

Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield, Mountainside and Summit

SPRINGFIELD, N.J., VOL. 70, NO. 11

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1998

TWO SEC

ITS

THIS WEEK

NEWS

Why the sweep?

Employees of Union County are voting the program. As the current fiscal year ends, the county is facing a budget deficit. The Democratic Party is running for office in the November election. The county is facing a budget deficit. The Democratic Party is running for office in the November election.

Withdrawal

With the merger of two banks, the town of which the treasurer had been a member because of the printing rules, the county and a similar situation about where to put its money.

THE ARTS

Direct line

An art line is being kept residents informed of cultural events in Elizabeth and the area.



TEAM awards

This week's winners of the winners of the second annual award of which we recognize the best of community theater in Union County.

NEW MEDIA

News updates

Get local updates throughout the week. Call or through our line at 1905 Oak Brook for a menu of items. See Page B3.

Web site

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

WEATHER

Friday: Periods of clouds and sun 51. Saturday: Partly sunny and cool 48. Sunday: Partly cloudy 50.

For the most up to date reports, call (908) 686-6696, Ext. 1790.

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Bill Boesenberg, an animal educator, has Maureen Goense handle a snake during a presentation at the Mountainside Public Library.

Library presents world of reptiles

By Pamela Ivanson Staff Writer

The world of reptiles came alive at Mountainside Public Library Tuesday afternoon when local children had the opportunity to interact with "reptiles." Bill Boesenberg, an animal educator, entertained the young crowd with his presentation "Snakes, Scorpions and Lizards." He displayed live snakes and explained their traits.

Boesenberg discussed the four different groups of reptiles: alligators and crocodiles, snakes, turtles and lizards to a captive audience.

The reptile group assembled, holding these animals can adapt their body temperatures to between 60 and 98 degrees in the wild. They need warmth in order to hunt for food and exercise but cool down to rest and save energy.

After learning about the reptile group, the children then had an opportunity for careful examination of the animals. The two-year-old crocodile seemed to be the highlight of the hour, as the kids tried to sneak a closer look. Boesenberg explained, however, that crocodiles are the only animals that hunt humans for food.

Like other reptiles, crocodile mothers are also very protective of their young. "If you pick up a baby crocodile and it really notices, you may have made the last mistake of your life," Boesenberg said. "The mothers are often 200 pounds, weigh 5000 pounds and respond immediately to a distressed cry from their children."

The next animal, a baby alligator, is slightly less dangerous to humans. Boesenberg said alligators are ferocious but they feel that their skin is threatened, they won't fight. "If you're carrying an alligator, you should be afraid that something is breaking into your house, causing your food and watching your TV," Boesenberg explained.

After examining the characteristics of a painted turtle, a snapping turtle and a large-necked snake, the children had the opportunity to pet a lizard, known as a bearded dragon, and a 20-cent, 50-pound box constructor named "Lightning."

Boesenberg has been presenting natural history programs for teenagers of all ages since 1982. He worked as a zoo keeper, animal health technician, zoological curator for 23 years and taught history education for the Sea Grant Museum for 13 years. Many animals that Boesenberg presents were rescued as unwanted pets, orphaned or state confiscations.

Boesenberg has two new air conditioning units were installed at the center. The tank, as well as the entire furnace, will be removed using township money if the town is not approved.

Mardini said, "A \$20,000 grant to purchase 120 sanitary sewer manhole cover inserts. These inserts keep surface water from infiltrating the sanitary sewer lines."

Mardini said, "A \$20,000 grant to purchase and install an outdoor sprinkler system for the laws of the newly rezoned Chisholm Community Center."

In order to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the township is requesting \$32,000 to modify bathrooms in the Municipal Building Annex, and to extend the existing handicapped ramp to the front entrance to the building.

About \$80,000 to improve the Public Parking Lot, which is across the street from the Division of Motor Vehicles, was requested. These improvements include striping, curbing, guard rails, lighting and resurfacing the lot.

The parking lot's health used by residents, shoppers and visitors to the DMV. Mardini said, "between 800 and 1000 cars occupy the lot over the course of a typical day."

A grant of \$18,800 to subsidize the cost of purchasing and installing decorative lamp posts on the town's main street. A grant of \$10,000 to hire a consultant to review the layout of the Springfield Public Library.

Susan Perinich, director of the library, said that some computers are too close to work areas, and the sound

and activity associated with the computers can be disturbing to people who are reading or studying.

The building's approaching thirty years of age, and the use of libraries has changed radically during this time. Perinich said, "We have materials that we didn't even think of thirty years ago, such as compact discs, videos, books on tape and so on. We are housing these materials in spaces that were designed as sitting

places for reception areas. Library patrons, who once limited their visits to checking out or returning books, now spend hours in the library reading, studying or using the computers, she said. There are also programs scheduled at the library, such as a children's sing-along for Dec. 5, that can draw many residents and require their own space away from the quiet areas.

The committee also unanimously approved the purchase of the Hershey Creamery at 24 Mountain Ave. This site will be used as a storage facility. The Department of Public Works, Councilman Greg Clarke said that the building is well-suited for this purpose, with a heavily constructed concrete floor and large doors to permit access for trucks.

"It's perfect for our needs, and it's new," said Mayor SC Mullman. "This is an exceptional deal."

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Herkalo recognized by township, se

By Craig Garretson Staff Writer

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"I appreciate the service to the town, to both the children and the seniors of Springfield," said Deputy Mayor Greg Clarke. "The best accolade to you are these people who came out tonight to show you their appreciation."

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See TOWNSHIP, Page 3

Township approves condominium plan

By Craig Garretson Staff Writer

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The board's vote was unanimous, 8-0. At the Nov. 2 meeting held in Springfield Town Hall, Debra Tite, a member of the Planning Board, made a motion to grant preliminary and final site approval to the developer with the following conditions:

Approval by the Union County Engineer, Parks and Recreation Department and Planning Board.

Approval by the Springfield Engineer of a revised lighting plan for the development.

A letter from the Department of Environmental Protection stating that there was no objection to building on this site regarding wetlands and clean-up efforts to remove pollutants from ground water.

