

### Walk through history

Later this month, a simultaneous tour of 16 historic sites will be offered in the county, Page B1.

### Acting his age

A veteran stage and screen actor comes to Paper Mill to star in 'No, No, Nanette,' Page B3.

### Medical marijuana

State Senator C. Louis Bassano calls for a study of the drug's medical benefits, Page 6.

# Mountainside Echo

"Your Best Source For Community Information"

A WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

MOUNTAINSIDE, N.J., VOL. 29 NO. 27—THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1997

TWO SECTIONS - 50 CENTS

## Borough Highlights

### Soccer clinic

The Recreation Department of Berkeley Heights is sponsoring a Soccer Clinic for boys and girls in grades 1-8. The dates are June 30 through July 3 and July 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Columbia Park in Berkeley Heights. Rob Osieja, boys head soccer coach at Governor Livingston, is the director of the camp. Further information can be obtained by calling Gary Mills, the Berkeley Heights recreation director at 464-0550.

### Stable lessons

Watchung Stable in Mountainside offers two programs, in addition to its fall and spring series of lessons, which are designed to introduce the sport of horsebackriding to all.

Programs can be arranged at date and time convenient for any group. There is a \$20 fee per hour; actual horsebackriding is available at an additional cost. Contact Jean Jacobus at (908) 789-3665 for further information. The Watchung Stable is a facility of the Union County Division of Parks and Recreation and is located at 1160 Summit Lane, Mountainside.

### Golf event

The Westfield/Mountainside Chapter of the American Red Cross GlenGate Golf Tour 1997 will be kicking off on May 8 at Metedeocon National Golf Club located in Jackson. This will be the first stop of the tour which includes Echo Lake Country Club, Shackamaxon and Baltusrol Golf Club.

The deadline is near and only four spots left to fill. For additional information about the tour contact the Red Cross Office at (908) 232-7090 or stop by the chapter house located at 321 Elm St., Westfield.

### Taxes due today

The Office of the Tax Collector has announced that quarterly taxes are due today, May 1. Residents who do not pay their quarterly taxes by today have a 10-day grace period.

### Storytime schedule

The Mountainside Public Library Storytime schedule for 3- and 4-year-olds is as follows:

Wednesdays, May 7 — June 11, Morning Session: 10:30 a.m.; afternoon session: 2 p.m.

The programs include stories and simple crafts for children ages 3 — 4. Programs last approximately 45 minutes, and a parent or caregiver must remain in the library during storytimes. Please register for one session only. Mountainside residents will be given priority in registration.

Call the library at (908) 233-0115 to sign up.

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## Sitting in the shade



Leigh Mauney of Mountainside takes a break from walking her dog Jessie during an afternoon stroll through the Trainside Nature and Science Center.

## Recreation set offers variety

By Blaine Dillport  
Staff Writer

As summer looms on the horizon, the Mountainside Recreation Department is gearing up for the summer activities that are about to start. The Recreation Department has a full schedule of events and is encouraging residents to take full advantage of all of the programs they have to offer.

Today is the deadline to sign up for fall soccer and for summer tennis lessons. The breakdown of soccer programs is as follows. Kindergarten: a four week instructional clinic meets for one hour a week on Saturday mornings in late September and early October. Grade 1: an eight week instructional clinic will meet on Saturday mornings from September through November. The registration fee for these programs is \$15 per child. The programs for grades 3 to 8 have not been finalized as of yet. There will however be traveling teams for grades 5 and 6 and 7 and 8

in the Morris County League.

In addition, players who are not selected for these teams will have an opportunity to compete on recreation teams. Recreation teams will be divided into grades 3 to 4, 5 to 6, and 7 to 8. Try-outs for Morris County travel teams will be posted at the Deerfield School. People interested in trying out should be aware that this is a competitive league, and the time commitment is significant. There is usually a 10 game season, and away games can be up to one and a half hours away. Most games are on Sunday afternoons. Also, the Recreation Department would like to remind those who are interested that the UK Elite Soccer Camp will be held in Mountainside the week of July 28 at Deerfield School. The cost is \$120 per person and brochures are available in the recreation office.

The 1997 Tennis badges are on sale at the recreation office. All players ages 13 and older must wear a valid

1997 badge when using the municipal courts at the Deerfield School or Borough Hall at the Echobrook courts. The fee for badges is adults 18-61: \$5, Senior citizens: \$3, and teens 13-17: \$3.

If residents are having trouble purchasing badges, they should call the Recreation Department and make arrangements to pick one up. Reserved time on the courts begins on May 12 at Echobrook courts 1 through 4. Weekly sign-up sheets will be posted on Monday mornings. The popular instructional Tennis program for adults and children returns to the Echobrook courts under the direction of teaching pro Nancy Harter this summer. The lesson program for children ages 8 to 16 will begin on Monday, June 23. These two week sessions will run until August 1. Classes are for beginners, little beginners, advanced beginners, and intermediates. Adults are also invited to sign up for a set of lessons. The classes will meet from 8 to 9 a.m. The first two week session will also begin on June 23.

Anyone with any questions about these or other programs offered by the Recreation Department can contact the department at (908) 232-0015.

## Borough plans full range of projects

By Blaine Dillport  
Staff Writer

With the change in weather now upon us, it is that time of year again, namely spring cleaning. The Borough's Department of Public Works is preparing to get a few projects under way around the borough that will help to improve both the look and infrastructure of the borough.

For those who have yet noticed, the municipal parking lot behind Borough Hall has been newly paved and is scheduled to have the lines for the parking spots painted shortly. This is all part of the Borough Hall renovations, which are scheduled to be completed for the most part by the end of May.

The renovations to Borough Hall have been ongoing for over a year and have displaced many of the borough's departments. Once the renovations are complete, many of the departments will be moving into their new offices. The Recreation Department, the clerks office, Department of Public Works, and the Municipal Court will all have new homes once the renovations are concluded. Mayor Robert Vigilanti and Borough Council will hold a Borough Hall dedication ceremony and open house at the end of the month.

There is also some road improve-

ment scheduled for the near future in the borough. "We are going to be repaving a section of New Providence Road, which is the town portion of that road. The portion that we will be doing is parallel to Tracy Drive, so we will probably be able to shut down New Providence Road for a while and re-route the traffic onto Tracy Drive without causing any major problems," said Bob Wyckoff, director of Public Works for the borough.

There are a few municipal buildings that are due for an upgrade as well, which will be happening in the near future. "We are going to paint the First Aid Squad Building and that project will be coming soon. The renovations should be complete within the month to Borough Hall, and will be ready for the open house. We have also just put a new roof on the Fire House and the borough engineer is coming up with a proposal for other maintenance work that should be done to the Fire House building," said Wyckoff.

In addition to the projects that the Department of Public Works are undertaking, they will also be doing their usual spring clean-up and general lawn maintenance of all of the municipal buildings and fields in the borough.

## Taschler chosen to head school board

By Blaine Dillport  
Staff Writer

The Mountainside Board of Education held its reorganization meeting last Wednesday and elected a new slate of board officers: Pat Taschler was elected as the new board president and Sally Riveccio was elected as the new board vice president.

The board also made a few other appointments and took care of routine business associated with reorganization meetings.

At reorganization meetings every year, the Board of Education nominates and then votes to elect new officers. Taschler and Riveccio were elected by a unanimous vote of the board. "I would like to acknowledge Frank Geiger and thank him on behalf of the board for his four years of commitment and dedication as board president. I think he did a wonderful job in that capacity. He had to deal with dissolution and other important issues while he was at the helm and he did a fine job for us," said Taschler.

Also appointed at the reorganization meeting was Mountainside's representative to the Berkeley Heights Board of Education, who will be Riveccio again this year.

Taschler is prepared to continue to take the board in the direction they feel is best for the students in the borough, and seems to be ready to take on the extra work involved. "I am very

excited about the upcoming year and I would like to continue along with movement that I think we have been having, especially educationally. I do have three children in the Deerfield School so I am definitely personally committed to the quality of education," said Taschler.

Taschler would like to see the board continue to examine the curriculum of Deerfield to see if any improvements can be made. "I would like to continue to look at curriculums and maybe move a little more diligently and stay on task with things. Right now we have been really involved with math, and now we are going to move into the science curriculum as well. Even though curriculums come up every five years for review, I think that we can look at them every year and get some sort of annual review of all of our curriculums.

Taschler, who was vocal about having a board review done by the New Jersey School Boards Association, would now like to heed some of the advice given after the evaluation. "What I would like to do is at the next meeting I am hoping that each member of the board will come with a board goal that they would like to see accomplished, and then we will narrow it down to two or three more focused goals for the board," said Taschler.

## Nearly 100 turn out for area walkathon

By Walter Elliott  
Staff Writer

The Mountainside Newcomers Club Walk-A-Thon produced sweat, smiles and donations for a needy borough family Sunday afternoon.

Some 95 men, women and children paced themselves around a three-mile, 11-turn course which began and ended at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish House on Central Avenue. While a few youngsters were allowed to use bicycles or inline skates, most hoofed their way on local roads.

"We had some 60 families taking part," said walkathon organizer Doreen Lane, "from two months to over 60 years old. A few pushed their infants in strollers and one pulled a child in a wagon. The conditions were near ideal and the police helped with the crossings."

"I walked the marathon," said Mountainside Police Lt. James Debbie. "The course was fairly flat and we had a patrolman assigned to help. We stepped off at 1:30 p.m. and returned about an hour later."

One family which took part was that of the beneficiary. The mother, father and their 3-year-old daughter went the distance on their child's behalf. The walkathon was created to raise funds to meet the preschooler's hospital bills. She recently underwent surgery to correct a heart condition.

"We were happy to see see them," said Lane. "They were overwhelmed at the support and effort the community was making for them."

Although the proceeds are being tallied, Lane said another 45 people made donations. They are being accepted at MNC, Box 1115, Mountainside, 07092-1115.

## Riding the wild horses



Horses graze during an afternoon at the Watchung Stable, located in the heart of the Watchung Mountains in Mountainside. For more information, contact the stable at (908) 789-3665. The Watchung Stable is a facility of the Union County Division of Parks and Recreation and is located at 1160 Summit Lane.

**INSIDE THE  
Springfield Leader  
Mountainside Echo**

Editorials	4
Senior Lifestyles	10
Obituaries	11
Police Blotter	13
Sports	14
County news	B1
Entertainment	B3
Classified	B11
Real estate	B13
Automotive	B15

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News releases of general interest must be in our office by Friday at noon to be considered for publication the following week. Pictures must be black and white glossy prints. For further information or to report a breaking news story, call 908-686-7700 and ask for Editorial. Letters to the editor: The Leader and Echo provide an open forum for opinions and welcome letters to the editor. Letters should be typed double spaced, must be signed, and should be accompanied by an address and day time phone number for verification. Letters and columns must be in our office by 9 a.m. Monday to be considered for publication that week. They are subject to editing for length and clarity.

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**STUDENT UPDATE**

**Deerfield students excel in band**

Four students from Deerfield School in Mountainside were chosen in competitive auditions to participate in the 1997 Central Jersey Music Education Association Intermediate Orchestra. More than 500 intermediate school instrumental students from the central region auditioned for the band and orchestra. Students must be active in their school music program, in grades 6, 7, or 8, and must be sponsored by their teacher in order to audition. Jeannette Maraffi is the music teacher at Deerfield School and sponsored the students at their auditions.

Eighth grade students Emily Porch, Kristen Joham and seventh graders Oliver Eng and Jason Gionta were all successful in their auditions and participated as members of the Central Jersey Intermediate Honors Orchestra in March.

