

Westfield

Aaron Stewart, 28, of Irvington, was charged April 11 on an outstanding warrant issued by the Essex County Sheriff's Department.

Stewart was transferred to the custody of the Essex County Sheriff's Department in lieu of \$5,286.95 bail, according to police reports.

Steve Roussakis, 33, of Blackbirch Road in Scotch Plains, was charged April 11 with driving while intoxicated.

Roussakis was stopped at the intersection of Prospect Street and Dudley Avenue, according to police reports. He was later released on his own recognizance, police said.

Juan Torres-Estevez, 24, of New Brunswick, was charged April 12 on a contempt of court warrant issued by the Westfield Municipal Court.

Torres-Estevez was released after posting \$100 bail, according to police reports.

Myla Flake, 18, of Hunter Avenue in Scotch Plains, was charged April 13 with shoplifting. Flake was charged after she attempted to steal a pair of sunglasses from the Lord & Taylor department store, according to police reports. She was released on her own recognizance with a summons, police said.

Martice Bennette, 24, and a 14-year-old minor, both from Plainfield, were charged Saturday with shoplifting.

The two were charged after they attempted to steal merchandise from the Lord & Taylor department store, according to police reports. Bennette was released on his own recognizance with a summons and the juvenile was released to the custody of a "responsible adult," police said.

Tadeusz Samujlo, 49, of Academy Terrace in Linden, was charged Monday with driving while intoxicated.

Samujlo was given a summons and released to the custody of a "responsible person," according to police reports.

Paul Smith, Jr., 41 of East Front Street in Plainfield, was charged Monday with hindering arrest. He was also charged on an outstanding contempt of court warrant issued by the Metuchen Municipal Court.

Smith was charged following a motor vehicle stop on North Avenue, according to police reports. He was given a summons on the Westfield charge and turned over to the custody of the Metuchen Police Department in lieu of \$500 bail, police said.

John Thompson, 20, of Westfield, was charged Tuesday on an outstanding warrant issued by the Westfield Municipal Court.

Thompson was held in lieu of \$635 bail,

according to police reports.

Andrew Mills, 30, of Deep Creek Drive in Manasquan, was charged Tuesday with driving while intoxicated.

Mills was charged after a motor vehicle stop at the intersection of Central Avenue and Sycamore Street, according to police reports. He was released to the custody of a "responsible party" after processing, police said.

Davidson Trisler, 17, of Grove Street, was charged Tuesday with leaving the scene of an accident and reckless driving.

As of Tuesday afternoon, Trisler had not been located by police, according to police reports.

The charges stemmed from an incident at the Jefferson School, police said. Officers observed tire damage at a school field and an investigation led to a damaged Ford Expedition that had been abandoned on Summit Court, according to police reports. The vehicle was heavily damaged on the passenger side; it had left fresh gouges in the blacktop and both front tires were flat, police said.

Trisler was identified at the accident scene as the driver of the vehicle, according to police reports. The matter is still under investigation, police said.

Scotch Plains

An East Avenue take-out restaurant reported April 11 that a juvenile, approximately 15 years of age, reached over the counter and fled with a take-out order at about 4:30 p.m., according to police reports.

Gary Elsie, 33, of Harding Road, was charged at approximately 9 p.m. April 13 with possession of a controlled dangerous substance (believed to be cocaine), possession of narcotics paraphernalia and resisting arrest.

Elsie was charged after officers investigating drug use at his residence, according to police reports.

A Kevin Road resident reported Saturday the theft of a cellular telephone, radar detector, calculator and watch from the victim's vehicle.

The items were stolen after unknown suspects gained entry to the vehicle by smashing out a window, according to police reports.

Aaron Lee, 39, of Elizabeth Avenue in Newark, was charged at approximately 7:30 p.m. Sunday with driving while under the influence of alcohol.

Lee was charged following the investigation of a motor vehicle accident on Route 22 West, according to police reports. Lee, who was operating a 1988 Lincoln, allegedly rear-ended a 1996 Toyota operated by a 23-year-old Maplewood man, police said.

No injuries were reported at the scene and Lee was released with a summons, police said.



Music in the Park

There's sweet music at the Park Middle School in Scotch Plains these days, now that six students have been accepted to the Central Jersey Intermediate Region II Band and Orchestra. Joining others student musicians from Union, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Somerset and Hunterdon counties are (above, front, left to right) Justin Rowinsky, Karina DeMair and Briana Falco, as well as (middle, left to right) Byard Bridge, David DeMair and Daniel Kalserman, all students of music teacher and band director Jon Bencivenga (rear). Also making music at Park are (right, left to right) Veerashri Ahati, Liza Katz, Emily Everson and Renee Jennings, who were selected for the CJIIR II Chorus.



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Better days for Contact We Care

As finances improve, crisis hotline agency expands its services

FANWOOD — The 24-hour telephone crisis hotline Contact We Care, thought to be on the brink of shutting down several years ago, is now in better shape.

That image was painted at the agency's annual meeting last month by Ross Royce, the keynote speaker and a former president of the Contact We Care board of directors.

"Only six short years ago, Contact was in deep financial crisis," Royce said. "Staff reductions and pay cuts were necessary to keep us afloat. We had almost no reserves to pay expenses during the summer months ... The board was seriously considering closing down the agency."

"I wondered what in the world I had gotten myself into," Royce added.

Income from charitable contri-

butions to Fanwood-based Contact We Care is now more than double what it was in 1997, according to an agency press release about the annual meeting.

Contact We Care now employs an executive director, clinical director, marketing coordinator, outreach worker and two office workers on its payroll.

The agency handles more than 12,000 calls a year that are answered by more than 120 volunteers on the hotline 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

County prosecutor to moderate 'Family to Family' drug program

CRANFORD — "Family to Family" is the theme of an anti-drug program sponsored by the office of Union County Prosecutor Thomas Manahan.

Manahan himself is scheduled to moderate the program, which is slated to begin at 7 p.m.

In recent years, Contact We Care became the first New Jersey agency to participate in the 1-800-SUICIDE hotline service. Calls to that number from anywhere in the Garden State are automatically directed to Contact We Care.

The agency also began its Senior Ring program to give reassurance phone calls to elderly people in long-term care, assisted living or senior housing facilities.

For information on Contact We Care and volunteer opportunities, call (908) 490-1480.

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Only one candidate files to run for partial Scotch Plains term

Until GOP writes in, Democrat Celetano is alone on the ballot

By THOMAS SCOTT

THE RECORD-PRESS

SCOTCH PLAINS — Only one partial Township Council term will be up for grabs this November, and so far, only one candidate has been nominated.

In an effort to fill the remaining year on the term of late Town Councilman Tarquin Bromley, township Republicans have filed the sole nomination for the June primary and November general vote. Three-year Scotch Plains resident Guy Celetano, who has already served on the Township Environmental Commission and Planning Board, was the only candidate to file a nominating petition before the April 12 deadline.

Tarquin, a Democrat, passed away in September 2000. The Democratic Party's selection to fill in for Bromley until the 2001 general election, Sharynn Porter, did not file to run this year. Porter said she was leaving the council now that her husband, Lance Porter, has won re-election to the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education. The couple has two children attending the Park

Middle School.

That leaves Celetano, short of a write-in candidate, unopposed in the run for Bromley's seat. This week, Councilwoman and former Mayor Geri Morgan Samuel said township Republicans were "still talking about" potential candidates.

"You don't have the right to complain unless you're involved. Without time on community boards, it's tough to have a big influence."

— Guy Celetano
Democratic candidate for Scotch Plains Township Council

and would certainly put forth a write-in candidate within "the next couple of weeks."

"We have to," Samuel said. "It's just crazy."

Celetano said believes being involved is how to make things right. "You don't have the right to complain unless you're involved," he said. "Without time on community boards, it's tough to have a big influence. But as a member of the Environmental Commission,

maybe I can see things that will help beautify the town."

His experience on the Environmental Commission and Planning Board has given him a view of the bigger picture in Scotch Plains, Celetano said.

"Working on the Planning Board, I get to work with the nuts and bolts of larger projects," he added. "It can be frustrating to have projects taken out of your hands due to legalities, the law that is passed down from the state and federal government — but our job is to work within the constraints."

Celetano said he wasn't sure if he wanted to run for council. "(Mayor) Martin Marks is a very big part of the reason I'm getting involved," he said. "I'm very excited about the opportunity. A one-year term on the council will work to my favor so that I can learn more and prove myself on the job."

The opportunity to learn on the job — and especially to work with Marks, Township Manager Thomas Atkins, Deputy Mayor Frank Rossi and former Mayor Gabe Spera — is very appealing, especially for a less-experienced council member, according to Celetano.

"Council work is almost like getting involved in another business," he said. "They will be great for me to learn from."

Incumbents fill the GOP ticket in Westfield Town Council race

Echauuse, Albano, Sullivan, Weinstein to seek re-election

By THOMAS SCOTT

THE RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — Four incumbent Republican Town Council members will vie for re-election against a new democratic challenge this November.

According to the Westfield Republican Committee, incumbents Peter Echauuse (First Ward), Matthew P. Albano (Second Ward), Neil F. Sullivan (Third Ward) and Janis Fried Weinstein (Fourth Ward) will be on the ballot and unopposed in the primary election scheduled for June 5.

"This group has the experience and background to provide Westfield with the leadership we need today and in the future," said Jon Bramnick, chairman of the Westfield Republican Committee, in a prepared statement released Sunday. "This group knows that having a good, open relationship with their constituents is the way to be successful and they know how to make the tough decisions in crafting a budget and planning for our future."

The GOP incumbents will face a Democratic ticket of Reid Edles (First Ward), Thomas Fuccillo (Second Ward), Kevin

G. Walsh (Third Ward) and Susan Jacobsen (Fourth Ward). The Westfield Democratic Committee released its list of candidates April 10.

Echauuse, a credit analyst, has 10 years experience in public finance working for Standard & Poor's and Merrill Lynch, where he analyzed municipal bonds backed by property taxes. In January, he filled the First Ward council seat vacated by Mayor Gregory McDermott and presently serves as chairman of the council's Public Safety Committee. He also is a member of the Finance and Transportation, Parking and Traffic committees, and serves as the council liaison to the Recreation Commission.

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Sullivan has served on the

Town Council since 1995 and currently serves as chairman of the Transportation, Parking and Traffic Committee. He is a member of the Law and Rules Committee and serves as the council liaison to the Second Senior Citizen's Housing Corporation, the Westfield Chamber of Commerce, the Cross County Rail Study Group and the Westfield Community Television Advisory Board. Sullivan is a graduate of Duke University and the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University.

Weinstein, a lifelong town resident, works as an administrator in a Westfield law firm. She serves as chairwoman of Public Works and is a member of the council's Personnel and Transportation, Parking and Traffic committees. She also is a member of the Westfield Recreation Commission and a council liaison to the Westfield Board of Education.

"These council members are all committed to the issues important to Westfield residents: parking, public safety, clean parks and streets and quality municipal services," Bramnick said in Sunday's press release. "These council members know we live in a great town, and more importantly, they understand what it takes to make it an even better place in which to live in the future."

Four file to run in Fanwood election

By THOMAS SCOTT

THE RECORD-PRESS

FANWOOD — Four candidates, including one incumbent, have filed to run for the two Borough Council seats up for grabs in the November general election.

The terms of current Borough Councilwoman Karen Schurtz and Katherine Mitchell are set to expire this year. Mitchell met the April 12 filing deadline and will seek re-election, while Schurtz will bow out of this year's race after nearly six years at the council dais.

"A lot of hours have been devoted to serving the community," Schurtz said this week. "Many times, it was a choice between responding to my family and responding to the community, and most of the time, the community won out."

"It's time not to plan my vacation around my schedule of meetings, but for my family to become my priority again," Schurtz added.

Joining Mitchell on the Democratic ticket will be Michael Brennan.

The Democrats will be challenged by Republican hopefuls Ellen Cagnassola and David Trumpp.

Trumpp, a life long resident of Fanwood, ran for Borough Council four years ago on a ticket with current Council President Joel Whitsaker and was defeated by only a 10-vote margin.

Cagnassola, a six year borough resident, is the chairwoman of the Fanwood Downtown Revitalization Committee and head of the Business and Professional Associates, also based in Fanwood. She drew an architectural design rendering of downtown Fanwood for the Borough Council and came up with a slogan for the downtown revitalization effort — "Uniquely Fanwood."

Cagnassola has also written articles about starting a small business that appear on her own World Wide Web site, and will be featured in an article in an upcoming issue of *New Jersey Business News*.

Mitchell, Brennan and Trumpp could not be reached for comment by press deadline.

Coast school sets safe boating class

CRANFORD — The Coast Boating School has scheduled a safe boating/personal watercraft course for 6 p.m.-9 p.m. May 1 and 2 at Union County College.

The course is conducted by the Toms River-based school and is based on New Jersey boating laws.

For registration or more information, call (908) 709-7601.

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Rhythmic recognition

Five chorus students of vocal music teacher Mary Lu Farrell at the Terrill Middle School in Scotch Plains have achieved local and national recognition. Eighth-grader Abraham Hiatt (back, left) has been selected to perform with the American Choral Directors Association National Junior High/Middle School Honors Choir, while sixth-graders Helen Han and Diana Chaves (back, center and right) have been selected to perform with the New Jersey Elementary Honors Choir. Eighth-grader Jennifer Calvo and seventh-grader Michele Calvo (front, left to right), meanwhile, appeared recently in the New Jersey State Opera's production of "Macbeth," and Michele has been chosen to perform with the New Jersey Junior High Honors Choir.

First United Methodist sermon shows how to 'Accept Your Doubts'

WESTFIELD — "Accept Your Doubts" is the theme of the sermon for worship services this Sunday at the First United Methodist Church, located at 1 E. Broad St.

Dr. Dan Bottorff, associate minister of pastoral care and nurture, is scheduled to deliver

the sermon. The church's schedule this week:

Sunday — Seekers Service, 9:30 a.m. (child care available). Sunday school, 9:30 a.m. Fellowship, 10:30 a.m. Worship service, 11 a.m. (child care available). Youth Fellowship and

Music, 6 p.m.

Monday — Boy Scouts, 7 p.m. Stephen Ministry, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday — Bible study, 9:30 a.m. Fife and Drum Corps, 6:30 p.m. "People of Hope," 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday — Memoirs group, 9:30 a.m. Disciple Bible study, 7:30 p.m. Spiritual Life, 8 p.m.

Thursday — Sanctuary Choir, 7:30 p.m. Board of Trustees meeting, 8 p.m.

Friday, April 27 — Coffeehouse, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 28 — Habitat for Humanity work day.

For more information, call (908) 233-4211.

one-on-one business counseling, compliments of the state Small Business Development Center.

A continental breakfast and lunch is included with entrance to the conference.

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The free tickets must be claimed by April 27 and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. They can be obtained by calling Kevin Friedlander at (609) 989-7888.

To learn more about the Small Business Conference and Expo, visit www.njchamber.com on the World Wide Web.

Union Sheriff's Officers seek college scholarship applicants

UNION COUNTY — The Sheriff's Officers of Union County, members of Policemen's Benevolent Association Local 108, are sponsoring two scholarships for deserving high school students going on to college.

Eligible students must live in Union County and be scheduled to graduate from high school this spring. Sons and daughters of sheriff's officers are not eligible, according to a press release announcing the scholarship program.

Although applicants are being encouraged to study criminal justice in college, such courses are not a requirement for receiving the scholarships.

Applications must be obtained at the sheriff's office, located in the County Administration Building in downtown Elizabeth.

Briefs

Welcome Club hosts tag sale fund-raiser

WESTFIELD — The Welcome Club of the Westfield Area has scheduled a tag sale for 9 a.m.-3 p.m. May 5.

The sale is slated to be held at 680 Westfield Ave. in Westfield.

Old clothes, toys, baby goods and other merchandise can be found at affordable prices. These items are coming from Welcome Club members.

Proceeds from the sale will be donated to the Center for Outreach and Services for the Autism Community.

Women from Westfield and nearby towns are invited to join the Welcome Club. The club hosts various women's and couples' activities, monthly dinners and children's activities and play groups, and also participates in community service events.

For more information, call Renee at (908) 232-1646 or Christine at (908) 518-1910.

Club information is also available at www.westfieldnj.com/welcome on the World Wide Web.

Temple Emanu-El eyes Kabbalah, personalities

WESTFIELD — "Kabbalah and Personality Types" is the theme of a two-part series scheduled at Temple Emanu-El.

The lectures are slated to run from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. April 29 and May 6 at the temple, located at 756 E. Broad St. in Westfield. Rabbi Howard Addison as the scheduled facilitator. Addison is the spiritual leader of Temple Sinai in Dresher, Pa., and holds a doctorate in the area of Kabbalah and personality types.

Addison will cover basic personality types and their interactions April 29. A candlelight meditation is part of the May 6 program.

Admission to both lectures is free. For more information, call (908) 232-6770.

Westfield library explores WWW search techniques

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Memorial Library has scheduled a special program on basic Internet search techniques for magazines and newspapers.

The program is slated to begin at 9:30 a.m. May 3 at the library, located 550 E. Broad St. in Westfield.

Experience with a computer mouse is required. The class is open only to those with a valid Westfield library card.

Registration begins Wednesday. To register or for more information, call (908) 789-4090 or visit the library's Circulation Desk.

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Commentary

Every day should be Earth Day

From humble beginnings, Earth Day has become a symbol of environmental responsibility. But like so many similar symbols, its meaning is often lost in our daily lives.

Earth Day started in 1970 as a demonstration of the critical need to improve Mother Nature's condition. But some dismissed those who promoted the first Earth Day as dangerous, radical liberals, a threat to what was known, quaintly, as The Establishment.

Over the next three decades, however, those Baby Boomer "radicals" have become members of The Establishment, and Earth Day is now part of the country's mainstream culture. Schools mount Earth Day programs. Community groups volunteer to clean up parts of their towns. Politicians at all levels rush to plant trees, especially if there's a photographer present.

But there is more to caring for the environment than just these Earth Day activities. Sometimes the original message of Earth Day is forgotten or, worse, ignored. The same "liberals" who started Earth Day now drive gas-guzzling SUVs, a sad irony.

People should utilize local Earth Day celebrations as a way of rededicating their efforts toward protecting the planet from its worst enemy — the human race.

While "community cleanups" and "environmental exhibits" continue throughout the month of April, Earth Day itself actually takes place on April 22 each year. More than just a gathering in the park, Earth Day calls for individual actions to abate the many dangers facing our environment. Earth Day encourages us to respect nature and educate ourselves about the "everyday" steps we can take to protect life on the third rock from the sun.

Earth Day is more than just a call to action or a reason for children to wear green to school. It's also more than a 30-second clip on the evening news. And in 2001, it may be more important than ever.

With a new President in the White House with considerably more conservative environmental views than his predecessor, environmentalists are nervous. They are already wondering aloud if the Bush Administration will do more harm than good. They point to Bush's reversal on carbon dioxide levels, more lenient drinking water standards and calls for more oil drilling in Alaska as evidence of an administration that favors the interests of the energy industry. Even former New Jersey Gov. Christine Todd Whitman, now administrator of the Environmental Protection Administration, seems a bit stunned by the White House's agenda.

Nowhere in the Bush Administration's emerging energy policy do we hear much about conservation or clean energy. In fact, the Bush budget calls for a reduction of money earmarked for research on electricity generated by wind-power.

At its core, Earth Day promotes the vision of a healthy, vibrant planet. But efforts to preserve the environment should not end after the 24-hour "holiday" is over. They should take place year-round, locally and nationally, on an individual and a legislative and a corporate basis. That means we have to pay attention to our planet and the harm we as individuals may do. It also means we have to be vigilant, and make sure our elected leaders do not inflict irreparable harm on the environment.

The Record-Press is here for you

The following information should help you get your ideas and community news into the Record-Press:

Call Editor Gregory Zeller at (908) 575-6686 with story suggestions, questions or comments.

For sports, call Dan Murphy at (908) 575-6698.

Our address is The Record-Press, P.O. Box 699, Somerville, NJ 08876. Our fax number is (908) 575-6683. Our e-mail address is union@njnpublishing.com.

Deadlines

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

The deadline for letters to the editor is 5 p.m. Monday.

Letter policy

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

Please send letters to the above street address, fax number or e-mail address.



Record-Press
WESTFIELD SCOTCH PLAINS FANWOOD

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Letters to the editor

Lions Club never charges for egg hunt

To The Editor:

In the April 13 issue of the Record-Press, under the "Briefs" column, there was an article regarding the Westfield Lions Club's annual Easter Egg Hunt. The article mentioned "cost is \$3 per participant, with proceeds donated to Lions Club charities."

The Westfield Lions Club has held the Easter Egg Hunt for the children of Westfield for over 60 years and has never or will ever charge for this event. If a person would like a picture of their child

with the Easter bunny, we ask for a \$3 donation to help support Lion's charities.

I am concerned that since attendance at this event was less than normal this year, this inaccurate article may have deterred some residents from bringing their children to our annual egg hunt.

We have relied on your accurate reporting for our events in the past and hope you will continue to do so in the future.

DOUGLAS SCHEMBS JR.
Westfield Lions Club

More letters, Page A-7

Union County needs your help to control mosquito populations

By ALEXANDER MIRABELLA

Springtime brings Union County beautiful flowers, spring rains, songbirds in our parks and baseball season. Unfortunately, it also begins the mosquito-breeding season.

Mosquitoes are both a nuisance and a potential health risk, since some species can carry West Nile Virus.

West Nile Virus is spread through the saliva of mosquitoes. Sixty species of mosquitoes are found in the State of New Jersey; about 20 mosquito species call Union County their home.

Union County works year-round to control the mosquito population through the Bureau of Mosquito Control in the Department of Operational Services. This department eliminates potential breeding places and monitors their populations with special traps set in every municipality.

Since mosquitoes have a life span of a week to 10 days, eliminating the places where they breed is the best way to reduce mosquito populations. Mosquitoes breed in pools of standing water or in water collecting in drums, old tires, flower pots and planters.

This is where we need help

Guest commentary

from the residents of Union County's 21 municipalities.

There are several ways residents can help reduce the number of mosquitoes in their yards and communities this year:

- * Dispose of tin cans, plastic containers, empty flower pots and any other containers that hold water, as these are all places mosquitoes can use to breed.

- * Remove discarded tires, a favorite breeding place for mosquitoes.

- * Drill holes in the bottom of trash or recycling containers so they do not hold water.

- * Clean clogged roof gutters every year.

- * Turn over plastic wading pools when not in use.

- * Change water in bird-baths every three days.

- * Clean and chlorinate swimming pools and remove water that collects on pool covers.

- * Use landscaping that eliminates standing water. Mosquitoes can breed in puddles that last just four days.

