

Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountinside

SPRINGFIELD, N.J., VOL. 70 NO. 34

THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 1999

TWO SECT

5

THIS WEEK

NEWS

Pledging support

Championing the spirit of bipartisanship, legislators gathered Tuesday to pledge support for a bill they hope will help in keeping the two major commercial shipping companies in Port Newark-Elizabeth. Senate President Donald DiFrancesco's bill would allocate \$100 million of the state's Dredging Bond Act to dredge the Kill van Kull and Newark Bay channels. See Page B1.

Public hearing

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders' 1999 budget is expected to reduce county taxes in 11 of the 21 municipalities. A public hearing is scheduled for May 13. See Page B1.

THE ARTS

Classical

The New Jersey Ballet presents a classical performance at Kean University. See Page B3.



Yellow brick road
The Cranford Repertory Theater's production of "The Wizard of Oz" is entertainment worth seeing, and this weekend is your last chance. See Page B4.

NEW MEDIA

News updates

Get local updates throughout the week. Call our InfoSource hotline at (908) 686-8998. For a menu of items, see Page B10.

Web site

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

WEATHER

Friday: Rain, breezy and warm, 71°
Saturday: Showers, expected to 65°
Sunday: Partly sunny, 65°

For the latest up to date reports, call (908) 686-8998, ext. 1799.

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Ken Faigenbaum

Steve Fischbien

Keith Kurzner

Voters return incumbents to board

By Walter Elliott
Staff Writer

Voters in Springfield endorsed the Board of Education's incumbents and spending plans at the polls Tuesday night. Steve Fischbien, Ken Faigenbaum and Keith Kurzner were re-elected to their respective fourth, seventh and fourth terms. Fischbien was the top vote-getter, at 278 markers, while Faigenbaum received 635 votes and Kurzner earned 631 votes.

Chargen Marc Marshall's bill received 501 votes. He outdrew two of the incumbents in District 3 at the Civic Center and all three in District 4 at the Parish House.

The \$17-million school budget was approved by a better than 10-to-one margin: 703 votes to 334 votes. The spending plan prevailed in 12 of the town's 14 polling districts. The \$330,000 technology spending question gained approval by a 675-to-357 vote.

As in the board member elections, District 3 and 4 voters dissented on the two financial questions, preventing a sweep of any category.

"We're pleased with the support the town is giving in our board and questionnaires," Board President Robert Fish said. "While the turnout was under expectation from last year, it shows a consistency of results."

Fish, who spoke at the Jonathan Dayton High School faculty writing room, credited the continuous budget presentations made at the school by Superintendent Gary Friedland. The official figures depict a turnout under the 1,796 voters who came out last year. That represented 18.9 percent of 9,300 voters, a high vote mark for a township school election.

The Dayton faculty room served as the official board result center for 90 minutes Tuesday night. Faigenbaum was the first to arrive after the polls closed at 7 p.m. "I'm only one observation to make," Faigenbaum said. "I'm glad for the support that the residents have shown us with our re-election and budget approval."

Fischbien and Kurzner arrived later. They watched the district results go on a chalkboard and relayed the figures to family members on their cellular phones.

"It's reassuring to have the level of support that

'I'm glad for the support that the residents have shown us with our re-election and budget approval.'

— Ken Faigenbaum

we're getting," Kurzner said. "It demonstrates that the residents think the board is on the right track. One of our goals is now to help Jonathan Dayton High School recognized as one of the top schools in the state."

"It is gratifying to receive the results," Fischbien said. "It shows that the parents of our children have confidence in the education we have been providing them. While I'm glad to be re-elected, like the other incumbents are, I'm aware we have work ahead of us."

Marshall also was among the 25 people in the room. While most others were standing and talking, Marshall was seated at part of the board table, writing figures and in pen-and-ink thought. When the last numbers were taken down, he quietly flipped his notebook and shook hands with people while leaving the room.

"The voters have spoken and that's it," Marshall said. "I wish the board well as they have a lot of work to do."

Not all of the school results were on the chalkboard. James Caldwell School Principal Ken Bernabe and teacher Marcia Bright came in with playground referendum results. Caldwell students approved painting a baseball diamond on the asphalt surface over a five-toe dog grid, 74-41. A dodgeball circle proposal came in at 24 votes.

