

Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield, Mountainside and Summit

SPRINGFIELD, N.J., VOL. 69 NO. 18

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1997

TWO SE

NTS

THIS WEEK

NEWS

Offices closed

The offices of this newspaper will be closed Jan. 1 in observance of New Year's Day. We will reopen on Friday at 9 a.m.

Deadlines for the Jan. 8 editions will remain the same.

COUNTY

Helping the elderly

Gov. Christine Whitman gathered recently with more than 100 healthcare professionals in Cranford to celebrate the opening of a new wing at Senior Quarters.

See Page B1.

THE ARTS



Love of opera

Union County resident has learned and earned his love of opera.

See Page B3.

SNOW ALERT

Schools superintendents will use our Infosource hot line to alert parents to school closings during inclement weather.

In Springfield, parents can call (908) 686-9898 and enter Selection No. 7009.

In Mountainside, parents can call (908) 686-9898 and enter Selection No. 7005.

NEW MEDIA

News updates

Get local updates throughout the week. Call our Infosource hot line at (908) 686-9898. Selection 7510.

Web site

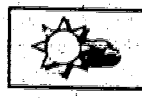
Visit our site on the World Wide Web, which can be accessed at <http://www.localsource.com/>.

WEATHER

Thursday: Mostly sunny and very cold. 24°



Friday: Mostly sunny and cold. 36°



Saturday: Mostly cloudy. 44°



For the most up to date reports, call (908) 686-9898, Ext. 1790.

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From schools to floods, town saw year of change

By Walter Elliott
Staff Writer
Springfield

Springfield's 1997 has been one of birth, death and renewal in many areas. Some of those changes range from the absorption of Jonathan Dayton High School to rebuilding the Recreation Department to creating a Rahway River flood control group.

January

The year began with Roy Allan Hirschfeld and Sy Mullman among those taking their oaths of office. Hirschfeld, who was elected to the Township Committee in 1994, was elevated to mayor while Mullman, who was elected Nov. 5, 1997, returns to the committee after a 10-year absence.

Hirschfeld, a psychologist by trade, stressed communication and community involvement in his efforts. He held a series of special public and neighborhood meetings on recreational and housing topics. Among other efforts, he revived the Springfield Chamber of Commerce, supported the building of the Townley commuter rail station in Union and assisted in choosing the Springfield B'nai B'rith lodge's senior housing location.

The new mayor's tenure wasn't all smooth sailing. Communication glitches and a 3 percent property tax rate hike caused debate among the Township Committee. The hiring of an attorney for labor negotiations had the side effect of moving some bargaining into state mediation.

Mullman, a jewelry store manager, frequently joined Hirschfeld in neighborhood meetings. His strong ties to recreation prompted a \$100,000 playground equipment replacement program and, with the hiring of director Michael Tennaro, he revamped the department.

February

Part of the historical landscape came down when the Cannon Ball House's red barn was razed within two hours Feb. 7. The demolition of the 90-year-old garage was permitted by the Springfield Historical Society, who planned to pave the spot for parking and expand the back garden. The society printed lithographs of the house as a fundraiser.

By Jim Foglio
Staff Writer
Mountainside

Another year has passed, and for Mountainside residents it was one that brought many changes. As 1997 comes to a close, it is time once again to look back on the events that dominated the headlines.

Winter

The year kicked off with the annual Borough Council reorganization meeting Jan. 1. Mayor Bob Vigilanti started the meeting by honoring outgoing councilman William "Tex" Jackson with a commemorative plaque for his nine years of service.

Vigilanti then swore in Keith Turner, and Tom Perotta and Paul Mirabelli for their first terms as councilmen.

There was also a changing of the guard at Governor Livingston Regional High School, as Principal Rosalie Lamonte announced her resignation Jan. 7. After six and a half years as school principal, Lamonte became superintendent of schools in Hackettstown March 1, leaving Benjamin Jones to oversee Mountainside and Berkeley Heights students into June 30.

Monica Lewis, a teacher of deaf and hearing impaired students at Governor Livingston, was named the New Jersey Education Association's Teacher of the Year Feb. 1. Lewis and her 36 students appeared on WWOR-TV for the "Classroom Close-Up New Jersey" special March 1. According to the NJEA, the particular show, aired to focus on the positive aspects of public education, was their first close-captioned program they had sponsored.

March 3 marked the announcement of the proposed 1997-98 Mountainside school budget. The Board of Education, for the first time, included tuitions of resident students that were now attending Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights. The board struck a deal with the Berkeley Heights School District, which cited a \$12,500 cost per student for the

March

The Springfield Board of Adjustment voted 6-1 to deny CVS Pharmacy a variance at 225 Mountain Ave. March 18. The variance would have allowed CVS to build a 10,500 square foot drug superstore. The Five Corners Association objected to the plan on the grounds of traffic volume and pedestrian safety.

This was far from the last word on CVS. The chain first went to the Development Review Committee Sept. 25, where the panel said they needed legal consultation. CVS then sued Springfield Township on denial of use grounds, a move quashed by Superior Court Judge John Pisansky Dec. 5.

April

Former substitute teacher Larry Levee scored an upset by being elected to the Springfield Board of Education April 15. His 999 votes unseated longtime member Ruth Bri-

men, who garnered 855 votes. Incumbents Robert Fish and Jacqueline Shanes, who had 910 and 951 votes respectively, were re-elected and the 1997-98 school budget was carried.

The reconstituted board continued its absorption of Jonathan Dayton High School from the dissolving regional district, climaxing with a community-wide rededication Sept. 20. Integration of the high school staff with the rest of the system's faculty produced some labor difficulties, however, and Springfield is still sorting out the old district's assets with five other towns.

May

About 200 people took a three-mile walk to remember one neighbor and help another May 4. The walkers traversed the Milltown area of Springfield to honor Shawn Jones, a Gaudineer Middle School student who died in an automobile accident March 27. Proceeds went towards the recovery of Shawn's father, Raymond, who was seriously injured in the accident.

A Union County grand jury



At the Cannonball House, located on Morris Avenue, a barn in the backyard was torn down as part of renovations at the historical site, which is maintained by the Springfield Historical Society.

indicted Ralph DeVino on bribery charges May 21. The County Prosecutor's Office, charging the then-Zoning Board of Adjustment member of taking a \$7,500 bribe, had him arrested Feb. 3. DeVino subsequently resigned from the board but was legally unable to leave his commissionership at the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority. Cancer treatment would postpone his trial to Feb. 8.

The annual reopening of the Springfield Municipal Pool received mostly positive reviews Memorial Day. The raves continued throughout the season despite losing four days to rain. The good swimming season was in marked contrast to a previous summer of mechanical breakdowns and personnel problems at the pool.

The pool's subsequent rehabilitation was the showcase of the

revamped Recreation Department. Director Tennaro brought in new equipment and updated programs as part of the departmental turnaround.

June

An 18-month school transfer period ended June 30 when the Union County Regional High School District dissolved at 11:59 p.m. At that time, Jonathan Dayton High School passed into Springfield's hands, as had three other high schools in other towns.

Dayton, which was the first regional high 60 years ago, was also the district's headquarters. That distinction put the Springfield Board of Education at the epicenter of the continuing distribution of regional assets among the six member towns. The regional board also passed to Springfield its Dayton Hall of Fame, the first induc-

tion ceremony of which was held May 4.

July

The annual Fourth of July fireworks display was also the Springfield Chapter of the Union County Chamber of Commerce's coming out party. The chamber chapter, working with the Township Office of Emergency Management, added food vendors, a contest promotion and a kiddie ride to the usual night of music and pyrotechnics.

The chapter's first public appearance was followed by the election of "Shop Springfield" banners along business district streets. From a core membership of Hirschfeld and three businessmen in February, the chamber's representatives grew to number 45 by Dec. 1. The chamber, the first in
See AFFORDABLE, Page 3

Changes affect council and school district

1997-98 and 1998-99 school years. While the budget had an increase of nearly \$5 million from the previous year, it allowed residents to save an average of \$155 on their year-end tax bill.

As spring elections approached, the four Board of Education candidates held a debate at the Deerfield Media Center March 18. Frank Geiger, Linda Esemplare, Carmine Venes, and John Perrin discussed short- and long-term goals, and the pending school technology plan, among other topics. The debate was sponsored by the local chapter of the League of Women Voters.

Spring

Springtime began on a sad note with the death of borough resident Robert Trumbower in an auto accident March 27. Trumbower, 78, suffered a head-on accident on Hobart Avenue by Route 124 in Summit at 3 p.m. He was rushed to Overlook Hospital by the Summit Volunteer First Aid Squad, but the former United Way of Mountainside treasurer was pronounced dead an hour later.

The Social Clubhouse, a day-care facility for the mentally impaired, was hit with a \$100,000 fine by the Mountainside Municipal Court April 7. After several weeks of court sessions, the facility was found guilty of caring for far more people than they were licensed to treat. According to Zoning Board chairperson Valerie Saunders, they were treating between 65 and 70 patients despite being licensed to treat 15.

Voters returned Frank Geiger and Linda Esemplare to the Board of Education for their second three-year terms April 16. The pair ousted John Perrin and Carmine Venes for places on the newly expanded board. The public turned down the school budget by 79 votes, however, turning the financial matter to the Borough Council.

Pat Taeschler was appointed as new Board of Education president and Sally Riviaccio as vice president May



Deer overpopulation is a perennial problem in Mountainside, which borders on the Watchung Reservation. Last winter a deer hunt was held to thin the population, and one is planned for this year as well.

1. Taeschler promised to examine the Deerfield School's curriculum. She has been instrumental in developing several changes to the health and science curriculum which were approved in December.

Mountainside was visited by a bear May 12-14. The 200-pound black male was tracked to the Deerfield School, prompting a local evacuation. Members of the borough police and the state Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife used peanut butter and a tranquilizer dart to help capture and return him to Sussex County.

The Borough Council unanimously approved the municipal budget for 1997-98 May 20. The budget was highlighted by a decrease in property tax payments. Residents would pay

\$3.31 per \$100 of assessed value on homes, down five cents from last year.

Summer

The summer of 1997 started with a bang thanks to a free Fourth of July fireworks ceremony at Deerfield School grounds. Residents complained that they had been slighted the previous year, as a ceremony was not held locally. Members of the Borough Council and the Mountainside Volunteer Fire Department put up \$10,000 to make the pyrotechnics happen.

July also marked the conviction and sentencing of the infamous "Match Burglar." Rafeem Abdul-Samad, 42, of East Orange, was found guilty of a series of burglaries in Mountainside and neighboring towns

and sentenced to 20 years imprisonment. Abdul-Samad earned his nickname by lighting matches to see in the dark homes he was burglarizing. The matches were left on the floors of the homes, making his trail easier for the police to follow.

An application by the New Jersey Department of Transportation to put up a 120-foot cellular communications tower in the Route 22 center island was denied by the Borough Council July 8. Mayor Vigilanti was among those opposing the application and formulated ordinances restricting cellular towers. NJDOT would counter by proposing tower sites on state highways in December, including one on Route 22.
See AUTUMN, Page 3

Affordable housing issue lingers

(Continued from Page 1)
 over a decade, intends to improve Springfield's shopping and business environment.

August

- Over 60 local, county, state, and federal officials responded to Assemblyman Joel Weingarten's call for a brainstorming session on Rahway River flooding in Millburn Aug. 1. Weingarten, fellow Assemblyman Kevin O'Toole and state Sen. Louis Bassano, all R-Union, held the meeting in response to an eight-inch rainstorm which flooded the area on July 24 and 25.