Draining standing water and eliminating the places where it collects means being a good neighbor and making your community a healthier place for all residents. It is the most effective way that we know of to fight West Nile Virus and reduce mosquito populations.

One of the ways we track West Nile Virus is by testing birds that may have died from the disease. While the disease does not effect most birds, it is fatal to crows. Anyone who finds a recently dead crow should contact their town health official to see if it can be tested for the disease. A crow must be in a dead crow should contact their town health official to see if it can be tested for the disease. A crow must be in a dead crow, that is, to be tested.

Union County's Bureau of Mosquito Control can help residents remove standing water and mosquito breeding areas. Call them at (908) 654-9834 with any questions about mosquitoes or mosquito control. The bureau's mosquito control workers can usually come to any home in Union County within 24 hours.

The writer is the chairman of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

The Record-Press photograph policy

We welcome submitted photographs — color or black-and-white — of community events.

For a photo to be considered for publication, individuals in the picture must be identified and clearly visible. Please do not send irreparable photos.

Photos can be sent to: The Record-Press, P.O. Box 699, Somerville, NJ 08876, Attn: Editor Gregory Zeller.

If you would like your photo returned, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Photos sent without a stamped envelope

will not be returned through the mail.

If you would like to request a photograph at a community event, contact us at least 48 hours prior to the event and we will do our best to schedule a photographer.

If you would like a reprint of a photograph that appeared in The Record-Press and was taken by a staff photographer, call the photo department at (908) 575-6708 for a reprint request form.

For more information, please call the editor at (908) 575-6686.



Keep on cookin'

Let's have a big round of applause for Susan Mauriello, the culinary correspondent behind this newspaper's "Cooking With Susan" column. Not since man first put milk to fortified breakfast flakes has food preparation been so easy; following her simple instructions can turn any spatula-challenged Gilligan into a galloping gourmet.

And Susan — who can be a little vicious with the garlic — walks us through concoctions far more complicated than cold cereal. At least, they're complicated in theory; never has it been simpler to prepare *pasta primavera* or asparagus soup, stuffed eggplant or pork roast, lemon-drop cookies or twice-baked *biscotti*.

I've always fancied myself a dietary dilettante, a quasi-cook with no formal training. Momma Z is a kitchen queen in her own right — must be something about Italian women — and to some extent, it rubbed off. But until Susan came along, my *carte du jour* was limited to whatever I could fry and cover with cheese.

Now, though, I know how to simmer and sauté. I can make soup from scratch and brew up a tomato gravy that (forgive me, Mom) rivals any I've ever tasted. I'm still no Iron Chef, but at my house, where I am the primary food preparer, I'm King Cuisine, the majesty of the menu, the prince of pots and pans.

From a newspaper-production point of view, it's not just the ease of Susan's delicious dishes that makes her such a find. It's not her ability to transform everyone into Emeril. What makes Susan so valuable, for the newspaper editor, is her staunch regularity.

For 54 consecutive weeks now, the recipe writer has served up something new, be it an appetizer or a main course or a dessert. Come hell or vacation, a new "Cooking With Susan" appears every week on my fax machine, and this paper is better for it.

As any columnist who faces a recurrent deadline will tell you, this is no mean feat. Whether you indulge your inner whiner at a weekly newspaper or pen a regular op-ed column for the *New York Times*, it's not easy to keep cranking them out, one after another, day after day or week after week. Sometimes, the keyboard mocks you. Sometimes, the words just don't come.

How difficult can it be to rap out one measly column every week? How challenging is it to string together 700 words and make some sort of coherent point?

Believe me, it's harder than it sounds. Only a special few have the mettle to keep it up. At best, I manage a "Z File" two out of every three weeks, and that only when I'm not suffering through a months-long bout of mental constipation. I could blame it on various factors, note how time-consuming it is to edit two entire newspapers; but the truth is, I don't have the creative juice or mental discipline to knock out a column every week.

I'm no Maureen Dowd, who regularly contributes opinion pieces of national consequence to the *New York Times*. I can't even fathom the likes of Rick Reilly, who crafts wonderful, super-sized columns for every weekly issue of *Sports Illustrated*. I'm certainly no Mike Lupica, who produces sports columns for the *Daily News* as if they came off a conveyor belt.

These people and other professionals like them have what it takes to keep the columns coming. Their inkwells never seem to run dry. Mike Deak can do it, too. Deak, the executive editor of this and all the other NJN newspapers, comes up with a new "Jersey Boy" piece every week, regardless of his workload or mood. He approaches column-writing as part of the job. It's not an amusement or a distraction, the boss says, just another duty.

I'm glad he sees it that way, because there's always copy to fill this space when the "Z Files" goes on spontaneous hiatus.

Thankfully, Susan Mauriello approaches her column the same way. It's a great relief to know a new dish is coming every week, simple and tasty and right on time. The amateur chef in me loves all the recipes. The newspaper editor loves all the copy.

We just need to talk about all the garlic.

Letters to the editor

Proud to protest HLS animal cruelty

To The Editor:

I was one of over 100 people protesting Huntingdon Life Sciences on Monday, April 2 in East Millstone.

HLS is the largest animal laboratory in Europe with a lab also located in East Millstone. Five hundred animals die a day at HLS. These include beagles, monkeys, rabbits and mice. They are forced to ingest/inhale drugs and other toxic substances.

In the past, HLS has been fined \$50,000 for animal cruelty. Undercover videos have shown employees punching beagle puppies in the faces and autopsies done on monkeys that were still alive. Experimental data was also "fudged" and some employees were found drunk at work. At HLS in NJ, a video was made of employees laughing at a restrained

monkey while spraying lubricant in its mouth.

The protest at HLS was a peaceful one. The police were there and used pepper spray on protesters who were close to the boundary set up by the police. One person was hospitalized due to the pepper spray, and five people arrested for disorderly conduct.

I, for one, am proud that I participated in the nationwide protest at HLS. Thousands like myself in the UK and the U.S. are working hard to close HLS and to bring attention to the vivisection industry in general. This is an industry that is antiquated and must be changed.

For others who wish to help in this fight, please log onto www.shacusa.net or www.adlonline.com.

GAIL M. GUNBERG, Ph.D.
Lafayette



Douglas M. Fascale (right), a certified civil trial attorney and member of a law firm with an office in Westfield, met Hillel Ephros (left), DMD, MD, at the Seton Hall University School of Graduate Medical Education Conference, held recently in Sanibel Island, Fla.

Westfield attorney attends Seton Hall medical seminar

WESTFIELD — The Seton Hall University School of Graduate Medical Education recently invited attorney Douglas Fascale to attend a seminar, "Eyes Open and Hands-On," directed to general dentists across the country.

Fascale is a partner in the law firm of Hoagland, Longo, Moran, Dunst & Doukas, which opened a branch office in Westfield last year. Hoagland, Longo has its main office in New Brunswick.

The four-day seminar — held in Sanibel Island, Fla. — covered esthetic dentistry, advanced in endodontics, patients with cardiovascular disease, malpractice avoidance, management of oral cancer patients and detecting oral cancer.

Although the seminar was specifically directed at general dentists, it was applicable to all malpractice suits.

Fascale concentrated his seminar on three areas. As covered by him, they dealt with discussing the role of informed consent; upgrading record-keeping to support the quality of care given to a patient; and identifying high-risk areas of practice.

The informed consent discussion included why informed consent exists; a summary of informed consent law, including what duty doctors have to explain medical information and risks; when to explain medical information and risks; how one goes about explaining medical information and risks associated with medically reasonable treatment options.

As far as keeping records, Fascale explained what a doctor must do to create an adequate record that covers the entire scope of treating a patient. This portion of his lecture covered what the record should contain: treatment dates, the patient's complaints, the patient's medical history as taken by that doctor, findings, progress notes, orders for tests, diagnoses, treatment plans, specific procedures and informed consent discussions (in

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Cross County Rail Link alive and well

To The Editor:

A daily newspaper recently published a front-page story saying Union County's plans to build a rail link to Plainfield is dead. I want to assure residents that when the Cross County Rail Link is established, it will be coming to Plainfield.

The Cross County Rail Link is envisioned as a rail connection from Newark to Plainfield. The project will be built in two phases, Elizabeth-Newark (which will include connections to midtown Elizabeth, Elizabethport and Jersey Gardens) and Elizabeth-Plainfield. Engineering work is underway on the Newark portion with full construction of that phase scheduled to begin next year.

A draft report commissioned by Union County government outlined nine alternatives, which included full light-trail service between Elizabeth and Plainfield and other options using a combination of light rail and diesel-powered vehicles. Believing a more detailed analysis of the alterna-

tives was necessary, the county formed a working committee composed of two representatives, one an elected official, from each municipality in the proposed rail corridor. This committee met for the first time in January. The county is now working with this committee and our private partners to research a preferred alternative.

Contrary to the daily newspaper report, no alternatives have been eliminated. In fact, we plan to provide rail service every 20 minutes throughout the corridor, whichever alternative is selected. The Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Union County administration remain committed to expanding mass transit options throughout Union County and seeing that the Cross County Rail Link reaches its final destination, Plainfield.

LEWIS MINGO Jr.
Vice Chairman, Union County
Board of Chosen Freeholders
Elizabeth

Briefs

Presbyterian Church sets anti-bias forum

WESTFIELD — "Standing Together Against Hate VII" is the theme of an anti-bias community forum scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Presbyterian Church, located at 140 Mountain Ave.

The seventh-annual program is presented by the Union County Committee Against Hate.

Admission is free and the public is invited to attend.

This year's program is being held in memory of Tarquin Jay Bromley, a member of the Scotch Plains Township Council until his death last year; Donald Bagger, the late father of Assemblyman Richard Bagger; and Andrew Ruotolo, a deceased Union County prosecutor.

Special awards will be presented to Milt Faith and Aliza Burns, both of Scotch Plains.

Also among the scheduled speakers are Joyce Hunter, an assistant professor of psychiatry at Columbia University, and Kevin Donovan, an FBI agent in the bureau's Newark office.

PTA schedules program on dating and drugs

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Parent-Teacher Association is sponsoring a program on "Dating, Drugs and the Social Scene."

The program is scheduled to run from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Wednesday in the SP-FHS multi-purpose room. The high school is located at 641 Westfield Road in Scotch Plains.

Scheduled speakers are Earl Fielder, a Drug Enforcement Administration agent; Diane Litterer, of Prevention Links; and Liz Knodel-Gordon, substance abuse coordinator for the Scotch Plains-Fanwood School District.

The public is invited to attend the program.

Separately, the PTA has announced winners of its anti-drug "Challenge Question of the Month" for March. They are Charles Lee, grade 12; Ian Bundy, grade 11; and Kyle Adams, grade 10.

Hospice's Hope Chest opens doors in Westfield

WESTFIELD — The Hope Chest resale shop has opened its doors at 26 Prospect St.

The store is run by the auxiliary of the Linden-based Center for Hope Hospice.

Shop hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursdays.

Donations of new clothes, lightly worn clothes, small furniture, collectibles and household items are accepted. Pickups can be arranged by appointment. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

For more information on the shop or making a donation, call (908) 233-9973 or (908) 587-2137.

Proceeds from the Hope Chest subsidize hospice care for patients who cannot meet their expenses through Medicare, Medicaid or other sources.

Town Book Store hosts author visits

WESTFIELD — Two book signings are scheduled for Saturday at the Town Book Store, located at 255 E. Broad St.

Caroline Leavitt is expected to sign copies of her new novel, "Coming Back to Me," from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Gary and Molly are newlyweds very much in love, excited about the imminent birth of their first child. A medical crisis suddenly leaves Gary caring for Otis alone; this leaves Gary facing sky-high medical bills and puts his job in jeopardy. Just when all hope for Molly and all hope for happiness is about to go away, her estranged sister comes into the couple's lives. This "prodigal sister" will save the couple's marriage and their lives.

Dr. Ira Schwartz is expected to appear from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. to sign copies of "Your HotSpots: Find Them and Live Passionately." The self-help manual helps pinpoint and eliminate destructive behavior, enabling you to love fully, develop creativity and work happily in all areas of life.

For more information, call (908) 233-3535.

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At Home

Undergo a 'Metamorphosis' to reconnect with your home

Metamorphosis is a home-organizing firm founded by Lisa Luttrell, a professional organizer. It is a unique company that provides a broad range of services to each client encouraging him to reconnect with his home.

The firm's primary goal is to prioritize the areas in the home in need of attention. The client is advised prior to the first meeting to "leave everything the way it is." This provides an opportunity to see the area the way it is naturally used.

The consultation phase provides ample time to walk through the home and determine what is the congestion. Congestion for each client can be very different.

If the problem is determined to be a lack of space in a closet, for example, the company looks at reconfiguring the space to maximize its potential. When clothes are wrinkled, bags are strewn all over and shoes have no place to call home, the sketches and ideas are given to an expert. Kai Meckeler Contracting of Annandale, who specializes in custom interiors, is part of the creative team at Metamorphosis.

The preliminary sketches are then confirmed and the amazing transformation from frustrated can't find a thing closet to space saving, designated place for everything and truly working closet comes to fruition.

If the living room lacks a sense of comfort we will rearrange the room to accentuate the possessions which give the client the greatest pleasure and put away the items that are no longer working.

A room should invite a person in and envelop him into a sense of comfort. From where to hang a picture to what color should we paint this wall, no stone is left unturned.

The rewards for being organized are truly internal. There is a wonderful sense of peace when an area is transformed into a creative and balanced environment. When you are organized there is a great sense of accomplishment, a deep level of satisfaction, less stress and more time to spend on activities you want to do. The greatest reward is finally declaring a project done!

Metamorphosis also offers tune-ups throughout the year to aid the client in maintaining his organized state. When hiring Metamorphosis you can accomplish in just days what might have taken years to do.

* Recreate your living space

* Design closets to maximize and utilize space efficiently

* Organize — Rooms, Drawers, Closets

For more information phone Lisa at (908) 295-4795 or (908) 534-7750.

Spring means nature hikes, picnics — and tick dangers

year when people, especially children, are most active outdoors. Make a habit of thoroughly checking yourself and others for the tiny ticks after outdoor activities and vacations.

The American College of Emergency Physicians warns people to be aware of the symptoms of tick-borne diseases and

into pants.

* Use an EPA-approved tick repellent. Read the manufacturer's directions and cautions before using. Wash off repellent when returning indoors.

* Keep long hair pulled back. When gardening, pruning shrubs, or otherwise handling soil and vegetation, wear light-colored gloves, spot-checking them for ticks frequently.

* Avoid sitting directly on the ground and stay on cleared, well-worn trails whenever possible.

* Spot-check yourself and others frequently for ticks on clothes; if you find one, there may be others—check thoroughly.

* Remove clothes after leaving tick-infested areas and, if possible, wash and dry them to eliminate any unseen ticks.

* Conduct a full-body check of yourself, your children and any outdoor pets from head to toe for ticks each night before going to bed. Be sure to check the scalp, behind the head and neck, in the ears, and behind any joints.

* If you find a tick, it should be removed with tweezers. Keep the tick in a vial labeled with the victim's name, location of bite site and the date. Be sure to watch the tick bite site and call your doctor if you notice any signs or symptoms of a tick-borne illness.

* For more information about tick bites, visit www.acep.org on the World Wide Web.

"When most people think of ticks these days, they think of Lyme Disease, an infection that is spread by deer ticks found in nearly any woods area in the northeast and northcentral United States," said Russell Harris, MD, of the American College of Emergency Physicians. "However, a tick bite, although usually harmless, can also cause many other diseases."

These diseases include

Ehrlichiosis, Babesiosis, Tick Paralysis, Tick-borne Relapsing Fever, Tularemia, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and Colorado Tick Fever.

Most of these diseases have

symptoms similar to the flu, such as fever, chills, headache, muscle aches, vomiting and fatigue.

The risk of being bitten by an infected tick is greatest in the summer months, especially in May and June. This is the time of

fall the rose's roots over the cone. The bud union graft should be one to two inches above the soil in mild climates, one to two inches below in cold-winter climates. Backfill the hole with native soil. Firm it with your open palms.

* Water daily for the first 10 days, weekly thereafter.

"If you follow these simple steps," says Dolezal, "your roses will be off to a good start and they'll give you years of pleasure."

For complete, accurate information about planting, growing and caring for your roses, refer to the book *Landscaping with Roses*. It's available at bookstores, or you can check it out, along with other landscape and gardening books at www.howtobookstore.com.

Many changes have occurred at Garden State Ace Hardware in the last two years of transition, resulting in a full-service hardware and paint store.

"We've invested a lot of time and energy in stocking and orga-

nizing the store so that whatever you need, from lawn and garden supplies to plumbing and electrical items, you can find easily," said Art Luberto. "We also wish to thank our regular customers for their support during renovations."

For spring, plant and flower flats will soon be arriving to complement the store's fully-stocked seed and lawn care aisles.

"You'll be able to buy these high quality 48-plant flats for about \$14 a piece," said Bill

Luberto.

At Garden State Ace Hardware, the emphasis is on personal service and product knowledge.

That is what sets the store apart from the big chain stores, according to its owners.

"Come see us and you'll see we want your business," Art said.

Garden State Ace Hardware is open regularly from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays.

For more information on the store, call (908) 534-2235.

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Dolezal's book promises you a rose garden

A beautiful rose garden takes time, energy and a little advice along the way.

According to Robert Dolezal, author of *Black & Decker's Landscaping with Roses* (Creative Publishing International, \$16.95), spring is a terrific time to begin planting roses.

"Plant roses as soon as the ground becomes workable," Dolezal says. "Bareroot roses are dormant now, so they will grow quickly. In a matter of six to eight weeks, you'll have beautiful blooms."

Bareroot roses are a highly economical option for a beginning rose

gardener. The flowers adapt quickly to the garden's soil and results are more easily achieved. Plus, you can choose from many trouble-free varieties.

"Modern roses are remarkably tough, disease-resistant and free of pests," says Dolezal. "I planted 'Knock Out' shrub roses in my garden last year and had nonstop flowers all season long."

He recommends that gardeners plant bareroot roses using the following process:

* Unwrap and soak the plant's roots for 48 hours.

* Dig a hole 24 inches wide, 18-

24 inches deep. Make the hole's bottom wider than its top. Add well-rotted steer manure to the bottom of the hole, mixing it into the soil. Build a cone-shaped mound six inches high at the bottom of the hole.

* Fan the rose's roots over the cone. The bud union graft should be one to two inches above the soil in mild climates, one to two inches below in cold-winter climates. Backfill the hole with native soil. Firm it with your open palms.

* Water daily for the first 10 days, weekly thereafter.

"If you follow these simple steps," says Dolezal, "your roses will be off to a good start and they'll give you years of pleasure."

For complete, accurate information about planting, growing and caring for your roses, refer to the book *Landscaping with Roses*. It's available at bookstores, or you can check it out, along with other landscape and gardening books at www.howtobookstore.com.

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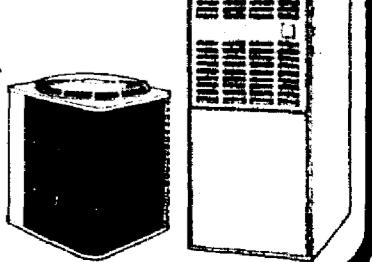
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At Home

At the Eagle Fence Company, business is all in the family

BRANCHBURG — Joe Bercaw III, president of Eagle Fence Company, said he believes in hard work.

"You have to accommodate people," Bercaw said. "You've got to give them what they want and you have to give them good service and you have to give them a good price."

Bercaw designs, sells and installs all types of fencing, including chain link, PVC, custom wood, electric and guard rails for animal pens, farms, estates, tennis courts and pools.

Fencing has been the family's business for more than 35 years. Joe Jr., formerly an Irvington K-9 police officer, started a part-time fencing business with a friend from the force to earn extra income. Eventually, he retired from the force and devoted his effort full time to the fencing business.

His son, Joe III, who had worked summers and vacations at his dad's business, decided to strike out on his own, and open Eagle Fence because of the area's increasing growth. His father soon joined him as vice president.

Today, the younger Bercaw is responsible for installation crews and inside sales while the elder Bercaw takes care of the estimating and outside sales department. His mother, Susan, who previously worked for another fencing company for many years, acts as secretary, treasurer and controller, but fills in when needed with inside sales.

The Bercaw family members pay attention to the old fashion values like quality service, when

selecting or selling materials, but they also pay attention to the workplace where they work hard to sustain a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

The Bercaws enjoy working together. The only disadvantage, said Bercaw, is their commitment to always having at least one family member present on site because it limits their time off.

"We get to spend our time together," Bercaw said. "That's an advantage. We also get satisfaction from utilizing each one's greatest assets to contribute to the overall success of the business."

"We spend a lot of time on each individual customer, regardless of whether the purchase is large or small. People appreciate it," stated Susan. "I especially like to help customers, who dare to be unique in their fence designs."

Susan is also the company's swing set sales expert.

In addition to all kinds of fencing, the Route 22 West store also stocks a large selection of gazebos, sheds, swing sets, dog houses and runs, wood and concrete lawn furniture, arbors, playhouses, flags and poles, topsoil, mulch and decorative stone.

For those who want to install their own fences, Eagle can help make it easier with the Dandy Digger, a state-of-the-art machine that is the ultimate hole digger.

"We like to say 'we sell holes,'" Joe III said.

For more information or for a free estimate on a fencing project you're considering, stop by their location on Route 22 West in Branchburg or call toll-free (800) 262-EAGLE.

Natural pest control products show 'Concern' for consumers

Every spring, homeowners spread millions of pounds of herbicide in an attempt to prevent crabgrass and dandelions from choking their plush, green lawns.

Along with trespassing plants, bothersome insects also enjoy feeding on the garden fruits and vegetables of your lawn.

For years, consumers have dealt with lawn and garden intruders by using synthetic products. But with the Environmental Protection Agency's recent ban of the popular insecticide Dursban — and the gradual phasing-out of another insecticide, Diazinon, over the next four years — more and more gardeners are choosing different natural products to replace them.

Natural pest control products have come a long way since they first appeared decades ago. Although some of the early formulas were perceived as being less effective than synthetic chemicals, today's natural insecticides often exceed the performance of traditional products.

"We're seeing a very significant increase in demand for our natural products on the heels of

the EPA's actions. Consumers want products that are not only safe, but are also highly effective," said Mike Engler, CEO of Necessary Organics, makers of Concern products.

For over 20 years, Necessary Organics has provided gardeners and farmers with natural pest control products by developing and refining its insect control, weed control and plant food technologies.

These highly effective alternatives to traditional chemicals became the Concern family of lawn, garden and household products. Natural ingredients such as extracts of orange peel, chrysanthemum flowers, fossilized sea shells and vegetable oil are used to effectively kill and repel insects and control weeds.

And, unlike chemical pest controls which typically specify a "withdrawal" period on edible crops, Concern Multipurpose Insect Killer can be applied right up to the day of harvest.

