

UNION COUNTY NEWS

WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

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SECTION B

From The Editor's Notebook

By Tom Canavan
Editor in Chief



One of the newest features offered by the 22 weekly newspapers published by Worrall Community Newspapers is View Point, in which we provide readers with a question each week and, based upon the responses, determine how the community feels about a particular topic.

Some questions generate little or no response, perhaps for several reasons. The question may not be appealing to the reader and, therefore, he or she may not want to respond. This scenario is similar to having little choice at the polls on Election Day, and the voter decides not to cast a ballot for either of the candidates. The detriment in this scenario is that the lesser of the two evils may be elected and the voter finds himself or herself upset with the results.

The same thing can happen with View Point. A question may not appeal to the reader, and he or she does not respond, but is upset with the results that appear in the following week's edition. There may be times when the results could have an impact on how a governing body decides an issue. For example, a few weeks ago, our Union Leader View Point asked, "Should Union Football Coach John Johnson be fired?" For those who do not know, Johnson is the coach who was fired from a previous position out of state because of a letter he sent to a football player which contained racial remarks. Based on the poll results, which were against his firing, the Board of Education may consider keeping Johnson on the payroll. However, if readers who did not respond to the question felt Johnson should be fired, they could become upset at the Board of Education for the decision it makes.

Other questions generate more response, particularly because they have an impact on the quality of life in an area. Those are results that give town leaders a clearer picture of how a community feels about an issue.

Then there are questions that elicit a personal response, such as the question we asked last week, again in our Union Leader, which was "Are you pleased to see Mayor Jerome Petti depart the Township Committee?" Although the results garnered more than 3,300 affirmative calls, we had to eliminate more than 3,000 of them because they all came from the same phone — a majority of them between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Then there was the batch between 11 a.m. and noon on Monday, which is the deadline for the poll results.

Sadly, someone in Union has too much time on his or her hands — or they dislike Jerome Petti so much that they would spend approximately 35 hours during a week redialing a telephone number and entering a selection. That's the equivalent of a full-time job. The really sad thing about it is that all the energy and time this person put into trying to rig the results was for naught.

View Point, which is found weekly on the Opinion Page, can be a good barometer of community sentiment about a topic. Readers should understand that the telephone call is free within the local calling area, but more importantly, it offers readers a chance to have input into their government and how their town functions. Don't be afraid to use it.

Another new feature offered by Worrall Community Newspapers is our home page on the World Wide Web. Readers who have access to the Internet and have not checked us out should do so by calling "http://www.localsource.com". In addition to featuring local highlights, we also are live with our Online Newsstand, which offers Internet users a glimpse of the week's latest stories and classified ads.

We've received a great deal of positive feedback about our home page, and we're sure you'll agree that it brings the community and the newspaper closer together. E-mail us at WCN22@aol.com with your comments. I'd like to read them.

Credit to a clerk



Linda Stender, chairman of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, presents the 1996 Municipal Clerk of the Year Award to Doris Polidore of Garwood. Polidore, who was selected by the Municipal Clerks Association of New Jersey, began working for Garwood in 1977. She has served as welfare director, municipal clerk, treasurer and chief financial officer. "No wonder she received the award," Stender said.

Congressman doubts FAA's liaison choice

Rep. Bob Franks, R-7, criticized the Federal Aviation Administration this week, saying it is ignoring the needs of residents of central New Jersey.

The administration's decision to place an FAA bureaucrat in the position of aircraft noise ombudsman is a "huge disappointment and a slap in the face to the people who have been pleading for years for relief from intolerable levels of airplane noise," he added.

As part of his continuing efforts to address the airplane noise concerns of residents, Franks sponsored the amendment to the FAA Reauthorization Act last year, that required the FAA to establish the position of aircraft noise ombudsman. The ombudsman was intended to serve as an advocate within the FAA to address complaints about aircraft noise.

Last week, the FAA announced it was appointing William Albee, the FAA's Policy and Regulatory Division manager in the Office of the Environment to the aircraft noise ombudsman's position on a part-time basis for six months.

"The aircraft noise ombudsman was supposed to be an independent voice, an advocate working within the FAA bureaucracy to address the concerns of citizens who have had their peace and quiet disrupted by the FAA's decisions to change flight patterns," the congressman said. "I am extremely disappointed that the FAA would ignore the intent of the law and appoint one of its own, an insider with other responsibilities, to take over this position on a part-time basis. I hold out little hope that an entrenched FAA bureaucrat will help the people of central New Jersey in their 10-year battle for relief from airplane noise."

The FAA's announcement came two days after he sent a letter to Acting FAA Administrator Linda Daschle, urging her to appoint a person "outside the FAA, preferably from a citizens' aircraft noise organization" to the ombudsman's position.

"The appointment of an FAA insider to the ombudsman's position sends a signal to the citizens of Central New Jersey that the agency will continue to be unresponsive to their concerns. I urge the FAA to reconsider its decision and start demonstrating a sincere commitment to resolving the aircraft noise problem."

Franks recommended Glenn Bales, a former FAA official who helped design the Expanded East Coast Plan, to the position.

He said Bales "possesses the technical expertise for this position and has an enormous reservoir of credibility within the aircraft noise community."

UCC readies to view the HaleBopp Comet

A recently discovered comet, estimated by astronomers to be 1,000 times brighter than Halley's Comet, will be visible this spring, and Union County College is preparing for the event.

Amateur Astronomers, Inc., based at UCC's Sperry Observatory, is preparing the public for the approach of the HaleBopp Comet, which was discovered by two amateur astronomers on July 23, 1995.

Lewis Thomas, a past president of Amateur Astronomers, said the Hale-Bopp Comet is unique because it was discovered far outside the orbit of Mars, and the cold climatic conditions in the orbits of the more distant planets prevent comets from forming.

Another aspect of the Hale-Bopp Comet is its tail, which is pushed out of its nucleus, or head, by pressure caused by solar radiation, Thomas said. If a comet is far from the sun, as is the case with Hale-Bopp, the comet

becomes a ball of iced gaseous elements; tails rarely appear.

Viewing of the comet will be possible through binoculars, but Karl Hricko, AAI president, said its visibility can be increased by viewing through high-powered telescopes at the observatory.

Hale-Bopp was discovered outside of Jupiter's orbit simultaneously by Alan Hale of New Mexico and Thomas Bopp of Arizona. It is the farthest comet discovered by amateurs.

The comet's closest approach to Earth will occur March 22, when Hale-Bopp will be 128,000 miles away. It will lower itself in the sky each evening. The comet, as of mid-December, was 15 degrees above the western horizon at the beginning of twilight in the constellation Orphiuchus. It will return to be seen at its brightest this spring.

For more information, call (908) 709-7520 or (908) 276-STAR.

Deer hunt '97 begins; county's goal is 189

Area schools are notified of the hours of shooting

The second of the county's five-year plan to reduce the size of the Watchung Reservation deer population began Tuesday.

The county's state-approved program is intended to reduce the population of white-tailed deer in the reservation to 20 per square mile. Surveys conducted in 1993 from an airplane with infrared photography, and from the ground with spotlights, have revealed approximately 180 deer per square mile.

Thirty marksmen, chosen by lottery from among licensed hunters who have demonstrated a proficiency in shooting, have been selected. One half of the agents are police officers.

The killed deer will be processed at a USDA-approved butcher, and the venison will be distributed to the needy and homeless through the Community FoodBank of New Jersey in Hillside.

Hours of the program will be from dawn to 11 a.m. and from 3 p.m. to dusk, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays only. The hunters will be supervised by the Union County Police and the state Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife.

The program will conclude after 30 days of hunting, or when 189 deer are taken, whichever comes first.

Anyone found hunting on any county property, outside of this program, will be prosecuted.

The Watchung Reservation will not be closed during the program, however, some roads in the park may be closed, if necessary.

According to the county Division of Parks and Recreation, the population of white-tailed deer in the reservation has been growing by as much as 40 percent a year.

Population growth cited

While the state Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife recommended the reservation sustain 20 deer per square mile, the population had jumped to approximately 180 deer per square mile by 1993.

The increase has been attributed to the absence of natural predators. The need for the deer hunt has been attributed to the loss of vegetation in the park, increases in reports of Lyme disease, reports of car accidents, and complaints of thousands of dollars in property damage.

To understand the issue, the Board of Chosen Freeholders appointed the 22-member Watchung Reservation Deer Management Subcommittee. This group of local residents, county officials, wildlife experts, sportsmen, and "animal rights" advocates consulted experts, and reviewed studies on overpopulation.

The subcommittee determined that a five-year program of controlled shooting was the best way to reduce the deer population. After that goal is reached, the county hopes to maintain a stable population through use of a non-lethal method, such as a birth control vaccine, which is in development.

The shooting program conducted last year has resulted in a reduction in the deer herd size. The Plan for Long Range Action, which was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders in 1995 and became the first program of its kind ever approved by the state, encompasses 12 recommendations, including scientific studies and efforts to restore the forest and reduce car accidents through traffic engineering.

This year's program may last until March 31, if winter weather hinders the hunt. The program will not operate on weekends, Wednesdays or school holidays.

Anyone hearing gunshots at the Watchung Reservation outside of the hours of program operation is asked to call the Union County Police at 654-9800.

Park safety

Shooting will rotate through a dozen sites in the reservation. There will be no shooting in areas of high public use, such as near the Trailside Nature and Science Center and the Watchung Stable, during after-school hours.

The superintendents of schools in the municipalities surrounding the reservation have been informed of the program and its hours of operation.

Although the New Jersey game code requires that hunters with loaded weapons stay at least 450 feet from any occupied building, Union County's program is designed to keep them at least 600 feet away from homes.

This program will be conducted by marksmen, at least 21 years old, and have at least three years hunting experience. They will volunteer at least 20 hours to the program.