From that multilateral session came a flooding correction plan. New Jersey Department of Transportation and county public works teams began clearing the riverbed of debris and silt in September. Timetables to finish engineering and start reconstruction of the Morris Avenue/Route 82 bridge were sped up. A bill authorization to create a Rahway River valley flood group passed the State House Dec. 15 and awaits Governor Whitman's signature.

September

- An off-duty Newark police officer shot an Irvington man to death during an attempted car theft at the General Greene Village apartments Sept. 5. The officer, William Connolly, who resided in the complex at the time, fired two rounds into the windshield of his

own Jeep after the car thief tried to run him over. The would-be thief, Troy Holmes, was pronounced dead at the scene.

October

- About 200 people joined the Township Committee in discussing concerns over the Bojczuk Stone property Oct. 6. Many of the attendees were neighbors who were concerned about traffic, density and quality of life issues should a multiple housing development be built on the Bojczuk family-owned tract.

The 17-acre parcel, which borders Route 22 West, is the largest plot upon which a developer may build townhouses or apartments. Springfield hopes that, should a developer begin building, a portion would be reserved so that the township can meet its 153 affordable housing unit obligation.

The year saw some of the housing puzzle pieces come together with the approval of NJ Connect to build 14 units on Hillside Avenue and the pending construction of Columbia Court townhouses on Springfield Avenue. B'nai B'rith scouted several areas for its proposed senior citizens building.

November

- Springfield voters chose to return Democrats Greg Clarke and Roy Hirschfeld to the Township Committee over Republicans Kevin Scholla and Thomas Ryan Nov. 4. Clarke received 2,856 votes and

Hirschfeld 2,845 votes to Scholla's 2,095 votes and Ryan's 2,053 votes. Scholla and Ryan ran for their first political offices while Clarke and Hirschfeld sought their first re-election bids.

Voters also passed a question that could lead to the extension of Township Committee members' terms to four years, 1,860 votes to 1,659. The non-binding referendum could eliminate a 203-year tradition of annual elections. A formal resolution has been introduced Dec. 9 by the committee for public hearing Dec. 9 and, should the it be approved, has to be forwarded to the state Legislature for a charter revision.

December

- The Township Committee introduced a capital budget amendment bill on Dec. 9, which include an additional \$114,000 to be put toward the Chisholm School renovation. The proposed appropriation is the second addition to the \$1.4 million project, following a \$15,000 overrun for an asbestos detection worker in September.

Construction work to remodel the school began again in August, after a decade of debate. The 1920s-era structure and its additions had also been used as a youth center before an asbestos hazard was detected. The center, which is owned by the Recreation Department and run by the Summit YMCA,

Autumn swept in educational change

(Continued from Page 1)

- Acting Deerfield Principal and former Vice Principal Audrey Zavetz, resigned July 15 after seven years' service. J. Michael Sutcliffe was appointed to succeed Zavetz as the new vice principal. Zavetz became principal at Glenwood Elementary School in Millburn Sept. 1.

Superintendent of Schools Leonard Baccaro also announced his intention to resign the same month after leading the district for 11 years. The Board of Education would hire Dr. Gerard Schaller as Chief School Administrator, a post created to take over the responsibilities held by Baccaro and Zavetz. Baccaro was asked to stay on for transitory reasons until June 30, 1998.

- Borough resident Nicole Marie Caprioglio, was crowned Miss Junior America Pre-Teen at its annual pageant in Parsippany. Caprioglio, 12, went up against 91 other contestants in different categories from across the country.

- Some of Mountainside's neighbors got some drought relief when the New Jersey American Water Company lifted its consumption restrictions Sept. 2. According to Elaine Shapiro of the New Jersey American Water Company, "The reservoirs were never dangerously low, people were using water almost faster than we could pump it." The Borough watered its lawns throughout the summer as utility Elizabethtown Water maintained high reservoir levels.

Autumn

- Deerfield added computers to its classrooms Sept. 11, signifying the new era of information technology in the district. Five computers per classroom are to be employed from the fourth through eighth grades. This goal was outlined in the Deerfield Technology Committee five-year

plan, which was approved by the board in December.

- Dr. Schaller was formally appointed as Chief School Administrator by the board Sept. 11. Schaller had served as assistant superintendent of schools in the West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District. Board of Education President Pat Taeschler said Schaller was the borough's first choice for the position.

- Educational changes weren't limited to the primary school level, however, as Governor Livingston High School officially dropped "Regional" from its name Sept. 20. The change recognizes the dissolution of the Union County Regional High School District. Governor Livingston, a product of the old four-school, six-town region, was absorbed by the Berkeley Heights school district. Mountainside, as in the past, continues to send its teenagers to the high school.

- Renovations to Borough Hall were completed by Sept. 22. The new look includes a room on the top floor that is now available to private and public organizations for a nominal fee. Residents were concerned about what parking limitations the meeting room might present, but no major parking layout changes have been made to date.

- The Board of Education set their 1997-98 school year goals before the public Oct. 7. Changes in classroom curriculum included a creation of a writing folder and a concentration on algebraic concepts for grades five through eight. The alterations were spurred by the district's overall poor performance as a whole on the 1996 statewide Early Warning Test for eighth graders.

- The Mountainside Newcomers Club supported National Breast Cancer Awareness Month by taking a walk at Liberty State Park Oct. 19.

The walk was a five-mile course created by the American Cancer Society as fundraiser. Proceeds for "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" went to research.

- Mountainside voters re-elected Republican candidates Ron Romak and Tom Perotta to the Borough Council Nov. 4. Romak and Perotta garnered more votes than Democrat challengers Michael Krassner and Steven Brociner by a three to two margin. Their victories kept all six council seats in Republican hands for another year.

Krassner and Brociner, emphasizing diversity and bipartisan representation, sought to end the 102-year-old solid rule. They charged the incumbents refused to debate them on current issues and not allowing the Borough Council meetings to be televised.

- The Governor Livingston High School Highlanders marched off with two major band championships on Nov. 8-9. Band Director Daniel Kopcha, who has headed the band for the past 26 years, led the musicians to first place in the Atlantic Coast Championships and the Group II Open Championships, the latter held in Grant Stadium. Participants in these competitions came from 14 states, from Rhode Island to Virginia. The Highlanders are 52 students from Mountainside and Berkeley Heights.

- The Echo Leader printed its first issue Nov. 20, the result of a merger of the Mountainside Echo and the Springfield Leader.

- The Board of Education approved new guidelines for its health curriculum Dec. 9. There will be an increased emphasis on subjects as AIDS education and prevention of sexual assault as a result of the new state Department of Education curriculum mandates.

Man charges officer with vehicle

Mountainside

An East Orange man faces charges of eluding and aggressively assaulting a Mountainside police officer during a car chase on Route 22 West Sunday night.

Officer Richard Latargia noticed a car weaving in the right lane at 10:40 p.m. He discovered that the car's license plates and registration didn't match and ordered the driver to pull over. The operator sped toward Watchung instead, starting a police pursuit.

Latargia, joined by Watchung Police, chased the car until it spun in the West End Avenue exit ramp in North Plainfield. Its driver made a 180-degree turn to face and charge

POLICE BLOTTER

Latargia's car. Latargia evaded the oncoming car and, with other patrol cars, boxed the vehicle.

The driver, identified as Al-Kabir Owens, 19, was being held in Mountainside. Borough authorities are checking Owens' claim that he had been on an Essex County work release program. Owens, pending investigation, may remain in Mountainside or be transferred to either Essex or Union County jails.

- A Central Avenue home owner noticed that someone had taken a Santa Claus flag, valued at \$45, from the

front of the residence sometime overnight Dec. 24. Another resident said that someone lifted a plastic Virgin Mary statue from a Wyoming Drive nativity scene that same night.

- About \$900 in damage was done to a pickup truck parked in a residential lot off Route 22 Dec. 24. The owner reported that someone broke into the truck, stole a fire extinguisher and defaced the dashboard sometime before 9:30 a.m.

- A borough resident entered police headquarters Dec. 23 to report a missing or stolen checkbook. She said the checkbook may have disappeared while she was out walking at about 4:30 p.m.

Bagger's office open on Saturdays

The legislative office of Assemblyman Richard H. Bagger will be open to residents of Mountainside from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

In addition to regular business hours on weekdays and one Saturday per month, Assemblyman Bagger's office, located at 203 Elm Street,

Westfield, is open from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Thursdays.

Further information may be obtained by calling Bagger's legislative office at (908) 232-3673.

Mountainside residents with access to the Internet now have the ability to

contact Assemblyman Richard Bagger through his new electronic mailbox located on the World Wide Web.

Bagger from Westfield can be reached through e-mail at the following address:
 amrbagger@worldnet.att.net

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 9:30-11 AM

For reservations call the office of admissions. 908-272-3400

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WC-WE-12317-A

WORSHIP CALENDAR

BAPTIST

EVANGEL BAPTIST CHURCH - "CHRIST OUR HOPE AND PEACE" - 242 Shumpike Rd. Springfield. Rev. Frederick Mackey, Sr. Pastor.

EPISCOPAL

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, 119 Main Street, Millburn. (973) 376-0688. A block from Springfield Center.

JEWISH-CONSERVATIVE

TEMPLE BETH AHM 60 Temple Drive, Springfield. 374-0539. Perry Raymer, Rabbi.

SUMMIT JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

273-8130 William B. Horn, Rabbi. Janet Roth Krupnick, Cantor. Joyce Wilson, President.

JEWISH - ORTHODOX

CONGREGATION ISRAEL 339 Mountain Avenue, Springfield 201-467-9666. Daily services are 6:30 A.M. and 7:15 A.M.

JEWISH - REFORM

TEMPLE SHALOM 78 S. Springfield Avenue, Springfield. (201) 379-5387. Joshua Goldstein, Rabbi.

LUTHERAN

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH 639 Mountain Avenue, Springfield. 201-379-8887. Joel R. Woss, Pastor.

METHODIST

THE SPRINGFIELD EMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, located on 40 Church Mall in Springfield, NJ invites people of all ages and backgrounds.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Summit is located in the heart of town on the corner of Kent Place Boulevard and DeForest Avenue. The Sabbath is observed starting at 9:15 AM with Christian Education.

PRESBYTERIAN

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 210 Morris Ave at Church Mall, Springfield. 379-4320. Sunday School classes for all ages.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JAMES, 45 South Springfield Avenue, Springfield, New Jersey 07081. 201-376-3044.

Man arrested for DWI

Springfield

The parking lot of Sam's Farm on South Springfield Avenue was the scene of an arrest and a flight within the same week.

The flight occurred shortly after a minor two-car accident on the avenue Friday. When the driver of a Toyota Corolla pulled into the lot to exchange information with the driver of a Jeep wagon at about 6:52 p.m., the driver of the Jeep fled.

The driver of a Volkswagen Jetta said he lost control while rounding a bend on eastbound Mount View Road about 8:11 p.m. Friday. The car

POLICE BLOTTER

crossed the road and hit a tree approaching Tree Top Drive, injuring all four occupants. The VW was towed and its driver issued a summons for careless driving.

Slick conditions were also blamed for an Oldsmobile driver who lost control of his vehicle on eastbound Shumpike Road, skidding onto the front lawn of a residence across from the Baultrol Golf Course at 3 a.m. Dec. 25. His car was also towed away.

A resident of a Milltown Drive dwelling discovered he was the target of an attempted break in Dec. 24. He came home at about 2 a.m. to find his front door and moulding kicked in. Nothing was taken.

An error in judgment by a Mitsubishi motorist led to more than an accident on South Springfield Avenue Dec. 24. The Mitsubishi's driver said he thought the Toyota Corolla exiting Ruby Street would stop for him at about 3:03 p.m. Police then found that the driver was not carrying insurance and he was accordingly ticketed.

