



# COUNTY NEWS

## Former UCC president dead at 86

Kenneth Campbell MacKay, 86, of Fairfax, Vt., former chief executive officer of Union County College in Cranford, died May 25 at a hospital in Burlington, Vt.

Mr. MacKay was instrumental in laying the foundation for today's Union County College, which has about 9,000 full-time students on campuses in Cranford, Elizabeth, Plainfield and Scotch Plains.

As a result of World War II, enroll-

ment at the two-year liberal arts college had dropped to about 75 students and the Board of Trustees was on the verge of closing the institution's doors. The trustees turned to Mr. MacKay and the faculty, prudent steps, mostly financial, were taken, and the college was saved. When the war ended, former GIs came in droves to Union Junior College. Mr. MacKay wrote at that time, "It took the traditional irrationality of mankind — warfare — to produce the miracle of going to college in millions of Americans who had despaired of ever going beyond high school."

Following its accreditation by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools in 1957, the college, under Mr. MacKay's leadership, conducted a Silver Anniversary Develop-

ment and Campaign that led to the opening of the 48-acre campus in Cranford and construction of its first building, known as the Nomahegan Building.

In 1959, Mr. MacKay served on the Committee to Study Community Colleges and Technical Institutes, established by the state Department of Education. The study's recommendations led to the development of New Jersey's current system of 19 county colleges.

When he retired in 1969, Mr. MacKay became executive director of the former Union County Coordinating Agency for Higher Education. In 1975, the Board of Trustees named the largest building on the Cranford campus The Kenneth Campbell MacKay Library.



Kenneth C. MacKay

## Environmentalists watch

(Continued from Page B1)

Since then, Rahway has bought seven trucks to pick up solid waste. Ogdan Martin Systems of Union Inc., which is leasing the Rahway incinerator, is reimbursing the city for four of these.

Local environmental activists, who have traditionally opposed both the incinerator and Kennedy, are concerned that the city would pay some of its trash-collecting employees below minimum wage.

Vincent Lehotsky of Elizabeth said that he was particularly concerned about a \$750,000 tax-exempt bond issue by the UCUA to pay for, among

other things, "trash collection vehicles." A public notice for this was printed on May 27 in the *Star-Ledger*; a public hearing is scheduled for June 10.

"This is the start of Rahway going into the business of collecting garbage," Lehotsky said.

Kennedy said that he had not seen the notice, adding that the public notice could be wrong.

Part of Kennedy's pitch for the Division of Solid Waste and Recycling was that it could not only pick up Rahway's trash, but also that of neighboring towns like Clark.

## Fire protection increase a concern

(Continued from Page B1)

charge based on the size of each meter installed, in addition to the charge for the quantity of water used. A 15 percent increase has been proposed for all sizes of meters.

The company also proposed to increase charges for all public fire protection service from \$31.87 per hydrant per month to \$35.50 per hydrant per month, an increase of 5.1 percent. A 2.1 percent increase in private fire protection service also was proposed.

Cotter. "When one multiplies the increase by 508, one realizes the substantial amount of money the city has to pay."

The company asserts that the proposed increases are necessary because the existing rates are deficient under the statutory standard of "just and reasonable," according to New Jersey-American's press release.

Springfield Public Works Manager Ken Homlish said he was unaware of the proposed rate hike, but if it is approved, he expects residents to be irate.

"I would think that any increase would cause a stir with the residents, especially one that is 15 percent," he said.

Should an increase occur, the effect would be negligible in Union, according to township Supervisor of Public Works, John M. Cox. Union residents overwhelmingly use Elizabethtown Water Company, Cox said; only a small percentage use New Jersey-American.

Staff writers Philip Curran, Jim Foglio, Walter Elliott and Chris Sykes contributed to this report.

The fire protection increase is a concern for Summit Fire Chief Christopher Cotter. Cotter's department relies on 508 hydrants to help quench blazes within the 6.1 square-mile city.

"New Jersey-American Water charges us a per-hydrant rate," said

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- Fax: 908-352-6123
- Phone: 908-352-2395
- E-Mail: [rgmge@urbo.kean.edu](mailto:rgmge@urbo.kean.edu)
- Web: <http://www.kean.edu>

After June 11, Summer Bulletins may be obtained from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday or Tuesday and Thursday evenings until 9 p.m. at the Office of the Registrar. All registration procedures are outlined in the Bulletin.

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**JUNE**

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

NJ Shakespeare Festival builds up to most memorable season ever

By Jacquie McCarthy Associate Editor

The F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theatre, recently renovated home of the New Jersey Shakespeare Festival, will open its doors for its premiere performance of "Cyrano De Bergerac" on June 9. The new theater, and the success of the Festival is the result of seven years of uninterrupted toil for NJSF Artistic Director Bonnie J. Monte, who is committed to revitalizing the Festival from the foundation up.

"We have always been relegated to working in makeshift, bizarre places," Monte said of theater work. "Even in doing 'Cyrano,' you read that one of the two largest theaters in Paris in 1640 was a converted tennis court. This is a converted gymnasium. We're still doing the same things."

Monte began working with NJSF on Oct. 15, 1990.

"That first day when I was showing the building off to my mom and dad — it was in horrible shape — I felt like I had just been given the best raw material, compared to the billions of little theaters in New York," she said. "We're always getting the leftovers. You just got used to being in the profession and knowing that what gets handed to you is never going to be perfect. This isn't either," Monte said, gesturing, "this new building. We still have a lot of restrictions that we have to adhere to, but it's pretty darn great," she added.

Tired of "leftovers," Monte and NJSF Managing Director Michael Stotts initiated an investigation into what it would take to repair Bowne Theatre, former NJSF home, located

on the campus of Drew University in Madison.

"We realized that unless we did a major renovation, it wasn't worth it. It would have been crazy just to apply a million dollar Band-Aid." And so began a four-year fund-raising campaign to rebuild.

"There was no way this company could exist given our standards as artists, given the dangerous state of the building, given our ambitions about what we wanted this theater to become — it had to be dealt with," Monte said. The result is the F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theatre, named in honor of a generous donation by The F.M. Kirby Foundation of Chatham.

There is a superstition among actors that one must never say "Macbeth" in a theater, else the next production will go horribly wrong. Judging by Monte's recollections of prior Festival productions, the walls of historic Bowne Theater must have heard the ill-fated name far too many times, although Festival audiences never complained.

"We try to create the illusion when the audience walks in that everything is magical and beautiful and wonderful, but the minute you get behind the scenes it's an utter mess," said Monte. "We had a peculiar problem, because of our space."

Such a peculiar problem in an empty pool, with a slanted, slippery floor that turned recycling of items into an athletic event. Or, the walk-in closet ladies dressing room.

"Here you are trying to stuff 15 women in there, many of whom are major actresses in the American film and stage, and they're putting up with

it because they're dedicated to the work," said Monte, "but they've got hoop skirts on, and there's no way you can cram them in there."

"Every set you designed had to deal with the fact that there was this running track in the middle of it," Monte continued, "and a huge air conditioning duct that went right upstage center."

Speaking of scenery, it was built so it could be taken apart, brought inside in pieces and rebuilt again on stage.

"We would rehearse in another building on campus, which was spacious," Monte admitted, "but during rehearsal, because you were under a catwalk, all you heard, all day long, was thousands of chairs scraping overtop. So you'd be trying to rehearse this beautiful, intimate scene from something... it drove everybody crazy."