There will be an average of eight, but no more than 12, in the reservation at one time. Working in teams, with a law enforcement officer, they will use shotguns with telescopic sights, and will shoot in areas which have clear and open views of deer.

Options explored

The program calls for the preferential removal of adult females to curtail the reproductive potential of the herd. Bucks — adult males — with antlers will not be killed.

In 1996, 5,600 pounds of donated venison provided meals for more than 22,000 people.

The county's goal is to reduce the deer population from 400 to 60 in the park. Alternatives to shooting have been explored and debated by the Deer Management Subcommittee.

Trapping the deer and transferring them has been discounted, because of the injuries animals sustain, resulting in having to kill them.

Additionally, this method is expensive, and the only areas known to accept the deer are hunting preserves or venison farms, where the deer will be killed anyway. The sterilization of females or vasectomizing of males requires trapping, which too presents problems of trauma and injury.

Delivery of a birth control vaccine like immunoneutralization to wild deer is said to be difficult because the drug must be administered to the same deer twice, about a month apart. Except in controlled experimental areas, the Food and Drug Administration has not allowed its use. However, the Division of Parks and Recreation is in contact with leading immunoneutralization researchers in the hope a immunoneutralization will be developed and approved by the time the reservation deer herd is brought down to its goal density.

The costs

Because of fewer expenses, it is anticipated that the 1997 program will cost less than the 1996 direct cost of \$14,579.90, which was about \$87 per deer.

Additional information about the Deer Management Program can be found in a June 1996 report that is available in all public libraries in Union County, the Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside, the Union County Customer Information Center in Westfield and the Union County Division of Parks and Recreation offices in Elizabeth.

For more information, call the Division of Parks and Recreation at (908) 527-4900.

Not a cap and gown, but...



Union County College President Thomas Brown and UCC Board of Trustees Chairman Victor Richel present a UCC sweatshirt and cap to Paul O'Keefe, upon his departure from the college's board of governors, ending a three-year tenure.

State's newest commercial bank opens for business in Elizabeth

With the approval of state and federal banking regulators secured, First BankAmericano, the first new commercial bank to open in New Jersey in four years, will open today.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held at noon in the bank's offices at 339 No. Broad St. in Elizabeth. It will be the only commercial bank in that city.

According to bank President and Chief Executive Officer Philip Gonzalez, First BankAmericano has received final regulatory approvals from the state Department of

Banking and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

The founding members of the board of directors include state Sen. Ray Lesniak, D-Union, who chairs the board; Joseph A. Ginarte, an attorney who serves as vice chairman of the board; Roberto Madan, Mitchell T. Berlant, Wilson Londono, Francisco P. Mejia, Fredric K. Leighton, Joseph M. Gillis, Victor Daibo, Tony Monteiro and Gonzalez.

Senior vice presidents Armando L. Rodrigues and David G. Matriciano complement the bank's senior management team.

Is truth too much? Try Web's science fiction

It's the New Year, folks. This is when a body takes stock of his surroundings...

That's okay for the straights, but it isn't for me. Hopefully it isn't for you, either.

So, in the spirit of the New Year, this week's Web offerings are guaranteed to expand that ol' consciousness and knock that ol' world view slightly off kilter.

For sheer volume of dominant paradigm subversion, you can't do much better than Hyper-Weirdness by World Wide Web at www.physic.wisc.edu:80/(tilde)shalizi/hyperweird...

But man, what a hot list. There are literally thousands of links and, frankly, I had no idea where to start.

There are the expected "weird" links. One of the weird religions are "Cthulhu Cults," mostly funny sites on H.P. Lovecraft...

Cyber Raccoon's Logbooks

By Sean Daily Staff Writer

summoning ritual for Yog-Sothoth. Who Yog-Sothoth was, escapes me at the moment.

There's also "The Fringes of Reason" with links to new age sites, UFOs and paranormal phenomena...

And of course there's "Weird Politics and Conspiracy" with links to white supremacy and anti-Semitic groups...

Not all the links are "weird." The "Drugs" category has links to NORML, a group advocating the legalization of marijuana...

site on something called "nootropics," which are supposed to make you smarter.

It also has a link to a site where you can get the AcidWarp screensaver. Very cool.

The "Science and Technology" category also has "weird" tech like nanotechnology and cryonics...

Also, check out the "backlog" categories, real bargain bins of weirdness — the poems of John Keats, Attention Deficit Disorder...

If it's New Age weirdness that you want, try the Magical Blend site at www.eden.com/(tilde)magical.

This, needless to say, is the Web

site of "Magical Blend," a 15-year-old new age quarterly. It's a professional-looking page with only the occasional spelling error...

If you want, you can check out some of the articles in the old issues of the magazine. Some are typical new age stuff — pyramids, herbs for the Druid summer solstice...

And, for you Deadheads, there are a number of articles about the Grateful Dead and Jerry Garcia.

But there's also a number of pieces that aren't your stereotypical beat-one-with-the-universe new age stuff, like interviews with science fiction grand master Ray Bradbury...

Questions? Comments? Large wads of small, unmarked bills? Send them to your Uncle Sean at raprtrst@sigmail.com.

COUNTY NEWS

Small business forum

"Legal Aspects of Starting and Running a Small Business" will be the topic of a workshop sponsored by Keane College's Small Business Development Center tomorrow...

The workshop will help participants understand and satisfy the legal requirements facing one's business. Topics to be examined will include: selecting the legal business structure...

Richard J. Lambert, of Norris, McLaughlin & Marcus in Somerville will conduct the workshop. The workshop will be held in room 158-A at the college's east campus.

For more information, contact Dalas Everett at (908) 5237-2946.

Woman named PTA VP

Joyce Garbinski, of Scotch Plains, was elected second vice president of the New Jersey PTA at the 96th Annual New Jersey PTA Convention held last month in Atlantic City.

Over 1,500 members from New Jersey's local unit PTAs from all over the state met to take part in the three-day convention.

Garbinski has also served on the Union County Council PTA and the New Jersey PTA Board of Directors.

ID cards available

The Westfield office of the county clerk will offer Alcoholic Beverage ID cards to qualified applicants. At present, applications for ABC cards can be processed only in the clerk's office in Elizabeth.

"Currently, our Westfield office processes passport applications, notary commissions and clerk's certificates," said County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi, adding that because of the response from customers, she decided to add ABC ID cards to the office's functions.

ABC ID cards, Rajoppi explained, are available to qualified applicants 21 years of age or older. She said to obtain a card, a resident must bring an original birth certificate, green card or naturalization certificate...

The Westfield office is located in the Union County Clerk's Office, Administration Building, 300 North Ave. East, Westfield.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Artist finds beauty in nature, life

By Bea Smith
Staff Writer

Artist Monica Caballero Sisto of Roselle, a quiet, retrospective young woman who reflects the positive side of nature in her work, is currently having an exhibition of oil paintings, "Rhythm and Light," at the Les Malamut Art Gallery in the Union Public Library in Friberger Park.

Sisto, who visited this office last week to discuss her life's work, describes her art as "a total experience — impressionistic in style" — and explained that painting for her is "a total experience. My only real concern with the technical side of painting," she said in a lovely Argentinian accent, "is capturing the effects of light and atmosphere with high key colors at the beginning of the painting process. After that serious moment, it is only me and my surroundings in a soft dance of colors, free of all academic ties. My paintings are a product of my values and emotions."

Sisto's oil paintings at the Les Malamut Gallery have a special purpose. "The purpose of 'Rhythm and Light,'" she said in a soft voice, "is to show people what they do not see and to want people to acknowledge the beauty of New Jersey. You know," Sisto mused, "everywhere you look you can find beauty. I am a true believer that life is the joy of having, not the fear of losing. This is my expression about New Jersey. Do you know that we have a terrific state? So beautiful."

Sisto said that she wanted to paint beautiful pictures as far back as she

can remember. "Since I was a little girl in Cordoba, Argentina, I always liked to paint. I went to a private teacher in Argentina when I was a teenager — Escuela De Arte Jose F. Alcora in Cordoba. I continued my art education when I came to the United States at the Newark School of Fine & Industrial Arts, and in New York City.

"I came to this country by myself — just to learn and take classes in art, and to learn from the professionals. I first settled in New York City with a friend from Argentina. Then a little more than eight years ago, I met my future husband, Antonio Sisto, who was working in New Jersey. So, I had to come here — and we have lived in Roselle since."

Actually, to the young artist, "Rhythm and Light" is an "exhibit that deals with the many aspects of movement, light, composition and atmosphere in a landscape. It took me an entire year to produce and organize it. It is a very meaningful show for me because it took a tremendous amount of energy coming through me onto the canvas. My spirit is always fighting for more self-expression. I'll consider myself always a student, a student of the world outside and inside myself."

Her landscapes in oil and acrylics at the gallery have an atmospheric effect expressing her deep love of "the peaceful countryside — with loose brush strokes and bright colors to help capture the emotion of a single moment on canvas." Sisto's style is unique and her own. "In 'Rhythm and Light,' I wanted to let go of some

powerful academic restraints and just let my feelings and emotions on the subject do the exploration. So, it was a growing experience for me as an artist."

She mentioned that "I truly believe that life is about the joy of having and not the fear of losing. You see, by acknowledging what we already have we will be attracted to more of it and our lives will be more balanced and joyful each and every day. On the other hand, if we keep on focusing in fearful thought we'll have more and more of it."

"This exhibition is my own expression about New Jersey landscape and it is my way to say to people, 'Acknowledge what we already have in this great planet, see what you do not see and rejoice in it.'"

Sisto, who has had exhibitions in numerous galleries, is "represented by three galleries. I just want to paint, so they take care of everything else. I work six or seven hours every day, and mostly, I do plain air painting — all my paintings are done outdoors, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and are completed in my studio in my home in Roselle. I've sold very well," she said, "I really can't complain."