That the applicant would provide signs on the access drive designating no parking, no sleeping or standing, and fire lanes.

Proof of compliance from a state-licensed contractor.

That an agreement is secured with Union County of the maintenance of the Park Drive bridge.

An affordability plan, and approval of the water line.

The board also required that the parking space, out of every 20 to be used as a landscape break and a fire-tor buffer between the parking lot and the property line.

The application must also be approved by the Summit Planning Board, where the applicant may face a "wild-card" by Summit Mayor Walter Long. Long has said he will vote against the development unless the applicant agrees to build a second access into the site.

Currently, the only access to the development is through the Summit end of South Springfield Avenue. Summit residents from Middle Avenue and Edison Drive attended the Springfield Planning Board meeting to voice their complaints about the application saying that the 1.35-unit

See APPLICANT, Page 3

Committee approves county community grant applications

By Craig Garretson Staff Writer

The Springfield Township Committee approved eight applications to the Union County Community Development Block Grant program at their Oct. 27 meeting.

Sam Mardini, assistant engineer for the township, presented the applications, totaling about \$194,000, for committee approval. CDBG is a federal program that distributes federal Housing and Urban Development funds to projects throughout Union County.

The applications are for the same amount as last year, Mardini said, when the township received about \$100,000 of the \$194,000 requested.

The Union County CDBG committee annually reviews applications from 19 communities from throughout the county. The committee can grant all, some or none of the funds requested for each application. The funds are intended to benefit low and moderate income neighborhoods, through the improvement of housing, public facilities and public services.

Mardini said that the township will be notified in March or April if they receive any grants through the program.

Springfield is seeking federal grants to fund the following projects:

The Senior Citizens Nutritional Program, which Mardini said has received money every year from the county. This program, working in conjunction with the Union County Division of Aging, supplies meals to low and moderate income senior citizens in Springfield. The township is requesting \$8,500 to fund this program.

A \$6,000 grant to remove the underground tank at the Municipal Building annex. That tank is no longer

necessary as two new air conditioning units were installed at the center. The tank, as well as the entire furnace, will be removed using township money if the town is not approved.

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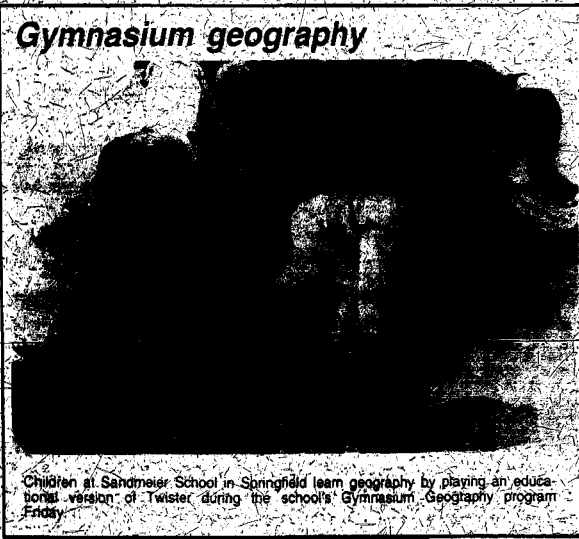
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Welcome to the ECHO LEADER

How to reach us: The Echo Leader is published every Thursday by The Echo Community Newspapers, a reader-owned family-owned newspaper. Address: Our offices are located at 12291 Springfield Avenue, Suite 101, Springfield, NJ 07081. We are open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every weekday. Call us at one of the telephone numbers listed below.

Voice mail: Our main phone line is 973-274-5700. This is equipped with a voicemail system. If you are unable to reach our office, please call our voicemail. During business hours, we have a recorded message that will call you back the evening of the day you called. After hours, we have a recorded message that will call you back the next business day.

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Story reprints: For permission to reprint any story published in the Echo Leader, please call our circulation department at 973-274-5700.

Letters to the editor: The Echo Leader reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and brevity. Please call our circulation department at 973-274-5700.

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To place a public notice: Public notices and legal notices are accepted in the Echo Leader. Please call our circulation department at 973-274-5700.

Facsimile transmission: The Echo Leader is equipped to accept your ads, releases, etc. by fax. Our fax lines are open 24 hours a day. For classifieds, please call 973-274-5700.

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NEWS CLIPS

School to host annual fundraiser

The 11th annual Union High School Fundraising Dinner will be held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Springfield on Wednesday, November 18, 1998. The dinner will open at 6:30 p.m. Admission tickets are limited and will be sold at \$117 each. The price includes a complimentary sandwich, dessert, coffee and tea. Reservations for full tables of eight or more will be accepted. More than 1500 tickets will be available.

The dinner will be held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Springfield. Tickets may be purchased at UHS's main office, 100 N. 15th St., from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Call Sandy at 973-274-5700 for further information.

Graessle celebrates with fellow Marines

Major Edward "Auntie" Graessle, USMC, is celebrating his 25th anniversary in the Marine Corps. He is currently assigned to the 2nd Marine Division in Okinawa, Japan. Major Graessle is a highly decorated Marine and has served in several tours of duty in Vietnam. He is currently serving as the Executive Officer of the 2nd Marine Division.

Major Graessle was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his service in Vietnam. He is currently serving as the Executive Officer of the 2nd Marine Division. He is a highly decorated Marine and has served in several tours of duty in Vietnam. He is currently serving as the Executive Officer of the 2nd Marine Division.

Luciani elected: Judge Luciani of Springfield is a member of the New Jersey State Bar Association. He is currently serving as the President of the Union County Bar Association. He is a highly respected judge and has served in several positions of leadership in the legal profession.

The Union County Bar Association is a highly respected organization that provides legal services to the community. Judge Luciani is a member of the New Jersey State Bar Association and is currently serving as the President of the Union County Bar Association.

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Operating in the United States and the second oldest private school in the state of New Jersey. This year, the entire Newark Academy community is celebrating the school's 225th anniversary since its founding in 1774. Located on a 65-acre campus in Livingston, Newark Academy is an educational institution with 545 students in grades six through 12. It offers students an outstanding academic and social program. Newark Academy is one of a handful of pre-Revolutionary schools still operating in the United States and the second oldest private school in the state of New Jersey.

