

Union County

WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1998 - SECTION B

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Freeholders target Port Authority after learning of land acquisition

By Michelle Runge

Staff Writer

The Union County Board of Freeholders voted Aug. 22 on a resolution requesting the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to justify county and local officials before taking any steps to acquire land in the Port Elizabeth area.

Union County officials want to make sure that any planned expansion of operations by the Port Authority into Port Newark-Elizabeth doesn't result in a loss of taxables.

The recent announcement of a master study by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey raised concern among the Board of chosen freeholders, which voted 7 to 0 during its meeting to pass the resolution requesting the Port Authority obtain formal authorization and full endorsement from the County of Union and from impacted local public entities before it moves to acquire land. Freeholder Donald Goncalves sponsored the resolution.

"At the county have a vested interest in this deal because anything that happens in Elizabeth, any taxable that drops off there, will have to be made up in another town like Linden or Kentwood or Montclair," said Freeholder Chairman Daniel Sullivan.

The Port Authority is examining the possible expansion of port facilities by an additional 700 acres, including property in Elizabeth. Among the primary concern of the freeholder board is that when property is acquired by the Port Authority, it becomes tax-exempt and is removed from local, school and county tax rolls.

Goncalves has been critical of the Port Authority's payment arrangement for property located between the cities of Elizabeth and Newark. The City of Newark receives \$25 million annually from the multi-billion dollar agency for property totals of the

Under, while the City of Elizabeth gets just \$6,000 in tax revenue each year.

The result of the authority's study

could have a direct impact on the municipalities of Union County," said Goncalves, liaison to the Union County Department of Economic Development. "The Port Authority's land holdings in Union County exceed the size of eight of our municipalities, yet it pays next to nothing to the county for the property."

The Port Authority bought the land 45 years ago from Elizabeth, but Newark still retains ownership and so can collect \$45 million annually.

"This freeholder board has identified economic development as a priority," Sullivan said. "The land available in Union County, particularly prime real estate near Port Elizabeth, is a part of that county's long-term strategic plan to build and strengthen Union County's economic base. We are fully aware of its value and want to work with the Port Authority to move in a direction which is mutually beneficial."

Officials say they are fearful the authority may want to acquire the Albed Signal site along the Arthur Kill in Elizabeth. The company is looking to sell or lease the acreage,

Goncalves said. Sullivan added, "Union County wants to be a working partner with the Port Authority, but need cooperation from the agency to make this partnership beneficial to both sides."

Allan Morrison, spokesperson for the authority, said studies are under way to determine how best to deal with the increased volume of maritime cargo coming over the North Atlantic during the next 10 years, according to a *Star Ledger* article.

He said the surge of cargo is expected to be at least 10 percent over the next decade.

Morrison said the Port Authority

has every intention of sharing the results of those studies with local officials once they are completed.

"The Port Authority has an obligation to Union County, and address us with respect to property acquisitions. Also, we have a vested interest in any land situated in Union County through dredge spoils at the port," said Elizabeth Mayor J. Christopher Bolwage. "For the Port Authority to pay \$63,000 in taxes on a 2,000-acre parcel of land is not acceptable public policy."

Goncalves said it was outrageous that the city of Newark received \$25 million annually from the Port Authority compared to Elizabeth's \$6,000 in lieu of taxes.

"That \$63,000 is such a patrician amount that it impacts the county because if the land was taxable, we would not be losing taxables," added Sullivan. "The way the county operates, for instance, if we were to purchase land, we would work out an agreement to pay the city involved their fair share."

"We're doing everything we can to create and develop land and we need to make sure that entities like the Port Authority help not hinder that process," said Sullivan. "We're not interested in losing taxables, we're interested in creating taxables," said Sullivan.

Bolwage requested that Goncalves amend his resolution to include allowing Elizabeth to collect taxes on any new revenue the agency creates by dredging.