The artist said that she is "already working on another exhibition for 1998, and it will deal with the Revolution of 1776. It will be totally different from my exhibition this month in Union. It will show in pictures a way of life people use to have in those days."

When Sisto came to a fifth grade school in Roselle to demonstrate her



Photo By Teddy Matthews

Monica Caballero Sisto of Roselle is seen with one of her oil paintings, 'Rose Garden,' one of many that will be in her 'Rhythm and Light' exhibition at the Les Malamut Art Gallery, Union Library, Union. The display, which had its opening on Jan. 11, will continue through Feb. 6.

art, "one little boy asked me if I was famous. I said, 'that isn't important; you do what you love to do. That is

what's important.'

"I like what I do, and I make a contribution at the same time. Now that's

what's important, and why I do what I like to do. That's what counts. That," she smiled, "is my philosophy of life."

A generous helping of culture

The Elizabeth Playhouse serves up lunchtime theater

By Jacquie McCarthy
Associate Editor

The Elizabeth Playhouse has the cure for the end-of-the-week doldrums. After four-and-a-half days with your nose to the grindstone, take your brown bag lunch to 1100 East Jersey St. on a Friday afternoon and take in some free community theater on your lunchhour. The service is great, the staff friendly and the bill of fare guaranteed to satisfy — or your money back.

All kidding aside, this newest endeavor by ever-aspiring Playhouse co-founders Marlow and Karon Ferguson is being offered free to the public. The lunchtime theater program, scheduled to debut Friday, Jan. 24, will consist of a 40-minute one-act play presented at 12:15 p.m. The Fergusons are offering the program as a way to give something back to the community which has helped to nurture their struggling theater, while at the same time allowing the audience to sample a bit of sumptuous dramatic repast in the hope that they will come back for more.

The first course on the lunchtime theater menu will be "27 Wagons Full of Cotton" by Tennessee Williams. Directing this premiere production is Jason Breitkopf, male lead in the Playhouse season opener "The Male Animal." Breitkopf also portrayed "George Hand" in the Playhouse's most recent production of "Dreamgirl." A graduate of Brandeis University with a degree in theater, Breitkopf is a professional actor and director.

After graduation, Breitkopf worked for two years as a professor in the theater department at Northshore Community College in Danvers, Mass., and directed a full theater season there. In pursuit of Master's degrees, the young director and his fiancée realized that they needed to gain more theater experience.

The couple moved back to Breitkopf's hometown last year, finding the proximity to the trains and affordable cost of living conducive to their needs. They were also thrilled to discover The Elizabeth Playhouse, and began taking part in productions in September. When the Fergusons decided to embark on the new lunchtime theater program, Breitkopf was given the honor of directing the first endeavor.

"What happened was, as soon as Marlow decided that I was going to be the director of the first piece, he asked me to put together a list of five plays that I would like to do, all between 30 and 45 minutes, and I presented them with a list. He then struck out three of the plays and said to me that I had a choice between two of them. The two I had were 'The Marriage Proposal' by Chekov and '27 Wagons,' and I chose '27 Wagons.'"

"27 Wagons Full of Cotton," according to Breitkopf, was written before Williams' famous longer plays "The Glass Menagerie" and "A Streetcar Named Desire." First produced in 1945, the play centers around the unconsciously seductive Flora Meighan. A neighbor angered

by Flora's husband uses Flora for his sexual vengeance, which leads to her discovery of aspects of herself she never knew existed.

"I chose '27 Wagons' because I am a huge fan of Tennessee Williams," said Breitkopf animatedly, explaining that the play was the subject of his final project at Brandeis. "So, I worked on it before, and I wanted to do a full production, not just a workshop or a class structure. And it's going really well, it's very, very exciting."

"The play is so well-written I can't rave enough about it. I love it to pieces, which is why I've chosen to work on it in a full production, because it deserves that. And that's one of the reasons why Karon and Marlow are so enthused about it, because neither of them in their long careers have seen this play produced onstage. It's a forgotten play by a brilliant playwright. Everyone knows his long plays — 'Glass Menagerie,' 'Streetcar,' 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof,' — you can go on. He's a fabulous playwright. But here's this short play he wrote very early in his career, which didn't get produced in a professional theater until almost 10 or 11 years after he wrote it. He wrote it in 1935 for a community theater in St. Louis." Breitkopf shook his head in amazement. "This provocative, cosmic play he wrote for a community theater in St. Louis."

The total experience of lunchtime theater is also important to Breitkopf. "In the evening, it's a night out. You're getting all dressed up, you're

probably going out to dinner, you're either taking a date or your wife or your husband or your family on an outing. It's a whole different mindset.

"With this, you're already in town, you're working in the area, and it's a different kind of feeling. Instead of going to the typical fast food burger joint or the local hangout and having the greasy food, you brownbag a nice sandwich, bring it and you get an afternoon of theater."

Breitkopf feels the play he has chosen to initiate the new theater program is right for the lunchtime theater audience.

"People kind of get numbed by their workday. They shunt away their feelings and just do the work, and it becomes a mind-numbing series of numbers and papers and filings, etcetera. My goal is to have the audience leave feeling energized in a way they didn't expect, because they just get so caught up in the moment, to give them a feeling that they're alive, that they've experienced something that is real. It'll be on a Friday and they're ready for something a little different, you know, they've just been drained by the entire work week. Here's a chance to finish off your day with a feeling that you saw something, you experienced something that was real, that was live. It was there, it happened."

"The primary goal is to get the people who work in the area to come in, but if you don't work and you've already had lunch, you can still come," Breitkopf joked. "We won't

turn you away if you don't work and you don't have lunch, just come in and enjoy theater. Basically, it's a gift back to the community, and hopefully by giving something to them they'll give something to us, which is their attendance in the evenings."

"And, this is going to be good. Too often, people feel you get what you pay for, but when it comes to culture The Museum of Natural History is free, and there you get more than you could ever pay for. This is what we're hoping people will feel out of this, that you can't put a price on this. So, don't feel that just because it's free it's not worth anything. It's worth so much more."

The idea for implementing lunchtime theater at the Playhouse came from co-founder Karon, who worked for Mill Mountain Playhouse in Virginia where lunchtime theater was quite successful in bringing in a nighttime audience. According to Karon, both she and Marlow feel it is an important step in reaching the people of Elizabeth.

"The audience is here. There are hundreds at City Hall, there are hundreds over at Probation, there's so many hundred police, there's the court people. People come and look, they see the bill and they see the actors, they get familiar without giving out their \$40 or whatever. But really it's just a wonderful way to introduce an audience, senior citizens, maybe, that are afraid to come out a night can come during the day."

"I think the thing about the lunch-

time theater, too, is that I want people in Elizabeth really to get into the habit of sampling the work, that it's ok. It's like walking into the Metropolitan Museum. You see many paintings you never want to look at again or whatever, but you don't turn around and walk out the door and say I'm never going back there again. I want people to know that it's alright if they don't like a particular show. Maybe they'll like the next one or the one after that, and they have to give us a chance and let us be a part of their lives."

Breitkopf is glad the Playhouse became a part of his life.

"To be involved with it at this stage, it's so young and new, it's very exciting to be a part of the growing process. I'm going to be the first person directing a series of plays in this lunchtime theater, and that's a historic event! I mean, if this survives, if this goes on and on for years and becomes a cultural icon of the city, I can say I did the first one."

"I wish there had been something like this when I was growing up. It's so expensive to go into New York to see theater. It's also good that there's been a lot of growth of theater in the area. This is an aspect of it that I hope continues and thrives."

To help The Elizabeth Playhouse thrive, pack a lunch and pay them a visit on Jan. 24 at noon. The lunchtime theater program is tentatively scheduled for a monthly run, to be increased to bi-weekly performances depending on audience response.