"We put the question up with our school election," Bright said. "We hold our school election in the library 100 feet away from the board polling station."

All results are unofficial pending County Board of Education and County Clerk certification and counting of ballots.

The board's next order of business is to conduct a reorganization session Monday. It will be held at the Dayton faculty room, second floor, at 7:30 p.m.

Mountinside 1 elect Goggi, Perrin

By Pamela Isaacson
Managing Editor

Pat Knodel's 26-year tenure on the Mountinside Board of Education came to an end Tuesday night as she was defeated by challengers John Perrin and Peter Goggi.

"The Irish have a saying, 'The Lord never closes a window, the only open doors,'" Knodel said as the results became known. "I am anxiously awaiting the door he has opened for me."

But on election night, the doors to the Board of Education were opened for Perrin and Goggi.

Goggi tallied 884 votes in carrying all but two of the borough's nine voting districts. Perrin garnered 868 votes while winning in Districts 3 and 8. The two received the same number of votes in District 4. Both earned three-year seats on the seven-member Board of Education.

"Knodel finished with 516 votes."

"Now the real work starts," said Goggi. After completing his first-ever election, "I want to try to embrace questions coming into the board and create a partnership with the community."

More than 70 percent of voters approved the \$8.8-million budget for the 1999-2000 school year. A total of 870 residents voted for the school budget while 373 voted against. The budget represents no increase in the school portion borough tax bills.

Residents living in the average assessed income of \$155,000 can expect to pay \$2,542 in school taxes again next year. The tax bill also consists of municipal and county taxes.

"This is an atypical budget, but one in which the residents in Mountinside are reaping the benefits," said Interim Business Administrator Patricia Tolley when the Board of Education passed the budget at its March 23 meeting.

"I am so pleased that the people of Mountinside have passed the budget for the kids, the educational resources and the instructional staff," Perrin said.

"The school budget passed handily in all nine voting districts, with the closest margin coming in District 1 by 22 votes."

Approximately 4,265 residents or 28 percent of the 4,510 registered voters in the borough turned out Tuesday night.

Over 50 supporters, curious resi-



John Perrin



Peter Goggi

dents and members of the Board of Education and Borough Council gathered at Borough Hall to be the first group to hear the election results. Resident Catherine Gogola said her son, a junior in high school, represented the majority opinion while Borough "the sage" was a student, a few people who are on the school board should have a child in the schools, Gogola noted.

"Perrin has two children currently in the district and Goggi's son will enter kindergarten at District 1 school in the fall. Knodel has eight children who will graduate from the Mountinside school district."

All results are unofficial until certified by the Union County Clerk's Office.

Despite objections, methadone clinic moves to Progress Street

By Joe Lugaresi
Staff Writer

Suburban Treatment Associates has officially moved from its place in the Yauxhall section of Union to its new home on Progress Street, much to the distress of neighboring Springfield residents.

"A methadone" clinic, Suburban Treatment spent the past 25 years on Roselyn Place, frequented by local residents and 18 months of negotiations between the clinic and the township of Union resulted in the move to Progress Street, tipped off by two lawsuits filed against the Union Township Zoning Board of Adjustment.

"A block party was held on Roselyn Place Friday for Union neighbors to celebrate the clinic's new address. Local residents and political figures crammed themselves under a small canopy in a driving rain to note the successful result of their mutual effort."

"The clinic is moving largely to the efforts of Mayor Terrezza of Union, with support from the Township Committee and the community. The new attitude of the new administration made the difference. We met with it," said Berna Lillo-Matthews, a third-generation Union resident, referring to Union Mayor Anthony Terrezza.

Lillo-Matthews expressed no indignation toward the clinic or its clients. "The mayor and we had pruned here for an inconceivable and we had a lot of meetings in the community," said Jackie Caruso, a 30-year resident who lives in the town of Springfield. "We were very happy of Springfield Avenue and Progress Street. We were very supportive of the clinic's move to Progress Street in the area."