Porch scored the highest of 100 flutists who auditioned. She is principal flute in the Deerfield Concert Band, and she was a lead in the recent musical production, "The Sound of Music." She studies flute at the Manhattan School of Music. Porch represented Deerfield School at the Union County Teen Arts Festival.

Joham was the number one french horn player in this year's auditions and in the 1996 auditions. She plays in the Deerfield Concert Band and sings with the chorus at Deerfield School. She was a participant in the Union County Teen Arts Festival sang the lead role of Maria in "The Sound of Music." She has studied at the Manhattan School of Music.

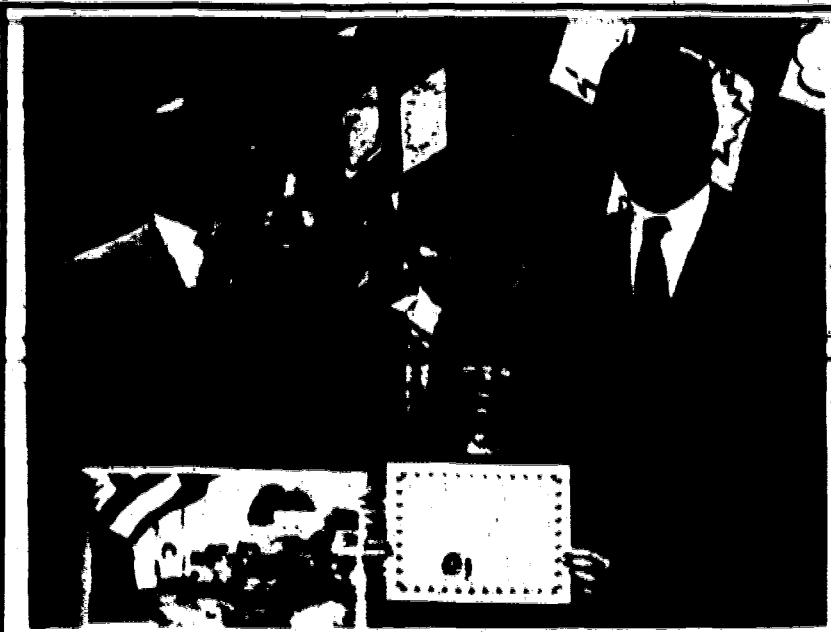
Eng, for the second consecutive year, was the highest scoring trumpet



From left are Kristen Joham, Emily Porch, Jason Gionta, and Oliver Eng, Deerfield School students who were selected to participate in the Central Jersey Region II Orchestra.

player in the CJMEA auditions. He participates in the Deerfield School Concert Band and has been selected to play in the Morris-Union Consortium Jazz Band. Eng was a participant in the Union County Teen Arts Festival in March, performing on the violin. Gionta auditioned for the first time

in this year's auditions and was chosen to play trombone in the orchestra. He participates in the Deerfield School Concert Band, the Morris-Union Consortium Jazz Band, and the Deerfield School Chorus. Gionta played the role of Rolf in "The Sound of Music".



**POSTER WINNERS** — Ashley Tiss, above, and A'isha Abdul-Raheem, below, were awarded certificates of honor for their Cray-Pas drawings by the Sakura Cray-Pas Company in the 1996 national 'It's a Wonderful Colorful World' art contest. Tiss is joined by Caldwell School Principal Ken Bernabe, her mother Debbie Tiss and father Gary Tiss. Raheem is pictured with her family and art teacher Marilyn Schneider.



**Delbarton lists winter honors**

The following Delbarton students have been named to the winter term headmaster's list:

Highest Honors: Dennis Tupper, Springfield.

High Honors: Patrick D. Collins, Mountainside; Joseph Andrasko, Springfield.

Honors: Kenneth H. Fisher, Mountainside.

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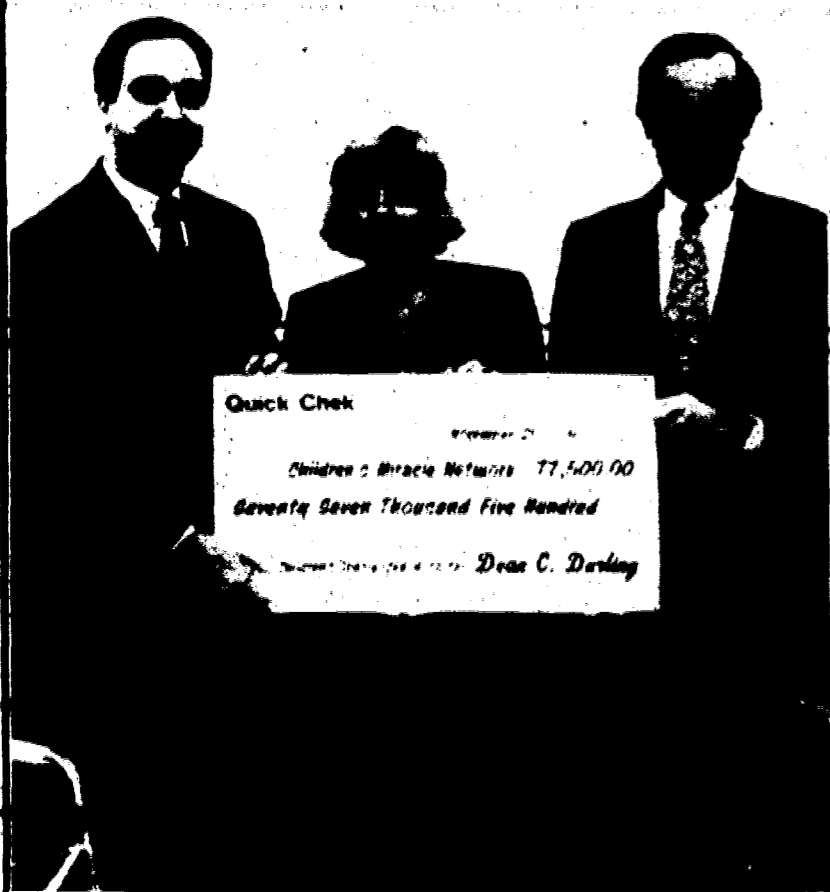
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## Up, up and away



Organizers of the New Jersey Festival of Ballooning and Quick Chek raised \$130,000 for various charities and organizations including the Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside. The New Jersey Festival of Ballooning will take place at Solberg Airport in Readington, New Jersey from July 25-27. From left are Philip Salerno, vice president of Children's Specialized Hospital, Ann Doyle, executive director of the festival, and Dean C. Durling, vice chairman of Quick Chek.

## Rotary Club offers scholarships

Applications for the 1998-99 Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarships to be awarded worldwide are available from the Rotary Club of Springfield.

The scholarships, which are designed to further international understanding and good will, provide for study abroad in one of the more than 150 countries and 35 geographical regions where Rotary Clubs are located.

Academic-Year Ambassadorial Scholarships are for one academic year abroad and provide up to \$22,000 or its equivalent for round-trip transportation, tuition and fees, room, board, necessary educational supplies, contingency expenses and one month of intensive language training, if assigned by the Rotary Foundation.

The scholarship may be used for almost any field of study, however, it cannot be used for unsupervised research, medical internship or residency or for employment on a full-time basis in the host country.

For an application, contact Paul G. Steck at (908) 273-2539. Application deadline is June 1.

# Community theater groups rely on volunteers

By Walter Elliott  
Staff Writer

The Springfield Community Players' return to the footlights took the first step Wednesday night to the welcome of area troupes.

A group of interested residents met at Liz Balfour's house to revive the community players. The contingent, which included members of the former group and Township Committeeman Sy Mullman, discussed direction and brainstormed for an hour.

"I don't see why bringing back the players won't succeed," said Balfour. "I believe we can succeed, just by seeing how excited the people here are."

"I think what Liz is doing is great," said former Springfield Community Players President Shelly Gornstein. "With the combination of former and new people, I'm certain that the players will come back."

"I'm for anything which will improve the quality of life," said Mullman, who is also committee liaison with the Recreation Department. "I will do whatever I can to help the community players."

Balfour and Recreation Department Director Michael Tennaro issued an exploratory appeal three weeks ago. The responses led to Wednesday's meeting. One result came Friday when the department scheduled a larger meeting in the second floor meeting room of the Sarah Bailey Senior Citizen Center for 7:30 p.m. on May 14.

"The response to the letter and the meeting have been great," said Balfour. "We proposed a meeting at Sarah Bailey and it was accepted with only a room change to accommodate a firemen's meeting."

The news of the Springfield Community Players revival was welcomed by parties in and around the township.

"I've read a few weeks back that the group is trying to reform," said Township Superintendent of Schools Gary Friedland during Monday's Board of Edu-

cation meeting. "We've been thinking about the drama club using the high school auditorium. Maybe the club can work with the community players on a future project."

"I think it's great that the Springfield players are coming back," said Steven Yafet of the Stony Hill Players. "Whatever helps community theater I'm for."

"I hope to get in touch with Balfour," said Gemini Group Co-founder Scott Coffey, "so I can give — and take — advice."

The Springfield Community Players share the same first rung of theater with Stony Hill and Gemini. They greatly depend on volunteer efforts and supplies from its members and the community.

Beyond that, however, the trio goes separate ways. Yafet said that Stony Hill, for example, pays the director and four key staff members plus royalties. The Summit-based troupe also spends half time in New Providence.

Gemini, said Coffey, also varies its space between Mountainside's Community Presbyterian Church and Westfield. The three-year-old group is all-volunteer and stresses original material.

"We do a lot of trading of props and actors and reuse of sets," said Coffey. "Our focus is to give people a second chance and try things out."

The Springfield Community Players may find getting help on either side of the curtain different from its Summit and Mountainside counterparts. Yafet says Stony Hill has no problem getting actors but puts out monthly calls for behind-the-scenes positions. Coffey says that while several people are willing to work several backstage jobs, getting them to become new actors takes "a little prodding."

While the Springfield troupe has yet to take a theateric direction, Stony Hill will hold a run of three Chekov one-act plays. Gemini held a comedy night interspersed with several standup acts.

# Inventions aimed at improving driving safety

By Walter Elliott  
Staff Writer

Springfield resident Guy Warman isn't an ordinary automotive component salesman. As he demonstrates daytime running light and intoxication detector products before area dealers and fleet operators, he sounds more like a man on a mission.

"I used to sell products to tractor dealers and the like," said Warman, "until I saw Alcohol Sensors International, Ltd.'s devices. I became a believer that ASI's WeatherEye and Sens-O-Lock products will save lives and signed up as area representative."

WeatherEye, said Warman, is in response to the growing "Wipers On — Headlights On" legislation sweeping North America. New Jersey joined 12 other states in having the law on its books two years ago. Most General Motors products have daytime running lights on as standard and is required in most of Canada. Some drivers, however, forget to switch on or off the headlights when using wipers.

WeatherEye automatically switches on the headlights when the car is

started," said Warman. "During daylight, the headlights are on at 30 percent of normal power, saving wear on the bulbs. Full lighting power occurs when the wipers are switched on or when the cars approach darkness — and returns to an appropriate level when the wipers are switched off."

Warman cites auto maker, governmental and insurance company studies showing up to a 30 percent reduction in frontal accidents and related costs. The test data comes largely from rental car and bus companies and Scandinavian countries which first enacted headlight laws 10 years ago.

When asked if the reduction would flatten or rise when all cars have the same system in 12 years, Warman cited driver reaction time.

"Reaction time is critical," said

Warman. "If a driver can see a WeatherEye-equipped dark limousine facing him from three blocks away than a non-equipped one a block away, that'll add precious seconds to avoid. If we can add to that reaction time, then we've done our job."

Sens-O-Lock, however, may be ASI's better-known device. As shown in a recent ABC "Dateline" report, Sens-O-Lock is designed to prevent alcohol-using drivers from operating beyond the drinking limit.

