplicity. These are the hottest innovations riding the wave of the future, and some simple ways to plan for your future too.

Home Automation Systems

Automated home technology is used to make the electronic devices around your home act "smart." It can link common devices like telephones, security systems, fire alarms, lighting and even personal computers.

For example, you can connect all your light fixtures together in one control center allowing you to adjust the lights and settings for your home with an indoor keypad or remote. Program lights to turn on automatically to safely illuminate the walkway from your garage to your backdoor when you get home at night.

Use the keypad in your bedroom to shut off lights before going to bed. You can also program your system to automatically adjust to time of day, or to turn on when it senses motion in a room.

More advanced systems monitor the temperature in your home throughout the day and can be programmed to make adjustments. Imagine your home "knowing" it should open or close the blinds or drapes.

It would also be able to alter the heat or air settings to maintain even and consistent temperatures, providing energy savings as well.

In addition to temperature and lighting systems, another way of automating your home is through the Internet. A networking system can enable the computers in your home to communicate with each other.

The major benefit of this system is that all computers have instant Internet access at the same time, and they can all connect to one common printer.

By hooking your telephones into the computer network, you can use them as an intercom to call the family to dinner, or even transfer calls to other rooms in the house for added convenience.

Safety Monitoring

An important advantage of the new automated systems is their ability to monitor and communicate the health and safety of the home's occupants. Through the automated home system, wireless technology allows information to be communicated directly to health professionals, police and fire departments.

Home medical equipment can be linked to the automated network to provide remote readouts of the user's medical status on a daily basis. Physicians, visiting nurses or concerned family members can use this information to determine if there is a medical emergency before there really is one.

In addition, these remote services enable health-care professionals to stay in touch with the homeowner, encourage them to take their medication and be available around the clock in case of a true medical emergency.

Some systems are more expensive to install than others, but review the options you think you may need to allow you to live independently in your home.

Many home automation systems can be installed during the construction phase with a low-voltage cabling network while the walls are still open.

In a finished home, electric wiring or radio frequency airwaves are a more cost-effective means to wire your home. An electrician should only need to make minor changes in running your normal cables.

Intelligent design is about more than just incorporating new technology. As you begin creating a plan to stay in your home in your elder years, consider making some physical changes to your house to ensure your safety and the safety of others as well.

Bathroom Modifications

This room presents the most concern for both children and aging adults alike. More than 400 people a day go to hospital emergency rooms because of falls in the bathtub alone.

To prevent accidents in the bath, make sure your tub/shower surface and flooring are non-skid by placing a tub mat or tub treads, designed specifically for this area, onto the floor surface in the tub and shower.

If you have difficulty stepping into and out of the tub, invest in a tub grip or transfer bench to make this transition safer. All tub and shower areas should have at least one grab bar in the tub/shower for support and use a shower chair and handheld shower if you become fatigued after standing up for too long.

In newer construction, consider a stand alone shower that is wide enough to accommodate a wheel chair and has a built in shower bench. Make sure to include a grab bar in this configuration too.

The average toilet seat is 14-inches off the ground, which can be too low for individuals with arthritis, knee or back problems. Raising the height of the toilet seat to 17-inches can make a big difference.

This can be accomplished with special toilets or the use of an elevated toilet seat that attaches to standard toilets.

The benefit of an elevated toilet seat is that it can easily be added or removed as needed.

Many people worry that making adjustments in the bath with safety items makes the room look clinical. Fortunately, you don't have to install institutional-looking items in your home.

Take a look at the line of bath safety items from Home Care by Moen. Their line of ADA-compliant products for the bath combine safe, solid construction with an appealing, stylish design and include a dual tub grip, a transfer bench, a shower chair, locking elevated toilet seat and decorative grab bars that resemble towel bars for décor-friendly safety.

Don't forget to make safety modifications to the rest of the home. Add handrails to steps, both indoors and out, to give added security when climbing stairs.

Consider expanding doorways throughout your home to accommodate wheelchairs or walkers. If you don't have the luxury of building a new home, there are special hinges available to give doors more space to swing open in either direction, allowing for more room to maneuver as well.

Keep hallways clear of furniture and clutter to maintain easy access in moving about. Install carpeting with a low pile, like a Berber, or use two-sided tape to keep area rugs adhered safely on the floor to eliminate the possibility of slips or falls.

In the kitchen, it may be beneficial to invest in new cabinets that give you the flexibility to customize the configuration of the shelves and drawers to meet your future needs. For example, some cabinets are available with adjustable heights so you can open them from a standing or seated position, as from a wheelchair. Another alteration is to add turntables or pull-out shelves to cabinets to make it easier to reach and find items without having to bend over and put pressure on your knees and back.

Start planning now for a home that can grow old with you. By incorporating some of these tips, you can successfully have a home of the future, for your future.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Belas joins RE/MAX

RE/MAX 2000 has announced the addition of its newest sales associate, Katia Belas. Belas, of Elizabeth, specializes in the listing and sale of residential properties throughout Union and Essex counties.

"RE/MAX is an exceptional real estate organization," said Belas. "RE/MAX allows its associates the freedom to run their own business while providing services that are unmatched in the industry."

To contact Belas, call RE/MAX 2000 at 908-353-7700, or log on to her Web site, www.kbelas.remax-nj.com.

DiGena is with RE/MAX

RE/MAX Properties Unlimited in Colonia has announced the addition of its newest sales associate, Stephanie DiGena. Formerly of RE/MAX Allied in Mountainside, DiGena specializes in the listing and sale of residential properties throughout Union and Middlesex counties.

DiGena has been a resident of Union for 10 years. An active member of her community, DiGena is a Brownie Troop Leader, a member of the Washington School PTA, and a member of Holy Spirit Church.

To contact Stephanie DiGena, call RE/MAX Properties Unlimited in Colonia at 732-382-0200, or log on to her Web site, www.sdigena.remax-nj.com.

Crites-Carloto picked to head Summit office of Prudential properties

Prudential New Jersey Properties has announced the appointment of Kim Crites-Carloto as manager of the company's Summit office.

"As a sales associate, Kim proved herself to be an invaluable resource to the Summit office," Says William O. Keleher, Jr., chairman and CEO of Prudential New Jersey Properties. "I am confident that she will flawlessly assume the role of the office's leader."

A licensed real estate professional for 18 years, Crites-Carloto has been sales associated in the Prudential New Jersey Properties Summit office for the last 13 years. Since 1994, she has consistently been a member of the New Jersey Association of Realtors Circle of Excellence and has achieved more than $70 million in career sales. A graduate of the Realtor Institute, Crites-Carloto is a licensed broker, a certified fine homes specialist and an accredited relocation counselor fluent in Spanish and with degree in business economics from the University of California at Santa Barbara, and a Master of International Management from American Graduate School of International Management.

Located at 428 Springfield Ave., the Summit office was recently awarded Prudential Real Estate's Prestigious Round Table and Cornerstone Awards for 2004, placing it first in the Prudential Real estate Network's northern region. The office can be reached at 908-273-0400.

Send us your news

Readers of the Real Estate pages are interested in the accomplishments of their local real estate agents. It gives the section a personal feel and might influence a homeowner when they are about to select an agent to list their home or help them house hunt.


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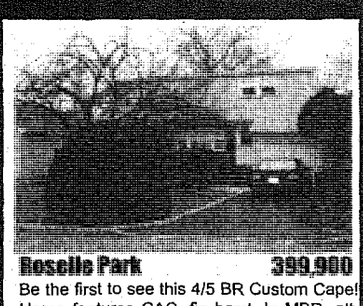

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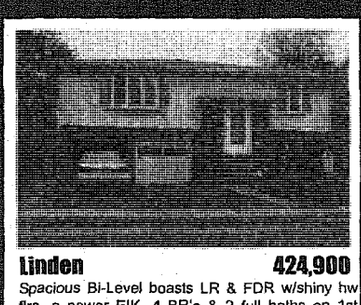
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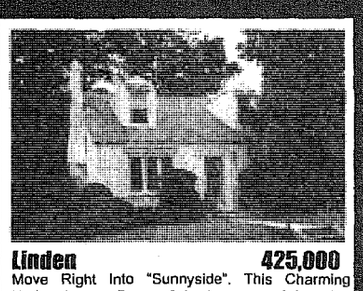

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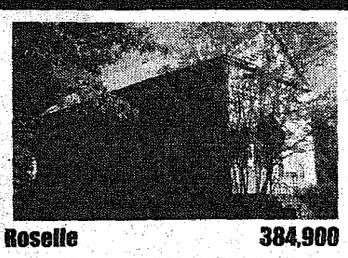

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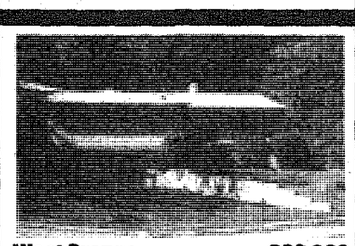

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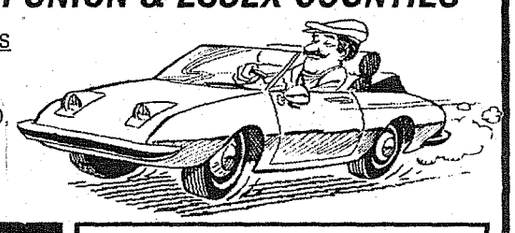
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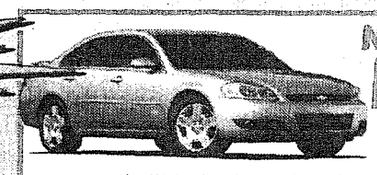
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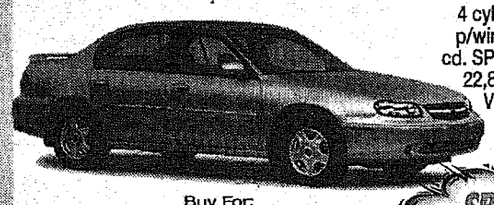
6 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS, p/winds/lks, p/seat, a/c, dual airbags, cd, keyless entry, roof rk, trailer tow pkg, alloys, BSW tires. OLD MSRP: $30,985. NEW MSRP: $28,565. Stk#60128. VIN#6214575. Price includes $1000 factory rebate.

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6 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS, p/winds/lks, a/c, cd, tilt, cruise, keyless ent, alloys, BSW tires. 24,101mi. Stk#6733. VIN#5M187611.

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4 cyl, auto, a/c, p/str/brks, am/fm stereo. AS radials. 83,487 mi. Stk#60392A. VIN#V7205779. CREAM PUFF!

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2000 CHRYSLER SEBRING CONVERTIBLE



6 cyl, auto, p/str/brks/winds, a/c, cass, alloys, tilt, cruise. 76,855 mi. Stk#60048A. VIN#6YT241485.