Necessary Organics is also offering lawn and garden enthusiasts a new line of all-natural weed prevention. Weed Prevention Plus 8-2-4 not only prevents crabgrass, dandelions and other weeds from becoming

established, it also feeds the lawn, providing all-natural nutrients for improved growth.

The key active ingredient in the company's new herbicide comes from corn. Researchers at Iowa State University discovered that corn gluten meal (a byproduct of animal feed production) is highly effective in preventing crabgrass.

Subsequent studies have shown this product to be highly effective in inhibiting a wide variety of broadleaf weeds as well. As an added bonus, corn gluten is an effective natural fertilizer. The corn gluten in Weed Prevention Plus 8-2-4 is supplemented with additional natural turf nutrients to provide an 8-2-4 nutrient ratio.

"This is a real breakthrough. For the first time ever, homeowners have the option of using an effective, all-natural pre-emergent herbicide on their lawns," says Engler. "Consumers are demanding products that are safe for people, pets and wildlife, and we are providing them with all natural solutions."

For more information on weed and insect control, visit www.concerngarden.com on the World Wide Web.

Tired of looking at the same old home? Now may be the right time to renovate

Can't bear another day with green countertops?

Does your rust-colored carpet make you cringe?

If your home's interior looks like the set of "Three's Company," or if you're just ready for a change, now may be the perfect time to renovate.

The right remodeling project can enhance the livability and value of your home — but which ones will give you the best bang for your buck?

Although your personal tastes should factor into the project you choose, you also may also want to take into account what a possible buyer might like. Don't worry, mind-bending isn't necessary.

According to Remodeling magazine's "2000-2001 Cost vs. Value Report," kitchen and bath remodels — along with second-story, bathroom and family room additions — recoup most of your costs when your home is sold.

Other improvements you might want to consider include:

Energy efficiency: With energy bills going sky-high, a new furnace that updates your home's energy efficiency can lower your energy bills, as well as appeal to buyers. Consider a new heating and cooling system, new windows or added insulation.

Landscaping: Shrubs, rock gardens and retaining walls can enhance the beauty of your home's exterior and increase

curb appeal when it's time to sell. Properly placed trees can block wind and lower heating costs.

Visiting model homes: This is another good way to predict what amenities future buyers might appreciate and find ideas that you might appreciate. Tour open houses around your neighborhood, too. Besides getting free cookies, you'll get a chance to see how your home compares with others that a potential buyer might visit.

So you've decided on a project. Now, where do you begin?

If your project is complicated, you will probably want to start by hiring a contractor.

The Better Business Bureau recommends getting bids from at least two or three contractors using the same specifications. Ask for local references and try to visit one of their completed projects. Verify that the contractor has insurance to cover worker's compensation, property damage and personal liability in case of accidents.

Also, make sure the contractor is bonded and licensed if your city or town requires it.

A strong housing market has made it easier to finance home improvements. Rising home

values can mean increased home equity for people who have owned their homes for several years. Equity is the difference between what your home is worth and how much you owe on your mortgage and any other liens on the home. Home equity loans let you borrow against that value for a variety of uses, including home improvement projects. Home equity loans are available at fixed rates with average terms up to 15 years. These loans usually have lower interest rates than credit cards, which may mean lower payments and more savings for you.

Best of all, the interest on home equity loans may be tax deductible (be sure to talk to your tax advisor!).

These are great backgrounds for stenciling or decorative

HIGH BRIDGE — Yvonne's Decorative Painting Studio has added something new.

Faux Finishes for walls has been added to Yvonne's Decorative Painting Studio schedule of classes.

The wall finishes are being taught using water-base products. There will be five different finishes taught by Pattie Bierwirth.

Bierwirth owns her own business called Artistic Reflections. She does custom decorative painting. She can teach you the techniques needed to faux finish your own walls.

These are great backgrounds for stenciling or decorative

painting on your walls.

Yvonne's Decorative Painting Studio has also added Unfinished Furniture to their extensive line of unfinished wood items.

You can special order just the right piece for your home, it can be finished with some of the same techniques as used for walls or from the many faux finishes taught for the smaller

pieces.

These pieces look great with decorative painting on them.

Group instruction is also available at Yvonne's for adults or children. Call for details and shop hours.

Yvonne's Decorative Painting Studio is located at 81 W. Main St. in High Bridge.

For more information, call (908) 638-0593.

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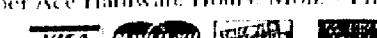
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At Home

Want to burn calories and build muscles? Home gardening may be the best exercise

Turn on the television at any time of day and you'll be bombarded with ads for pills, powders, drinks, and exercise gizmos that promise to help you shed excess pounds.

But before you shell out \$50 for the "Chub-Buster 5000," you might want to consider just getting out your gardening gloves.

Spring and summer gardening can be a great whole-body workout to shed extra winter weight. Weight-bearing activities such as digging and lifting can build muscle, and aerobic activities such as raking, mowing and hoeing can burn calories.

A 180-pound person will use 202 calories during 30 minutes of digging, spading and tilling. Even 30 minutes of cutting the grass on a riding mower burns 101 calories.

Other calorie-burners include:

- * **Raking** (30 minutes) — 162 calories
- * **Planting trees** (30 minutes) — 182 calories
- * **Trimming shrubs manually** (30 minutes) — 182 calories
- * **Laying sod** (30 minutes) — 202 calories
- * **Turning compost** (30 minutes) — 250 calories

As with any exercise, it's important to warm up and stretch before you begin gardening or yard work. Vary your activities to avoid overusing specific muscles. To prevent back injuries, bend from the knees when you rake and hoe or when you lift

heavy objects such as bags of potting soil. You'll also want to protect yourself from excess sun exposure. Wear a hat and use a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15.

Drink adequate fluids to avoid becoming dehydrated, and retreat to someplace cooler if you feel yourself getting overheated.

There's even more good news for green thumbs. According to a 2000 University of Arkansas study that compared many forms of exercise, yard work is most significant for preventing osteoporosis in women age 50 and older. Researchers compared yard work to bicycling, aerobics, dancing and weight-training.

Yard work and weight-training were the only two activities shown to be significant for maintaining healthy bone mass.

The best part of gardening may be the edible rewards. A summer's bounty of fruits and vegetables contains fiber that may reduce your risk for colon cancer, as well as antioxidants and phytochemicals that may reduce your risk for heart disease and some cancers.

Fruits and vegetables are also low in fat, which can help with weight loss.

The American Dietetic Association recommends that adults get at least three to five servings of vegetables, and two to four servings of fruits, each day.

Natural formula is successful at keeping deer out of gardens

Deer all around the country are now learning they should never have eaten Athena Loucas' plants nine years ago.

An avid and knowledgeable gardener, Loucas became so upset at the damage deer were doing to plants and flowers on her five acres of property in Stamford, Conn., she started manufacturing her own deer repellent solution.

Today, DEER-OFF® is the fastest growing deer repellent on the market and was recently ranked number one out of 35 deer repellents tested in a four-year study at Rutgers University.

The repellent, made from natural biodegradable food products and containing no harmful chemicals, is registered with the appropriate environmental agencies in all 50 states in the United States and was found to prevent deer from damaging vegetation up to three times longer than the next most effective product.

The product is the result of Loucas' tenacity and creativity in preventing deer from feeding on her garden. After exhausting just about every remedy she could think of — from moth balls to soap and human hair — the Connecticut homemaker went to the library

and did some research.

"I was pretty creative in the kitchen, so I just began mixing my own solutions," she explained. "I didn't like chemical repellents and they didn't last, either. Since I was concerned with the environment, I used all-natural ingredients."

DEER-OFF consists of eggs, hot pepper, garlic, vinegar and an adhesive that allows the product to stick to whatever it is applied to. Unlike most other repellents, which rely on a single barrier, Loucas' patented Dual Deterrent System formula protects plants by leaving both an odor and taste that animals find repulsive.

Most importantly, the product is long-lasting, with one application lasting up to three months, and it won't wash away in normal rain or snow. It is sold at nurseries, garden and home centers and hardware outlets, comes with a 100-percent consumer guarantee.

It's important to make sure your mower is ready for spring

you emptied the mower of gas at the end of the season, cleaned it and sharpened the cutting blade, changed the oil, cleaned the air filter and lubricated the moving parts before you put it away for the year, it should be ready to go. But, if you are like many homeowners who just parked it in the garage overjoyed to end the lawn mowing season before the snow flew, you may be in for a surprise when you try to start it for the first time this spring.

What can you do? Have your mower serviced early by an independent power equipment dealer. Service bays are slower before the season starts. If you wait you may be lining up with everyone else who didn't prepare their mower last fall as well as commercial cutters who rely on their machines daily. Month-long waits are not uncommon at the beginning of the season.

Add accessories and reduce your workload. If your mower is running well, maybe it's time to put it to work doing more than just mowing. Tractors, zero-turning radius mowers and rear-engine riders have the expected accessories—grass catchers and utility trailers—but there is much more. Mulching blades, attachable fertilizer spreaders, aerators and lawn sweepers add value to your existing mower and help you get big jobs done in half the time. Even walk-behind mowers have accessory options that convert your existing mower into a more productive machine that can thatch, shred leaves and mulch. Adding options like swivel wheels makes your older machine more maneuverable. Your dealer can help you find the accessories that will work best for your mower.

For more lawn care tips, information on Snapper Equipment or for a list of independent dealers, contact Snapper at (800) SNAPPER or visit www.snapper.com on the World Wide Web.

By any other name, it's not just a rose

A rose is a rose is a rose? That's a thorny subject, especially given the vibrant, cheerful and exciting colors of this year's All-America Rose Selections winners. These striking varieties with their novel beauty are now available at retail garden stores and through selected catalogs.

Both professional growers and amateur gardeners are delighted by these stunning AARS roses, which include Sun Sprinkles, a bright yellow miniature bursting into life early and often; Marmalade Skies, an orange floribunda bearing an entire bouquet of continuous blooms on each stem; and Glowing Peace, a grandiflora combining timeless beauty and modern novelty.

When you plant these disease-resistant roses, you'll find them compatible and beautiful. These AARS roses are likely to become the new focal point of your garden.

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Community Life

Prime
Time
Inside

Westfield schools schedule concerts

WESTFIELD — The schools have a variety of musical performances this month.

Each concert is slated to begin at 7:30 p.m. The schedule:

Wednesday — Symphonic Orchestra of Westfield High School, 550 Dorian Road.

May 14 — Northside Elementary Orchestra, Roosevelt Intermediate School, 301 Clark St.

May 15 — Spring concert of Wilson School, 301 Linden Ave.

May 16 — Instrumental concert of Franklin School, 700 Prospect St.

May 17 — Spring concert of Tamaques School, 641 Willow Grove Road.

May 21 — Southside Elementary Orchestra, Edison Intermediate School, 800 Rahway Ave.; spring concert of Franklin School.

May 22 — Spring vocal concert of Westfield High School.

May 23 — Spring concerts of Jefferson School, 1200 Boulevard, and McKinley School, 500 First St.

May 24 — Spring concert of Washington School, 900 St. Marks Ave.

May 31 — Concert Band and Wind Ensemble of Westfield High School.

June 5 — Spring vocal concert of Edison Intermediate School.

June 12 — Instrumental concert of Edison Intermediate School.

June 13 — Chorale of Roosevelt Intermediate School.

June 14 — Chorale and orchestra of Roosevelt Intermediate School.



Bigger and better

The library inside Westfield's Wilson School officially opened with a special ribbon-cutting ceremony during the last week of March. Construction on the library began last summer with funds approved by voters in a 1998 bond referendum. The new library, described by media specialist Diane Smith as "bigger and better," includes extra space for more books, a reading corner with animal-cushion seats and computer stations, among other amenities. On hand for the ribbon-cutting ceremony were (left to right) Board of Education President Darielle Walsh, Wilson Principal Andrew Perry, School Business Administrator Robert Berman, PTA co-President Cathy Daly, school board members Anne Riegel and Annmarie Puleo, Superintendent of Schools William Foley, PTA co-President Carrie Mumford, Smith and student library assistant Britta Greene.

Hadassah, temple sisters schedule Holocaust commemoration event

CRANFORD — Hadassah and the Sisterhood of Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim have scheduled a combined Holocaust commemoration program.

The event is scheduled to

begin at 9:15 a.m. Sunday in the synagogue, located at 338 Walnut Ave. in Cranford.

The scheduled speaker is Rose Gelfman of Westfield, a Hadassah member and a past secretary of the synagogue. She will speak about her own experience during World War II and what she went through in Shanghai, China, after fleeing the Nazis. An appropriate song

and poem will be presented.

Great Polonitz and Mollie Sperling are co-presidents of the Sisterhood. Elaine Savoia is the president of Hadassah. Members of Hadassah, the Sisterhood, their spouses and children are invited. Dairy refreshments will be served.

The Judaic Shop will be open under the direction of Chairman Harriet Scheiner.

Westfield Symphony Orchestra presents 'The Marriage of Figaro'

WESTFIELD — "The Marriage of Figaro" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is being presented in concert format with the Westfield Symphony Orchestra.

The concert is scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. April 28 at the Presbyterian Church, located at 140 Mountain Ave. in Westfield.

The opera will be sung in Italian with a running English narrative. Singers are Timothy Blevins as Figaro, Pamela Kuhn as Countess Almaviva, Timothy Truschel as Count Almaviva, Kyoko Saito as Susanna and

Erma Gattie as Cherubino. Music is by the WSO with Music Director David Wroe as conductor.

Admission is \$25 for adults, \$22 for seniors and \$15 for students. Advance tickets are available at Lancaster Ltd. and the Town Book Store in Westfield, Beautiful Things in Scotch Plains, Bayberry Card and Gift Boutique in Mountainside and Martin Jewelers in Cranford.

For more information, visit www.westfieldnj.com/wso on the World Wide Web or call (908) 232-9400.

Briefs

Union County College to Take Back the Night

CRANFORD — "Take Back the Night" is the theme of a women's rights program organized locally by the Student Volunteer Organization of Union County College.

This year's program is scheduled for April 28 on the college campus located at 1033 Springfield Ave. in Cranford. The program schedule:

5:30 p.m. — Opening addresses by Elizabeth Volpe of the National Organization for Women and Rep. Michael Ferguson.

6:30 p.m. — Keynote speech by Maggie Hadleigh-West and candlelight vigil.

7:30 p.m. — Panel discussion with survivors of rape, incest physical abuse.

10:30 p.m. — Closing remarks and entertainment.

Teen-age girls as well as adult women are encouraged to participate.

For more information, call Cyndi Roemer at (908) 497-4385.

The local "Take Back the Night" program is conducted with the help of the Washington Rock Girl Scout Council and Union County College's Student Government Association.

Alpha lectures explore the Christian faith

WESTFIELD — The Alpha course is a 10-week lecture series that provides a practical exploration of the Christian faith.

The first lecture in the series is scheduled to run from 6 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. Wednesday at the First Baptist Church, located on Elm Street in Westfield.

Each week's program begins with a group meal. Rev. Darla D. Turlington, senior minister, follows the meal with the lecture. People gather in small groups after the lecture to share their thoughts on the lecture. Trained lay people served as facilitators.

As part of the Alpha course, participants can go on a weekend retreat about halfway through the series.

Admission is free and the public is invited to attend the series.

For more information, send an e-mail to 1st.baptist.westfield@att.net, or call (908) 233-2278.

Health Department hosts free rabies clinic

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Health Department is sponsoring a free rabies clinic Wednesday at the north side firehouse.

The clinic is open to cats and dogs that live in the township.

Cats will be vaccinated from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. All cats must be in carriers and accompanied by an adult.

Dogs will be vaccinated from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. All dogs must be on leashes and accompanied by an adult.

In addition, 2001 dog licenses can also be purchased at the clinic. Licenses are \$6.20 if the dog is spayed or neutered, \$9.20 if the dog is not.

The north side firehouse is located behind the Scotch Plains Municipal Building at 430 Park Ave. in the township.

For more information, call (908) 322-6700, ext. 309.

Top Shelf series takes the mystery out of wine

WESTFIELD — There's no need to feel challenged by Chardonnay, mystified by Merlot or baffled by Bordeaux.

Top Shelf, central New Jersey's premiere wine education institution, is entering its fourth year with an expanded list of classes dubbed "Exploring Wines ... A-Z."

Classes are slated to be held in the Acquaviva restaurant, located at 115 Elm St. in Westfield.

Topics are "Great Whites of California and France," June 12; the "Australian Wine Journey," June 19; "Rustic Reds of Chile, Argentina and Spain," June 26; "Great Reds of Italy," July 10; "Syrah the World Over," July 17; "Making Sense of Pairing Wine and Food," July 24.

All classes are scheduled to run from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Cost is \$60 per class or \$325 for the series. Each class includes a tasting of seven wines and assorted cheese and bread, plus a comprehensive handout for each class topic.

For reservations or more information, send an e-mail to www.topshelfcorked.com or call (973) 699-2199.

Top Shelf is founded by George Staikos, a wine educator who lives in Westfield. Visit www.topshelfcorked.com on the World Wide Web for a complete class schedule.

Golden Nuggets SENIORS

Westfield Y

Registration is underway on these trips for the "60 and Better Set":

Tuesday, May 22 — Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pa. Cost of \$60 includes lunch.

June 13 — Mid-Hudson Valley: Vanderbilt mansion in Hyde Park, N.Y., and Huguenot Homes in New Paltz, N.Y. Cost of \$60 includes lunch.

June 21 — Culinary Institute of America and Franklin D. Roosevelt mansion in Hyde Park, N.Y. Cost of \$85 includes lunch.

All trips are open to the public. Payment in full is required in person at the Westfield Y, 220 Clark St. Seating is limited.

For more information, call Barbara Karp at (908) 233-2700, ext. 335.

This week

FRIDAY

APRIL 20

FRIDAY NIGHT FLICK — "Gladiator" Academy Award winner from spring last. Fanwood Memorial Library, North Avenue, Fanwood, 7:30 p.m. Free. Call (908) 322-6400.

SATURDAY

APRIL 21

FLEA MARKET — and garage sale, benefit for Best Friend Dog and Animal Adoption, 926 Irving St., Westfield, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Donations: Call (908) 233-9041 or (732) 388-8930.

BOOK SIGNING — "Coming Back to Me" by Caroline Leavitt. Town Book Store, 255 E. Broad St., Westfield, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Call (908) 233-3535.

BOOK SIGNING — "Your Hot Spots" by Dr. Ira Schwartz. Town Book Store, 255 E. Broad St., Westfield, 2-4 p.m. Call (908) 233-3535.

ANNUAL CONCERT — Orchestra of St. Peter by the Sea. Union Catholic High School, 1600 Martine Ave., Scotch Plains, 8 p.m. Adults \$26; seniors \$23; students (18-under) \$10. Tickets: Call (908) 233-2042.

SUNDAY

APRIL 22

INTERFAITH SINGLES — for single adults over 45. First Baptist Church, 170 Elm St., Westfield, 9 a.m. April 22, 29. Cost \$2. Call (908) 889-5265 or (908) 889-4751.

BOOK LECTURE — "Suddenly Jewish" by Barbara Kessel. Jewish Community Center of Central New Jersey, 1391 Martine Ave., Scotch Plains, 10:30 a.m. Non-members \$13; members \$10; seniors, students \$8. Reservations required; call (908) 889-8800, Ext. 205.

BONE DENSITY — screening for osteoporosis. Westfield Y, 220 Clark St., Westfield, 1-4 p.m. Cost \$40. Appointments required; call (908) 233-2700, Ext. 251.

SHEEP TO SHAWL — annual festival of Miller-Cory House

MONDAY

APRIL 23

GOLF AND TENNIS — tournament, annual event for Union County College Foundation. Echo Lake Country Club, Westfield. Registration: Call (908) 709-7505.

TUESDAY

APRIL 24

SHOPPING TRIP — Vanity Fair outlets in Reading, Pa. Bus leaves Green Forest Park, Scotch Plains, 8:30 a.m. Residents \$10; non-residents \$12. Registration: Call (908) 322-6700, Ext. 221.

'A CENTURY OF SONGWRITERS' with Kenny Sack. Fanwood Memorial Library, North Avenue, Fanwood, 7 p.m. Free. Call (908) 322-6400.

QUAKERS — in Union County, covered by Charles Varian and Jeff Hitchcock. Railroad station, North Avenue, Fanwood, 8 p.m. Call (908) 232-1199.

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 25

ALPHA — first in 10-week course on "basic claims of Christianity." First Baptist Church, 170 Elm St., Westfield, 6 p.m. Free. Call (908) 233-2278.

RABIES CLINIC — for cats and dogs from Scotch Plains. Firehouse, 430 Park Ave., Scotch Plains, 6:30-7:30 p.m. (cats) and 7:30-8:30 p.m. (dogs). Call (908) 322-6700, Ext. 309.

ANTI-BIAS — government-sponsored program at Presbyterian Church, 140 Mountain Ave., Westfield, 7 p.m. Free. Call (908) 653-0357 or (908) 527-4505.

JUST SAY NO — "Dating, Drugs and the Social Scene," sponsored by PTA of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, 641 Westfield Road, Scotch Plains, 7:30 p.m. Call (908) 654-4441.

SCHOOL MUSIC — Symphonic Orchestra of Westfield High

School, 550 Dorian Road, Westfield, 7:30 p.m. Call (908) 789-4500.

THURSDAY

APRIL 26

OPEN MIC — spoken-word program of Westfield Memorial Library, 550 E. Broad St., Westfield, 7:30 p.m. Free. Registration: Call (908) 789-4090.

FRIDAY

APRIL 27

FRIDAY NIGHT FLICK — "The Seven Samurai," 1950s movie from Japan. Fanwood Memorial Library, North Avenue, Fanwood, 7:30 p.m. Free. Call (908) 322-6400.

NIGHT SKY — viewed from the Sperry Observatory at Union County College, 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford, 8-11 p.m. Call (908) 276-STAR.

COMING UP

ASTRONOMY DAY — annual event of Sperry Observatory at

Arthur S. Taylor Jr.

SCOTCH PLAINS — Arthur S. Taylor Jr., 80, died April 11 at his home.

He lived in his native Plainfield and in North Plainfield before moving to Scotch Plains in 1957.

He was a decorated World War II aviator. He flew B-17 bombers with the 490th Squadron of the 8th U.S. Air Force in the war. He was aboard 35 wartime missions and awarded the Air Medal with five oak leaf clusters.

He received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Lehigh University in 1948 and a master's degree from the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

He worked in civilian life as a systems analyst with IBM Corp. He worked for IBM from 1949 until his retirement in 1987.

A Mason for more than 50 years, he was associated with the

Alfred Ulichny

SCOTCH PLAINS — Alfred A. Ulichny, 68, died April 9 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

He was born in Irvington and lived in Scotch Plains since 1967.