A pair of two-car rear-end crashes occurred over a four hour period on the South Springfield Avenue ramp for Route 22 East on Dec. 23. The first incident happened at about 3:40 p.m. when a Toyota stopped and a Chevrolet apparently did not the second, between a Mercury and a Mercedes-Benz, happened the same way at about 7:50 p.m.

Firefighters extricate driver after hit and run

Springfield

Springfield's firefighters assisted the township's police and first aid units in handling three motor vehicle accidents over a five-day period.

The first call came to extricate an injured Oldsmobile Cutlass driver on Route 22 West by Stern Avenue at about 8:50 p.m. Dec. 16. The Cutlass driver was the first of five victims in a series of hit-and-run accidents reportedly by an Oldsmobile wagon driver that have occurred in the area.

A fire engine came to upright a Case backhoe on the northbound Fern Road ramp from 22 East at about 4:30 p.m. Dec. 19. The backhoe, according to police records, lost control while entering the ramp and fell atop a southbound Acura Integra with four people aboard.

An engine unit helped treat five people who were injured when their New Jersey Transit Route No. 114 bus was rear-ended by a rental truck on northbound Mountain Avenue about four hours later.

The department responded to an accident between a Volkswagen and tractor trailer on Route 78 West at about 8:23 a.m. Dec. 19. One person was injured. They lent a water pumper truck to the Union Fire Department at about 8:52 a.m. as that township's firefighters battled a house blaze on Indiana Street. Other incidents that day included helping a resident who was locked out at an Ashwood Road residence at 2:15 p.m. and responding to a carbon monoxide detector call that sounded from a Greenhill Road house at 10:10 p.m.

All units responded to an activated fire alarm at Jonathan Dayton High School at about 5:50 p.m. Dec. 18 and for smoke in a Hillside Avenue basement at about 8:20 p.m. Firefighters walked to the Municipal Building's second floor to investigate an odor at about 10:30 p.m.

One unit assisted first aiders in helping a Pontiac driver after an accident on the corner of South Springfield

FIRE BLOTTER

field avenue and Lynn Drive at about 5 p.m. Dec. 17. Calls that day include a medical service assistance call from a Highlands Avenue residence at about 8:20 a.m. and for rubbish burning at a South Springfield Avenue home at 8 a.m.

All-hands responded to a fire alarm at a business on Route 22 at 1 a.m. Dec. 14 and to a similar call from a Morris Avenue apartment at 3:40 a.m.

Mountainside

Firefighters assisted borough police in clearing an accident on Route 22 East at the Parkway intersection Sunday.

A Suzuki Samurai lost control and collided with a tree, puncturing its fuel tank and injuring its driver. Fire personnel plugged and cleared the leak while the Mountainside Volunteer First Aid Squad transported the driver to a local hospital.

Mountainside's volunteer fire department visited Brighton Gardens twice in four days. The first call to the assisted living center was for smoke fumes from a burned bagel in an apartment at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 21. Units returned Christmas Day when a smoke detector in a kitchen went off at 11 a.m.

Smoke detectors went off at the Deerfield School and at a Chapel Hill home Christmas Eve. While the home detector was found to be malfunctioning at 3:30 p.m., firefighters found heavy smoke in a school classroom at 6 a.m. An investigation at Deerfield revealed that a heater element was emitting hot dust, setting fire to the heater's filter.

Mountainside's bravest were treated to a serving of a hot Volvo at the Spanish Tavern on Route 22 East Dec. 20. What was originally reported as a bar fire at 7:30 a.m., however, turned out to be smoke from an oil leak.

Who Will It Be? Are You Expecting A Special Delivery? FIRST BABY OF '98 CONTEST. IT'S GOING TO BE A BEAUTIFUL BABY. Raffle tickets available at participating businesses.

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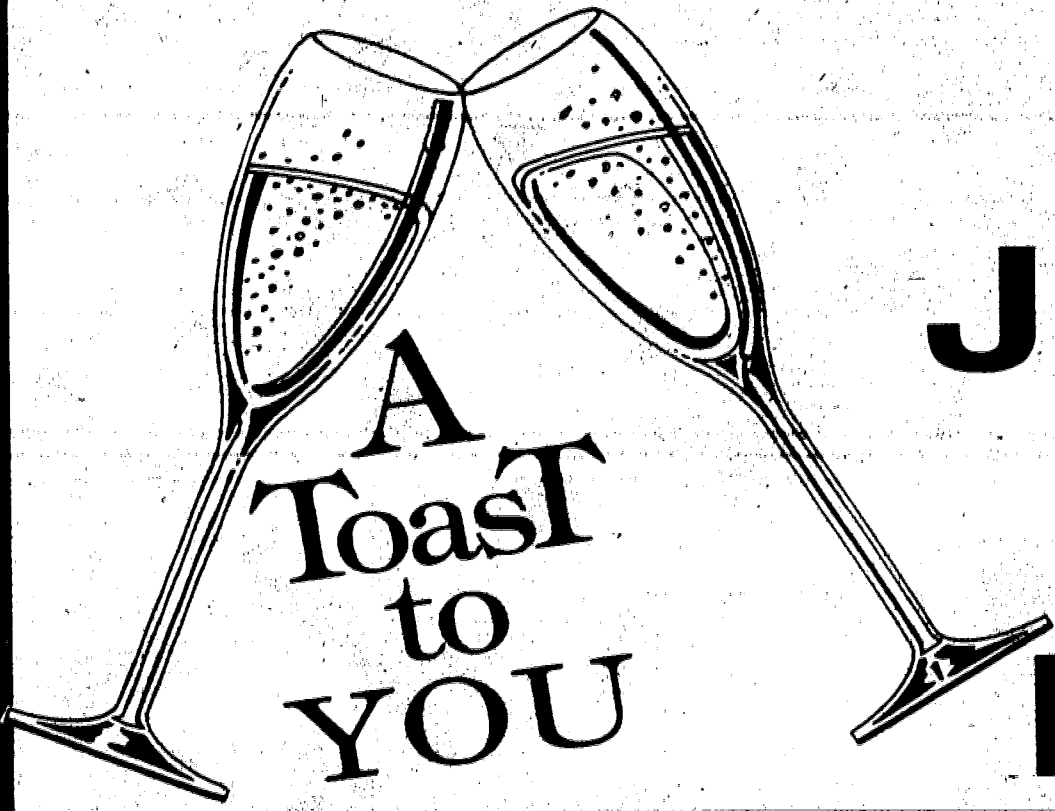
PUBLIC NOTICE. SHERIFF'S SALE. SHERIFF'S NUMBER CH-753482. COUNTY CHANCERY.

PUBLIC NOTICE. FULL LEGAL DESCRIPTION IS FILED AT THE UNION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

PUBLIC NOTICE. SHERIFF'S SALE. SHERIFF'S NUMBER CH-753482. COUNTY CHANCERY. SALE DATE: WEDNESDAY THE 21ST DAY OF JANUARY A.D. 1998.

PUBLIC NOTICE. BOROUGHS OF MOUNTAINSIDE. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE Mountainside Board of Adjustment will hold a public meeting on Monday, January 12, 1998.

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MITSUBISHI BIG SCREEN TELEVISIONS

VS-5047 50" Slim Big Screen with Advanced PIP and Built-In VCR Storage

The 50" VS-5047 features a built-in VCR storage shelf and is finished in Black Diamond gray. A 3 language ViewPoint™ on-screen menu system provides on-screen guidance to most all TV operations.



45" Slim Big Screens with Two-Tuner Advanced PIP

These 45" Big Screens make a striking addition to any room or Home Theater system. Two-tuner advanced PIP allows viewing of two programs at the same time without using a VCR's tuner. Advanced features include high-performance CRTs, color temperature control and IRIS™ light sensor.

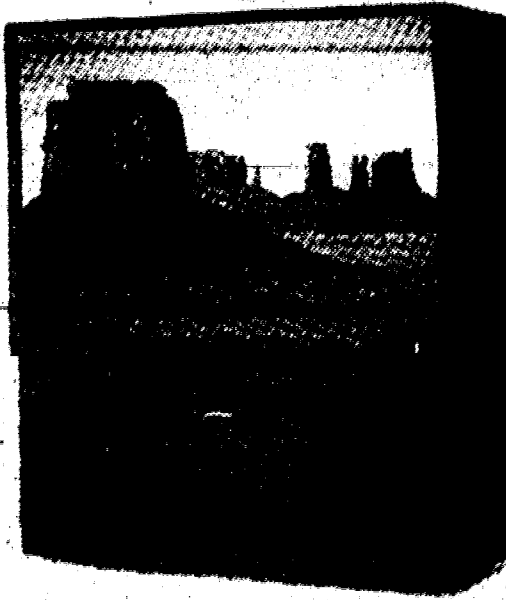
VS-45501



VS-45502

VS-55601 55" Slim Big Screen with Two-Tuner advanced PIP and TV GUIDE Plus+

Finished in Black Diamond gray, the VS-55601 features TV GUIDE Plus+. This on-screen programming guide allows viewing of any time slot over a 48-hour period, or if desired, 48-hours of programming for any one channel plus one-button recording.



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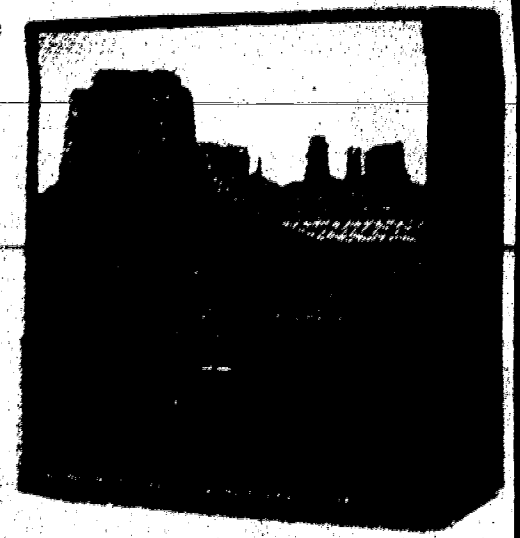
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VS-60601

60" Slim Big Screen with Two-Tuner Advanced PIP and TV GUIDE Plus+

The VS-60601 is finished in Black Diamond gray. The Two-tuner advanced PIP allows 2 video sources to be viewed at the same time without the need for a second external tuner. TV GUIDE Plus+ delivers instant on-screen program information and simplifies VCR recording.



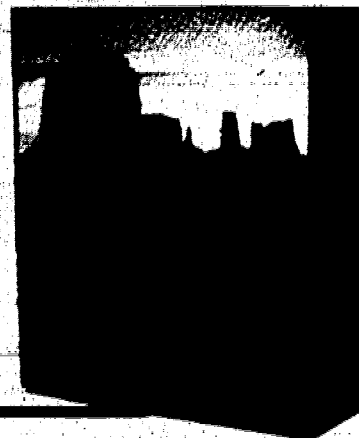
VS-60621 60" Slim Big Screen with Two-Tuner, Advanced PIP, Built-In VCR Storage and TV GUIDE Plus+

Finished in Black Diamond gray, the VS-60621 has a built-in VCR storage shelf with glass doors. The 6-element, multi-coated, high-speed hybrid lens system reduces surface reflections and delivers improved contrast performance.



VS-70601 70" Slim Big Screen with Two-Tuner Advanced PIP and TV GUIDE Plus+

The slim, 2-piece split-cabinet design enables easy set-up for the 70" VS-70601. The black-tint, black-matrix lenticular screen improves overall picture contrast under most ambient room light conditions. This high-performance television features TV GUIDE Plus+, Active A/V Network and a host of other features.