"Sens-O-Lock requires a driver to breathe into a monitor prior to starting the car," said Warman. "It would shut the car off if the sensors find the blood alcohol is above the limit."

"Once a driver clears the first test, the monitor will ask him to retest at a regular interval," said Warman.

"Should the driver avoid or fails a retest, all the lights and the horn goes off while the monitor gives him time to stop."

Warman said that Sens-O-Lock isn't foolproof and the Securities and Exchange Commission restricts him from talking in detail for the next few months. He does note success, however, from tests by DUI first-offenders in Europe. Both ASI products are subject to policy discounts by most insurers.

"In the last two months, I've been talking to fleet operators like Laidlaw, who owns 10,000 school buses on the East Coast," said Warman. "Once they try the devices on their vehicles, the dealers tend to come aboard."

Call Warman at (201) 467-2392 or (888) Stop-DUI for details.

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**In Mountainside:** The new Brighton Gardens offers Assisted Living, plus a Special Care Center for people with Alzheimer's or related memory disorders.

For more information, please call the community of your choice.

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Caps	5%

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Rate	<b>7.500%</b>
APR	<b>8.070%</b>
Maximum Loan	\$1,000,000
Monthly P&I Per \$1,000	\$7.00
Caps	2% annual & 5% lifetime

Converts to 1-Year ARM in 5 years after which rate may increase or decrease annually

3/1 ARM 30 Year Term

Rate	<b>6.875%</b>
APR	<b>8.050%</b>
Maximum Loan	\$1,000,000
Monthly P&I Per \$1,000	\$6.57
Caps	2% annual & 5% lifetime

Converts to 1-Year ARM in 3 years after which rate may increase or decrease annually

1-Year ARM

Rate	<b>6.125%</b>
APR	<b>8.220%</b>
Maximum Loan	\$1,000,000
Monthly P&I Per \$1,000	\$6.08
Caps	2% annual & 5% lifetime

Rates and APR (Annual Percentage Rate) as of 4/25/97 are for one- to four-family owner occupied homes and are subject to change without notice. A 20% down payment is required on loans to \$300,000. A 25% down payment is required on loans from \$300,000 to \$500,000. For loans over \$500,000, a 33 1/3% down payment is required. Down payments of less than 20% will be accepted with private mortgage insurance on loans to a maximum of \$214,600. P & I represents principal and interest payments on the loan.

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## COMMUNITY FORUM

## A clear mandate

With the local school budget rejected April 15, it is up to the Borough Council to examine the budget and make recommendations to the Board of Education about where it feels the budget could be improved. Procedure dictates that the Borough Council review the budget and then make specific suggestions to the Board of Education, which will then rework the budget.

But the council also has the option of simply approving the budget as is. In one respect, this would be good, since vital educational programs would not be slashed. However, the voting public sent a clear mandate to the council and the Board of Education that they want a retooled budget. In what ways, however, is not entirely clear.

This review process is already under way. The council has requested copies of the budget, and members are examining it. The next step is for the council to meet with the Board of Education within the next few weeks to complete the process.

The fact that the Borough Council has to specifically recommend areas in which to trim the budget is positive, and hopefully will lead to genuine reductions which will not hurt the education of the borough's children.

We urge the council to weigh this issue seriously, and only cut those areas which will have a negligible impact on the students. We also urge the Borough Council and the Board of Education to talk with residents, parents, teachers and even students to prioritize elements of the budget and hopefully next year, the school board will produce a budget which the public will have no choice but to support.

## Use your power

Unless it's a presidential election year, most voters ignore local elections. This is unfortunate, because not only is voting a Constitutional right, but tax dollars are spent to pay poll workers, who often monitor underused polling machines.

This year, New Jersey faces a gubernatorial election with a popular incumbent governor running against a lesser known challenger. In the local race, two council candidates are running unopposed. Given this lineup, it is doubtful that the June 3 primary election will stir a great deal of interest.

However, voting should be seen as not just a right, but as a responsibility. Voter apathy can lead to the election of leaders who care little about the beliefs of their constituents. To fulfill this responsibility, voters must register by May 5. They cannot do so at the polls.

Eligibility requirements include U.S. citizenship at the time of registration, and county and borough residence of at least 30 days before the election. A voter also must be at least 18 years old by June 3.

Registration is permanent, and reregistration is only required for a change of name or residence. Any Mountain-side resident who will be moving to another address within the county between May 5 and the primary election may still vote in the former district, but only for this election. If a name is changed after May 5, the voter signs both old and new names in the registration book at the polls.

For more information, call the borough clerk's office at (908) 232-2400. Register for the primary and exercise your power.

## A temporary tax

After seemingly endless delays, a municipal budget which paid the nearly \$1.8 million bill to the regional district was presented to the borough.

At first, it wasn't clear exactly how the figure would be paid without drastically reducing services or increasing taxes. Instead, a unique combination of cashing in a surplus and establishing a "temporary" tax was used. Before the discovery of the regional payment, the municipal budget was going to cost the average taxpayer about 82 cents per \$100 of assessed tax value on their homes. After discovery of the bill owed to the regional high school district, and a reworking of the budget, an additional 39 cents was added to that original number.

We understand that this bill had to be paid, and surely most residents are glad that it was paid as painlessly as possible. Our concern is that this extra 39-cent tax might stay on the books as the 1998 municipal budget is formulated.

Mayor Bob Vigilanti has clearly stated that this is a one-year-only tax that will not be in effect in 1998. We trust his word, but it will be the responsibility of this newspaper and the taxpayers to ensure that this tax does not remain in the 1998 budget due to an oversight.

*"I take great strength from... knowing in my experience that the truth does emerge. It takes forever sometimes, but it does emerge. Any relaxation by the press will be extremely costly to democracy."*

—Ben Bradlee, former Washington Post editor



**LOST IN SPACE** — Trail-side Nature and Science Center's planetarium, located in the Watchung Reservation in Mountain-side, regularly displays laser shows and various space themed programs. This Sunday, the planetarium will feature a program on animals in space. The showtimes are at 2 and 3:30 p.m. and admission is \$3 per person. For more information, call (908) 789-3670.

## Our reliance on computers has gone too far

Don't look now, but in our quest to create a super high tech world, we might have inadvertently produced an out of control Frankenstein monster.

When the computer was perfected, or when we thought it was, along came new by-products that defied imagination. When we saw what a computer was capable of doing, there were those who were not satisfied and asked that it do more. The computer did do more and now we live in a world where the computer is no longer a luxury but an integral part of our lives. Only a few years ago, a computer was a handy gizmo to have around. But now the computer plays such an important role in our lives and in the lives of those who are involved in the world of commerce, education and science, that we have just about become slaves to this new-fangled piece of technology.

But that's not all, the computer gurus want more and, indeed, they will get more. But when they are satisfied and when the computer has gone as far as it can go, we will all probably get the bill for what we have created. And I'm afraid the bill is going to be high.

We all know that computer technology is almost getting out of hand when we enter into the realm of invading privacy and being able to

## As I See It

By Norman Rauscher

perform tasks that we thought were impossible.

The technique of tapping into computer files, altering records, erasing data and committing all sorts of mischief, is now old hat. A 13-year-old can tinker and break into bank files, school and college records and invade classified materials. This has been going on for years and will continue to do so. Now we have another problem that leads me to think we have created a Frankenstein monster.

You've read that some agents and employees of the Internal Revenue Service have the means of snooping into taxpayers' files to see who paid how much in taxes and of obtaining confidential information that's none of their business.

The government, which has enough to worry about without this kind of snooping, can only warn the nosy that this kind of invasion of privacy will not be tolerated; but that's as far as the government can go. Those who wish

to snoop will continue to do so and they will snoop into all phases of our lives and if you are a so-called celebrity, this illegal snooping could be extremely harmful and the basis for blackmail.

I don't think the designers and creators of computers had this in mind when these machines were perfected to the point where they almost control our lives. Computers are everywhere today. They have done away with human beings doing the work. They have become part and parcel of our entire communications system, i.e. telephones, fax machines and e-mail. They have taken the place of phone operators, clerks and human voices. They have become a nuisance. I'm beginning to think that if we are not careful, computers will take over the world.

We are also concerned since we depend so much on the computer and the world of commerce could not operate without such a system. What would happen if someday the whole interlocking system came crashing down and every single computer file, data disc and record were completely wiped out. If terrorists are looking for some new areas of mischief, knocking out the world's computer system could wreak complete havoc and cha-

os. I'm sure would-be terrorists have already thought of the idea and are working on a way to create such mayhem. Let us hope they do not succeed. But the point is that we have become so dependent on the computer that we have permitted our lives to be put on the line in the name of going high-tech.

In George Orwell's monumental novel, "1984," we saw how high tech changed the world and sophisticated machinery crept into every phase of life and not for the better. Big Brother was everywhere; there was no privacy, no way to escape and no way to fight back because Big Brother was all powerful, all knowing and woe betide the person who stepped out of line. I'm not saying that we face a dramatic change in our lives because of the computer age, but we should give serious thought to how much further we are going to develop the capabilities of the computer.

We should consider the future; but more important we should consider what would happen if more advanced computers ultimately crashed and left us all in a black hole of complete chaos.

Norman Rauscher, a former newspaper publisher, is an active member of the Summit community.

## The IRS must be accountable to the people

Of all the agencies of the federal government, the one most dreaded by taxpayers is the Internal Revenue Service.

After examining how this massive agency treats taxpayers, it's clear that there are two overriding issues that have earned the IRS this dubious distinction.

First, the 555 million word tax code is far too complicated for average taxpayers or even tax professionals to understand. Adding to the confusion, there are now 475 different IRS forms. The average family now spends 12 hours filling out their tax return.

In fairness, the complexity of the tax code is not the fault of the IRS. Over the past 10 years, Congress has made more than 4,000 changes in the tax code.

There is no question that the tax code is out of control. It must be made fairer and simpler. An overhaul of the tax code will have profound consequences for all Americans, therefore, it must be done slowly and carefully. The first step is to begin a national debate in Congress and across America on rewriting the tax code.

As that debate gets underway, there is something we can do right now to address major problems with the IRS.

The sheer power of the agency is enough to intimidate anyone. Not only does the IRS have the authority to foreclose on your home and garnish your wages, it displays no tolerance for even innocent mistakes made by taxpayers.

Earlier this month, I joined Congresswoman Jennifer Dunn in intro-

## In the House

By Rep. Bob Franks

ducing the IRS Accountability Act to protect taxpayers from abusive and intrusive practices by the IRS.

First, this legislation will crack down on the practice of IRS employees snooping into confidential files of innocent taxpayers. Over the past two years, the IRS' own audits uncovered more than 1,500 instances of employees checking on the tax records of friends, relatives and celebrities. As a result, the agency fired 23 employees, disciplined 349 other workers and counseled another 472 employees.

Our legislation would send a clear signal to IRS employees that file snooping will not be tolerated. Anyone who accesses a tax file without proper authority would face criminal penalties and could be held personally liable for their actions. In addition, the IRS would be required to notify a taxpayer if someone is charged with snooping into their file.

Right now, the IRS can randomly audit anyone, even when there's absolutely no reason to believe that a taxpayer is seeking to avoid their obligation. Anyone who has been through an audit can tell you that it's an intimidating, time-consuming and costly process — even if you are found to have done nothing wrong. With technology now available that enables the IRS to spot potentially troublesome

tax returns, there is no reason to subject innocent taxpayers to random audits.

The IRS Accountability Act would end random audits and require the IRS to justify any audits it orders. In addition, it would prohibit the IRS from re-auditing a return at a later date without a court order.