He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

He was a vice president of the trust division of the former Midlantic National Bank. He retired in 1994 after 42 years with Midlantic and its predecessors.

He later worked for the United States Golf Association at its Far Hills offices.

Lowell C. Doak

WESTFIELD — Lowell C. Doak, 88, a certified public accountant and a former comptroller of Rutgers University, died April 12 at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

He was born in Gallatin, Mo., and lived in Fulton, Mo., before moving to Westfield in 1963.

He earned a bachelor's degree from Central Methodist College in 1935 and a master of business administration degree from the University of Chicago in 1948.

He retired from Rutgers in 1984 after 21 years as its comptroller, based on the university's New Brunswick campus. He also was for two years the assistant athletic director for finances at Rutgers.

He began his career during World War II as the comptroller for metallurgical laboratories at the University of Chicago. After the war he was a senior accountant with Arthur Anderson & Co. in Kansas City, Mo., and the head of the accounting department at La Salle Extension University.

He was an officer of the Union League Club of Chicago, the Executives Club of Chicago, the Illinois Society of Certified Public Accountants and American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Scotchwood Lodge in Scotch Plains and later the Atlas Pythagoras Lodge in Westfield. He also was a member of the Lehigh University Alumni Association and a former member of Mensa.

Surviving are his wife, Marguerite Rizzon Taylor; sons Alan S. of Fanwood and Randolph B. of Danbury, Conn.; daughter Nancy K. Worth of Middlesex; sister Elizabeth Gustafson of Scotch Plains; and two grandchildren.

Services were held Saturday at the Scotch Plains Baptist Church, of which Mr. Taylor was a member. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery. Arrangements were by the Memorial Funeral Home in Fanwood.

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

Obituaries

Joeva K. Lehfeld Substitute teacher

WESTFIELD — Joeva Katherine Lehfeld, 71, died April 12 at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

She was born in Alpha, Iowa, and lived in Secaucus before moving to Westfield in 1968.

She had been a teacher and a prominent member of the First United Methodist Church of Westfield.

She retired in 1999 after 30 years as a substitute teacher in the Scotch Plains-Fanwood, Garwood and Cranford school systems. She earlier was for two years a teacher in Pella, Iowa, where she earned a degree in education from Central College.

At the First United Methodist Church she was active in the Senior Adventurers Committee;

the Worship, Music and Arts Committee; the Martha Circle; the Homeless Hospitality group; and the food pantry. Mrs. Lehfeld also was an American Cancer Society volunteer.

Her husband, George W., died in 1992.

Surviving are a son, Douglas; two daughters, Barbara J. Jones and Alane Moysich; a brother, Joseph TerLouw; two sisters, Harriet Mendenhall and Nivale Sophie; and two grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Monday at the First United Methodist Church with arrangements by the Gray Funeral Home.

Memorial donations may be sent to the charity of the donor's choice.

Donald Creighton Sr. Longtime township attorney

CRANFORD — Donald R. Creighton Sr., 91, a lawyer and for many years the Cranford township attorney, died Thursday at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

As township attorney from 1957-80 he helped draft the ordinance that authorized construction of the Municipal Building on Springfield Avenue and the Cranford Public Library on Walnut Avenue.

After receiving a law degree from the Harvard Law School in 1934 Mr. Creighton began his law career as general counsel to the former Central Railroad Co. of New Jersey and the former Erie Lackawanna Railroad. He became a partner in the Hoboken firm Dickson & Creighton when it opened in 1956; he remained a partner until the firm was bought out in the 1980s and continued for a number of years after his retirement.

Mr. Creighton also was a trustee of the Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken as well as a director of St. Mary's Hospital and

the Palisades Savings & Loan Association in that city. He received a bachelor's degree in English, with honors, from Rutgers University in 1931.

He was a member of the Union County Bar Association, the Hoboken Rotary Club and Phi Gamma Delta fraternity at Rutgers.

Mr. Creighton was born in Athens, N.Y., and lived in Cranford since 1941.

Surviving are his wife of 70 years, Blanche A. Olsen Creighton; two sons, Donald R. Jr. of Park Ridge and Jerry L. Sr. of Randolph; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Services were held Tuesday at Trinity Episcopal Church, of which Mr. Creighton was a vestryman. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery, Westfield, with arrangements by the Gray Memorial Funeral Home.

Memorial donations may be sent to the Permanent Endowment Fund of Trinity Episcopal Church, North and Forrest Avenues, Cranford, NJ 07016.

Ellenor Madden Actress, playwright

CRANFORD — Ellenor Madden, 81, a character actress and playwright who performed for the Cranford Dramatic Club and other regional theaters, died Thursday at the Actors' Fund Nursing Home in Englewood.

As a Cranford Dramatic Club member from 1953 into the 1970s she appeared in "Boy Meets Girl," a production for which Mrs. Madden wrote an adaptation. She also had roles in the club's presentations of "Desk Set" and "Auntie Mame," among others. Her published plays include "When the Rain is On the Roof," "The Heart is a Circle" and "Whatever Happened to Prince Charming?"

Mrs. Madden began her stage career in 1938 under her birth name, Ellenor Storz, playing Miss Ethel Campion in "Petticoat Fever" at the Elizabeth Civic Theater. With the Rahway Theater Guild she starred in "See How They Run," "Goodbye My Fancy" and "When the Rain is On the Roof." She appeared in the Foothill Playhouse summer stock productions of "The Girlfriend" in 1957 and "Therese" in 1958.

She moved to professional theater in the 1960s at the Paper Mill

Playhouse in Millburn and the Westport Country Playhouse in Westport, Conn. Among the professional roles for Mrs. Madden were Essie the Maid in "Critic's Choice" and Aunt Gussie in "Come Blow Your Horn." Her final professional performance was as Mrs. Plumm in "Uncommon Women and Others" for the New Jersey Public Theater in 1983.

Her husband of 58 years, John A. Sr., was a character actor at the Paper Mill Playhouse and Westport Country Playhouse in the 1960s. Mr. Madden also worked in the finance departments of the Paper Mill Playhouse and the Nederlander Organization until his death.

Mrs. Madden, who was born in Elizabeth, lived in Cranford from 1952 until she moved to Englewood in 1999.

Surviving are two sons, John A. Jr. of Clinton and Michael of Cranford; and two grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Wednesday night at the Dooley Funeral Home.

Memorial donations may be sent to Actors' Fund Nursing Home, 155 W. Hudson Ave., Englewood, NJ 07631.

How to submit obituaries to the Record-Press

The Record-Press prints obituaries and memorial service notices free of charge.

The new deadline for the submission of obituaries is 10 a.m. Wednesdays. Obituaries received after this time will be published the following week.

Please ask funeral directors to forward the information to us via fax at (908) 575-6688 or e-mail at union@njnpublishing.com.

For more information, call Editor Gregory Zeller at (908) 575-6686.

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Trinity Pentecostal
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Wednesday, 7:30 pm

Midweek Service

Cranford VFW Post 335, South Ave. East

Sun. 10:00 am Nursing Home Ministry

Sun. 11:00 am Sunday School

Sun. 6:30 pm Worship

Sat. 7:30 pm Pentecostal Prayer

(call for location information)

Pastor Frank Sforza

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April 19 & 20, 2001

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BEST BETS

Trailside nature center hosts wildest event yet

MOUNTAINSIDE — The Trailside Nature & Science Center has scheduled its 12th-annual Wildlife Sunday.

The yearly event — which is slated to include lectures, demonstrations, nature walks and various activities and games for families — is scheduled to run from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday at Trailside, located at 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside.

Wildlife Sunday will also include live animals, face-painting, door prizes and food vendors, according to a press release announcing the event.

Admission is \$2 per person and includes two door-prize tickets.

Children under 7 will be admitted free.

For more information, call the Trailside Nature & Science Center at (908) 789-3670.

Musician Sack recalls a Century of Songwriters

FANWOOD — Kenny Sack is scheduled to take an audience through "A Century of Songwriters" at the borough's Memorial Library.

Sack's appearance is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the library, located at the intersection of North Avenue and Tillotson Road, just east of the railroad station, in Fanwood.

The guitarist-pianist has performed this continually evolving program throughout Union County since it began in October at the Roselle Park Memorial Library.

Sack includes his own songs as well as those of Tin Pan Alley and the 70's singer-songwriter period. His songs have received honorable mention in the Unisong International Song Contest.

Admission to Tuesday's event is free.

For more information, phone (908) 322-6400.

Funding for "A Century of Songwriters" is in part by a Heart Grant from the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Plays-in-the-Park sets open summer auditions

EDISON — Plays-in-the-Park is holding open auditions for its 39th season of summer musicals.

Auditions are in the Stephen J. Capestro Theater in Roosevelt Park, located in Edison.

Adults 18 and older can audition 7:30 p.m. May 4; 1 p.m. May 5; and noon May 6.

Children 8-15 years old can audition 10 a.m. May 5.

Musicals on the Plays-in-the-Park schedule are "Cabaret," July 3-14; "Oliver!" July 25-Aug. 4; and "Peter Pan," Aug. 15-25.

Those interested in auditioning should prepare their best 16 bars of an up-tempo song and bring sheet music in the proper key. An accompanist will be provided.

Girls will be considered for the parts of the Lost Boys in "Peter Pan" and the Workhouse Boys in "Oliver!"

For more information, visit www.playsinthepark.com on the World Wide Web or call (732) 548-2884.

To get to the Stephen J. Capestro Theater, take the Garden State Parkway to Exit 130, then take Route 1 South to the Grandview Avenue/Roosevelt Park jughandle.

Westfield teacher's 'Akin to Fire' burns in Morristown

Colonial Symphony will top off season with world premier

MORRISTOWN — The Colonial Symphony is scheduled to conclude its 2000-2001 season with the world premiere of "Akin to Fire" by Raymond Wojcik, a teacher at Westfield High School.

This 12-minute melodic piece is based on the Jean Fitzgerald poem "Elemental" and is slated to be presented 8:30 p.m. May 5 at the Community Theatre in

Morristown.

Wojcik recently finished 10 years as music director of the Garden State Philharmonic. His venues have also included the Amadeus Orchestra in England, the Southampton Chamber Music Society in Southampton,

N.Y., and the Conductors Institute at Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y.

The Perth Amboy resident also has been the music director and conductor of the Brunswick Symphony Orchestra.

Also on the May 5 program of

"Bittersweet Romance" are the "Pathetique" Symphony No. 6 in B minor, by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky, and the Piano Concerto No. 2 in F minor by Frederic Chopin.

The scheduled featured soloist is pianist Joseph Kalichstein.

Admission is \$36-\$14 for adults; \$5 for high school and college students; and free for children (kindergarten through grade eight) accompanied by a paying adult.

A lecture by Martin Bookspan is scheduled to precede the performance at 7:30 p.m.

For tickets, directions or more information, call (973) 539-8008.

'Sound of Music' sings this spring

Cranford club sets May show times for classic musical

CRANFORD — "The Sound of Music" is the spring production of the Cranford Dramatic Club.

Performances of the classic Rodgers & Hammerstein musical are scheduled for 8 p.m. May 4, 11 and 18; 8 p.m. May 5, 12 and 19; and 2 p.m. May 13, Mother's Day.

Starring in the spring production are Hope Weinstein, as Maria; Scott Smith of Fanwood, as Capt. von Trapp; Ann Weeks of Westfield, as the Mother Abbess; Madge Wittel of Westfield, as Sister Berthe; Karen Chamis, as Sister Margaretta; Sandy Howard of Cranford, as Sister Sophia; Eddie Egan of Cranford and David Briceno, sharing the role of Rolf; and Pam Skillman of Cranford, as Elsa Schraeder.

Also starring in the CDC presentation are James Finnegan, as Franz the butler; Anjanette Valiante, as Frau Schmidt; Ed Wittel, as Adm. von Schreiber; John Duryee of Cranford, as Max Detweiler; Tim Watson, as Herr Zeller; and Paul Morrongiello, as Baron Elferfeld.

Playing the children are Nicole Caprio of Cranford, as Liesl; Jarrod Schlenker of Cranford, as Friedrich; Tara Deiese of Westfield, as Louisa; Paul Sadowski, as Kurt; Maddie Skillman of Cranford, as Brigitta; Corrine Chandler of Cranford, as Marta; and Aleta Nadolny of Cranford, as Gretl. Kevin Balla of Cranford is in the

ensemble.

The Nun's Chorus includes Molly Friari, Erica Grysko, Joy Merkel, Donna Schlenker and Stacey McDermott, all of Cranford; Nora Weber and Christine Perrotta, both of Fanwood; Lee Ann Backer, Christa Carlucci, Alissa Corritore and Jeanne Woerner. Corritore also will play the Mother Abbess in one performance.

"The Sound of Music" is directed by Mary and Ken Webb of Cranford.

The show is produced by Liz Hoard of Cranford with Arlene Wachstein as assistant director. Music is under the direction of Tom Pedas. Stage managers are Kitty and Ken Leonowicz of Cranford.

Committee chairmen are Marc Chandler of Cranford, set design; Terry Schultz of Cranford, set construction; Kitty and Ken Leonowicz, set painting; Terry Blackburn, set decoration; Judi Chandler of Cranford, props; Mary McGhee of Cranford, makeup; Carolee Ashwell-Press, costumes; Ed Wittel of Westfield, sound; Vern Keller, lighting design; Peggy Seymour and Kevin Kessler of Cranford, lighting.

Admission is \$15 per seat.

For tickets, directions or more information, call (908) 276-7611.

The Cranford Dramatic Club is located at 78 Winans Ave., near Centennial Avenue between South Avenue and the Garden State Parkway, in the township.

In addition, still-lifes and portraits by Alexander Mambach of Cranford may be seen in the upstairs gallery at the Cranford Dramatic Club theater.



Back in style

The Cranford Historical Society is scheduled to present its first-ever antique fashion show, titled "Three Hundred Years of Fashion," beginning at 6:30 p.m. April 28 at the Orange Avenue School in the Cranford. The event will feature models showing off beautiful period costumes from the early 1700s all the way through the 20th century. A descriptive narrative about the time periods and the costumes will accompany each display, as well as music appropriate to the era. Included in the event will be the quintessentially fashionable Victorian garb worn by Al and Judy Bober (above); an original creation by Maribeth Lisnock (right), curator of the Historical Society's costume department; and a parade of other styles, from Colonial to Victorian to modern.



Polish foundation eyes flower power

CLARK — "The Power of the Flower" is the theme of an Edison Arts Society exhibit at the Skulski Art Gallery of the Polish Cultural Foundation.

The show is scheduled to open with a reception from 8 p.m.-10 p.m. April 27. Admission is free and refreshments will be served.

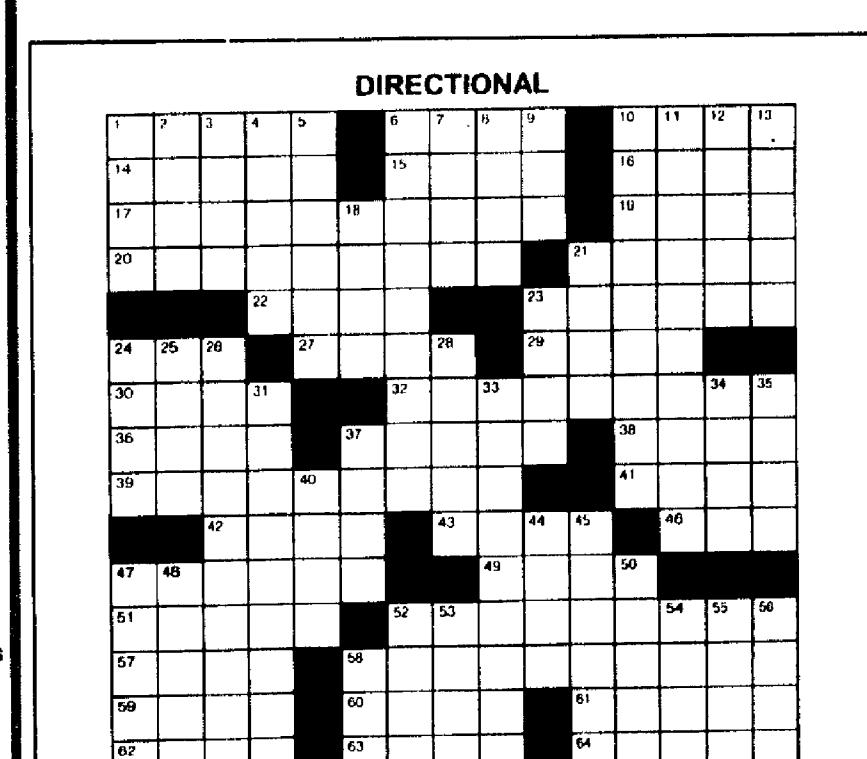
Arts Society members represented in the exhibit are Linda Trella, Joan Lok, Ray Skibinski, Linda LaStella and Frank

Gubernat. Trella is a botanical artist whose work is based on scientific renderings. Lok does lyrical watercolors that reflect her Far East education and influence. Skibinski is an abstract painter in acrylics and has always done flowers but has not exhibited them before this show.

LaStella has created a series of ceramics based on flowers. Gubernat uses drawing, painting and photography to express the nature of flowers.

"The Power of the Flower" is scheduled to run through May 25.

The Polish Cultural Foundation is located at 177 Broadway in Clark, one mile from Garden State Parkway Exit 135. Gallery hours are 5 p.m.-9 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays. For more information, call (732) 382-7197.



Go light with classic spring pasta

Pasta primavera

(Spring pasta)

1/4 cup olive oil
3 garlic cloves, sliced
3 carrots, peeled and sliced
1 bunch asparagus, sliced into 1-inch pieces
1 red bell pepper, sliced lengthwise
1 yellow bell pepper, sliced lengthwise
1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved (about 24 pieces)
3/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
2/3 cup Half & Half
2 tablespoons parmesan cheese
1 pound penne rigate pasta

Ah, spring is here! With all the beautiful vegetables coming available, why not use them with our favorite meal ... pasta!

This week's recipe, *pasta primavera* (spring pasta), is perfect for this time of year. Our taste buds are ready for some light fare after all the hearty, heavy winter stews and soups.

The preparation is not time consuming, except for the time you cook the vegetables in a single skillet, and you'll be amazed how delicious everything tastes when the vegetables come together!

When preparing the asparagus, make sure you discard the stems, and when you're

preparing the red and yellow bell peppers, be sure to remove all the seeds.

If you have any questions, please contact me via fax at (908) 272-2974.

In the meantime, *buon appetito!* Enjoy!

Bring a large pot of salted water to boil. When your vegetables are about halfway cooked, add the pasta to the water; by the time the vegetables finish, the pasta should be *al dente*.

In a 12-inch skillet, heat olive oil over medium heat. Add the garlic slices and sauté until golden.

Add the carrot slices and cook for four minutes over the



by Susan Mauriello

medium heat, then add the asparagus, cover and cook for about eight more minutes, or until the vegetables are fork-tender.

Uncover and add the sliced peppers. Cook for five minutes, stirring occasionally.

Add the cherry tomatoes, salt, pepper and Half & Half to the vegetables. You should be cooking your pasta by now; stir 1/2 cup of the pasta water into the veggies.

All of the vegetables should be fork-tender at this point. Cover them, and turn off the heat.

Drain the *al dente* pasta well and place it in a large serving bowl. Pour the vegetable sauce over the pasta and top with parmesan cheese.

You can add extra cheese to individual servings, if desired.

Ecco, tutto e pronto!

Piano show honors anniversary of the Polish constitution

CLARK — The Polish Cultural Foundation has scheduled a special piano recital to commemorate the May 3 anniversary of the signing of the Polish constitution.

The performance is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m. April 29 at the Polish Cultural Foundation, located at 177 Broadway, one mile from the Garden State Parkway, in Clark.

Featured performers for the April 29 concert are John Korczynski and Alexis Kusy, winners of the second-annual Andrew DeGrado Piano Competition.

Korczynski is expected to play five works of Frederic Chopin. They are the Prelude, Op. 28; the Mazurka No. 2, Op. 33; the Mazurka No. 3, Op. 30; the Barcarolle in F sharp major, Op. 60; and the Polonaise in A flat major, Op. 53.

The pianist began studying piano at age 4 and gave his first full public recital last year at the Julius Forstmann Library in Passaic. Korczynski spent the summer of 1999 studying and performing at the Tanglewood Institute in the Berkshires. He plans a career as a pianist and composer.

Kusy is slated to play the Invention No. 13, by Johann

Sebastian Bach; the Sonata in A major, K.331, by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart; the Mazurka in C sharp minor, Op. 63, by Chopin; the Toccato, by Aram Khachaturian; and her own Fantasie.

She began studying piano at age 3 1/2 and is now a rehearsal assistant for the Ridgewood Symphony Festival Strings. Kusy played her "English Airs" at the National Junior Original Concert in Canada, to which she was the only American invited. She performed her Fantasie at the Yamaha National Junior Original Concert-Celebration 2000 and the 2000 National Jamboree in San Diego, Calif. Also on the program are the 10th-grade class from the Polish Supplementary School of the Polish Cultural Foundation and their singing group, Eli Babki, plus children from the Polish Supplementary School of Ks. Jan Skarga, Elizabeth.

Both groups are scheduled to give a short program in recitation, song and dance related to the May 3 anniversary.

Admission is free and the public is invited. For more information, call (732) 382-7197.

Fun Stuff

Chelsea at Fanwood hosts Feng Shui chat

FANWOOD — The Chelsea at Fanwood Assisted Living Residence has scheduled a free community workshop on the Chinese art of Feng Shui.

The workshop is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday at The Chelsea, located at 295 South Avenue in Fanwood.

The scheduled guest presenter is Teresa M. Polanco, a design consultant and Feng Shui practitioner.

Polanco is expected to provide information on the practice of creating a harmonious living space and surroundings using light, color, furniture placement and the practical applications of timeless principles.

The free community workshop is part of The Chelsea's ongoing community education program. The Chelsea at Fanwood is operated by Castle Senior Living LLC of Summit, a manager and developer of senior communities, nursing homes and assisted living residences in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

For more information on Wednesday's workshop, please call Marjorie Deas, The Chelsea's director of community relations, at (908) 654-5200.

Arts Guild continues 'Jazz, Etc.' concerts

RAHWAY — The Arts Guild of Rahway is slated to continue its "Jazz, Etc." series April 27 with a special musical trio.

Jimmy Halperin on tenor sax, Don Messina on bass and Bill Chattin on drums are scheduled to take the stage beginning at 8 p.m.

This trio is a combination of two different groups: Messina and Chattin have been in a trio with Larry Bluth for over 20 years; Halperin is a bandleader for combos that sometime include Messina and Chattin.

All the music and arrangements will be created spontaneously as the group improvises on tunes by Cole Porter, Jerome Kern and George Gershwin.