"Annoyances turned into perils. Monte recalled "just being heartbroken watching older actors, who had knee problems or back problems, struggling to get up a very dangerous narrow staircase; seeing actors being hit in the head with pieces of falling ceiling; watching our audience desperately trying to huddle in this teeny-tiny space in a downpour at intermission, with nowhere to go. Every day it was just one thing after another."

Monte's NJSF directorial debut was one of her most memorable, as a collapsed ceiling effectively cancelled the dress rehearsal. The cast stayed all night to clean up the mess, and the show opened on schedule.

"It was one of the most frightening experiences of my life," said Monte. "Every single day for seven years brought those kinds of problems," such as evacuating an entire audience because a fog machine set off the smoke alarm. "It was just insane, every day." Her worst recollection deals with "Leocadia," the very last NJSF production in Bowne.

"It was almost as though the theater was saying, 'Get out! Get out!'" Monte laughed. "Fix me up or I'm going to fall down on top of you!"

A costume caught fire on stage. Specially colored champagne glasses exploded for no apparent reason. NJSF borrowed a 200-year-old statue. "We got this thing from Connecticut with kid gloves. We'd gotten it 80 miles without any injury. We had it unwrapped and stood it up in the lobby. It was just standing there," she continued calmly, "and its finger popped off!"

After construction began, NJSF produced last season on tour, a comedy of errors, but not the way Shakespeare intended.

"Last summer, when we were homeless, every single show we did was a huge trial and tribulation," she said, "I guess the worst being 'Henry V,' when the tornado blew through and literally destroyed the set."

"Last summer was a nightmare, I don't know how we got through it," Monte continued, "and luckily, somehow, it was probably one of our most critically acclaimed. It was like Henry (See Director, Page D9)



NJ Shakespeare Festival Artistic Director Bonnie J. Monte and Managing Director Michael Stotts in the new F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theatre.

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# What's Going On?

## FLEA MARKET

**FRIDAY AND SATURDAY**  
 June 5 & 6, 1998  
**EVENT:** Flea Market  
**PLACE:** Redeemer Lutheran Church,  
 134 Prospect Avenue  
**TIME:** Friday, 10am-1pm; Saturday,  
 9am-3pm  
**PRICE:** Tables available for Saturday  
 only for \$15. Call 973-972-0084 or  
 763-3261.  
**ORGANIZATION:** Redeemer Lutheran  
 Church.

**SATURDAY**  
 June 13, 1998  
**EVENT:** Outdoor Flea Market  
**PLACE:** Hillside Elks Lodge #1591, 244  
 Hillside Avenue, Hillside, NJ  
**TIME:** 9:00am-4:00pm  
**PRICE:** Vendors needed, prices \$12 &  
 \$15. Call 973-222-1637.  
 Refreshments available. Ample free  
 parking.  
**ORGANIZATION:** Hillside Elks Lodge  
 #1591-4600.

**RUMMAGE SALE**  
**SATURDAY**  
 June 7, 1998  
**EVENT:** Rummage Sale  
**PLACE:** First Congregational Church  
 UCC, 1240 Clinton Avenue at Civic  
 Square, Irvington, NJ  
**TIME:** 9:00am-9:00pm  
**PRICE:** Free Admission.  
**ORGANIZATION:** Fund Committee

**SATURDAY**  
 June 6, 1998  
**EVENT:** Annual Rummage Sale  
**PLACE:** St. Anthony's Church, 1350  
 Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange  
**TIME:** 9am-5pm  
**PRICE:** Free admission. Clothing, furni-  
 ture, books, small appliances, tons of  
 other lot of good merchandise.  
**ORGANIZATION:** St. Anthony's Church

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY**  
 June 5 & 6, 1998  
**EVENT:** Rummage Sale  
**PLACE:** Calvary Episcopal Church, 31  
 Woodland Avenue, Summit, NJ  
**TIME:** 9am-5pm  
**PRICE:** Free admission. Furniture, clo-  
 thing, sports gear, toys. Full price  
 starts Saturday at noon. \$1.00 bag sale at  
 3pm.  
**ORGANIZATION:** Calvary Episcopal  
 Church.

**CONCERT-MUSIC**  
**WEDNESDAY**  
 June 17, 1998  
**EVENT:** Concert-Coasters & The Platters  
**PLACE:** West Orange High School Auditor-  
 ium  
**TIME:** 8:00 PM  
**PRICE:** \$25.00. For ticket information call  
 973-659-5429.  
**ORGANIZATION:** West Orange 2000  
 and The Lions Club.

## Regional arts center to open doors to local entertainers

Ever dream of performing at the same venue as major entertainers? PNC Bank Arts Center at Garden State is about to make that dream a reality with the new Fountain Stage, which will make its debut with the opening of the 1998 summer concert season.

Created to give local entertainers the opportunity to perform in the plaza area of the Arts Center, the Fountain Stage is ready to feature the best acts in New Jersey. PNC Bank Arts Center is looking for "unplugged" style bands, acoustic acts, solo performers, comedians, poets, jugglers and other artists to take the stage at 6:30 p.m. on show nights.

Local artists will perform solely for the exposure and the exciting chance to perform in a professional entertainment environment in front of major concert crowds. Interested performers should send a demo tape, information about their act and a list of scheduled upcoming appearances to: PNC Bank Arts Center, Marketing Department, P.O. Box 144, Holmdel, NJ 07733. No phone calls, please — applicants will be notified either by mail or by phone regarding auditions.

The new Fountain Stage is just one of the numerous state-of-the-art improvements included in PNC Bank Arts Center's recent multi-million-dollar renovation. The Arts Center's first major "facelift" to its 3,000-seat facility increased fixed seating by 2,000 and doubled the capacity of the lawn area, bringing the total seating capacity to 17,500. Other new features include luxury VIP box seats, enhanced technical capabilities, an expanded concession area and additional on-site parking.

## OTHER

**FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY**  
 June 5, 6, 7, 1998  
**EVENT:** Greater NJ State Festival  
**PLACE:** Community Center, 510 Linden  
 Plaza, Orange, NJ  
**TIME:** Friday 4:00pm-Midnight; Satur-  
 day 3pm-Midnight; Sunday Noon-  
 9:00pm  
**PRICE:** Donation \$1.00. Music, Greek  
 dancing, Dinner menu, gyros, home-  
 baked desserts, Bazaar, art show,  
 games. Free shuttle from Mt. Pleasant  
 Avenue & Main Street to Summit Com-  
 munity Center, 510 Linden Plaza, Fort Lio-  
 cal #974-6000.

**ORGANIZATION:** Sts. Constantine &  
 Helen Greek Orthodox Church

**FRIDAY, SATURDAY**  
 June 5 & 6, 1998  
**EVENT:** Job Training Lodge & Bethune  
 Grand Chapter Convention  
**PLACE:** Somerset Marriott, 110 Davison  
 Avenue, Somerset, NJ  
**TIME:** Opening Friday 7:30pm; Saturday  
 8am meeting; Luncheon 1:30-4:30pm;  
 7:30pm Awards program  
**PRICE:** Hosted by Grand Master Illus-  
 trious Charlie Knight, Grand Master Sister  
 Louise Williams, Queen of the South  
 1997-98, Grand J.C. President  
 Sister Hazel Stewart.  
**ORGANIZATION:** International  
 F.A.M.M. & O.E.S.

