

Union County

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WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 1998 SECTION B

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Identify the extent, type of crime

Two weeks ago, officials at all levels were scrambling to get ahead of the crime curve. The annual New Jersey State Police statewide crime statistics were released, and it was time for some credit taking.

With state violent crime at a 25-year low, there were the photo shots of proud politicians, with a backdrop of stern-looking police straight from central casting. While Union County saw a slight overall increase in crime, this is attributed to the vagaries of statistical analysis.

I studied a portion of the crime report with more than a passing interest. As a two-time auto theft victim, it is a subject that continues to hold my attention.

Left Out

By Frank Caprice

The State Police reported that in 1997, auto theft was down to 3,908 from 4,030 the previous year. Only Roselle, Rahway, Clark and Elizabeth saw slight increases. Increased patrols, aging population and the overall improvement in the economy were given as reasons. Good news? Yes, good news; but it isn't good enough.

Auto theft stays with you long after the insurance check has been cashed. The "suspicious" feeling returns every time you leave a store and can't immediately identify your car. It's also the good natured ribbing of Mayor Albert M. Williams of Plainfield reminding me that 200 cars were stolen in the "high crime" communities of Mountaineer and Springfield. So, it's the frustration of knowing that the punks who stole my vehicles did it right under my nose, and worse, there is nothing I can do to alter the situation.

When BMW One was stolen, the blown out back windows and the body that looked like the victim's car, plus the bumper, kept permitted the vehicle to be totaled. To reach that state, you must first "spend" three hours at the Newark Police Station to complete the investigation. That visit is followed by a trip across the city to a police yard, where there exists a sea of abandoned stolen vehicles.

The theft of BMW Two, a scant three weeks later, thrust me against a wily adversary. The insurance adjuster assigned to the claim arbitrarily determined the heavily damaged car to be salvageable at a specific price. While the adjuster and the auto body repair shop debated the price, I was as they say in the movies, forced to wait and wait in Casablanca.

War with adjusters is not unique. After my law partner had his second car stolen from his home in West Orange, he was paid a visit by two adjusters to ensure he had not misinterpreted a scam.

Along with the second car, the See AUTO, Page B2

County to pull out of rail link deal

Freeholders slated to support manager

By Michelle Runge Staff Writer

The Union County Board of Freeholders will vote tonight on whether to pull out of a \$400-million dollar joint rail link project with New York City and only New York stands to profit.

The half-completed rail link is on Staten Island, with rebuilt tracks that would connect with a rail line in Elizabeth. The project will be put on hold until the freeholders receive some guidance that Union County's economic future is considered as part of the plan to ship freight from New York City.

County Manager Michael Lapolla recommended that the freeholders grant permission at tonight's freeholders' meeting to withdraw from the project because he said new changes in the plan do not serve the economic interests of Union County.

"Enough is enough. We're not going to be used as a stepping-stone," said Freeholder Donald Gonzalez, an Elizabeth resident who serves as liaison to the North Jersey Transportation Coordinating Council and the Transportation Advisory Board.

The Staten Island Railroad Rehabilitation Project was originally conceived to provide local freight rail service for businesses in New Jersey towns, especially in Elizabeth, Linden, Roselle and Cranford before linking with Conrail's Lehigh Valley Line one of the main freight lines in the Northeast.

The county was to use state Transportation Trust Funds to rebuild 5.5 miles of the old NJ Transit line near portions of the Arthur Kill drawbridge in Elizabeth. The line also would link an additional 5.3 miles of the old Rahway Valley freight link between Cranford and Union Township.

"I was in support of this project until I found out, despite the fact that we are opening the first rail link for New York in over 10 years, there is very little economic return," said Gonzalez. "Why should we have to deal with only the negative aspects when Union County is the axis of all transportation demands?"

Changes in the original plan mean Union County's 28-mile stretch will be left by the wayside now for the freight company recently appointed to operate the rail link will use the New Jersey part of the track only to move freight from Howland Hook, Moore Terminal on Staten Island to Conrail's Lehigh Valley Line.

The New Jersey section of the project, a 5-mile link to Conrail's main north-south tracks, is still being designed, but according to a New York

Times article, the project was now a hedge to the here.

Lapolla said after officials met last month with representatives of freight conglomerate Norfolk Southern Co., they found out that the company wants to operate the freight line themselves, thus cutting out any chance of Union County making any money and, worse, having miles of tracks rolling through instead of the originally anticipated short rail links.

"That means that there would be freight trains up to a mile long, jamming along a link that runs literally through the back yards of many residential homes," said Lapolla.

Lapolla's announcement has angered the Giuliani administration, which has already rebuilt a 15-mile stretch of track and refurbished a link bridge across the Arthur Kill with \$20 million of federal money. The deal would give New York direct freight access for the first time in more than a decade.

Lapolla said the county's real purpose for negotiating the deal agency was to create a short-line rail service that would spur the revitalization of industrial properties along the line. The county would then market and develop the parcels, which include some brownfields.

In a letter to state Transportation Commissioner John J. Holey Jr., Lapolla said railroad Norfolk Southern Co. had no plans to operate along the Rahway Valley Line, where a vast majority of marketable properties are located and no plans for economic development in Union County.

Freeholder Vice Chairman Nicholas P. Scaturro said the project potentially has many benefits but will make his decision after he knows all the facts. "We don't see what the heart of Union County gets out of it. Can you imagine being cut out of St. Georges? See COUNTY, Page B2.

Routing plan supported by aircraft board

By Sean Daily Staff Writer

A county advisory board is jumping on the ocean routing bandwagon for Newark International Airport.

The Union County Aircraft Noise Advisory Board passed a resolution Monday that supports ocean routing for planes leaving Newark International Airport.

Ocean routing, if implemented by the Federal Aviation Administration, would route planes leaving Rahway 22 west over the Atlantic Ocean to gain altitude. Rahway 22 points right into the heart of Union County and actually ends in Elizabeth.

This alternate route would give pilots a chance to climb to high altitude over the ocean, where the noise from their engines wouldn't bother anyone on the ground. Once they had looped back counterclockwise over Staten Island, they would theoretically be high enough not to bother anyone.

Only one UCAANAB member, Alex Shipe of Elizabeth, opposed ocean routing because the aircraft fly 15 miles from the ocean.

UCAANAB joins other aircraft See ADVISORY, Page B2

A future Olympian?



Photo By Milton Mills

Who better to teach 8-month-old potential Olympic swimmer, Franoyis, the rudimentary rules of splashing than his mother Franje Zebaze? Both were willing aquatic participants during a recent sunny day at the Hillside Pool.

Jail warden appointed new assistant director

By Sean Daily Staff Writer

The Union County Jail in Elizabeth has a new assistant director of Operations.

Frank Crose was appointed last week to the position by County Manager Michael Lapolla with a salary of approximately \$72,000.

"Crose fills the position recently vacated by James Coleman, now the director at the Union County Jail Crose, stands in mid-September.

"We're looking for someone with operational experience and he's got tremendous experience," Lapolla said. "He's run different kinds of correctional institutions and he complements the senior staff there perfectly."

Crore said he is "very pleased with the appointment and I'm anxious to get up to New Jersey and start work."

Right now, Crose is warden at the District of Columbia Maximum Security Facility in Lorton, Va., which he has administered since July of last year. The facility houses 634 inmates, employs 450 and has an annual budget of \$12.5 million.

The facility has twelve inmates from Union County jails, 1,000 pages more secure facility. Union County jail employs 303 correctional officers

and has an annual budget of \$23 million.

Before this, Crose was employed by the Connecticut Department of Corrections. He began at a correctional center and worked his way up to warden at various facilities before retiring in 1997.

"When he retired, Crose oversaw three correctional facilities with more than 7,500 inmates, a staff of 940 and an annual budget of \$43 million."