$7926

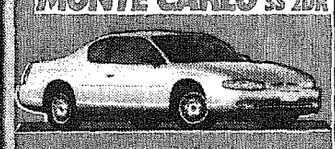
1997 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE



8 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS, p/winds/lks, p/moonrf, a/c, cass/cd, tilt, cruise, lthr int, keyless ent, alarm. 78,875 mi. Stk#6573A. VIN#VC662627.

$8726

2000 CHEVROLET MONTE CARLO SS 2DR



6 cyl, auto, p/str/brks, a/c, cass/cd, tilt, cruise, alloys. 80,667 mi. Stk#60296A. VIN#5Y9618944.

$8926

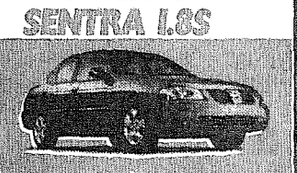
2001 CHEVROLET IMPALA LS



4 Dr, 6 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS, p/winds/lks, p/seat, pwr sun/mnrf, a/c, cass, lthr int, tilt, cruise, keyless ent, alloys, alarm. 62,380 mi. Stk#60359XA. VIN#19131435.

$9726

2004 NISSAN SENTRA 1.8S



4 cyl, auto, p/str/brks, p/winds/lks, a/c, cd, tilt, cruise, keyless ent. 24,181 mi. Stk#60236A. VIN#4L822502.

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2001 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY LTD



AWD

6 cyl, auto, p/str/ABS, p/winds/lks, p/htd seats, a/c, cass/cd, TV/VCP, lthr int, tilt, cruise, roof rk, tractn cntrl, keyless ent, alarm, radials, chrome whls. 57,736 mi. Stk#60056A. VIN#1R198564.

$10,926

1998 BMW Z-3 CONVERTIBLE



6 cyl, 5 spd, p/str/brks, p/winds/lks, a/c, cd, lthr int, alloys, BSW tires. 85,816 mi. Stk#60448XA. VIN#WLC14460.

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6 cyl, auto, p/str/brks, p/winds/lks, p/seat, a/c, am/fm/cd, keyless ent, BSW tires. 15,928 mi. Stk#6698. VIN#59339597.

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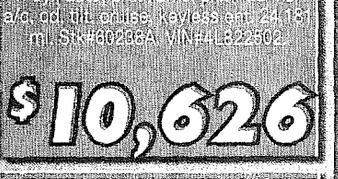
2002 FORD THUNDERBIRD CONV.



8 cyl, auto, p/roof, p/str/ABS, p/winds/lks, p/seats, lthr int, a/c, cd chngr, tractn cntrl, keyless ent, alarm, chrome whls. 24,083 mi. Stk#60858A. VIN#2Y129517.

$25,726

2005 CHRYSLER 300C 4 DR



NAVIGATION

6 cyl, autostick, p/str/ABS, p/winds/lks, p/htd seats, cd chngr, lthr int, tractn cntrl, alarm, keyless entr, chrome whls. 18,010 mi. Stk#60019A. VIN#ER522320.

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PROGRESS 2006
January 26, 2006

WORKING for the FUTURE

Ground to be broken in Rahway



The Carriage City Hotel and Tower will break ground in Rahway this year. Standing 15-stories tall, the hotel will incorporate a mixture of 102 extended-stay studios and suites along with 209 condominiums.

By Kitty Wilder
Staff Writer

RAHWAY — Redevelopment officials expect the face of the downtown business district to change greatly in 2006.

With four major projects scheduled to break ground this year, Rahway Redevelopment Agency Executive Director Peter Pelissier said this will be an "incredible" year for new development in the city.

The Carriage City Hotel and Tower, long viewed as the "cornerstone" of redevelopment in Rahway will break ground this year at the corner of E. Milton Avenue and Irving Street, according to Pelissier. Developer Silcon Group is responsible for creating the project.

Standing 15-stories tall, the hotel will incorporate a mixture of 102 extended-stay studios and suites along with 209 condominiums.

The combination of the hotel rooms and condominiums under one roof has been praised by local officials and the developer who say the structure will be popular with travelers seeking access to New York and Philadelphia.

Plans also call for 20,000 square feet of retail space and 7,000 square feet of restaurant space. A health club and a roof-top garden will also be included.

The project will pay $2 million to the Rahway Redevelopment Agency when it is completed, with the agency picking up $10,000 per unit on award of a certificate of occupancy.

Named for the city's historic ties to carriage manufacturing, the hotel is expected to be complete by spring 2007.

Just down the street, another mixed-used project is slated to bring 140 rental units and 6,000 square feet of retail space to Irving Street. The Park Square project calls for two buildings containing one- and two- bedroom apartments. One building will front Irving Street. The other will face West Main Street.

According to plans, the development will have a park and courtyard as its centerpiece.

Pelissier said he expects construction on this project to pick up with warmer weather this spring. The project witnessed several delays due to environmental work and property acquisitions last year.

Pelissier has expressed confidence in the developer, Landmark at Rahway LLC, which has at least $2 million invested in the project.

Another developer that stepped forward with large investments in Rahway last year was Dornoch Holdings LLC.

Dornoch will be responsible for two projects that will result in major changes on the Main Street side of the downtown district.

See **RAHWAY**, Page 9

Cranford Crossing begins to sprout, finally

By Robert Zullo
Staff Writer

Redevelopment in Cranford is in full swing continuing into 2006, with several major public and private projects in various stages of progression. Though some residents have expressed reservations over lasting impacts on the small-town feel of Cranford — especially in the downtown — officials are confident the new developments will have a positive effect on the township as a whole by fulfilling senior housing and parking demands, securing more tax ratables and providing a boost to downtown businesses by locating new residential units in the vicinity.

Cranford Crossing

A project almost 10 years in the making is finally sprouting up in the center of town.

By the end of the summer, work had finally begun on the long-delayed Cranford Crossing project, located on three pieces of property near the intersection of Walnut and South avenues. With the development — which consists of a municipal-funded parking garage as well as privately financed retail and residential space — going up rapidly, residents can have faith in the projected completion time frame, officials have said.

Elizabeth Arden Red Door Spa has been announced as a one of the major tenant for the retail space and is expected to open in the fall of 2006, but negotiations are being finalized with other prospective tenants.

According to Downtown Management Director Kathleen Prunty, all three buildings should be finished by late summer of 2006. She stressed that the current, Soviet-bloc style facade of the parking garage will be shielded from view by the attractive brick of the residential units, which should start going up in the next month, officials said.

"I think, once the framing starts going up, people will get the picture," Prunty said.

Riverfront

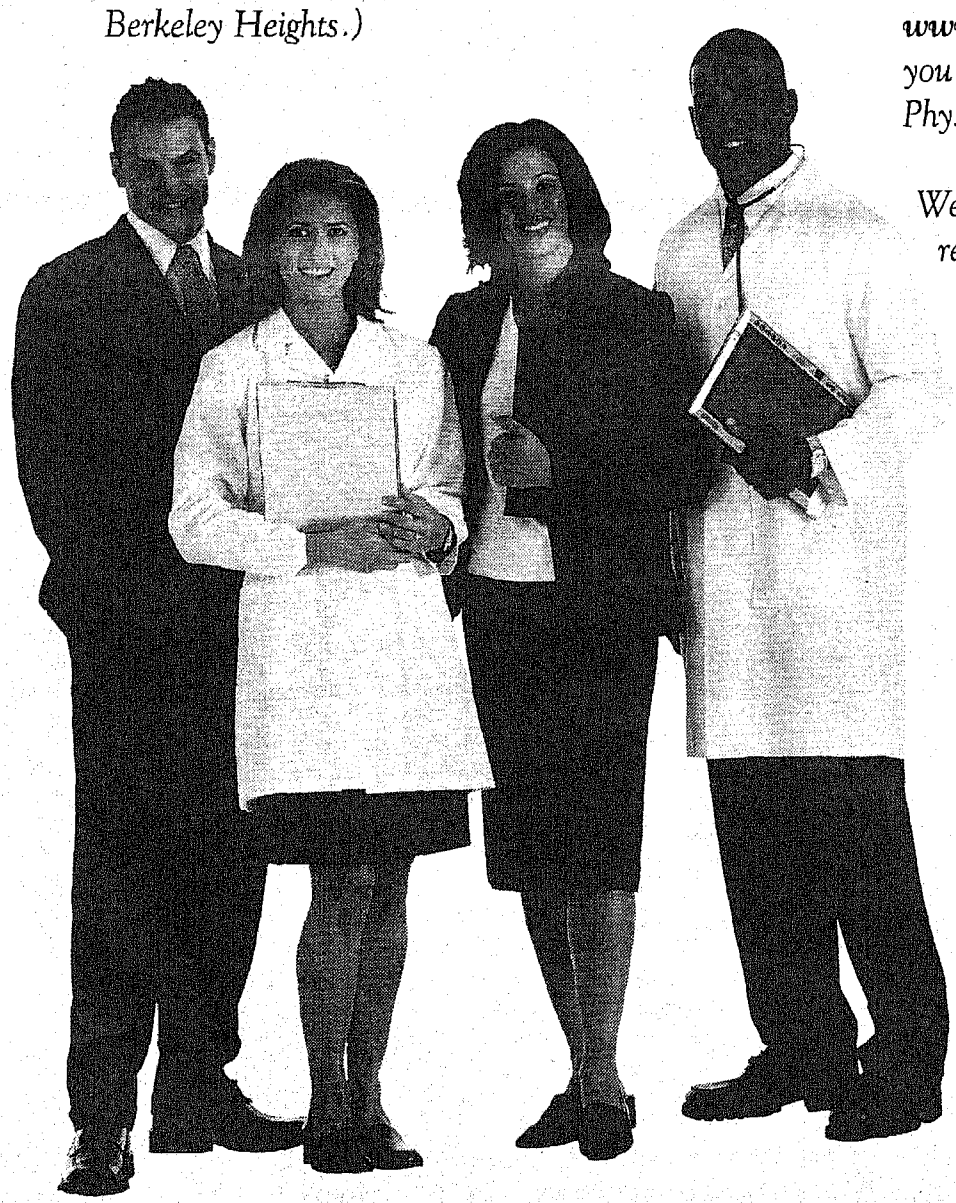
Though negotiations have been terminated with the S. Hekemian Group — the developer initially selected to handle the redevelopment of the 3.5-acre Riverfront Special Improvement District — township officials are optimistic that negotiations with a new developer will produce a better project for Cranford.

Hekemian was selected initially selected from a field of seven developers who responded to the Request For Propos-

See **RIVERFRONT**, Page 9

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Union looks to a busy year of redevelopment

By Toniann Antonelli
Staff Writer

The year 2005 proved to be a busy one in Union in terms of development, and 2006 promises to be significant as well.

In addition to several redevelopment projects in the municipality, township officials have three specific projects that will be priorities in the coming year, one of the most significant being improvements to Union Center.

Township Mayor Peter Capodice referred to a professional survey which revealed that the Union Center business district lacks adequate parking and foot traffic. Capodice said officials plan to gather input from the public to determine what other improvements are needed and how best to deal with the existing issues.