**SUNDAY**  
 June 7, 1998  
**EVENT:** Nutley House Tour  
**PLACE:** Nutley Museum, 65 Church  
 Street, Nutley, NJ  
**TIME:** 1:00pm-5:00pm  
**PRICE:** \$12.00 by mail to Ken Rely, 33  
 Fairmount Avenue, Nutley, or call  
 973-647-7847 or pick up tickets at Trust  
 Company of New Jersey, corner of Vee-  
 land and Franklin. Day of events tickets  
 \$18.00.

**ORGANIZATION:** Nutley Historical Soci-  
 ety, Nutley Women's Club

**THURSDAY**  
 June 8, 1998  
**EVENT:** Strawberry Festival  
**PLACE:** Hillside Presbyterian Church,  
 corner Cook and Salem Avenues, Hillside,  
 NJ  
**TIME:** 7:00pm-9:30pm  
**PRICE:** \$5.00 For information call  
 973-975-5555.  
**ORGANIZATION:** Hillside Presbyterian  
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 25 Portion for Plato  
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 28 Los Vegas snack?  
 31 Marsh bird  
 31 Ziegfeld  
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 38 Poker hand  
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 41 Do a librarian's  
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 42 Pool shot  
 43 Bitter's era  
 44 Vary different  
 45 Church tenet  
 46 Bernstein opus  
 50 General George  
 51 *War of 1812*  
 56 Eddie, the comedian  
 58 Peter O'  
 61 Small amounts  
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 103 Dance  
 105 Seal the pack?  
 106 In the dark  
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 24 Snow, in Scotland  
 29 Move quickly

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 32 Card game  
 33 Literary creature  
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 37 Castor's mother  
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 47 Caesar's ally  
 48 Photocopies  
 49 Siamese measure  
 51 *War of 1812*  
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 56 Chosen pursuit  
 57 Felix  
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 61 Bihar's capital  
 62 Colorful wrap  
 64 Mother: prefix  
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 68 O.K. Corral figure  
 71 Start of  
 72 *Tiberius*'s reign  
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 102 Ice castle? var.  
 103 Dance  
 105 Seal the pack?  
 106 In the dark  
 22 Bridge position  
 24 Snow, in Scotland  
 29 Move quickly

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(See ANSWERS on Page B11)

## HOROSCOPE

**For the week of June 7 to June 13**

**Aries**  
 March 21-April 20  
 If you're having trouble coming up with creative ideas, don't pressure yourself. Take a deep breath, relax and get busy doing work. You'll find it easier to think creatively. Whatever you do, don't lose your cool concerning problems at home.

**Taurus**  
 April 21-May 21  
 A difficult situation will make things stressful for family members, so put your family members first. Be there for them. It's time to take a step back and a long look at your financial situation. Maybe you should get professional advice about your finances.

**Gemini**  
 May 22-June 21  
 Don't blow your money this week. Invest in a little away to stay investing for your future. It's time to think about furthering your career.

Consider taking some classes to help. Not only will you gain valuable information, but you'll increase your worth at work.

**Cancer**  
 June 22-July 22  
 It will take all your concentration to get through a complicated project this week. But once you do, it will take the pressure off you and make you feel a lot better about yourself and your coworkers. Remember to give credit where credit is due, then organize an outing to celebrate.

**Leo**  
 July 23-Aug. 23  
 Take a stand and don't take any work home with you this week. It may seem that you'll only get further behind, but the bread will help you get a leg up on things. And even more importantly, you'll have a chance to spend time with family and friends.

**Virgo**  
 Aug. 24-Sept. 22  
 It's a hectic time, so don't plan anything too complicated for later in the week. Instead of worrying about trying to get everything done by the end

of the week, plan a relaxing weekend. Chores will still be there after you recharge your batteries.

**Libra**  
 Sept. 23-Oct. 23  
 You'll be called upon for some important advice Monday morning so be sure you are clearheaded when you get to work. Keep the weekend light so you can be ready. Make time this weekend to help a close friend who needs your support.

**Scorpio**  
 Oct. 24-Nov. 22  
 Focus on your family this week. Problems have been building, and it's important to have time to work on them. Whatever you do, don't let them get out of hand. Plan a family dinner. It will be a relaxing and enjoyable way to start to tackling these problems.

**Sagittarius**  
 Nov. 23-Dec. 21  
 Don't speak out about a topic until you take stock of your motives. Calm down before you say anything, especially if you're very angry about it. Then think twice about what you're

going to say. Most of all, be sure you have all the facts before you speak up.

**Capricorn**  
 Dec. 22-Jan. 20  
 Don't miss out on a golden opportunity this week because the timing seems a bit off. You'll end up regretting the missed chance later if you don't take advantage of it now. Home improvement is the name of the game this weekend.

**Aquarius**  
 Jan. 21-Feb. 18  
 Keep away from trying to play the peacemaker this week. Your life is too hectic for you to take on that role, too. Try to stay out of the line of fire and definitely don't suggest any hasty solutions. Unwind this weekend with a good book or get away by yourself.

**Pisces**  
 Feb. 19-March 20  
 Look for things to slow down at work this week. But don't think the rush is over. Take a deep breath and be ready for the things to come. Make sure important paperwork is up-to-date. Make reservations at a nearby spa and get away for the weekend.

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New Jersey Ballet dancers in Robert North's poignant ballet 'Death and the Maiden.'

# Elizabeth Playhouse co-founder presents an original showcase

By **Jacquie McCarthy**  
Associate Editor

In addition to the many quality shows offered by The Elizabeth Playhouse, this season will close with a special treat for theatergoers — the showcase production, "Laments," an adaptation of three short stories by Dorothy Parker written by Playhouse playwright-in-residence and co-founder Karon Semones Ferguson.

"I just love her work," said Semones. Admitting that the showcase was initially written as a "finger-exerciser," Semones said the three stories depicted in the production are "A Wonderful Old Gentleman," "Lady With A Lamp" and "The Big Blonde."

Originally from Roanoke, Virginia, Semones earned a bachelor's degree in English and Theater from Hollins College in Virginia. She went back to school at age 32 intending to become a college professor — until she took a theater history class with a professor

whom Semones describes as an "insane man from Moscow theater."

"He said, 'You must write plays,'" said Semones with mock seriousness. Seeing the characters she had written come to life on stage was all it took for Semones to change course. "It's been a love affair ever since," she said.

In 1988, Semones wrote a play called "Postage Due," about "two little old ladies that did everything by mail." The play was produced at Mill Mountain Theater in Virginia.

According to the playwright, adapting literary work to stage means "you cannot take things directly." Semones felt that the men in Parker's short stories did not have strong voices, and needed to be added.

Semones did not, however, change the inherent theme of Parker's stories, which she described as "understated and powerful. Every issue that a woman can face, she wrote about." Semones said the stories touch on issues ranging from friendships, rela-

tionships, abortion and suicide.

"It's pretty dark stuff," she said. Semones moved to New Jersey in 1991. In 1993, she and husband Marlow Ferguson founded The Elizabeth Playhouse, where Ferguson is artistic director. Semones recently earned a master's degree in theater from Brooklyn College. In what little spare time is left between studying and writing, Semones functions as Playhouse producer.

"It sounds very important," Semones laughed, "but you're just a mother hen."