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Correction

In the Nov. 5 edition of the Echo Leader, the photo of the Echo Community Newspapers' Board of Directors was incorrectly captioned. The correct caption is: Board of Directors of Echo Community Newspapers. The photo was taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors on October 29, 1998.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar prepared by the Echo Leader to inform residents of various community activities and government meetings. To give our community events the publicity they deserve, email your schedule to P.O. Box 3109, Union, NJ 07081.

Toda: The New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners will conduct its Union County Chapter meeting at 6 p.m. at L. Alfaro, Rt. 22, West in Mountaintop. The cost will be \$25 for members with advance registration, \$30 for members without registration and \$35 for non-members. The program will feature "Using the Internet and E-mail as a Business Tool." For reservations or more information, call the Union County hotline at 908-688-0700.

Sunday: The Fairfield Nature and Science Center will host a Sunday plantain show called "The New Universe" at 2 p.m. The show will feature space discoveries and the use of orbiting telescopes, space probes and computers. Another plantain show called "Night of the Leopards" will be presented at 7:30 p.m. The program will feature tigers, their origins and why they're a second major threat may be spectacular. The cost of admission for each program will be \$3 per person, \$2.55 for seniors. Both shows are for ages 5 and up. The Fairfield Nature and Science Center is located at 4842 New Providence Road in Mountaintop. For more information, call 908-789-9060.

Wednesday: The Evening Group of the First Presbyterian Church in Springfield will conduct its regular monthly meeting in the Parish House of Church Hill at 7:30 p.m. Plans will be made for the annual Christmas dinner and

all women of the church are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Nov. 19: Jewish Women International of Springfield will meet at the Springfield Free Public Library at 12:15 p.m. in Room 101. The meeting will be held at 12:15 p.m. in Room 101. All members and guests are asked to bring a special gift for the children. From the past a minicollect will be served and a luncheon will be served. • Jonathan Davison High School (JHS) will host a fundraiser at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per person which includes admission, sandwich buffet, coffee, tea and dessert. There will be a raffle for prizes. Tickets will be sold primarily in advance. Reservations will be available for full tables. For more information, call Sandy at 973-274-5700.

Nov. 21: The second annual Winter Trail Fall at the Springfield United Methodist Church will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Venues are wanted and space is \$25. This includes a table and chair. Call at 908-387-0779. Easter at 908-274-5700. In the church at 973-376-1695 to reserve early.

Nov. 21: The Kingdom of Columbus, Springfield, NJ, is conducting a program to collect glasses for the needy. Glasses will be sent as far as Kenya, Zaire, Puerto Rico, Guatemala and Israel as well as the United States. Glasses are picked up in a bi-weekly basis and may be dropped off at any post office in the Springfield and Summit area.

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Applicant now seeks approval from Summit

(Continued from Page 1)
 housing development would create traffic problems in the area.
 Barry O'Connell, city engineer, and John McCann, city engineer, also attended the meeting for Summit, testing before the committee about the possibility of creating a second access to the site from Troy Drive.
 Troy Drive is a private road that services the Troy Village Condominiums, a housing development behind the Carter Hill site that is separated by an abandoned railroad bed. New Jersey Transit retains the right-of-way strip of land, which once served the Railway Valley Railroad.
 McCann testified that a 1924 deed to the Carter Hill property, extended a right-of-way across the unused rail road bed, allowing the developer to extend Park Drive further south. If the owner of the Troy Village property agreed, Park Drive could be connected to Troy Drive, providing another means of access to the Carter Hill site.

The same deed also was the developer to extend Park Drive to the east end of the property, McCann testified, which would create a four-lane, two-lane street with two points of access to South Springfield Road. As this second road would require a bridge or culvert to span a stream, DEP approval would be required.
 McCann also testified that this deed specifies Park Drive as a driveway, not a public road, and that this area of Summit is zoned as a residential district. Park Drive therefore falls under Summit ordinances limiting the maximum width of residential driveways to 18 feet, he said.
 In order to comply with regulations regarding access for a housing development of this size, the developer must provide a "dualized access" two-lane drive, with each lane about 12 feet wide and a median running down the center.

The applicant will have to seek a variance or rezoning on this issue with the Summit Planning Board.
 Access to the development has been a sticking point with Summit. Residents of that city have claimed that the housing development would create traffic problems in the area.
 Harold Maltz, an engineer who performed traffic studies in South Springfield Avenue on June 25 and Sept. 12, testified that the development would not have a significant impact on traffic on the road.
 "There will be a safe, high-level of service even after this development," Pittman said. In traffic studies, a high-level of service indicates no delays or congestions in normal conditions. Maltz had testified that South Springfield Avenue is currently at the highest level of service.
 Summit residents who attended the meeting disagreed, noting that the traffic at the Park & Ride Lot is very heavy at rush hour periods and that Middle Avenue, which connects Broad Street and South Springfield Avenue, will see a considerable increase in cars.
 O'Connell also questioned Sam Gerishwin, another expert who testified for the applicant, as to which municipality would be responsible for enforcement of parking regulations and providing emergency services to the development. Gerishwin said that he did not know.
 Long has said that the city of Summit would be providing police and emergency services to this development, even though Springfield would be reaping the benefits of taxes and other rateables.

A team effort



From left, Department of Special Services members Theresa Seemann, School Psychologist Leslie Vaccaro, Learning Disabilities Consultant John Campbell, School Social Workers June Jennings, Learning Disabilities Consultant and Roger Maitland, School Psychologist, provide consultation, evaluation, program planning and instructional service to special-needs students. Services are accomplished through a multi-disciplinary team approach including the active participation of parents and staff members.