"Frank Crose is regarded with the respect of Connecticut's best run facility," said Dan Sullivan, chairman of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, in a press release. "His talents and management style will be a real plus to Union County's correctional services."

Crore developed a Close Custody Phase Program while with Connecticut Corrections between 1993 and 1994.

"Close Custody Deals with gang activity by first segregating different gangs — not housing rival gangs with each other — then having them live and work together in later phases."

"What made his program different, he said, was that he brought rival gangs together, instead of keeping them separate."

Lautenberg addresses seniors about Social Security

By Phillip Sean Curran Staff Writer

When Congressional lawmakers decide how to use a projected \$1 trillion surplus during the next 10 years, they must ensure that Social Security is solvent well into the next millennium, said the Senate's ranking Democrat on the Budget Committee.

Sen. Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J., said America, which is riding a wave of economic prosperity, should act now to keep that system solvent while the economy is still strong. He spoke before a large and supportive audience of senior citizens inside Union Township's Briantempel Senior Center last Friday.

"The president made a decision

and I support it fully. We are going to put it all in the Social Security system, the seniors will appreciate with my remark."

While Republicans said the budget surplus — this year at \$63 billion — should cut taxes, Lautenberg said he and the Democratic caucus have already pledged how the money will be used.

Lautenberg said, "So we agreed on this fundamental principle: 'We're not going to spend any budget surplus on anything until we save Social Security.' That's where it fits in."

Within the next few years, when the baby boomers become eligible for Social Security, they will face enormous constraints. By 2032, the system

he dutifully predicted, will become insolvent if lawmakers do not address the problem now. "If we put this money into the system, we're looking at 75-year protection," he said.

The senator was flanked by congressional candidate, and also mayor of Fairwood, Maryanne Connelly Connelly, who is facing a difficult challenge in unseating incumbent Republican Bob Franks, said she came as a favor to speak about shared problems.

"Social Security is very important," she said. "If we don't have a strong Social Security system, one each of us can rely on, it will add to the burden."

"When asked if she was on the campaign trail, Connelly said without

hesitation: "This was not a political event."

"And while Connelly stressed that the spoke only as a mayor, campaign literature sent to the media suggests otherwise. Printed on her campaign stationery and sent from her campaign headquarters, that media advisory read: 'Save our senior citizens. Senator Frank Lautenberg and Congressional Candidate, Speak on Solutions for Social Security.'"

The advisory also contained biographical information and ways to contact the candidates.

"Perhaps adding to the controversy, the supervisor of senior citizen activities for Union Township, Phillip Manguso, said she gave Lautenberg

and calls Lautenberg — permission to speak to the seniors. Manguso said a spokesman for the senator called asking for permission Thursday afternoon. That Connelly campaign sent the literature to media representatives Thursday morning.

There is no campaigning here, Manguso said flatly. "What happened afterward, blame the senator, not me," she said.

A spokesman for Bob Franks said the congressman would not comment on the matter. But she did not stop local Republicans from sharply criticizing Connelly and her Democratic allies.

"It was nothing more than a can See CANDIDATE, Page B2

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Advisory board supports new routing plan

(Continued from Page B1) ... New Jersey Citizens Against Aircraft Noise, in its support for sending departing planes first over the Atlantic Ocean during their first few minutes of flight.

UCATNAB's resolution is different than NCAAN's because it argues that only southbound planes — the vast majority of planes flying over Union County right now — to use ocean routing. NCAAN wants north-bound and southbound planes to use ocean routing.

The resolution will be sent to the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and to state and federal politicians — but because of an oversight in the wording of the resolution, not to the Port Authority, which runs the airport, or to the FAA.

Both new planes leaving Runway 22 use a controversial routing plan called the Solberg Mitigation Plan. UCATNAB is in favor of the plan, which was instituted in April 1996.

But according to UCATNAB, the plan is not being followed; planes are being allowed to take shortcuts and wander all over Union County.

This incorrect implementation has actually put more airplanes over a number of Union County towns, including Clark, Rahway, Linden, Elizabeth, Hillside, Roselle, Port

Roselle, Kennedyville, Scotch Plains, Westfield and Cranford. They have also been reports that these planes are flown back before the Solberg plan was instituted, increasing the noise of their engines on the ground.

The FAA introduced a temporary "workaround" of this plan that would allow 260 turn plan on April 15. This was only a test and was to be scrapped by Sept. 15.

The 260 turn plan was supposed to decrease noise in the area of Linden and Rahway.

But UCATNAB said the plan actually put more planes over Linden, Rahway and Clark and gave those planes less time to climb. They were

thus closer and would sound louder on the ground.

Fregolider liaison Chester Holmes, who left before the vote, called the meeting "productive."

But he added that UCATNAB was spending too much time complaining about what the FAA wasn't doing rather than suggesting things the FAA could do.

UCATNAB Chairman Jerome Feder replied to this by saying that his board does not know what the FAA is going to do after Sept. 15, making it difficult to plan what Linden member Alex Youngblood called a "course of action."

The president said if the other day, when he listed the reasons he gave for the bombing, or his relation to terrorist attacks to our people. He said there was compelling evidence that there would be more attacks.

During a brief question-and-answer session, a local man and Republican candidate for Union Township Committee asked if Lautenberg would consider eschewing his Lautenberg Social Security check as a token gesture.

The question sent Lautenberg into a rage, as he abruptly ended the event and called the question of Charles S. Minion "politically motivated."

His abilities can earn extra income. Advertise them with a classified ad by calling 1-800-561-8841.

There is no doubt in my mind that this was the right thing to do," he said.

In a brief address, Lautenberg touched on other topics. He recently endorsed President Clinton's decision to freeze visas at sites in Afghanistan and Sudan where U.S. intelligence officials suspect chemical weapons are being made. The attacks came also after 12 Americans were killed in terrorist bombings in Kenya and Tanzania, sparking America would not allow itself to be pushed around on the international arena by the sender and just minutes before appearing before the senior citizens.

Lautenberg said he had a private phone conversation with Central Intelligence Agency officials about that matter.

"There is no doubt in my mind that this was the right thing to do," he said.

Courtesy unhappy with agreement on rail link

(Continued from Page B1) Elizabeth Mayor J. Christian Bollagwe opposes an alternative plan for removing freight off Staten Island by rail. The Port Authority has proposed a connection from the New Jersey side of the Arthur Kill bridge to existing freight tracks on the Chemical Coast line but Bollagwe fears that what may be used to transport New York City's garbage after the Fresh Kills landfill closes, a concern echoed by Lapolla in a letter to the freighters.

The "all-Democratic" board intends to approve Lapolla's request and will most likely vote against freight giant Norfolk Southern/CSX using the link.

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which is coordinating the project and certain environmental groups that are in favor of the plan agree that one key component is being overlooked — thousands of trucks would be taken off Union County's congested thoroughfares.

"It's a policy issue and we were elected to address issues such as this in the interest of Union County," said Scaturro.

Goncalves said there should be an accord between Union County and Norfolk Southern/CSX because portions of the freight rail run through the county.

"We're not activating this freight rail unless we get some types of assurances," from Norfolk Southern/CSX," said Goncalves.

Candidate denies 'political' presence at conference

(Continued from Page B1) ... Township is mostly off limits with regards of campaigning. It's important for any political candidate to use it as a Republican Township Committee member Greg Muller.

The day after the Muller added that the press release is written on campaign literature, not her appearance and introduction and public statements.

Local officials said the seminar center owned by the Union Township Board of Education but leased to the

township is mostly off limits with regards of campaigning. It's important for any political candidate to use it as a Republican Township Committee member Greg Muller.

Auto theft holds my attention

(Continued from Page B1) ... they look my breakfast including my Nets tickets for a game the next night. Imagine my surprise in observing people sitting in the seats they had purchased from the thief.

From the experience comes insight, when you show up in the side Police report I had the privilege of discussing my plight with Tom DeCastro, head of the Union Estevo Auto Theft Task Force. Like Gary Clopper in "High Noon," he fights the bad guys.