Semones hopes "Laments" will eventually grace a New York stage. Meanwhile, it will enjoy a limited engagement of two weekends at The Elizabeth Playhouse, 1100 East Jersey St., Elizabeth. Show times are tomorrow and Saturday, and June 12 and 13 at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday and June 14 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$4, and all proceeds will benefit a local chapter of NAACP. For information, call (908) 355-0077.

## Ballet company makes NJPAC debut

By **Merrill H. Levitt**  
Correspondent

The New Jersey Ballet Company, whose home base is Kean University in Union, made a successful major transition on May 28 to Prudential Hall of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center.

The gala benefit performance consisted of three ballets choreographed by the distinguished Robert North, including the world premiere "The City." The well-attended audience responded with enthusiasm to each piece, with the last one, "Entre Dos Aguas," receiving a standing ovation especially for ballerina Lori Christman's spirited flash and daring in the Flamenco style.

The premiere ballet, "The City," featured all of the principals in a wild

and furious dance based on the theft of a necklace. The three pairs consisted of Lori Christman and Timour Bourtasenkov; Rosemary Sabovick-Bleich and Elieo Lazar, and Era Korotava and You Qing Guo. The unique athletic abilities of Sam Beckman were illustrated in his role of a policeman. The music for this piece was written by several individuals, including Leonard Bernstein. I directed a slight resemblance to his "West Side Story."

The third ballet was North's "Death and the Maiden." Set to the music of Franz Schubert, this emotional piece featured Debra Sayles and Andrei Jouraviev and portrayed the full gamut of dramatic possibilities inherent in ballet.

Prior to the start of the program,

Carolyn Clark, artistic and executive director of the New Jersey Ballet Co., introduced former governors Brendan Byrne and Thomas Kean, as well as Edward Villella, artistic director of the famed Miami City Ballet. Villella is an advisor to the New Jersey Ballet.

Byrne and Kean then performed a soft shoe to the tune of "Tea For Two," in which Villella joined them. I talked to Byrne during one of the intermissions and asked if this was the start of a new career.

## It's never too early to plan for New Year's

First Night Westfield '89 is seeking artists to perform at its New Year's Eve Celebration of the Arts, an evening designed to broaden and deepen the public's appreciation for the visual and performing arts. This high quality program offers the community a shared diverse and cultural experience that is accessible and affordable to all. There will be music, dance, theater, storytelling, magic, hands-on arts and crafts, puppets and much, much more.

Performance proposals are being sought in all artistic disciplines. They should include a detailed description of program or work, length of program and number of times it can be repeated, space requirements, technical requirements and rehearsal or installation requirements. Include

appropriate materials such as cassette tapes, press clippings, scripts, photos, drawings, models, slides or VHS video tapes. A schedule of performances, showings or demonstrations that evaluators can attend would also be helpful.

Proposals are reviewed by the First Night Committee. Final selections are based on artistic merit, concept, feasibility and the availability of funds. Please submit proposals to Arlene Bertrand of Barbara Karp, c/o The Westfield "Y", 220 Clark Street, Westfield, NJ 07090. For more information, contact Arlene at (908) 232-9365 or Barbara at (908) 232-2309.

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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

ing season. For information, call Bob Peiser at (908) 688-0313.

GENMI GROUP is seeking cameramen and technicians for filming original works for broadcast on local cable stations.

For information, call Scott Colley at (908) 684-1054 or write to: Gemini Group, 569 Trinity Place, Westfield, 07090.

RAHWAY VALLEY JERSEYANS barbershop quartet rehearses in the First Baptist Church Hall, 170 Elm St., Westfield, every Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. Men of all ages are invited to stop by. For information, call (908) 273-7158 or (908) 392-2876.

SANCHOCHOIR men's chorus rehearses Friday evenings at 8:30 p.m. Schwabacher Sanderburg mixed chorus rehearses Thursday evenings at 8:30 p.m. at the Deutscher Club in Clark. New members are welcome. For information, call Walter Schneider at (908) 382-4900.

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COMEDY

JOE'S BARBERSHOP at Tavern in the Park features popular comedians on Fridays, June 5, Master Hypnotist

ART SHOWS

SKULSKI ART GALLERY of the Polish Cultural Foundation of Clark will present paintings by Krystyna Ruzicka-Przydziocha through tomorrow.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday from 5 to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The foundation is located at 177 Broadway, Clark. For information, call (732) 385-1797.

TOMASULO Art Gallery of Union County College will feature the sculpture and installations of Bascha Mon through June 18.

Gallery hours are 4 to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday. UCC is located at 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford. For information, call (908) 709-7155.

JACOB TRAPP Gallery in Summit will present "Sympy/Tenness and Van Gogh" through June 25.

Gallery hours are weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and weekends from 10 a.m. to noon. The gallery is located at 4 Waldron Ave., Summit. For information, call (908) 273-2244 or (908) 522-0020.

CHILDREN'S SPECIALIZED HOSPITAL will present color photography by Sheila R. Lengue of Union, Heinz W. Oltrop of Warren and James J. Stascheki of Parsippany throughout June and July. An opening reception for the Lengue exhibition will be held on June 14 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. daily. Visitors are requested to enter the building through the ambulance entry. CSH is located on New Providence Road in Mountaineer.

SPRINGFIELD LIBRARY will display self-authored and self-illustrated children's books by Kindergarten classes at Edward V. Walton School in Springfield through June.

The books are on display in the Children's department. The library is located at 66 Mountain Ave., Springfield.

SUMMIT FRAME and ART will have an exhibit of oil paintings by Geoffrey Newby throughout June.

Hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Thursday until 7 p.m. The store is located at 465 Springfield Ave., Summit. For information, call (908) 273-8885.

MARK ME FOR LIFE, a photography exhibit by John Wyatt, will be on display at the Donald B. Palmer Museum of the Springfield Public Library through July 1.

Hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Sunday from 1 to 3:30 p.m. The library is located at 66 Mountain Ave., Springfield. For information, call (908) 273-2244.

NEW JERSEY CENTER FOR VISUAL ARTS in Summit will exhibit works by Doug Schiller through June 30.

Gallery hours are weekdays from noon to 4 p.m., Thursday from 7-9 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2-4 p.m. NJCVA is located at 68 Elm St., Summit. For information, call (908) 273-9121.

LES MALAMUT Art Gallery in Union will present "Journey into Personal Abstractions," an exhibition of paintings by Alfred T. Kasper of Cranford, through June 7. A reception will be held on June 7 from 2 to 4 p.m.

The gallery is located in Union Library, Fiberglass Park, Union. For information, call 851-5450.

SWAIN GALLERIES in Plainfield will display "Voyages/Vages," paintings by Cabrero Sileta of Madrid from Saturday through July 3. A reception will be held on Saturday from 5-7 p.m.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturday to 4 p.m. Swain is located at 703 Watchung Ave., Plainfield. For information, call (908) 788-1707.

ANNUAL MEMBERS SHOW of New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit will be on display from Sunday through July 12. A reception will be held on Sunday from 2-5 p.m.

Gallery hours are Monday through Friday from noon to 4 p.m., Thursday from 7:30 to 9 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. NJCVA is located at 68 Elm St. in Summit. For information, call (908) 273-9121.

BAIRD THEATER of South Orange is looking for a musical director for the 1998-99 season, with opening performance in late October.