Gifted students learn mall architecture

By Pamela Isaacson
 Staff Writer

When most seventh or eighth graders go to a mall, they go to shop, write a date, meet with friends. Students enrolled in Springfield's gifted and talented program, however, have found a new appreciation for this pastime.
 "I'm learning that there is a lot more to a mall than just shopping," said seventh-grader Rachel Goldman.
 Teacher Barbara Truett explained that the program is designed to "try to get them to high level thinking skills." The mall project allows students to use their creativity and imagination, but math and business skills as well.
 Goldman and partner Danielle Schwartz are creating a mall in the shape of a star to be located in Southern California. "We wanted to create an upper-class mall, and we thought California had themes you could use," Goldman explained. "Each point is a theme, and those are where our anchor stores will be."

Before the students began creating their own facilities, the two classes involved in the project spent several hours at the Livingston Mall, meeting with mall administrators and taking a tour.
 "We started talking about if you were to go to a mall, what you would find or what you would do besides shop," Truett explained.

Now, working mostly in pairs, the students have until Christmas vacation to design their malls and create a packet to explain the layout, the target consumer, the anchor stores and the location, as well as to make their malls to

scale using graph paper. "They can make their own blueprints if they want, it's really up to them," Truett said.
 "Many malls, there is no theme, but it is built on the side of a cliff and it's over water," said seventh grader Michael Glotcher, as he held up a detailed map of his design.
 Because he feels most malls target women, JT Weatherston is working with partner Yury Portogal on a mall to be established near the Meadowlands Sports Complex. "Usually women are the ones that shop," Weatherston said. "We wanted to attract a different target customer."

The main building of Weatherston's mall is in the shape of a football, while the anchor stores are in the shape of a hockey puck and baseball. "We also want to have 50 percent skylights for an outdoor look," Weatherston added.
 Todd Berenstein wanted to combine American and European styles. "Mine is transcontinental," he said. "It's in the shape of a globe." Berenstein said his mall will be located in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, in order to attract shoppers from both continents.

When Staci May visits a mall now, she said she realizes pieces of it that she would have never before noticed. "I'm learning a lot about business and architecture and how much goes into making a mall," she said, and she and partner Mallory Zimballa worked on a mall in the shape of a ship to be located in Seattle's Puget Sound.
 "There are things you don't ever realize, ever little things like security, janitors, making sure everything is working and saving money," said Zimballa.

Township considers defibrillators for police

(Continued from Page 1)

said was traveling at excessive speeds and often crossing into the other lane of traffic.
 Committee member Roy Hirschfeld said that, through the efforts of Police Chief William Chisholm, the township had acquired a grant to fund police overtime or ticket aggressive drivers in the township. Russo said that the \$50,000 for speeding, coupled with three points on car insurance, will discourage motorists from driving aggressively on Balducci Way.
 A few tickets will solve a lot of problems, he said.
 Russo asked the committee to purchase funds in next year's budget to equip every township police car with an automatic defibrillator. These devices cost between \$3,000 and \$5,000 each, a small price to pay for someone's life, Russo said.

Citizens also complained about traffic on Balducci Way, which they said was traveling at excessive speeds and often crossing into the other lane of traffic.
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requiring only a few hours of training to use, he said. They automatically deliver an electric shock to a victim in cardiac arrest, giving police officers a powerful tool in saving lives should they arrive before fire or rescue personnel.
 He estimated that the total cost to acquire five devices and train police personnel in using them would be less than \$30,000.
 Hirschfeld called Russo's proposal an excellent idea, and said that the township already had two of the units assigned to the Springfield Police Squad.
 Russo, citing a *Star-Ledger* article from Nov. 9, said that other communities in New Jersey are purchasing the devices for their police departments.
 "The devices are easy to operate,

DR. JEKYLL and Mr. Hyde

Explodes on the Paper Mill Stage!

You've Never Seen It Done This Way Before!

(Not the Broadway Musical)



Richard White



Marc Kudisch

Review by Charles Paolino, Home News Tribune

WHEN Richard White and Marc Kudisch take their bows at the Paper Mill Playhouse, they look like they've been through hell. ★ The image fits. The actors look that way because they've just finished portraying a titanic struggle between the title characters in the musical play *Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde* — the embodiments of good and evil. ★ The show, based on a story by Robert Louis Stevenson, will be at the Paper Mill through December 13. With a book and lyrics by David Levy and Leslie Eberhard and music by Phil Hall, the work is operatic in its use of thematic songs of a semiclassical quality to advance the story. ★ And what a story it is, a skillfully embellished version of the familiar tale of a London physician whose experiment on himself unleashes a sinister side of his personality.

Stevenson's tale has been retold in a variety of ways since he wrote it in 1886, but this show departs from most film and theatrical attempts by using two actors to play the one person, and by having them appear on stage together. ★ Moreover, the creative team has discarded Stevenson's description of Hyde as a skulking, dwarfish monkey-man, and presents him instead as a brazen, strutting Adonis. ★ It all works. Far from confusing the audience, the device of having the two parts of the man wrestle for supremacy makes Stevenson's idea of a nature torn by its dualism graphically and frighteningly clear. The scenes in which this contest between the two reaches its full intensity are daring and provocative. ★ The new view of Hyde makes plausible his abusive sexual relationship with a cheap dancer who does not appear in the original story. If anything, the imposing, glowering, sensual, explosive Kudisch is as scary an Edward Hyde as we're likely to see in any form. ★ White is equally effective as Jekyll — at first naive and then tortured — and both men bring well-established musical talents, rich and booming voices, to Hall's demanding score. ★ Judy Melane is captivating and sympathetic as the cancer Lily, who unknowingly encounters Jekyll in both of his manifestations. Besides her accomplished singing and dancing and her comic touches, Melane shows her dramatic acumen in this part — presenting Lily as a woman who lives in tawdry circumstances but maintains a native decency. ★ Glory Crampton is an elegant figure as Amanda Lanyon — a love interest invented by the writers for Jekyll — and her ringing voice is as much of a thrill in this performance as in her previous musical successes in this theater. ★ The show has an elaborate set by Michael Anania. Eighteen scene changes are smoothly accomplished by members of the company who move the various pieces into place without interrupting the flow of the play. ★ The seamless character of this show, which is seemingly always in motion, is a compliment to the direction and choreography of Philip Wm. McKinley. ★ Anania's recreation of the atmosphere in 19th-century London and Kirk Bookman's shadow lighting design express very well the brooding nature of the story. The basis for Jekyll's experiments — his concert for the misery that afflicts so many people — is kept before the audience in a poignant way by motionless figures of weak and poor men and women who appear in the shadows of every scene.