Second it is clear that if you park in a fancy car at a parking lot near a

highway, you place yourself at risk. Finally, while I don't drive a BMW anymore, I am in a patrol. I keep an eye out, and my hand on the car phone, ready to report on any suspicious person who might be on the other side of the statistical car auto theft. As the State Police say on the back of the "Crime in New Jersey" report, to reduce crime, you must first identify its extent, type and location. My very thought indeed.

Frank Capece is an attorney and a resident of Cranford.

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BACK-TO-SCHOOL Safety

With kids heading back to school, it's a good time to think about their safety to and from school, on the bus and at home. With the help of our sponsors, we have collected information to help you and your kids take steps to have a safer school year.

Safety On & Off The School Bus

Safety To & From School

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- WORRAL NEWSPAPERS 1801 Springfield Ave. Danon 908-488-7700

Diminutive

What's Going On?

FAIR
SUNDAY
 September 6, 1998
EVENT: Nusey Van Rippee Street Fair
PLACE: Held along Franklin Avenue from Harrison Street to Chestnut Street, Nusey, N.J.
TIME: 10:00am-6:00pm
PRICE: Rain Date September 7, 1998. Over 150 merchandise vendors and crafters, food, kiddie rides, clowns, fun for all!
ORGANIZATION: Sponsored by Van Rippee Trust

OTHER
SATURDAY
 August 29, 1998
EVENT: Original Muenchener Oktoberfest
PLACE: Fichter's Picnic Grove, Springfield, NJ
TIME: 4:00pm-Midnight
PRICE: \$5.00 (Under 12 free)
ORGANIZATION: Bayern-Verain New York and Elizabeth Sporn Club

FLEA MARKET
SUNDAY
 September 20, 1998
EVENT: Flea Market and Craft Show
PLACE: West Orange Elks, 324 Main Street, West Orange
TIME: 10:00am-5:00pm
PRICE: Dealers Call 973-669-2854 or 757-5824. Rain Date September 27th
ORGANIZATION: West Orange Elks Ladies Auxiliary

Pastel art is on display at Springfield museum

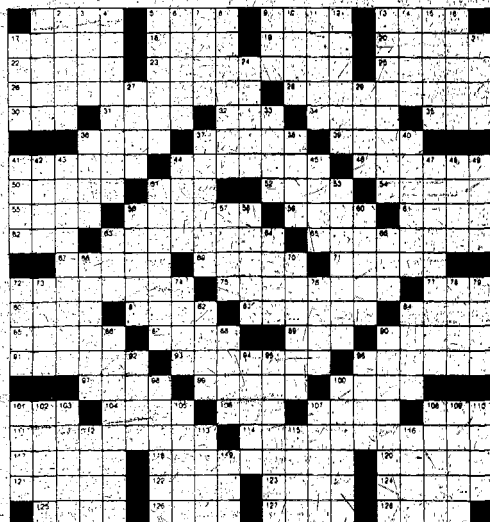
The pastel paintings of Cheryl O'Halloran McLeod will be on display at the Donald B. Palmetto Museum of the Springfield Free Public Library through Sept. 10.

A number of the paintings featuring spring in Springfield were specifically created for this exhibition titled "Hazyon Moments." Other paintings draw inspiration from flower gardens, her cat, domestic clutter and the varied-and, often dramatic, New Jersey landscape. Her lively pastel paintings awaken the spirit, and the eye to the common places and spaces of everyday living. McLeod is included in "Who's Who in American Art," and is also a Signature Member of The Pastel Society of America and a Fellow Member of The American Art Professional League. Her landscape work is represented in "North Light Publications" "Best of Pastel" and "Landscape Inspirations." An Evening With the Arts will be held Aug. 20 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The Donald B. Palmer Museum is located in the Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave. The hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 am to 4:30 p.m. For information, call (972) 376-4930.

Volunteers sought for tours

The New Jersey State House Tour Office seeks volunteers to help guide 30,000 visitors a year through the historic capitol. Home to New Jersey's government since 1792, the State House is the second oldest state capitol in continuous use in the nation. Guides lead groups through the restored Senate and General Assembly Rooms and various rooms, focusing on the building's history, architecture and the legislative process. No experience is necessary to become a volunteer tour guide, and anyone may apply. Volunteers receive complete training and work on schedule that is convenient for them. To learn more about becoming a volunteer tour guide, contact the State House Tour Office at (609) 633-2709. The Tour Program is coordinated by the Office of Public Information with the Office of Legislative Services, a non-partisan support agency for the New Jersey Legislature.

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(See ANSWERS on Page B14)

The 'Glory' of Venezuela is on display at library

"Glory," a series of paintings by Venezuelan-born artist Humberto Guana, is on display at the Les Malibu Gallery in the Union Public Library in Frisberg Park on Morris Avenue. The show will run through Sep. 16.

Fair, festival guide is being published

Celebrate the summer and fall seasons by attending the many art and craft fairs and festivals being held across the eastern half of the United States. The Arts Extension Service at the University of Massachusetts publishes the guide you need to help you prepare for this fun-filled time of year. "Fairs and Festivals 1998" marks the 23rd year of publication for this annual directory. This popular and useful guide is larger than ever, listing locations and descriptions of more than 1,600 festivals in 30 states, as well as contact and application information. "Fairs and Festivals 1998" also features three indexes, one by state, one by festival title and one by application deadline. The 1999 edition of the book will be available in December 1998. This crafts-oriented publication lists the more intimate, hand-to-hand community fairs, as well as producers and sponsors of mail, trade and high-end craft shows. It is an indispensable guide for the public and buyers, as well as a marketing tool for thousands of crafts, people, artists, performers and vendors. Your abilities can earn extra income. Advertise them with a classified ad by calling 1-800-564-8911.

He had had numerous exhibits in this country and Venezuela. His solo shows include: The Paterson Museum, The Venezuela Consulate, NYC, The Housatonic Museum of Art, Bridgeport and Bell Yaris Hotel, Jurin Gallery and International Gallery in Venezuela. In New York City his collective shows include: Conim' Ground' Pier, 'I City' College, Roger Shiffr Gallery, NYU gallery, Archdiocese of NY, Venezuela Consulate, Telephone Co., Intrepid Museum, Times Square Studio, as well as the "E-T-C" Gallery in Staten Island, Festival of the Street in Belmont, NY and The Hispanic Arts Alliance and the Public Library in Bridgton, Conn. His artworks are also in public and private collections. The gallery is open during library hours, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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CHAPTER 13 • CHAPTER 7

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"BE GREEK FOR A WEEKEND"

When you read classic literature, it's always foggy London night

First you eliminate the impossible. Whatever remains, no matter how improbable, must be the truth.

These are the immortal words of Sherlock Holmes. Do you know The Complete Sherlock Holmes has sold more copies than any other book since only the Bible?

But you never notice when reading a Sherlock Holmes mystery that the reality of Holmes almost jumps off the page at you. When we watch a detective show on television today, they are always portrayed as footloose, gun-slugging hot-shots. When you read or see a Holmes mystery, the solves crimes with all confidence and grace. You know his method. He is a man who is an expert in human nature, he's the consummate observer. Having a mind and elegance like Dr. Watson, doesn't hurt. There are still to this day a handful of "hard" detectives who study his cases to help solve crimes.

So other fictional detective can make the claim. As a detective, I am living in the gutter and darkest section of my mind and soul. This is where he bores the dark, brooding Heathcliff that will remain one of the most beloved characters in the history of literature.

Heathcliff stands over the still warm body of his beloved Cathy, saying "Where is she? No, there, not in heaven, but perished, where? I pray one prayer, I repeat it till my tongue stiffens, Catherine Earnshaw, may you not rest as long as I am living."

He spends the rest of his life cursing and destroying anything and everyone in his path, but for one exception, Nelly Dean, whom he has some affection and respect.