The trio will also improvise using compositions by Charlie Parker, Lenore Tristano and Warne Marsh, plus a few of its own pieces.

Admission is \$10 per seat.

Seating is limited and reservations are recommended; for reservations or more information, call (732) 381-7511.

The Arts Guild of Rahway is at located 1670 Irving St., near the Union County Arts Center, in Rahway.

Funding for this concert is provided in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State through a grant administered by the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

Kenilworth library friends schedule Manhattan cruise

KENILWORTH — The Friends of the Kenilworth Public Library are sponsoring a cruise around Manhattan aboard the *Spirit of New Jersey*.

The bus is scheduled to leave at 10:45 a.m. June 3 from the Veterans of Foreign Wars hall, located at 33 S. 21st St. in Kenilworth.

Cost of \$60 includes a buffet-style lunch and musical revue.

Registration is required in the library, located at 548 Boulevard in Kenilworth.

The fee is non-refundable.

For more information, call (908) 276-2451.

Fax us your entertainment news!
(908) 575-6683

Your horoscope guide, April 23 to April 29

By WANDA PERRY

COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

ARIES (March 21 - April 19): Take a good look at your financial picture. Money made recently will probably exceed your expectations. Go ahead and splurge!

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): Feel confident in the spotlight this week and don't let anything cause you to doubt yourself. New personal goals are formulated. Dream big!

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21): Being introspective allows you to seek out what really motivates or drives you. Adjust your schedule to include some meditative activities.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22):

Confusion is in the air. Avoid a possible misunderstanding with a friend over something uttered in haste. Think before you speak.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22): Make sure that your professional and personal priorities are in the proper order. Settle a pressing business matter before it gets out of hand.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22): Get a mental jump on the competition this week by reading everything in sight. Use newly discovered information to help a friend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22): Ask a counselor to guide you in making a difficult financial decision. Be patient. Missing an investment opportunity is not

the end of the world.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21): Congeniality is your key word. In your attempts to make peace, use charm, humor and diplomacy to win over a doubting partner.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): A co-worker tells a fascinating story about a new diet or exercise program. Before passing judgment, do your homework and check it out.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): Consider an alternative to careless speculating. Accept a creative challenge that will force you to bring out your best talents and skills.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): Family members are anxious and willing to talk about a

domestic issue. Take this opportunity to come clean and admit a past mistake.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20): Your mind is easily distracted this week. Gather your thoughts and do your best to focus and communicate your ideas as clearly as possible.

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS:

Creative thinking is your key to success during the coming year. Put yourself in a position where you can cash in on some of your most brilliant and outlandish ideas. Relationships are also very much in the foreground. Love teaches you a very important and valuable lesson about yourself. Be prepared to navigate through some very turbulent, emotional tides.

The Little Opera Company presents 'The Elixir of Love'

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Little Opera Company of New Jersey is scheduled to present Donizetti's "L'Elisir d'amore" on May 6.

The production of "The Elixir of Love" is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. inside the Union Catholic High School auditorium in Scotch Plains.

English narration will be provided by a special guest narrator.

The comic opera (in two acts) is the story of a love-struck farm boy, Nemorino, who falls in love with Adina, a farm owner who cannot quite decide between the true love of the simple farmer or the gallant overtures of the handsome Sergeant Belcore. Opera fans will recognize the well-known aria "Una Furtiva

Lagrima," sung by Nemorino in the second act.

The cast of professionals includes baritone Dominic Ferrera, as Belcore; tenor Dennis Delgado, as Nemorino; bass Kevin Misslich, as Delcamara; and Valerie Pineda, as Adina.

Performing with this cast of professionals will be several young singers ages 6 to 18, all of whom hail from New Jersey.

Besides the May 6 performance at Union Catholic High School, other show times are scheduled for 8:30 p.m. May 5 at The Maurice Levin Theater, located at JCC Metro in West Orange; 8 p.m. May 12 at The Armstrong Auditorium, located at the Blair Academy in Blairstown; and 2 p.m. May 13

at Boonton High School in Boonton.

Tickets for each performance

at \$30 for adults, \$23 for seniors and \$15 for students with iden-

tification. Children under 12 will be admitted free to each show.

For tickets or more information, call (800) 831-6215.

Miller-Cory House Museum schedules yearly Spring Festival

WESTFIELD — The Miller-Cory House Museum will hold its Spring Festival 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Sunday.

Visitors will see how wool is carded, spun and woven from sheep. Other 18th century crafts will be demonstrated by craftspeople from the area. Music of the period on dulcimer and guitar will provide accompaniment. For the kids, a scavenger hunt and crafts are provided.

Home-baked pies, cookies, bread and cakes are available for purchase in the bake sale. Lemonade and home-baked cookies can also be purchased.

The festival is under the direction of Patricia D'Angelo. Admission is free. For more information, call (908) 232-1776.

The Miller-Cory House Museum is located at 614 Mountain Ave. in Westfield.

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WOMEN
SEEKING MENCall 1-900-454-2259
\$1.99 per min.

ONE MAN WOMAN

Single white female, 63, affectionate, caring, faithful, full figured woman, in search of marriage minded, single or divorced, white male, for everlasting love and happiness. BOX 29259

SEEKING A GENTLEMAN

Cultured, artistic, divorced Asian female, very romantic, attractive, healthy, youthful looking minded. Enjoys travel, art, literature, music and poetry. Seeking calm, romantic, attractive, decent white man of wisdom, 38 to 47, 5'8" plus, medium build, for friendship first, possibly long term relationship. Bergen County, BOX 29281

SO MUCH TO OFFER

40 yr old, single white female, 5'11", physically fit, green eyes and dark blonde hair. Seeking a single white male, 35 to 45, same height or taller, a non-smoker, laid back, non-attached man. I have so much to give and no one to give it to. BOX 13841

RARE FIND

Single black female, mid 50's, full figured, professional. Enjoys fine dining, movies, traveling, and the theater. I'm down to earth and speak the truth. Seeking a professional single or divorced or widowed male, with similar interest, and drug free. BOX 16030

WALK WITH ME

Tall, attractive, black female, 5'9", black hair and hazel eyes and a great smile. Seeking a single, tall white male, 47 to 55, with a sense of humor, financially independent, enjoys sitting in front of the fireplace, long walks and social gatherings. BOX 42582

IT TAKES TWO

Attractive Jewish female, 35, slender, 5'7", 125 lbs, long brown hair and green eyes, never married, non-smoker/non-drinker, caring and like helping others. Seeking a single, white professional male, 32 to 44, never married, down to earth and educated, Jewish or Christian in fine. BOX 42621

ONLY THE BEST!!

Looking for accomplished Asian, 60 to 70, healthy and non-smoker, for a very upscale good looking Caucasian senior who is very accomplished and talented! If only the best will do and you are looking for the cream of the crop, this is where it has its roots. BOX 31297

LOST IN LOVE

Single female, 52", 115 lbs, non-smoker, stable, confident, independent, secure, nice smile, looking for a clean cut, outgoing, honest, dependable, and knows how to treat a woman like she should be treated. BOX 12707

YOU BUY THE POPCORN

52 yr old single lady, enjoys all types of music, bands, movies and walks in the park. Seeking male, 52 to 55, good personality and honesty for possible long term relationship. BOX 14212

CLASSY, DOWN 2 EARTH

Looks 38, feels 25, actually young 40, attractive, fit. Loves theater, occasional opera, travel, mountains, fresh air, interesting people, stimulating conversation, hiking, occasional golf, currently learning to ski. Hudson County, BOX 28484

SWEET AND PETITE

Attractive white female, 53, brown/brown, seeks white male, 48 to 57, conservative, dependable, with nice qualities, for dating and possible relationship. BOX 28487

BLUE EYED BLONDE

Single white female, 58, 115 lbs, well educated, outgoing, who enjoys all outdoor activities. Looking for a single white male, 25 to 45, who is stable, loves traveling, tall, handsome. Hudson County, BOX 28489

HONESTY IS THE KEY

Divorced white, single mom, non-smoker, pretty dark eyes, loyal, intelligent. Enjoys writing poetry, movies, dancing, is vivacious, versatile. Seeking single male, 42 to 60, non-smoker, non-drinker, educated, children okay. Seeking someone with similar qualities. No head games. Hudson County, BOX 29251

PLEASURES & TREASURE

42 yrs old, single white female, 5', 100 lbs, never married, no children, single white male to be my best friend now, who knows later, professional, educated, financially secure, enjoys dining out, long walks, slow rides, going to NYC & suburbs, and most of all laughing with company! Enjoy 42 to 55, hudson county, BOX 37688

PRETTY LADY SEEK YOU

Nice lady, 68, attractive, full figured, 5'3". Loves animals, movies, camping, walking, reading, dining, and quiet evenings at home. Seeking clean cut gentleman, around 68, who's caring and understanding. BOX 37010

UPSCALE SENIOR

I need a new oriental, or Asian dance partner. I'm a blonde up scale senior, good looking, with an attractive figure. BOX 10873

COME SEE ABOUT ME...
31 yr old, attractive, 5'3", single white female with an hour glass shape, blonde hair and olive complexion. I'm generous, loyal and have a great sense of humor. I'm extremely romantic and I'm looking for a single white male, who has similar interests. If you qualify, call me. BOX 36500CATCH MY BREATH
I'm a 31 yr old, 5'3", single white female, romantic, humorous and non-smoker. Enjoy music, cooking, sketch, shopping and sports. Seeking a single white intelligent male, honest, adorable, and likes good conversation. BOX 36502

LEAVE A MESSAGE

42 yr old, single, white Christian professional lady, 5', 100 lbs, hazel eyes, no children, financially secure, who loves to meet a man to enjoy life with. Enjoys dining out, theater and long drives. BOX 37276

TRUE LOVE WAITS

35 yr old, single female, never married, 5'11", fit, long blonde hair. Enjoys working out, hiking, movies, dining out, and more. Seeking an easy-going, financially secure, confident male, who is in shape and over 6', to share his pleasures. BOX 13912

DANCE WITH ME

Very fun and glamorous senior, white, female seeks a new hustle and swing dance partner. Must love to dance and have fun! BOX 14117

STARTING OVER

40 yrs young, divorced white, mother of one, 5'6", blonde, blue, attractive, sincere, affectionate, great sense of humor, loves long walks, the beach, candlelight dinners. Seeking male, 35 to 45, non-smoker, warm, caring, with same qualities, who loves children, for friendship and possibly more. Hudson County, BOX 29283

BODY AND SOUL

Pretty, kindhearted, professional woman, youthful 5'10", divorced, loves concerts, opera, the outdoors. Sandy Hook. Seeks lively, intellectually aware, spiritually evolved man, 40 to 60, tall, caring, for partnership and long term relationship. Hudson County, BOX 36503

IF U R THE 1, SO AM I

Single female, 48, 5'4", brown hair/eyes, fun and soulful. I enjoy movies, walks, dining and much more. Seeking an intelligent, kind, professional male, 45 to 50. BOX 14152

WEST SEEKS EAST

I am a single white senior that is attractive, self employed, healthy and fun with a great figure. I have all of the qualities to make someone very happy. I am looking to meet an single Asian male, who is accomplished and very healthy. 57- If you think you're interested get in touch with me.. BOX 36710

LONER BY CHOICE

Single white male, 5'10", 170 lb, single white male, contractor, handsome, low key, loyal with no children, toner, smoker and non-drinker. Likes camping, concerts, seeking a female to for possible relationship. BOX 37310

RECLUSIVE BY CHOICE

35 yr old, 5'10", 170 lb, single white male, contractor, handsome, caring and romantic. Enjoys the outdoors and children. Seeks an attractive yet honest and romantic female. BOX 13964

LET'S CONNECT

5'7", blonde, petite, white female. Seeking someone out going, intelligent and honest to share the beach, dancing, traveling and other interests. BOX 14230

GUY HUMOR!

I'm a divorced, 48, 5'8" male romantic, affectionate, active, and a non-smoker, enjoys dancing, biking, reading and movies. Seeking a female 40 to 50 with same similarities. BOX 13138

PLEASURES OF LIFE

Divorced white male, 51, 6'4", 230 lbs, happy, secure, professional, looking for a tall, thin, single female, 43 to 50, who enjoys the simple pleasures of life, for a possible relationship. BOX 12929

TIME OUT

Divorced male, 53, seeking a woman that enjoys going out to dinner, relaxing, talking and cooking. I would enjoy romancing a nice lady. BOX 37447

EASY GOING

White widower, 68, 5'9", 190 lbs, non-smoker or drinker, retired, easy going and have a nice sense of humor. Enjoys the outdoors, dinners, movies and concerts. Seeking a white female, 58 to 68, slim, attractive with the same interests. BOX 37440

LOVING

Single male, 5'6", 180 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, and physically fit. Enjoys sports, dining out and just having a good time. Seeking female that share the same interests. BOX 13708

BETTER TIMES TO COME

White male, 5'8", 170 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, and physically fit. Enjoys sports, dining out and just having a good time. Seeking female that share the same interests. BOX 13708

LOVES TO COOK

Italian male, 5'8", 165 lbs, enjoys music, playing number of instruments, cooking, dining out and employed. Seeking female to spend time with and make life as much fun as it can be. BOX 37467

OUTDOOR FUN

White male, 45, 5'8", 200 lbs, husky, well built. Enjoys spectator sports, plays tennis, football, basketball, movies, dining out and the outdoors. Not into balsa. Seeking someone with the same interest and some physical attraction. BOX 37754

SOMETHING IN COMMON

Professional black male, 5'9", 180 lbs, attractive, drug free. Looking for a young lady, that is nice, respectful and who would enjoy dining out, going to the movies, jogging, and more with me. BOX 12969

FRIENDS FIRST

Seeking a young professional lady, humorous, intelligent, enjoys theater, the beach and travel, 30 to 40. I'm 6'2", 195 lbs, professional business owner, home in New Jersey, apartment in Manhattan. Hudson County, BOX 28465

NICE EUROPEAN MALE

31, 5'10", in good shape, honest, down to earth, enjoys being active, the arts and good conversation. Seeks smart, outgoing female, a friend and soul mate, for long term relationship. Hudson County, BOX 28467

HOME BODY WANTED

Very handsome, intelligent, tall, educated black male, physically fit, broad shoulders, good listener, a gentleman seeks non-smoker, non-drinker, drug and disease free, attractive, shapely, 160 lbs, or less, economically secure, cutie pie, 25-41, likes cooking, romantic music, quiet evenings. Union County, BOX 30775

MARRIAGE MINDED

49 yr old widow, 6', 190 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, mustache, no children. I enjoy long country drives, antiquing, candlelight dinners, movies, good and witty conversation. Seeking a mature minded woman, with similar interests, 35 to 55, smokers okay. Middlesex County area, BOX 11660

WANT TO KNOW MORE???

50 yr old, white male, 6', 155 lbs, brown hair and eyes, mustache, HIV positive, healthy, active, enjoys cooking, dining out, gardening and going to bars. Seeking friendship first. BOX 11660

WHERE ARE THE BOYS

Professional single gay white male, 59, 172 lbs, clean cut, responsible, dependable, humorous. Looking for a boyish looking guy white male, 21 to 40, who is cute. BOX 34056

PICTURE PERFECT

Single male, 44, 5'9", 175 lbs, clean cut, good looking, good shape, looking for a single male, clean cut, boyish, and romantic. BOX 34146

MR. CLEAN

I'm a 32 yr old, 5'5", 190 lbs, male clean cut, traditional type of guy. seeking a committed male in the community for an honest and serious relationship. BOX 36217

WOMEN
SEEKING MENCall 1-900-454-2259
\$1.99 per min.

LOOK NO FURTHER

Single male, 59, 172 lbs, clean cut, mustache, no children. Enjoys cooking, dining out and the arts. Seeking friendship first. BOX 10851

WANT TO KNOW MORE???

50 yr old, white male, 6', 155 lbs, brown hair and eyes, mustache, HIV positive, healthy, active, enjoys cooking, dining out, gardening and going to bars. Seeking friendship first. BOX 11660

NEVER TOO LATE

Hello, I'm a Christian female, and I am looking for other females like me who are interested in church activities, single events, shopping and possibly starting an organization for other Christians to meet. Really would like to hear from like minded females. BOX 36633

WOMEN
SEEKING WOMENCall 1-900-454-2259
\$1.99 per min.

NEVER TOO LATE

Hello, I'm a Christian female, and I am looking for other females like me who are interested in church activities, single events, shopping and possibly starting an organization for other Christians to meet. Really would like to hear from like minded females. BOX 36633

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I'm a 31 yr old, 5'3", single white female with an hour glass shape, blonde hair and olive complexion. I'm generous, loyal and have a great sense of humor. I'm extremely romantic and I'm looking for a single white male, who has similar interests. If you qualify, call me. BOX 36500

COULD BE FATE!

Single, widowed female, in her 50's, attractive, slim, professional, enjoys outdoors, biking, hiking and long walks. Looking for a single or widow male with similar interest for a possible long term relationship. BOX 40886

SHOULD MEET!

Divorced white female, 65 yr old, 5'2", 106 lbs, enjoys movies, reading, dancing, the outdoors, all music, animal, and much more. Seeking a single male, 28 to 37, who enjoys evenings out, day trips and good conversations. Hudson County, BOX 28463

ARE YOU OUT THERE

Single white female, 40, 5'11", shoulder length, highlighted brown hair. Likes dining out, movies, the arts, long drives, and long walks on the beach as the sun is setting. Looking for a single male, 35 to 45, at least 5'11". BOX 34048

TALL AND ATTRACTIVE

36 yr old, green eyed, tall, voluptuous blonde female. I enjoy working out, music, comedy clubs, shooting pool, sports, and movies. Looking for a tall, spontaneous, single male with a good sense of humor. BOX 36767

HOPEFUL ROMANTIC

51 yr old, single white female. I'm a 51 yr old, single white female, 50 plus, good personality, good conversation, plus, good company, to praise the Lord with. In search of a physically fit female. BOX 10504

ONE DAY AT A TIME

Single white male, 40, 5'9", brown hair and hazel eyes, 131 lbs, blonde hair and good personality. Seeking gentleman 50 plus, good conversation and all the things that make a good relationship. BOX 37527

LIFE'S BETTER SHARED

Single white male, seeking partner, to share friendship, and light romance. Enjoys the outdoors, beach, and good company. To praise the Lord with. In search of a physically fit female. BOX 10504

CALL ME

Attention Jim. You called my mailbox, #16143. Titled be my valentine. Unable to contact you. Please call me back with the right number at #16143. BOX 37540

TALL AND ATTRACTIVE

36 yr old, green eyed, tall, voluptuous blonde female. I enjoy working out, music, comedy clubs, shooting pool, sports, and movies. Looking for a tall, spontaneous, single male with a good sense of humor. BOX 36767

Recent Releases

The Brothers — The film centers on four lifelong buddies in Los Angeles who are trying to navigate love's battlefield. Jackson (Morris Chestnut) is a pediatrician who's afraid of love and commitment. Brian (Bill Bellamy) loves playing the field and doesn't believe men should settle for one woman. Derrick (D.L. Hughley) is the married one in the bunch. Terry (Shemar Moore) is a former playboy who's rethinking his ways. The guys bond over basketball and beer and use the court as a place to let their guard down. But when Terry announces he's getting hitched, the other three use his announcement as a jumping-off point to examine their own relationships, or, lack thereof. In this film, the men may be kings of the castle and have the most screen-time, but it's the women who wear the pants. Cast: Morris Chestnut, D.L. Hughley, Bill Bellamy, Shemar Moore, Tamala Jones, Gabrielle Union, Jenifer Lewis, Tatyana Ali. Running Time: 103 minutes. Rated R. 2 stars.

Company Man — The nudge-nudge gag that runs through the pitifully puerile "Company Man" is that the cockamamie attempts on Fidel Castro's life are taken from real-life cockamamie attempts by the real-life CIA. The thing of it is, the real-life CIA is funnier. Douglas McGrath plays Quimp, a milquetoast high-school grammar teacher who claims to be a CIA agent in order to impress his overachieving brothers and would-be yuppie wife (Sigourney Weaver). The Company has to take him on board when a Russian dancer (Ryan Phillippe) visiting Quimp's school decides to defect, and Quimp, pitching in as a Driver's Ed teacher, brings him in from the cold. Jokes are set up, then abandoned. Vapid, predictable bits unspool interminably. And the outtakes stink worse than the movie itself. Cast: Douglas McGrath, Sigourney Weaver, John Turturro, Woody Allen, Alan Cumming, Anthony LaPaglia. Running time: 81 minutes. Rated PG-13. No stars.

Enemy at the Gates — The old-fashioned, Stalingrad epic "Enemy at the Gates" could have virtually been made during World War II, minus its steamy sex scene, a few jolts of carnage and some digitalized effects. French director Jean-Jacques Annaud, using an \$80 million budget, gives us some sense of the titanic destruction and chaos, but almost no sense of the battle plans. Annaud tightens the focus more by reducing the conflict to a mano-a-mano between the celebrated Russian sniper Vassili Zaitsev (Jude Law) and the Bavarian aristo and marksman Maj. Konig (Ed Harris). Zaitsev's political commissar Danilov (Joseph Fiennes) promptly sums up the duel as "the essence of the class struggle." No, it's the essence of old westerns, but this slaughter fest will find its fans. Cast: Joseph Fiennes, Jude Law, Ed Harris, Rachel Weisz, Bob Hoskins, Ron Perlman, Eva Mattes. Running time: 124 minutes. Rated R. 2 stars.

Exit Wounds — Some sort of distillation of excrement — low even for a Steven Segal film. He is the Detroit "rogue" cop sent to the worst precinct because, well, he saved the vice president's life. DMX is his cool-dude enemy turned friend, and lots of goons, thugs, whores, walls of muscle and hip-hop attitude cruisers are shoved through the Joel Silver meat grinder of mindless chases, smashes, deaths; even the bad dialogue offers little satisfaction. In the press kit, at least, these people are artists. Running time: 87 minutes. Rated R. No stars.

15 Minutes — Another pulp Dumpster, basically a Charles Bronson movie given a raving, MTV spin with smoky shots, wow cuts, nudity, slaughter and blowtorch dialog. Robert De Niro stomps around as an old-pro New York detective, cynically hip to exploitative media games, tracking two Slavic psychos (one a sort of mongrel ferret who hates women, the other a servile ox who enjoys videotaping the rapes and murders). Edward Burns tags along with '70s hair and an air of devout stooging. The movie takes "live at 5" issues and feeds them through a buzz saw of suspense, far more lurid than lucid. Director and writer John Herzfeld has the commercial gift of not being ashamed about being shameless. Running time: 104 minutes. Rated R. 1 1/2 stars.