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COMMUNITY FORUM

Foresight prevented unneeded mischief

In an era of increased juvenile crime and delinquency, the annual tradition of mischief night can and has very easily resulted in fundamentally good kids being overcome by the thrills or peer pressure to be "bad" for a day. Too often, seemingly innocent October pranks have landed kids in juvenile detention centers of the hospital, especially in an age when delinquency has become almost the norm.

Gone are the days when the victims of pranks would awaken Halloween morning to find the tree or their front lawn decorated with toilet tissue or their car faced with shaving cream. Today, the more likely event is that the car would be missing from the driveway and taken for a dangerous joyride by youths who may or may not possess a driver's license.

With both mischief night and Halloween landing on a weekend this year, the Mountaineer and Springfield police departments as well as local schools and churches worked together with great success to prevent such unpleasant incidents. We commend their efforts and foresight.

Both borough and township police increased patrols, and in Springfield, members of the auxiliary police force contributed their time and knowledge of the area. In addition, several youth activities were planned well in advance, from the football game at Governor Livingston High School and costume party at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Mountaineer to the haunted house organized by the Jonathan Dayton High School (JTHS). This event also raised funds for Project Graduation, another example of foresight which will hopefully avert trouble on a night of fun and celebration.

As a result of these efforts, area police received reports of only minor incidents involving youth and petty vandalism. Thanks to all who made the borough and township a safer place Halloween weekend.



CERAMICS WORKSHOP — Suzanne Dobrowski, center, demonstrates artistic techniques for building coil pots with seventh-grade students Melissa Capece and Helmi Abdelaziz, at P.M. Gaudfieri Middle School in Springfield.

Save state budget surplus for a rainy day

Chico Marx wrote a friend a check for some gambling debts but wanted the friend not to cash it before the end of the following day. When the friend went to cash the check the next day, the bank "bounced" the check. The understandably annoyed friend complained to Chico, and when he did so, Chico asked when the friend had cashed the check. "Two days ago," the friend said. "I cashed it at 12:05. Replied Marx: "Good."



The lesson, taught by Chico, was simple. Carrying one of them is that, timing is critical when handling finances. We must be very careful about how, when and whether to spend money. This is worth considering as we listen to voices clamor by the state to spend the current \$700 million surplus.

These voices have gotten louder and louder in recent weeks, threatening to change spending and budget and the proper use for the surplus. Agreeing with these voices, I fear, would be as misguided as relying on Chico to pay the debts.

The spend-faster crowd no doubt has a list of worthy items on which to spend public money. We would all like to enhance government services or provide more property tax relief. But we have to guard against spending the money in good times as if bad times will never come again.

Our ancestors know this. The Bible tells us Joseph warning the Pharaoh that "the time has come when all seven years, seven lean years will surely follow and to save accordingly." Most of us should remember the fable of the cricket and the ant, from the fable book. While the cricket laid away his 30 cents, he ate and spent during the hard winter months, the ant had enough food and money.

In our own recent memory, we have seen what happens when we fail to account in good times for the bad. During the 1980s, New Jersey was blessed with a similar — although larger — windfall of tax revenues. But when hard times hit in the early years of that decade, the money was long gone and facing a deficit. Governor Florio raised taxes.

When we have an abundant amount of cash, the clamor to spend more becomes intense. People look at the \$700 million and see a vast pool of money. They look back to the '80s and remember that Tom Kean had a surplus, and tend to think that if Governor Kean had a surplus and Governor Whitman has a surplus, then we should do with the surplus today what was done 10 years ago. And what was done then was spend, spend and spend some more.

But there is a big difference in our surplus today. Back then, the surplus was 11 percent of the total state budget. The surplus we possess today is less than a percent of the state budget. That difference gives voters and legislators less flexibility. The smaller surplus imposes on legislators a greater degree of responsibility to be prudent with the public's money.

It is particularly hard these days to keep prudence in mind. But let us spare with you some facts that save the public. When the governor and Legislature shape the budget, each

party information and advice from several quarters. The Legislature relies on the Office of Legislative Services, the non-partisan staff whose job it is to provide factual data to us. Let me emphasize this: these men and women have no political agendas. Their sole purpose is to make sure the information both parties in the Legislature get is as accurate as possible. Here's what OLS reports:

State revenues have grown rapidly in the past 18 months, primarily through a surge in income tax payments on bonuses and capital gains taxes as investors have taken profits out of the stock market. Keep in mind that these payments have gone up a little in which the Legislature cut the income tax rates. Critics said tax cuts would cut state revenue, but they were wrong. Tax collections are up. The good news, then, is tied to the booming economy and stampeding bull market of Wall Street during the past few years.

But these good times don't last forever. Newton's law about gravity might as well be applied to the economy — stock markets that soar can come crashing down. Recent corporate earnings which translate into profit bonuses for workers and executives can fall as quickly as they skyrocketed. One need only look at the market's performance this summer to see how precarious prosperity can be. As the Dow dove down several hundred points, experts predicted that the long predicted correction would occur, driving stock profits and tax revenues associated with them down. When stock markets fall, profits and bonuses fall with them. When these fall, state revenues fall, too.

This is not Chico's little fortune-telling. The OLS projects that revenues next year will not grow as fast as they did this past year. Simply put, if spending continues to grow, we cannot reasonably anticipate tax revenues to cover additional spending. Like Chico Marx's friend, we will have gambled foolishly on undependent revenues.

So, what should we do? First, we will continue to do what we can to allow the economy to flourish in New Jersey. A more robust period of growth in the coming year than now is anticipated would change the amount of money the state would have.

Second, we will continue to go over with a fine-toothed comb every dollar the state spends to make sure it's a dollar wisely spent.