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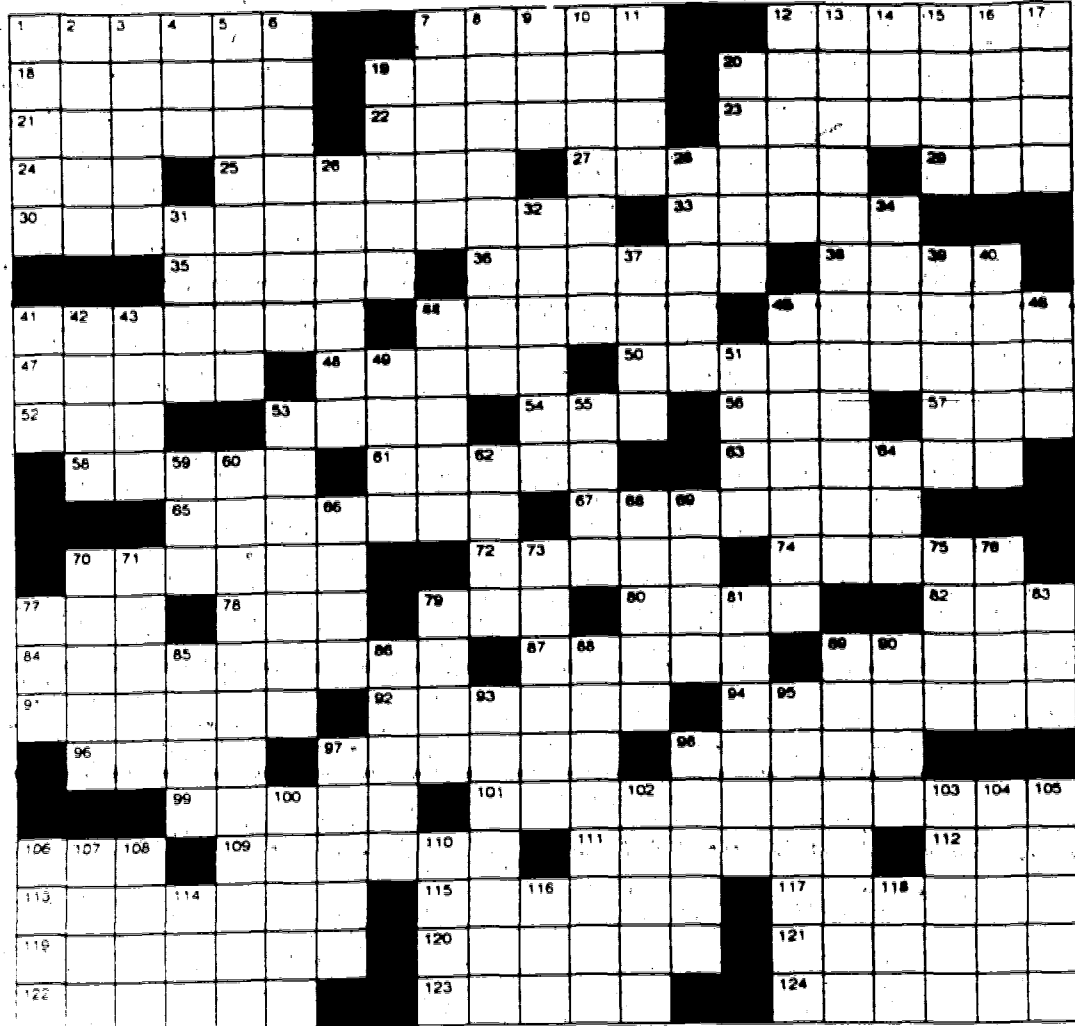
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- 22 Prepare to open
- 23 Hard to comprehend
- 24 Unit of length
- 25 Band
- 27 Variety of S3 Down
- 29 Indite
- 30 John Gunther work
- 33 Prominent
- 35 Wrongs, in law
- 36 One of the USSR
- 38 Spare
- 41 Baptize
- 44 Annoy
- 45 Drums
- 47 Laughs hard
- 48 Crucifixes
- 50 Concealed
- 52 Billion-year unit
- 53 Regarding
- 54 Upon prefix
- 56 Former champ
- 57 Mm, in Mexico
- 58 Plan anew
- 61 Not idle
- 63 The surgically
- 65 Of a certain continent
- 67 Religious gathering
- 70 Sixmos
- 72 Brownish gray
- 74 Channel
- 77 Saw with the grain
- 78 Fed ages
- 79 Cargo space unit
- 80 Wife of Zeus
- 82 Hair
- 84 Naval unit
- 87 Revere
- 89 Type of bath
- 91 Expresses scorn
- 92 Tied up
- 94 Cage attendants
- 96 Oriental nurse
- 97 Take away
- 98 Ear part
- 99 Group struggle
- 101 Graham Greene work
- 106 Actress Murray 1890-1965



- 40 — Dame de Paris
- 41 Wrath
- 42 Drop anchor
- 43 Lion's pride
- 44 W. India city
- 45 La Paz's locale
- 46 The Cruel —
- 49 Of the ear
- 51 Beautiful prefix
- 53 Seasonably
- 55 Llama land
- 59 Headroom of TV
- 60 Arthur Miller work
- 62 "Render — Caesar"
- 64 Pacino, et al.
- 66 Beginning of a comment
- 68 Priestly robe of old
- 69 Shift
- 70 Italian city
- 71 — Downs British racecourse
- 73 Enemy of government
- 75 Small ornamental case
- 76 Adjust, in a way
- 77 Hwy.
- 79 Trampled
- 81 Period of power
- 83 Auto fuel
- 85 Conveyance
- 86 Moslem title
- 88 Hate specialist
- 89 Links concern
- 90 Jai —
- 93 Aftermath
- 95 Unity of purpose
- 97 Exclude
- 98 Samplings
- 100 Kegler's habitat
- 102 Italian statesman: 1903-44
- 103 Verona's river
- 104 Sheer fabric
- 105 Letter writer, for short
- 106 Useful abbr.
- 107 Enlarged end of wall
- 108 Dutch cheese
- 110 Moslem prayer leader
- 114 — de France
- 116 Engineering coll.
- 118 Unit of length

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- 109 Moire, for one
- 111 Still
- 112 Dah's companion
- 113 State admitted in 1816
- 115 Fatal
- 117 Variety of weasel
- 119 Obstructor
- 120 City on the Somme
- 121 Vietnamese city, formerly
- 122 Ruminant mammals
- 123 Subway
- 124 Internal organ prefix

(See Answers on Page B13)

HOROSCOPE

For week of Jan. 19-25

Aries
March 21-April 20
Your imagination may be working overtime. Don't succumb to fears and doubts. The situation really isn't that bad. You will get the support you need when you need it. Be receptive and know that people really are on your side.

Taurus
April 21-May 21
Personal and professional situations are changing, but you will come out ahead. Be willing to stay on the sidelines and watch until things get worked out. Someone in authority is watching out for your interests, so be receptive.

Gemini
May 22-June 21
Focus on things that need to get done. Tackling large projects or tasks in smaller doses could lead to getting more accomplished. Keep heading toward the finish, and don't get overwhelmed. An evening of light entertainment will refresh your mood.

Cancer
June 22-July 22
An honest look at your strengths and weaknesses could pay off. Know yourself before trying to help others with their problems. You will receive some exciting news from an unusual source. People who doubted you become allies.

Leo
July 23-Aug. 23
When other people come to you with problems and concerns, offer advice and encouragement, but don't spread yourself too thin. You need to take time for yourself. Be willing to step back and focus on what's really important.

Virgo
Aug. 24-Sept. 22
A small setback offers a stepping stone to better things. Don't get sidetracked from your primary goal. Avoid rushing into a shaky situation — you'll gain more by playing the waiting game. Take time out with friends and family.

Libra
Sept. 23-Oct. 23
Personal and professional problems will be resolved to your benefit. Alternative viewpoints could help you see things in a new light. Be willing to break from the past and experiment with new ideas. Long-distance communication is in the picture.

Scorpio
Oct. 24-Nov. 22
A long project is finally winding down, but don't let down your guard. Pay attention to details for best results. Get input from others involved but realize that final decisions are yours. Staying cool, calm and collected is to your advantage.

Sagittarius
Nov. 23-Dec. 21
Examine all the possibilities before making a decision. The best solution may be one that was overlooked before. An old friend comes through for you, and you will get a chance to return the favor. Be on the lookout for bargains this week.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 20
You'll finally see progress on a longstanding problem. The solution is closer than you think. Your enthusiasm will be rekindled; you're ready to charge ahead with renewed effort. A brief break with friends will do wonders for your outlook.

Aquarius
Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Do what you know is right, regardless of what others think. Friends and family are on your side and will help you make the tough decisions. Take one step at a time and keep your focus on the goal. A slow, steady pace gets the best results.

Pisces
Feb. 19-March 20
Pressures are piling up, but you are able to handle them. Keep planning for a long-range dream to make it happen. Money concerns will be eased, and you could be in for a pleasant surprise. You get welcome news from a friend or family member.

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FLEA MARKET
SATURDAY
JANUARY 18, 1997
EVENT: Flea Market
PLACE: Redeemer Lutheran Church, 134 Prospect Avenue, Irvington
TIME: 9AM to 3PM (Snow date January 25th). New and Used clothes, jewelry, housewares, records, gowns, etc. Hot and cold lunch available.
PRICE: Tables available to Dealers for \$15.00, call 201-372-0084 or 201-763-3281.
ORGANIZATION: Redeemer Lutheran Church.

WORKSHOPS EDUCATIONAL
SATURDAY
JANUARY 18, 1997
EVENT: Building Self-Esteem in The Working Professional: How Psychoanalytic Training Helps
PLACE: The Psychoanalytic Center of Northern New Jersey, 769 Northfield Avenue, #L2, West Orange, NJ 07052
TIME: 2:30pm to 4:00pm
PRICE: Free
ORGANIZATION: The Psychoanalytic Center of Northern New Jersey, 201-736-7600.

What's Going On is a paid directory of events for non-profit organizations. It is pre-paid and costs just \$20.00 (for 2 weeks) for Essex County or Union County and just \$30.00 for both. Your notice must be in our Maplewood office (463 Valley Street) by 4:30 P.M. on Monday for publication the following Thursday. Advertisement may also be placed at 170 Scotland Road, Orange, 266 Liberty St., Bloomfield or 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union. For more information call 763-9411.

REUNIONS

Class reunions
• Class reunions are being organized for the following:
Westfield 1971, March 22, 1997.
Millburn 1962, April 11, 1997.
Henry Snyder 1947, April 18, 1997.
Susan Wagner 1987, June 6, 1997.
St. Rose 1987, June 27, 1997.
Linden 1971, June 28, 1997.
William L. Dickinson 1962, July 12, 1997.
Summit 1987, July 18, 1997.
Westfield 1977, Aug. 2, 1997.
Columbia 1962, Aug. 23, 1997.
Westside 1947, Oct. 3, 1997.
Plainfield 1957, Oct. 4, 1997.
Arthur L. Johnson 1962, Nov. 8, 1997.
Cranford 1967, Nov. 8, 1997.
Columbia Senior 1987, Nov. 28, 1997.
Union 1977, Nov. 28, 1997.
Union 1987, Nov. 28, 1997.
Westfield 1987, Nov. 28, 1997.
Linden 1987, Nov. 29, 1997.
Scotch Plains/Fanwood 1977, Nov. 29, 1997.
South Plainfield 1972, Nov. 29, 1997.

South Plainfield 1987, Nov. 29, 1997.
Union 1967, Nov. 29, 1997.
Woodbridge 1967, Nov. 29, 1997.
Bloomfield 1977, 1997.
Bloomfield 1987, 1997.
Columbia Senior 1977, 1997.
Livingston 1987, 1997.
Summit 1977, 1997.

If you are a member of one of these classes, write to: Reunions Unlimited, Inc., P.O. Box 150, Englishtown, NJ 07726; or call 780-8364.