Heathcliff speaks of his self-consuming hatred. "My confessions have not relieved me, but they may account for some, otherwise unaccountable phases of humors, which I show. O, God!"

It is a long fight, finally, Heathcliff feels Cathy's presence wherever he goes, especially outside near the graveyard. He goes up to his room for the last time. He doesn't kill himself, he just dies of loneliness for his Cathy and the hate that has eaten away his insides like an incurable disease.

The classics are making a comeback. Over ten thousand young people throughout the nation are realizing that knowledge is empty, less it be tempered with wisdom. They're learning that the masters of literature do indeed entertain and teach as well.

There aren't too many characters in literature who are a better example of the self-destruction of hate than our Heathcliff. Of the need to look further than the surface for a loving soul than Cathy.

Shaking Things Up

By Leslie Micone

The puzzle about Cathy is if she loved Heathcliff as much as she tells Nelly, why did she marry Edgar Linton? She tells Nelly she is attracted to his social status and I quote: "I shall like to be the greatest woman of the neighborhood."

As Cathy lays dying, does she think if only she had seen further than the duty hands and crude manner of a stable boy she would have had a love known only to a few? Is this why she had lost the will to live? When Heathcliff returns from America a man of prosperity he learns his Cathy is married to Edgar Linton. He retreats into the ugliest and darkest section of

Heathcliff stands over the still warm body of his beloved Cathy, saying "Where is she? No, there, not in heaven, but perished, where? I pray one prayer, I repeat it till my tongue stiffens, Catherine Earnshaw, may you not rest as long as I am living."

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Leslie Micone is a resident of Scotch Plains, N.J. She is the founder of Great Expectations of Writers, a reading group for people who share a love for classical literature.

For the week of Aug. 30 to Sept. 5

Aries March 21-April 20

Someone from your past may pop up and want to get reacquainted. But if they seem mysterious and secretive, so be sure to check the motives. Be sure to jump at the chance to attend any work-related classes or lectures.

Taurus April 21-May 21

Look to your close friends this week for guidance concerning matters of the heart. Don't be surprised just how helpful they can be in this area. Whatever you do, don't lose your temper with that person who has been annoying you recently.

Gemini May 22-June 21

Someone who has treated you poorly tries to make amends this week. No matter how nice that person is, you'll find it hard to forget what he or she did to you and even harder to completely forgive him/her. Make sure you are at your best for an important meeting this week.

Cancer June 22-July 22

Get your house in order by taking care of those overdue repairs. Once those are completed, start planning those larger renovation or redecoration projects. If you involve the whole family, you will get to enjoy some quality time with them while getting projects done.

Leo July 23-Aug. 23

You've completed that big project at work. Now it's time to take pride in it, even show off a little. This week, give someone thought to how you can improve your personal and professional relationships. Don't neglect to spend quality time with your family.

Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22

It's time to start new with your finances. But don't do it blindly. The first step is to study information then ask for advice from a friend who is well-versed in this area of expense. Someone close to you needs your support this week. Don't take that responsibility lightly.

Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23

Your social calendar will take a

turn for the better. Enjoy it. You deserve some fun and relaxation! Take extra time in developing a new relationship. This is an extra-special, considerate person. However, you do not take this relationship lightly.

Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22

Learn from your past mistakes, especially where your relationships are concerned. Use what you've learned to help you in your friendships and with your partner. Take advantage of a chance to gain hands-on knowledge at work.

Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21

You've given up on that money you hoped an acquaintance? Don't! It just may be heading your way. Do something special with the unexpected windfall. Be extra careful about your appearance this week. You just may receive some surprise, important visitors.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20

Feeling pulled between work and home? Take a step back to organize your priorities this week, an all-important task to help your sanity.

Maybe it's time to consider getting away alone for a couple of days. A break will do you a lot of good.

Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18

Reef up your savings—just one of the steps in planning for your future. But don't be hasty in the way you choose to save. Enjoy a variety of cultural events with a variety of people. Each event and person will help open your eyes to new horizons.

Pisces Feb. 19-March 20

You'll have a very busy but productive week and end up completing a lot of long-overdue chores at home and on the job. Even though you're busy, let those people that are closest to you know how much you care. Whatever you do, don't forget your partner.

Editorial deadlines

Following are deadlines for News, Church, club and special (Thursday), Entertainment (Friday), Sports (Monday) and Letters to the Editor (Monday 9 a.m. General (Monday 5 p.m.)

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You can add a fireplace to almost any room

New developments in hearth and fireplace technology allow professional contractors to install a fireplace in your home in a single day with a minimum mess or financial burden. Although to many Americans adding a fireplace seems like a luxury requiring major structural renovation and capital investment, in reality new hearth appliance innovations allow you to add a fireplace to any room easily and affordably.

"Direct vent" gas stoves and fireplaces are among the most flexible options available to homeowners today. The position of your existing chimney no longer dictates where you can add a new fireplace. With easy-to-install direct vent options, you can put a fireplace anywhere in the bedroom,

playroom, kitchen or even a bathroom.

The only structural alteration needed to install direct vent fireplaces is a small hole in an external wall venting exhaust directly to the outside. The same vent draws fresh air from the outside for combustion, rather than pulling warm air out of your home. Lightweight direct vent models can be installed without additional structural support as easily on the third floor as on the first. Ceramic logs add to the authentic look of the gas fires while radiating heat into the room.

For less maintenance and cleaner emissions in the areas with strict air quality control guidelines, many existing woodburning fireplaces can be retrofitted to natural gas with little

fuss or expense. Discuss the installation carefully with a hearth products expert first, as retrofitting must be properly performed to ensure safety.

If you are concerned about fuel efficiency, but unwilling to sacrifice the crackling blaze of wood, consider a fireplace insert. These attractive, insulated metal fireboxes increase wood fuel efficiency by as much as 750 percent.

Metal factory-built fireplaces also offer versatility at a fraction of the cost of building a masonry hearth. Insulated cabinets built around the fireplaces allow installation with zero clearance between the cabinet, wooden framing materials and combustible flooring, permitting their installation almost anywhere.

Environmentally friendly wood pellet stoves that cleanly burn wood waste pellets can also be vented directly, with even narrower clearances than regular woodburning stoves.

According to the National Association of Home Builders near Washington, D.C., investing in a new hearth increases the resale value of a home by 16.69 percent. In addition to the energy savings and enjoyment an added fireplace brings,

Whether you are adding your first fireplace, your fourth or refitting your existing fireplace, consult the Hearth Products Association. The HPA is made up of 3,000 specialty-hearth product manufacturers and retailers who are always willing to advise homeowners of their hearth projects.

Cement board panels increase efficiency of tile installation

Planning on remodeling that old bathroom, maybe even adding a jacuzzi? Well, there is a good chance you are considering using a granite tile. After all, tile delivers an upscale designer look that's exceptionally durable and easy to clean. But as the saying goes, beauty is only skin deep. Many an otherwise good tile installation has been ruined because of problems with the wall substrate behind the tile.

The key to any successful installation is to choose a substrate which delivers a strong, uniform surface and provides no water durability so that the integrity of the wall or floor will not be degraded if exposed to moisture.

Years ago, the preferred choice for tile substrate construction was trowel-applied portland cement. Because of its great strength and moisture resistance, portland cement is an excellent tile substrate.

The only drawback about portland cement is that it is quite difficult and time-consuming to install. The installation should be handled only by an experienced masonry contractor; it is not a do-it-yourself job.

There is an alternative though, which provides virtually the same levels of water durability and structural stability as portland cement, and can be easily installed by either a remodeling contractor or proficient do-it-yourselfer.

Cement board panels, first introduced in the mid-1980s, have grown rapidly in market share over the past 10 years and are now considered the simplest and the best means of ensuring a long-lasting tile application.