But at the end of the day, if we have agreed that the programs we offer to our citizens are the right programs, the ones the state should be spending the dollars on, and we do not have the same level of revenue growth in coming years to cover these costs, the only place to go for those revenues will be the surplus. If it is imprudent to spend money now if we know we will need

later. Saving the surplus is the only prudent course.

We have funded the world war III drought for so long that we have long since forgotten how to do it. The word was coined to describe the wonderful moment in which an apple or some other fruit would be shaken from the tree by a good still breeze, relieving the hungry from having to climb the tree and engage in the arduous practice of picking it. The windfall was a gift, a goddess, and everyone who encountered the wind-fallen fruit knew it was a blessing to be appreciated, but not to be counted on.

The fruits of a robust economy are to be treasured and the twisting fate collected are to be appreciated. But we cannot depend on the stock market to keep our economy from falling and leaving us the wind-fallen surplus to continue. Prudence, wisdom and

experience require us to hold on to what we have for the future.

History has demonstrated that it is not a good idea to take lessons on the economy from someone named Marx. While Karl provided the key very little about what makes the economy tick, Chico's lessons are more apt. Timing is everything when it comes to spending and saving money, and the timing is simply wrong to spend the surplus. Now is the time to save and conserve, not to spend.

We must be very careful with our money. Now is the time to gamble with our revenues or our future. Now is the time to hold on to what we have for the changes sure to come.

Richard H. Bagger is an assemblyman representing the 22nd Legislative District, which includes parts of Union County.

Charter revision demands an exam

With the end of opposition by two Township Committee members, Springfield may change its charter to allow for biennial elections rather than continue the current election process. This means that Township Committee members will serve four-year terms rather than three, a change that will break the tradition of more than 200 years of annual elections in the township.

While we support the decision of the Township Committee to respond to the electoral majority, which passed a non-binding referendum last year calling for an end to three-year terms and annual elections, we must also question the long-term impact of extending the terms of government leaders.

Supporters of the charter revision cite low voter turnout for local elections as a reason for extending terms to four years. Sadly, this motive rings with some validity. Voters must make getting to the polls a priority, whether it be the general election in November or the Board of Education election in April. Without taxpayer input, positive changes will not be executed and officials will not know how the people feel about local issues.

Supporters of the charter revision also contend that the extra year between local government campaigns will allow officials to concentrate more on the task of running the township rather than on how their actions will appear to voters who might re-elect them. While this would certainly be true in a perfect world, a certain amount of human error and even laziness must be taken into consideration. Public officials need voter scrutiny and a fear of disapproval if they are to effectively respond to those who have entrusted them with tax dollars.

No one wants elected officials to be "on their toes" solely at election time or to spend so much time campaigning that the other demands of the job are neglected. However, four years of job security will also allow for more fluctuation in job performance, and sometimes too much security encourages people to rest on their laurels rather than operate at maximum capacity. Given this unfortunate fact of human nature, we question the idea of permitting officials to relax for an extra year before being placed under the spotlight.

Our policy on letters and columns

World Community Newspapers, welcomes submissions from its readers. Either letters to the editor or opinion pieces on any subject will be considered for publication on the opinion pages.

World Community Newspapers reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, content and style. Writers must include their name, address and daytime telephone number for verification.

For publication, all letters and opinions must be received before 4 p.m. Monday at 1291 Sylvanville Ave., Union, NJ 07083.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Partisan politics at its worst

To the Editor:

For Mountaineer Democrats to get 43 percent of the vote on Nov. 3 is a major accomplishment in a community where registered Republicans outnumber registered Democrats 3 to 1. (I should support full accountability of elected officials and two-party representation has advanced significantly beyond mere unaffiliated voting for Republicans.)

The mayor's assertion in last week's *Echo Leader* of the absurdity of endorsing a candidate because of party affiliation is small-town partisan politics at its worst.

To link support for a system of checks and balances in Mountaineer with support for one-party rule prevails. Surely the mayor does not mean to declare 100 years of Republican control in Mountaineer with the rule of such regimes. Two-party representation in surrounding communities has increased profits and support for local government. Only the mayor of Mountaineer views the system of checks and balances and the people who use it for the newspaper who supports it and the candidates who run in it as if it were a conspiracy.

Michael Krieger
Mountaineer

Trust needed in local government

To the Editor:

Once again the voters of Mountaineer have examined the issues, analyzed the facts and voted for the Republican candidates.

However, I am shocked that, in voting your council on Oct. 29, you did not check the facts. You gave largely Republican support to a Republican. Only about one-third of Mountaineer are Republican, so we rely on the independent and year — on the Democratic voters — to cast their vote for the best candidate each year.

You state that Brocman has been "actively participating in local government during the 10-year tenure as a borough resident." As a senior citizen who has spent a lifetime in Mountaineer, including 12 years recently as an elected school board member, I don't ever recall him participating in anything locally.

You state the "seemingly mechanical decisions of council" — which illustrates your total lack of knowledge as to how decisions are made. In my 12 years on the council, I recall many instances of disagreement — with the mayor sometimes having to break a three-way tie. Work sessions and regular meetings are always open to the public.

You also evidently missed our annual reorganization meetings where I was a consistent "no" vote each year on a particular issue.

When the Democrats decide to contribute to the borough in a positive way through volunteer service to the community, then perhaps they will become known enough to be trusted with governing the town.

Marilyn McGuire
Chairman
Republican Party
Mountaineer

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33rd U.S. president

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Murray is wedded to Godbey

Keira Leanne Murray, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Murray of Mountaineer, was married Sept. 20 to Ryan Lee Godbey, son of Mr. Richard Godbey and Mrs. L. Jean Godbey of Bendleton, Ind.

Zella M. Malinauskis of Dublin, Calif., was matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Debra L. Adams, Valerie Holland and Rhonda Adams, sister of the groom.

The best man was Joseph C. Hill and the groomsmen were Mark A. Malinauskis, Kent A. Murray and Grason B. Murray, brothers of the bride.

The bride, a graduate of Jonathan Dayton Regional High School, received a B.A. from Purdue University and will receive an M.B.A. from Ohio State University in June.