The legislation also comes to the aid of taxpayers when they make an honest mistake on their tax returns, such as a mathematical or clerical error. No longer would they be subject to an automatic penalty. Under the legislation, taxpayers would be given 60 days to rectify the mistake and make any additional payments to the IRS before they would face a penalty.

Another key provision of the bill would require the IRS to obtain a court order — just as law enforcement

agencies are required to do — before it seizes property. Right now, the IRS on its own can seize your car, your home or even your business for delinquent taxes. Before such drastic action is taken, taxpayers deserve the protection of knowing that a court has reviewed the file and determined the seizure of property is justified.

As we move toward creating a simpler and fairer tax system, the IRS Accountability Act would provide some welcome relief to taxpayers. It would put an end to practices of the IRS that are unfair, abusive and un-American.

Rep. Bob Franks, a Republican, represents New Jersey's 7th Congressional District in the House of Representatives. He serves on the Budget Committee.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Zavetz should be named principal

To the Editor:

Last August Audrey Zavetz was named acting principal of Deerfield School following the resignation of Peggy Dolan. Mrs. Zavetz's appointment came at a time of much upheaval while Mountainside wrestled with deregionalization.

Nine months later, deregionalization has been accomplished and although Mrs. Zavetz did a superlative job under such difficult circumstances, she was not offered a permanent position. Furthermore, no other suitable candidate has been found.

Mrs. Zavetz is a highly respected educator who also happens to be popular with the parents and children who she serves so well. It is hard for many of us in the community to understand why a search for a new principal continues.

Dartene Eichner  
Mountainside

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## VIEW POINT

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Should Deerfield School acting Principal Audrey Zavetz be named to the post permanently by the Board of Education?

Responses will be published next week.  
Polls close Monday at noon.  
Calls are free. Touch tone phones only.

CALL  
(908)  
686-9898  
and enter  
#7558 - YES  
#7559 - NO

## LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

Does the Recreation Department offer a wide range of activities and programs?

YES — 92%  
NO — 8%

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Freeholders are lost in quagmire

The cliché goes thusly: If it isn't broken, don't fix it. Our present majority on the freeholder board has changed it slightly: If it isn't broken, break it, so we can fix it. Examples of their tremendous brain power are:

- Withdrawal from the Union County Chamber of Commerce because its newly elected leader was the campaign manager for a foe of Elizabeth's Mayor Chris Bollwage.
- Attempts to replace members of the UCUA commission with a new cast. This, too, was probably pushed by Bollwage. He doesn't like the tipping fees that Elizabeth has to pay. Before the incinerator was built, how high were our costs? What would happen if Railway was shut down? The temporary low fees would soar with a monopoly in other states. Our trucking costs would rise and the states to which we send our garbage could impose taxes on incoming garbage. How much did the freeholders' hired gun — attorney Jonathan Williams — charge for his sterling advice?
- The suggested plan to merge the Union County Police Department with the Sheriff's Office is another example of the care that the freeholders have for the taxpayers' funds. Both entities are now doing fine jobs. A merger could cause friction and a studied lack of cooperation between the two. Earned and expected promotions and raises would atrophy. Where would the benefits from this merger affect the county arise, if at all?
- The raise of \$17,000 to the county clerk. She campaigned for the job with no mention of seeking a higher salary. As a neophyte in the office, was she entitled to the same pay as other directors, who have served in their posts for years to reach their present earnings plateau? To make sure that Ms. Rajoppi didn't resign, she was given \$13,000 in back pay.
- She hired the mayor of Winfield — a Democratic colleague with no experience — for \$43,000 a year. The freeholder board said that was within the province of her office. However, they could have made the correction at budget time.

• They have hired advisors for all sorts of things, except for a way to conserve funds.

Jerry Goldman  
Elizabeth

## Financial support is minimal help

To the Editor:

In regard to your Lake Surprise editorial of April 17, you "applaud the willingness of the Department of Transportation to lend its financial support and not to turn its back on Union County." The \$1 million figure that the DOT has promised to give toward the reclamation project is the least that it could do considering all the problems that Route 78 has brought to the Watching Reservation and surrounding communities.

In an era of continued neglect of promises made by politicians and government, I too will join in the applause when the highway stops dumping heavy metals, pollutants, and garbage into the watershed, the deer problem is resolved, the further loss of reservation land associated with the flood project is stopped, and this reclamation project is completed properly, without further taxes being forced upon the residents of Union County.

The construction of Route 78, which the majority of Union County residents were against, destroyed most of one of the best wetland areas of the county and polluted the rest of the Lake Surprise watershed.

Moreover, you claim that it is important that Lake Surprise and the Watching Reservation be protected. That is why I stand against the Greenbrook Flood Project. In addition to losing reservation land, this project is slated to cost every municipality in the county at least \$500,000. It is also, by the engineers' admission, not guaranteed to be effective.

Douglas Lowman  
Mountainside

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar is prepared each week by the Springfield Leader and Mountainside Echo to inform residents of various community activities and governmental meetings. To give your community events the publicity they deserve, mail your schedule to Managing Editor Kevin Singer, Worrall Community Newspapers, P.O. Box 3109, Union, 07083

### Today

- St. James Roman Catholic Church in Springfield will hold a festival today through Sunday. The festival will feature rides, games, and food. Hours are 6 to 10 p.m. today and Friday and 2 to 10 p.m. on Saturday. St. James Church is located on 45 South Springfield Ave., Springfield.
- Springfield Hadassah is sponsoring a trip to the Barnes Foundation at 9 a.m. from Temple Beth Ahm. The trip includes a luncheon at the General Wayne Inn, the only Pennsylvania restaurant listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is the oldest restaurant in continuous operation in North America. The group will then tour the Barnes Foundation, which houses a collection of early French modern and post-impressionist paintings. The bus will leave at 3:30 for the return trip.
- The Foothill Club of Mountainside will hold a meeting at noon at B.G. Fields Restaurant, 560 Springfield Ave., Westfield. Call Terry at 232-7113 for luncheon reservations. The program will feature a Wine Tasting Party. New members are welcome.

### Friday

- The Friends of the Springfield Public Library will be holding their annual lobby sale to benefit the library today and tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. The sale will include items of jewelry, glassware and china, small appliances and kitchen items, linens, flowers, toys and furniture that can be carried out. The library is located at 66 Mountain Ave., Springfield. For further information, call (201) 376-4930.

### Sunday

- Trailside Nature and Science Center's planetarium will feature a program on animals in space. The showtimes are at 2 and 3:30 p.m. and admission is \$3 per person. For more information, call (908) 789-3670. From 1 to 5 p.m., Trailside will present the 18th Annual Pet Fair. Included will be pet-related displays and demonstrations, lectures, pony rides, and face painting.
- Interfaith Singles, a group for single adults over 45, will hold weekly discussions, including a continental breakfast, every Sunday of the month from 9 to 10:30 a.m. The donation is \$2. The event will be held at the First Baptist Church, 170 Elm St., Westfield. For more information, call (908) 233-2278.

### Monday

- The HIV/AIDS Support and Discussion Group meeting will be held at Jewish Family Service Metro West, 66 Mt. Pleasant Ave. in Livingston from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Eric Kanter MD will lead the discussion. Everyone is welcome, and there is no fee. For more information call Linda Berry at (201) 467-3300.

### Coming events

### May 10

- Congregation Israel will host Dr. Daniel Sperber of Bar-Ilan University as its Scholar-in-Residence. Sperber will lecture on the history and development of Minhagim. Shabbat lunch will be served. Call the Synagogue office at (201) 467-9666 for reservations and information.

- The Mountainside Elks will hold a pancake breakfast from 7 a.m. to noon at the club building on Route 22. The cost is \$2.50 for children and \$5 for adults, and includes eggs, french toast, sausage, bacon, toast and potatoes.

### May 12

- The Mountainside Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet at 8 p.m. in Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 East.

### May 13

- The Springfield Township Committee will meet at 8 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave.
- The Mountainside Borough Council will hold a work session at 8 p.m. in Borough Hall.

### May 15

- The Springfield Hadassah will have their Donor at the Short Hills Caterers. The proceeds will be donated to Youth Alyah and used in the children's villages that are helping to integrate the young new arrivals to Israel. Frances Ostrofsky is the chairperson.
- The Mountainside Recreation Commission will meet at 8 p.m. in Borough Hall.

### May 17

- Take Good Care will sponsor a seminar in "What's New in Ostomy" from 1 to 2 p.m. Take Good Care is located at 160 Route 22 Center Island, Springfield. For more information, call (201) 912-0200.

### May 20

- The Mountainside Borough Council will meet in regular session at 8 p.m. in Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 East.

### May 24

- Take Good Care will sponsor free spinal examinations from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. A seminar on aging is scheduled to occur from 1 to 3 p.m. Take Good Care is located at 160 Route 22 Center Island, Springfield. For more information, call (201) 912-0200.

### May 27

- The Springfield Township Committee will meet at 8 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave.
- The Mountainside Board of Education will meet at 8 p.m. in the Deerfield School media center, Central Ave. and School Drive.

### May 28

- Take Good Care will sponsor a defense and wellness seminar for women from 6 to 7 p.m. Take Good Care is located at 160 Route 22 Center Island, Springfield. For more information, call (201) 912-0200.

### May 29

- The inaugural golf outing to benefit the Springfield Girls' Softball Leagues and the Boys' and Girls' Traveling Basketball Teams will be held at the Mattawang Golf Club in Belle Mead. Starting times will be scheduled from approximately 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on a first request basis. The rain date is June 4.

The entry fee of \$100 per player includes golf, cart, food, drinks and prizes. Sponsorships are available in the purchase of a tournament tee or green for \$50 or a cart for \$20. Trophies and prizes will be awarded during a buffet dinner at 6:30 p.m. Dinner only registration is \$30 per person. Early registration is encouraged, and the event is limited to 80 players. For more information, call Tony Tomasino at (201) 467-9092.

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# Bassano urges testing program for medical marijuana use

By Blaine Dillport  
Staff Writer

State Sen. C. Louis Bassano, R-Union, would like the discussion of medical marijuana as a possible option of medical treatment to come to the forefront in New Jersey by bringing it to the attention of the federal government.

Since 1981, there has been legislation on the books in New Jersey that would allow for a therapeutic research program to be conducted on a limited scale to see if the overall idea of allowing physicians to prescribe marijuana for certain illnesses would be feasible. Bassano would like to see this legislation utilized, a move which would require the cooperation of the federal government.

"I enacted legislation back in 1981 that established a program to test control substances, of which marijuana is one. So this particular law is on the books right now," Bassano said. "In order for us to do research on various control substances the way the law was written, the federal government would have to provide the substances to the state. We would act as a conduit in a sense that we would distribute this substance through certain doctors who volunteer to participate in the

program, and we would then report back to the feds our findings. It would be a highly controlled program with probably no more than 20 people at most testing a particular drug for a particular illness."

Bassano said the program's chances of getting off the ground depend on the federal government and how it chooses to treat the request by the state. "The key to this plan working is the federal government providing the substance. When I wrote the law, Jimmy Carter was president. But by the time the ink dried, Ronald Reagan had assumed the presidency and the idea kind of fell by the wayside. We would like to resurrect it again, particularly after seeing what happened in Arizona and California, where people voted to legalize marijuana for medical use," he added. Both Arizona and California passed propositions last November allowing medical marijuana.

Bassano would like to handle the possible legalization of medical marijuana in this state through legislation as opposed to a popular vote by the residents of the state. "I think that California and Arizona acted prematurely by legalizing medical marijuana, but obviously the public has an

interest in the subject, so what we ought to do is find out more information, and that has to be done through proper research," Bassano said.