The question centers around the future use of privately leased dredge spoils, said Bolwage. "Dredge spoils can be poured into marine water creating even more sand and the City of Elizabeth wants to be in a position to collect taxes on those taxables."

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As a legislator or a freeholder, McDonough transcended politics

By Philip Sean Curran

Staff Writer

He was a man whom other men admired, a politician whose character and personality allowed him to transcend partisan or political boundaries; friends said about former State Senator, Assemblyman and Freeholder Peter J. McDonough Sr., who died Friday: "He was 77."

Official across the state paused to remember the man everyone, it seemed, could call a friend. McDonough's old running mate and assembly colleague Frank McDermon, said he first encountered McDonough when the man was still a freeholder. Together, they ran on the same Republican ticket and "went into the Assembly, starting in 1962."

"He was a vibrant young man, very popular," McDermon said. "He was a great politician. Nobody every seemed to like him."

Trenton was a far place for McDonough, though. The Plainfield native grew up on the city's streets and proudly never left them despite his many travels to fight in World War II and in the falls of the state house.

A graduate of St. Lawrence University,

McDonough had many business interests; at one time running a lumber business and a automobile leasing service.

As a freeholder, he served alongside such legendary figures as Thomas O'Donnell of Elizabeth, the patriarch of the city's political dynasty. But still there was always time to work for local charities and religious organizations. According to his biography in a county directory from the early 1960s, the city's service clubs recognized his altruism by naming McDonough the man of the year, in 1960.

Like many political careers, however, McDonough's life reflected some losing in 1968 to Mildred Barnes Hughes in a tough race to become state senator. Resilient, he returned to the Assembly, this time, lasting from 1968 to 1974.

In the last chapter of his political career, he overcame the earlier defeat and became a state senator in 1974.

Douglas T. DiFrancesco, who has held

McDonough's seat since he gave it up Jan. 9, 1979, said his former colleague is irrereplaceable.

Pete McDonough was a hard act to follow in Trenton, as both an aggressive legislator and a fine human being who garnered respect on both sides of the aisle for his intellect, dedication and integrity," the state senate president said.

"I don't know anyone who said a bad thing about him," said Sen. Raymond J. Lenart. "I'm certainly saddened by losing a friend."

Valuating his stature, all state offices, agencies and institutions flew their flags at half-staff from Saturday to yesterday. Gov. Christine Whitman ordered McDonough's son, Peter Jr., McDonough Jr., works as the governor's communications director, and Whitman said the father's death is a loss that the entire state will feel.

"Pete McDonough was a kind and gentle leader who was dedicated to making New Jersey a better place to live, work and raise a family," she said. "His commitment to his state was demonstrated through some 15 years of service as a member of the Assembly and Senate."

Besides his son, McDonough is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, and two daughters, Maria and Martha Kirby.

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Woody Allen film constructs a surreal portrait of life

There is a scene in "Deconstructing Harry" in which a character is descending into hell to rescue a girl friend the devil has kidnapped. He's nosing himself into hell with any army of action heroes or busing through with a high-tech aircraft. That would not be director Woody Allen's style. Instead, he's taking a slow, but smooth-moving elevator.

As he travels through the levels, each floor is announced: "Floor five — subway muggers, aggressive pan-handlers, hook critics, floor six — right-wing extremists, serial killers, lawyers who appear on television, floor seven — the media, sorry, that floor is all filled up; floor eight, I escaped was criminals." TV channel two, the NRA. Allen later meets the devil and the two discuss past power, sanity and other moral issues in one of the funniest minutes of the 1997 film year.

"Deconstructing Harry" is another well-crafted, engaging philosophical comedy from the man who has the corner on that market. The story centers on Harry, played by Woody Allen, an aging writer who has been invited back to the college he was expelled from to receive a lifetime achievement award. As he prepares for his prestigious trip, his life around him is crumbling. His ex-wife wants to kill him, another ex-wife who he still loves is getting married, and he feels adduced to prescription drugs, therapy and prostitutes.