The search is on
• Jonathan Dayton Regional High School Class of 1946 search committee is seeking classmates for its 50th reunion, the date of which has not been determined. To contact the committee, contact Rose Culmone Tabor at 530 Fourth Ave., Garwood, NJ 07027 or Anne Graziano at PO Box 251, Springfield, NJ 07081.
• South Side High School. Class of June 1946; and Bergen Street School Class of June 1942 are seeking classmates for a 50th reunion. Contact Sam Sporn, 8 Crescent Dr., Parsippany, NJ 07054, or call (201) 335-6611.

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Actor Charlie Sheen has finally arrived

The Video Detective

By Jim Riffel

"The Arrival" is not one of the greatest science fiction films ever made. It is not "Blade Runner." It is not "The Terminator." It is not "Clock Work Orange." On the other hand, it's much better than most of the films that have recently hit the home video market and I would definitely recommend seeing it.

He has no real interest in the public's viewing habits, but does have an interest in aligning a few dozen satellite dishes in his neighborhood with his own so he can set up a mini-research station in his garage. He's soon hooked up and looking for the same signals he heard weeks earlier. It doesn't take long. When they do appear, Zane finds out that they are connected to an Earth-bound source which has its base in Central Mexico.

As soon as he gets there he crosses paths with Llana and they compare notes. That night, in a great nail-biting scene, Llana returns to her hotel room to wash up and settle into bed only to be greeted by a family of poisonous scorpions.

Zane continues in his quest and stumbles upon a high-security complex in a location that fits perfectly with the signal data. As he watches from some bushes he sees an alien, disguised as a human, enter in Volkswagon Bug. Zane sneaks into the building hoping to learn the connection between the secret alien invasion and the melting Earth. He gets much more.

Charlie Sheen facts: Sheen was born Carlos Irwin Esteves, on September 3, 1965, the son of actor Martin Sheen. He made his debut when he was 9-years-old in "The Execution of Private Slovik," a television movie starring his dad. Later, when his father started in "Apocalypse Now," Charlie again took a role as an extra. Though he wanted to be a pro ballplayer he changed his mind and started acting, making appearances in over 15 films in the 80s. A writer of poetry, Sheen narrated his own poems in the film "Tale of Two Sisters." 1989. His book of explosive comics is unpublished but circulates through bootlegged copies.

A resident of Mountainside, Jim Riffel is the author of "The Video Detective's Guide to the Top 100 Films of All Time."

Classical pianist to perform in Watchung

Christopher Johnson is in tremendous demand within classical music circles. The young pianist has played Lincoln Center, Steinway Hall, the Yamaha Center and the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall - and that's just New York City. The Warren native rarely gets to play for the "hometown crowd," but that's about to change with a visit to the Watchung Arts Center.

Acclaimed pianist Johnson will play in solo concert for the Chamber Music Series at the Watchung Arts Center on Sunday starting at 3 p.m. The concert will be followed by a reception for the performer, with admission to both included in the \$10 tickets.

Seats may be reserved by calling (908) 753-0190, leaving a message on the voicemail if necessary. Tickets will be held at the door. The Watchung Arts Center's historic building is on the Watchung Circle, a mile from either Interstate 78, exit 40, or Route 22, Plainfield overpass. Parking is free.

The young keyboard sensation won the sponsorship of Yamaha pianos after a thrilling performance in New York at age 15. Now 21, he became the first concert pianist inducted into their prestigious Young Performing Artist program. He's toured intensively in recent years, winning Artists International's Young Artists Auditions piano award and being a finalist in the International Piano Competition and the Chopin Piano Competition.

This Watchung Arts Center will be a rare solo performance for his local followers. Many were attracted to his work through appearances with the Westfield Symphony, the Central Jersey Symphony and the Philharmonic Orchestra of New Jersey. His scholarships were represented by the Plainfield Musical Club, the New Jersey Music Teachers Association, the Suburban Music Study Club and the National Society of Arts and Letters.

The Chamber Music Series at the Watchung Arts Center has matinee concerts featuring top classical musicians on a monthly basis. Their gallery is a fine acoustic setting, with all seats close to the performers.

Their monthly newsletter describes the many options for visitors. Request a sample copy by calling (908) 753-0190.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS (L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: HENRY KOHLER. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTICED AND REQUIRED TO serve upon FEIN, SUCH, KAHN & SHEPARD, plaintiffs attorneys, whose address is 7 Century Drive, Suite 201, Parsippany, New Jersey. Telephone number (201) 538-4700, an Answer to the Complaint, and Amendment to the Complaint, if any, filed in this Court, in which Plaintiff, STOKC SAVINGS BANK, and INVESTMENT CORPORATION is Plaintiff and HENRY KOHLER, et al, are defendants, pending the case No. 90-1700, in the Superior Court, Chancery Division, Union County, and bearing Docket No. F-17371-96 within thirty-five (35) days after JANUARY 16, 1997, exclusive of this date. If you fail to do so, Judgment by Default, may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. You shall file your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Hughes Justice Complex, CN-971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice and Procedure.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing a mortgage dated August 1, 1986, in favor of STOKC SAVINGS BANK and CAROL J. KOHLER as mortgagees to CRESTMONT FEDERAL SAVINGS ASSOCIATION, INC. (Crestmont), recorded on 08/28/86, in Book 3649 of Mortgages for Union County, Page 522, et seq. and re-recorded on May 3, 1988 in the Office of the Union County Clerk of Records in Mortgage Book 3862, Page 576, et seq. The said mortgage was assigned by CRESTMONT to STOKC SAVINGS BANK, an ASSIGNMENT TO PEOPLES BANK, by Assignment dated January 15, 1991 and recorded on March 1, 1991 in the Office of the Union County Clerk of Records in Mortgage Book 560, Page 190, et seq. Said mortgage was thereafter assigned by PEOPLES BANK to CAPITAL MORTGAGE AND INVESTMENT CORPORATION, Plaintiff herein, by Assignment dated April 15, 1994 and recorded on June 17, 1994 in the Office of the Union County Clerk of Records in Mortgage Book 758, Page 83, et seq. PEOPLES BANK is one and the same as PEOPLES BANK A CAPITAL MORTGAGE AND INVESTMENT CORPORATION, Plaintiff herein, by Assignment dated April 15, 1994 and recorded on June 17, 1994 in the Office of the Union County Clerk of Records in Mortgage Book 758, Page 83, et seq. HENRY KOHLER and CAROL J. KOHLER, as set forth above.

If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the legal services office of the County, or the legal services office of the County, or the legal services office of the county of your residence if you reside in New Jersey. If you are unable to obtain an attorney, you may call or communicate with the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of Venue at 908-353-4715, or at the Lawyer Referral Service of the County of your residence if you reside in New Jersey. If there is none, contact the Lawyer Referral Service of an adjacent county.

YOU, HENRY KOHLER are made party defendant(s) to this foreclosure action because you are one of the mortgagees and may be liable for any deficiency or any lien, claim, or interest you may have in or against the mortgaged premises by reason of the mortgage made by you, HENRY KOHLER and CAROL J. KOHLER, as set forth above.

Dated: January 13, 1997. DONALD F. PHELAN, Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey. U2983 WCN Jan. 16, 1997 (\$46.20)

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"Miss Adventures" in Dating. UH, HI DAN, THIS IS DELIAH. I HOPE YOU WON'T FIND ME TOO FORWARD OR DESPERATE. BUT DO YOU WANT TO GO OUT FRIDAY NIGHT?. I'M SORRY, BUT YOU HAVE THE WRONG NUMBER. WELL, ARE YOU BUSY FRIDAY?!

GUDELINES. Worrall Community Newspapers assumes no liability for the contents of or replies to any personal advertisements... COUNTRY FOLK ART SHOW & SALE. JAN 23-24-25-26 EDISON - NEW JERSEY CONVENTION & EXPOSITION CENTER AT RARITEN CENTER.

HEALTH/FITNESS & MEDICINE

Hospital helps parents prepare for pregnancy

The birth of a baby is one of life's most precious moments. The months before birth are a time of wonder, learning and decision-making for expectant parents. Saint Barnabas Medical Center's Women's Health Education Program/Parent Education department responds to the needs of parents-to-be with a variety of prenatal and parenting programs, seminars, and services.

Our goal is to incorporate family-centered maternity services in every aspect of pregnancy, including prenatal education," says Susan Weinstein, RN, Director of Women's Health Education. "Our comprehensive programs have been developed to provide state-of-the-art courses for today's entire family unit. The needs of our particular population are assessed and programs are developed to meet their needs."

One of the largest obstetrical facilities in New Jersey, Saint Barnabas's Department of Obstetrics/Gynecology delivered more than 5,700 babies in 1995. Among the many programs and services offered for expectant parents are the following:

- **Lamaze Refresher**
Review classes are for couples who have attended a prepared childbirth series with their last baby. VBAC information included.
- **Pet & Babies**
This fun and informative seminar on how to introduce a new baby to the family pet features both a veterinarian and a pediatrician. Topics include making preparations with pets before the baby's due date, ways to reduce jealousy and disease prevention and cautions.
- **Grandparenting**
Grandparents-to-be can discuss their concerns and receive current information on the importance of grandparenting, advances in childbirth, trends in infant care and tips for better family communication.
- **Sibling Class**
This class is designed to reduce children's anxiety when they must separate from their mothers at delivery time. In addition to a tour of the nursery, stories are read, dolls are diapered and information about new baby adjustment is given to parents.
- **Baby Safety Seminar**
This seminar, taught by pediatric CPR instructors, teaches parents the basics of Infant CPR and babyproofing the home.
- **Breast Feeding Class**
This workshop helps mothers achieve the confidence and skills needed for a satisfying nursing experience.
- **Baby Care Consultation for Adoptive Parents**
Individualized teaching done in the home or hospital.

For more information about any of these programs, or to register, call Women's Health Education at (201) 533-5360.