Bassano now has the task of getting the federal government to move on the test program, since the legislation is already in place to conduct a study. "The legislation is in place and I am making people aware that it is in place. What I am trying to do now is get a few people off their duff at the federal level to say that their are states that have similar laws to New Jersey so why don't we take a look at some of these substances and make a final determination whether or not they

have a place in the medical profession. The way our laws are now, the major medical companies can't do research on marijuana or other control substances because it is against the law, but if we get enough interest at the federal level, there is a chance that we might get the program moving again," said Bassano. According to Bassano one of the reasons for having the government provide marijuana for the test program would be to assure that all of the material is of equal strength so that proper testing can be done.

Bassano is clear that he is only interested in discussing medical use for the control substances, and is not looking to decriminalize marijuana or other substances for social use. "The important thing to remember is that we are not talking about recreational use of these substances. People have said to me that it is unusual for a Republican to take this position and I say to them that I am pursuing this for two reasons. For one I served on a local governing body with a person whose wife died of cancer when she was 39 years old. I watched her expire over seven months and saw the pain that she went through. The second reason is that when I was in the Assembly, we had legislation to decriminalize marijuana and I voted against it. No one can point to me and say that I am soft on drugs, so maybe I am the perfect person to push this type of program," said Bassano.

On the federal level, there seems to be a lot of contradiction when it comes to marijuana and its use in the medical arena. Right now there are 15 states with legislation on the books similar to New Jersey that would allow the establishment of therapeutic cannabis research program. There are eight states which allow doctors to pre-

scribe marijuana providing they have a schedule I license, and a handful of other states have an "affirmative defense" for medical marijuana users which provides a defense for people who use marijuana for medicinal purposes. With all of this legislation on the books, the federal government is still not providing marijuana to the states and they have commissioned \$1 million study to look into medical marijuana.

According to Paul Armentano of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, this study is a waste of money, simply restudying studies that have already been conducted. "There have been studies that have been conducted all over the world that are well documented that show marijuana does have a positive effect in dealing with certain illnesses. They should get the reviewing process and let those states who would like to conduct a study do so, and bring us closer to federal legislation that will legalize medical marijuana. Frankly I think the issue has been politicized that we will never see federal legislation because of people's prejudices against marijuana," said Armentano.

Armentano is not alone in his thinking. "We do not need any more programs to test the medical effectiveness of marijuana, that has been proved a zillion times over, this is just more stonewalling of the issue," said Steve

Heger, editor in chief of High Times magazine.

Many in the medical profession do feel that it would be beneficial if they were able to prescribe marijuana, or at least recognize that there are some benefits when dealing with certain illnesses. One such physician is Dr. Lester Grinspoon of Harvard Medical School who has written a book called "Marijuana: The Forbidden Medicine." Grinspoon is an expert on medical marijuana. "First of all, good for Sen. Bassano. A number of studies have been done, but not a large double blind study which the FDA requires for a new drug application. With marijuana, it seems to me that the evidence for its medical utility does not come out of control studies but out of anecdotal evidence. Control studies are usually done by the drug companies, but since marijuana has so many medical uses, it is going to displace many of the drugs that the drug companies produce, and it is going to be a lot less expensive."

"The other thing about marijuana is that it is remarkably versatile and we are still finding uses that we never dreamed of. We need to find out how many people it will help, but not get in the way of people who need this relief now," said Grinspoon.

Bassano has already made some television appearances to discuss the issue and plans another in the future to point attention toward getting the program started.

## Assemblyman honored by local women's group

Assemblyman Alan M. Augustine, R-Union, was presented with a "Good Guy" award by the Women's Political Caucus of New Jersey at their annual dinner held April 8.

In presenting the award to Augustine for his legislative initiatives on behalf of women, Eileen P. Thornton, president of the group, said that Augustine "has played an important role in enhancing and strengthening women's lives."

M. Paige Berry, chairperson of the event, noted that as the Women's Political Caucus of New Jersey celebrates its 25th Anniversary, it was "pleased to present its prestigious recognition to Augustine who has demonstrated commitment and support for women."

In accepting the award, Augustine said that over the years it had become clear to him that the issues of concern to his wife, daughters, granddaughters and those with whom he worked, were health, safety, economic security and equal opportunity - four areas of prime importance not only to them, but to all women.

Earlier this year, Augustine was the Assembly sponsor of the Deadbeat Parents Law, which revokes the drivers and professional licenses of parents who fall at least six months behind in child support payments. He is also an Assembly co-sponsor of legislation which establishes the "New Jersey Breast and Ovarian Cancer Response Task Force," and is exploring the feasibility of introduction of the state version of the federal legislation establishing the Women's Health Act of 1997.

Augustine co-sponsored bills which promote women's health issues as well as a bill that would establish a "Families First" license plate to support and fund domestic violence shelters throughout the state. In addition, he was instrumental in obtaining a state grant for "Women for Women," a non-profit organization which provides short-term professional counseling, and self-help peer groups that address the emotional needs of women in a changing environment.

## Congressman relays service academy opportunities

Rep. Bob Franks, R-7, announced that anyone interested in applying to the United States Service Academies should contact his office for their nomination applications for the class of 2002.

Anyone applying for a nomination must be at least 17-years-old but not have passed their 22nd birthday as of July 1 of 1998, a U.S. citizen and unmarried with no legal obligations to support children or other dependents.

"Applying for a nomination is the first step in the process of being accepted to a Service Academy," Franks said. "The Service Academies accept only the best and brightest of America's young people. It is an honor to be selected to serve your country while receiving a valuable education."

Every member of Congress is allowed to nominate 10 individuals from their district for each of the four Service Academies.

"My nominations to all Service Academies are strictly competitive, based on recommendations of an Academy Review Board," he added. "The board is comprised of members of the community with business, education and military background and experience."

An applicant must complete a separate application and take a medical qualifications examination to ensure that the applicant can meet the standards of physical fitness. A parent or guardian is required to execute an Affidavit of Residence form to confirm that the applicant is a legal resident of the 7th Congressional District of New Jersey.

All individuals interested in receiving a nomination packet should contact the district office at (908) 686-5576.

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# YWCA to feature mini camps for kids

The Summit YWCA's summer mini camps still have a few openings left. The YWCA is offering six different one-week "mini" camps throughout the summer for both boys and girls ages 5 and up.

Boys Gymnastics PLUS is for boys, ages 5-7, who love to climb, roll, hang, jump, swing, and kick, all while learning gymnastics. Campers will also enjoy sports, outdoor games, free swimming time and a snack. There are two different weeks to choose from: June 30 - July 3, or July 7-11. The cost is \$100 per week and meets from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

Rhythmic Gymnastics is for girls ages 6 and up. This camp will have girls leaping with ribbons and turning somersaults with hoops, while combining ballet and tumbling skills with basic USAG rhythmic skills. Included are a snack, arts and crafts, and a weekly performance. There are two different weeks to choose from, both at a cost of \$100 per week: July 14-18 or July 21-25.

Martial Arts Adventure Camp is for girls and boys, ages 6 and up. The camp meets from 1:30 to 4 p.m. July 14-18. Campers will learn the style of the masters when ancient weapons were made, and conduct secret missions. The cost is \$100.

Dance the Summer Away is a camp for girls and boys ages 6 to 10 that meets from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Aug. 4-8. This ballet-themed week will have children creating costumes and sets for an end-of-week production. Each day there will be a formal dress class, rehearsal and a costume/set design session.

All campers must be YWCA members at a cost of \$25 a year. Call or stop by the YWCA to register (908) 273-4242. Full and partial scholarships are available for all YWCA classes and activities. The YWCA is located at 79 Maple St. in Summit, just off Morris Avenue.

# Kent Place camps focus on enrichment

Summer in Summit, Kent Place School's Program of camps and workshops, is offering a new academic enrichment program, Excel, for girls and boys entering grades 2-4. Excel is a three-week integrated learning experience combining reading, writing, math and technology. Taught by Kent Place Primary teacher Pat Mullette, Excel students will explore a unifying theme by reading and writing fiction by conducting research in the school's state-of-the-art library and computer center, and

by preparing reports on selected topics. Two three-week sessions of Excel will be offered starting June 30. Classes are from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. and students can combine Excel with day camp.

Excel is just one of a variety of summer programs offered by Kent Place School. For boys and girls whose school year ends by June 16, Kent Place is offering these two-week early summer programs: *June Fun*, for students entering Kindergarten and first grade. Summer Express, for stu-

dents entering grades two through five, and Summer Expressions, which offers a variety of theater activities and sports for students entering grades six, seven and eight.

The Pre-K Camp for boys and girls ages four and five will be offered, once again, June 23-Aug. 1. Summer in Summit has a Junior Camp for beginning campers, and a Day Camp for boys and girls entering grades two through five. Both camps will run June 30 to Aug. 8.

For students entering grades five

through nine, an Internet workshop has been added to the Creative Arts Workshop, which will run June 30-Aug. 8. Girls entering grades seven or eight can also combine the Creative Arts Workshop with the Kent Place Girls' Leadership Institute, planned for Aug. 4-8.

Extended care is available with the early summer programs, the day camps and Creative Arts Workshop. For more information, call Summer in Summit Director Karen El Koury at (908) 273-0900, ext. 272.

# Adoption agency to open doors in Summit

On Tuesday, Spence-Chapin will celebrate the opening of a new office in Summit with an early evening reception and program at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts, 68 Elm St., Summit, from 5-8 p.m. Guests will include healthcare professionals, representatives of the community and people involved in adoption. Summit Mayor Walter Long will provide opening remarks for the program, which will begin at 6:30 p.m. as speakers will describe aspects of the adoption experience.

Spence-Chapin has provided adoption services throughout the tri-state area from its Manhattan base for more than eighty years. The agency has been formally licensed in New Jersey since the 1940's and has worked with New Jersey children, families and pregnant women since the agency's beginnings. The new office in Summit, at 57 Union Place, will provide counseling services at an accessible location to women who are considering options to unplanned pregnancy. Initial information interviews with

people who wish to adopt and who reside in New Jersey may also be scheduled in the Summit office. Post-adoption workshops sponsored by Spence-Chapin's Adoption Resource Center have been ongoing in Summit since the early 1990s.

At Spence-Chapin, birth parents, those who place a baby in adoption, are actively involved in choosing the family for their child. They meet the family, and receive photographs and letters about the adopted child after the placement. The parties to the

adoption can choose to be in contact after the adoption or exchange information through the agency.

Spence-Chapin Services to Families and Children is a not-for-profit and non-sectarian agency focused on planning loving and secure futures for children. Professional social workers at the agency counsel women about all options for unplanned pregnancy and support them in whatever decision they make.

Spence-Chapin is also active in international adoption.

# Three for the road



Nick Tomasicchio and Stephanie Altman will be starring in "3 By Chekhov" with the Stony Hill Players of Summit. Show dates are May 9, 10, 16, 17, 23 & 24 at 8 p.m. and May 18 at 2 p.m. The Stony Hill Players are located at the Oakes Memorial Outreach Center at 120 Morris Ave. in Summit. Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased at the door or call (908) 464-7716 for reservations.

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# Volunteers prove pivotal to SAGE success

As the nation celebrates National Volunteer Week, SAGE, Inc., a not-for-profit agency which provides a variety of services to ensure that citizens in their elder years can retain their independence and participate fully in life, recognizes corporate participation in their Meals-on-Wheels program.

The employees of Defined Healthcare Research of Summit have been delivering Meals-on-Wheels to the homebound elderly for several months. These volunteers spend one lunch hour a week making a difference in the lives on people who cannot food shop or cook for themselves.

Defined Healthcare Research, which provides strategic consulting to pharmaceutical and other healthcare executives principally in the form of early-stage product, technology and company assessments, moved to Summit from Manhattan over three years ago.