The Baird Theater is located in the Baird Center, 5 E. Livingston and Orange. For information, call (973) 783-2028.

BLOOMFIELD ORCHESTRA is looking for musicians for the string and woodwind sections.

There are no auditions. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays evenings at the Bloomfield Civic Center. For information, call (908) 688-1224 or (201) 230-3420.

THE PHILHARMONIANS OF FANWOOD needs technical help for ongoing season. For information, call Bob Peiser at (908) 688-0313.

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SHOUT! presents live musical entertainment on weekends.

The tavern is located at 116 Watchung Ave., Plainfield. For information, call (908) 789-5880.

JOE'S BARBERSHOP at Tavern in the Park features popular comedians on Fridays, June 5, Master Hypnotist

then opens the stage to any aspiring player who enters. The show opens at 9:30 p.m.

Wednesdays — B.S. of B.S. and the Singers hosts Open Blues Jam with all musicians welcome.

Thursdays — Psychedelic Thursdays presents the greatest sounds of classic rock, performed by local bands.

Weekend performances include blues, rock and rock music. An upscale and traditional blues brunch is presented every Sunday, and Karaoke with Leo Hoy and Danson.

Crossroads is located at 78 North Ave., Garwood. For information, call (908) 232-8666.

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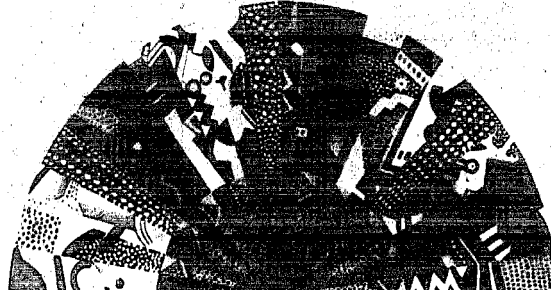
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'In the Land of Oo-bla-dee...' a litho-collage by Miriam Schapiro, will be on display at Aljira Fine Art Auction.

Assembly Hall, 140 Mountain Ave., Westfield.

Interested male singers are invited to call Dale Junilla at (908) 232-0673.

Admission is \$8 for show only, \$25 dinner package is available. Show begins at 9 p.m. Tavern in the Park is located at 147 West Westfield Ave., Roselle Park. For information, call (908) 241-7400.

CASUAL TIMES restaurant features comedians on weekends.

The restaurant is located at 1065 Central Ave., Clark. For information, call (908) 388-8511.

CLARK LIBRARY will present guitar music and singing tomorrow at 2 p.m.

The library is located at 303 Westfield Ave., Clark. For information, call (732) 388-5999.

PERCEPTION will perform jazz music on Saturday at 2 p.m. at Elizabeth Library.

The library is located at 11 South Broad St., Elizabeth. For information, call 354-0908.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH of the Holy Trinity in Westfield will feature a musical presentation on Saturday.

The church is located at 11 South Broad St., Elizabeth. For information, call 354-0908.

DANCE SWINGIN' TERN DANCES will present the following lineup:

June 6, Trish Petzold and Hot Under the Cover.

June 20, Dan Pearl and Soozeylou.

July 4, Sam Rotenberg and Four Potato Slaw.

July 16, Peter Sixx and Reddies Abandon.

"Dances are held at Ogden Memorial Church on Main St. in Chatham, at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$7 per person. Seekers only are required. For information, call (973) 538-8286 or (973) 228-9728.

Danny Moore, June 12, Gino Cecchioni.

Admission is \$8 for show only, \$25 dinner package is available. Show begins at 9 p.m. Tavern in the Park is located at 147 West Westfield Ave., Roselle Park. For information, call (908) 241-7400.

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# Arts council offers fellowship funds

Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation has announced the immediate availability of 1999 New Jersey State Council on the Arts individual artist fellowship guidelines and applications. The funding categories available for 1999 include: etching, sculpture, photography, interdisciplinary performance, prose, poetry, and playwriting. The deadline for 1999 application is July 15.

This is the second year that Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation has administered fellowship grants for the NJ State Council on the Arts. It has proven to be a cost-effective way for the council to provide fellowship to individual NJ-based artists and has helped to further the growing relationship between Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation and the NJ State Council on the Arts.

"The New Jersey State Council on the Arts is pleased to be offering fellowships to New Jersey artists in seven different categories in 1999. It is a measure of the council's commitment to individual artists in the state, and of our desire to support growth and achievement."

"The fellowships program is a vital element in the council's total program of support for artists. We are also pleased to be working with the expert staff at Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation for a second year," said David Miller, deputy executive director of the NJ State Council on the Arts.

To be eligible, one must be an artist in one of the disciplines offered and a permanent NJ resident. Fellowships are awarded solely on the basis of artistic excellence and not other merit that may be associated with a project or any other factors.

To request a copy of the fellowship guidelines and an application, call Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation at (410) 539-6656, ext. 115; for questions about the NJ Fellowship program, dial ext. 101. Guidelines and applications are available in large print. If any special accommodations are required to file an NJSCA fellowship application, call Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation at ext. 101.

A series of technical assistance workshops will be held at five locations across the state between June 1-9. Artists intending to apply for fellowships are encouraged to attend one of these workshops. To register, call (609) 292-6130.

Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation fosters, develops and supports regional arts programming for the benefit of arts organizations, artists and audiences, and encourages exchanges that link the arts resources of the Mid Atlantic region to the rest of the nation and the world. The foundation was created in 1979. It is a private, non-profit organization that is closely allied with the region's state arts councils and the National Endowment for the Arts.

# Stepping Out

(Continued from Page B6)  
Drive in Milburn. For information, call (973) 376-4343.

ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL will be the site of St. Anthony R.C. Church and St. Mary's R.C. Church production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," June 18, 19 and 20 at 8 p.m. and June 21 at 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 in advance, \$5 at the door. The high school is located on Post Street in Elizabeth. For information, call (908) 351-3300.

## TRIPS

NJ CENTER FOR VISUAL ARTS will sponsor a bus trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC on June 11. Bus leaves at 9 a.m. from the parking lot of the ASP in New Providence, returning from the museum only at 3:30 p.m. For information, call (908) 273-9121.

## VARIETY

NJ WOMEN'S THEATRE COOPERATIVE will present three staged readings of new plays at Playwrights Theatre in Madison tomorrow and Saturday at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m. Donation of \$5 will be taken at the door. The theater is located at 33 Green Village Road in Madison. For information, call (973) 443-9125.

ROAD RALLY will take place on Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Cost is \$18 per person in advance. For information, call Temple Sha'rey

Shalom in Springfield at (973) 379-5387.

SIX FLAGS GREAT ADVENTURE will present David Clayton Thomas and Blood, Sweat and Tears, and The Commodores on Saturday at 8 p.m. On June 14 at 7 p.m., Joan Jetz and The Blackhearts.

Great Adventure is located in Jackson. For information, call (732) 928-4013.

SPORTS CARD/MEMORABILIA show will be held on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Rahway Senior Citizen Center. Admission is \$1. Children under age 6 are admitted free. The senior center is located at 1306 Esterbrook Ave., Rahway. For information, call (732) 827-2094.

## Poetry contest offered

The Texas Poetry Alliance is offering a \$1,000.00 grand prize in their annual poetry contest open to the public. There is no entry fee and everyone is invited to submit a poem. "Our goal is to encourage new talent," says Poetry Director Thomas Michaels. "In a world where poetry is the Cinderella of the Arts, we are helping poets to find their glass slipper."