Another priority will be the continued redevelopment of the Mill Run apartment complex. One of the largest apartment complexes in the state, the complex, which borders Irvington, is under new management, and Capodice said officials will work with the mayors of Irvington and Maplewood to ensure that any improvements in that area will have a positive effect on the neighboring towns. In the coming months, the township is also hoping to find a developer for the 20-acre Tuscan Dairy site.

On Jan. 19, shoppers looking to tackle home improvement projects as part of their New Year's resolutions walked through the doors of the new Lowe's home improvement center for the first time. The new "superstore" opened its doors to the public last week in the Route 22/Morris Avenue shopping plaza that once housed Bradlees and is still home to a Toys R Us and other large retail stores.

Another project completed was the BPC Bank building on the corner of Stuyvesant and Haines avenues. The bank is part of an overall redevelopment project for that area, which will also include a Seabra's supermarket. The Seabra's development includes the bank at the site of the old Texas Wieners building, while the supermarket will occupy the rear portion of the lot just across from the American Legion Hall. Capodice said that the plan seems to be on track.

Also along the same block as the Seabra's development is the planned reconstruction of the Stop 'N' Shop on Vauxhall Road and Stuyvesant Avenue. The township has approved the $10 million redevelopment of the Stop 'N' Shop, which will be transformed into a larger, Super Stop 'N' Shop. The store will close its doors to customers this week, after which time demolition and reconstruction will begin.

Residents of Union and Hillside may also have noticed the completion of the Salem Road Bridge. The four-lane span crosses the east branch of the Elizabeth River and was completed in October after a summer of construction. The project was proposed in 2004, and construction began in June of last year. The cost of the project was estimated at $900,000 and was scheduled to run for about four months. County officials announced late last year that the bridge was completed with only minimal delays, and under budget.

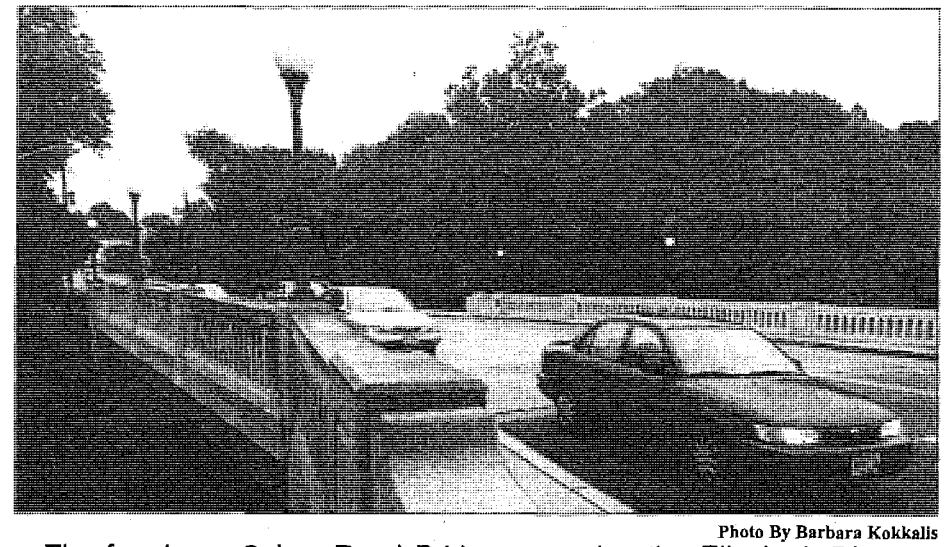


Photo By Barbara Kokkalis

The four-lane Salem Road Bridge, spanning the Elizabeth River, was completed in October.

Residents of the Vauxhall section of the township also began to use the new Vauxhall Branch library, which also opened in 2005.

Looking ahead, one of the most significant projects the township will see in the next year includes the continuation of plans for the construction of a Corporate Suites hotel at the corner of Morris Avenue and Green Lane near the Union Station railway commuter station.

The deal to build the multi-story hotel was approved at the Dec. 13 public Township Committee meeting. The agreement gives the township $1.2 million for the three acres of land and a guaranteed $500,000 a year in tax payments from the developers.

The agreement gives land ownership of the three acres of property on Morris Avenue at the northern end of the Union Station Redevelopment Zone to the hotel for $1.2 million — a price lower than market value.

The agreement also has a clause that allows the township to charge 2 percent of construction costs as the base payment. This clause could raise the base payment to a maximum payment of $700,000. Currently, the $500,000 base payment is calculated against $20 million in construction costs.

Steven Reilly contributed to this report.

Staff Writer Toniann Antonelli can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 122, or unionleader@thelocalsource.com.

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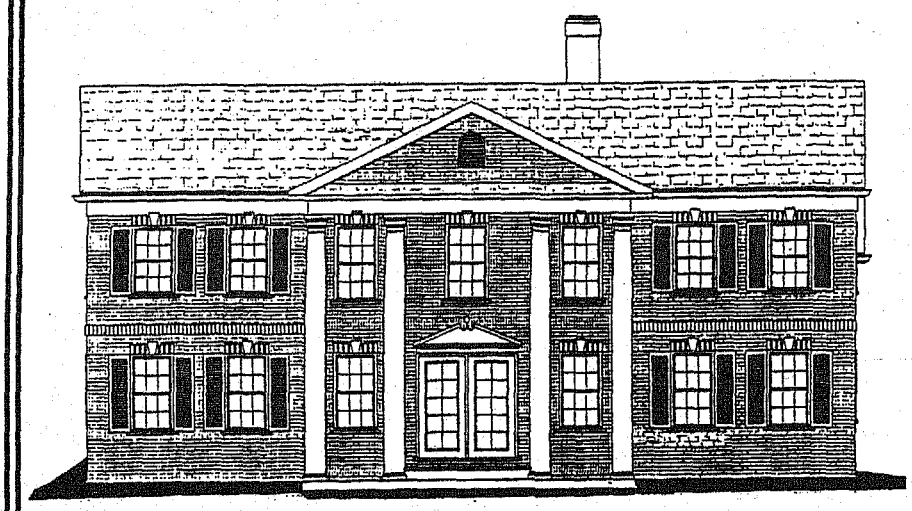
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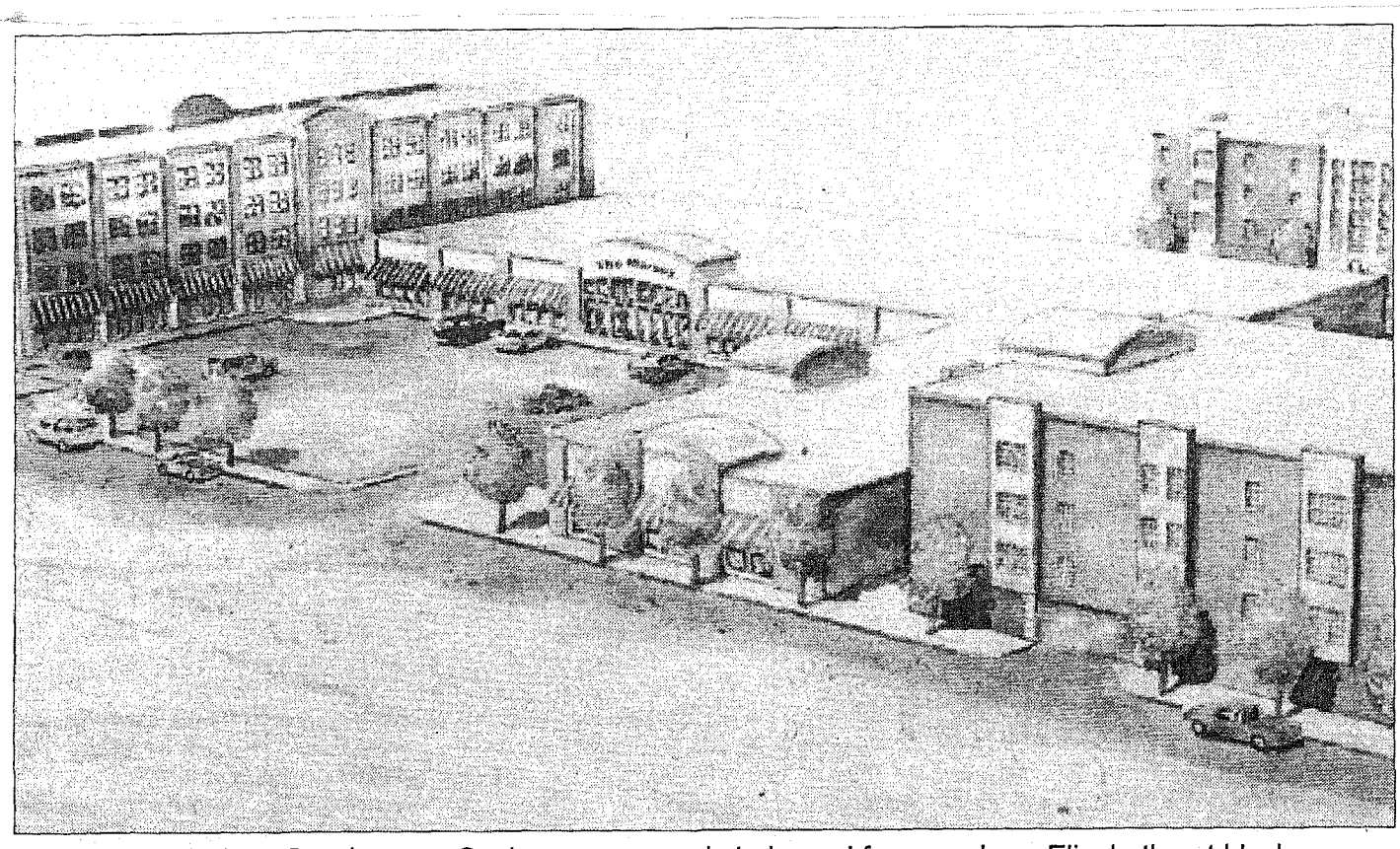
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High rise goes up in Elizabeth

By Doug McNamara
Staff Writer



The Elizabeth Development Co. has a supermarket planned for a rundown Elizabethport block.

ELIZABETH — With the construction of the tallest building in Union County and continued plans to revitalize the Elizabethport area, to name just a few projects, 2005 was a busy year for developers in the city.

Over the next year, the top floor of the Union County Courthouse, formerly the county's tallest building, will lose its unfettered view as a new 63,000-square-foot high-rise complex on the corner of West Jersey and Cherry streets is finished.

With 16 levels, the building, a project of S.U.M.O. Enterprise, will eclipse the courthouse. The new mixed-use building will include 357 apartments — of which 310 will be two-bedroom units — scattered throughout all 16 levels. A swimming pool and health club on the first level will complement the residential units.

In addition to the apartments, the building will include commercial and office space. The first and second levels will have approximately 8,600 square feet devoted to retail space, while levels two through four will have about 35,200 square feet set aside for office space.