"Many of our employees wanted to contribute their time to a volunteers program such as Meals-on-Wheels, but family and business obligations kept us from making an individual commitment. Our team approach affords us the flexibility we need to contribute, and the match with Meals-on-Wheels is ideal," said Defined Healthcare Research Vice President Ginny Lobell.

According to Donna Lee Snyder, SAGE's Meals-on-Wheels director, "With people working today, it is sometimes difficult to get volunteers. With companies sharing a delivery route, our Meals-on-Wheels program



Employee volunteers of Defined Healthcare research prepare to distribute Meals-on-Wheels to the elderly. The employees donate one lunch hour a week to delivering meals to those who cannot food shop or cook for themselves. From left are Ginny Lobell, George Drivas, Kathy Cerrato, Nora Aknay, Joan Daurio, Dan Butler, and Edward Saltzman. Other volunteers not shown are Linda Webb, Jim Beal, and Elena Poles.

can continue to be successful."

Most of Defined Healthcare's employees take turns on a weekly basis, delivering meals to residents in Summit on Thursdays. Another Summit company, The Mountain Agency, also delivers Meals-on-Wheels, substituting for other volunteers on an as-needed basis.

"Our Meals-on-Wheels program

allows volunteers, especially companies, flexibility in scheduling their volunteers time. We are always in need of volunteers to pack the meals or deliver them," said Snyder.

SAGE's Meals-on-Wheels program delivers over 130 hot, nutritious meals daily to the elderly in Summit, Berkeley Heights, the Chatham's Harding Township, Millburn/Short

Hills, New Providence, Springfield and Mountainside.

For more information on SAGE Meals-on-Wheels, call (908) 273-5554.

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

## Watchung Stables offers lessons

Watchung Stables in Mountainside offers two programs, in addition to its Fall and Spring series of lessons, which are designed to introduce the sport of horsebackriding to all.

Pre-schoolers, youth and scout groups, senior citizen clubs and organizations for people with disabilities will enjoy the stable's one-hour tour of the barn and its facilities. Opportunities to mingle with a couple of the stable residents are included.

Both programs can be arranged at date and time convenient for any group. There is a \$20 fee per hour; actual horsebackriding is available at an additional cost. Contact Jean Jacobus at (908) 789-3665 for further information. The Watchung Stable is a facility of the Union County Division of Parks and Recreation and is located at 1160 Summit Lane, Mountainside.

## Attention churches

This newspaper encourages congregations, temples, social and civic organizations to inform the editors about scheduled events and activities. Releases should be typed, double-spaced, and include a phone number where a representative may be reached during the day. Send information to: Kevin Singer, managing editor, P.O. Box 3109, Union, N.J. 07083.

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- 1269 Most Active Stocks (AMEX)
- 1270 NASDAQ Most Active
- 1271 Financial Markets Overview
- 1272 Mortgage Rates
- 1279 Precious Metals Report
- 1274 Stock Market Insights
- 1283 Foreign Exchange Report

### INVESTMENTS

- 1420 Bonds
- 1421 Mutual Funds
- 1422 Financing A College Education
- 1424 Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA's)
- 1425 IRA Rollover & Transfers (401-K)

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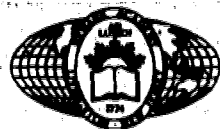
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It's called Relay for Life because it involves teams of 8 or more people walking or running around a track in relay fashion for 18-hours. The area around the track is used for teams to set up their tents, campers, barbecue's, entertainment and food. Each team member is challenged to raise \$100 or more to be donated to the American Cancer Society. The club is open to all Relay participants and you'll be able to play racquetball, tennis, basketball, volleyball, use the swimming pool, saunas, showers and even an indoor area for those who want to sleep. At sundown, a luminary service will be held with hundreds of lights encircling the track, each symbolizing a loved one who has been touched by cancer.

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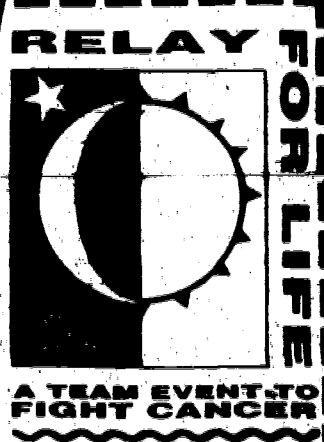
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# Senior donates classic automobile

By Walter Elliott  
Staff Writer

The Springfield Fire Department and Volunteer Fire Company have been getting more attention lately thanks to a donation by township resident Florence Chandler. Whenever Fire Chief William Gras and Fire Company President Carlo Palumbo wheel out Chandler's contribution before the department's headquarters, it slows traffic and passes by gawk.

"We don't have it out more than two minutes," said Gras, "and people start asking questions."

The object of attention isn't a red fire engine but a medium blue 1972 Buick Skylark Custom convertible. Chandler donated the nearly immaculate vehicle to the squad in memory of her late husband James.

"It was something I wanted to do for the department," said Chandler, "for what service they've done for me and my husband in the past."

Chandler said that although her husband bought the Buick in December 1972, it was owned and registered in her name. The car was used for "sporting" and other trips and was maintained and parked in a garage until James Chandler died June 30.

The Buick features a 350-cubic inch V8 with twin two-barrel carburetors and an automatic transmission. The odometer reads 23,000 miles. "It was an unusual contribution,"

said Palumbo, "but I guess Mrs. Chandler had seen our 1932 Diamond Reo fire truck which we use in parades and auto shows. She stipulated that we return the Buick to her if we were unable to maintain it."

Neither party should worry about a return. The Buick is in almost mint condition and the squad is interested in its upkeep.

"The car is in great shape," said Palumbo. "Everything is original, including the sales invoice, and everything works. It will eventually need a paint job done by a professional and we're looking to get new bumper rub strips. We're also waiting for the registration and classic license plates from the DMV."

Palumbo said that the car was the first thing they thought of when they heard of Chatham's planned auto show. The inaugural show, to aid a Borough firefighter's battle with leukemia, is set for June 1. The squad also wants to run the Buick in the upcoming Township Memorial Day Parade on May 26.

Chandler said, however, that the parade isn't the first for the blue Buick.

"The car was used in four parades," said Chandler, who is in her 80s, "including the Bicentennial in 1994. It once carried the Rev. Jeff Curtis of the



Carlo Palumbo displays the 1972 Buick Skylark, donated by Springfield resident Florence Chandler.

Presbyterian Church in town when he Day parade driven in it. That was an honor.

# NEWS CLIPS

## Fraud hotline open

Officials recently cut the ribbon opening the Social Security Administration's Office of Inspector General fraud hotline.

The hotline is available for live operator assistance from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Recorded message service is available and a person can leave a message 24 hours a day.

The Office of Inspector General will be hiring approximately 100 new investigative agents to work in offices around the country handling the many fraud referrals it receives.

The hotline telephone number is (800) 269-0271. In addition, an address is available for reporting suspected fraud for those choosing not to use the telephone hotline.

The address is Social Security Administration, Office of Inspector General, P.O. Box 17768, Baltimore, MD 21235.

Social Security's OIG already handles a large number of complaints.

who are outside the U.S. without work, authorization, including those who are residents of Canada, Mexico, Japan or South Korea.

• Spouses of U.S. taxpayers and who are inside the U.S. without work authorization. Spouses of U.S. taxpayers and who are outside the U.S. without work authorization who elect to file a joint U.S. tax return.

Aliens who need individual taxpayer identification numbers may request IRS Form W-7 from the local IRS office, or write to IRS, Philadelphia Service Center, ITIN Unit, P.O. Box 447, Bensalem, Pa., 19020.

## New program

The Social Security Administration has launched a program of incentive payments to state and local correctional and mental health authorities that report the names of newly institutionalized Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries.

Dennis Mass, Social Security manager at Elizabeth, said that the move is aimed at ensuring that persons in correctional and certain mental health institutions do not wrongfully continue to receive SSI benefits.

Under the law, SSI recipients or their representative must inform Social Security of the recipient's confinement to an institution. However, Social Security does not always receive timely information from these sources.

## Help wanted

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Union County, RSVP, a program of Catholic Community Services, is accepting applications for volunteers who wish to serve with Travelers Aid of New Jersey.

Travelers Aid has been operating at the International Terminal B of Newark Airport since 1992. New volunteers will be assigned to Terminal C, handling domestic flights. Training and parking are provided by Newark Airport and Travelers Aid. For more information, call Jo-Ann Croteau, RSVP director, at (908) 709-2152 or 709-2150.

## New numbers

The Social Security Administration will no longer assign nonwork Social Security numbers to aliens who request them for income tax purposes, including bank accounts and monetary transaction purposes.

The Internal Revenue Service is now assigning individual taxpayer numbers to noncitizens who need an identification number for tax purposes, but otherwise do not meet requirements for a Social Security number.

As of July 1, 1996, IRS has been assigning individual taxpayer identification numbers for tax purposes to noncitizens who otherwise do not meet the Social Security Administration's requirements for assigning Social Security Numbers. These include:

- U.S. taxpayers required to file a U.S. tax return.
- Dependents of U.S. taxpayers and who are in the U.S. without work authorization.
- Dependents of U.S. taxpayers and

# Benefits are available to AIDS/HIV patients

The discovery of new drugs that lessen the effect of AIDS and promises a cure has brought hope to the lives of many who had become resigned to impending death. However, some are now wondering how their Social Security or Supplemental Security Income payments may be affected.

Social Security disability benefits are paid to people who have a physical or mental condition so severe that it prevents them from working for a year or more or is expected to result in death.

Persons with full-blown AIDS generally qualify because their condition typically is so severe that they are unable to work. People with HIV infection who do not have full-blown AIDS may qualify for disability benefits if their condition prevents them from working.

While it is true that the new drugs do not yet constitute a cure of the disease, many HIV beneficiaries have watched their health improve to the point where they feel they can do some work. They fear that a return to

## Providing Security

By Dennis Maas

work will affect their disability benefits.

Social Security has special rules which permit people to work while their benefits are protected until they can work regularly. These rules permit cash benefits and Medicare or Medicaid to continue, provide help with work expenses, and help in finding a new line of work.

The rules are different between Social Security and Supplemental Security Income, but both programs are run by Social Security and designed to help the beneficiary return to the workplace and once more become financially independent.

## Under Social Security, a person can work for at least 12 months while receiving full benefits. This includes a "trial work period" of nine months and three additional months during which the ability to work is evaluated before benefits are stopped. If the person is still unable to do substantial work, benefits continue.

Earnings of \$500 a month or more are considered evidence of substantial work.

Even if benefits stop because of a successful trial work period, the Social Security disability beneficiary receives an "extended period of eligibility" — 36 months during which benefits may be reinstated for any month earnings fall below \$500. No new application or waiting period is necessary for benefits to start again during this period.

Under SSI, where benefits are paid on the basis of need, the earnings limits are built into the program — benefits decrease as earnings increase. In

1997, a person can earn as much as \$1,053 a month before all benefits are eliminated.

Under both programs, deductions are made for work-related expenses. Medicare continues for 36 months following a successful trial work period, and Medicaid may continue as long as SSI benefits continue.

The result is that disabled beneficiaries who attempt to work will find it an easier to do so. The risk of losing their income and medical help is greatly diminished. For many, that will make the difference between success and failure in their efforts to return to the workplace.

For more information, you should call Social Security's toll-free number, (800) 772-1213, and ask for the booklet, "If You Become Disabled — How We Can Help."

Dennis Maas is the manager of the Social Security Administration office in Elizabeth.