• **Pre-Conception Planning**
This one-night class addresses the psychosocial aspects of planning a pregnancy as well as medical, lifestyle and financial considerations.

• **Moms in Motion**
A pre/postnatal exercise program taught by physical therapists, these classes focus on exercises designed for pregnancy and the post-partum period. Exercise and physical fitness are important components of a positive pregnancy.

• **Childbirth Preparation for First-Time Parents**
Curriculum begins in the first trimester with an introductory pregnancy class on nutrition and fetal development. Later in pregnancy the series includes a tour of the Maternity Unit and parents receive Lamaze preparation, advice on medication and anesthesia, Cesarean birth, post-partum recovery and newborn baby care.

• **Marvelous Multiples at Saint Barnabas**
Class information is geared to educate parents expecting multiples on all aspects of their unique pregnancies, birthing experiences and parenting more than one child.

• **Over-35 Childbirth Preparation**
Class content is the same as Childbirth Preparation, with additional discussion topics unique to this population.

Digital sound available for hearing-impaired

True digital hearing aids are now available in the United States. Digital signal processing has already proven its superiority in many advanced products such as stereo equipment, computers, video cameras and compact discs. The precision and high fidelity inherent in digital signal processing is finally available in hearing instruments. They allow the patient's specific needs to be met without any deterioration of the acoustical quality.

Hearing loss is an individual as a fingerprint. However, until now hearing instruments have had little ability to meet a user's individual hearing needs. Fully digital hearing instruments can be programmed to do this using tiny microchips with the same computing power as a personal computer. One digital hearing instrument can process sound into seven frequency bands, each of which can be adjusted in several ways. No other conventional or programmable hearing aid can do this. This allows softer sounds to be made audible without over amplifying loud sounds and prevents the "squealing" feedback problem as well. Thus, digital hearing aids are the most comfortable and flexible instruments available.

Technically, the auditory signal is sampled and quantified, or in other words, the "computer" measures the sound thousands of times per second. This hearing aid-computer then processes the digital information as defined by the fit-

ting algorithm. Finally, the processed digital signal is converted back into an analog sound which is transmitted to the ear.

As many as 80-90 percent of people in the world who could benefit from a hearing instrument do not use one. And many of those who buy an instrument eventually toss it into a drawer because they are frustrated by poor sound quality, uncomfortable bursts of loud noise, etc. Getting rid of these annoyances could help change those statistics. Utilizing the cutting edge of technology, digital hearing aids can be categorized as an advanced communication system. This truly signifies a major breakthrough in hearing.

The latest in digital hearing instrument technology is available at the Ear Specialty Group in Springfield. The group is housed in an oncologist's office where many services are offered which include complete hearing evaluations, the dispensing of hearing instruments, and other diagnostic evaluations for dizziness, tinnitus and ear disorders. Christine Bailey-Hoffman, M.S., CCC-A is the director of Audiology and Rehabilitation Services. She is a certified and licensed audiologist and hearing aid dispenser. Jed A. Kwartler, M.D., is the otologist specializing in Otolaryngology and Neuro-otology. Call (201) 379-3330 for more information or for an appointment.

Your abilities can earn extra income. Advertise them with a classified ad by calling 1-800-564-8911.

Flu vaccine advisory

If you received the flu shot administered by Visiting Nurse and Health Services or Tri-County VNA staff at any of the following sites, please be advised that the vaccine used was the brand Comnaught. This is not Fluogen manufactured by Park-Davis which has been recalled.

The sites include Acme in Union, Springfield, Plainfield, No. Plainfield, New Providence and Middlesex; Shop-Rite in Hillside, Elizabeth, Springfield, Clark, Union, Plainfield, Watchung, Piscataway and Perth Amboy; CVS in Elizabeth, Union, Linden, So. Plainfield, New Providence, Dunnellen, Plainfield, Hillside and Scotch Plains; Edward's in Linden, Elizabeth and So. Plainfield; A&P in Elizabeth; Kings in Garwood; Warren and Berkeley Heights; Quik-Check in Scotch Plains; Elizabeth-town Gas Company, Wakefern, Beechwood Data, Aromet Corporation, Plainfield Towers West, St. Bernard's Church, Plainfield Senior Citizen's Center and Cedar Brook Senior Housing.

Yoga is back

After a short absence, Yoga is back to the Five Points YMCA. For more information, call the Y, located at 201 Tucker Ave., Union, at (908) 688-9622.

ATTENTION SENIOR CITIZENS!

FREE HEARING TESTS SET IN CRANFORD AND ELIZABETH....

Beltone Hearing Aid Centers in Cranford and Elizabeth are offering free hearing tests during the week of January 16 through January 25 to anyone who feels he/she may be experiencing a hearing problem. Regularly scheduled hearing evaluations should be part of managing one's health care. Our audiologist will see you as not just another customer, but as an individual who can be helped to lead a fuller, more active life. At Beltone, we provide accurate hearing tests, along with honest advice about whether or not hearing aids are right for you. We will be happy to provide detailed explanations and information concerning your individual hearing loss. This event will be held ONLY during the week of January 16 through January 25. There is no charge for the evaluation, but appointments are necessary due the LIMITED TIME OFFER.

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MEMORY LOSS IN AN OLDER ADULT?

"Mom isn't acting right; she seems confused."
"Dad is so forgetful. He keeps asking the same questions."

Difficulty remembering things is often just a normal part of aging. However, a memory problem which gets progressively worse can be a sign of something more serious. Alzheimer's disease affects an estimated four million Americans, most of them elderly. It is characterized by impaired memory, thinking and behavior, and currently there is no cure. Physicians at Overlook Hospital are studying an investigational medication that may help people suffering from Alzheimer's disease. As part of this study a free evaluation and research treatment program will be provided to qualified older adults. Participants will receive comprehensive diagnostic evaluations, expert medical care and study medication at no cost.

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YOUR HOME INSIDE & OUT

Glass block is clearly superior

It's a fact that's clearer than ever: the timeless beauty of glass block windows, couple with other beneficial attributes, makes them the natural choice for window construction.

If you're one of the many homeowners looking for just the right solution to your window needs, look no further than durable, decorative glass block. While double-pane windows have been the "traditional" choice, many restrictions limit their usefulness.

Glass block's versatile design options and varying degrees of privacy mean that no additional window treatments are needed. Besides offering privacy, glass block windows resist breakage, making them virtually vandal-proof. This makes them an excellent choice for window locations that could potentially offer a burglar easy access to a home. If one block should break, it can simply be replaced. You don't need to replace the entire window. Essentially, glass block panels act like masonry walls with light-transmitting capability.

The appeal of glass block windows is enhanced by the variety of shapes and sizes available, allowing homeowners to create curved, functional windows with ease. These windows have an R-value more than twice the R-value for flat single-pane glazing, and they are easily maintained — just hose them down or wipe them clean with a damp cloth.

Windows made from Pittsburgh Corning's PC GlassBlock products can be configured to fit any size opening, thus making them appropriate for new home construction and remodeling projects. They can be with or without ventilation. Glass block panels provide brilliant luminescence for any room in the house, including kitchens, bathrooms living or dining areas and even basements. Or, use glass block as side lights in halls and entryways. Close proximity areas are perfect for glass block applications because the amount of natural light can be maximized without sacrificing privacy.

Whether you are a do-it-yourselfer or plan to have the glass block professionally installed, Pittsburgh Corning has an installation video which can be purchased from a local distributor or home center or ordered by phone by calling (800) 624-2120.

For Pittsburgh Corning's "Touch of Glass" idea book featuring more than 40 photographs and application more than for decorating with glass block, send a check or money order for \$2.95 to PC GlassBlock Products, P.O. Box 3900, Peoria, IL 61612 or call (800) 624-2120, ext. 1600 to use your Visa or MasterCard.

A subscription to your newspaper keeps your college student close to hometown activities. Call 908-686-7753 for a special college rate.

Geothermal systems keep homes warm

Thinking about a new heating or cooling system for your home? Many homeowners are now considering comfortable and cost-efficient geothermal comfort systems when deciding which system to install. Geothermal comfort systems, such as those manufactured by Water-Furnace International Inc., can save homeowners up to 60 percent on monthly energy bills when compared to electric or fossil fuel systems.

Geothermal technology uses Earth's thermal properties in conjunction with electricity to provide unprecedented efficiency. The geothermal system has a 400 percent efficiency rating on average, and making it the most efficient heating and cooling system available.

A geothermal comfort system uses energy stored in the homeowner's backyard by simply transferring heat from the ground to the home in winter and from the home back to the ground in summer. This movement of energy is accomplished by circulating a water-based solution through an underground "loop" of small diameter, high strength plastic pipe. In cold

weather, this solution absorbs heat from the earth and carries it to the home. In warm weather, the process is reversed by taking the excess heat from the home and moving it back into the ground.

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory reports geothermal systems save \$300 to \$1,000 annually, compared to electric or fossil fuel systems. Geothermal systems' superior efficiency has also been documented by the U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Electric Power Research Institute, Oak Ridge Labs, and other leading independent research institutions.

Increasing acceptance of geothermal technology can be seen in the rapid growth of incentives by the public and private sectors. Most major lending institutions offer Energy Efficient Mortgages providing cost-saving on mortgages for buildings with energy-efficient geothermal systems. Many electric utilities also offer rebates on the purchase of geothermal systems for new home construction and replacement of existing systems. Some manufacturers are also offering 100 percent financing packages

to eliminate up-front costs.

In addition to the significant energy bill savings and other financial incentives, homeowners also enjoy reduced costs of ownership and maintenance, increased resale values, and the comfortable, quiet and reliable operation of a single indoor unit that both heats and cools the home's hot water requirements.