Also, by 2007, a rundown Elizabethport block — part of which has been designated a brownfield site — will be turned into a thriving mixed-use commercial and residential area. The BFLF Land Corporation — a partnership between the Elizabeth Development Co. and the Supermarket Construction Corp. — is undertaking the project.

BFLF refers to the initials of the four streets which form the block: Broadway, First, Livingston and Front.

The need for a supermarket is particularly pressing for many of the poorer Port residents, who cannot afford to travel to supermarkets in other areas of Elizabeth or neighboring cities. Similarly, the area also needs a pharmacy for many of the same reasons. Negotiations are currently under way with both Duane Reade and CVS, said Bill O'Dea, EDC's executive director, in an earlier interview.

In addition to the supermarket and drug store, the new block will have commercial space, which a Chinese restaurant, a sandwich shop and a branch of PNC bank are currently slated to fill. There are also tentative plans to relocate the Third Street branch of the post office to the complex.

Since Elizabethport continues to face chronic housing problems, the complex will also include 70 residential units, available to rent at market rates, O'Dea said.

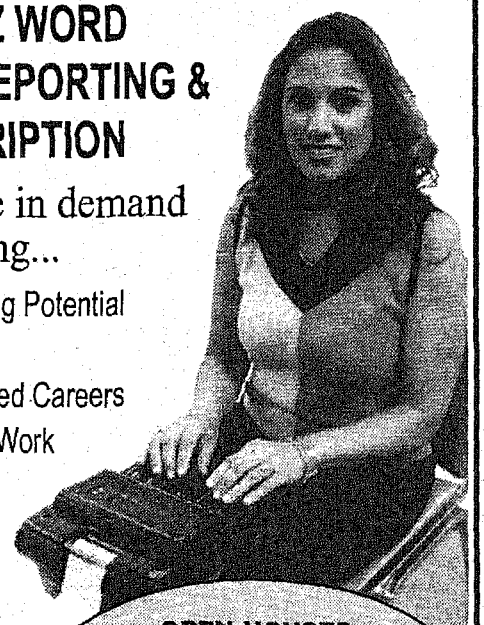
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234011

Linden, Roselle hope to revitalize St. Georges Av

By Dan Burns
Staff Writer

Any consumer who wants to can walk down St. Georges Avenue, buy some groceries, grab a fast food hamburger and check out the cars in one of many dealership lots. If they know the right corner, they can also buy cocaine and marijuana.

Both Roselle and Linden officials have wanted to revitalize the thoroughfare that forms the border between the two towns for years — some say since at least the 1960s — but the change that did occur came slowly. Now those municipal officials are working together, and they say they have most of the resources and planning in place to turn the decaying avenue into a thriving commercial center.

Using a combination of federal and state grant money, Roselle and Linden hired planners to study the properties on the avenue between the Elizabeth border and Wood Avenue. They surveyed the types of businesses already on the avenue, noted any vacant or under-used lots and studied the streetscape.

They kept in contact with each other and often worked together to ensure the project on each municipality's side of the avenue was consistent, according to the planner for the Linden side of the project, Fred Michaeli.

The assessments found a disproportionate amount of the business done on St. Georges Avenue was related to automobiles. Sit-down restaurants are scarce on St. Georges Avenue, the assessments found. Fast-food restaurants, however, are numerous.

Officials from Linden and Roselle will not base their project solely on those assessments.

They held three meetings in the fall to gather public input on what direction citizens would like to see the project go in.

Residents who commented at the Oct. 25 meeting said they want St. Georges Avenue to be a mixed residential and commercial center, with plenty of diverse businesses.

Roselle and Linden residents were tired of seeing nail salons and used car dealerships spring up on the avenue. They wanted to see health spas, gymnastics studios, ice cream parlors, florists, fresh produce stands and sit-down restaurants.

Businesses, they said, could be spaced out with small pocket parks, a community center or a satellite post office. The drug trade would vanish as the quality of life improved, some speculated.

"Maybe if we had a dance studio, it would keep our kids out of McDonald's," Roselle resident Sylvia Turnage said. "We definitely don't want another McDonald's."

Streetscape improvements will be a big part of the project, according to Michaeli and Ed Collins, the Roselle planner. Brighter lighting, more trees and a uniform sidewalk are all on the agenda. Kiosks at key intersections, like Wood Avenue, might also be used to distribute information about the two towns.

The idea of the project is to give the commercial center on the avenue a neighborhood feel, a design that was prominent in medium-sized towns before the era of suburbanization. People walking down the avenue on any given evening would probably know the local shoe repair man by name and would be likely to run into their neighbors on the street, according to Collins.

> ***'In the old days, you could do things by your. But today, with dollars as scarce as they are, you h to cooperate a little bit.'***
>
> ***— Congressman Donald P.***

Linden Chief of Police John Miliano and Roselle Chief of Police Peter DeRose announced in December they plan on resurrecting the joint patrol unit this spring, which officials believe will help decrease crime on the avenue.

The unit will patrol the area around St. Georges Avenue consistently and will be made up of one Roselle officer and one Linden officer.

There is no set time line for the project, since the two municipalities are still at the tail end of the information gathering stage, according to Roselle Mayor Garrett Smith. There is also no definite plan for property acquisition in place. Officials aren't sure yet if they'll have to acquire properties via eminent domain.

Parking will likely be an issue as the development furthers, since many establishments on the avenue currently have their own parking lot.

In the middle portion of the re ompment zone, near Chandler Avenu right lane is often filled with parked sometimes causing dangerous traffic tions, according to residents.

Officials have said they will take ing into consideration when making velopment plans, but those plans haven't been made.

Congressman Donald Payne, D-NJ, helped secure the $400,000 federal De ment of Transportation grant for this ect, thinks the cooperation between Li and Roselle could be a model for the redevelopment projects are handled ir future.

"In the old days, you could do thing yourself. But today, with dollars as sc as they are, you have to cooperate a l bit," Payne said.

The planners are now in the proces identifying specific properties on the that are ideal for redevelopment, accor to Collins.

Staff Writer Dan Burns can be reac at 908-686-7700, or at theprogress@th calsource.com.

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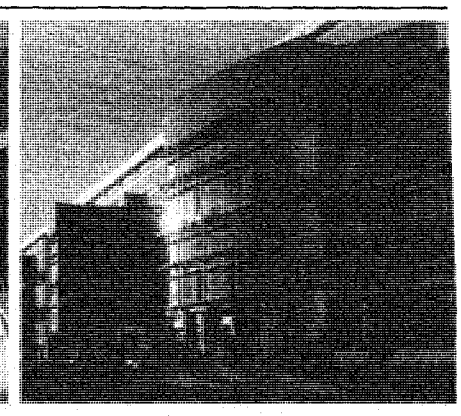
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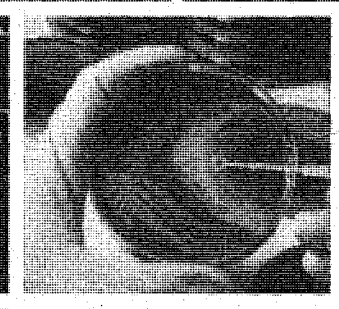
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Summit to address traffic safety, recreation fields

By Tracy A. Politowicz
Staff Writer

SUMMIT — Several redevelopment projects the city has slated for 2006 should address pedestrian safety and recreation fields, two of the hot topics of last year.

The Morris Avenue Corridor Project is underway and is expected to be completed in the fall.

This county project involves the milling and resurfacing of the mile-long stretch of Morris Avenue in Summit, starting at Route 78 and moving west to River Road.

Also, as part of the project, eight traffic signals will be replaced and new traffic signals will be installed at three intersections; Morris and Mountain avenues, Morris and Glenside avenues, and Glenside Avenue and Baltusrol Road.

All of the new traffic signals will be state-of-the-art, with a numeric "countdown," to inform pedestrians how much time remains before the light changes to green and it is no longer safe to cross the roadway.

Mayor Jordan Glatt was particularly looking forward to the installation of a signal at Morris and Glenside. He indicated it was "probably the most dangerous intersection in the city." He continued, "This is the most significant traffic project the city has seen in many years."

Once the Morris Avenue project is finished, the resurfacing of Broad Street will begin.

City Administrator Christopher Cotter explained that working on the Morris Avenue and Broad Street projects at the the same time "would be too disruptive."

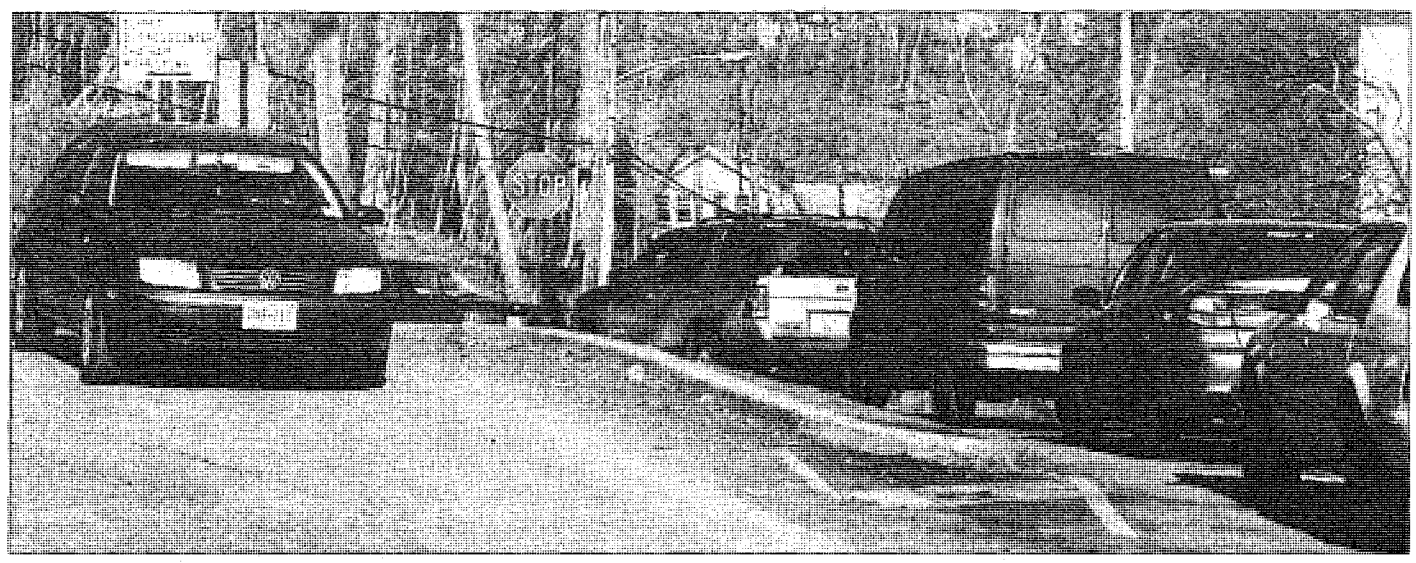


Photo By Joseph A Sorrentino.