"We had the cooperation of some-



Photo by Jeff Grant

Under rainy skies, the Rev. Gladwin Fubler of the Bethel A.M.E. Church in Union addresses those in attendance at a gathering Friday marking the exit of Suburban Treatment Associates from its Valuxhall location. Mayor Anthony Terrezza, right, who made the clinic relocation a priority during his most recent campaign and current term of office, looks on. To the chairman of neighboring Springfield residents, the clinic moved to Progress Street, an industrial part of Union.

ship," said Terrezza at the block party. "We're moving to a great location in an industrial area with no homes closer than three-quarters of a mile. There's a lot of room. It's a fantastic job in moving and making the move. It's showing what you can do when you have the citizens and the township working together."

The area responsible for celebrating the move.

The area was, actually, an industrial location for Union, is too close to the Liberty Avenue and Milltown Road residential area, according to Howard J. Trinker, chairman of the Battle Hill-Milltown Neighborhood Association.

Trinker issued a letter to local residents in December asking them to oppose the relocation. The association, which consists of about 200 homeowners, recently filed suit against Union's Zoning Board of Adjustment. It was the ground suit filed against Union. Springfield previously filed its own suit against the board.

"The Union Zoning Board narrowed this thing through and expanded it so the citizens in Union couldn't have it any in it," Trinker said. "There's legislation going on right now in the township concerning the relocation of the methadone clinic in Springfield. Springfield is within jurisdiction as determined by zoning and zoning legislation."

Promises by Union to bus the clinic's patients to and from the building are viewed warily by Trinker. "They said they'd bus people to the Roselyn Place address, too," but they didn't," Trinker said.

Mike Nardo, chairman of the Progress Business Association and a local business owner, also has letters. "They've already demonstrated that the bus thing is a big lie. People in the area told me from the first day that they saw people both driving and walking to the clinic."

Trinker estimated that the Progress Street area is in the vicinity of 5,000 Springfield homes, and only about 1,300 feet from actual residential property. "We support" substance abuse treatment on all levels. But we don't believe that the history of this clinic is conducive to having the business in a residential area."

"Flies" circulated by the Progress Business Association contain a newspaper-clip of a drug arrest in the Suburban Treatment Center's parking lot in October. Because of this incident and rumors of others, Springfield Mayor Gregory Clarke said he is concerned about the new location's close proximity to the Railway River Park.

Clarke said the clinic, relocated at its own peril, "We're continuing with our litigation. If we win, they'll be asked to move to the town," he said. The Progress Business Association contains about two dozen local businesses. "They said they'd build signs in front of their establishments as a means of protest, but we know they constructed them to be removed for a violation a few months ago."

Neither officials for the clinic nor members of the Union Township Zoning Board of Adjustment were available for comment at press time.

Welcome to the ECHO LEADER

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar is prepared by the Echo Leader through the efforts of various community activities and government meetings. To give your community event the publicity it deserves, mail your scheduling to R.O. Box 3100, Union, 07083.

Today

The Foothill Club of Mountaintop will sponsor a trip to the Sumnerville Elks Club at 11:30 a.m. for lunch and the play "Plaza Suite." The cost is \$28 per person. Call Rose at 232-4043 for more information.

Paul Zell of East Brunswick will share his experiences participating in the World War II liberation of the Buchenwald Concentration Camp at 8 p.m. at Temple Beth Ahm in Springfield. This is the monthly meeting of Springfield Hebrews.

Saturday

Letter Day '99 will be held at Echo Lake Park from 9 a.m. to noon. Refreshments, 1 shirts and gloves will be provided, and the litter cleanup will take place outdoors, rain or shine, along roadsides and in wooded areas. For more information or directions, call 654-9015.

Muri Gallagher's "Songs for Playful Children" will be at the Mountaintop Public Library at 2 p.m. The events are free, recommended for children ages three and up, and open to the public. For more information, call 234-0115.

Sunday

The Springfield Rotary will sponsor its 14th annual flea market from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Jonathan Dayton High School on Mountain Avenue in Springfield. This event will fund scholarships for Springfield senior high school students graduating from JDHS.

Take a walk in the woods and look for wild flowers, migrating birds, early butterflies and other signs of spring with the Traillside Nature and Science Center at 2 p.m.