To enter, send one poem 21 lines or less to: Free Poetry Contest, 1712 E. Riverside Dr., Suite 147, Austin, Texas 78741. Or enter online at www.freecontest.com.

# You just have to watch 'Fandango'

Did you ever see a movie in which nothing really happens but you just have to watch it anyway? That even though there's no real conflict, no real drama, the characters are so identifiable it's like you're not even watching a movie. It's like you're sitting around watching your friends talk.

"Fandango" is this type of movie. It's the late 1960s and four friends who call themselves "the groovers" have just graduated from the University of Texas. Before they start the rest of their lives, they decide to hop into a convertible and drive around the state, looking for some sort of excitement or maybe just a sign of what they should do next. And so they drive. And nothing much happens but everybody knows people like these characters, so you have to listen when they talk about sex, marriage, life and death.

Actually, a few things do happen. A few very funny things. The young man stops at the Peccos Parachute School run by a pot-smoking flower child Judd Nelson, in one of his first roles, decides he never had real excitement in his life and wants to skydive. He bails out of the plane just as his friends, watching from the ground, realize that he doesn't have a parachute tied to his back, he has a sack of laundry.

The film was also one of the first films of Kevin Costner's career. The film began as a short titled "Proof." Steven Spielberg saw it and gave "Proof" director Kevin Reynolds money to make the short into a full-length feature. Reynolds later directed "Robin Hood," starring his friend Costner, and soon after that made the ill-fated "Waterworld," also starring Costner. New on video: "Boogie Nights," drama; "L.A. Confidential," suspense; "Kiss the Girls," thriller. Trivia: Only two actors have been the top box-office draws five years in a row. Burt Reynolds is one. Name the other. Answer: Bing Crosby.

## The Video Detective

By Jim Riffel

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

Organizations submitting releases to the entertainment section can mail copy to 1291 Unionway Ave., P.O. Box 3109, New Jersey, 07083.

**Jacquie McCarthy, Editor**  
 Worral Community Newspapers Inc. 1998 All Rights Reserved  
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# HEALTHY LIVING

## Legendary Steve Allen to speak to cancer survivors

Noted comedian, author and entertainer Steve Allen will be the featured speaker at the fifth annual Cancer Survivors Day picnic sponsored by the Saint Barnabas Cancer Centers of Livingston and Union. Scheduled for Sunday from noon to 4 p.m., the event will be held at the East Wing parking lot of the Medical Center on Old Short Hills Road in Livingston. National Cancer Survivors Day, celebrated in over 650 communities throughout North America, is a nationwide event honoring the millions of Americans who are surviving a cancer diagnosis. The event is open to anyone who has been diagnosed with cancer, their families, friends and healthcare providers.

A cancer survivor, Steve Allen will share his personal experiences with the disease, and offer his perspective on how humor can help in coping with cancer. Perhaps best known as a comedian, Steve Allen has been described by Noel Coward as "the most talented man in America." He is the creator and first host of "The Tonight Show" and for years the star of his own prime time comedy series, "The Steve Allen Show." He was honored in 1985 by the "Guinness Book of World Records" as the most prolific composer of modern times, having written more than 7,000 songs recorded by such artists as Aretha Franklin, Bing Crosby and Judy Garland, including the familiar, "This Could Be the Start of Something Big." Allen has also acted on Broadway and in film and published 49 books.

In addition to Allen's talk, the picnic will offer a wide variety of both educational and recreational activities for survivors and their families. Activities include Tai Chi, massage therapy, survivors art projects and a preview performance of the pediatric cancer survivors chorus. Display tables will offer information about nutrition and wellness, as well as resources for coping with cancer. For children and those young at heart, entertainment, games and music will be provided. A picnic lunch will be served.

Saint Barnabas Medical Center is New Jersey's oldest and largest, non-profit, nonsectarian hospital with 620 beds. The Cancer Center in Livingston features state-of-the-art facilities, including a dedicated 36-bed Oncology Unit, a renovated radiation oncology department, private chemotherapy treatment rooms, a Community Resource Library and extensive psycho-social support programs. The Cancer Center on Galloping Hill Road in Union offers the most up-to-date chemotherapy treatments administered in a spacious suite, as well as a Community Resource Library and support programs. Both Centers offer patients access to a wide variety of clinical research protocols testing new approaches to therapy.

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A cancer survivor, Steve Allen will share his personal experiences with the disease, and offer his perspective on how humor can help in coping with

activities include Tai Chi, massage

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# Director makes plans for growth of NJ Shakespeare Festival

(Continued from Page B3)  
 V says in the play, we suddenly turned into this courageous little band of brothers trying to make this thing work. I think we were very lucky that the adversity brought out the best in everybody."

"This courageous little band of brothers" includes directors who lend their creative to the NJSF effort, with Monte at the helm. "I would go out of my mind if I had to do everything. There's no way I could direct everything, nor would I want to, but when I am not in rehearsals for my own shows, I am in everyone else's, making sure that their lives as artists are being served. I'm also here to see that they're having a great time."

"In fact, first and foremost, the artistic philosophy for the theater, so certain kinds of directors are drawn to work here," she continued. "From the moment I walked in here, I said, 'I am not interested in museum-piece Shakespeare.' I don't care what they did 400 years ago. Shakespeare didn't

care what they did 400 years ago. Shakespeare's the one who started the whole notion of putting people in different time periods and switching around like that. We take the past, which is the most important thing that we have because it teaches us about the future. I have absolutely no agenda about being labeled as a traditional company or as a non-traditional company."

"That translated into 'Richard III' with the lead actor miking comical use of a disguised hand, and 'Henry V' performed on the football field of Bayley-Elland Catholic High School in Madison."

"From the very beginning, we took Shakespeare's clue about what he says to do with it," said Monte of "Henry V," "and he says in the very first line it's a wooden 'O,' which means it's just around, wooden platform. And that's exactly what we did, and we kept it very intimate," not what the audience was expecting. "Suddenly, that story just became

riveting, and you were part of it. We did the opposite of what everybody thought we were going to do. And it was extremely effective."

Monte also oversees the Festival's professional training program. "I'm very committed to training new artists, so every single thing they do, I see. We really work hard to train actors here and to see their work at a very intense level. There's a tremendous amount of time and energy spent to be sure that we are not just using young talent, but creating it."

The Festival's most recent find is Trisha Paoluccio, who will portray Roxanne in "Cyrano De Bergerac." "We found Trisha from an audition in New York a couple of years ago. She was in grad school at NYU, very young, and we hired her to be in our non-equity touring company." Paoluccio next appeared in last season's main stage production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" as a fairy. "Watching her do that and watching her do some late-night projects,

we all began to realize that she was extraordinarily talented," said Monte.

"Henry V" director Scott Wentworth cast Paoluccio in the lead role of Catherine. In addition to Roxanne, Monte reported that Paoluccio will play another lead role later this summer.

Of all Monte's accomplishments at NJSF, none of it matters without an audience. If Festival shows are "unexciting and inaccessible and boring, why should they come? They wouldn't!" said Monte. "I need to make theater as exciting an experience as the immediacy of a sports event or the relevancy of tv, or what film does by drawing you right into the screen."