Geothermal systems offer more than fiscal and physical comfort. They also bring peace of mind to homeowners concerned about the environment. Since geothermal systems rely on renewable, infinitely free energy from the Earth, they reduce the burning of natural gas, propane, fuel oil and other fossil fuels. Many environmental groups endorse the use of geothermal systems as an important step in reducing carbon dioxide emissions which contribute to global warming.

Geothermal systems combine natural, environmentally safe energy with reduced costs and increased comfort. Homeowners interested in learning more about the benefits of geothermal heating and cooling systems should call (800) GEO-SAVE for more information.

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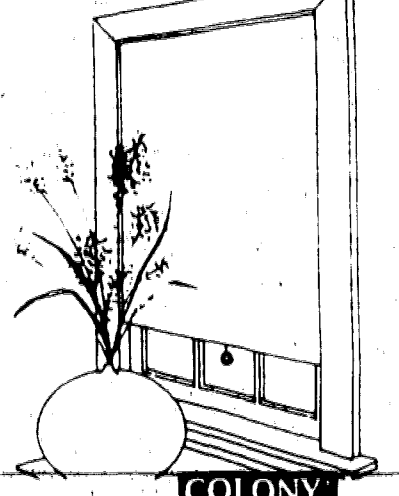
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YOUR HOME INSIDE & OUT

Rules for mixing concrete are now set down in stone

Setting a post is one of the most common do-it-yourself projects involving concrete. Posts are used for fences, lamps, decks, swing sets, basketball goals, and many other outdoor projects.

To get started, you will need the following products and tools: fast-setting concrete mix, all-purpose gravel, a long-handled shovel, and a level. Gloves and goggles should be worn for protection.

Follow these easy steps for setting posts from the experts at The QUIKRETE Companies. These instructions are based on using a fast-setting concrete mix. If standard concrete mix is used instead, refer to mixing and setting instructions on the packaging:

• Preparing The Base —
Dig a hole about three times the diameter of the post and deep enough to encase one-third of the post's length. Save the dirt from the hole. Tramp the bottom and sides of the hole until firm. Place the post in the desired position within the hole and pour six inches of all-purpose gravel in the hole. Use the level to make sure the post is straight. When installing a

basketball goal or other equipment requiring a solid footing, follow the equipment manufacturer's recommendations concerning hole depth and size.

• Pouring The Concrete —
Pour dry fast-setting concrete mix into the hole until it is approximately three or four inches from the top. Two 50-pound bags of fast-setting concrete mix will set a four-inch by four-inch, or four-inch diameter, post in a 10-inch hole. Next, pour water into the dry mix and allow it to soak in. Use at least one gallon of water per 50-pound bag of concrete. Fill the remainder of the hole with soil dug from the hole. The cement around the post will set in about 20 to 40 minutes, but allow four hours before placing a heavy load on the post.

To learn more about other concrete-related projects, call the QUIKRETE Companies at (800) 282-5828.

This newspaper is a reliable means of researching the community market. To boost your business in the community, call our ad department at 908-686-7700 today.

Decorate your home in 'global' style

People are dressing their homes in designs that display their own ethnic origins and incorporate others. This "global style" is one of the most popular trends in home decorating today.

"One of the reasons people love global design is because it's com-

mon to all of us — many cultures overlap and resemble each other," said Thomas Hills Cook, director of Interior Design at Armstrong.

For more information about Armstrong's Passages Collection or sheet vinyl flooring, call (800) 704-8000, Dept. 2025.

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Jacquie McCarthy, Editor
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Advertising Deadline: **JANUARY 21, 1997**

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governor of Washington, wrote that through the use of preservatives in pressure-treated lumber for fences, porches, decks and homes, we have saved a forest of trees two times the size of New England. Pressure-treated wood in contact with the ground or water may last only one to four years.

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Think of it as forest conservation through wood preservation. For more information about treated wood, write to: American Wood Preservers Institute, 1945 Old Gallows Road, Suite 150, Vienna, VA 22182-3931.

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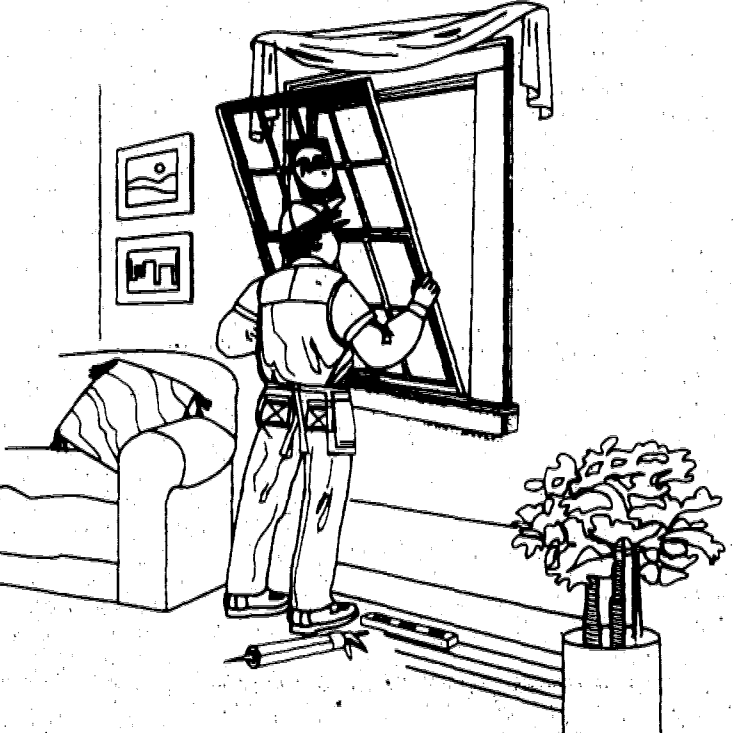
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The masters of contractors are at your beck and call

Frank LaTorre arrived from Calabria, Italy when he was 10-years-old and he was taught by the master of contractors, his father, Carmelo. The two of them worked side by side on many construction sites and have always taken pride in their work. Carmelo was from the old country and the quality of his work seemed more important than the quantity.

Back then their skill was a talent that could only be passed on from generation to generation through their own schooling. Frank was proud to work with his father and learn the trade over a course of 30 years on such job sites as Rohill and Kimberwyck Village in Hillsborough, NJ where they built over 500 homes. When his father passed away in 1989, Frank was on his own and took all he learned and passed it on to his son, who now works side by side with him.

They have specialized in custom additions on homes, brick work, fireplaces, paved patios and tile work. They have done many additions and

alterations in the Union County area. Their skill and pride shows in their workmanship.

The younger Frank is learning many of the skills of the trade from his father and is acquiring a nice reputation for himself. Both of these gentlemen believe in treating their clients as friends.

They are honest, considerate and very informative when it comes to planning any addition or alteration. Estimates are free, so give them a call if you have any plans for your home.

They can be reached at (908) 276-8008, fax 276-4395, and their address is 37 Georgia St., Cranford.

Editorial deadlines

Following are deadlines for news: Church, club and social - Thursday noon.
Entertainment - Friday noon.
Sports - Monday noon.
Letters to the Editor - Monday 9 a.m.
General - Monday 5 p.m.

Stop shower shock with pressure valves

It can be a real shock. You're standing in the shower, with the water at just the right temperature, when all of a sudden a toilet is flushed or the dishwasher is activated somewhere in the house and you get a blast of hot or cold water.

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Good insurance advice is a telephone call away

If you've ever had a leaky roof or heating and air-conditioning breakdown, or simply locked yourself out of your house, you know the frustration and worry of finding trustworthy, competent help in a hurry.

Now, for the first time, many homeowners faced with these and other home repair emergencies can get help by calling a 24-hour toll-free number. The new services from The Maryland Personal Insurance, called

HomeCare Services, puts callers in touch with qualified tradespeople in their areas who can recommend immediate action to prevent further damage, or come to their homes to repair the problems at a discounted rate. HomeCare Services is being provided at no cost by The Maryland to its homeowner insurance customers in 44 states.

For more information about HomeCare Services, call (800) 222-2788.

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Automotive

New Benz to make debut this week at Cobo Center

Mercedes-Benz will display its eagerly awaited SLK sports at the North American International Automobile Show, which is open to the public January 11-20, 1997 at Cobo Center. The fully-equipped new roadster begins arriving in the United States this month at a suggested retail price of \$39,700.

The innovative SLK will set new standards in the two-passenger sports car market segment, and it will take its place among legendary sports cars that bore the three-pointed star. A high-performance engine, responsive transmission and sophisticated independent suspension assure sporty driving in the SLK, including 0-60 mph acceleration in what has already been reported at 6.6 seconds and a top speed of 140 mph. Already named as one of "Car & Driver" Magazine's

SLK from a closed coupe to a fully open roadster in 25 seconds. The folding roof retracts completely into a rear compartment, leaving a sleek, smooth appearance.

The retractable hardtop creates two cars in one, and also offers the refinement and structural integrity of a coupe. The hardtop provides increased security against theft, and the glass rear window with integrated defroster will not discolor.

ASR traction control, standard for the U.S.-market SLK, is another all-season asset. The system can control rear wheelspin with both the brakes and throttle. As one every U.S.-market Mercedes-Benz, four-wheel disc anti-lock brakes are standard on the SLK.

The SLK features the first-ever use of the BabySmart system - a new



The SLK has been designed as a sport car for all seasons and reasons, and this is made clear by the car's most unique feature - a fully automatic retracting hardtop. The current Mercedes SL models introduced the industry's first fully automatic operation for the convertible top, and the SLK takes this technology a step further. Pushing one button triggers a sequence of events that transforms the SLK from a closed coupe to a fully open roadster in 25 seconds. The folding roof retracts completely into a rear compartment, leaving a sleek, smooth appearance.

The contemporary styling of the SLK includes cues from a rich heritage of Mercedes-Benz racing and sports cars, such as the supercharged SSK of the 1920s and the 300SL of the 1950s and 1960s. Notable design elements linking the SLK with its proud past include the long hood/short deck proportions and the "power domes" on the hood, a tribute to the original 300SL.