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47	11.54	9.69	20.08	16.38	28.62	23.07
48	11.99	9.93	20.98	16.87	29.97	23.80
49	12.48	10.20	21.96	17.40	31.44	24.60
50	13.00	10.50	23.00	18.00	33.00	25.50
51	13.56	10.87	24.12	18.75	34.69	26.62
52	14.17	11.29	25.35	19.58	36.52	27.87
53	14.83	11.75	26.67	20.50	38.50	29.25
54	15.55	12.25	28.11	21.50	40.66	30.75
55	16.33	12.79	29.67	22.58	43.00	32.37
56	17.17	13.36	31.35	23.72	45.52	34.09
57	18.09	13.97	33.17	24.95	48.26	35.92
58	19.08	14.64	35.10	26.28	51.24	37.92
59	20.16	15.35	37.32	27.71	54.47	40.06
60	21.33	16.12	39.67	29.25	58.00	42.37
61	22.61	16.95	42.21	30.91	61.82	44.86
62	23.99	17.84	44.97	32.68	65.96	47.52
63	25.48	18.80	47.96	35.00	70.43	50.40
64	27.09	19.82	51.18	36.64	75.27	53.46
65	28.83	20.92	54.66	38.83	80.50	56.75
66	30.71	22.36	58.41	41.71	86.12	61.07
67	32.72	23.87	62.44	44.75	92.16	65.62
68	34.88	25.48	66.76	47.96	98.63	70.43
69	37.19	27.16	71.38	51.32	105.57	75.48
70	39.67	28.94	76.33	54.87	113.00	80.81
71	42.81	31.22	82.61	59.44	122.42	87.66
72	46.12	33.59	89.24	64.19	133.36	94.78
73	49.61	36.07	96.22	69.15	142.83	102.22
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# Residents help landscape county golf course

Members of the current Union County Master Gardener class planted a low maintenance landscape at the Ashbrook Golf Course Clubhouse in Scotch Plains on April 11 and 21. The planting was the culmination of weeks of planning, designing and landscape, and choosing plants.

"We have a large class this year, 38 students, so we covered quite a large area, on three sides of the clubhouse," said Madeline Flahive, program associate in agriculture, who teaches the class. The class was divided into two teams, with Jean Kahan and Mary Macksoud co-chairing the group responsible for the front and side of the building, and Janice Bello and Donna Perch directing the group working on the back. The project was a cooperative effort between the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation and Department of Public Works.

The project is one of the requirements for certification in the nine-month Rutgers Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Program. Each year, the Cooperative Extension Service recruits a new class of would-be Master Gardeners into the program. This year's class is the 10th. "We cover a broad spectrum of horticultural topics, including disease and pest identification, integrated pest management, safe use of chemicals — always using Rutgers specifications — and much more," said Flahive. The classes are



Members of the 10th Master Gardener class Carole Kosciuk, above right, of Mountainside and Mary Francis Napier, above left, of Springfield, joined Carol Donahoo, right, of Summit and Patricia Seip in a recent landscaping project at the Ashbrook Golf Course clubhouse in Scotch Plains. As part of the course work needed for certification by the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Service, they helped research, design and plant a low maintenance landscape at the county facility.

taught by Rutgers' specialists and County Extension agents from around the state.

"The aim is to end up with an ever-growing pool of ordinary citizens

with a good grounding in sound, and safe, horticultural techniques, who in turn act as a resource for their friends and neighbors, and, through our Garden Hotline, the community at large.



The Garden Hotline is open daily during the growing season and three days a week during the winter months. This helps hundreds of callers a year and is a free service." The Garden Hotline phone number is 654-9852.

After "graduation" many Master Gardeners fulfill their volunteer commitment through working on the Hotline. Others devote time to such activities as Horticultural Therapy and the Annual Spring Garden Fair, scheduled this year for May 18 from noon to 5 p.m. at the Trailside Nature and Science Center in the Watchung Reservation.

The Union County Master Gardener Program is open to residents of Union County without regard to race, sex, color, national origin, disability or handicap. The only charge is for textbooks and materials. For information regarding the Master Gardener class beginning in September, call 654-9854, or pick up information and an application at the Spring Garden Fair.

Funding for Rutgers Cooperative Extension comes from the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Rutgers University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

## Arboretum seeks volunteer guides

The Reeves-Reed Arboretum, in cooperation with the Greater Newark Conservancy, is seeking volunteers to serve as nature guides during outdoor classes at the arboretum for K-3 students from Newark schools.

Classes are scheduled in May and June. Training sessions for volunteers are May 15 at 3:30 p.m. or May 17 at 10 a.m. or can be arranged to individual schedules. Only one training session is required.

Guides will help direct students through the Reeves-Reed woodlands, gardens and wildlife habitat during classes from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on May 20, 22, 23, 28 and 30 and June 3, 5, 10 and 12.

Students will attend from Camden Elementary, Miller Street, Harriet Tubman, Newark Christian and Elliot Street schools. Assisting with the nature studies will be area garden clubs including the Summit Garden Club, Somerset Hills Garden Club and Garden Club of the Oranges.

Experience is not necessary but volunteers who would enjoy working outdoors with children will gain the most from the activities.

To register or arrange for training, call Nick Armstrong, children's education coordinator, at (908) 273-8787. The arboretum, a national and state historic site specializing in environmental education, is located at 165 Hobart Ave., Summit, near Rt. 24.

## Area clinic offers three free seminars

Advent Clinics, directed by Dr. Roy Vogel and Bruce Frens, will be offering a series of three free seminars to the community. The seminars will be held today, May 8 and May 22 from 7:30-9 p.m. at the New Providence Presbyterian Church, 1307 Springfield Ave., New Providence. Free refreshments will also be served after each session.

The three topics will be: "The Most Important Information You May Not Know About Yourself" with Dr. Norm Walter. Walter is a therapist with Advent Clinics in both Summit and Hawthorne offices. He treats depression, anxiety, marital issues, post traumatic stress disorder and other individual issues. He has 23 years in the counseling field and has

hosted motivational programs on WAWZ, 99.1 FM for 16 years. Walter and his wife, Rita, co-authored a book on marriage entitled "No Shadow of Turning."

The second topic will be "Healthy Family Patterns" and will be led by Amy Flavin. Flavin earned a Masters degree in Counseling from Villanova University and is a therapist at Advent Clinics' Summit office. She treats marriage and family issues, parenting skills, eating disorders and a variety of other issues. Flavin also treats adolescents. Her husband is one of the pastors of the New Providence Presbyterian Church.

The third evening will be spent looking at depression from the point of view of a Christian psy-

chiatrist. The topic, "Out of the Shadows of Depression: From Darkness to Light", will be led by Dr. Ami Lim, MD. She has been in private practice and joined with Advent Clinics at its beginning in the fall of 1996.

Advent Clinics is a group of Christian professionals whose mission is to seek to provide comprehensive behavioral, mental health and addiction services at the highest level of professional excellence within the context of the Christian faith. Advent staff aspire to the participants in the process whereby God, by His grace and mercy, restores, establishes and strengthens (1 Peter 5:10) the individuals and families who utilize the services.

## Lifeguard training offered at local Red Cross chapter

The Summit Area Chapter of the American Red Cross will offer a Lifeguard Instructor, r.94, Course from May 28 to June 11 at Berkeley Swim School and the Summit Area Chapter House. Candidates are to show proof of minimum age of 17 by the last scheduled class date of June 11; possess an Instructor Candidate Training certificate, and successfully complete a precourse session, consisting of Lifeguard Training, r.94; first aid, and CPR for the Professional Rescuer skills and knowledge evaluation.

Anna Scanniello and Dena Mallach are the instructor trainers who will teach the course.

The cost for the course is \$100 payable to Berkeley Swim School at the time of registration at the school. Registration forms may be picked up at the Chapter House, 695 Springfield Ave., Summit, or at Berkeley Swim School, 649-Rear Springfield Avenue, Berkeley Heights.

Instructor Candidate Training for those who need it will be offered separately on May 19 and 21 at the Chapter House.

For further information, phone (908) 273-2076, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. during the week.

### Send it e-mail

Worral Community Newspapers accepts letters to the editor and guest columns via e-mail. The address is WCN22@localsource.com.

Letters and guest columns must be received by 9 a.m. on Mondays to be considered for publication in Thursday's edition.

Letters received via e-mail must be on topics of interest, preferably in response to content that appeared in the newspaper. They should be double-spaced and no longer than two pages. Worrall Newspapers reserves the right to edit for length, clarity and fairness.

For purposes of verification, all letters must include a name, address and daytime telephone number.

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# Stolen license racks up violation

**Springfield**

A stolen driver's license came back to haunt a Springfield resident Wednesday. The driver, who first reported the license stolen in Manhattan in October, received a moving violation notice in the mail and learned that someone in Newark had fraudulently received a new card from the DMV using his license number but the perpetrator's photograph. The local Motor Vehicle Agency advised the original license holder to write a police report in the township to obtain a new license number.

A bout of domestic violence broke out between a couple in Sneaker Stadium Friday afternoon. Two officers arrived to quell the dispute between an Irvington man and a Maplewood woman. Each were charged with a count of simple assault at 3 p.m.

The inattention of a Honda Accord's operator resulted in a three-car chain reaction crash on South Springfield Avenue Friday afternoon. The Honda driver said he took his eyes off the road at about 5:45 p.m. while driving northbound, running into an Oldsmobile 88, who then rear-ended a stopped Buick LeSabre. No injuries, summonses or towing occurred.

Another three-car hit happened among a Volkswagen, a sprinkler company's Ford truck and a Ford pickup 5:35 p.m. Monday. The truck was going southbound on Caldwell Place when parked cars forced him to cross the double yellow line, putting him in the way of the northbound pickup. The pair collided near North Trivett Avenue, spraying the northbound VW with broken glass.

Two acquaintances became a little closer than they intended on the Route 22 West ramp from Bennigan's 12:16 a.m. Saturday. The operator of a Nissan Sentra was following the

**POLICE BLOTTER**

driver of a BMW M3 when she thought the lead driver had merged — and ran into his rear.

Mystery drivers were at their mischief three times this week. The first incident involved a driver who discovered at 4 p.m. Saturday that her Honda Civic suffered nose damage while parked at the 6th Avenue Electronics lot. A Toyota operator on Route 22 East was crossing Fadem Road about four hours later when a black sports car, possibly a Chevrolet Camaro, hit her and sped off. The owner of a Pontiac Grand Prix returned to his car in the Investors Savings lot Sunday at 10 a.m. to find the driver side door and rear panel dented — and an anonymous note on the windshield.

A two-car, rear-end accident apparently resulted in two injuries at the intersection of Oakland and Mountain avenues Saturday. A Volkswagen with two passengers aboard headed west on Oakland and was proceeding to turn left onto Mountain when its driver stopped to let intersection traffic clear at 1 p.m. The driver of a GMC wagon was following the Volkswagen, braked and ran into the first car. There's no record of who was hurt nor the extent of the injuries.

One of the township's vehicles was involved in an accident with a BMW four-door on northbound South Springfield Avenue Saturday morning. An employee was operating a staff Jeep when he encountered the BMW approaching Evergreen Avenue. The BMW attempted a left turn and was t-boned, prompting its driver to have the car towed.

An out-of-state driver and his passenger complained of back pain after being involved in a Route 78 ramp

accident Monday. A Cambridge, Mass. driver and his rider had taken their Dodge Ram and were following a local VW Jetta from Rt. 78 East when the pair tried to merge onto northbound Springfield Avenue at about 4:21 p.m. The Ram ran into the rear of the Jetta, resulting in the back complaints.

**Mountainside**

On April 23 at about 3:10 p.m. Officer Donald Amberg made a vehicle stop on Route 22 West for a driver who made a motor vehicle violation. The driver, Michael Udat, 49, of Lawrence Harbor, was found to have a suspended drivers license and was arrested and taken into police headquarters. Udat was issued a citation and is supposed to appear in court on May 15.