VS-8087

80" Slim Big Screen with Two-Tuner Advanced PIP and StarSight™

The VS-8087 is Mitsubishi's largest rear-projection Big Screen television. The 3D Y/C comb filter ensures a clear, sharp picture. It uses 9" CRTs for optimum brightness and focus at all areas of the screen. StarSight™ on-screen program guide provides rapid tuning and one-button VCR recording. The ViewPoint™ III on-screen menu system has large graphic icons which can be incorporated for quick, visual confirmation. The Black Diamond gray, split-cabinet design is designed so it can be separated into two parts to make delivery and set-up easier. An integrated DiamondShield™ with a scratch-resistant surface is included to protect the picture screen. This acrylic shield is tinted within the shield to improve contrast.



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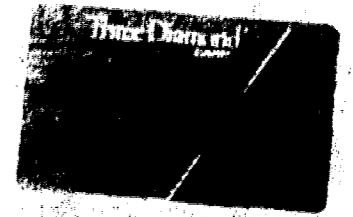
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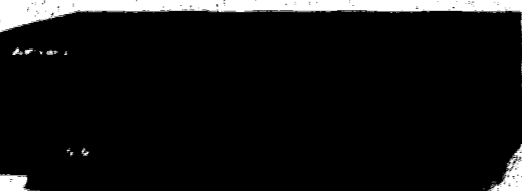
MITSUBISHI M-VR400 A/V Receiver

For an exciting Home Theater experience, the M-VR400 provides superb sound quality, sufficient power output and precise Dolby® Pro Logic® surround decoding. For convenience, its Auto Standby features sense TV operation and automatically turns the receiver on and off as needed.



MITSUBISHI M-VR600 A/V Receiver

The M-VR600 is designed for the Home Theater enthusiast. Its discrete-transistor power amplifier circuitry can drive virtually any set of surround speakers to move theater-like levels. It has inputs for DVD and camcorders. The pre-programmed remote can turn on your entire home theater system: receiver, subwoofer, CD player and TV.

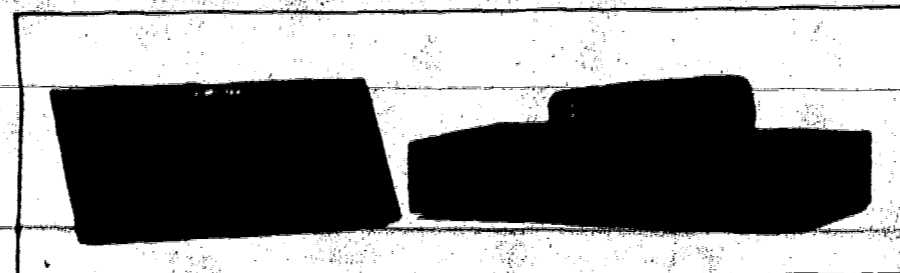


MITSUBISHI Dolby® Digital AV Receiver

The super-sounding AV receiver is the central element of an advanced Home Theater system. It has multiple inputs and outputs to accommodate today's analog and tomorrow's digital sources. The digital signal processor decodes Dolby Digital audio signals from DVD players and future digital TV broadcasts, and also provides high performance Dolby Pro Logic® decoding. The power amplifier section has five vertical channels with the same low distortion, low noise specifications.



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RELIGION

Drive for sneakers

Through the generosity of Springfield residents and the organization of Temple Beth Ahm and the Dominican Republic, over 60 youths who participate in the Caribbean country's basketball league will have sneakers to wear this holiday season.

The synagogue's caretaker, Tony Ravelo, a native of the Dominican Republic, arranged for the shoes to be flown back to the country free of shipping charges on Dominicana Airlines.

ball Association, who plans to distribute the shoes to needy, deserving youngsters 16-years-old and under when he returns to his country next week.

The Dominican Republic, home to over eight million residents, is located on the island of Hispaniola in the West Indies.

Temple Beth Ahm Youth Chairman Linda Lieb commented on the moral impact of the sneaker drive: "Our children are learning to help those in need, and at the same time are allowing them to share in some of the advantages we take for granted."

AT THE LIBRARY

Donor quilt displayed

The New Jersey Organ and Tissue Sharing Network is proud to display a quilt made up by the families of organ donors at the Springfield Free Public Library until Friday.

Each square in this quilt was created to honor the memory and to celebrate the life of their loved one.

Library donations

The Friends of the Springfield Public Library would like donations of used paperback novels, and magazines within a year's date.

Maroon caps with the Springfield Library logo are on sale in the library.

The Friends of the Springfield Public Library are holding their bi-annual meeting on Jan. 16 at 1:30 p.m. The snow date is Jan. 23 at 1:30 p.m.

The Springfield Library is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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

OBITUARIES

Kate Blumenfeld

Kate Blumenfeld of Elizabeth, formerly of Springfield, died Dec. 16 in Elizabeth General Medical Center, Elizabeth.

Born in New York City, Mrs. Blumenfeld lived in Newark, Irvington and Springfield before moving to Elizabeth four years ago.

Surviving are her husband of 73 years, Max; a daughter, Rita Cohen; a son, Adrian; a sister, Tillie Greenspan; five grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Anne Levine

Anne Levine, 82, of West Orange, formerly of Hillside and Springfield, died Dec. 16 in St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston.

Born in Newark, Mrs. Levine lived in Hillside and Springfield before moving to West Orange two years ago. She was a saleswoman for Helen Hirsch, a women's store in West Orange, for many years and retired nine years ago.

Levine had worked for the Malvina clothing store in Springfield. Mrs. Levine was past president of the Hillside Chapter of the Organization for Rehabilitation Through Training.

Surviving are two daughters, Barbara Roseff and Linda Bryer; a brother, Michael Bierstein; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Jennie Anna Arena

Jennie Anna Arena, 87, of Springfield died Dec. 21 in the Theo House, Elizabeth.

Born in Italy, Mrs. Arena lived in Brooklyn before moving to Springfield 20 years ago.

Surviving are a daughter, Jean Coste; three sons, Joseph, Eugene and Steven; a sister, Mary DeTurris; and eight grandchildren.

Lynn Beth Herre

Lynn Beth Herre, 45, of Springfield died Dec. 22 in the Glenside Nursing Center, New Providence.

Born in Newark, Mrs. Herre lived in Connecticut and Florida before moving to Springfield six years ago. She was a flower designer for two years at Patina's Florist in Maplewood.

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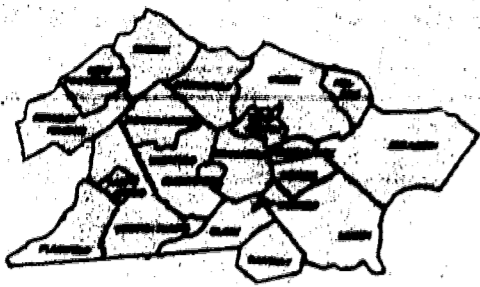
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WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1997 - SECTION B

<http://www.localsource.com>

Governor visits to open seniors facility

Gov. Christine Whitman gathered recently with more than 100 health care professionals, hospital representatives and public officials to celebrate the ribbon-cutting for the new Special Needs Wing at Senior Quarters at Cranford.

The 50-bed Special Needs Wing was developed to serve seniors in the beginning stages of Alzheimer's Disease and other cognitive disorders.

"I am proud to be here today to dedicate such an important facility as this one," Whitman said. "One of the greatest responsibilities we all share is ensuring the well-being of our senior citizen community. By working together, we can all make certain that we achieve that goal."

Whitman was joined in the ribbon-cutting ceremony by Kapson Senior Quarters Corp. President Evan A. Kaplan, Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas; former Gov. Thomas Kean; Cranford Mayor Bob Hoefler; and Peggy Kluesener, administrator at Senior Quarters at Cranford.

"Maintaining dignity, independence and individuality is important for all seniors, and that is equally true for persons with Alzheimer's and related disorders," Kaplan said. "At Senior Quarters, we're committed to helping our residents enjoy the quality of life that they deserve. The addition of this Special Needs Wing is the latest example of that commitment."

Built by McAlpine Construction Company of Northport, NY, the Senior Quarters Special Needs



Gov. Christine Whitman, center, cuts the ribbon opening the Special Needs Wing at Senior Quarters in Cranford. The facility is intended for seniors in the beginning stages of Alzheimer's Disease and other cognitive disorders. Next to the governor, from left: Assemblyman Alan Augustine and state Sen. Donald DiFrancesco, both R-Union; Cranford Mayor Bob Hoefler; Kapson Senior Quarters President Evan Kaplan; Sen Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas; and Kapson Vice Chairman Wayne Kaplan.

Wing offers premium accommodations for its residents and will provide a comprehensive package of services for a single monthly fee, including 24-hour personal care assistance, health and wellness monitoring, daily meals served in a restaurant-styled dining room, and

complete housekeeping, laundry and linen services. In addition, Special Needs residents will benefit from high-quality programs specifically designed to meet their physical and emotional needs.

To meet the needs of residents with cognitive disorders, Senior

Quarters will maintain higher staffing levels at the new Special Needs Wing. Senior Quarters also employs staff members with specialized knowledge, who conduct free "Coping & Caring" support group meetings monthly for family and friends.

Residents may gain tool in noise debate

New technology that could assist in developing and evaluating aircraft routing proposals was demonstrated recently by Glenn Bales of Geospec Inc., consultant to the statewide citizens' group the New Jersey Coalition Against Aircraft Noise.

The software allows radar data from the FAA's Automated Terminal Radar System to be displayed on a personal computer. The geographic location of aircraft can be superimposed over highways, roads, terrain and to show the geographic location of aircraft and noise, impacts caused by each flight path on specific homes, hospitals, schools, police stations and communities. The technology will display the flight paths that can offer the most effective noise abatement procedure for a given region.

Developed by Le Tech Inc., the computer software will provide hard data on routes for citizens, elected officials, Continental Airlines, the Port Authority and the Federal Aviation Administration. Pamela Barsam-Brown, executive director of NJCAAN, stated, "This will allow route designs to be judged on merit and will minimize if not eliminate, the false and misleading information which has fueled meritless controversies in the past."

Introduction of the computer software comes at a time when public and political sensitivities have been heightened, encouraging Continental Airlines, the PA and the FAA to seek a solution to the aircraft noise problem over New Jersey and Staten Island.

Licensing for the software technology called the "Radar and Noise Management System" may be obtained from Le Tech Inc. located in Alexandria, Va. Members of the governor's staff, members of the New Jersey delegation, and representatives from the Eastern Region, Federal Aviation Administration and Port Authority of New York and New Jersey were present at the demonstration.

Cooperation is plan regarding local river

Rahway River flooding is issue

Earlier this month, a meeting sponsored by Assemblymen Joel Weingarten and Kevin O'Toole and Sen. C. Louis Bassano was held with representatives from around Union and Essex counties to address flooding issues regarding the Rahway River, and to discuss progress since July of this year.

Representatives came from Springfield, Union, Essex County, Millburn, Millburn, Essex County, and the Department of Transportation.

Major initiatives which have borne fruit include:

Bridge Replacement and Repair: The state Department of Transportation announced that both Essex and Union counties were granted \$175,000 of discretionary state aid for the design engineering of the Vauxhall Road Bridge replacement and Millburn Avenue Bridge deck raising.

Essex County's engineer agreed to take the lead in managing the engineering phase of these projects. DOT's Al Maiocchi will investigate the process for acquisition of state funding from the construction phase.

The State DOT allocated \$200,000 from DOT Trust Fund for the scoping process of the Route 82 Bridge replacement. The Union County engineer has agreed to take the lead in managing the engineering phase of this project.