Part of the Morris Avenue Corridor Project should include a new traffic light at Morris and Glenside avenues.

The Broad Street project will also include the rebuilding of the portion of the street near the Village Green and the replacement of existing traffic signals with those previously mentioned with a numeric countdown.

Glatt also expressed hope that the on-hold underground wiring project for Summit Avenue would resume in 2006.

The rest of the business district already had its overhead power line wiring moved underground. At the time, Summit Avenue was not considered part of downtown and was, therefore, not rewired.

Glatt indicated that aside of the aesthetic benefits of underground wiring, it also enabled "better service" to be provided to energy customers.

The Central Retail Business District Master Plan — CRBD — was adopted by the Planning Board last year and is in the process of being reviewed by the Common Council. Because the council must review each ordinance affected by the CRBD separately, Glatt noted it would probably take "most of the year" for it to be reviewed.

The purpose of the CRBD is to encourage private reinvestment in the downtown. One of its components, which generated much controversy at a planning board public hearing last year, is a proposed increase in floor-area-ratio — FAR — that would increase building heights, which would allow more commercial tenants and attract more shoppers.

Lastly, a 22-member task force was appointed by the Common Council last year to develop recommendations for the future recreational use of the 53-acre site known as the Transfer Station property, leased from the County of Union.

Currently, an environmental study of the site is being performed. Glatt noted that a master plan is expected to completed in the spring.



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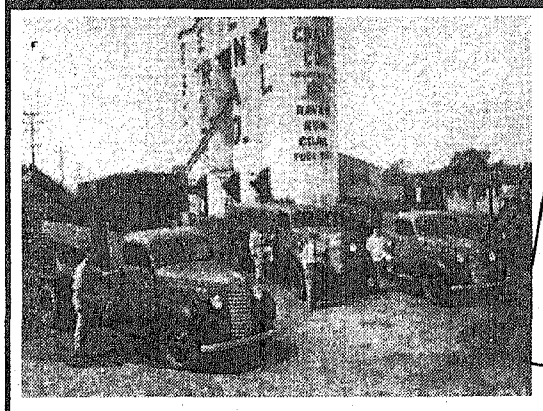
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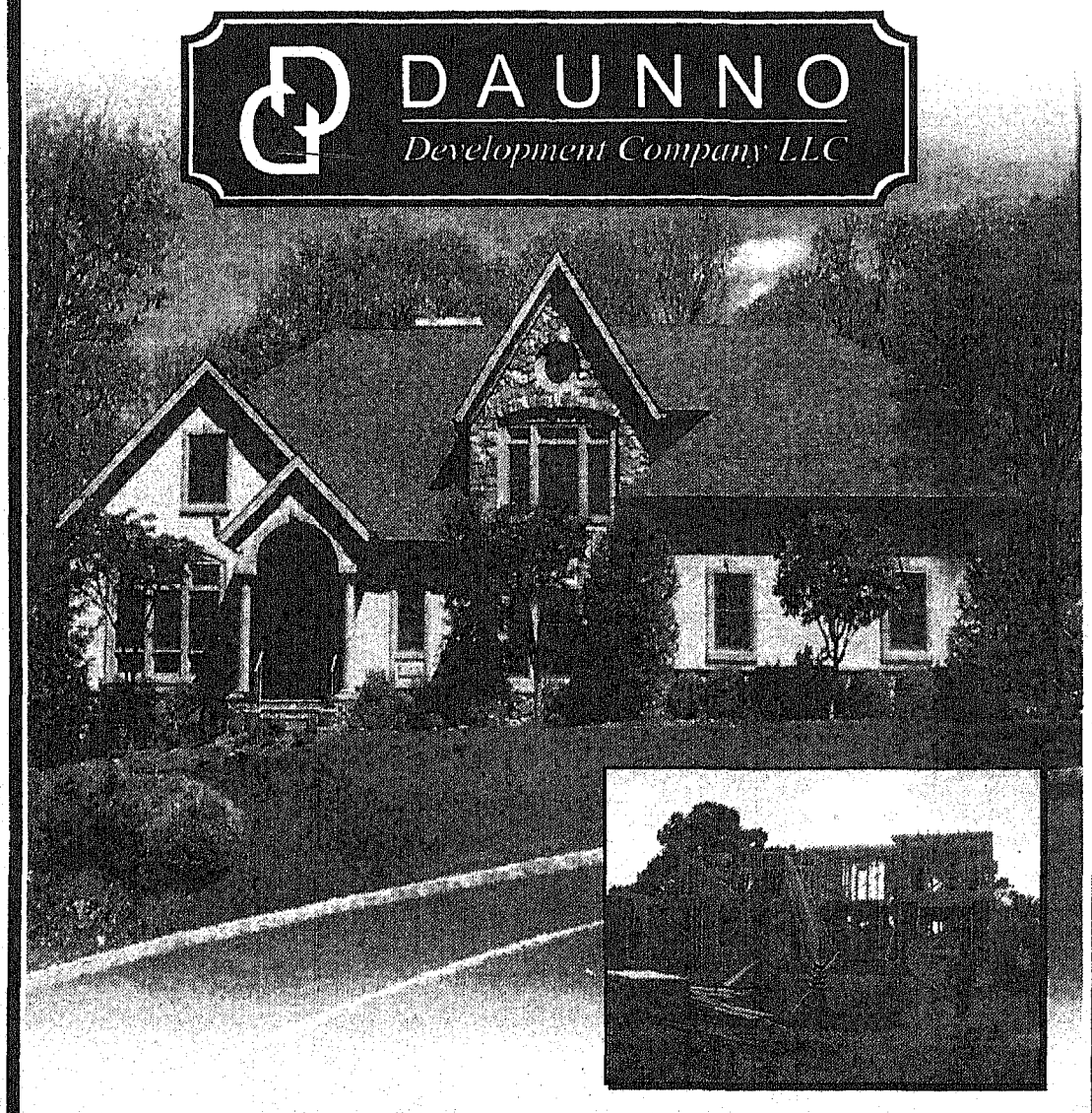
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Riverfront, senior housing among Cranford's projects

(Continued froom Page 1)

als for the site issued by the township in Sept. of 2004.

Negotiations with Hekemian began in April 2005, but the developer's unwillingness to allow the township to impose scheduling and completion dates on the project as well as Cranford's refusal to allow Hekemian to transfer ownership of the project without consent led to the stalling of talks last month, township officials said.

Mayor Dan Aschenbach said the Lincoln Property Group, Value Group, and K. Hovnanian, would be among the developers contacted to re-examine proposals for the area.

The redevelopment area, which consists of several properties near the intersection of South Avenue and High Street, was designated a Special Improvement District in 1998, allowing the town to use eminent domain under New Jersey law if some property owners choose not to sell.

Though most of the property in the redevelopment area is owned by the Holt family, several parcels are not — including the Mack house at the end of Chestnut Street, which is more than 100 years old.

According to preliminary plans, 10 to 15 townhomes are to be built on the Mack property and an adjacent municipal parking lot.

The plan is for the mixed-use structure, which will contain an array of residential, retail and office space, to encase and shield from view a large central parking garage.

Additional office and retail space may be located across the street, adjacent to the train station, and 15 townhomes are planned for a current municipal parking lot. An additional parking garage and a hotel have also been considered for the train station side of South Avenue.

The township is expected to begin reviewing new proposals within the next few months.

555 South Ave.

One of the first orders of business the 2006 Township Committee addressed when they reconvened earlier this month was granting approval to a redevelopment plan for 555 South Ave., a long vacant former railroad yard at the eastern edge of Cranford.

Cranford planning firm Harbor Consultants presented a plan for an age-restricted housing development on the five-acre site at an April 7, 2005 Planning Board meeting on behalf of property owner New Wave Technologies.

The plan subsequently went through several redrafts over the late spring and summer, with commissioners expressing concerns over density, building spacing and orientation as well as aesthetics.

The current plan, prepared by Zoning Officer Ron Meeks and consultant Stan Slachetka, of T&M Associates, is a compromise on the number of units and buildings that all parties seem to be amenable to accepting. The plan was approved by the Planning Board on Dec. 7 of last year and endorsed by the governing body Jan. 10.

Proposed are 80 units, to be "restricted for occupancy by households with at least one person 55 years of age or older and with no person less than 19 years of age."

According to the current plan, two buildings will run parallel to South Avenue and the sides of the remaining four residential buildings — which will be oriented perpendicular to South Avenue — will be made to resemble streetfront facades, Meeks said.

The orientation will allow 35 feet between buildings at the closest point, an improvement from 20 feet — a distance seen as too narrow by township officials when Ferro and Vinegra initially proposed seven buildings for the site.

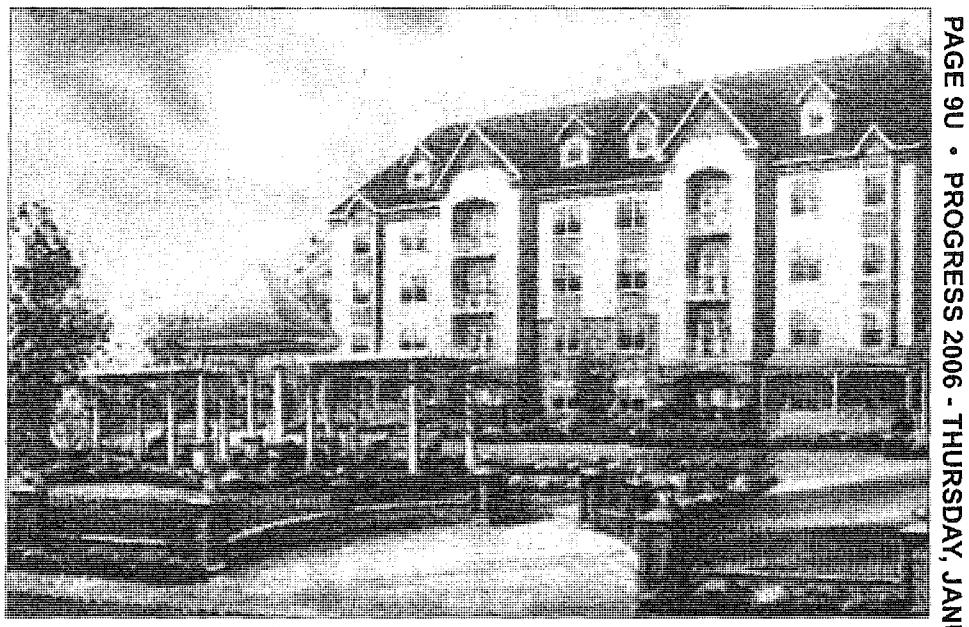
"The overall intent is to have a development that is connected to the fabric of the community and is not an enclave, while providing an attractive livable setting for the residents of the project," the plan reads.