These stressful problems coupled against the exciting honor that awaits him, causes Harry to reflect about his life. Has he treated people fairly? Are his failed marriages his fault? How does one become content? Is there anything after death? All of these questions are play out in some bizarre scenes.

When Harry sees an old friend who has just passed away, he asks him if death is better than life. "No, it isn't."

The Video Detective

By Jim Ritter

his friend replies, "although now I can't be called for jury duty."

And all of these scenes are filled with top-line actors. Allen, who has been nominated for ten Academy Awards for Best Screenplay, is praised as the master of cinema and many of Hollywood's big shot line up to grab his pictures. The cast for this film includes Robin Wright, Demi Moore, Elisabeth Shue, Judy Davis, Billy Crystal, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Kirstie Alley, Amy Irving, Marilé Hemingway, and Eric Bogosian.

So what is the point of this latest film from Allen? He answers it in two different scenes. Early in the film Harry quotes the famous Sophocles line: "It is better not to be born." But later in the movie, his deceased friend tells him the secret of life: "To be alive is to be happy."

Video Detective Trivia: Name the film Woody Allen made which stars Burt Reynolds.

Answer: "Everything You Always Wanted To Know About Sex (But Were Afraid To Ask)" which also starred Tony Randall and Gena Wilder.

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

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Local television station offers volunteer classes

TV-36 is looking for volunteers. TV-36, Communities on Cable Inc., is a local non-profit cable access television station serving Berkeley Heights, New Providence, Millburn, Springfield and Summit.

TV-36 is offering a class to introduce interested citizens in the basics of television production. No prior experience is necessary to register for this class. The fee for this course is \$75 for adults and \$45 for seniors and students. Upon completion of this class, students are eligible to work with other volunteers on programs produced by TV-36.

TV-36 is a volunteer organization that values all the talented volunteers who make it possible to continue production of quality local television programming. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer of TV-36, contact Station Manager Ginger MacMahon at (908) 277-6310 or e-mail tv36cav@prodigy.net.

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REUNIONS

• Linden High School Class of 1958 will hold a 40th reunion on Sept. 12 at Galloping Hill Inn. For information, call Gail Hudak at (908) 662-4272.

• Roselle Park High School Class of 1948 is seeking members to attend a 50th reunion on Sept. 19 at Cointa's Restaurant in Cranford. For information, call (908) 245-3372.

• Union High School Class of 1988 will hold a reunion on Sept. 19. For information, call Reunions Unlimited at (732) 611-1000.

• Roselle Park High School Class of 1958 will hold a 40th reunion on Sept. 20. Alumni or anyone with information on class members should contact Ray Muir, 2106 Arrowwood Drive, Westfield, NJ 07090.

• Rahway High School Class of 1978 is planning a 20th reunion on Oct. 16 at The Woodswood Inn, Cranford. For information, call (732) 382-6956.

• Arthur L. Johnson High School Class of 1975 will hold a reunion on Oct. 17. For information, call Reunions International at (888) 845-5200.

• Jonathan Dayton Regional High School Class of 1948 will hold a reunion on Oct. 17 at the Gran Centenario in Clark. Call Marge Engstrom Weeks at (908) 273-7145. Irene Oltarzski Wiets at (732) 381-1955 or Dorothy Constantino Campagni at (732) 783-7574.

• Plainfield High School Class of 1948 will hold a reunion on Oct. 17. For information, call Reunions International at (888) 845-5200.

• Batlin High School in Elizabeth Class of 1948 will hold a 50th reunion on Oct. 18. For information, Contact the Reunion Committee at 1701 Sheridan Ave, Roselle, NJ, 07203.

• Cranford High School Class of 1948 will hold a reunion on Oct. 19. For information, call Reunions Unlimited at (732) 611-1000.

• Scotch Plains High School Class of 1968 will hold a reunion on Oct. 19. For information, call Reunions Unlimited at (732) 611-1000.

• Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Class of 1973 will hold a reunion on Nov. 14. For information, call Reunions International at (888) 845-5200.

• Elizabeth Batlin High School Class of 1953 will hold a 45th reunion luncheon on Nov. 24 at 11:15 a.m. at Simplot Hotel in Sunbury. For information, contact Pat Went Sirchak at (215) 457-0795, 30 Anfia Lane, Warminster, PA 18976 or Carolyn DePom Palmer at (908) 352-0477, 179 Irvington Ave, Elizabeth, NJ 07208.

• Linden High School Class of 1972 will hold a reunion in Nov. 1 from 1-5 p.m. at The Westwood in Garwood. Contact Bill McArdle at P.O. Box 1022 Linden, NJ 07036 for further information.

• David Brearley Regional High School Class of 1973 will hold a reunion on Nov. 27. Interested Alums are requested to write to: Brearley Class of 1973, c/o P.O. Box 254, Kentwood, NJ 07033.

• Scotch Plains High School Class of 1975 will hold a reunion on Nov. 27. For information, call Reunions Unlimited at (222) 617-1000.

• Springfield High School Class of 1978 will hold a reunion on Nov. 27. For information, call Reunions International at (888) 845-5200.

• Linden High School Class of 1988 will hold a reunion on Nov. 28. For information, call Reunions International at (888) 845-5200.

• Rahway High School Class of 1968 will hold a reunion on Nov. 28. For information, call Reunions International at (888) 845-5200.

• Rahway High School Class of 1988 will hold a reunion on Nov. 28. For information, call Reunions International at (888) 845-5200.

• Union High School Class of 1968 will hold a reunion on Nov. 28. For information, call Reunions Unlimited at (732) 617-1000.

• Union High School Class of 1978 will hold a reunion on Nov. 28. For information, call Reunions Unlimited at (732) 617-1000.

• Westfield High School Class of 1988 will hold a reunion on Nov. 28. For information, call Reunions Unlimited at (732) 617-1000.

• Roselle Park High School Class of 1958 is planning a reunion for February 1999. For information, contact Jean Castello Mangini, 2120 Villa Way, New Smyrna Beach, Florida 32169.

Plainfield gallery features African-American artists

The Red Room, a fine art gallery specializing in the works of African-American artists, is located at 900 Park Ave., Plainfield.

All original limited-editions and open prints are affordably priced.

Gallery 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) 791-9700 or (908) 561-8799.

—Rahway High School Class of 1988 will hold a reunion on Nov. 28. For information, call Reunions International at (888) 845-5200.

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'Hit The Road, Jack!' That's just what these talented fellows did when they performed their tap routine at La Danse School of Performing Arts annual recital 'Dancing Through the Decades' in June at David Bratley High School in Keweenaw. From left, rear, are Kevin McCarthy, Sébastien Roman, Erik Munoz and Clarence Williams. In front are Jean Adam, Shawn Bush, Enel Webley and Casimir Starling.

School teaches the art of La Danse

La Danse School of Performing Arts, a name well-known in Linden for the past 19 years, has always been more than just a dance studio, offering excellent instruction in all areas of dance and fitness. A community involved studio, the students have performed in nursing homes, at cultural festivals and recently at the AARP annual luncheon at the Gallatin Hall, bringing joy to all who seen them perform.

Tina Stover, director, credits the success of her school to the excellent staff on board. "I feel each and every student deserves the best dance education possible, so I bring in the finest fully certified teachers in order to insure that all of our students learn the latest dance techniques as well as proper placement and body alignment."

Last year the La Danse International Dance Ensemble was formed and students traveled to St. Maarten for a cultural exchange. They were honored for their participation at their annual recital by receiving presidential commendations from President Clinton presented to them by Louis Copeland, a representative from Congressman Donald

Payne's office. The exchange program will continue this year with a cultural exchange in Maui, Hawaii, in November.