"Ten Best," the new SLK supplements the well-known Mercedes-Benz SL models and returns the German automaker to the enviable position of offering sporty entries in two distinct sports car segments - last seen in the early 1960s with the 300 SL and 190SL.

The SLK has been designed as a sport car for all seasons and reasons, and this is made clear by the car's most unique feature - a fully automatic retracting hardtop. The current Mercedes SL models introduced the industry's first fully automatic operation for the convertible top, and the SLK takes this technology a step further. Pushing one button triggers a sequence of events that transforms the

technology which turns off the passenger airbag whenever a special child seat is belted in. The BabySmart system uses a small "resonator" built into the child seat, similar to the security tags sometimes attached to merchandise in retail clothing stores.

A low-power radio signal from the passenger seat prompts a return signal from the resonator in a BabySmart-equipped infant or child seat, allowing the system to sense the presence of the seat and automatically turn off the passenger's front airbag.

Since the car's signal is essentially "reflected" back by the resonator in the child seat, the seat itself needs no battery or power hookup. The BabySmart system is a special benefit in a

two-seater like the SLK, since rear-facing child seats are too close to the airbag and can't be placed in a rear seat. The seat itself is available as an accessory from Mercedes-Benz dealers.

Since the Mercedes-Benz SLK is so comprehensively equipped as standard, there are only three factory options: heated seats for \$595, metallic paint for \$600 and a choice of telephone/CD changer combinations - an integrated mobile phone/CD changer for \$1,495 or an integrated portable phone/CD changer for \$1,895. (A complete list of standard features is attached.)

Selective use of light-weight materials such as magnesium and aluminum contribute to a lean weight-to-power ratio of about 16 pounds-per-horsepower. With a curb weight of 3,036 pounds and 157 inch-length, the SLK is relatively light and short, emphasizing its sporty nature and

contributing to its nimbleness.

All U.S. versions of the Mercedes-Benz SLK are equipped exclusively with a 185-horsepower supercharged, intercooled engine. Badged SLK230, the U.S. model shares the European "Kompressor" badge on the front fenders to indicate the presence of a supercharger, or compressor.

The SLK's crankshaft-driven supercharger is an adaptation of the Roots "blower," which was invented by Americans Francis and Philander Roots 130 years ago. Twin three-lobed rotors turn at up to 12,000 rpm within the oval compressor housing, compressing incoming air. An inter-cooler then cools the pressurized air, which creates a denser intake charge to boost power further.

To conserve fuel and enhance component durability, the belt-driven supercharger disengages at idle via magnetic clutch. However, there is a smooth transition, with noe of the

"lag" or sudden power surges that mar performance in some turbocharged cars (which use exhaust gas to drive the compressor). On the contrary, with its 200 lbs.-ft. of torque available from 2,500-4,800 rpm, the SLK230 rewards the driver with the smooth, flexible response one would expect of a larger displacement engine.

Teamed to the SLK's supercharged engine is a five-speed automatic transmission that uses electronic controls and a microprocessor to adapt to road conditions and even an individual's driving style. For example, on inclines, the transmission will sense the road grade and delay an upshift to preserve climbing power. Then, on a descent, the transmission will downshift to take advantage of engine braking, just as a driver would do if shifting manually. In normal driving, the transmission shifts quickly and smoothly for optimal fuel efficiency. However, when the transmission

computer senses spirited driving, it responds with crisper shifts at higher engine speeds.

The contemporary styling of the SLK includes cues from a rich heritage of Mercedes-Benz racing and sports cars, such as the supercharged SSK of the 1920s and the 300SL of the 1950s and 1960s. Notable design elements linking the SLK with its proud past include the long hood/short deck proportions and the "power domes" on the hood, a tribute to the original 300SL.

The SLK design is one that looks toward the future, however, not the past. The taut wedge profile, short overhangs and wheels that fill the fender wells convey action and performance, even standing still. It's intended to be a timeless design, and it is unmistakably Mercedes-Benz. Among the exciting exterior colors available are Calypso Green, Bahama Blue and Sunburst Yellow.

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Chevy's small-block milestones
 An Abridged History of the Small-Block V8 by model year:

1955 — 265ci V8 debuts in all-new '55 Chevrolet; Chevrolet General Manager Tom Keating drives Indy 500 pace car

1956 — Zora Arkus-Duntov sets production car record at Pikes Peak and "flying mile" record at Daytona; optional dual four-barrel carburetors available; Corvette SR races debut at Sebring

1957 — 283ci V8 introduced; Rochester mechanical fuel injection and Duntov cam debut; Buck Baker wins NASCAR championship with "Black Widow" '57 Chevy; Corvette SS makes only racing appearance at Sebring

1959 — William Mitchell, vice-president of GM Styling, races original Sting Ray Corvette

1960 — Duntov unveils mid-engined CERV I at United States Grand Prix; Briggs Cunningham enters three Corvettes at Le Mans

1962 — 327ci V8 introduced; Sebring and Grand Sport Corvettes constructed

1964 — 327ci small-block hits 375 horsepower with Rochester fuel injection; Holley four-barrel introduced on small-block V8; Duntov develops four-wheel-drive mid-engined CERV II

1965 — Jim Hall revolutionizes road racing in a series of mid-engined Chaparral sports cars

1967 — 302ci V8s introduced; Z28 Camaro debuts

1968 — 307ci V8 introduced; Z28 Camaro wins Trans-Am championship

1970 — 400ci small-block V8 introduced; 350ci/370hp LT-1 debuts in Corvette and Camaro Z28

1971 — Switch to unleaded gas and new "net" ratings cause dramatic drop in horsepower ratings

1972 — Bill Jenkins dominates NHRA Pro Stock with innovative small-block Vega

1974 — Camaro debuts in International Race of Champions

1975 — 262ci V8 introduced

1976 — 305ci V8 introduced

1977 — Z28 returns after three-year hiatus

1978 — Silver anniversary L82 Corvette paces Indy 500

1979 — 267ci V8 introduced

1980 — Dale Earnhardt wins first

of seven NASCAR Winston Cup championships

1982 — Cross-Fire electronic fuel injection introduced; third-generation Camaro paces Indy 500 with aluminum 350ci small-block V8

1983 — Monte Carlo SS introduced with 305ci V8

1984 — Tuned Port Injection introduced; Corvette dominates SCCA Showroom Stock, winning every race for three straight years

1986 — Production aluminum cylinder heads introduced mid-year on Corvette; Monte Carlo Aerocoupe debuts; Gen. Chuck Yeager drives Indy 500 Corvette convertible pace

In 1993 Chevrolet wins fourth straight Trans-Am manufacturers championship; Z28 Camaro named Indy 500 pace car.

car. Dale Earnhardt and Richard Childress win first of six NASCAR titles together

1987 — Hydraulic roller lifters introduced

1988 — Corvette Challenge debuts

1989 — Chevrolet Racshop develops high-performance H.O. 350 "crate motor"; Darrell Waltrip scores first Lumina win in NASCAR Winston Cup

1990 — L98 Corvette sets six international speed records in Fort Stockton, Texas

1991 — Scott Sharp scores Chevy's 100th Trans-Am victory and wins championship

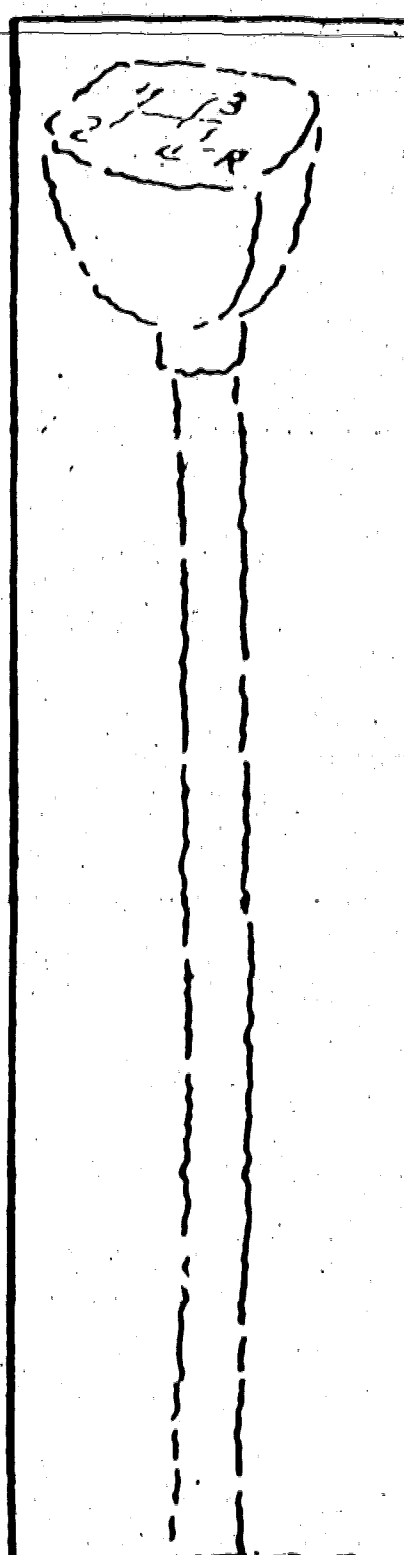
1992 — Second-generation LT1 introduced

1993 — Chevrolet wins fourth straight Trans-Am manufacturers championship; fourth-generation Z28 Camaro named Indy 500 pace car

1994 — 4300 (4.3 liter) small-block introduced; Dale Earnhardt wins record-tying seventh NASCAR championship

1995 — New Chevrolet Monte Carlo wins 11 of first 14 NASCAR Winston Cup races; General Manager Jim Perkins space Indy 500 in LT1 Corvette

1996 — High Output LT4, 5000 Series and 5700 Series Vortec V8s introduced



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