Boards are available in 1/2-inch and 5/8-inch thicknesses for floor, wall and countertop applications, and 5/16-inch thick for floors and countertops only. The panels are nailed to wood studs using 10d-dipped galvanized roofing nails or screw-attached with special 1 1/4-inch wood screws.

Once the panels are attached, the joints are treated with glass fiber mesh tape and organic adhesive, or latex-fortified mortar to form a continuous surface which is ready to accept tile.

Manufactured houses are popping up all over

Manufactured housing is fast becoming an integral part of the nation's housing. Statistics show that one-third of all new single-family homes sold are manufactured homes.

Why such a growing acceptance of the manufactured home? Several factors make the manufactured home so appealing: First is the continued affordability and value of manufactured homes. At a time when the cost of the American dream of owning a home is beyond the budgets of many people, manufactured homes remain as an attractive, quality housing option. Homes with two or three bedrooms, one or two baths, living room, dining room, kitchen and laundry room, cost from \$85,000 to \$125,000. Factory-constructed housing provides quality constructed homes at a 30 percent to 40 percent savings over site-built homes.

Another reason for the growing acceptability of manufactured homes is the quality and aesthetic characteristics now standard in the home. A manufactured home provides the amenities that many homebuyers are looking for: spacious floorplans, vaulted ceilings, walk-in closets, fire-

places, brand-name appliances, customizing packages and Jacuzzi tubs. In addition, exterior designs are available that are compatible with any neighborhood.

Manufactured homes are built to a strict federal construction code which meets the requirements of the Uniform Construction Code of the State of New Jersey. This means a manufactured home that is a minimum of 25-feet wide can be placed on a private residential building lot anywhere throughout all 567 municipalities within the State of New Jersey. The home can go on a full basement, crawl space or foundation, depending on the needs and budget of the homebuyer.

Planned communities provide an option of leasing the land, eliminating the expense of land purchase, which explains their popularity. Mobile home parks are more often referred to as manufactured housing communities; the term mobile is no longer accurate since fewer than five percent

are ever moved off the owner's original site. Manufactured homes, in a community setting, appreciate in value at nearly the same rate as other single family housing in the area.

Family life elements offer affordable housing for first time homebuyers, Retirement Communities appeal to today's active senior citizens who are seeking the country club atmosphere that feature club houses, swimming

pools, tennis court, putting greens and walking/bike paths.

Manufactured housing is a leading producer of barrier-free housing that meets the special needs of wheelchair-bound or otherwise handicapped individuals. The costs of converting dwellings often exceed a person's financial capabilities.

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Humidity is important indoors, too

The approach of colder weather may revive memories of cozy evenings with sweaters, hot chocolate and logs blazing in the hearth. But for many, the falling mercury also signals the return of dry skin, nosebleeds and nagging coughs.

Cold weather is not the cause of these ills. Too-dry indoor air is. As soon as the thermostat wakes the furnace, your heating system starts warming — and drying — the air in your home, which can be under-dry with relative humidity as low as 10 percent. Compare that to the 25 percent average relative humidity in the Sahara Desert.

When the air in your home is that parched, the air literally sucks moisture from your body. Your skin and the membranes in your nose and throat can develop microscopic cracks. These open cracks can lead to itching, dry coughs and nosebleeds, all of which increase your risk of infection from viruses or bacteria.

Proper indoor humidity is important year-round. Honeywell, a leading provider of home comfort products and systems, recommends maintaining an indoor relative humidity of 35 to 50 percent.

A growing number of homeowners have cured dry indoor air with a simple, effective solution: a whole-home humidifier. As a companion to your heating system, a whole-home humidifier circulates moisture throughout the house. The most popular models need little attention or maintenance, no filling, no cleaning, just an annual replacement of the humidifier pad.

Getting control of indoor humidity can help you stay healthier and more comfortable this winter. It also can help you save money. A home heated to 69 degrees at 35 percent relative humidity feels as warm as a home at 72 degrees and 19 percent relative humidity. With humidity control, you can lower the thermostat three degrees and cut your heating bills up to five percent or more without sacrificing comfort.

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Arts center receives widespread acclaim

The New Jersey Performing Arts Center met with near-universal acclaim from critics, patrons and artists alike. The 2,750-seat Prudential Hall was praised for both its beauty and exceptional acoustics. "It is an acoustically wonderful place to perform," said violinist Isaac Stern. "Both comforting and comfortable for an artist." Added cellist Yo-Yo Ma, "The sound of Prudential Hall is aurally and visually enveloping, like being inside of a great string instrument."

New York Times architectural critic Herbert Muschamp called NYPAC "an ambitious symbol of Newark's pride," adding that "if you don't say so, it's what you walk through the door — of Prudential Hall — you will at least say so." The region has not seen as fabulous a new hall since Philip Johnson's New York State Theater opened its doors three decades ago. And plaudits came from as far as Dallas, where *The Dallas Morning News* said "Those planning the Dallas center are talking a lot about diversity

as they reach out to various Dallas constituencies for support — especially minorities. They should be thinking about programming shows that will attract these new audiences. They could also better than emulate NYPAC."

In addition to its fall lineup in Prudential Hall and the Victoria Theater, NYPAC has filled its other public spaces with more than 180 special events in its first eight months, adding a sought-after new social venue to Newark's and New Jersey's landscape. The events, which took place in NYPAC's lobby, on its stages, in rehearsal and rehearsal rooms, around gallery and the adjacent Parnassus Room, ranged in variety from the Essex Civic Coalition for the Portuguese Chamber of Commerce gala to a stockholder meeting hosted by PSE&G to the African-American Heritage Parade Committee's "masquerade ball."

Calling the arts center "a vital component of our marketing portfolio," CEO Joseph P. Friedman and CEO Albert R. Champagne Jr. "emphasized

clients, employees and business associates at the year-end recital series performance" sponsored by the firm. Leveraging widespread curiosity about New Jersey's new performing arts center, several dozen corporations and nonprofit organizations planned evening at NYPAC that attracted more than 50,000 attendees at a host of business, social and fundraising events.

The arts center also served as the site for graduation ceremonies for a number of New Jersey high schools, colleges and law schools, was visited by the Vice President Al Gore, and hosted the second inauguration of Governor Christine Todd Whitman. The first gubernatorial inauguration to be held outside of Trenton since 1932.

Newark has begun to show signs of following in the footsteps of Pittsburgh, Cleveland and other American cities which used the arts as a catalyst for revitalization. An April "Crain's New York Business" article titled, "Arts Center is reviving Newark," cited NYPAC as the chief reason for

renewed interest in the city by developers and investors.

Since the arts center's October opening, several long neglected buildings have been purchased and are being renovated, ground was broken for a new minor-league baseball stadium, restaurants are reporting record business and, according to a recent *Star Ledger* report, office space in Newark is fetching top dollar. "Most recently, the New Newark Foundation unveiled plans to purchase buildings and properties immediately adjacent to NYPAC with the vision of restoring the bustling streets and exciting night life of the past that attracted people to the state's largest city."

"It has been an exhilarating eight months," concluded Goldman. "To those hundreds of thousands of people who came this year, we say thank you and come again. To those who have not yet visited, we invite you to our second season when our roster boasts such artists as Kathleen Battle, the London, Cleveland, Boston and Philadelphia Symphony orchestras."

Colorful art can be seen at Plainfield's Red Room

The Red Room's fine art gallery specializing in the works of African American artists is located at 900 Park Ave., Plainfield. All originals, limited editions and open prints are affordably priced. Galleries hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Additional information can be obtained by calling (908) 791-1100 or (908) 561-5799.

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Shakespeare Festival announces record-breaking sales

Just midway through its extended 1998 season, the New Jersey Shakespeare Festival has announced the largest single-season increase in its audience base in the Festival's 36-year history, and the creation of a multi-subscription for the three classic plays of the winter season.