Curriculum at La Danse includes classes in ballet, pointe, tap, jazz, lyrical, acro-gymnastics, kinderdance, comedy classes, hip-hop, creative movement for tots and competition teams. Class size is limited so that all students are guaranteed personalized instruction. Boys' classes have become very popular and are offered in tap, jazz, acro-gymnastics and hip-hop.

The studio also offers the latest in fitness programs which are designed to fit everyone's needs. Classes are also offered in ballet, tap and jazz for adults which give new meaning to exercise, combining the joy of dance with stretching and toning.

Registration for all classes will be held today from 4 to 8 p.m. Classes begin Sept. 8. La Danse is located at 10 N. Washington Ave., Linden. For more information and a free brochure, call 802-6887.

Hospital offers some tips on back-to-school safety

As the new school year approaches, the Department of Pediatrics at Saint Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston, would like to offer parents the following tips, as suggested by The American Academy of Pediatrics, to help children get off to a good start:

- Before the first day of school, it is a good idea to walk or ride the route to school together with your child.
- If your child will be walking to school, assess the route for safety. Find out about crossing guards and traffic patterns.
- Instruct your child to stay on sidewalks, and main roads do not allow him or her to cut through alleys, which are often deserted areas.
- Have siblings, or older neighbors, walk together so that younger children are not alone.
- Tour the school building and classroom prior to the first day, and set up play dates with classmates.
- Let the school know whenever your child is absent.
- For bus riders, review basic safety rules.
- Wait for bus to stop before approaching it from the curb.

Show your child you are interested in his or work. Re-explain assignments if necessary, and check to see that homework is completed.

- Wait until the bus is fully stopped before exiting.
- Check to see that no other traffic is coming before crossing.
- Having trouble fitting homework into your child's schedule?

• Provide a positive homework atmosphere for your child that is free of clutter and distractions, including television.

• Show your child you are interested in his or work. Re-explain assignments if necessary, and check to see that homework is completed.

• You may need to cut back on your child's activities, or see that his or her after-school care includes supervising homework time.

• If your child is struggling with a particular subject, and you are not able to help him or her yourself, a tutor can be a good solution. Talk it over with your child's teacher first.

• Remember to allow time for free play in your child's schedule.

• Give your child some strategies for coping with bullies.

• If he or she should just give in to a bully's demands, but should simply walk away or tell the bully to stop.

• Talk with the teacher about a persistent bully. If appropriate, the teacher and principal may take steps to mediate the situation.

• Encourage your child to talk about fears of violence, and explain how or she can avoid dangerous situations.

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Harvard graduates reveal the secret of getting accepted to the Ivy League

Get Into Any College, Secrets Of Harvard Students is the first college admissions strategy book that actually shows you how to get into college. Authored by recent Harvard graduates and husband and wife Alan and Kelly Tanabe — under the penname of John Cook and Lisa Lee — Get Into Any College, Secrets Of Harvard Students is the first book to feature the strategies and stories of real students who have been accepted to the country's top colleges.

This book is unlike any other book on college admissions. We are not admissions officers. We are real students who share proven strategies we have used to get into college. College applicants need real strategies they can use today, not condescending common sense theories from so-called experts, who applied to college 20 years ago. Our goal is to connect students struggling with admissions with the lessons learned by those who have done it before to improve their chances of success, said Gen Tanabe, co-author and Harvard graduate.

Get Into Any College, Secrets Of Harvard Students is filled with student-tested strategies to help college applicants write better essays that stand out from the pile, promote themselves during college interviews, ace the SAT and ACT, and find free cash for college.

Jam-packed with real examples,

Get Into Any College, Secrets Of Harvard Students includes 23 actual college application essays, more than 50 strategies to increase SAT and ACT scores and special chapters for parents and 9th-11th graders. The book also features unique "Stories From Real Life," actual student narratives which explain what the process does — and doesn't — work in the real world.

The authors spent three years researching for the book and interviewed dozens of students to provide real-life experiences of students accepted to top colleges.