De-Snagging and De-Silting:

Wendy Kuser Molner stated the state DOT monitors the river and will perform desnagging after major storms when necessary.

DOT has commenced sampling of the silt at the Route 82 bridge and expects to have the sampling completed soon, and the associated analysis completed thereafter.

Legislation: Each municipality will discuss submitting a Resolution to Senate President Donald DiFrancesco to request passage of A-665, which creates the Upper Rahway River Intergovernmental Cooperation Committee. A-665, sponsored by Assemblymen Richard Bagger and Weingarten, has passed the General Assembly and was referred to the Senate Community Affairs Committee.

Early warning system: Essex County met with Essex municipalities to help structure a plan, which is scheduled for completion in March.

Michael Cox, of Killam Associates, is compiling costs of participation for Union County municipalities.

The system is targeted for installation and testing by September.

Bank Restoration: Former Freeholder Linda DiGiovanni has submitted a Natural Resource Soil Conservation Service form on behalf of Union County requesting assistance in funding for improvements to the banks of the Rahway River.

County rethinks its use of pesticides

Union County's government recently added a two-day seminar to its training series on how to implement integrated pest management strategies: "The Basics of Landscape Integrated Pest Management."

Eight county employees from the Division of Parks and Recreation joined other New Jersey professionals from the public and private sectors for this certification course on tree and shrub management, which was held at the county's Waichung Stables in Mountainside.

In his opening remarks, Freeholder Henry Kurz, liaison to the Environmental Health Advisory Board, told the participants that this program was an important new addition to the management of pesticides in Union County—one he would like to see implemented throughout the county.

"The long-term effects of chemicals historically used on a routine basis are now being judged deleterious to the environment, and to people," Kurz said.

"As we move into the new millennium, pest control and management are vital," he said. "The county needs to show the way, and I am particularly glad to see a good representation of our county employees at this seminar."

The course, co-sponsored by the county's Bureau of Environmental Affairs and Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County, was made possible by a resolution sponsored by Kurz to adopt an IPM policy that was passed by the Board of Chosen Freeholders two years ago. A one-day seminar focusing on indoor and outdoor pest management was held last year.

County and municipal employees who maintain public parks, recreational areas or grounds were encouraged to attend, as well as landscape and turf management professionals interested in offering their customers an effective alternative to frequent pesticide applications.

Freeholder Daniel Sullivan, who

serves as liaison to the Union County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, presented the certificates to the participants at the completion of the course.

"Every citizen has the responsibility to protect our environment, to ensure our quality of life, and the health and well-being of future generations. The county's IPM strategies include replacing traditional pesticides and herbicides by adopting biological methods, performing spot treatment instead of treating an entire golf course for a disease and using less toxic chemicals when pesticides are needed," Sullivan said.

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection offers pesticide recertification credits for those who complete the course. Additional certification courses are slated for 1998.

Homeowners, professionals and the general public who are interested in learning more about current practices in controlling landscape and turf pests

and disease can attend a variety of upcoming seminars:

Turf Day on Jan. 6, followed by Tree Day, on Jan. 7, at Morris County College.

Bedding Plant Grower/Garden Center Management Day will be held on Feb. 6, and Landscape Day will be held on Feb. 11, at Valley Regency Caterers in Clifton.

These seminars are given as part of the North Jersey Ornamental Horticulture Conference, sponsored by Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County.

Registration is required. A small registration fee will be charged.

For more information on these programs, call Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County at (908) 654-9854, or the Union County Bureau of Environmental Affairs at (908) 654-9890.

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A night on the town is easier through NJT, MSG promotion

NJ Transit and Madison Square Garden are teaming up to offer spectacular promotions for fun-filled evenings in New York, including the family musical "A Christmas Carol" at the Paramount Theatre.

NJ Transit is offering discounts to four major events with savings of \$2, \$3 and \$5 off the price of tickets. NJ Transit is also offering free roundtrip bus or rail transportation to the Port Authority Bus Terminal and Penn Station New York respectively, when patrons purchase tickets for non-speak performances to "A Christmas Carol."

In addition, to receive the discount to the Garden events, patrons must purchase a full price event ticket and present a discount flyer will be distributed on buses and trains and will be available at Customer Service centers in Newark Penn Station, Penn Station New York and Hoboken Terminal on week before each event.

- St. John's Basketball — through February, 1998 at the arena
- Sesame Street Live! — Feb. 12 through March 1, 1998 at the theater
- Harlem Globetrotters — Feb. 15, 1998 at the arena.

To receive free transportation tickets to "A Christmas Carol," customers must ask for the "NJ Transit/Christmas Carol" package. NJ Transit transportation tickets will be sent with the show tickets and are non-refundable. Transportation tickets are valid only on the day the show.

Tickets may be purchased through the Madison Square Garden Box Office or through Ticketmaster at (212) 367-4111 or (201) 567-8999. Tickets purchased through Ticketmaster are subject to a surcharge. Transportation tickets will be sent with the show tickets and are valid only on the day of the show. These tickets are non-refundable. For showtime information, call (212) 465-1330-1.

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Just say 'Yes!' to healthy New Year's resolutions

How are you doing on those New Year's resolutions? Soon it will be time to peel away layers of winter clothing and face the naked truth. For years we've taken health consciousness to mean cutting certain "villains" out of our lifestyle, counting calories, calculating grams of fat. Oh, how dreary the idea of deprivation. Instead, look for ways to do things you enjoy and do them more often. Here are some upbeat ideas to which you can "just say yes!"

• Exercise — This doesn't have to mean the "treadmill." Get outdoors and enjoy all that nature has to offer. Go for a stroll, jog around the neighborhood or escape along a stream bed, canal, out-of-use railroad track, hiking trail, nature path or bike route. If you're surrounded by snow, cross-country skiing on a trail or golf course offers an invigorating low-impact experience. Enjoy the peace of solitude or bring along a friend and enjoy the camaraderie.

• Clear your mind — Whether it is through meditation, deep breathing, yoga, Tai Chi, steaming bath, stretch in a sauna or quiet reflection in a cozy armchair, take some time each day to stop what you're doing, turn off all the noise, and refocus your thoughts. Even as little as five to ten minutes of peaceful solitude can be tremendously restorative and energizing.

• Laugh — Look for the humor in commonplace situations. Ever notice that we laugh heartiest when comedians poke fun at our own experiences? Studies have found that we can feel better simply by forming a smile.

• Surround yourself with good scents. Certain aromas can have a profound effect on our moods, clarity of thinking, energy level and state of mind. Lavender and eucalyptus promote relaxation, while peppermint and eucalyptus are stimulating. Citrus can act as a tonic and a stimulant.

Dont' 'drop the ball' on New Year's Day Brunch

After the ball has dropped on Times Square and you have finished two magnums of champagne, come to The Office Beer Bar & Grill for their All-You-Can-Eat New Year's Day Brunch. This special Brunch Buffet will be served from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Jan. 1. Regular menu is available at noon.

This special brunch includes everything you'll need to help cure that hangover! Start at the Carving Station for fresh roasted meats, including turkey or roast beef. Next, move to the Omelet Station for fresh, custom-made egg creations, the Pasta Sauce Station for pasta dishes and the Belgian Waffle Station, all cooked to order. Then to the abundant buffet table for french toast, home fries, bacon, sausage, salads, fruit, breads and other freshly prepared dishes. Fresh juices, coffee and tea are also included.

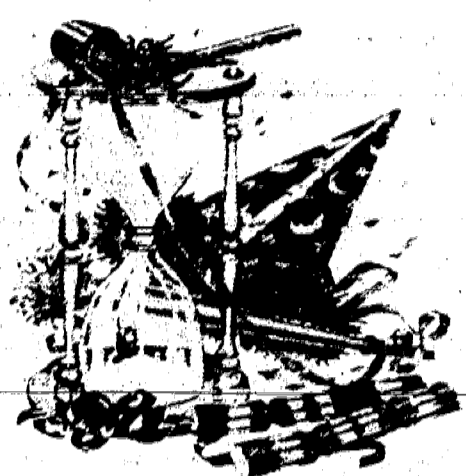
To give you energy to watch the football games, The Office has a large selection of desserts. Choose from fruit cobblers, assorted cakes and pastries, and fresh fruit. Or better yet, sample them all!

Kids 12 and under enjoy the brunch for only \$4.95.

The Office Bar & Grill has New Jersey's best selection of over 60 American, microbrew and imported beers, with 15 or more on draught. The new food menu features flame-grilled dishes, as well as all-time Office favorites. Friendly, fun neighborhood pubs, uniquely decorated with 1900s office memorabilia and current brewery paraphernalia. The Office Beer Bar & Grill is open Monday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. and on Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. They are located in Cranford, Montclair and Summit.

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Your organization should be getting the publicity it deserves and we would like to help. We have a publicity handbook which explains how to tell your story. We would like to publicize your club, church, sports, school news, etc. If you have an idea for a picture or story, call Associate Editor Jacquie McCarthy at (908) 686-7700, ext. 321 weekdays before 5 p.m. If you'd like a handbook, call and one will be mailed to you.



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SAVE MORE WAYS

Union resident has learned and earned his love of opera

By Bea Smith
Staff Writer

Fresh from his tour de force in Italy, Thomas Smargiassi III of Union has plunged into his operatic concert work with an energy and ambition reserved for the young. He is 26-years-old.

Smargiassi was last seen in a concert at the South Orange Middle School on Dec. 6. On Dec. 10, he auditioned with the Fila Grand Opera Co. in New York City, and he will be auditioning at the Metropolitan Opera Co. on Jan. 17 when he sings for Jerome Hines, who is in charge of the New Jersey State Opera Music Theater Institute.

"I was in Italy for several months," said the husky operatic singer. He smiled handsomely. "I sang for so many wonderful people, including the voice teacher of Luciano Pavarotti, Maestro Pola. After I sang for him, he said that my voice was 'an extremely important voice in the opera world today.' I was very happy to hear that — from him especially."

In Italy, Smargiassi explained, "I gave local concerts in small towns. It was a wonderful experience for me to learn the culture and the language at the same time. I'm still not fluent, but that's my next goal."

Smargiassi was in Italy "on a Young Artists Program. On a small scale, I performed and learned not just many roles in opera, but the acting, the blocking, the stage combat — in opera there are many violent things going on. I'm just getting that experience and learning these roles. I also took language lessons. Principally important to me is the Italian language. This is what I want to do with my life — sing for the people."

Smargiassi, who was born in Elizabeth, "lived in Union my whole life. I always wanted to sing as a child. From ages 8 to 14-years-old, I sang with my sister, Rachel, who, incidentally, is a professional actress and singer now, and another girl named Jackie.

"We sang all the popular tunes at openings for companies, senior citizen groups and in Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York City," recalled Smargiassi. "I just always had a strong desire to sing, to entertain and just be on the stage, even while I was in Union High School."

Does he have stage fright whenever he approaches the stage?