Get Over It — The sublime and the stupid collide in this teen comedy, which features a musical version of "Midsummer Night's Dream" and many shots of a sex-crazed dog. The appealing Kirstin Dunst and Ben Foster star as high-school buddies destined to become more than friends, once they get his broken heart and a gorgeous ex-girlfriend out of the way. It's totally predictable, but thanks to R. Lee Fleming Jr.'s genial script, Tommy O'Haver's campy direction and the combined skills of a snappy cast (especially Martin Short as a pompous drama teacher) this is

Films in Focus

90 minutes of good — if not squeaky clean — fun. It's mindless, but it isn't stupid. Running time: 90 minutes. Rated PG-13. 2 1/2 stars.

Hannibal — The first film, "Silence of the Lambs," was clammy and vile. The new one has more pedantic manipulations. "Hannibal" is about the mystique of Lecter, enjoying the sadomasochistic pleasure of reeling in FBI Agent Clarice Starling on the twisting line of story. Since Lecter is "hiding" in Florence, we get to view the grand piazzas, and go to the opera, and hear Lecter reciting from Dante. Julianne Moore has her steel-wired, lucid intensity as Starling, and Jodie Foster's country accent. She challenges Lecter long-distance before confronting him, while lesser figures feed the doctor's appetite. The ending of Thomas Harris' book has been altered rather cutely. We can guess that another sequel is in the offing, suggested by Starling with her line about Lecter, "He's always with me. Like a bad habit." This is a habit we could all afford to break. Cast: Anthony Hopkins, Julianne Moore, Ray Liotta, Giancarlo Giannini, Francesca Neri. Running time: 131 minutes. Rated R. 1 1/2 stars.

Head Over Heels — Monica Potter plays Amanda, a dreamy restorer of Old Master paintings at the Metropolitan Museum in New York. Her new boyfriend is acted by Freddie Prinze Jr., who plays a swank young blade of Manhattan at about the level of Cary Grant's shoe-buffing machine. Prinze changes from Jim Winston, high-rise stud, to Bob Smoot, FBI man. Prinze is such a wisp of a hunk that Amanda's fixation on him seems another sign of her daffiness, though she believes she is sleuthing a possible murder. The plot exertions are so wretchedly staged and edited that they make no sense. There is something especially embarrassing about a brainless film trying to be sophisticated and sophomoric at the same time, sort of like making soufflés from mud pies. Cast: Monica Potter, Freddie Prinze Jr., Shalom Harlow, Sarah O'Hare, Ivana Milicevic, Tomiko Fraser. Running time: 91 minutes. Rated PG-13. 0 stars.

Heartbreakers — Jennifer Love Hewitt plays Page, the daughter half of a mother-daughter con-artist team led by mom, Max (Sigourney Weaver). Max lures and marries a wealthy man, denying him sex for religious reasons, then pretends to conk out on the wedding night. The next day, the frustrated groom is easily seduced by hotshot Page. Max catches the pair about to be in the act, files for quickie divorce with a sizable settlement, and it's on to the next chump. The two motor to Palm Beach to scout for the big, big score. Max zeroes in on a tobacco magnate (Gene Hackman). Meantime, semi-clad Page has sauntered into a beach bar and set about insulting and abusing the bar's laid-back owner, Jack (Jason Lee). When it comes to light that the bar rests on land worth millions, Page decides to reel him in. Cast: Sigourney Weaver, Jennifer Love Hewitt, Gene Hackman, Ray Liotta, Jason Lee. Running time: 123 minutes. Rated PG-13. 2 stars.

The Mexican — As Jerry, Brad Pitt is a goof-up sent by his criminal boss (Bob Balaban) to Mexico to get a priceless pistol — "The Mexican." He arrives in a torpid Mexican town populated by the usual clichés. Meanwhile, angry Samantha (Julia Roberts), upset by Jerry's work and his inability to serve her inner empowerment, lams off to Vegas to become a waitress and croupier. They stay in touch, though, as a hit man nabs her in order to get to Jerry and the pistol. James Gandolfini is a lonely but tough, shyly gay killer who can talk about searching and love with Samantha. This is too corny to be romantic, and the attempt at weight is a burden for a story that just needs to ramble and roll. "The Mexican" is diverting but tiresome, an entertainment that doesn't seem to quite know its mind. Cast: Julia Roberts, Brad Pitt, James Gandolfini, Bob Balaban, J.K. Simmons. Running time: 120 minutes. Rated R. 2 stars.

Monkeybone — Brendan Fraser stars as cartoonist Stu Miley. He's finally hit it big with his 'toon figure Monkeybone, and franchisers are shoving money at him. But Stu is a sweet guy who just wants to draw, and also marry therapist Julie (Bridget Fonda). Stu's dark side has become the Id scamp Monkeybone, a mischievous simian. An accident leaves Stu in a coma — for some reason his younger sister can't wait to pull the plug — and his incarnated spirit goes to a flip-side purgatory called Downtown. Soon, Monkeybone has stolen an exit pass back to Earth, where he seizes Stu's body and makes him a gross jerk. Stu must follow, into the broken body of Organ Donor Stu (Chris Kattan). And a movie that began as an oddly fetching lark

starts whipping itself into a berserk froth of show-biz overkill. Cast: Brendan Fraser, Bridget Fonda, Chris Kattan, John Turturro, Whoopi Goldberg, Giancarlo Esposito. Running time: 87 minutes. Rated PG-13. 2 stars.

Recess: School's Out — The former principal of Third Street School is Benedict (voiced by James Woods), a '60s flower-power prophet, who no sooner gained real power than he became an absurdly preening tyrant. Now Benedict, his love beads long gone, has returned after decades to kidnap Principal Prickley (Dabney Coleman). Benedict's team of goons and techies, a sort of Science Fair gone berserk, houses a laser weapon in the school; they plan to knock the moon off orbit, thus eliminating summer and, ipso facto, summer vacation. Only plucky mischief maker T.J. Detweiler and his gang can observe and derail the insane enterprise. This is a cute show, no more, but we know how easy it is to get less. "Recess: School's Out" should please kidniks (up to age 10 or so). Running time: 114 minutes. Rated G. 2 1/2 stars.

Someone Like You — Ashley Judd, as New York TV-show guest recruiter Jane Goodale, works for power interviewer and gotcha-gal Diane Roberts, who dreams of getting Fidel Castro on her show. Jane's cohorts at the TV office are flip hunk Eddie (Hugh Jackman) and the new smoothie on board, Ray (Greg Kinnear). Jane soon lures Ray from a beached relationship into what seems like the Real One. But anyone who has seen Kinnear in movies knows he is the man who suddenly turns from meat to mud. Jane is wounded. And, using an assumed identity, Jane becomes a covert, but instantly renowned expert, hawking pop-psych about men as "boy cows," incapable of loyalty to a single female bovine. One moment fairly well sums up "Someone Like You" — with immaculate cuteness, the heroine blows the dust off her birth-control device. It's everything Margaret Sanger dreamed that modern women could become. Cast: Ashley Judd, Greg Kinnear, Hugh Jackman, Marisa Tomei, Ellen Barkin. Running time: 93 minutes. Rated PG-13. 1 star.

Sweet November — Keanu Reeves is Nelson, a yuppie ad-biz maniac in San Francisco. Theron is the gorgeous rainbow of spirited whimsy, Sara, who is also dying. And so she offers herself to Nelson on his lousiest day of yupster power mania, after he's made one of the worst ad pitches you'll ever see. "Sweet November" becomes a feeble fable of La Nouveau San Fran. Songs trickle in, spinning the slush, rounding off performances that already have no edge. Theron is luscious and vacant, Reeves is hunky and vacant. Kurt Voelker's script is vaporously vacant, and the movie seems vacuum-packed in taffy, toffee and treacle. Cast: Keanu Reeves, Charlize Theron, Jason Isaacs, Frank Langella, Greg Germann. Running time: 114 minutes. Rated PG-13. 1 star.

The Tailor of Panama — Andy (Pierce Brosnan) is a British agent sent to Panama City as punishment for recent misdemeanors. There he cooks up worse mischief, using as his entry to the local elite a tailor, Harry (Geoffrey Rush), an upscale suit maker, if not quite the Savile Row (London) gent he pretends to be. With John Le Carré doodling the script from his novel, and director John Boorman dredging up some tristes tropiques he dramatized with more flair in "Beyond Rangoon," the mystery soon becomes a mess and a mistake, without rising to malarkey. Here is a story for the multitude that never saw "Our Man in Havana," and for people who like James Bond travestied. From rum punch to bum punch — one spiced, the other spoiled. Cast: Pierce Brosnan, Geoffrey Rush, Jamie Lee Curtis, Brenda Gleeson, Catherine McCormack, Leonor Varela. Running time: 107 minutes. Rated R. 1 1/2 stars.

Traffic — Michael Douglas seems harried, suited and very white as Bob Wakefield, an Ohio judge who is appointed to become the nation's new "drug czar." Among the things he must learn quickly is the secret addiction of his daughter Caroline (Erika Christensen). The key plotline is the shift from law work to drug thuggery, a twilight zone for the rising hard case Javier (Benicio del Toro). There is an overlapping San Diego story, about a La Jolla yupster and drug dealer (Steven Bauer), his out-of-it but rapidly adaptable trophy wife (Catherine Zeta-Jones), a cheap lawyer (Dennis Quaid), a lizard-hearted hustler (Miguel Ferrer), and a pair of amusingly go-for-it DEA cops (Luis Guzman, Don Cheadle). A friend said that "Traffic" is, in essence and effect, saying that the drug war is a dead loss, that wide drug use is inevitable and maybe even acceptable. That sounds cynical until you've seen the film. Cast: Benicio Del Toro, Michael Douglas, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Don Cheadle, Miguel Ferrer, Stephen Bauer, Erika Christensen, Luis Guzman, Jacob Vargas, Tomas Milian, Amy Irving. Running time: 147 minutes. Rated R. 2 1/2 stars.

RATINGS: 4 stars, excellent; 3 stars, worthy; 2 stars, mixed; 1 star, poor; 0 stars, forget it.

Capsules compiled from movie reviews written by David Elliott, film critic for The San Diego Union-Tribune, and other staff writers.

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Campus notes

Five students from Westfield achieved academic honors for the fall 2000 semester at Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, Pa.

Jessica Brewster and **Nicole DeSantis** were named to the dean's honor list with a grade point average of 3.60 or higher on a scale of 4. **Michelle Meyn**, **Donald Seeley** and **Elise Tate** were named to the dean's commendation list with a grade point average of 3.33-3.60.

Aleda A. Rusnak of Fanwood was named to the dean's list for the fall 2000 semester at Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pa. The daughter of John and Gloria Rusnak is in her senior year.

Two area students earned academic honors in the fall 2000 semester at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind. Achieving the equivalent of dean's list standing:

Kelly Anne Burns of Kimball Avenue in Westfield, majoring in management.

Christopher M. Owens of St. Marks Avenue in Westfield, majoring in health sciences.

Jenna C. Ellsworth of Westfield was named to the dean's honor list for the fall 2000 semester at Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pa. She is a fresh-

man majoring in social science.

Two area students were named to the dean's list for the fall 2000 semester at Providence College in Providence, R.I. They are **Thomas Werner** of Scotch Plains, a sophomore majoring in English, and **Thomas Klock** of Scotch Plains, a senior.

Two area students achieved academic honors in the fall 2000 semester at Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vt.

Alaina J. Buckland of Westfield was named a College Scholar with a grade point average of 3.6 or higher on a scale of 4. She is the daughter of Gail Buckland of Westfield and Barry Buckland of New York.

Albert Nodar of Westfield was named to the dean's list with a grade point average of 3.3-3.6. He is the son of Felix Nodar of Westfield.

Two area students were named to the dean's list for the fall 2000 semester at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pa. They are **Kelly J. Korecky** of Westfield, the daughter of Ed and Lorre Korecky, and **Mark J. Juelis** of Westfield, the son of John and Mary Jo Juelis.



Welcome to the club

Lorrie Jaidullo was inducted April 4 as the newest member of the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club. Dr. Richard W. Dobyns (right), co-chairman of the club's Membership Committee, presided over the induction ceremony before introducing Jaidullo to the other club members. She is the branch manager of the Valley National Bank in Scotch Plains and has been a member of the bank staff since 1975; the married mother of two is also active in many community groups, including the Boy and Girl Scouts of America and the Scotch Plains Business & Professional Association. The F-SP Rotary Club, which meets Wednesdays at the Park Place Restaurant, is comprised of businessmen and women with high educational backgrounds and cultural, economic or professional positions that render specialized services to benefit others. If you are interested in becoming a member, call Dobyns at (908) 232-3321.

Seniors invited to take AARP driving course

CRANFORD — Motorists ages 50 and older are welcome to sign up for the AARP's "55 Alive" defensive driving course.

The course is slated to be held at Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim, located at 338 Walnut Ave in Cranford.

Classes are scheduled to run from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. May 30 and 31.

"55 Alive" is designed to help older drivers learn about any age-related changes that may affect driving.

Each motorist who completes the course is eligible for a 5-percent discount on his or her

car insurance premium for three consecutive years.

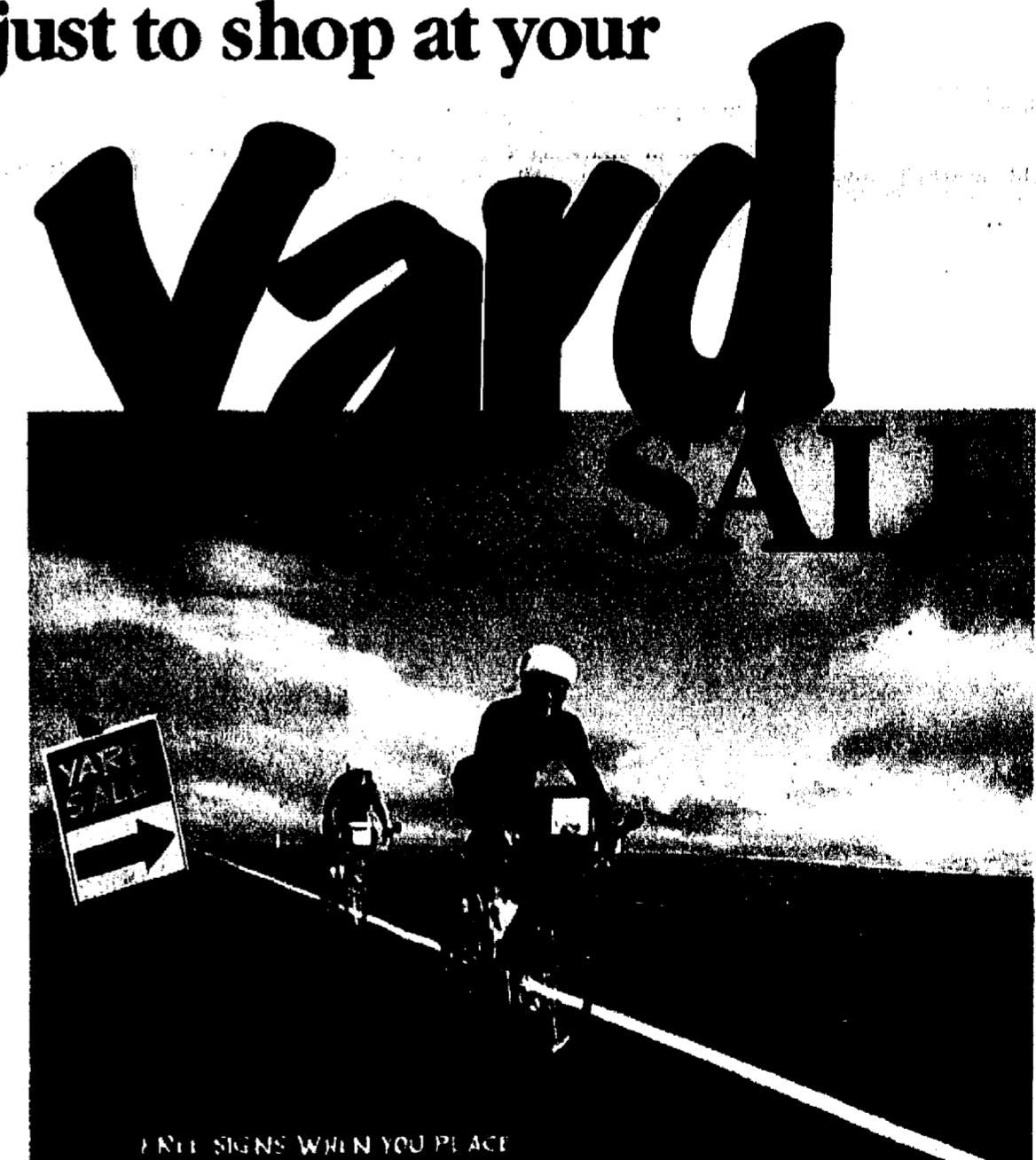
In addition, two points will be deducted from his or her driving record, if there are any point on the driver's record.

Membership in the American Association of Retired Persons is not required to participate in this event.

Cost is \$10 per participant and seating is limited.

For registration or more information, send an e-mail to lielaberns@aol.com or call Liela Bernstein at (908) 233-0058.

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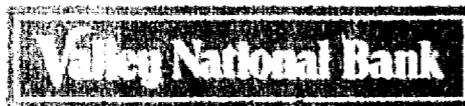
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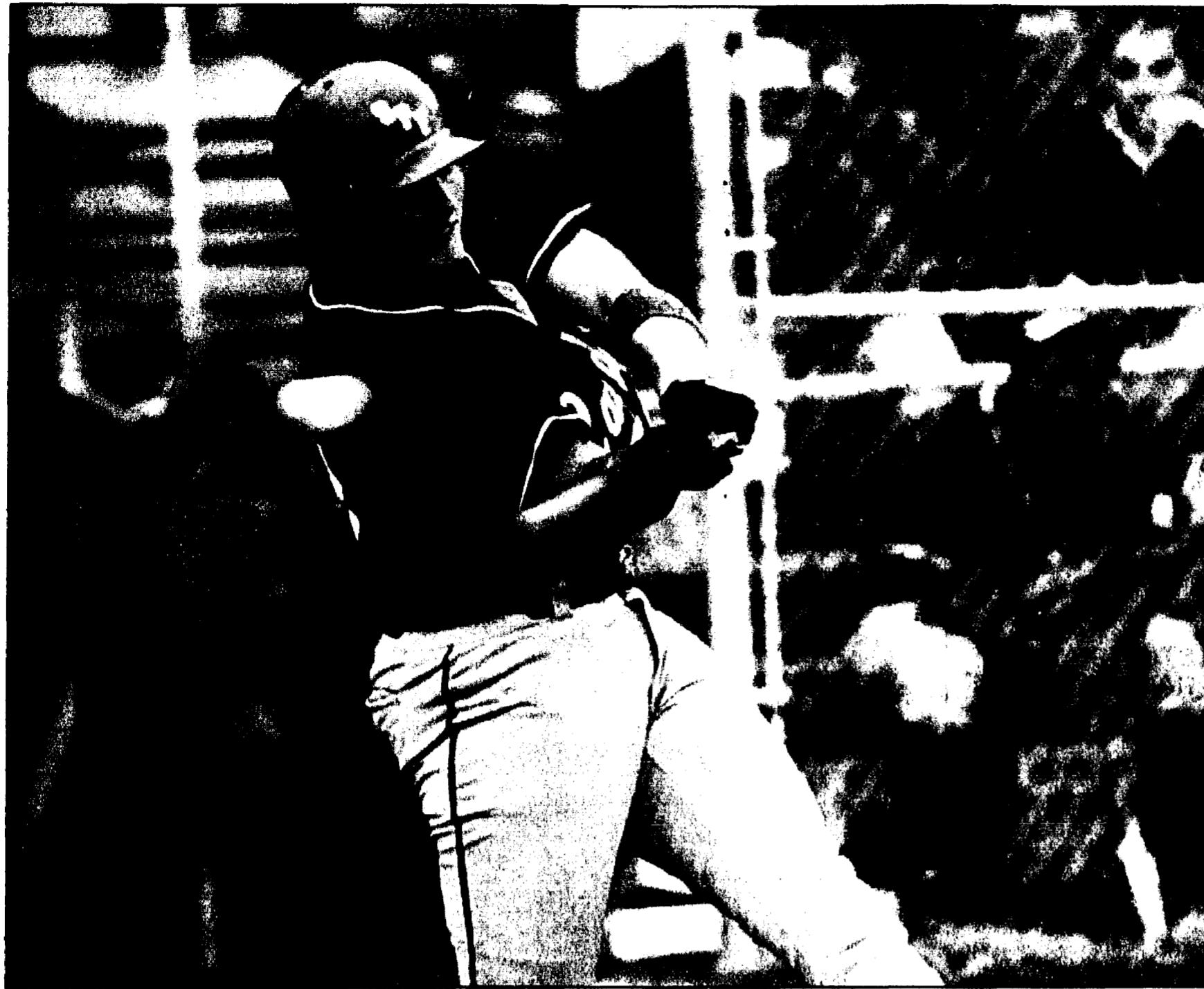
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Sports



NICOLE DIMELLA/RECORD-PRESS

Brad Belford was just one of many Raiders who had a hard time hitting Cranford pitcher Tom Polito in Monday's 13-0 loss to the Cougars. Scotch Plains managed just three hits and advanced only one runner past second base.

Cougars rout Raiders 13-0

By DANIEL MURPHY

THE CHRONICLE

SCOTCH PLAINS — The Cranford High baseball team quickly turned a much-hyped showdown between two of the county's best hurlers into a one-sided offensive barrage, downing Scotch Plains 13-0 Monday.

Scotch Plains ace Brian Maroney was off his game right from the start, yielding four runs in the first inning and four more in the second before being knocked out of the game and suffering his first loss of the season.

Maroney lasted just 1 2/3 innings while yielding seven hits and eight runs, walking five and striking out none. The Cougars' Tom Polito held up his end of the hype, scattering three hits over five innings while walking one, striking out two and remaining undefeated for his career against Union County opponents.

"It was one of those things," said Scotch Plains Head Coach Brian Homm. "It's a big game. (Maroney) was looking forward to pitching a good game and then nothing goes right. Chalk it up to a bad day. When they jumped in front like that, with Polito on the mound, it's tough to come back. We got the bat on the ball but they didn't fall for us. (Cranford) hit the ball real well."

The closest Scotch Plains came to a rally was the bottom of the second when Brad Belford led off with a single, followed by a walk to Brian Schiller. Polito then got Steve Williams to

ground into a fielder's choice and Josh Wexler to ground weakly to third before striking out relief pitcher Steve Petrucca on three pitches to end the threat.

The loss dropped Scotch Plains to 3-2 on the season. The Raiders were scheduled to take on Governor Livingston yesterday, and will host undefeated Elizabeth 4 p.m. Monday before traveling to Kearny Wednesday.