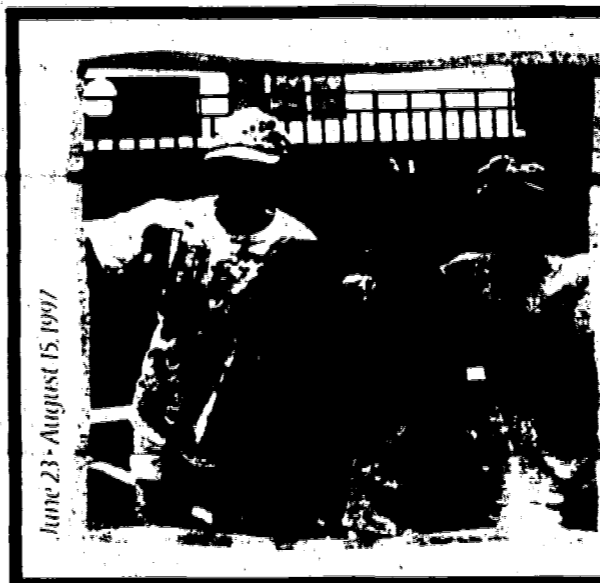
On April 25 at about 9:55 a.m. Officer Stephan DeVito made a vehicle stop on Route 22 East. The driver, Richard S. Hingel, 29, of Scotch Plains, was found to have a suspended drivers license and was arrested and taken into headquarters. The amount of Hingel's bail was set at \$1,015.

On April 25 at about 7:50 p.m., Officer Michael Perrotta made a vehicle stop on Route 22 West. The driver, Katrina Duque, 24, of Scotch Plains, was stopped for having a headlight out on her vehicle. It was discovered that she had a suspended drivers license and she was taken into headquarters. Her bail was set at \$250 and she was given a May 15 court date.

On April 26 at about 12:45 a.m., Perrotta made a vehicle stop on Route 22 West. The driver, Gwendolyn Joseph, 44, of Plainfield, was stopped for an expired registration and no insurance, and was also found to have a suspended license. She was arrested and taken into headquarters. She was later released and given a May 15 court date.



**ABOUT A TREE** — The fourth grade students at James Caldwell School in Springfield were visited by a speaker from the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County, Meera Rao, a volunteer tree steward, shared information on the parts of a tree and the life cycle of a tree. The students took part in hands-on activities that included categorizing and identifying. From left are Justin Molinari, Steven Tettaman-ti, Rachel Dushkin, Rao, and Sara Neimanis.



**Summer Programs at Oak Knoll**  
 1997 Open House Dates  
 Sunday May 4 2-4 p.m.  
 For information, call  
**908-522-8152**  
**Oak Knoll School of the Holy Child**  
 44 Blackburn Rd.  
 Summit, New Jersey 07901

# Fire Department extinguishes house fire

The Springfield Fire Department responded to a fire call at a Mountain Avenue residence at about 8 p.m. April 13. The blaze occurred outside the dwelling.

An activated fire alarm on a South Springfield Avenue home sounded off after 4:15 p.m. April 15, bringing all units to the residence.

assisted a Pitt Road man who had locked himself out of his house at about 7:35 a.m. All units responded to a report of smoke coming from an

Ashwood Road residence at 9 a.m. A problem with a stove prompted a unit to arrive at a home on Meisel Avenue 9:56 a.m. April 19.

**FIRE BLOTTER**

A call from the local Humane Society regarding the welfare of an animal on premises prompted a visit by the force to a Skylark Road home 4:50 p.m. April 16.

A gasoline leak from a motor vehicle brought a unit out to a Route 22 business 3:38 p.m. April 17. No further details are available on the leak's nature or the amount of fuel spilled.

Springfield Fire Department had a busy morning April 18. They first

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

SUMMARY OR SYNOPSIS OF AUDIT REPORT FOR PUBLICATION	
SUMMARY OR SYNOPSIS OF 1996 AUDIT REPORT OF TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD AS REQUIRED BY N.J.S. 40A:5-7 COMBINED COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET	
ASSETS	DECEMBER 31, 1996
Cash and Investments	\$ 6,479,118.65
Taxes, Assessments, Liens and Utility Charges Receivable	603,260.88
Property Acquired for Taxes - Assessed Value	36,460.00
Accounts Receivable	724,585.65
Fixed Capital - Utility	1,563,105.29
Deferred Charges to Future Taxation - General Capital	11,287,000.00
Deferred Charges to Revenue of Succeeding Years	84,950.000
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$20,788,490.45</b>

**TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE - CURRENT FUND**

	YEAR 1996	YEAR 1995
<b>REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME REALIZED</b>		
Fund Balance Utilized	\$ 1,650,000.00	\$ 1,600,000.00
Miscellaneous - From Other than Local Property Tax Levies	4,076,653.95	3,934,681.82
Collection of Delinquent Taxes and Tax Title Liens	472,284.91	572,392.44
Collection of Current Tax Levy	32,198,649.96	31,113,440.51
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$38,397,588.82</b>	<b>\$37,220,514.77</b>

**TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - SWIMMING POOL UTILITY OPERATING FUNDS**

	YEAR 1996	YEAR 1995
<b>REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME REALIZED</b>		
Fund Balance Utilized	\$ 37,750.00	\$ 33,000.00
Membership Fees	263,864.00	249,685.00
Miscellaneous From Other Than Membership Fees	38,704.68	40,737.45
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 340,318.68</b>	<b>\$ 323,422.45</b>

**RECOMMENDATIONS**  
 That the Recreation Department:  
 Review all individual time sheets for completeness, clerical accuracy, hours worked, rates of pay and contain the approval of the Recreation Director.  
 Review all summary time sheets for completeness and clerical accuracy.  
 Support all summary time sheets with detailed individual time sheets.  
 That a physical inventory of General Fixed Assets be taken and reconciled with the property records on a periodic basis.  
 \*Unresolved 1995 audit recommendations  
 A Corrective Action Plan, which outlines actions the Township of Springfield will take to correct the findings listed above, will be prepared in accordance with federal and state requirements. A copy of it will be placed on file and made available for public inspection in the Office of the Township Clerk in the Township of Springfield within 45 days of this notice.  
 The above summary or synopsis was prepared from the report of audit of the Township of Springfield, County of Union, for the calendar year 1996. This report of audit submitted by Suplex, Clooney & Company, Registered Municipal Accountants and Certified Public Accountants, is on file at the Township Clerk's Office and may be inspected by any interested person.  
 Helen E. Keyworth  
 Municipal Clerk  
 (Fee: \$101.50)  
 U4519 SLR May 1, 1997

# Professional Directory

<p><b>Accountants</b></p> <p>Couto, De Franco &amp; Magone, CPA's                  Individual Income Tax Preparation                  Tax planning and consulting                  Non-Filer Assistance                  Personal financial planning                  Small business accounting &amp; tax preparation                  Free consultation by appointment                  15 Village Plaza, South Orange—201-378-3300</p>	<p><b>Chiropractors</b></p> <p>Dr. Stephen Levine                  South Orange Chiropractic Center                  Sports injuries, head, neck and back pain                  If yours is a chiropractic case, we will tell you if not, we will tell you too.                  15 Village Plaza, South Orange                  201-761-0022</p>
<p><b>Attorneys</b></p> <p>Christopher Luongo, Esq.                  General Practice                  * Personal injury: auto accidents, slip &amp; falls, worker's compensation &amp; food poisoning cases.                  * Municipal Court: DWI, traffic, disorderly, juvenile &amp; criminal cases.                  * Consumer &amp; Commercial Litigation.                  Free Consultation - Summit - (908) 522-1898</p>	<p><b>Dentist</b></p> <p>Dr. Alexander Yermolenko DDS.                  * Free Exam with two Xrays!                  1219 Liberty Avenue, Hillside, N.J. 07205                  908-352-2207</p>

**ADVERTISE YOUR PROFESSION HERE**  
 For Only \$20.00 per week  
 Call 201-763-9411

**SCHOOL LUNCHES**

Springfield Elementary Schools  
 Monday, May 5: Hamburger or cheeseburger on bun, or tuna sandwich, oven baked Tater Tots, broccoli, chilled pineapple.

Tuesday: Pizza, hoagie, carrot & celery sticks w/dip, green beans, fresh pear, or chef's bowl, soft roll, fresh pear.

Wednesday: Chicken nuggets, w/honey and soft roll, or super sub, whole kernel corn, mixed fruit, apple juice.

Thursday: Rib-b-que on bun, or turkey sandwich, potato salad, mixed vegetables, chilled peaches.

Friday: Pizza or bologna sandwich, garden salad, peas & carrots, fresh apple.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**SHERIFF'S SALE**  
 SHERIFF'S NO. 808 CH-753072  
 DIVISION, CHANCERY  
 COUNTY UNION  
 DOCKET NO. F161690  
 PLAINTIFF: GMAC MORTGAGE CORPORATION OF PA  
 DEFENDANT: EDWIN GANEK AND JANICE GANEK, et al  
 WRIT OF EXECUTION DATE MARCH 06, 1997  
 SALE DATE WEDNESDAY THE 14TH DAY OF MAY A.D. 1997  
 By virtue of the above-stated writ of execution to me directed I shall expose for sale by public vendue, in the FREEHOLDERS MEETING ROOM, 6th FLOOR, in the Administration Building in the City of Elizabeth, N.J., on WEDNESDAY, at two o'clock in the afternoon of said day, GMAC Mortgage Corporation of PA vs Edwin Ganek, et al  
 Township of Springfield, County of Union, State of New Jersey  
 STREET ADDRESS: 20 Hawthorne Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081  
 TAX LOT 38 BLOCK 85  
 DIMENSIONS: 103.93 FEET X 100 FEET X 101.70 FEET X 36.14 FEET X 23.96 FEET  
 NEAREST CROSS STREET: Franklin Pike  
 JUDGMENT AMOUNT: TWO HUNDRED FIFTY-EIGHT THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED TWENTY-THREE DOLLARS AND SEVENTY-EIGHT CENTS (\$258,923.78)  
 ATTORNEY: BUDD LARNER GROSS, ROSENBAUM GREENBERG & SADE WOODLAND FALLS CORPORATE PARK, 200 LAKE DR EAST SUITE 100, CHERRY HILL, NJ 08002-4805  
 SHERIFF: RALPH FROELICH  
 FULL LEGAL DESCRIPTION IS FILED AT THE UNION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE.  
 TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED NINE DOLLARS AND TEN CENTS (\$256,609.10)  
 APR 17, 24, MAY 1, 8, 1997  
 U3999 SLR (\$84.00)

**Free Anxiety Screenings.**

**"FREE ANXIETY SCREENINGS"**  
 Wednesday, May 7  
 2-4 pm - 6-8 pm

Anxiety disorders are the most common — and the most treatable type of mental health problem. Symptoms include: Excessive worrying • Phobias • Obsessions or compulsions • Muscle tension • Unexplained heart palpitation • Uncomfortable in social situations • Problems with concentration • Sleeplessness

Now, in recognition of **National Anxiety Disorders Screening Day**, Overlook Hospital offers you the opportunity to learn about the early warning signs, symptoms and treatment of anxiety. To schedule a screening, or more information, call (908) 522-5353 or www.AtlanticHealth.org.

**Overlook Hospital**  
 ATLANTIC HEALTH SYSTEM

Montlawn Memorial Hospital • Overlook Hospital, Summit • Mountainside Hospital, Montclair/Glen Ridge • The General Hospital Center at Passaic  
 Affiliates: Chilton Memorial Hospital • Newton Memorial Hospital  
 www.AtlanticHealth.org