"Our mission is to provide students with the most comprehensive how-to strategy book for college admissions and financial aid. When students are applying to college, they have so many questions. We answer them using other students' experiences to show what works and what doesn't," said Kelly Tanabe, co-author and Harvard graduate.

Excerpts from "Get Into Any College, Secrets Of Harvard Students" are showcased online at www.supercollege.com. The website also features original articles on college admissions and financial aid, a free e-mail college admissions and financial aid newsletter, and an online store.

Kids' Stuff

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For the first-time ever, the College is introducing a new certificate program, "Microsoft and Novell Certification Preparation." Offered in conjunction with CBT Systems, the program will provide computer-based certification training with online testing. Courses include MCSE, MCE and MCP+I (Microsoft certification courses) and CNA, CNE, and CIP (Novell certification courses).

"Business Computer Applications" is designed for persons who have an interest in and an aptitude for computing. Participants will become familiar with programming concepts and understanding, use and customizing popular software packages. Courses will include an introduction to computers and a choice of courses including applications in DOS, Word,

Perfect for Windows, Microsoft Word, for Windows, Lotus for Windows, Excel, Access and PowerPoint.

"Children's Care-Giver Program" is designed for persons who would like to develop skills as a child care giver. The course prepares students for working with others in a child care facility, or for establishing their own child care business. Courses will include child care foundations and professional practices.

"Computer Art/Graphic Design" will provide instruction in the tools of desktop production using the Macintosh Power PC. Students will gain basic knowledge in computer graphics and applications. Course work includes classes in most widely used software packages, with instruction provided in how applications are used independently and in tandem. Courses will include Macintosh basics, QuarkXPress, Photoshop, and Illustrator.

"Law Office Assistant" is designed for persons who have prior work experience in an office setting or are acquainted with general office procedures and now wish to train for more specialized work. Courses will include law office management and ethics, law systems and research retrieval, law office procedures, and fundamentals of litigation.

"Local Area Network" will offer technical seminars and hands-on

training to transport the student from Local Area Network hardware configuration to using software in a LAN environment or acquire the foundation necessary to enter into the computer networking field. Courses will include LAN hardware DOS, Windows for LANs and Microsoft Office for LANs.

"Material Management" will offer foundational instruction necessary for career entry into the materials management field. Courses will include an introduction to materials management, procurement practices and principles, dynamics of inventory management, quality improvement, physical distribution systems, systems management, and materials management issues and implications.

"Medical Administrative Assistant" will prepare students to become medical secretaries in the expanding health-care field. While enhancing their secretarial skills, students will also learn medical office procedures, terminology, and coding. Courses will include introduction to medical terminology, procedures in the medical office, medical office ethics and legal responsibilities, and a choice of one IBM-compatible software: either WordPerfect for Windows 3.1 or 95, or Microsoft Word for Windows 3.1 or 95.

"Medical Transcription," sponsored by Muhlenberg Regional

Hospital Center, Plainfield, prepares students for employment as a medical transcriptionist in a medical center, clinic, physician's office, or other health care agency. Courses will include keyboarding, effective writing, effective business communication, word processing in Microsoft Word for Windows and WordPerfect for Windows, medical transcription background and theory, and a two-week clinical internship.

"Office Management" is designed for persons who have work experience in an office setting and want to qualify for increased responsibilities and job promotion. Courses will include effective business communication, human relations skills, and effective combination of courses including applications in DOS, WordPerfect for Windows, Microsoft Word for Windows, Lotus for Windows, Excel for Access.

"Personnel/Human Relations" will instruct students in the necessary skills for understanding and processing human resource information. Courses will include human relations skills, management skills for supervisors, personnel recruitment and selection, engineering, office cooperation, and performance appraisal.

"Practical Accounting" will provide a foundation for understanding processing and communicating data. Courses will include practical accounting, computerized accounting

records, fundamentals of taxation, Lotus for Windows, Excel and Access.