Cranford (4-2) snapped a two-game losing streak after they dropped an 11 inning classic to Westfield April 11 and fell to Livingston for the second consecutive season Saturday 16-5. Scotch Plains, Cranford and Westfield now find themselves in a three way tie for the Watchung Conference National Division lead with 3-1 records as of Monday.

"We needed to have a quality game," said Cranford Head Coach Dennis McCaffery. "We needed to have our pitching step up, get good quality at-bats and make some good plays. We had a good approach at the plate and it paid off."

Maroney almost made it out of the first inning unscathed, when, with one out and a runner on first, Cranford catcher Jeremy White lined a rocket which shortstop Brian Schiller nearly snagged for a potential double play ball. But the ball bounced off his outstretched glove and into left field and everyone was safe. T.J. Ahern then walked to load the bases for designated hitter

(Continued on page C-4)

Losing streak has Blue Devils focusing on basics

By DANIEL MURPHY

RECORD-PRESS

The old proverb says "the greatest of journeys begins with a single step. In some cases that first step has to be backwards."

The Westfield High girls lacrosse raced out to a fast start, winning its first two games by a combined margin of 21-13, but have hit hard times, dropping the past three and falling below the .500 mark. A disappointing 15-9 loss to Manasquan Thursday, followed by a 17-7 blowout loss at the hands of Pingry Tuesday has forced the Devils to take a step back in order to move forward.

Westfield is going back to the

basics, working on stick skills and passing fundamentals in hopes of sparking the offense, controlling the ball better and getting back to the winning ways of the first week of the season.

"We're working hard to get strong stick skills," said first year Head Coach Erin O'Connell, who coached Westfield's junior varsity last season. "There was no reason we should have lost to Manasquan. We just couldn't connect on our passes and we looked sloppy. We've been working hard in practice to make strong passes right to the stick so that the ball could be caught and put in the cage. We have a really talented

group of girls that are working real hard in practice."

The Devils bolster a squad with great athleticism and experience, making them extremely versatile allowing O'Connell to shuffle lineups and work with players in different spots.

Senior captain Jen Korecky is one such player who has played multiple positions, rotating between center and right attack wing, and is the Devils leading scorer, netting four goals Tuesday.

"She is a really skilled play-

er," said O'Connell. "She's an excellent ball handler and sees the whole field really well."

Morgan Lang has also been one of the Blue Devils most potent offensive threats, operating at left attack wing. Lang also possesses the versatility and intelligence to go back and play defense in a pinch.

Brittany Miller will also be a key player for the Blue Devils, using her deft shooting skills from the first home position. Elyse Goldweight has moved from wing last season to cover

point this year to solidify the defense. In goal for Westfield will be the combination of senior Sara Beth Euwer and sophomore Julie Vanerelli. Euwer started the season as the lone goalie, but after an injury, Vanerelli was called up from the j.v. and has been extremely impressive, earning herself a share of the playing time.

After a 2-3 start, O'Connell isn't focusing on anything further down the road than the next practice and the next game. Her main concern is to get the Blue Devils playing more sound fundamentally, then let the chips fall where they may. Westfield advanced to the second round of the state tourna-

ment last year, but isn't worrying just yet about trying to surpass that success.

"We're really just working on honing our basic skills," O'Connell said. "Every time they play you can find room for improvement. We just want to strengthen our basic skills and get better each game. We've spent a lot of time working on our passing and ground balls. Without better skills we can't do anything."

"The state tournament is always something you set your sights on, but we're just focused on getting better each game and seeing what happens down the road. It is still really early in the season."

Bramnick takes third in tourney

By DANIEL MURPHY

RECORD-PRESS

WESTFIELD — Led by Brent Bramnick's one-over par 37, the Westfield High golf team captured third place at the Westfield Blue Devil Invitational, at Echo Lake Country Club Monday.

Against a six-team field stacked with five of the state's top squads, Bramnick finished third overall, after tying for second and falling on the first play-off hole to Cranford freshman sensation JJ Occi. Occi's older brother, junior Mike, took medalist honors with a two-under 34.

Xander Rothschild and Erin Cockeran added a pair of 41's for the Blue Devils, while Josh Rogers shot 46, Adam Karnish posted a 47, and Garrett Ill fired a 49. Westfield's 261 total, all six scores counted Monday, was good enough for third, while St. Joseph of Metuchen and Immaculata tied for first with a 252. St. Joe's won by a stroke on the first play-off hole. Cranford and Delbarton tied for fourth at 264, and Hunterdon Central was sixth with a 280 total.

The tournament was a confidence booster for the Devils, as they saw first hand how they staked up against the state's elite squads. Karnish, Rogers, and Ill all had disappointing days, and uncharacteristically high scores, but Westfield was still good enough for third, thanks to some clutch performances from Cockeran and Rothschild.



NICOLE DIMELLA/RECORD-PRESS

Brent Bramnick shot a one-over 37 in the Blue Devil Invitational Monday, finishing third and leading the Blue Devils to a third place team finish.

Cook leads Devils with arm and bat

Jay Cook belted a pair of home runs to lead Westfield past Watchung Hills 11-2 Saturday and pitched six innings of scoreless relief to help the Blue Devils down Cranford in an 11 inning classic April 11.

Cook blasted a two-run shot in the first inning and a three-run dinger in the sixth to pace Westfield's 10 hit assault in the preliminary round of the 10th Greater North Plainfield Tournament at Watchung Hills. Ben Koket had three singles and an RBI for the Devils (3-1). Westfield will take on North Plainfield in the championship game 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Krausche Field in North Plainfield.

Westfield 7, Cranford 3 — It's first victory over Cranford in three seasons didn't come easy, but the Blue Devils rallied for four runs in the top of the 11th inning to down the Cougars 7-3 April 11.

Catcher Josh Ludmer ripped a double over the center fielder's head, his second of the day, to score Brett Picaro with the go-ahead run in the 11th. Mike Duek, Ben Koket and Jim McKeon all drove in insurance runs for the Devils in the 11th. Cook got the win in relief to improve to 2-0 after coming in in the fifth inning.

TRACK

The Westfield boys and girls track squads each turned in strong performances at the Summit Relays Saturday.

Westfield

High School Roundup

The boys 1600 meter relay team of Rich Miller, LaQuan McCoy, Diana Reavis and Adam Walker took first in 3:28.6 to lead the boys squad. Westfield also took fourth in the 400 relay (1:33.0), distance medley relay (11:32.6), and team intermediate hurdles (13:08.5). Westfield was fifth in the 3200 meter relay (8:52.7), and team pole vault at 18 feet 6.

The girls team was led by a second place finish in the shuttle hurdles in 1:12.1 and a third place finish in the 3200 meter relay in 10:25.5. The Blue Devils also took sixth in the 400 in 55.5, fourth in the distance medley relay in 13:56.9, sixth in the team intermediate hurdles in 4:04.9, third in the long jump at 28 feet 1 1/2 and sixth in the discus in 161-5. Rachel Ackerman took fifth in the 3200 meter run in 12:25.1 and saw her record of 12:15.7 in the event broken by Kim Pereira of Parsippany in 11:44.7.

BOYS LACROSSE

Westfield climbed over the .500 mark with a hard fought 4-3 victory over Montville Tuesday.

Billy Schultz netted the game winner at the 7:18 mark of the (Continued on page C-8)



Katie Church and the Scotch Plains softball team have been swinging hot bats recently while reeling off four straight wins and improving to 6-1 on the season.

Wagner, Guerriero spark Devils to fifth straight 'W'

By DANIEL MURPHY

RECORD-PRESS

Timely hitting, solid defense and strong pitching have sparked a five game winning streak and an avalanche of confidence for the Westfield High softball team.

After dropping the season opener to Scotch Plains, the Blue Devils have responded by winning the next five, including coming back from three-run deficits late in games twice, the most recent being Tuesdays 4-3 victory over Colonia. Westfield will look to extend the winning streak 4 p.m. today when it travels to Roselle Park and will face Union in a county showdown 4 p.m. Monday.

Trailing 3-0 in the sixth inning Tuesday, and still without a hit, Lindsey Guerriero broke through with a single and sparked a four run rally which pitcher Sara Bobertz was able to protect for the win. With Guerriero on first, Bobertz walked and Caitlin MacDonald reached on a single, scoring

key spot in Westfield's victory over Cranford and Corbett has made some fantastic plays in the outfield. The infield has been strong, led by Courtney Thornton and Guerriero.

"We spent a lot of time working on the basics, taking ground balls and throwing technique," said McFadden. "The infield has been playing well; and the outfield is playing better each game and playing with more confidence."

During the winning streak Westfield broke through against one of its biggest rivals, defeating Cranford 3-1 for the first time since 1997, a string of 10 straight losses.

"We were being no-hit and really looked flat," said Westfield Head Coach Maggie McFadden. "We were hitting the ball weakly to their infielders, then Lindsey got it all started. She's been slumping and it was her first solid hit of the year, but it got us going."

Westfield has received clutch play from just about everybody in all facets of the game to put together this winning streak. MacDonald and Bobertz have been strong on the mound, and the defense has made life easier on them by playing soundly and making some big plays. Rightfielder Wagner was able to throw a runner out at first in a

triple play.

With two three-run comebacks, and a victory over one of its fiercest rivals, the Blue Devils have shown they are a much improved squad over last season, and will be a force to be reckoned with when it is time to play for championships.

For information please call 908-789-4080.

La Forge, Piniat propel Raiders to four in a row

Scotch Plains reeled off its fourth straight win, downing conference and county foe Cranford 3-0 Monday, and sending an early message.

The Cougars were last season's North Jersey Section 2 Group 3 champs, and return much of their lineup. But Scotch Plains proved it will be a force to be reckoned with in the county and sectional tournaments, with a 3-0 victory to improve to 6-1 on the season.

Kellie LaForge's two-out, two-run double plated Katie Blom and Caitlin McNelis and broke open a scoreless tie in the fifth inning and propelled the Raiders to a 3-0 victory. Alicia Piniat drove in LaForge for the third run, while going the distance for her sixth win of the season, striking out two, walking one and scattering six hits.

Scotch Plains 5, Piscataway 1 — Alicia Piniat almost single handedly defeated Piscataway Saturday, pounding out two doubles and a triple, driving in a run and scoring twice to lead the Raiders to a 5-1 victory.

Piniat also kept Piscataway's bats in check, tossing a one-hitter while striking out nine. Megan Miller had two RBI and Katie Church was 2-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored for Scotch Plains.

Scotch Plains 17, Shabazz 2 — Caitlin McNelis led the Raiders to a 17-2 victory over Shabazz,

Brian Maroney singled, doubled and drove in two runs as part of a 17 hit attack. Josh Wexler got the win, allowing just three hits while striking out five.

TRACK

Both the Scotch Plains-Fanwood boys and girls track teams turned in strong performances at the Summit Relays Saturday.

The boys squad was sparked by the field events, especially the throwing team. Scotch Plains grabbed a second place finish in the team discus (246-9) and team shot put (121-9 1/4), and a sixth place finish in the team javelin (353-7).

The jumping squad took second in the team high jump (12-2) and the team long jump (39-8), while on the track the Raiders took a fourth place finish in the shuttle hurdles (1:09.7), and a fifth place finish in the team intermediate hurdles (3:12.8) and distance medley (10:49.7).

The girls squad took second in the discus (183-22), placed fifth in the sprint medley (4:48.3) and fourth in the team intermediate hurdles (3:46.7).

GOLF

Scotch Plains defeated Roselle Park 184-194 Tuesday at Scotch Hills.

BASEBALL

Brian Maroney had his worst outing of the season Monday, as Cranford shelled the senior to down the Raiders 13-0.

Tom Polito shut down the Raiders' bats, allowing just three hits over five innings. See complete story on C-1.

Scotch Plains 14, Shabazz 0

Brian Schiller was 3-for-5 with a three run home run and four RBI to lead Scotch Plains to a 14-0 victory over Shabazz April 11.

SPORTSCENE

FIVE MILER AND FUN RUN

The Westfield Recreation Commission will host its 11th annual Five Miler and Fun Run Saturday, April 28 rain or shine, with all proceeds will benefit drug and alcohol free programs.

The one mile fun run will begin 9 a.m. and the five miler will start at 9:30 a.m. The race will begin an end in Tamaqua Park, and the course is USATF certified. Mile markers, splits and water stations will be provided and scoring will be done by Compuscore of New Providence.

Pre entry for the five miler will be \$12 and post entry will be \$15. For the fun run, pre-registration will be \$7 and post entry is \$10. All fees are non-refundable. All registrants of the five miler will receive a 2001 custom designed short sleeved shirt. Post registration and packet pickup begin 7:30 a.m.

All fun run participants will receive ribbons and race shirts will be awarded to first overall male and female runners.

Trophies will be awarded to first overall male and female in the five miler, and awards will go to the top three place winners in each of the male and female age groups, 19 and under, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and 60 and over.

For information please call 908-789-4080.

RAIDER SOCCER CAMP

Two sessions of the Raider

Summer Soccer Camp will be held again this year. The first session will run from July 9-July 13 and the second is July 30-August 3. The camp is open to boys and girls, grades K-11.

Further information and brochures may be obtained by calling Tom Breznitsky at (908) 322-6102.

GIRLS BASKETBALL CAMP

The Watchung Mountain Junior Girls Basketball Camp, directed by Union Catholic Girls Basketball Head Coach Kathy Matthews, for players entering grades 4-9 will be held June 25-29 at Union Catholic High School.

The Watchung Mountain Invitational Girls Basketball Camp, also directed by Matthews, for players entering grades 7-11 will be held July 9-13 at Union Catholic High School.

For more information call Kathy Matthews at 908-889-1621.

WOMENS SOFTBALL

The Scotch Plains women's softball league is in the process of formation. Individuals who are interested in playing in this league for women 18 and over can also register and efforts will be made to place on a team.

Games are played at the Southside Ballfield of the Scotch Plains Recreation system Monday through Thursday, starting 6:30 p.m. beginning the last week in April. Players have enjoyed the physical activity as well as the socialization that occurs during the friendly competition between friends and team members.

If interested call 908-654-7131.

TENNIS LESSONS

The Scotch Plains Recreation Department of parks will be offering beginners tennis lessons for adults 18 and over at Kramer Manor Tennis Courts starting Monday May 7 and continuing for three Mondays and Wednesdays, weather permitting, for a total of six one-hour classes.

Registration for residents begins April 9 and for non-residents April 16. Class size is severely limited and registration

tions will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. The fee is \$20 for residents and \$25 for non-residents. Students must wear sneakers and provide their own racquet and balls.

SUMMER SOCCER LEAGUE

Kean University will host a summer soccer league starting Tuesday June 19, 2001. The soccer league, which is open to local communities, will host its game in Hillside on the East Campus of Kean University.

All matches will begin promptly at 6 p.m. and will be 43 minutes in length. The league will feature several different skill levels including high school divisions, and a coed league for children up to 13 years of age.

Thursday evening will feature a men's open league, consisting of men over 35, as well as coed teams. There will be an eight game minimum and a cup championship game at the end of the season.

A registration fee of \$725 is required, plus an additional \$12 per team, per game for the referee. For more information, or to obtain an official registration form, please contact Tony Ochrimenko, Kean University head men's soccer coach, at 908-527-2936.

KEAN SOCCER CAMP

Kean University will host three separate five day soccer camps for boys and girls ages 6 to 17. The first session runs July 16-20, the second July 23-27 and the third July 30 to August 3. The camp will be run by Kean University soccer staff and will include lectures and demonstrations by guest coaches.

The Fighting Cougars Soccer Day Camp will be held at Kean University's East Campus, located in Hillside, which is also the home to the New York/New Jersey MetroStars. The academy will run from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and lunch is included. A registration fee of \$160 per player is required for each of the first two sessions and the cost of the third session is \$180.

For more information, or to obtain an official registration form, contact Tony Ochrimenko, Kean University head men's soccer coach at 908-527-2936.

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Schultz's goal lifts Devils past Montville, over .500

fourth quarter after Westfield trailed 3-2 with 10 minutes left in the contest. Matt Simone scored off a pass from Dave Santoriello to tie the game at 9:37 and Bradley Gillin scored the first two goals for Westfield (4-3) who will host Fairlawn 4 p.m. today.

Westfield 17, St. Joseph's 5 — The Blue Devils rebounded from Saturday's disappointing loss to dominate St. Joseph's of Metuchen Monday 17-5.

Mike Debrossy and Chris Dodge scored four goals each and Billy Schultz registered three second half goals and four assists to lead the Devil attack. Dave Santoriello collected two goals and two assists and Bradley Gillin had two goals.

and an assist. Dan Morrissey made nine saves.

Montclair 13, Westfield 9 — Tim Mansfield scored three times and assisted on two more goals, but Westfield fell to undefeated Montclair 13-9 Saturday.

GIRLS LACROSSE

Westfield dropped its third straight despite four goals from Jenny Krecky Tuesday.

Pingry dominated the Devils as Ashley Kazmrowski scored eight times for the Big Blue to down the Devils 17-7. Westfield tried to get back on track against Oak Knoll yesterday and will host West Windsor 11 a.m. tomorrow.

Manasquan 15, Westfield 9 —

Brittany Miller scored five of her six goals in the first half, but the Blue Devils couldn't muster enough fire power to defeat Manasquan April 12, falling 15-9.

TENNIS

Westfield dominated conference foe Cranford Monday, registering a 5-0 victory while not dropping a single set and losing just a total of six games.

Griffin Maloney at first singles, Dave Eisenberg at second singles and the second doubles team of Devin Power and Doug Shineman

all won their matches 6-0, 6-0. Ryan Jones defeated Josh Lasky at second singles 6-0, 6-2 while Ryan Miller and

Shaun Simone defeated Jeremy Martin and John Martin at first doubles 6-3, 6-1.

Bridgewater-Raritan 4, Westfield 1 — Doug Shineman and Devin Power secured Westfield's only point with a three set victory at second doubles, but the Blue Devils fell 4-1 April 11.

Shineman and Power won 2-6, 7-6 (7-4), 6-4, but Westfield couldn't pull out victories in any of the other

four three-set matches.

SOFTBALL

After being no-hit for the first five innings, Westfield exploded for four runs in the sixth, sparked by Lindsay Guerriero and capped off by Rachel Wagner to down Colonia 4-3 Tuesday.

Wagner ripped a double to score Erin Bettip with the go-ahead run after Caitlin MacDonald scored on a wild pitch to tie the score 3-3.

Westfield 3, Cranford 1 — Behind Sara Bobertz and Courtney Thornton the Devils defeated rival Cranford 3-1 April 11.

Bobertz was 2-for-3 with two runs scored and Thornton had two RBI singles for Westfield.

Westfield tied for third place at the Westfield Blue Devil Invitational Monday at Echo Lake Country Club against a field featuring five of the state's top teams.

Brent Brannick took third overall with a one-over 37, after falling to Cranford's Jason Occi in one-hole playoff. See full story on C-1.

Westfield 165, St. Peter's Prep 198 — Brent Brannick fired an even-par 36 to lead the Blue Devils to a 165-198 victory over St. Peter's Prep April 10 at Echo Lake Country Club.

Adam Kurnish shot a 39, Xander Rothschild posted a 43 and Gerrit Ill shot a 47 for Westfield.

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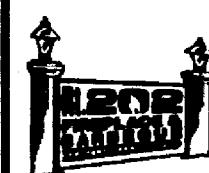
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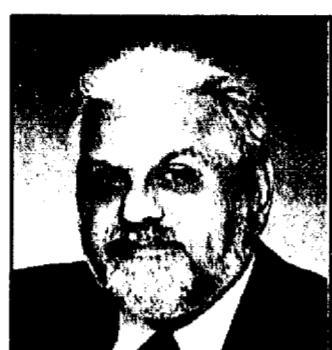
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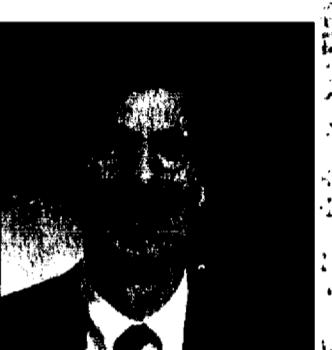
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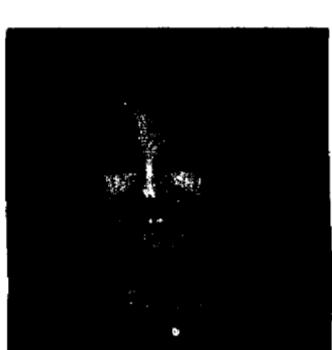
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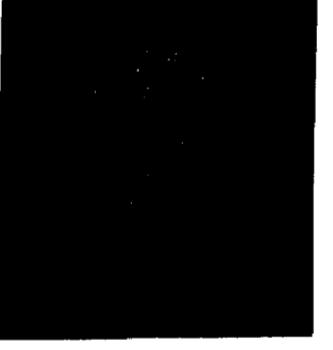
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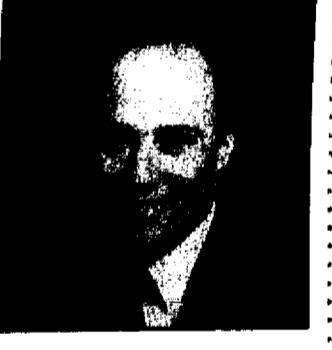
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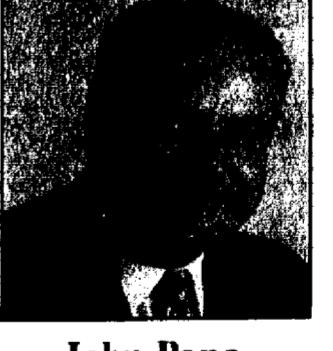
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Sebring redesign is smooth, breezy and a pleasure to drive

BY MARK MAYNARD

COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

It is what it is and it doesn't try to be what it can't be.

The redesigned Chrysler Sebring convertible is smooth as a frothy latte with enough style, comfort and insulation to be a daily driver.

For a carmaker in turmoil, the remake of this breezy Sebring implies no shortage of resources from the company.

Sixty percent of the 2001 Chrysler lineup is new, and these were well in the works before the recent corporate power struggles between German and American management made Page 1 news.

Cars such as the Sebring convertible, PT Cruiser and redesigned minivans are projects that are mile markers of Chrysler's progress in building solid, innovative vehicles.

Believe it or not, Sebring has edged out Mustang as the top-selling convertible in the United States. And, yes, I'm aware of some of the quality issues with the previous generation of Sebring.

Company execs say they have worked to exorcise electrical glitches and flimsy quality. What I experienced in two separate driving experiences and several hundred miles of seat time has been flawless function, adequate performance and effortless pleasure.

Wind flow with the top down is comfortable at highway speeds, and even balmy with the windows rolled up. With the top up, the interior is quieter than ever, reinforced by a 3-layer top and more soundproofing in strategic areas.