For the Festival's inaugural season in its newly built \$7.5 million F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theatre on the campus of Drew University in Madison, NJSE increased its number of subscribers by more than 63 percent over the previous year. The first two main stage productions of "Cyrano De Bergerac" and "All's Well That Ends Well" played to an average of 84 percent of capacity over the newly-extended, 308-seat theater.

The Festival has also announced the availability of the Winter Pak, a three-play mini-subscription which includes seats to the Festival's extended winter season at the new F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theatre: Shakespeare's "King Lear," Sept. 8-Oct. 4; and the holiday musical for the entire family, "A Child's Christmas in Wales," Dec. 8-27. Subscribers to the Winter Pak save up to 50 percent off single ticket prices; receive guaranteed reserved seats; the best available seats and exclusive free ticket exchanges if conflicts arise. In addition, subscribers receive their tickets in advance with plenty of time to plan their evenings out, discounts off additional ticket purchases and lost ticket insurance.

Winter Pak prices for all three plays are \$51 for preview performances at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evening performances at 8 p.m., \$69 for Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m., and \$87 for Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. A student Winter Pak is also available for the Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday evenings and all Sunday evenings for \$70. A full-time student ID is required. For more information, or to order by phone, call (973) 408-5600.

The NJ Shakespeare Festival's Winter Season begins with William Shakespeare's tragedy "King Lear," not seen at the Festival in nearly 20 years. Broadway and film veteran Harris Yulin takes on the role of King Lear following his Outer Critics Circle Award nominated role in Broadway's "The Diary Of Anne Frank." Yulin has also appeared on Broadway in "The Vliet" and in the films "Clear and Present Danger" and the upcoming "The Cradle Will Rock." Playing his daughter Cordelia and the focal is 1998 Tony Award nominee Juliana Socolistoy. Socolistoy received a Tony Award nomination for her highly acclaimed role in "Golden Child" on Broadway. The production is directed by Daniel Fish whose Festival directing credits include "Richard III," "The Merry Wives Of Windsor" and "Love's Labour's Lost." Shakespeare's masterpiece "King Lear" runs at the Festival from Sept. 8 through Oct. 4.

Tennessee Williams' timeless classic "Sweet Bird of Youth" follows, running Nov. 3-22, directed by Festival artistic director Bonnie J. Monte. "Sweet Bird of Youth" is the first Williams play to be produced at the Festival under the artistic direction of Monte, who worked with Tennessee Williams in 1982 while she was associate artistic director of the Williamstown Theatre Festival. In classic Williams tradition, desire and violence intermingle and build to a haunting climax when an aging film star seeks solace in the arms of a young girl, whose past lies in wait to claim him.

Families can celebrate the holidays together with the musical "A Child's Christmas In Wales" based on the classic Dylan Thomas story, adapted by Jeremy Brooks and Adrian Mitchell. The simple joys of Christmas past are seen through the eyes of a young Dylan Thomas in this touching musical jewel. "A Child's Christmas In Wales" is directed by Robert Duke, who directed the 1996 record-breaking musical "Two Gentlemen Of Verona" for the Festival. The production runs Dec. 8-27.

Winter Pak subscriptions and single tickets for all productions are now on

sale. For more information, or to order, call the box office at (973) 408-5600. Through Aug. 30, the Festival is presenting Richard Brinsley Sheridan's comedy of manners "The School For Scandal." The last of the great 18th century comedies, Richard Brinsley Sheridan's "The School For Scandal" brings hilarity, wit and racy satire to the Festival's stage. Imbued with comic spirit of the Restoration, there is humor and color in abundance in this classic swipe at hypocrisy and scandalomous. It proves a timely piece in our own age of gossip disguised as news and a public addicted to scandal.

The New Jersey Shakespeare Festival is the state's only professional theater, dedicated to the presentation of Shakespeare's canon and other classic masterworks, and has a long-standing commitment to the development and education of young audiences.

The new F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theatre, the NJ Shakespeare Festival's new theater, opened in June 1998 to critical acclaim. The new facility, located on the campus of Drew University, features 308 seats with no seat more than 10 rows from the stage; elevator access to all floors; a stunning two-story, glass-enclosed lobby overlooking the Drew University "forests," an expansive outdoor patio and state-of-the-art lighting, sound and stage equipment.

The Festival also has an in-school residency, "The Shakespeare Experience," which brings theater professionals into the schools to collaborate on a fully-produced Shakespeare play, and a touring program, "Shakespeare Live!" which brings fully produced, professionally acted, one-hour versions of Shakespeare's plays to schools in the tri-state area.

The New Jersey Shakespeare Festival is a not-for-profit organization and is funded in part by the New Jersey State Council of the Arts/Department of State, the National Endowment for the Arts as well as many corporations, foundations, businesses and individuals. American Airlines is the official airline of the New Jersey Shakespeare Festival.

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Overlook Hospital honors John C. Walcott of Summit with its Lifetime Achievement Award for Community Service at its Great Performances Gala on Sept. 19 at New Jersey Performing Arts Center.

Summit resident to receive lifetime achievement award

John C. Walcott of Summit will receive the Overlook Hospital Lifetime Achievement Award for Community Service at the hospital's Great Performances Gala on Sept. 19 at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center.

Fourteen years ago, Walcott became a member of Overlook Hospital's Board of Trustees through his position as vice president of finance at Johnson & Johnson, a longtime corporate sponsor, and through his desire to support his hometown at Summit. He cites his hope to help maintain Overlook's excellent reputation as additional motivation for his volunteer work.

He served as a member of Overlook's Board of Trustees from 1984-1989 and as chairman from 1989-1990. He also served as a member of the Overlook Hospital Foundation Board from 1987-1997 and as its chairman from 1990-1992. During his tenure as chairman of the Foundation Board, the capital campaign for the Employee Child Care Center was conceived, implemented and successfully completed.

He has served as a member of the original Atlantic Health System's Board of Trustees from 1987-1990 and as its chairman from 1989-1990. In 1990, Atlantic Health System formally merged Overlook, Merrow and Memorial Hospital and Mountaintop Hospital in Montclair, Glen Ridge, becoming one of the largest health care systems in New Jersey.

Aside from volunteering at Overlook, Walcott is committed to helping children receive the education they need to prepare them for the workforce of the 21st century. He currently serves on the board of the Scholarship Fund for Inger City Children in Newark and is a member of the Summit Educational Foundation, which provides additional resources for activities not covered in the budget for Summit schools. He previously served on the boards of

WNET Channel 13 and the New Jersey Council on Economics Education.

Walcott and his wife Donna, who has been active in the Overlook Auxiliary for 30 years, have three children: Laura, Peter and Christopher, and two grandchildren, Andrew and Ryan.

For more information about Overlook Hospital's Great Performances Gala, featuring entertainer Bobby Shriver on Sept. 19 at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, contact the Overlook Hospital Foundation at (908) 522-2940.

Proceeds from the event will benefit Overlook Hospital's new Maternity Center. The 18-month, \$5 million construction project will expand the hospital's labor and delivery unit to 10 labor-delivery-recovery rooms and uniquely provide 29 private rooms on the Mother-Baby unit. In addition to the LDR unit, Overlook has an Antenatal Diagnostic Center, a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. Funding for the new maternity center is provided, in part, by a \$1 million gift from Frank and Myra Walsh of Chatham Township.

Overlook Hospital is an Atlantic Health System 490-bed major teaching hospital in Summit, a medically affiliated with Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Home of New Jersey's first stereotaxic radiosurgery program, Overlook's specialty services include a blood disorder center, the Ziegler Center, the state's first pediatric oncology cancer program, a neurosurgery center, a cardiac catheterization laboratory, a comprehensive rehabilitation medicine program, Chest Pain Center, recognized as the fastest heart attack treatment center in the nation, Same-Day Surgery Center, recording the greatest number of SDS cases in the state, and Endovascular Center, Wound Care Center and a Multisite-grafted, bone care and hospice program.