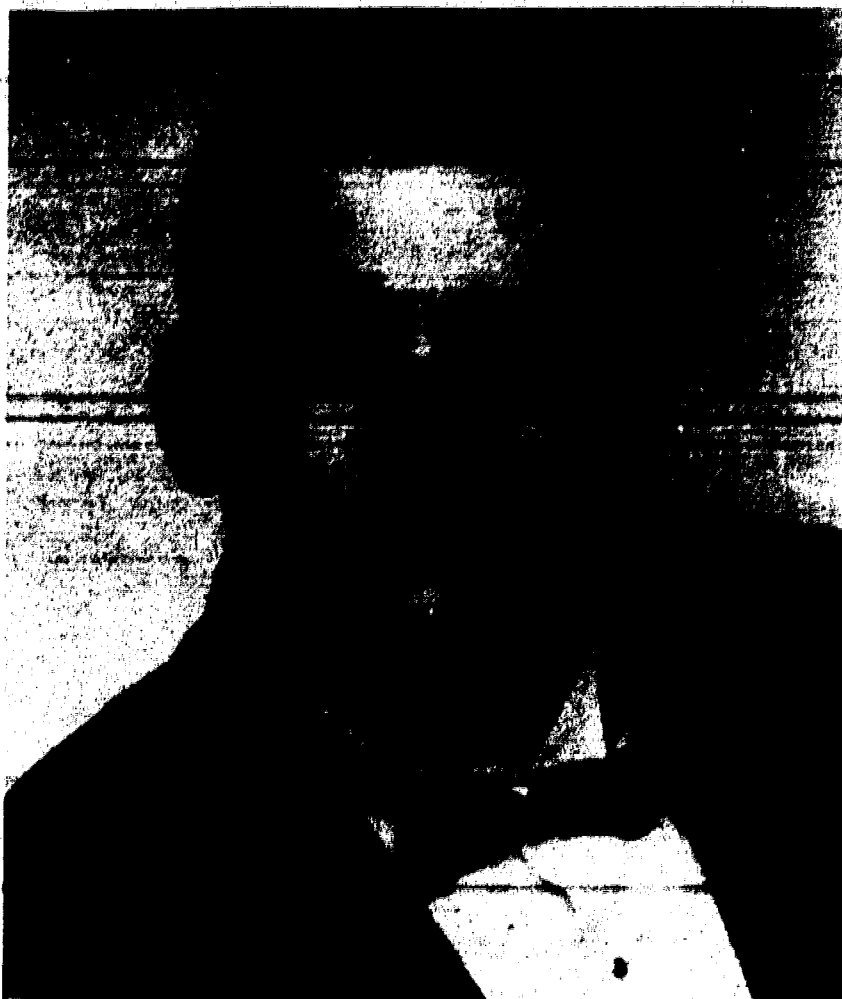
"I think everyone has stage fright," he mused. "It's a big thing for a lot of people to learn to get over it and turn stage fright into positive energy. I'm still learning, now, even while I go to voice lessons in New York City twice a week. I've sung for my teachers and coaches and in the past had some very important auditions for a concert."

Concert work for the young opera singer, "requires a different kind of singing. It has always been intense. In more recent months, I have learned to relax, and it makes me a better singer because of it. In opera, it's extremely important that you not only know what you're singing, but you must know what every word you're singing about means. So, you fully interpret what you're singing — so that you can put yourself into that character. The minute you, as a singer, get out of that focus, you can become confused. You have to know what the character is supposed to be and what you're supposed to be portraying. You have to be that character. And it's very difficult if you don't understand the language."

Smargiassi explained that "I sing in Italian, German, French, Spanish and English. I've been learning languages for about nine years now. There's a different level now. I believe you never get to a point saying, 'I've learned everything there is to know about one field or subject matter.' The more I learn every day, the more I realize how much I don't know. I speak Italian good enough to get by. I'm third generation Italian-American, so it isn't really used at home.

"Actually," he said, "you really have to learn it from scratch. Once that happens, I'll be understanding more of what I'm singing. You get a lot more confidence as a singer. I believe that is the key to good performances and auditions."

Smargiassi has been singing professionally for "four or five years now. This has been my life. Oh, I have other interests. Golf, for example. I love to golf,



Thomas Smargiassi III

and I was on a team in high school. It's very good exercise. It's important to have exercise. When I was at Union High, I was in a lot of sports. But now, as a singer, I have to take care of my voice.

"That's when your lifestyle changes," said Smargiassi. "You become more laid back. I'm in the process of that change. Actually, I sort of started in high school. I did 'Music Man' in junior high school, and my music teacher, Tracy Murray, who is my best friend, noticed the talent in my voice and he felt I should start taking private voice lessons. He sent me to his high school teacher,

and she guided me to Franco Rossi Roudetti, who had been a renowned bass at La Scala in Milan. I went to see him for my voice lessons. I was 16-years-old at the time. He was an opera singer and I had no interest in opera at that time in my life. So, I started taking a few lessons, and he had me start singing classical repertoire, which consisted of art songs and arias. Within two weeks to a month, my life was permanently changed."

Smargiassi beamed. "I started having a wonderful appreciation of opera, a love for the music, solely because of what it was doing for my voice. Then after I studied voice at the Newark Community School of the Arts in Lincoln Park."

After graduating from Union High School in 1989, Smargiassi "auditioned for the Manhattan School of Music and the Juilliard School of Music, both in New York City, and I found the Manhattan School had a better vocal staff. I was accepted in 1990 and had been there through 1995, during which time I studied with the chair of the voice department, Maitland Peters, who is still my voice teacher today."

He made his Broadway professional debut "at an AIDS benefit at the Lamb's Theater in New York City. There were 16 singers, and I was a featured soloist. I did selections from the Broadway musicals, including 'Music of the Night,' 'Bring Him Home' and 'Maria.' It went over extremely well. And ever since, I was giving concerts throughout the Metropolitan area. I performed four operas at the Regina Opera Co. in Brooklyn, 'Carmen,' 'Tosca,' 'Otello' and 'Rigoletto.'

"This last year," he recalled, "I was accepted into the Spoleto Vocal Arts Symposium, which gives big opera festivals in Italy every year. Three thousand people audition nationwide, and they chose about 30 every year, and I was selected last summer. I sang opera excerpts in 11 different opera houses, 14th and 16th century opera houses. They are so beautiful. That's what inspired me to go back this year. I visited Lake Como, Milan, Venice, Padova, Modena, Florence and Rome. In five weeks, I got to do a lot of sightseeing. I met a lot of people in the opera world and I did a lot of singing.

"Within a few months, I will be in a program for languages," he said. "Because of my love for languages, I expect that in six months, I will be speaking Italian fluently."

In his spare time, Smargiassi is a voice teacher. "I've had a studio for the past six years out of my home. I had 45 students last year, but it was too much. Now, I have about 20 students. They include high school and college students and some are professional performers in music and the opera. I won't be doing it for much longer," Smargiassi admitted, "although I do enjoy teaching. It is a most satisfying thing to be able to pass on to the students some of the things I have learned over the years — vocally."

"You know," he said, "there's a lot of young vocal talent out there and because there are not too many good vocal teachers to recognize them, I hope that I have steered people in a higher direction and advanced their vocally. That, too, has been my goal."

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Go 'West' to view photograph exhibit

"West Of My Dreams" will be the next exhibition at the Les Mamelot Gallery. The show will contain black-and-white and color photographs by Susan Puder of Union. There will be a reception on Jan. 10, and the public is invited. The exhibit will be on view through Jan. 22. The gallery is located in the Union Public Library on Morris Avenue in Union Center.

Puder exhibited in the gallery in 1993 when the Les Mamelot celebrated its fifth anniversary. She has since had many solo shows and participated in group shows. She has traveled considerably, particularly in the west, and has tried to capture its vast unspoiled beauty. Although she has seen "clearcuts in California, overgrazed land in Colorado and mining scars in Arizona," she "remains hopelessly nostalgic for the unspoiled west that exists in our imagination. I long for those romantic images with their beauty and the 'West of My Dreams,'" she states.

A graduate of Trenton State College with a B.A., she attended the New Jersey Center for Visual Art and the Nikon School, as well as numerous seminars on photography. Puder is a member of the Millburn Camera Club, Westfield Art Association, Cranford Camera Club, NJ Center for Visual Arts, NJ Photography Forum, North American Nature Photography Association, and Marquis "Who's Who in the East."

She has received first place in 1993 and 1997 for photography in the Union Festival on the Green and the Fairfield Outdoor Festival of Art. She was Calendar Print Winner for the Millburn Calendar of 1989-91 for the Millburn Camera Club. In addition, she has received many other awards.

Puder has had solo exhibits at Children's Specialized Hospital in Manhattan, Equitable Employee Gallery in New York, Millburn Public Library, Burgdorff Realtors Corporate Headquarters in Murray Hills, Portfolio Restaurant and Gallery in New York, and has, in addition, participated in other group shows.

The gallery is open during library hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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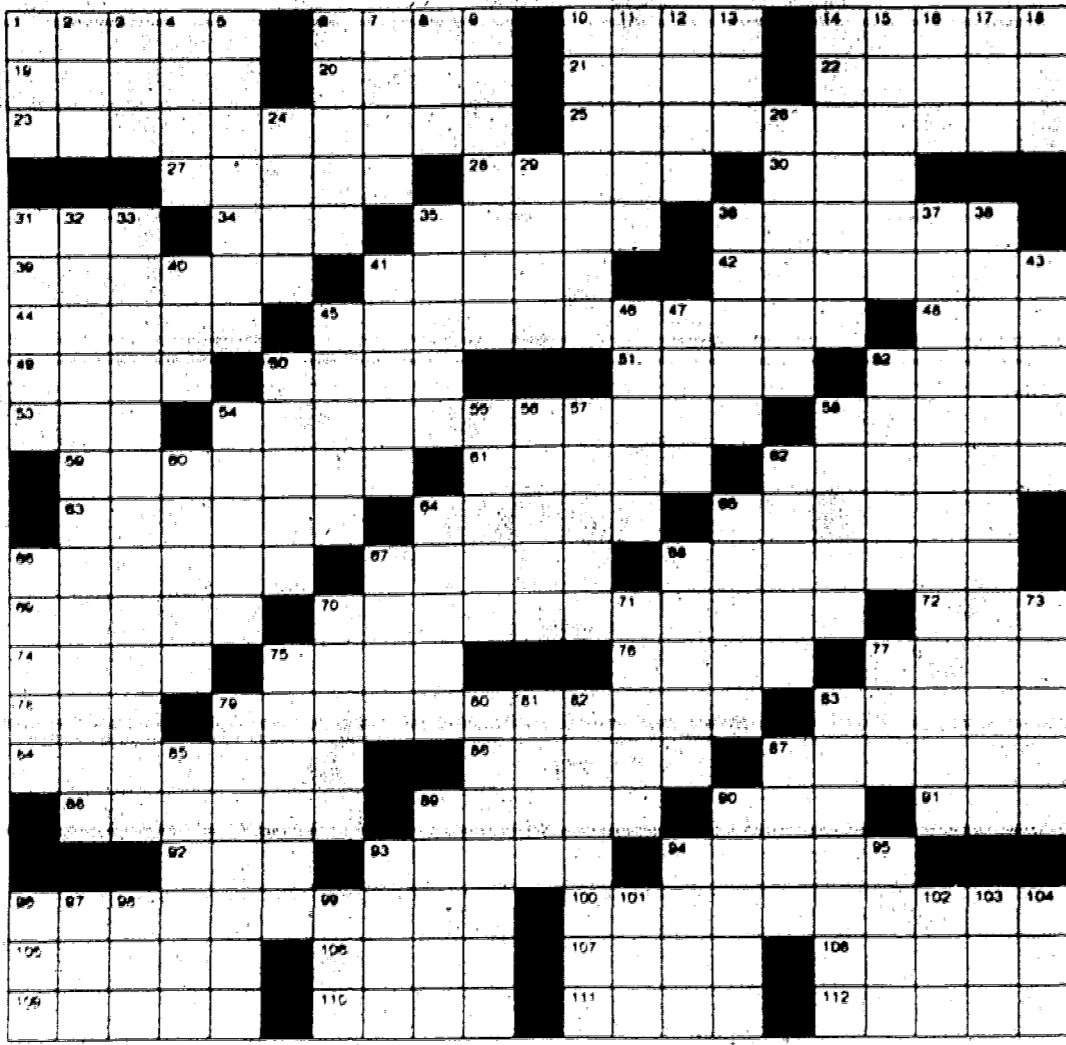
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25 Repetitive robbery?
27 Marsh rails
28 Enclose in a vase
30 "With a hey, and..." As You Like It
31 Rural address
34 Italian sextet
35 Twenty
36 "— compare thee to a summer's day?" W.S. Shakespeare
39 Pond weed
41 Cudgel
42 Restraining lines
44 Chinook chiefs
45 Finis
48 Fr. holy woman
49 Mezzo Steven
50 Shensi capital
51 Endangered
52 Foolish giggle
53 — shoestring
54 Screwdriver's slogan?
58 Marquered
59 Beavers, for instance
61 Famed warden
62 Lamppost
63 Moslem precepts
64 "The Weaver of Paveise"
65 Medieval convert
66 "— from here to eternity"