"Restaurant Management/Culinary Arts" a two-tiered program at the basic advanced levels, will enable students to gain knowledge and these skills for potential careers. Courses are designed to meet requirements for food service personnel, with students obtaining both technical and managerial skills. Basic components include first aid, food service, food service, including the culinary profession, food service management, and food service management.

Advanced courses include food service management, and catering.

"Travel and Tourism," also a two-tiered program, will meet the requirements for becoming a travel consultant. Students will gain technical and business skills needed to pursue a career in leisure or corporate travel including ticketing and computers. Basic courses will include an introduction to retail travel and ticketing, travel arrangements, and both American and international destinations for travel and tourism. Advanced courses will include advanced ticketing, advanced travel arrangements, an introduction to travel agency operations and management, and the computer in the travel marketplace.

Those interested in further information should call the UCC Division of Continuing Education and Community Services at (908) 209-7000.

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Kentworth

Nathie Westervelt sold property at

660 Union Ave., to Nathie Westervelt on April 8

Haddad Family Funded, Inc. sold property

at 211 N. 11th St., to Michael J. Haddad

for \$20,000, on April 13

Richard J. and Marie Farley sold

property at 723 Kingston Ave., to Monica L. Alonso for \$148,000, on April 16

Peter and Michelle Brachtmayer sold

property at 214 Lincoln Drive, to Edward T. Bracher for \$162,000, on April 20

Edward and Karen L. Bernardo sold

property at 108 S. 2nd Ave., to Daryl Lammert for \$170,000, on April 24

Linden

Rosemary Bowe sold property at

612 Fairway Road, to Kathleen M.

Bowe for \$125,000, on April 21

Mary C. Carlson sold property at 105 Jefferson Ave., to Michael J. Schreiber for \$90,000, on April 3

Federal Home Loan Mortgag-

Co sold property at 37 W. 15th St.,

to NJ Adorable Homes Corp. for \$65,000, on April 4

James Szwarc sold property at

274 Bay St., to Robert Z. Mack for \$40,000, on April 9

Charles and Carol Aptowitzer sold

property at 43 Hollywood Ave., to

Mark J. Laurence for \$120,000, on April 9

Augusta S. and Maria I. David sold

property at 1059 Prospect St., to

Co. for \$75,000, on April 14

May J. Ayward sold property at

30 Fairbanks St., to Edward Pelli-

Stans for \$85,000, on April 15

Jose D. and Consuelo J. Jimenez sold

property at 123 Robert St., to

Victor Fernandez for \$132,500, on

April 17

Manuel D. Sold property at

159 Baltimore Ave., to Marcus W.

Forrest for \$122,500, on April 17

Fernando and Cecilia G. Garcia sold

property at 1399 Avery St., to Tika

Leake for \$95,000, on April 17

Bankers Trust Co. of California sold

property at 569 Plymouth Road,

to Isabella McRoy for \$90,000, on

April 21

Bankers Trust Co. of California sold

property at 314 Wissahickon

St., to Michael J. Ricci for \$110,000, on April 21

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St., to Michael J. Ricci for \$11

Automotive



Aluminum-designed Plymouth Prowler's new 'cooler' engine.

Any way you do the math, Prowler adds up to success

Working on the Plymouth Prowler gave Chrysler engineers an opportunity to expand in new directions and try new things. "One of the main purposes for spending money was to try it as a test bed for new technologies," said Craig Briley, executive engineer for team Prowler. "We've got the most important aspect of this was the evaluation of how to form, join and handle aluminum. The whole body is aluminum; the frame is aluminum; so is the body sheet metal and extrusions. Aluminum is certainly not a new material, but Prowler was the first time Chrysler had dealt with it on such a large scale."