Kessler Institute facilitates an adult day health center

A recent study on aging has found that adults over the age of 85 are the fastest-growing age bracket, and by the year 2030 about one out of three Americans will be age 65 and older. Today, the average U.S. life span is 76 years old.

Recognizing this rapid growth in America's older population, Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation offers a checklist for individuals who may benefit from attending an adult day health services center. A quality ADHS program is designed to create a therapeutic environment that will foster independence and improve the physical, emotional and mental conditions of its participants. These centers provide health services, therapeutic services and social activities for people with functional or cognitive impairments.

The number of adult day centers in the US has grown significantly during recent years reflecting the increasing needs of the aging population, but also the demand for community-based alternatives to institutionalized care, said Dr. Robert Kivlenberg, senior medical officer at the world-renowned Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation.

Kessler is a one of the first hospitals of its kind to combine therapy and adult day health services in a rehabilitation setting.

Below is a checklist for determining whether an adult day health center is right for you or your loved one. Individuals who have any of the following needs are likely candidates for an adult day health services program:

- Medical supervision, monitoring and management.
- Supervised and planned activities.
- Supervision while family member is not present during daytime hours.

Make sure the program offers the following benefits:

- Safe, supportive and professional supervised environment.
- Individual evaluation and plan of care to ensure member's needs are addressed.
- Planned therapeutic activities designed to learn and

relearn skills that improve social and physical functioning. These might include trivial pursuit, arts and crafts, gardening, bowling, line dancing or chair exercise programs.

- Mobility services, vision, hearing and fitness pressure screenings as well as health education programs.
- Peer group companionship and social activities.
- Assistance with walking, eating and daily grooming tasks.

- Nutritious lunch, late meal and mid-day nourishment.
- Additional value-added and specialized opportunities for care should include:
 - Speech, occupational and physical therapies.
 - Counseling and care management by a licensed social worker.

- Nutrition, education, and counseling on dietary needs.
- Referrals to social service agencies, support groups and other community support networks.

- Make an on-site visit to the center while face is in progress. Many centers welcome visitors who are interested in joining the program. It's important that you meet the health care professionals who will be interacting with you or the participant on a daily basis.

- Determine the fee. There is usually a daily fee for participation, and at times, financial assistance is available based upon individual circumstances.

- Find out if transportation is provided. Many centers will provide transportation free-of-charge during certain hours of operation.

- Contact the National Council on Aging or the National Institute on Adult Day Services to check on local listings of centers in your community. Many adult day centers work in partnership with family caregivers, however, many are unaware of this community resource. Your state and county offices on aging can also be useful resources.

For more information about Kessler's Adult Day Health Services Center, call (858) KESSLER.

Classes available for safe sitting

Can your babysitter perform baby-lifesaving techniques, such as the Heimlich maneuver? Does your babysitter know what to do if a child swallows a "poisonous" substance? Does he or she know what steps to take in case of a fire? The answer to any of these questions may mean the difference between putting your child at risk. The Safe Sitter course at Union Hospital can provide your babysitter with the first aid and emergency skills needed to help ensure your child's safety.

Safe Sitter teaches young people aged 11 and older to handle potential minor emergencies, as well as life-threatening situations which can occur while they are babysitting. Certified instructors lead lessons in safety and security precautions, hands-on rescue, breathing care for a choking infant or child, recognizing emergencies, and calling for emergency help. In addition, they teach the basics of traditional child care, including how to feed and diaper an infant.

"The skills which participants learn in the course will be useful to them throughout their lives," said Union Hospital Volunteer Services Director Julieanne Trumbull. Safe Sitters program at Union Hospital's Safe Sitter program. Many parents agree.

"The Safe Sitter course is held four times a year at Union Hospital, and according to Trumbull, it has received an excellent reputation. Apparently, the program has become invaluable to many parents in the community," Trumbull said.

For information about enrollment or to learn more about Safe Sitter courses, call Julieanne Trumbull at (908) 851-7014.

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DRIVERS

Local and long-haul. Must have a valid driver's license and clean record. Salary commensurate with experience.

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HELP WANTED

DRIVER WANTED

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IMMEDIATE OPENINGS

in various departments. Must have previous retail experience. Salary commensurate with experience.

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HELP WANTED

LANDSCAPER WANTED

to work for a landscaping business. Must have previous landscaping experience. Salary commensurate with experience.

MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT

to assist with office management. Must have previous office experience. Salary commensurate with experience.

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Automotive

Buick Regal — a supercharged car for the 'supercharged' family

Buick's 1998 Regal LS and the sporty, supercharged Regal GS achieve new, higher levels of standard performance in the midsize-sedan market. Regal is designed to meet the needs of an active, on-the-go driver who desires a midsize sedan with exceptional performance, style and family accommodations. Labeled as the "Official Car of the Supercharged Family," Regal GS has the most power and standard safety features of any car in its class.

Regal has a well-deserved reputation for impressive performance. Said Roger W. Adams, Regal brand manager: "The 1998 Regal offers solid performance credentials that will continue to appeal to a new breed of buyers. Even though Regal is an updated 1997 172 model, a number of refinements and improvements are incorporated in the 1998 model."

For 1998, Regal has a significant safety, security and convenience option — GM OnStar. OnStar is an advanced communications system combining Global Positioning System, satellite technology and 121.1 MHz free, activated cellular telephone to link drivers to cell phone advisers available to provide many kinds of assistance, such as emergency services and navigational and travel support.

OnStar, which is a dealer-installed option, provides automatic notification of car theft and stolen vehicle tracking.

Award-winning 3.8 liter naturally aspirated and supercharged 3800 Series II V-6 engines give Regal both impressive power and excellent fuel economy. Ward's "Auto World" magazine has routinely awarded Regal top honors as among the "10 Best Engines" for the third consecutive year, while the supercharged version has also honored the past two years.

Regal GS is standard with the supercharged 3800 Series II V-6 generating 240 horsepower at 5700 rpm and 200 ft. lb. of torque at 3600 rpm, the highest horsepower rating in its class.

The supercharged 3800 Series II V-6 engine benefits from a 100,000-mile spark plug design, a progressive upshift-body linkage and a post-conversion oxygen sensor for more precise emissions calibration.

New for 1998, Regal's 3800 Series II V-6 engines are equipped with the Onboard Refueling Vapor Recovery System, which is designed to recover fuel vapors during vehicle refueling. Both engines are V-10 mounted, a rubber-isolated engine cradle and feature a low torque six engine mounting system which minimizes engine vibration. Regal LS is powered by a normally aspirated 3800 Series II V-6 producing 195 horsepower at 5240 rpm and 220 ft. lb. of torque at 4000 rpm. The V-6 engine has more power and torque than many competitive level performance engines.

Both Regal LS and GS sedans are equipped with a 16SE four-speed automatic overdrive transmission with an electronically controlled capacity clutch. The 46SE

transmission senses and seamlessly adapts to changes in altitude, barometric pressure and engine load, and electronically interacts with a higher-capacity and more efficient powertrain control module to create a fully integrated powertrain.

The 4T65E adjusts and refines shifts throughout the life span of the car, and offers electronic calibration and controls that optimize overall fuel economy. Regal GS is equipped with the heavy-duty version of the 4T65E.

Regal ranks among the highest in its class for standard safety features that are either optional or not available on many midsize sedan competitors.

Standard equipment items include dual ComfortTemp air conditioning and air filtration, four-wheel disc anti-lock brakes, traction control, automatic power-door locks, PASS-Key II theft deterrent system, remote keyless entry, rear window defogger, AM/FM stereo with cassette player, cruise control, leather-wrapped steering wheel and shifters, adjustable steering column, two-speed variable wiper, wiper heated folding outside mirrors/frame, power windows, and rear seat pass-through air trunk.

Magnetic variable effort steering, a standard equipment on all Regals to provide greater power steering assistance at low speeds and better feel and control at highway speeds.