A big selling-point to Sebring is its back seat leg room for adults, who are helped into the back by a front passenger seat that handily slides fore and aft.

The new convertible is available in three trim levels: LX, LXi and top-line Limited. The base price of the LX is \$24,945, includ-



The new DaimlerChrysler Sebring is simple and stylish.

ing a \$575 destination charge.

The price is close to last year's model, but it includes a more powerful, cleaner and fuel-efficient V-6 engine, four-wheel disc brakes, cruise control, power (and heated) mirrors and 15-inch wheels.

The LXi starts at \$27,400 and adds 16-inch alloy wheels, leather-trimmed seats, fog lights and an upgraded trim, trip computer and in-dash (single) CD.

The Limited is \$29,500 and comes with chrome wheels, anti-lock brakes, four-disc in-dash CD and a very handsome dark royal blue and cream interior.

You can get higher technology (such as pop-up roll bars) in the comparably sized Mercedes CLK.

cab (\$50,000) or the BMW 325i drop top (\$37,000), but even the V-6 Camaro starts at \$25,000 and the top-line V-8 Mustang GT is \$28,000.

Sebring's closest competitor in size and price is the Toyota Solara (\$25,000 to \$30,000) and Chrysler appears to have taken careful aim to meet or beat it in most areas.

The differences add up to a small checklist, but worthwhile in making comparisons.

The Solara comes with side-impact air bags; the Sebring doesn't.

When asked about pop-up roll bars (such as in the Mercedes-Benz CLK), engineer Burke Brown says that pop-up bars pre-

sent more compromises, mostly in trunk space.

"That's not what we want to do for the customer of this car," he says. According to focus groups, he says, "people don't feel threatened by not having those features."

Sebring's safety list includes multistage front air bags, three-point belts with front pretensioners, three-beam side-impact bars and beefy reinforcement through the door pillars to resist crash intrusion.

Horsepower at Toyota comes from a four- or six-cylinder engine and a five-speed manual or automatic transmission.

Emphasizing the so-called premium status of Sebring, Chrysler

passed on the four-cylinder engine and gave Sebring a 200 hp, 2.7 liter V-6, replacing the 2.5 liter V-6.

Chrysler emphasizes that this double overhead cam engine uses a timing chain, not a belt that needs periodic and pricey replacement.

Reinforcing the up-level image are four-wheel disc brakes, a power cloth top with glass and heated window, power and heated mirrors, cruise control, air conditioning, remote locking and a six-speaker AM-FM-cassette stereo.

Sebring has a stiffer chassis, too, along with a little more chrome and conveniences than Solara has.

Body shake is pronounced in the Solara convertible but hardly noticed in the Sebring. The frame was braced in key flex points that resulted in a 44 percent boost in body rigidity over the last model.

The tighter foundation gives Sebring a better ride and improves overall life expectancy in parts that won't be shaken to pieces.

Both cars have power tops that lower in about 10 seconds, but the Sebring can be put into gear and driven up to 15 mph as the top descends; handy in case of a summer shower or a shorter-than-expected stop light when you try to drop the top.

Trunk space is important for weekend getaways, and Sebring has an 11 cubic-foot trunk vs. Solara's eight. But Solara has a longer cruising range with its 18 1/2-gallon fuel tank vs. the Sebring's 16.

Solara's V-6 fuel mileage is 21/29 vs. Sebring's 20/29 with the AutoStick transmission.

Pros and cons aside, convertibles are more about emotion than practicality. And Sebring has plenty of emotion and practicality.

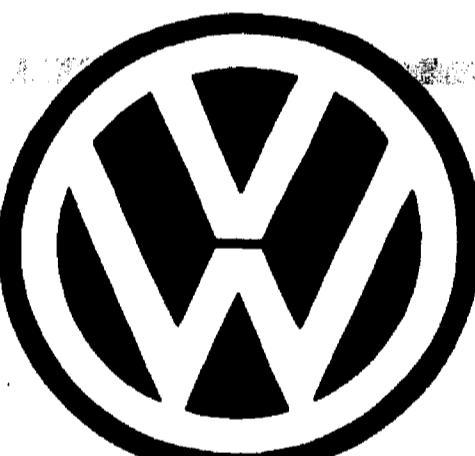
The 2001 model is an admirable update on a \$25,000 four-seat convertible with adult-size back seat leg room and a decent-size trunk.

With styling that turns heads, Sebring is one of life's simple pleasures.

PLUSES: Easygoing drivability; seat belts integrated into the seats are smart, safe and comfortable to reach and wear; roomy interior.

MINUSES: Fabric top cuts off over-the-shoulder views when bucking out of a parking space; four-disc in-dash CD is awkwardly placed at the bottom of the center stack in the instrument panel; (but it's still better than a changer in the trunk).

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0160 Ride Sharing
0165 Happy Ads
0170 Coming Events

0200 Domestic
0205 Employment Agencies
0220 Employment Help Services
0225 Employment Resumes
0230 Drivers
0240 General Help
0245 Management Help
0250 Medical Help
0255 Part Time Help
0260 Professional Help
0265 Sales Help
0266 Technical Help
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0390 Mobile Homes

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0405 Apartments (Unfurnished)
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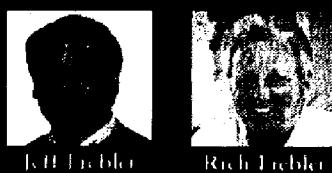
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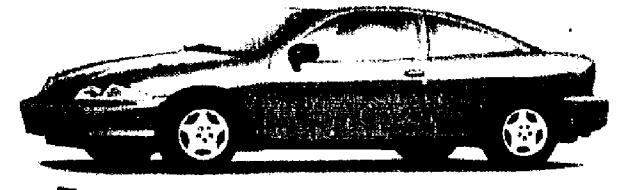
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4x4**



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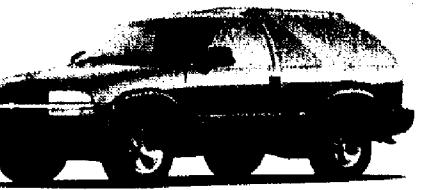
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MSRP***

**1998 CHEVROLET
LUMINA** **\$10,685**

Auto, 4 cyl, p/steering/brakes/locks, air, rr def, airbags, cass, tint, tint, cruise, p/trunk, 30,412 mi. VIN #W813594

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**1998 CHEVROLET
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7 pass, auto, air, 6 cyl, p/steering, p/brakes, p/windows, p/locks, rr def, tint, cass, 31,572 mi. VIN #WD132014

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**1999 CHEVROLET
Malibu** **\$10,867**

Auto, 6 cyl, p/steering, p/brakes, p/locks, rr def, airbags, bktl stls, tint, cass, tint, p/windows, p/locks, rear defrost, cass, 26,843 mi. VIN #1G8267002

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ASTRO** **\$15,785**

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WARRANTY AVAILABLE!

**1998 CHEVROLET
VENTURE LS** **\$14,387**

7 pass, auto, air, 6 cyl, p/steering, p/brakes, p/windows, p/locks, rr def, tint, cass, 31,572 mi. VIN #WD132014

WARRANTY AVAILABLE!

**1999 CHEVROLET
Malibu** **\$10,867**

Auto, 6 cyl, p/steering, p/brakes, p/locks, rr def, airbags, bktl stls, tint, cass, tint, p/windows, p/locks, rear defrost, cass, 26,843 mi. VIN #1G8267002

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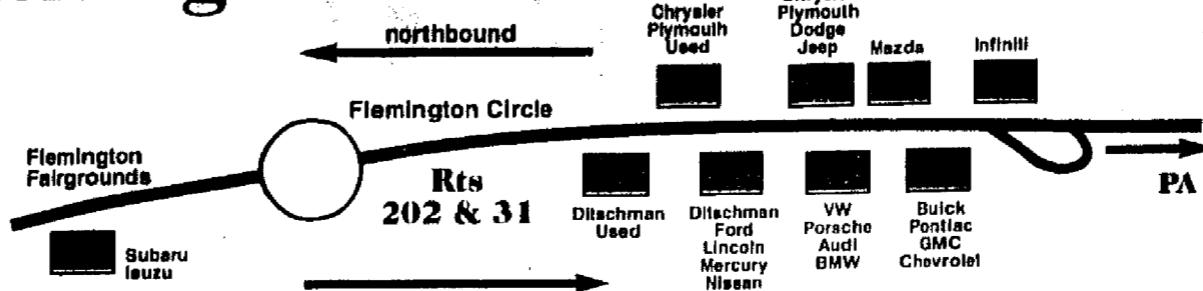


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\$3,995

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Cargo van, ladder rack, auto, air, p/s, p/windw, alloy whls, cass, aircar, p/b, cruise, tilt, plocks, rear def, finance avail. 44,769 mi. VIN #WB105980
\$13,995

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Auto, air, p/mirrors, tint glass, am/fm stereo, abs, 4x4, p/s, p/windw, sport whls, cass, aircar, p/b, p/seats, cruise, warranty avail. 18,037 mi. VIN #WAV60183
\$16,995

'93 Ford Mustang LX
Auto, air, tint glass, am/fm stereo, p/s, p/windw, cass, aircar, p/b, cruise, warranty avail. 111,434 mi. VIN #PF215453
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'99 Jeep Cherokee
Sport 4 dr, auto, air, p/mirrors, tint glass, am/fm stereo, abs, 4x4, p/s, p/windw, sport whls, cass, aircar, 6 cyl, p/b, p/seats, cruise, warranty avail. 30,686 mi. VIN #XK525119
\$16,995

'93 Saturn SC2
Auto, air, p/mirrors, tint glass, am/fm stereo, abs, p/s, p/windw, sport whls, cass, aircar, 6 cyl, p/b, p/seats, cruise, warranty avail. 58,847 mi. VIN #P2339483
\$6,495

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Auto, air, p/mirrors, tint glass, am/fm stereo, abs, p/s, p/windw, sport whls, cass, aircar, 6 cyl, p/b, p/seats, cruise, warranty avail. 10,814 mi. VIN #NA18416
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\$16,995

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\$17,995

'98 Toyota Avalon XLS
Auto, air, p/mirrors, tint glass, am/fm stereo, abs, p/s, p/windw, alloy whls, cass, aircar, 6 cyl, p/b, p/seats, cruise, sunroof, CD player, warranty avail. 43,919 mi. VIN #WU230300
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Part Time Employment 25

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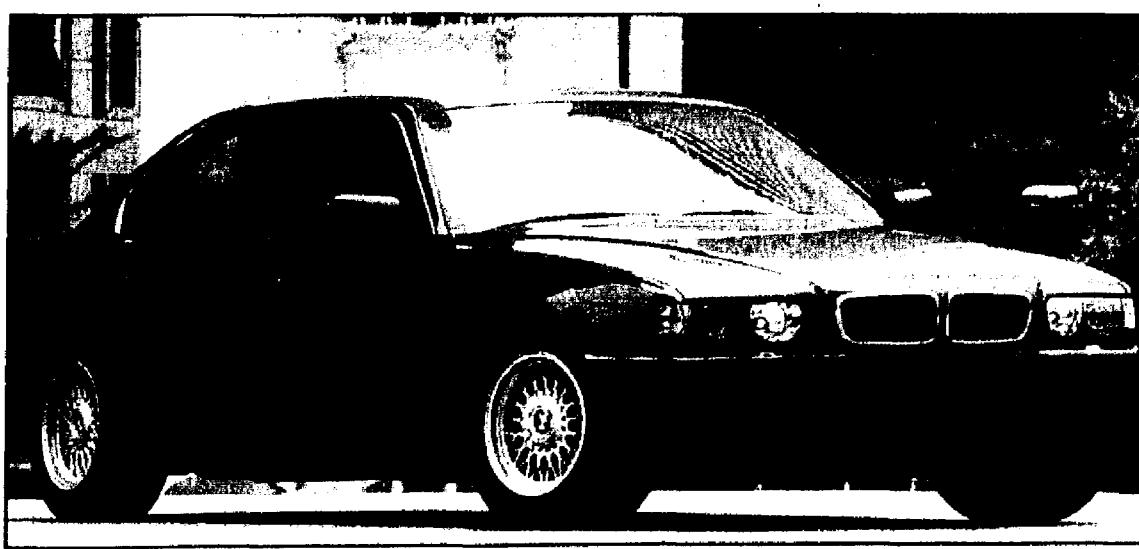
2.5 ltr, 6 cyl, Auto, PS, PB, A/C, AM/FM St./In-Dash CD Player, Leather Seats, Power Glass Moonroof, VIN#: IFU89053, MSRP: \$32,085, \$3,804 due at delivery incl: \$2,500 cap cost reduction, \$400 ref. sec. dep, \$525 bank fee & 1st mo. pymt. Total pymts: \$13,644, Total lease cost: \$16,669, ELPO: \$20,213.53



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Lease for 36 mo

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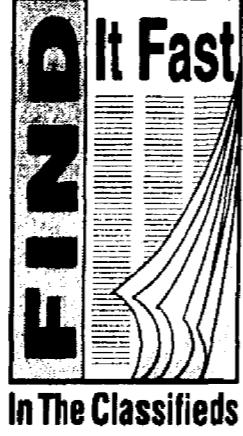
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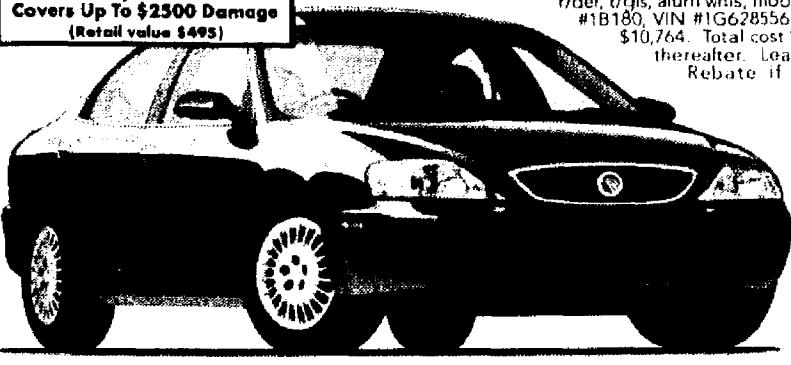
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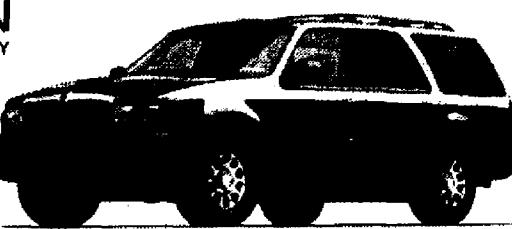
Brand New 2001 Mercury Sable LS

4 dr. V6 auto trans, pwr str/ABS/wind/sts/lcks/mirs, AIR, AM/FM stereo-cass, tilt, cruise, r/del, v/gls, alum whls, moonroof, leather brds, cons, dual air bags. MSRP \$22,410, Stk #1B100, VIN #1G628554. \$299 1st mo pymt due at lease signing. Total of pymts \$10,764. Total cost \$10,764. Buy back at lease end \$11,455. 12,000 mi/yr, 15¢ thereafter. Lease includes \$500 Customer Rebate, \$500 Lease Renewal Rebate if qual** & \$400 College Grad Rebate if qual**

Lease Per Mo. 36 Mos. * \$299

\$0 CUSTOMER CASH! SECURITY DEPOSIT! BANK FEE!

SAVE OVER
\$10,000 Off
NEW 2000 TOWN CARS



Brand New 2001 Lincoln Town Car Executive

V8 auto trans, pwr str/ABS/wind/sts/lcks/mirs, AIR, AM/FM stereo-cass, tilt, cruise, v/gls, alum whls, leather brds, cons, int wip, dual/diso air bags. MSRP \$39,645, Stk #1244, VIN #1M621339. \$499 1st mo pymt & \$500 ref. dep - \$599 due at lease signing. Total of pymts \$17,944. Total cost \$17,944. Buy back at lease end \$18,993. 12,000 mi/yr, 20¢ thereafter. Lease includes \$1500 Customer Rebate, \$1000 Lease Renewal Rebate if qual** & \$1000 Loyalty Lease Renewal Rebate if qual**.

\$0 CUST. CASH!
BANK FEE!

Lease Per Mo. 36 Mos. * \$499

Brand New 2001 Lincoln Navigator

V8 auto trans, pwr str/ABS/wind/sts/lcks/mirs, AIR, AM/FM stereo-cass, tilt, cruise, v/gls, alum whls, leather brds, cons, int wip, dual/diso air bags. MSRP \$49,655, Stk #1N17525, VIN #1LJ1525. \$1990 cust. cash, \$539 1st mo pymt & \$307 due at lease signing. Total of pymts \$19,404. Total cost \$21,394. Buy back at lease end \$24,580. 12,000 mi/yr, 20¢ thereafter. Lease includes \$1000 Lease Renewal Rebate if qual**

\$0 BANK FEE!

Lease Per Mo. 36 Mos. * \$539

www.MaplecrestAutoGroup.com

Price(s) include rebate(s), dealer incentives, college grad rebate, and all costs to be paid by a consumer except licensing, registration and taxes. Not responsible for typographical errors. All prior sales excluded. All vehicles sold as is. Photos may not accurately represent vehicles. Lessee responsible for excess wear and tear. *Leases are closed end. Certification on select vehicles only. **LEASE REBATE: Must be a recent graduate (not more than 1 year) of an accredited 2 or 4 year college. LOYALTY LEASE RENEWAL REBATE: Must be coming out of a Lincoln Town Car Lease. To qualify for \$0 refundable security deposit. Credit score must be rated 0.

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SAVE \$3817

Brand New 2000 Chevrolet
SILVERADO

Vortec 4800 V8, 4 spd auto trans w/tow haul mode, pwr str/bkrs/mirr/wind/lcks, AIR, AM/FM stereo-cass, CD, v/gls, r/del, int wip, b/s mldgs, int, cruise, brds, cons, int wip, 39,737 mi, VIN #W0194376

LS 1500 PICKUP

\$23,599

SAVE \$15,224

Brand New 2000 Chevrolet
EXPRESS.

CONVERSION VAN
HL-TOP - 13" TV - FRONT & REAR
AIR/HEAT, Vortec 4300 V6, 4 spd elec
auto trans w/OD, 7100lb GVW, pwr
str/bkrs/lcks/wind/ant, AM/FM stereo-
cass, CD, chrome grille & brmrs, tilt,
cruise, r/door & r/side door, deep v/gls,
alum whls, captain chairs, STK#Y1736, VIN#Y115427, MSRP
\$22,516.

LS 1500 PICKUP

\$269

LEASE PER MO. 36 MOS.

XTREME!

Brand New 2001 Chevrolet
BLAZER.

2 dr, 2WD, Vortec 4300 V6, 4 spd electronic
auto trans w/OD, pwr str/bkrs/wind/lcks/mirs,
air, AM/FM stereo-cass, CD, v/gls, r/del,
int wip, b/s mldgs, int, cruise, brds, cons,
int wip, illuminated vanity mirrs, STK #Z3890,
VIN #1K90200, MSRP \$25,145, \$730 cust.
cash + \$299 1st mo pymt + \$999 due at signing
Til pymts \$10,491. Til cost \$11,221. Purch.
opt. at lease end \$13,326. 12,000 mi/yr, 20¢
thereafter. Lease incl. \$400 Rec. Coll. Grad.
Reb. if qual. To qual, must be a grad (1 yr prior
or 2 yrs after) of a 2 or 4 yr accredited coll. If
not qual, an addl \$400 cash is req'd at signing

\$289

LEASE PER MO. 36 MOS.

HARD TOP!

Brand New 2001 Chevrolet
TRACKER 4WD

4 dr, 2.0L DOHC 16 valve 4 cyl, 4 spd
auto trans w/OD, pwr str/bkrs/wind/lcks/mirs, AIR,
AM/FM stereo, cruise, tilt, alloy whls, rem keyless
entry, r/wind/wiper/washer, carpeted floor
mats, cloth brds, all ss brds, STK #Z3430, VIN
#16916994, MSRP \$19,855, \$710 cust. cash + \$289 1st mo
pymt + \$999 due at lease signing. Til
pymts \$10,404. Til cost \$11,114. Purch.
opt. at lease end \$9,332. 12,000 mi/yr,
20¢ thereafter. Lease incl. \$500 GM
Reb. if qual. To qual, must be a grad (1 yr prior
or 2 yrs after) of a 2 or 4 yr accredited coll. If
not qual, an addl \$400 cash is req'd at signing

\$465

LEASE PER MO. 48 MOS.

4 WHEEL DRIVE!

Brand New 2001 Chevrolet
TAHOE.

Vortec 5300 V8, 4 spd auto trans w/tow haul
mode, pwr str/bkrs/wind/heated mirr, front
& rear AIR/heat, AM/FM stereo, CD, 9
speaker sys w/subwoofer, cruise, rem
keyless entry w/door, assist steps, locking
gear, dual disc brakes, 4WD, v/gls, alum
whls, onstar, fog lamps, alum whls, b/s
mldgs, STK#Z3876, VIN#J202196, MSRP
\$36,657. \$1034 cust. cash + \$465 1st mo
pymt + \$1499 due at lease signing. Til
pymts \$22,320. Til cost \$23,354. Purch.
opt. at lease end \$7,596. 12,000 mi/yr,
15¢ thereafter. Payments based on primary
lender approval.

\$497

LEASE PER MO. 48 MOS.

1500 4 WHEEL DRIVE!

Brand New 2001 Chevrolet
SUBURBAN.

Vortec 5300 V8, 4 spd auto trans w/tow haul
mode, pwr str/bkrs/wind/6-way brds/heated
mirr, front & rear AIR/heat, AM/FM stereo,
CD, 9 speaker sys w/subwoofer, assist steps,
locking gear, dual disc brakes, 4WD, v/gls,
alum whls, onstar, fog lamps, alum whls, b/s
mldgs, STK#Z3876, VIN#J202196, MSRP
\$34,178. \$1002 cust. cash + \$465 1st mo
pymt + \$1499 due at lease signing. Til
pymts \$22,320. Til cost \$24,858. Purch.
opt. at lease end \$7,596. 12,000 mi/yr,
15¢ thereafter. Payments based on primary
lender approval.

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\$9995

'98 Nissan Altima Gxe

\$12,995

'00 Chevrolet Lumina

\$14,495

'99 Chevrolet Astro Van

\$14,495

'99 Ford Cargo Van

\$15,995

'97 Chevrolet 1 Ton Cargo Van

\$15,995

'00 Pontiac Grand Am GT

\$16,495

'98 Honda Accord LX

\$16,995

'98 Mercury Mountaineer 4x4

\$17,995

'98 Mercury Mountaineer

\$18,495

'99 Chevrolet Suburban LT 4x4

\$26,995

'00 Chevrolet Corvette Coupe

\$39,995

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