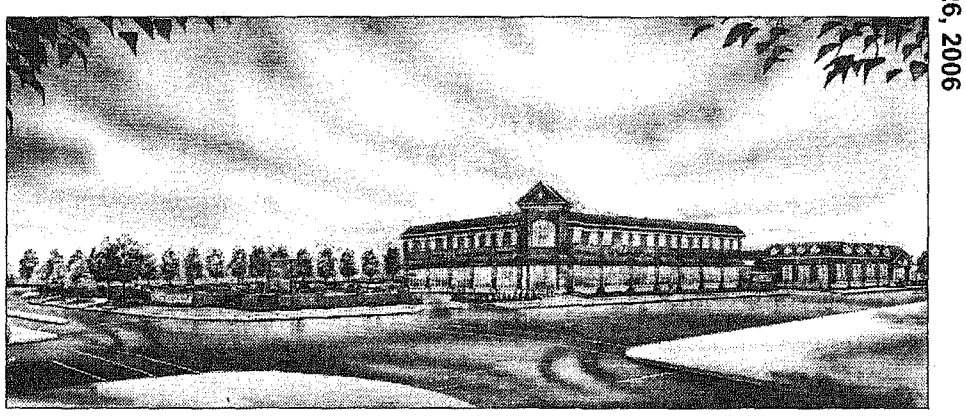
Bradley Box

Residents and visitors to Cranford can bid a fond farewell to the Bradley Corrugated Box factory, which currently looms over the intersection of South and Lincoln avenues.

The factory will be coming down to make room for a 14,700-square-foot Walgreens Pharmacy and a 3,500-square-foot Chase Bank.

The preliminary site plan for the project was unanimously approved with conditions by the Cranford Planning Board Oct. 19.





MOVIN' UP — A senior housing complex, above, is proposed for 555 S. Avenue. A Walgreens and Chase Bank, below, are proposed for the former Bradley Box site near the Garwood border.

Both businesses will include drive-through facilities.

Bradley Realty — the entity formed by property and factory owner Jim Robinson — has sought to redevelop the site since before January of 2004, when the plan was first presented to the Township Committee.

Officials had wrangled with developers and Walgreens representatives at previous meetings over parking lot and building orientation, as well as aesthetic concerns. Board members and commissioners maintained that the corner was an important entrance to Cranford and should be held to high design standards to avoid a "strip-retail" look.

The persistence won some key concessions from Walgreens, including a faux second floor to give the building some elevation, a vertical "tower" feature and a low brick wall, which will bear Cranford signage as well as shield the parking lot from view.

Robinson, in conjunction with developer Mount Airy, plans to lease the building to Walgreens and retain ownership of the Chase Bank property — though not the building — through a ground lease. He plans to relocate the box factory, but hasn't located a site as of yet.

Once a resolution memorializing the site plan is adopted by the board, any opponents of the plan will have 45 days to voice objections and/or challenge the project in court by appealing the board's ruling.

Demolition of the factory and construction of the new buildings will follow.

Rahway to break ground on four projects this year

(Continued from Page 1)

Both projects call for mixed-use developments. The first is planned for Main, Monroe and Dock streets and will incorporate 36 residential units along with 7,200 square feet of retail space.

Just across the street, Dornoch is planning on creating another project, a six-story building with about 120 luxury apartments and 20,000 square feet of retail space.

The project will include a parking garage and will altogether occupy one of the city's most prominent downtown blocks.

Together, these projects will largely re-shape the image of downtown Rahway, Pelissier said, adding that this year, "My major goal is to make sure major projects break ground and move forward."

Other projects just outside the downtown area will also add to the city's expansive redevelopment efforts.

On Essex Street, once considered among the most blighted areas in Rahway, developer Ken Schwartz of Diversified Communities has sold the first of 86 townhouses recently built along the Rahway River.

The project, named Riverwalk, includes two-bedroom units with amenities like hardwood floors, 9-foot ceilings, loft space and, in some cases, a river view.

According to Pelissier, the city will gain back the initial $1.5 million it loaned to the developer to initiate the Riverwalk project.

The city will also collect full taxes on each unit and the Redevelopment Agency will pick up a prorata share of the commission on each unit.

Just across the river, Schwartz and Diversified are pursuing another project.

Details of the potential mixed-use development have not yet been solidified, but Schwartz and Pelissier have confirmed the three-and-a-half acre site of The Center Circle — an indoor sports complex near City Hall — has been contracted by the developer.

Schwartz has said he plans on pursuing a project incorporating commercial and residential space.

The central location of the property, which is near the library, recreation center and post office makes it "the perfect spot for redevelopment," Pelissier said late last year.

Finally, in a different, but still central area of the city, preliminary plans for extensive arts facility have also been laid out by Main Street developer, Dornoch.

On the former Hamilton Laundry site on Hamilton Street, Glen Fishman, managing director of Dornoch told the Redevelopment Agency in December he plans on creating a location that will attract artists of all mediums.

With a restoration of the historic site, the creation of a Black Box theater, work space for a variety of artists, a cafe or restaurant and possibly living space, the facility will aim to highlight the city's focus on the arts.

The project is still in preliminary stages, but Fishman has said he'd like to see the arts part of the project up and running by the end of the year.

The residential component would follow. Rahway's "manageable" downtown size and the site's proximity to the train station will help make the project successful, Fishman told Redevelopment Agency commissioners. The same sentiment has been expressed by other developers.

Staff Writer Kitty Wilder can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 127, or theprogress@thelocalsource.com.

Roselle Park creates special improvement district

By Jerome Hule
Staff Writer

ROSELLE PARK — After many failed attempts in the past, Roselle Park governing body succeeded in creating a Special Improvement District for the downtown area last year. By a unanimous vote July 7, council members adopted an ordinance creating the SID.

An SID is designated for a town's business district with the aim of encouraging its development, using resources generated from special tax assessments on the businesses and property owners located within the district.

The ordinance designated 50 businesses as part of the SID, which will be run by an 11-member district management corporation. Five members of the corporation are to be appointed by the mayor while six are to be elected by and among businesses owners in the SID. The district has responsibility for carrying out special promotions, marketing, research, parking, landscaping, clean up, provision of recreational facilities and temporary decorations, among others.

The SID is expected to take off in February when Mayor Joseph DeIorio hopes to announce members of the committee. The mayor said members of the committee will set in motion the process for the election of members of the board of the management corporation.

Prior to passing the ordinance, the governing body held a special hearing to assuage the concerns of business owners about the tax impact of the SID on their businesses. The business owners were told they would be responsible for running the district, including deciding whether any any special assessments were needed. "They have to be in control of their destiny," the mayor reiterated in a recent interview.

The SID is seen as a necessary measure for the revival of the downtown area, through the attraction of new businesses and customers. A state law authorizes municipalities to create SIDs to promote economic growth and employment in their business districts.

Another major development project in the borough last year was the renovation and expansion of schools. This involved the construction of new buildings and the upgrading of facilities in the district's five schools.

In October, ground was broken for a new building at the Sherman School, the last of five projects under the district's renovation plan.

Superintendent of Schools Patrick Spagnoletti said the Sherman School project, which includes the construction of a two-story building with a lower level, would cost $2.2 million.

The Sherman School project would add two resource

Kenilworth plans new municpal, police building

By Jerome Hule
Staff Writer

KENILWORTH — The governing body on Dec. 13 approved a proposal for the construction of a new public safety building to accommodate the Police Department and Rescue Squad. The action was a major step toward ending years of overcrowding in the Municipal Building where the police department shares office space with other municipal departments.

Over the past year, the borough's facilities committee considered various options for addressing the accommodation problem and submitted its recommendations to the governing body on Dec. 13.

Mayor Gregg David briefed the council on behalf of the facilities committee, saying it had considered such options as the expansion of the Municipal Building, purchase and renovation of a property or building a new building. The committee decided that expanding the existing municipal building was not a good option and submitted that purchasing a building and renovating it would cost about $3.5 million, while constructing a new building would cost $5 million.

David said a new public safety building would also accommodate the Kenilworth Rescue Squad.

The borough council unanimously agreed on the construction of a new building, an option they considered would be more cost effective in the long run. Mayor David announced that the borough had already received a $190,000 grant from the state to kick-start the project, with a promise of an additional $100,000 grant. The money, he said, would be used for architectural work. On the financing of the project, he said, the borough may have to sell the Girl Scout property near Blackbrook Park and issue long-term bonds to finance the balance of the cost.

The mayor said the committee has considered a location for the proposed public safety building, but would not make that public at the moment.

Kenilworth has, on two separate occasions, received letters from the Union County Prosecutor's office expressing concern over inadequate office accommodation for the Police Department. Over the past 43 years, the Police Department has doubled in size, leading to acute shortage of office space and other conveniences. The department uses trailers to accommodate some of its units, like the detective bureau.

Police Chief William Dowd said the size of the Police Department has doubled to about 30 officers, including a female officer who needs separate facilities, such as a locker room and rest room. Because of space limitations, he said, such facilities have not been provided.

The borough also worked out a plan in 2005 to upgrade the DiMario Park, including the repair of the roof of the park house, construction of sewer lines to drain the fields and erection of a soccer field. The governing body intends to appropriate money in the 2006 municipal budget to add to a county grant money of $110,000 to execute the job.

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County park, subdivisions await residents of Clark

By Vincent Gragnani
Regional Editor

CLARK — With much of its space already developed, the Township of Clark is not expecting many dramatic changes in its landscape, but observant residents will notice a few new projects around town in the next year.

"From a visual standpoint, we're looking at three areas that will have dramatic change for the landscape of Clark," said municpal historian and 4th Ward Councilman Brian Toal.

Those areas are the Esposito Park on Madison Hill Road, new subdivisions around town and, possibly, two housing projects around Terminal Avenue.

Esposito Farm

Construction is set to begin on the Esposito Farm this spring — a project that will transorm it from a sleepy farm to a county park, Toal said.

The county acquired the property for $5.4 million from the Esposito family in 2003 through the Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, a dedicated property tax of $0.15 per $100 of assessed value.

Originally the DeCamp farm, it was acquired in 1913 by Anniello Esposito, who transformed the farm into a vegetable farm, which survived until the death of Peter Esposito on May 20, 2001.

As the farm is transformed into a park, residents will see a restroom building, an access road, parking lot, a tribute to the Esposito family and a memorial garden in memory of the Esposito family, a bandstand, picnic area, a half-mile walking path, a fitness station and K-9 Sept. 11 memorial, according to a story in *The Clark Eagle* last year.

The plan for the park also calls for screening the park by creating a six-foot high berm along Madison Hill Road. Entry would be from Madison Hill Road to a 70-space parking lot.

The entire project will take approximately two years to complete.