- 29 Variable star
31 Rocket starter
32 Kitchen Wars?
33 Marks term papers?
35 Exec's aide
36 Reject
37 Has an airport beef?
38 Where cats fear to tread?
40 Cee follower
41 Fields on the diamond
43 Run-down
45 Rows
46 Levels
47 — of the Roses
50 Golfer Sam
52 Hour-related
54 Proprietor
55 Father of the quints
56 — Lama
57 Nasality
58 Bracket. Abbr.
60 Francis and Jackson
62 Istanbul cash
64 Pancake enhancer
65 Tot's relative
66 Desiccated
67 Intersection sign
68 Maverick
70 Grayish
71 Far side of the Styx
73 Medieval helmet
75 Peer Gynt dancer
77 Give — whirl
79 — as a crutch
80 "The Magnificent" Medic
81 Sandi's "— et Lui"
82 Someone else
83 Co-owners
85 Amass
87 Eire's inner-stop
89 Wind section member
90 Reciprocal deals
93 Hokkaido aborigine
94 Call off
95 Solar disk deity
96 Coarse wool
97 Gehrig
98 Formal cause
99 "— the season"
101 Military macaw
102 — alai
103 Offbeat
104 "S'long"

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- 67 Jewish month
68 This scratches a racehorse
69 Ruddy, to Romans
70 "Poker specialist"
72 Asian wild sheep
74 Cool desserts
75 Stadium name
76 Venus de Milo deficiency
77 Kipnis or Ostrakh
78 Sulfur with profit or rafter

- 79 Eden one-liner?
83 Pluck
84 — like a hot potato (unloads)
86 Cowper's "— Hymns"
87 Carnage
88 Petty
89 Flat plinths
90 Kentucky bluegrass
91 Rock or peevie
92 Bronze Age trumpet
93 Red as —

- 94 Hora dancer
96 Foreign country?
100 George's cherry tree?
105 Cap'n's right hand man
106 Don Juan's mother
107 Part of QED
108 Rough's partner
109 Like some roads
110 Not so hot
111 Man and Sugar
112 Insinuating

- DOWN
1 Crone
2 Caucho source
3 Epigram
4 Responsibility
5 Lies
6 Maui verandah
7 Says further
8 Young of films
9 Impassive

- 10 Lasts
11 Henry or Marianne
12 "— before my horse to market" Richard III
13 Hunter of films
14 Intransigent
15 Incalculable
16 Cote sound
17 Turkish cap
18 Spot
24 — code
26 Punjab's chief city

(See ANSWERS on Page B8)

HOROSCOPE

For the week of Jan. 4 to 10

Aries March 21-April 20
You already have a good handle on what's going wrong in your life...

Taurus April 21-May 21
Pay extra attention this week to the little things, especially at home...

Gemini May 22-June 21
Do not say what's on your mind this week. The wrong people may be listening...

Cancer June 22-July 22
Your criticism is heading your way, but don't flinch. You need to keep an open mind...

Leo July 23-Aug. 23
Your clothes may look good to you...

but someone important is going to be watching you this week. Take a little extra care in how you dress...

Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22
You have more energy than you think this week, but you'll have to manage it properly...

Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23
Communications with your partner could be the difference between happiness and sorrow this week...

Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
Food is going to be important to you this week...

Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
There's more than one way to solve a problem. Don't stop looking until you've found the alternative...

you this week. Don't pay attention just to what you eat, but also where it's coming from. By week's end, you'll be starving for personal attention at work...

Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21
Nobody can force you to accept the responsibilities you've been avoiding, but it will be to your benefit to do so...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20
Keep in touch with old friends — someone may have news that interests you. Don't be afraid to try new ideas this week...

Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
There's more than one way to solve a problem. Don't stop looking until you've found the alternative...

What's Going On?

CRAFT

TUESDAY February 10, 1998

EVENT: Pre-Valentines Day Craft Fair
PLACE: East Orange Public Library, 21 So Arlington Avenue, East Orange
TIME: 4:00pm-8:00pm
PRICE: Free Admission. Vendors Wanted, \$25 without table, \$20 own table...

CONCERT-MUSIC

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY January 2, 3, 4, 1998

EVENT: One Act Opera "Amahl and The Night Visitors". Composed by Gian Carlo Menotti.
PLACE: Bloomfield High School, Broad Street, Bloomfield, NJ
TIME: Friday, 8pm, Saturday and Sunday, 3pm
PRICE: Advance Tickets Available: \$5.00 for Seniors and Students, \$7.00 for Adults...

OTHER

THURSDAY January 8, 1998

EVENT: Reopening of Jewelry Sales room
PLACE: New Eyes for the Needy, 549 Milburn Avenue, Short Hills, NJ
TIME: 1:00pm-3:00pm
PRICE: Free admission. Antique and costume jewelry, watches, silver, flatware, crystal and porcelain at reasonable prices.

What's Going On is a paid directory of events for non-profit organizations. It is prepaid and costs just \$20.00 for 2 weeks for Essex County or Union County and just \$30.00 for both. Your notice must be in our Maplewood office (465 Valley Street) by 4:00 PM on Monday for publication the following Thursday...

Third film is a 'Safe' bet for new filmmaker

Safe in the late 1980's a young director made a Super 8 film on the life and death of singer Karen Carpenter. Carpenter had died from complications from the eating disorder Anorexia Nervosa and the movie went into detail about this. Director Todd Haynes did not use any actors, instead opting for a cast of toy dolls. The film, though not publically shown, created stir in the movie industry. Karen Carpenter's brother found out about it and threatened to sue because Haynes had used many of the Carpenter's songs without permission. The life of the film ended and it is very difficult to find a copy anywhere.

The Video Detective

By Jim Piffel

chemicals in everyday life, like exhaust from cars and sprays from aerosol cans.

Moore plays Carol White, a housewife living in an affluent suburb in California. Though she's been healthy for most of her life, she begins to feel the effects of unhealthy air and germs. A simple lunch wouldn't have bothered her a year ago, but now vegetables which have been sprayed with dangerous chemicals make her ill. A seemingly routine visit to her hairdresser turns ugly when the chemicals used for a perm caused her nose to start bleeding. Driving alone on the highway was once a pleasant and routine activity, but now the fumes from trucks force her to choke and pull over.

Though this film seems like strange science fiction, it is partly reactions to these types of situations. Many tourists who come to New York City from the clean farm country of Nebraska or Wyoming complain of severe headaches and nausea. This, of course, is due to the horribly polluted air which, if you live with it everyday, you become accustomed and immune to it.

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Teacher, author presents an historic view of Linden

No one is more qualified to bring the richness of Linden and its history to a literary form than award-winning artist, school teacher and life-long resident, Lauren Pancurak Yeats. Her thorough involvement in the city itself, her love of Linden and her interest in all that has taken place there since its inception are lovingly unveiled in a marvelous, picturesque soft-cover book called "Images of America: Linden, New Jersey."

The book, which covers more than 100 years of local history and provides more than 200 photographs, was published last month by Arcadia in Dover, N.H. Yeats, whose family hails from Linden, offers a treasury of historical facts and accompanying black-and-white photographs. She traces the history of Linden and its growth from the Civil War to the 1960s. Linden was part of Elizabethtown and Rahway in Revolutionary times, much of it farmland, and in seven chapters, loaded with pictures, Yeats shows the creation of a city, its growth, its schools and organizations, its churches and synagogues — but most of all its people.

On The Shelf

By Bea Smith

From its first pages depicting the old city hall of 1919, to a map of 1862, and an historical introductory text, Yeats begins her journey with Chapter One, "The First Families of Linden Township." Starting with the creation of Linden Township on March 4, 1861, the author shows pictures of the first settlers in Linden, Sarah Elizabeth Hatfield Winans and Moses Oliver Winans, their home on Linden Avenue, members of their families and neighbors and friends, the first mayor of Linden, George McGilvray, 1925, his home, his family and his neighbors, including four generations of the Derrig-Roll families.

Also shown are photos of the Fire Station, the Police Station and its inhabitants, the Penn Railroad Station and the Linden Post Office.

In Chapter Two, "Separation to Consolidation," the banks and book stores and libraries and railroads are shown and a detailed study of the transformation of farmland to city land is uncovered. "Linden" even has pictures of the 1914 Country Baseball Team and the 1920 Linden Country Club Basketball Team. St. Georges Avenue at Wood Avenue 1904 is compared to the same avenues in 1948, an astounding change.

Amidst the pages of Chapter Three, "Celebrate Wood Avenue," parades — Fourth of July, Halloween, Boy Scouts — are all paraded across the pages of this invaluable book. Also shown are the J. Russell Wheeler Park and Pool, the Penn Sweet Shop and the American Italian Grocery Store — Mayor John T. Gregorio Bicentennial

Committee's 1976's dedication of the Evia House built in the 1700s, Linden's oldest house in history.

In Chapter Four, "Linden: Gateway to the World's Market," there are texts and pictures of the city's industrial sites and centers.

Chapter Five, which is called "Leisure at Its Best," shows the growth of social clubs, golf courses, apartment houses, the Linden Recreation Department Softball League's 1940 city champions, Eighth Ward's Linden Cadets 1951, the new buildings and the pleasures derived from relaxation.

Chapter Six, "Dear Old Golden Rule Days," covers the first school, Wheatstear in 1750, to the first public school which was burned down in 1902, the second school in 1786, the

third in 1804 and so on, all the way up to the current schools in Linden today. There are pictures of the Linden Public School No. 1 Primary Class of 1899, School No. 1, 1908, schools in 1911, Linden Grade School graduating class of 1918 and graduating classes all the way up to 1953. By 1965, the Linden Public School system accumulated 11 elementary schools, two junior and one senior high schools and three Linden parochial schools.

The last chapter, Chapter 7, covers "The Houses of Worship," and before all the houses were built, the people were worshipping in their own homes. There are pictures of the Holy Family Roman Catholic Church, the Reformed Church of Linden, the Linden Methodist Church, the oldest reli-

gious group in the city, the Grace Episcopal Church, the Linden Presbyterian Church, St. Paul's Evangelical Church, St. Elizabeth Roman Catholic Church, the groundbreaking for the Suburban Jewish Center-Temple Mekor Chaim, St. Theresa of the Child Roman Catholic Church, Congregation Anshe Chesed and the St. George Byzantine Catholic Church.

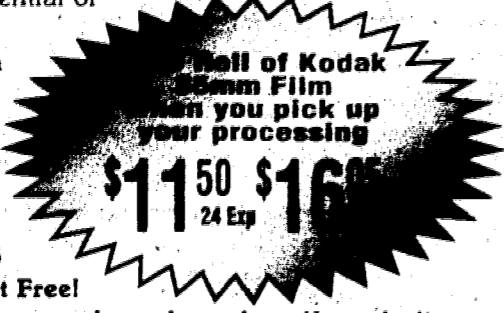
The author's Pancurak family picture and the Gorecki family picture are also shown.