The groom, also a graduate of Purdue University, is employed by Parsons Infrastructure and Technology Group of Pasadena, Calif., as a senior construction manager.

Following the ceremony at the Fairview Presbyterian Church, where the Rev. Henry A. Taloni officiated, a candlelight reception was held in the conservatory of the Madison Hotel, Concord Station.

Schwartz weds Berman

Shari Michelle Schwartz, daughter of Harriette and Alan Schwartz of Southampton, Penn., was married July 26 to Gregory Adam Berman, son of Susan Berman of Springfield and the late Ronald Berman.

Lamar Mark Tolson performed the ceremony at The Washington Valley Country Club in Rockport, Penn.

The groom's sister, Michelle Berman, served as matron of honor. The bride's mother, Neel Berman, was best man.

Also included in the bridal party were the bride's brother and sister-in-law, Rich and Michelle Schwartz, and the groom's sister-in-law, Lauren Berman.

Mrs. Berman, a graduate of Penn State University, earned a B.A. degree in early education. Mr. Berman, also a graduate of Penn State University, earned a B.S. degree in actuarial science and works for Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. in Bridgewater.

After a honeymoon in Hawaii, the couple resides in Nesquehanna.



Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Godbey



Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Berman

Students honored for stellar service

Alexis Frank, a junior, was named Jonathan Dayton High School's volunteer of the year in the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program.

In addition, Deborah Gill, a senior, received a Certificate of Merit for her volunteer community service.

Sponsored by Prudential and the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the awards recognize outstanding community service projects and volunteers in the New Jersey Youth Volunteer of the Year award. Two state honorees, one middle-level and one high school student, will each receive a \$1,000 award, a silver medal and travel to Washington, D.C., for recognition ceremonies with one parent or guardian in May.

Other honorees may receive bronze medals and Certificates of Excellence.

At the Washington event, ten National Volunteers of the Year will be named by a national panel of judges, each receiving an additional \$5,000, a gold medal and a crystal trophy for his or her school.

"We are delighted to recognize young people who make contributions of their time and talents to their communities," said Prudential Vice President Bob Fallon. "They are role models for their peers and deserve to have the spotlight focused on them."

Frank volunteered once a month for two hours at Overlook Children's Specialized Hospital. She helped create and organize the club and recruited students to assist with recreational activities for patients. Gill volunteered beautician services at Runnemede Specialized Hospital for the past four years. Both students appreciate volunteering his time but only benefited the patients but themselves as well.

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Of course SATAN teaches otherwise. (Gen. 3:1-24, 2 Cor. 11:13-15, 1 Tim. 4:1)

But Jesus warned take heed, God is NOT mocked. Failure to discern The Truth from error is FATAL.

Therefore we are offering a free Bible Correspondence Course, and/or Private Bible Study at your convenience free for the asking.

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Main Office: 2001 Wright, Toledo, Ohio 43615)

Millburn Mall Suite 6

2933 Vauxhall Road, Vauxhall, N.J.

Sunday-10 A.M. Bible Study, 11 A.M. Worship Service, 6 P.M. Evening Service, Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Bible Study.

We offer BASIC BIBLE STUDIES

Free for the asking.

If you have a Bible question, please call (908) 666-4366

Henry Peterson, Evangelist

Our policy on announcements

Couples are encouraged to send their engagement and wedding announcements to the lifestyle editor. Announcements should be typed, double-spaced, on legible, hand-written and no longer than one page. All announcements should have a daytime phone number for verification of questions arise.

For a \$10 fee required. Black and white, color photos are acceptable. Pictures of the couple sitting or standing together at the altar are preferred. Pictures of the couple standing and the other seated present design problems. Photos should be on the same side the information is being sent.

For more information call Managing Editor Allison Bombardieri at (908) 666-7100, ext. 343.

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY									
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OBITUARIES

Matilda Sherman

Matilda Sherman, 86, of Livingston, formerly of Elizabeth and Springfield, died Nov. 4 in Overlook Hospital. Born in Jersey City, Mrs. Sherman lived in Brooklyn, Newark, Elizabeth, Springfield and Millburn before moving to Livingston. She was a bookkeeper with Schering-Plough Corp. Union, for 13 years and retired in 1971. Surviving are a daughter, Helene Kurian, a son, Stephen, a brother, Arthur Goldman, and three grandchildren.

Marie J. Williams

Marie J. Williams, 78, of Springfield, died Nov. 4 in St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston. Born in Alpha, Mrs. Williams lived in Orange before moving to Springfield 18 years ago. She was a secretary for Temple She-arey Shalun Springfield, for 25 years and retired in 1985. Surviving are a son, Jack, three daughters, Susan Renaldi, Gay and Margaret, a brother, Robert Flynn, 12 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Anne Runkle Hose

Anne Runkle Hose, 83, of Mountaineer died Nov. 4 in Overlook Hospital, Summit. Born in Cambridge, Mass., Mrs. Hose resided in New York before she and her late husband Robert Haven Hose moved to Mountaineer six decades ago into a home he designed and built. She was a member of Mountaineer's historic preservation committee. Mrs. Hose was a member of the preservation society and school board, the music association and the garden club. About 40 years ago, she helped found the Mountaineer Music Association and became its president in the 1970s. She put on shows to raise money to buy instruments and photographs for borough schools.

Mrs. Hose's grandfather, John Daniel Runkle, had been a member of the committee that drew up plans for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the 1870s and was MIT's second president from 1870 to 1878. She graduated from Barnington College in Vermont and received a master's degree in social work from Simmons College in Boston. Mrs. Hose

was a member of the Mountaineer School Board during the 1960s and was a past president of the PTA at Deerfield School, Mountaineer. She was treasurer of the historic preservation committee for most of the time since its founding in 1977, and one of her projects was fundraising during the borough's centennial in 1995. Surviving are a son, Dr. John Robert Hose, two daughters, Judith Kiss and Barbara Chupko, a sister, Elizabeth R. Purcell, and four grandchildren.