Subdivisions

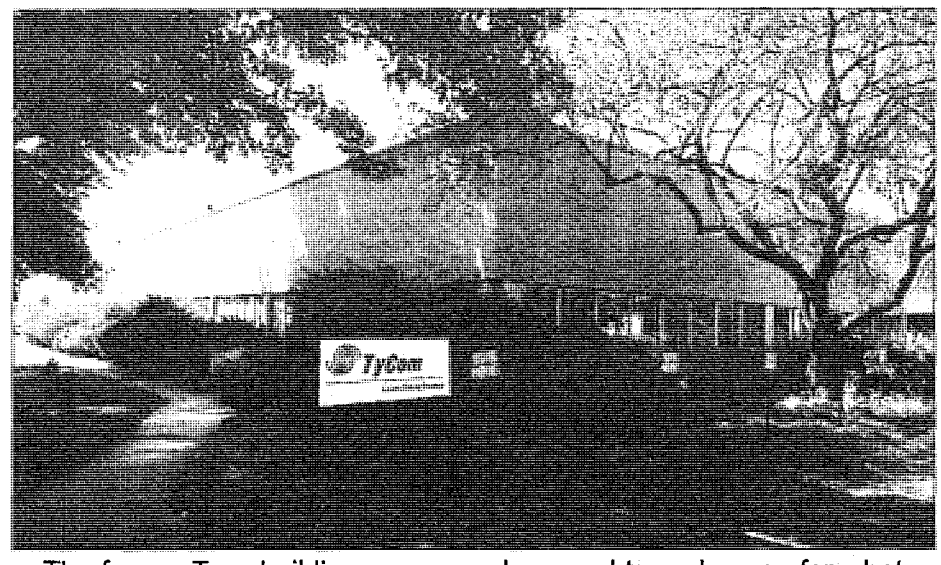
"We will continue to see pockets of subdivisions built wherever you see a group of wooded land or trees," he said.

An example of this will be Charlotte Drive Estates — eight homes on a now heavily wooded space off Raritan Road adjacent Zion Lutheran Church.

The homes Daunno Development plans to build will be custom built, with four bedrooms and more than 3,200 square feet on lots between 15,000 and 26,000 square feet.

Five of the homes will be on an extension of Charlotte Drive, and three will be on a second road, likely to be named "Benish Court," after Stephen Benish, the Clark resident who was killed in Iraq on Nov. 28, 2004.

An additional five homes were approved last July for a 2.5 acre space on Madison Hill Road.



The former Tyco building may soon be razed to make way for what developers hope will be a senior housing complex on Terminal Avenue.

A new street with a cul-de-sac will be constructed to accommodate the homes, which will sit off of the 500 block of Madison Hill Road.

The 3,000-square-foot homes will be on lots that range from a quarter acre to just under a full acre, according to Tim Jones, managing partner of TJC Custom Homes, developer of the project.

Though a heavily wooded area will be cleared to make way for the homes, Jones said his plans include the planting of roughly 185 trees and plants.

Terminal Avenue area

Garden Commercial Properties may begin demolition and site remediation on the old Tyco site this spring.

The company is preparing for a possible 300-unit senior housing project, but building permits will not be issued any time soon, according to Township Administrator John Laezza.

The 2004 ordinance to rezone the property, formerly occupied by Tyco, does not take effect until the Council on Affordable Housing approves the township's Housing Element and Fair Share Plan.

Plans are also in the works to develop the Schwarz property, near Featherbed Lane and Old Raritan Road. Residents may soon see townhomes there, Toal said.

Regional Editor Vincent Gragnani can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 121, or vgragnani@thelocalsource.com.

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Springfield's redevelopment plans moving ahead

By Paul Greulich
Staff Writer

SPRINGFIELD — Plans for the redevelopment of Springfield's downtown area are expected to continue moving ahead in 2006.

The Planning Board is still reviewing the information submitted by Lester J. Nebenzahl of THP Inc., the planner hired by the township, to map out the area. Once it has come to a decision, it will notify the township committee.

Mayor Clara Harelik said it is uncertain whether or not the downtown area will see actual construction this year.

"I anticipate that in 2006 there will be activity on the procedural end of the redevelopment, including public hearing," she said. The redevelopment of this vital area is a project important to the township committee and planning board. Officials are continuing to work toward a carefully-conceived and well-executed plan from which the residents and businesses of Springfield will benefit.

One controversial issue relating to redevelopment was a plan for the construction of a 93-unit condominium building on Sky View Ridge. Garden Homes, Inc., the contract purchaser, requested four variances in order to accommodate its plans to build on Wilson Road. A number of residents in this area came forward to protest this construction. Other residents questioned why the condominiums could not be build in compliance with town ordinance. Citizens, as well as town officials, brought up concerns regarding soil erosion, water runoff and other complications that could result from building on the sloping property.

This project was approved by the Planning Board and is expected to make headway during 2006.

Staff Writer Paul Greulich can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 117, or at theobserver@thelocalsource.com.

New homes, roadwork under way in Mountainside

By Paul Greulich
Staff Writer

MOUNTAINSIDE — Two development projects begun last year are expected to be completed in 2006. One, which is being built by Prima Vera Builders, will result in seven new homes on property off Mountain Avenue and will require the construction of a new road to access them. This road will be named Little Court. The other project will be located at the intersection of Mill Lane and Park Drive, and will consist of nine new homes. This is being done by Echo Lake Estates.

These properties were privately owned before being sold to the contractors. The original homes on these properties were demolished. The new houses being built on these sites are estimated to each cost at least $1.2 million.

The borough government also has notable changes planned. The Mountainside Department of Transportation is expected to soon begin work to add two new storm drains along Route 22.

This addition, which will take approximately six months to complete, will help alleviate the rainwater flooding that has plagued portions of the road for many years. The new drains will be located at the intersections of Route 22 and New Providence Road, and Route 22 and Walnut Avenue.

A continuing project, which will likely run into 2007, is the resurfacing of roads in the borough. This work is being done using $5 million appropriated from a bond issued several years ago.

Repairs and additions to the community pool will cost approximately $275,000. The concrete walkways around the pool will be resurfaced and two water slides will be added. This work will be done by private vendors and is planned to be completed by June of this year.

Staff Writer Paul Greulich can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 117, or theobserver@thelocalsource.com.

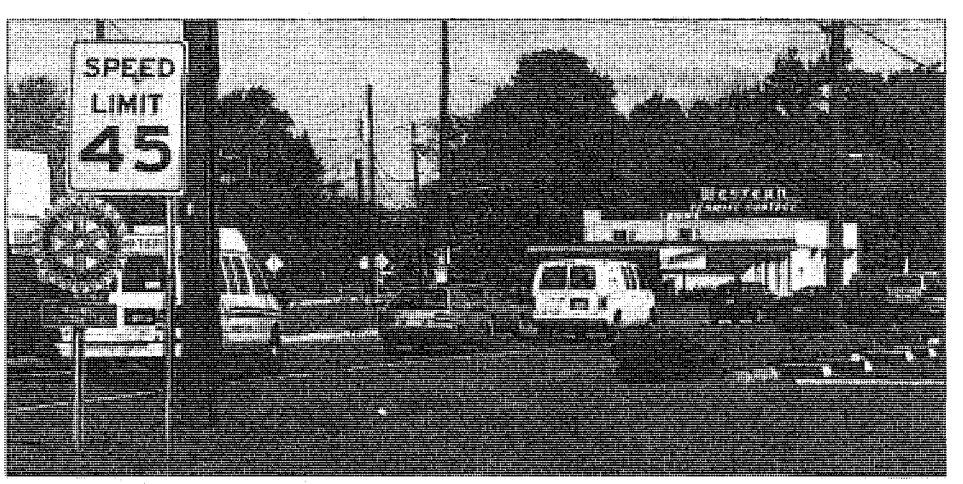


Photo By Barbara Kokkalis

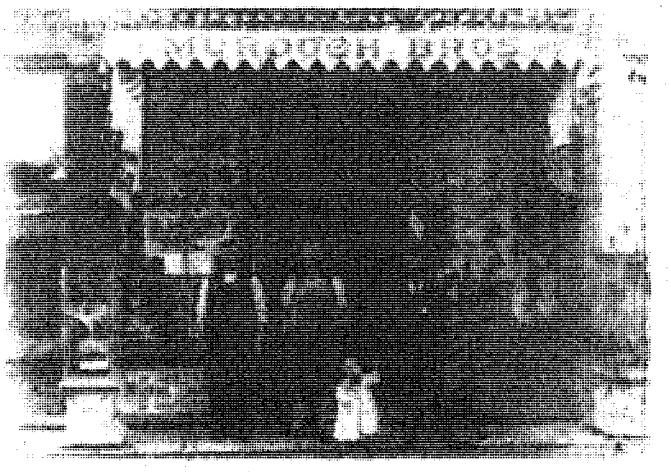
The Mountainside Department of Transportation is expected to begin work to add two new storm drains along Route 22 to alleviate rainwater flooding that has plagued portions of the road for many years.

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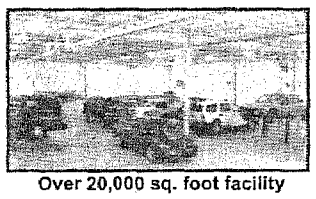
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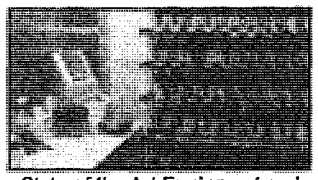
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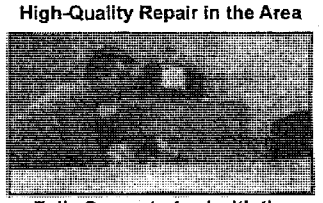
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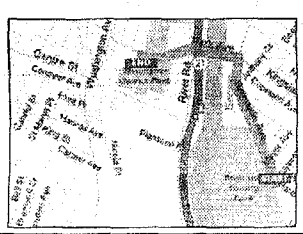
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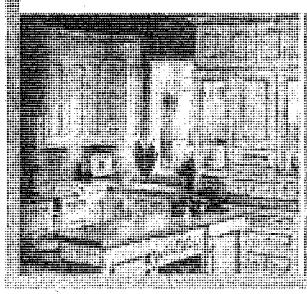
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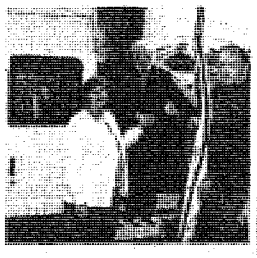
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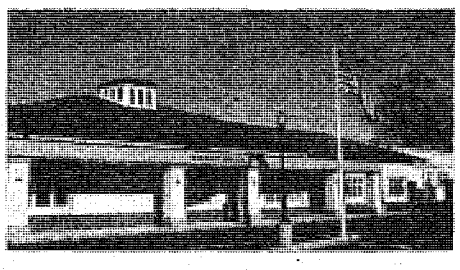
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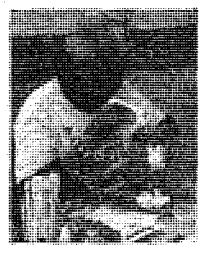
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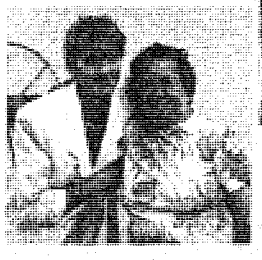
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Developers in Hillside had a busy year in 2005

By Doug McNamara
Staff Writer

HILLSIDE — It's been a busy year for developers in Hillside.