Excitement, accessibility and relevancy played a major role in Monte's choice of "Cyrano De Bergerac" to open the Festival's grandest season. "I did not want to open with a Shakespeare," Monte said firmly. "I came to that conclusion after long, hard thought. I am trying to get as

many people to come to this theater as possible. Shakespeare scares them off. If it takes getting them through another route, I'll do it."

"Everybody knows 'Cyrano De Bergerac,' everybody saw Steve Martin's 'Roxanne.' Everybody has to read it in high school. It is not a scary play, in fact, it's a very embracing play. I wanted to find a show that was going to welcome more people in, and I think it's going to do that. I wanted to find a show that matched the event of opening of a new theater. 'Cyrano' is epic in so many ways, it is an event in itself."

And "Cyrano" will help Monte make good on her promise that building the F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theater will open the doors for more expansive productions.

"People don't do it very often," she said. "It's got huge elements that you have to coordinate. You've got to coordinate music, makeup, sword-fighting, incredible costumes, sets, 35 actors, vocal coaches, wig. But if you

can do it, if you can pull it off, it's scope is as big as that of building a theater."

The fight to build the F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theater has given Monte a new respect for Cyrano himself. "The process of accomplishing this has been in some ways an act of insanity," rebellion, bravura, courage, however you want to look at it, it is somewhat similar to what 'Cyrano' represents. Having had to fight so hard for quality, I rebel against mediocrity."

Producing larger-than-life theater is not the only way the Festival will expand. "Mike and I have, I think, envisioned some great things. In terms of how we want to expand or not expand, we don't ever want to go to the point where we become so large that the artistry becomes separate from the people involved, but we certainly have plans of expanding in ways that I think are going to really enable us to reach more people."

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Summer Open June 1998









# Real Estate

## Home sales are soaring in quarter

Sales of existing single-family homes in New Jersey have continued to soar as 33,700 units were sold during 1998's first quarter, the New Jersey Association of Realtors reported. According to NJAR, the 33,700 homes sold was an increase of 11.2 percent from 1997's total of 30,300 units sold was sold.

"These numbers have become the norm for what traditionally used to be a slower time of the year for housing sales," said Michael F. Ford, NJAR president. "What used to be a hot market in the spring and summer and slower market in the fall and winter is no longer. For the past several years, we have been seeing a strong market all year, due to low mortgage rates and a strong economy which allows more first time home buyers to enter the real estate marketplace."

According to NJAR, the seasonally adjusted annual rate of existing single-family homes for first-quarter 1998 is 162,800, up 11.1 percent from the 145,900 registered during the same period in 1997.

Regionally, all areas of New Jersey did well, however, Southern New Jersey saw the greatest increase, 18.4 percent in home sales. During the first quarter of 1998, 11,600 homes were sold compared to 9,800 units sold last year. In the north, sales rose 8.8 percent from 1997's January, February and March when sales were 11,300 to its current 12,300 level. Central New Jersey saw a 7.7 percent increase reaching 9,000 from last year's 9,100 units sold.

The median sale price of an existing single-family home in New Jersey jumped 2.5 percent, \$154,700, from the first quarter of 1997 when it was \$151,000. This year's \$154,700 is also up slightly from 1997's fourth quarter when the median price recorded at \$153,700.

The housing affordability index for prospective buyers in New Jersey hit \$11.6, reaching its highest level in New Jersey since NJAR began tracking figures in 1988 when the composite was 76.9.

## RENTAL

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# Automotive



1998 Buick Park Avenue Ultra

## Buick offers strong lineup for 1998

Buick enters its 95th anniversary year in 1998 with "the strongest lineup we have ever offered," according to Buick General Manager Robert E. Coletta. "Across the board, our models offer fresh styling, high levels of safety, strength and performance, and are rated in independent studies as premium cars of great value."

For the 1998 model year, Park Avenue luxury sedans and Century midsize sedans are enhancements of 1997 models that were all new. The midsize Regal sedans have updates based on significantly redesigned 1997-1/2 models.

"These new models were very well accepted by our customers and the automotive press," said Coletta. "They get a little fine-tuning for '98 and are now available in volume." Buick also offers LeSabre, the best-selling full-size car in the U.S. market for five consecutive years, and Riviera, a luxury sport coupe which has been widely described as the most distinctively styled car for the decade. The compact Skylark will be sold only to fleet customers in '98, its final year in the Buick lineup.

All of Buick's retail models for 1998 are available with GM OnStar, an in-vehicle communications system that offers customers an extra measure of driving safety, highway security and traveling convenience.

OnStar combines the use of Global Positioning System satellite technology and a hands-free, voice-activated cellular telephone to link drivers to a communications center whose advisers are available to provide assistance, such as emergency services and navigational and travel support. OnStar, which is a dealer-installed option, also offers automatic notification of air bag deployment and stolen vehicle tracking.

Park Avenue Ultra, Riviera and Regal GS are powered by the supercharged 3800 Series II V6 engine that produces 240 horsepower at 5200 rpm and 280 lb-ft of torque

at 3600 rpm. Park Avenue, LeSabre and Regal LS use the naturally aspirated version of the same engine, which in Park Avenue and LeSabre delivers 205 horsepower at 5200 rpm and 230 lb-ft of torque at 4000 rpm. The 3800 Series II V6 was ranked by "Ward's Auto World" magazine as one of the "10 Best Engines," three consecutive years for the naturally aspirated version, and two consecutive years for the supercharged version.

For 1998, the 3100 and 3800 Series II V6 Engines are equipped with various emission control improvements. In addition, the Onboard Refueling Vapor Recovery System, which is designed to recover fuel vapors during refueling, is provided on Park Avenue, Park Avenue Ultra, Riviera, Century, Regal and Skylark.

Every Buick offers the following safety, convenience and durability features in 1998: four-wheel anti-lock brakes, two-sided galvanized steel body construction, 100,000-mile/100,000-mile rust-through protection, 100,000-mile spark plugs, 150,000-mile engine coolant, 100,000-mile Dexron III transmission fluid, electronically controlled transmissions, remote keyless entry, and theft-deterrent systems.

Next, all Buick's feature driver and front passenger Next Generation air bags which have reduced force. The most aggressive air bags, made possible by a change in federal safety regulations, will improve overall vehicle safety for all occupants.

Independent survey results for 1997 included Park Avenue as Best New Car, Best in Class and First for Safety in the \$25,000-\$35,000 category from "Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine," and LeSabre as Best Large Car Value from IntelliChoice; First for Safety in the \$18,000-\$25,000 category from "Kiplinger's," and Best Large Car Total Value from Strategic Vision Inc.

## Solara will bring in the new century in style

Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A. Inc. unveiled the all-new 1999 Solara sport coupe at its world premiere press conference at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit.

The mid-size coupe is based on the Camry front-drive platform and will share the Camry's engines and transmissions. It will be built exclusively at the company's recently expanded and expanded plant in Cambridge, Ontario, Canada, and will arrive in dealer showrooms in the United States and Canada in August.

"Solara was developed to target a new opportunity in the sport specialty segment, an emerging market with strong long-term growth potential," said Dave Illingworth, Toyota division vice president and general manager. "Solara's primary target will be empty-nest boomers, entering their peak earning years, who are nostalgic for the sports car of their youth, but need more car and comfort than a sports car can provide," he said.