"It is my hope," said Yeats, "that it leaves readers with a deeper appreciation of our past."

So, what could be more rewarding than Yeats' tribute to her beloved city? Another history.

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Saturday, January 10, 1998, 8:00pm, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Newark
Sunday, January 11, 1998, 3:00pm, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Newark
ZDENEK MACAL, conductor
GARRICK OHLSSON, piano
BRAHMS Concerto No. 2 in B-flat Major for Piano and Orchestra
BRAHMS Symphony No. 2 in D Major
Tickets: \$48, 38, 32, 20, 10

Program 2
Friday, January 16, 1998, 8:00pm, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Newark
Sunday, January 18, 1998, 3:00pm, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Newark
ZDENEK MACAL, conductor
GIL SHAHAM, violin
BRAHMS Concerto in D Major for Violin and Orchestra
BRAHMS Symphony No. 4 in E minor
Tickets: \$52, 42, 36, 24, 12

Program 3
Thursday, January 29, 1998, 1:30pm, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Newark
Friday, January 30, 1998, 8:00pm, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Newark
ZDENEK MACAL, conductor
NOON Tempus Fugit, Vivat Brahms (NJ Premiere)
BRAHMS Symphony No. 3 in F Major
BRAHMS Symphony No. 1 in C minor
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Stepping Out is a weekly calendar designed to guide our readers to the many arts and entertainment events in the Union County area.

Stepping Out

midnight favors. Capping off the evening will be a Viennese table and coffee starting at 1 a.m. on Jan. 1.

Call Joe Montes of Tavern in the Park at (908) 241-7400 for ticket information and reservations.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH in Rahway will

ART SHOWS

CHILDREN'S SPECIALIZED HOSPITAL will present "Paintings to Reduce Stress" by Barbara Glender.

CATFISH ROE REVISITED, an exhibition featuring drawing, embossing, painting and sculpture by Malcolm Sweet.

UNION COUNTY ARTS CENTER will display pastel paintings by Cheryl O'Halloran-McLeod.

WEST OF MY DREAMS is the next exhibit at Les Malamut Art Gallery in Union.

VOX GALLERY will exhibit "New Works by Caballero Sisto" through Jan. 15.

JACOB TRAPP GALLERY will display "The Painted Tapestry" by Diana Craft through Jan. 23.

NEW JERSEY CENTER FOR VISUAL ARTS will display "Watercolors by Reuben Ward Binks."

THE ANIMAL KINGDOM, an exhibit exploring the relationship between man and animals.

PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE INVITATIONAL exhibition will be on display through Feb. 15.

KENT PLACE GALLERY will display

"Works From the Black and Blue Series," an exhibit from the diverse body of works by Janet Taylor Pickett.

GALLERY hours are Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

AUDITIONS

THE DANCE CONSERVATORY will hold auditions for a spring ballet on Sunday.

Dancers age 7-12, on or off pointe, should report at 10:30 a.m.

STONY HILL PLAYERS will hold auditions for "Play On!" on Sunday and Monday at 7:30 p.m.

SPARTAN PRODUCTION COMPANY needs performers and backstage help for a veteran's variety show in February.

LINDEN ART ASSOCIATION is offering visual arts classes on Wednesdays in five-week segments.

CONCERTS

LYRICA CHAMBER MUSIC will present Brahms' "Piano Quartet" on Sunday at 3 p.m.

MOSTLY MUSIC will present music for chamber orchestra on Sunday at 8 p.m.

WESTFIELD

PROCESSION, 6:20 p.m.

SKYLINE, blue-grass music, St. Paul's Church Sanctuary, 9:30, 10:15 p.m.

KOTO CURRENTS, Japanese music, Methodist Church Social Hall, 9:45 p.m., 10:30 p.m.

BANJO RAGTIMERS, Roosevelt School Cafeteria, 10 p.m., 11 p.m.

MARK SKY, psychic, Municipal Building, 10 p.m., 11 p.m.

CAROLYN KUETER, accordion music, Westfield Y Kellogg Room, 10:15 p.m., 11 p.m.

GRAND FINALE, center of town, midnight.

ADMISSION is \$10, and includes all performances. For information, call (908) 232-8041.



Okra Dance Company will perform at First Night Summit.

Gerald Fierst, storytelling, Holy Trinity School Cafeteria B, 8 p.m., 10 p.m.

OLYMPIA'S DAUGHTERS, a cappella women's choir, Methodist Church Sanctuary, 8:30 p.m., 10:15 p.m., 11:15 p.m.

DEIDRE SHEA SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCE, Roosevelt School Auditorium, 9-11:45 p.m.

MUSIC CLUB OF WESTFIELD, light opera, Redeemer Church, 9 p.m., 11 p.m.

MILIA DRUMKE, music, Baptist Church Sanctuary, 9 p.m., 10 p.m., 11 p.m.

SARAH MULLEN, Celtic harp, Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 9 p.m., 9:45 p.m., 10:30 p.m., 11:15 p.m.

MAGIC OF ANTHONY MASI, Holy Trinity School Cafeteria, 9 p.m., 10 p.m., 11 p.m.

LARRY BROWN AND FRIENDS, folk music, Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 9:15, 10:30 p.m.

ARBOR CHAMBER PLAYERS, music, Christian Science Church Sanctuary, 9:15 p.m., 10 p.m., 10:45 p.m.

OLD GROUND, Irish performance group, Christian Science Church Fellowship Hall, 9:15 p.m., 10:15 p.m.

BALLROOM DANCING, Roosevelt School Gym, 9:30-11:45 p.m.

SKYLINE, blue-grass music, St. Paul's Church Sanctuary, 9:30, 10:15 p.m.

KOTO CURRENTS, Japanese music, Methodist Church Social Hall, 9:45 p.m., 10:30 p.m.

BANJO RAGTIMERS, Roosevelt School Cafeteria, 10 p.m., 11 p.m.

MOLLY BARBER AND JEANETTE FERRELL, Presbyterian Church, 10, 11 p.m.

MUSIC STUDIO JAZZ BAND, St. Paul's Church, 10, 11 p.m.

MARK SKY, psychic, Municipal Building, 10 p.m., 11 p.m.

CAROLYN KUETER, accordion music, Westfield Y Kellogg Room, 10:15 p.m., 11 p.m.

GRAND FINALE, center of town, midnight.

ADMISSION is \$10, and includes all performances. For information, call (908) 232-8041.

HOLIDAY

FESTIVAL OF TREES featuring international decorations will run through Jan. 25 at the Museum of the American Hungarian Foundation in New Brunswick.

MUSEUM HOURS are Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, 1-4 p.m.

SWAIN GALLERIES will present "Christmas Miniatures" through Jan. 31.

CASANO COMMUNITY CENTER will host a New Year's Eve Party beginning at 7:30 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY will begin at 8 p.m. at St. Thomas Holy Name Society Church Center in Rahway.

ROSELLE PARK Chamber of Commerce will hold "Kick-Off to '98" New Year's Eve Party at Tavern in the Park.

MOMENTS TO REMEMBER at Paper Mill Playhouse will feature music from the 40s through the 90s.

THE PLAYHOUSE is located on Brookside Drive in Millburn.

Admission is \$4. The museum is located at 205 W. State St., Trenton.

For information, call (609) 292-6333.

GARDEN STATE STAMP SHOW will be held Friday-Sunday at Wayne Manor.

Adult admission is \$2.50; children under age 12 are admitted free.

Hours are Friday from 1 to 7 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Wayne Manor is located on Route 23 in Wayne.

For information, call (908) 247-1093.

MUSEUMS

MILLER-CORY HOUSE will host a visit from La Befana and a celebration of the Feast of Epiphany on Sunday.

Built in 1740, the Miller-Cory House Museum stands on the "road to the mountains" in Westfield.

The Miller-Cory House was named in honor of its two pre-Revolutionary owners.

Both descended from the earliest settlers in this area.

Today, the Miller-Cory House Museum is a nationally recognized living museum.

It has been certified as an historic site and has been entered on both the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Visitors are introduced to a variety of colonial skills as trained artisans and costumed docents recreate the everyday life, the crafts and tasks of the 18th and 19th century farm family in Westfield.

Admission is \$2 for adults; \$5.00 for children and children under age 6 are admitted free.

For information, call (908) 232-1776.

RADIO

WBGO Jazz 88.3 will feature the following programming:

Today, 8 p.m., Michael Bourne's "88/97, A Year of Jazz in Review."

At 9 p.m., "Cognac Hennessy Jazz Search" finals.

10 p.m.-4 a.m., "Cognac Hennessy New Year's Eve Coast to Coast," featuring Jimmy Heath Big Band in New York City at 10 p.m., "Nouveau Swing" in New Orleans at 12:30 a.m., and T.S. Monk in Oakland, Ca. at 2 p.m.

Tomorrow, 2 p.m., "A Year of Jazz in Review," At 4 p.m., "Cognac Hennessy Jazz Search," 7-8 p.m. — Marian McPartland's Piano Jazz.

Friday, 7-8 p.m. — Portraits in Blue. Saturday, 1-2 p.m. — Waded in the Water. From 8-9 p.m., JazzSet with Branford Marsalis.

Sunday, 10-11 p.m. — Jazz From The Archives. Monday, 7-8 p.m. — Jazz From Lincoln Center.

Tuesday, 7-8 p.m. — Jazz Profiles.

TELEVISION

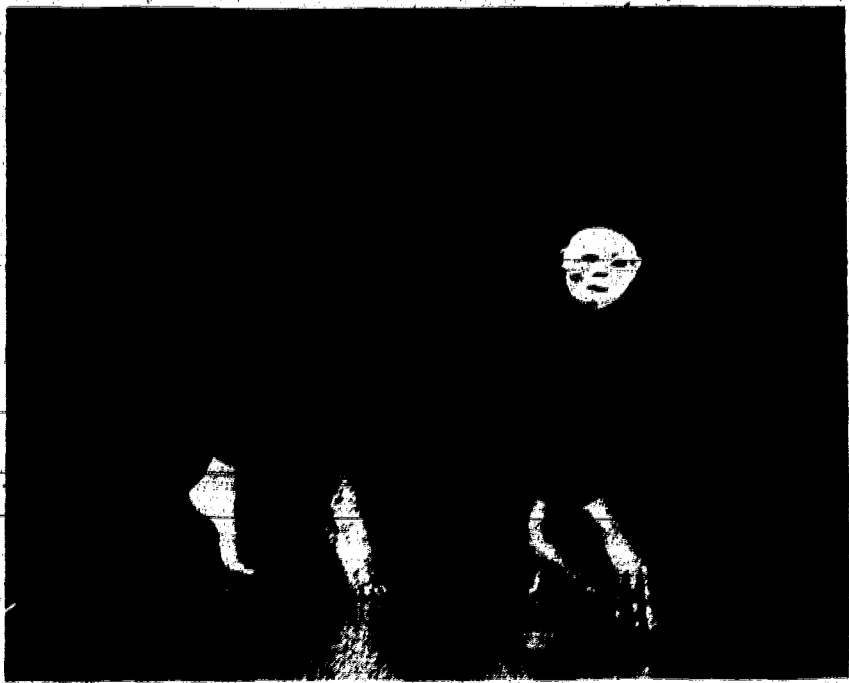
THIRTEEN/WNET will air "An Ode to Joy: The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra" today at 9:30 p.m. on PBS.

THEATER

DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN will run through Sunday at New Jersey Performing Arts Center.

Performances will take place in Prudential Hall. NJPAC is located at One Centre Drive, Newark.

For information, call (888) GO-NJPAC.



Faustwork Mask Theater will perform at First Night Summit.