The extensive use of aluminum gives Prowler a curb weight of approximately 2,900 pounds. During production, the aluminum is heat-treated to strengthen it, eventually making it as hard as steel. Different grades of aluminum were used for different components and areas of the car, depending on the properties needed. The body is aluminum, while the frame is aluminum, and uses 54.4 series aluminum for the body parts. This particular grade is considered excellent from both anti-corrosion and adhesive bonding standpoints. Exterior panels like doors and hoods use 6025 series aluminum, which is widely used by the aerospace industry and improves dent resistance.

The aluminum whereabouts in the car, in comparison, save about 10 pounds over cars such as the Cirrus or Breeze, which use more conventional materials. The brakes include cast-aluminum rotors in the rear.

Typically, aluminum yields a higher ratio of brake rotors, especially with the wear on the slimes," explained Jim Ryan, materials engineer to the program. Prowler uses 20 percent silicon carbide ceramic particles to increase the strength of the aluminum. It provides about 7.2 pound weight savings.

The seat frames and all of the structural components in the seats are aluminum as well, the first time such a dual approach has been used for the automotive sector. The aluminum for the head and frame is supplied by Alcan. For the team, Prowler's stock assembly rocker arms are an exercise in "soft-to-solid" forming of aluminum. Almaj-Engineered Metal processes spent 20 years refining the process, which was originally developed at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and which is somewhere between die casting and the forging. In semi-forming, an aluminum billet is heated until its viscosity reaches 5,000 schmidt's composition with the consistency of toothpaste. The billet will not collapse under its own weight but can be cut with a sharp knife. It is then forced into a permanent die under high pressure. The process reduces weight of the aluminum and eliminates any part which might have been required in the stamping and cutting operations of the billets. By doing this, costs for forming some machining of the components is eliminated because the shape of the molds almost perfectly.

The process is thus a good cost-cutting measure. Prowler represents the first use of this process in suspension

components in North America, although Japanese manufacturers have used it on a smaller scale.

Team Prowler's engineers also experimented with magnesium. The instrument panel is a die-cast magnesium cross-bar structure made out of multiple components. With a standard instrument panel, dimensional control is very difficult and there can be high scrap rates because of heat distortion. Die-cast magnesium came out the same almost every time; it's very tightly controlled. The Prowler instrument panel — the first of its kind in the industry — is designed to bear the load of all the gauge parts and to reduce noise, vibration and harshness. It also provides significant weight savings, which is estimated at around eight or nine pounds. As for the safety factor of magnesium, the energy absorbers or the "knee blasters" are made out of steel.

Of course, the technical aspects of Prowler do not exist in a vacuum. Any change in the car's design affected the engineering side and vice versa. After the team's car debut a 50-day study was undertaken to determine the feasibility of regular production. Don Bradley, in charge of the project, explained how Prowler was virtually born during the course of this study.

"People packaging and side-impact requirements necessitated widening the body by about three inches, while coil-over montages of the S-10 later high-output V-6 dictated a larger, wider radiator, affecting the length and slope of the hood shroud, by the way, became flat-topped. The wheel base was upped slightly from 113.5 inches to 118 inches, mainly for front wheel impact."

While the concept car had an aluminum flip-top that disappeared electrically, the production car had to have a real folding top, according to Bradley. "There was no room for a spare, so we opted for run-flat tires down the wings and specific zone requirements had to be met after altering the windshield shroud. We had to build a mock-up back to verify all the modifications. But by the end of the 50 days, we had an exterior shape, along with the interior. We had to fulfill the body and tooling changes were designed on the computer, then refined for surface verification, inputted directly and then digitized. I think the Prowler is a completely unique design," he says.

As Prowler moved closer to regular production, the importance of these new features and processes for every day-on of Chrysler grows.

You can get the real story as you start when a car enters production," said Lovell. "You can try something in the office or in the drawing board, and be convinced that it's right work. But you can only see how things work at the real world in a production vehicle."

The core idea of the work in Prowler is that we work before we run," added Lovell. "The point is to move things in low-volume applications before applying new engineering principles to high-volume production cars."

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