For 1998 all Buicks feature driver and front passenger Next Generation air bags, which have reduced force. The less aggressive air bags, made possible by a change in federal safety regulations, will improve overall vehicle safety for all occupants.

Regal LS also comes with a standard fixed mass-inertia, specially shaped to eliminate antenna whistles. An optional embedded in the rear window glass is standard on the GS.

On all upper-level radio systems, a 200 microprocessor unit enables installation of an optional trunk-mounted, dealer-installed 12-disc CD changer. Front bucket seats, a full-length operating console and leather-covered floor shifter are standard equipment.

The latest generation front-wheel drive Regal LS and GS project a fresh Buick brand character and styling philosophy. Distinctive front and rear fascias and grilles precisely define the car as a Regal. Subtle lower body cladding, integrated door handles and tailfins, and 16-inch aluminum or steel wheels create a sporty appearance.

Regal features a rigid, world-class body-structure for improved safety, ride comfort, superior handling, noise reduction and build quality. Introduced in 1997, 172 models, the architecture is designed to provide a robust safety cage for occupant protection. A cross-car beam behind the instrument panel enhances rigidity and serves as a secure mounting point for the instrument panel, steering column and dual Next Generation air bags.

The 1998 Regal has a revised instrument panel and door trim decor with new black accents. Regal's color palette



1998 Buick Regal GS

also has two new exterior colors: Twilight Blue Metallic and Midnight Blue Pearl.

The 1998 Regal is a "spacious" car with the top 100 inch wheelbase. Its overall length of 196.3 inches and large door openings provide easy entry and egress. Front head room is 39.3 inches. Regal's overall wheel height is 56.0 inches.

600 handling and stability virtues to be Regal's forte. This is tracked with measurements of 62 inches up front and 61.3 inches in the rear.

Regal's suspension is a balance of comfort and security. Handling that enhances comfortable ride quality. Regal's suspension features L-shaped front lower control arms with large rubber isolator bushings at each attachment to the engine cradle. The lower attachment uses a soft bushing to absorb bumps.

The rear bushing is located near the wheel center to maximize lateral stiffness and provide good handling feel. The Regal's independent rear suspension also offers an oversized rear crossmember for control without undue harshness on rides.

Regal is designed to be sporty, while still comfy enough for family use. The sixth-generation Regal has an original, youthful look that is designed to be the most expressive car in the Buick line. Regal is contemporary, with styl-

ish cues and sporty brand character — a true sport sedan for the '90s.

According to Mary Hines, assistant brand manager of marketing, the midsize segment represents nearly half of the total car market, or about four million buyers per year. "Our message is changing along with the changing Regal," said Hines.

For 1998, Regal's focus will be on a much more active, energetic customer who requires a sporty, performance-oriented car with room for their family. We like to think of Regal as the "Official Car of the Supercharged Family."

"We're focusing on the needs of this specific buyer group," emphasized Hines. "Outstanding performance is the price of entry, but these buyers also want outstanding family accommodations. Regal's trunk is also one of the largest in its class at 16.7 cubic feet."

"We've discovered," said Hines, "that demographic profiles don't adequately define the new Regal customer. Buyers who are the same age, have about the same education, income level and even family size, don't all want the same car."

Customers buy based on their individual needs and how well a car delivers of meeting those needs. Buyers of the 1998 Regal will vary in age, but we are focusing on the 40-49 age range.

Mercedes-Benz drops the final curtain on side-impact injuries

When its 1999 E-Class sedans go on sale this August, Mercedes-Benz will be the first automaker to offer standard curtain-like side airbags which span the entire sides of the passenger compartment. Working in conjunction with existing door-mounted side airbags, first introduced on Mercedes E-Class sedans in 1996, the new curtain airbag is the only system that can prevent the front and rear occupants from hitting their heads on the inside window or roof pillars in a severe side collision. In addition, the air-filled cushions can block glass splinters or other objects which could cause injury in a side impact rollover.

Over six feet long, 14 inches in height and about two inches thick, each curtain bag deploys from the ceiling down directly above the side windows in about 25 milliseconds and extends across the front and rear windows. There is a curtain windowbag on each side of the car.

The development of the new curtain is based on the latest findings from Mercedes Accident Research. The experts have now conclusively discredited myths of lateral impacts. According to their conclusion, most of the severe and often fatal head injuries in side collisions are due either to objects intruding into the interior or the whiplash movement of the head toward the window. By comparison, chest injuries are generally less severe in side impacts, a fact attributed to the door-mounted side air bags introduced across the Mercedes-Benz passenger vehicle line. Between 1995-1998, Preliminary crash tests by Mercedes-Benz with the new curtain-side airbag indicate about a 90 percent reduction in the forces likely to cause head injuries.

As an automotive safety leader, Mercedes-Benz pioneered the development and introduction of such safety firsts as crumple-zone body construction, anti-lock brakes, front airbags, door-mounted side airbags, traction control and the Electronic Stability Program. In addition, all 1999 Mercedes-Benz passenger vehicles will be equipped with Brake Assist, which is the only system that can actually reduce braking distance in a panic stop.

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Take some extra precautions to foil a would-be car thief

Now for the good news. Some simple, easily taken steps may mean you'll need to frustrate a would-be thief. In fact, there's a good chance you can happen to be sufficiently to deter the snatching of your car. After all, few of us own a car so specific in make, model, and color that making use on the road will satisfy a felon.

Sounds basic, but about three-quarters of the wife-swap last year were left unattended. Each time you leave your car, close all the windows and lock all the doors. Don't under any circumstances leave your keys in an unattended car. That includes keeping a spare key hidden somewhere in the car. A thief may be able to get into the car, but it will be a pain in the neck to get into the car.

Leaving your car in the remote, empty corner of the shopping mall or some other area may save fenders from minor things. But a thief who's looking for the thief, providing the ample and time - about 15 minutes - needed to get into your car.

Always try to park in populated, well-lit areas and well-traveled areas. When possible, park your car in a locked, patrolled, or otherwise secure garage or parking lot. And always lock your own garage.

When parking on the street, leave the front wheels pointing sharply toward the curb and the emergency brake set to discourage towing.

Though you may not be able to remove a cellular telephone's satellite antenna, you can certainly hide other valuables - radio detectors, tape cassettes, and packages. Stop your belongings in the locked trunk, glove compartment, or under the front seats. Many hatchbacks and minivans have roll-over protection covers for the cargo area, put in the habit of putting such in the front seats. You can aggressively protect your investment with a theft deterrent. Cars that have some sort of alarm or anti-theft device are a pain in the neck for an insurance agent, but before investing in a sophisticated alarm, check with your insurance agent to know what's needed to qualify.

The cost of theft deterrents ranges from less than \$25 to well over \$1,000. The sophistication, though not necessarily the effectiveness, of the devices is pretty much coupled with their cost.

On the inexpensive and simple end of the scale, one tension cut device that keeps the engine from starting unless the device is deactivated. The best of these are combined with a locking wheel device that keeps a thief from attempting to start the device.

Also relatively easy to use, but somewhat clumsy to travel with, is a go-bag, a locked steel steering wheel lock. One popular version hooks over the steering wheel and the brake pedal. Another is the lock that fits over the steering wheel, but doesn't lock the wheel. Some versions are made of a heavy-duty metal, but others are made of plastic. Some versions are made of a heavy-duty metal, but others are made of plastic. Some versions are made of a heavy-duty metal, but others are made of plastic.

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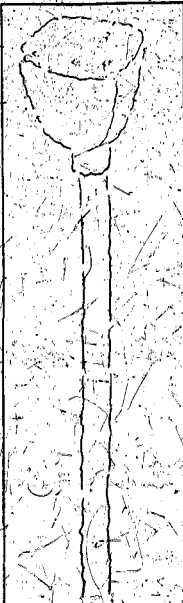
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