In March, the Hillside Board of Education moved forward with plans to renovate school buildings, authorizing a $1.28 million project which the board planned to obtain through the Capital Outlay Spending Growth Limitation Adjustment.

In June, the Hillside Township Council and Mayor McCoy Oliver appointed Yves F. Aubourg as the new Urban Enterprise Zone coordinator, replacing former coordinator Sal Antonelli.

Aubourg, who will make $80,000, previously served as the UEZ Coordinator in Roselle. In addition to serving as the UEZ coordinator, Antonelli also held the title of economic development director.

In October, after claims of losing two $380,000 contracts, thousands more in mortgages and expenses, as well as legal fees spent filing suit against the mayor and other Planning Board officials, the Planning Board finally approved Joseph Menza's application to build and sell two lots at 524-528 Locust St.

McCoy Oliver had defeated Menza in the mayoral election in May. Menza blamed partisan politics for the Planning Board's change in heart in the spring, when they decided to rescind Menza's application for the project.

The Salem Road bridge, which crosses the east branch of the Elizabeth River, was also completed in October after a summer of construction that squeezed traffic into two lanes and rerouted one of the only commuting corridors in the area. The bridge project was part of a county-wide program that targeted a number of aging spans in the county that were in need of improvements to help alleviate flooding concerns.

The Salem Road crossing project was proposed in 2004, and construction began in June 2005. The cost of the project was estimated at $900,000 and was scheduled to run for about four months.

According to John Salerno, a spokesperson for Union County, the bridge reconstruction was completed under budget with a minimal number of delays.

Staff writers Chris Sykes, Eric A. Bryant and Steven Reilly contributed to this report.

Staff Writer Doug McNamara can be reached at 908-686-7700, ext. 118, or unionleader@thelocalsource.com.

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Currently, David Onderko, the president and chief executive officer of the bank, is determined to get to know the needs of the community and its people. He notes that Allegiance's community is not defined by its borders, but by its diverse neighbors, town governments, businesses, service providers and not-for-profit organizations that create the mosaic of what is defined as community banking.

In addition, he would like to thank all of Allegiance's customers for their support during its first five years because the customers are the reason they have been able to succeed. Allegiance Community Bank intends to continue to develop meaningful working relationships with its diverse customers, so that everyone will know that their business is welcome, appreciated and greatly respected. They have built a reputation as a friendly, flexible and ethically principled professional leader that services its customers and cultivates its employees.

He also wants to report that, as with all new banks, many changes take place during its first five years — many good changes. Just over this past year, they have restructured the organization to better serve its customers. They have added new and experienced people, as well as a new data processing system to better enhance their customer service. He notes that they are committed to providing and acquiring the knowledge, training, technology and strategic direction for their employees that will enable them to expand their franchise.

Onderko notes that he and the bank's senior management are always available to assist customers. Allegiance Community Bank also offers early morning hours and extended evening hours to accommodate their customer's hectic schedules. Their drive-up is open as early as 8 a.m. every day and closes at 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 7 p.m. on Thursdays and noon on Saturdays. Their lobby is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 7 p.m. on Thursdays and noon on Saturdays. In addition, customers can utilize on-line banking, telephone banking or ATMs 24 hours a day.

The bank offers a wide range of personal and business accounts, including many special offers that are highlighted in the branch. Onderko encourages anyone who is interested in being part of a community to call their office at 973-761-5553, come in and visit with one of their knowledgeable customer service representatives or visit the Web site at www.allegiancebank.com. Member FDIC.

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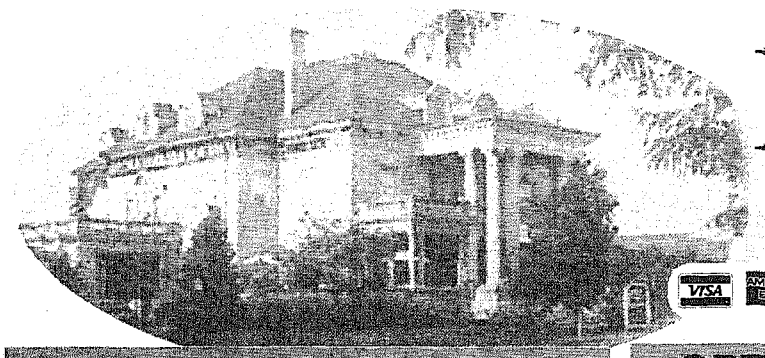
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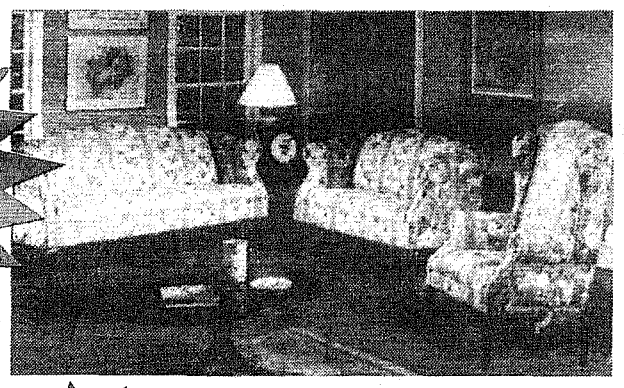


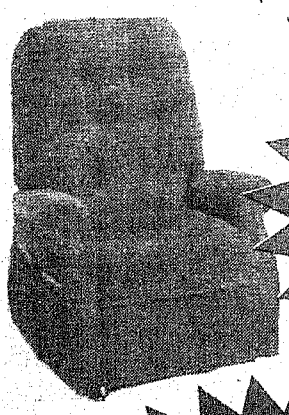
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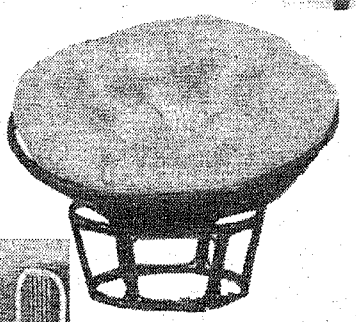


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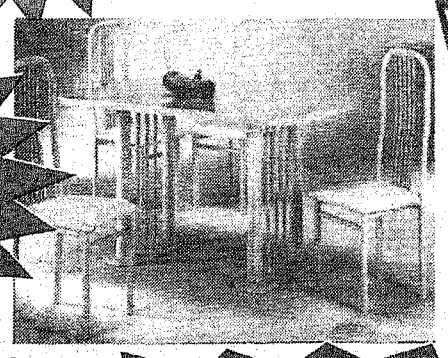


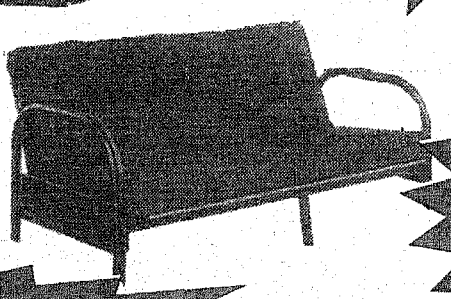
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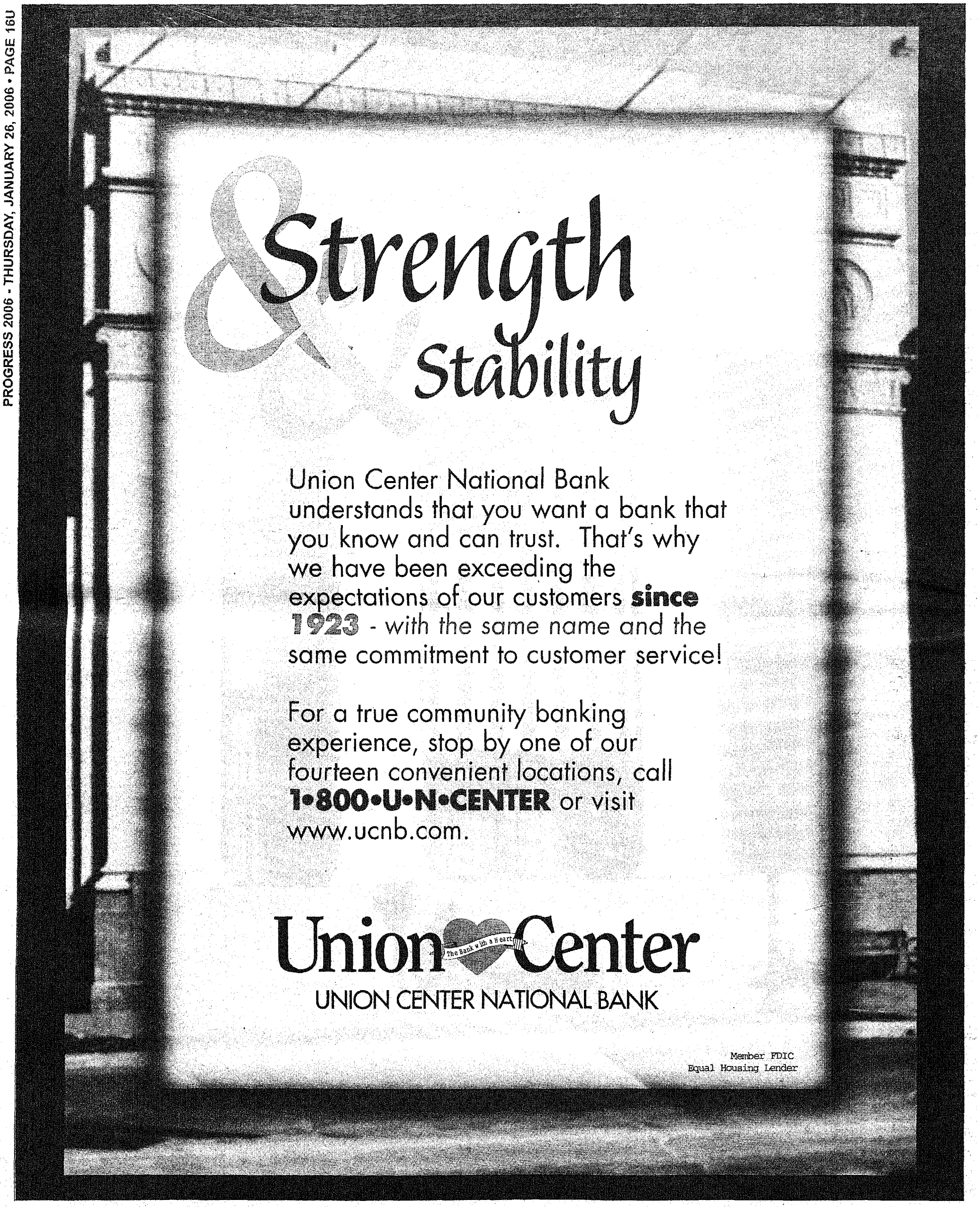




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