J. Marcelliano

Josephine Marcelliano of Summit died Nov. 4 in Overlook Hospital, Summit. Born in Newark, Mrs. Marcelliano moved to Summit 38 years ago. She was a member of the Columbian club of the Knights of Columbus Council 5560 in Springfield and a volunteer at Overlook Hospital and St. Teresa of Avila Church, Summit. Surviving are two sons, Daniel A. and Robert J., a daughter, Kathleen Ann Santino, three grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Margaret McNamara

Margaret B. McNamara, 90, of Spring Lake, formerly of Summit, died Nov. 4 in Overlook Hospital, Summit. Born in County Mayo, Ireland, Mrs. McNamara settled in Summit in 1923 and moved to Spring Lake 15 years ago. She was a member of the Rosary Altar Society of St. Teresa of Avila Church, Summit.

Surviving are a son, Joseph B., a daughter, Rosemary, three sisters, Julia Gavan, Theresa McHenry and Noreen Connor, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Antonetta Macchia

Antonetta Macchia, 90, of Springfield died Nov. 4 in Overlook Hospital, Summit. Born in Avellino, Italy, Mrs. Macchia lived in Newark before moving to Springfield in 1982. She was a seamstress with Venera's in Newark from 1936 through 1973 when she retired. Mrs. Macchia was a member of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, Newark. Surviving are two daughters, Yolanda Vitello and Lydia Nitti, two

sisters, Christina Armino and Ann Langan, seven grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Mary M. Parkin

Mary Margaret Parkin, 83, of Tom's River, formerly of Summit, died Nov. 4 at home.

Born in Bayonne, Mrs. Parkin lived in Summit for 47 years before moving to Tom's River 15 years ago. She was a member of the Rosary Society of St. Teresa of Avila Church, Summit.

Surviving are five sons, Ward, Paul, John, Robert and Larry, a daughter, Grace; a sister, Marylou Haughey, and eight grandchildren.

Joseph C. Petranich

Joseph C. Petranich, 86, of Mountaineer died Nov. 5 in Overlook Hospital, Summit. Born in Brooklyn, Mr. Petranich lived in Staten Island before moving to Mountaineer 41 years ago. He was a self-employed manufacturer, representative in the picture-frame and moldings industry in New York City for more than 55 years and retired in 1984. Mr. Petranich served in the Army during World War II. He was a

member of the Knights of Columbus in Springfield and the Holy Name Society of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Mountaineer. Surviving are a son, Frank A., and two grandchildren.

Frank Malanga

Frank Malanga, 93, of Springfield died Nov. 7 in Overlook Hospital, Summit.

Born in Newark, Mr. Malanga lived most of his life in East Orange before moving to Springfield.

Surviving are a wife, Anthony, three daughters, Marie Hirsic, Lee Gagliardi and Joan Bassop; 11 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Lydia Giese

Lydia Giese, 95, of Springfield died Nov. 6 at her home.

Born in Germany, Mrs. Giese lived in Newark before moving to Springfield in 1961. She was the owner operator of Lydia's Beauty Salon, Newark, for many years and retired in 1984. Mrs. Giese was a member of the Student Society of New York.

Surviving is a sister, Helen Lucke.

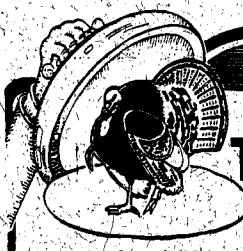
FREE TURKEYS

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NAME _____
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NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Contest Ends November 15, 1998. Noon. All Ages Welcome.

Summit Observer, The Echo Leader (serving Springfield & Mountaineer)



WIN

your Thanksgiving Turkey!

RULES: The newspaper based on this page mass mailing your Thanksgiving Turkey as soon as filling out this coupon. You can win one of these delicious Ham or Turkey to be given away FREE on November 12, 1998. Entry 20 and the coupon appearing on this ad and placed in the eye of the participating merchant. Complete each portion in one location. No purchase necessary. Winner of Free Turkey!

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DETAILS SALON 673 Morris Ave. Springfield 973-379-1770	DORIA RESTAURANT & PIZZA 432 Springfield Ave. Summit 908-277-0906	FLOREZ TOBACCONIST 24 Maple Street Summit 908-598-1600	FOODTOWN OF SPRINGFIELD 211 Morris Ave. Springfield 908-376-8899	HARQUAIL BROS. 324 Springfield Ave. Summit 908-277-2858	HERSH'S HEARING AIDS 276 Morris Ave. Springfield 201-379-3582
LISS PHARMACY & SURGICALS 407 Springfield Ave. Summit 908-273-0399	MERLE NORMAN COSMETICS 18 Maple St. Summit 908-273-6916	MOUNTAINSIDE DELI 885 Mountain Ave. Mountaineer 908-233-3092	NEUMAN & SCHINDLER OPTICIANS 14 Maple Street Summit 908-273-7320	PEPPERCORN RESTAURANT 381 Springfield Ave. Summit 908-277-2323	ROCCO'S TAILOR SHOP 56 Summit Ave. Summit 908-522-1221
SIR PUFF'S CIGAR CAFE 43 Elm St. Westfield 908-317-5900	STAHL-DEL-DUCA FLORIST 434 Springfield Ave. Summit 908-273-2251	SUMMIT CAR WASH & DETAIL CENTER 100 Springfield Ave. Summit 908-273-0830	SUMMIT FOOD MARKET 423 Springfield Ave. Summit 908-277-4500	SUMMIT GLASS SHOWCASE 485 Springfield Ave. Summit 908-277-8385	SUMMIT SKI & SPORT 335 Springfield Ave. Summit 908-277-4170
SUMMIT TEKACO 336 Morris Avenue Summit 908-522-8608	SUMMIT TRANSMISSION 180 Broad St. Summit 908-522-1484	THOMPSON SPORTING GOODS 522 Morris Ave. Summit 908-273-0990	TROST BAKE SHOP 427 Springfield Ave. Summit 908-277-8062	FUSCO BROS Landscape Supplies Professional Services 68 River Rd. Chatham 973-335-8282	NATURE'S MARKET 371 Springfield Ave. Summit 908-277-1001