"They are looking for expressive styling that is a cut above the competition; styling that is a balanced blend of both sportiness and elegance. They want a vehicle that is powerful, fun to drive and comfortable and delivers exceptional value. More to the point, they are seeking justifiable indulgence. Approximately 1.5 million empty-nest boomers enter the market every year, 30 percent of whom say they would like to purchase a sports car. We're convinced the Solara is the sports coupe many of them have been waiting for."

The Solara is an especially significant vehicle for Toyota because it will be the first to take advantage of the combined talents of Toyota's North American styling, engineering and manufacturing facilities.

Solara was styled by Toyota's CALTY Design Center in Newport Beach, Calif., which also was responsible for creating the Lexus SC series. An elegant and upscale coupe, Solara combines hard edges and tight surfaces to create a feeling of precision, a sense of stability and a timeless beauty. Relying on refinement rather than exaggeration, Solara's target image is mature, dignified and controlled; a

vehicle aimed at broad appeal within a segment drive by image and style. While CALTY handled initial styling, engineering development for the new coupe was shared between Toyota Engineering in Japan and the Toyota Technical Center, based in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Toyota has become increasingly reliant on TTC's ability to design and engineer cars, components and systems with unique appeal to the American consumer. The TTC has contributed significantly to the North American content of domestically produced vehicles by building a strong American supplier base. The TTC also works closely with North American production facilities to develop parts and components that make the production process simpler, less expensive and more precise.

This last point is important because it is one of the reasons why the production facility where the coupe will be built has twice been the recipient of the J.D. Power Gold Plant Award for initial quality. In 1988, Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Canada, began building the Camry. Last year, TMMCC was expanded to 2.8 million square feet to accommodate the addition of a second plant. The original plant was re-tooled to handle the production of the all-new Solara at an initial rate of 50,000 units per year. When it is fully operational, the facility will have a combined Corolla/Solara capacity of 200,000 units per year, employing 2,700 people.

Solara will be the sixth North American-built vehicle marketed by Toyota. With the addition of Sienna last year and Solara this year, North American-built vehicles will account for more than 65 percent of Toyota's total U.S. sales. Built at TMMCC and styled at CALTY, and benefiting from growing design and engineering involvement from TTC, Solara will be the product of the highest level of North American influence of any Toyota vehicle.

Solara will be offered in SE and SLE grade levels. The SE will give buyers a choice of either a 200-horsepower 3.0-liter DOHC 24-valve V6 or 136-horsepower DOHC four cylinder engine backed by either five-speed

manual or four-speed automatic transmissions. The Solara SLE premium grade will feature the V6 with automatic transmission, exclusively. With engine performance a high priority among buyers in this segment, approximately 75 percent of all Solara's sold the first year will be powered by the V6 engine.

The Solara buyer will demand a high level of feature content and quality. Flagship-grade component quality. Standard equipment on the SE grade will include four-wheel anti-lock brakes, power windows, door locks and mirrors, air conditioning, tilt wheel, cruise control, side airbags, deluxe AM/FM cassette and 15-inch wheels and tires.

Options on the SE grade include 8-way power driver seat, moon roof, premium grade audio systems with JBL amplified speakers, 15-inch alloy wheels and leather interior. Standard equipment on the SLE grade will include leather interior with 8-way adjustable driver seat, 15-inch alloy wheels, keyless entry/security system and premium 3-1/2-inch AM-FM/cassette/CD with amplified JBL speaker system. To further enhance Solara's premium image, automatic climate control, heated side-view mirrors, three-function HomeLink electronic remote-control system and auto-dimming rear-view mirror will be offered as standard equipment, exclusively to the SLE grade. Traction control also will be offered as an exclusive option on the SLE, while a rear spoiler and 16-inch alloy wheels and tires will be offered as optional equipment on all grades powered by the V6 engine.

"The emerging market for a vehicle like the Solara is driven by demographic shifts which allow for more flexibility in household flows," said Illingworth. "The important point is that the industry moves in cycles. There is no doubt that the sporty car segment has seen better times, and there is no doubt that it will see better times, again. Car manufacturers that can accurately gauge the demographic shifts in the market, then target these shifts with the right products, will succeed. The Solara is a special product for a special market. It won't be the last. So stay tuned."

### AUTOMOTIVE

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CADILLAC, SEDAN DE VILLE, 1988. Beige, leather interior, New tires, front suspension, \$4,000. Call 908-551-0307.

CAMARO RS Rally Sport, 1987, 25th Anniversary Edition, White, Loaded. Excellent condition. \$18,900. Call 973-761-8503.

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CHEVETTE MALIBU white convertible top, 1988. Red with white interior, 4 speed, 327 motor, dual carburetors, excellent running condition. Call 973-735-5513.

CHEVY CAPRICE, 1989. Black, loaded, sun roof, One owner. Under 50,000 miles. \$5,000 or Best Offer. Call 973-735-5513.

CHEVY CAVALIER SEDAN, 1987. LSA. Green 4-door, 4-speed, automatic transmission, front wheel drive, stereo tape decks \$11,000. 973-735-5513.

CHRYSLER CONCORD, 1995. 13,000 miles. power seats, windows, steering, air conditioning, 100,000 miles. Call 973-735-5513.

DOUGIE CARAVAN, 1987. 7-passenger 4-cylinder, AM/FM, mag wheels, top, 8000. All power. Buick, 19,500. Best offer. Runs good! 908-810-9358.

DOUGIE CORONET, 1948. Restored. Call 908-810-9358.

DOUGIE NEON, 1997. Highline. Like new. new. Excellent condition. 15,000 miles. Cruise, air, AM/FM cassette, power steering, Buick to Buick. Great buy! \$9500 or best offer. 973-735-8995.

DOUGIE SHADOW, 1987. Dark blue, automatic, 87,000 miles. Original owner, excellent condition. no air, well maintained. \$4,800. Days 908-245-4100, Evenings 908-686-7067.

DREAM MACHINES - got a picture of your car? Run it for 4 weeks and call. Call Classified at 800-554-8811 for details.

FORD AEROSTAR, 1992. Extended, Eddie Bauer Fully loaded, perfect, clean, custom paint. \$5,900. Call 973-735-5513.

FORD EXPLORER XLT, 1993. 4 wheel drive, automatic, air, all power, all-terrain brakes, roof rack, 85K, one owner. \$13,500. 973-735-5513.

FORD FESTIVA, 1991. Excellent condition. Blue hatchback, 3-door, 8-speed, AM/FM cassette, 50K miles. \$2100. Call 973-735-5513.

FORD TALUSUR GL, 1997. 5,000 miles, 2-year warranty, 8000. Call 973-735-5513.

FORD TRUVUS Wagon, 1988. 7 passenger. While with last owner. All original. Original owner. \$1,795. 973-228-0101.

GEO STORM GS, 1991. Black, grey interior, 8 speed, air-conditioner, stereo cassette, 115,000 miles. Runs/looks excellent. \$1,700. negotiable. 908-684-4033.

GMC SONOMA Pickup, 1991, grey, 5 speed, manual steering, alarm, lock box, low miles, 41,000 miles. \$5,800. Best offer. 908-954-7894.

ISUZU TROOPER, 1986. 4 door, 5 speed, 4 wheel drive. Asking \$3000, willing to negotiate. Call 908-686-7708, please leave message. 973-735-5513.

JAGUAR XJ6, 1986. Mini condition. 78,000 miles. \$9900. Call 908-273-8444.

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