Monday

Edward Kessel of Springfield will appear at Caldwell College as part of the Concerns of Caldwell College Series.

Access and other New Jersey composers will discuss their music and compositional styles and answer questions at 8 p.m. Following the presentation will be a concert with the New Jersey Chamber Music Society. Bryan Quirell (featuring leading soloists and ensemble players from the New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, Metropolitan Opera and the New Jersey Symphony). Tickets are \$10. \$5 for students and seniors. For more information, call 618-3209.

Wednesday

Traillside Nature and Science Center sharpens night observation skills with the game "Insects" and the Justing game. Hike by the light of the full moon from 7 to 8 p.m. The fee is \$3 for ages six and up accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required. Call Traillside at 780-3670.

Upcoming Events

May 2

Traillside Nature and Science Center will celebrate its 20th anniversary from noon to 5 p.m. with sled dog, polar dog-eating dog and dog-agility demonstrations, loose dog-eating reptile cage and bring your pet for the adopted stray pet contest. Admission is \$1 and includes a prize ticket. Children ages seven and under are free.

Learn about animal constellations in the sky from 2 to 3:30 p.m., including The Bear, Leo the Lion, Cygnus the Swan and more. Meet at the Traillside Nature and Science Center.

Take a walking tour of the former Houdaille Quarry from 2 to 4 p.m. As the ground is uneven and steep in areas, walking shoes are necessary. Transportation within the quarry will be provided for those who require it. Individual cars may not be given within the quarry. There will be no rain in the event of rain. For additional information, call (973) 370-8665.

May 8

The Knights of Columbus 5560 of Springfield will celebrate their 35th anniversary at a dinner-dance at the council home. Many founding members and officers will attend the festivities. For information, contact Tony Garkniser at (973) 376-5612 or Fran Kaehlein at (973) 379-3233.

May 16

The Traillside Nature and Science Center in Mountaintop will be having a Spring Garden Fair and Plant Sale from noon to 5 p.m. There will be free admission, free parking, children's activities, refreshments and a bake sale/gathering-displays, a plant and insect clinic, soil tests for sale and free Rutgers fact sheets.

Ongoing

The Springfield Senior Citizen-Nature Program is now located at the Sarah Bailey Recreation Center. A nutritional hot lunch is available for seniors for \$2 Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, at noon. Menus are available at the center, library and post office. Call (973) 912-0039 for reservations one day in advance. For more information about the program, call Marleen Meijner at (973) 912-2206.

NEWS CLIPS

Pastors share reflections on refugee experience

At 7:30 tonight, pastors Michael Christensen, chairman of the board of Church International, and Rev. John Yarbrough, associate pastor at Christ Church in Summit and the Rev. Jeff Malkey, pastor at Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church, will share their experiences coping with a needs assessment in Macedonia for the United Methodist Committee on Relief and Church International. They will present their reflections on their stint in the "Brazda" and Hydrone refugee camps in Macedonia and discuss the complexities of the cultural, ethnic and religious dimensions in the nation. The discussion and prayer service will take place at the Hall of Sciences Auditorium, Room 4, at Drew University in Madison. For more information, call Michael Christensen at (973) 380-3738.

Workshops available for children, families

The Traillside Nature & Science Center in Mountaintop is offering a new lineup of workshops this spring for children and families. Classes are offered for children ages two through four with an adult, children ages four and five, and first through fourth grade students and families. A workshop series called "After-school Explorations" — designed for first- and second-graders — will be presented every Thursday from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. in April, May and June. On June 10, a workshop called "Gimmie Shelter" will give first and second graders an opportunity to help build a natural, waterproof shelter made out of wild sticks and leaves. Children will also learn helpful safety tips which filtering through the woods. Registration is required for all workshops. For a complete spring brochure call or visit Traillside Nature & Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountaintop, or call 780-3670.

B'nai B'rith holds brunch

Jewish Women International of Springfield, formerly B'nai B'rith Women of Springfield, will hold its annual installation and paid-up membership brunch at the Holiday Inn on Route 22 at Springfield at 11 a.m. Sunday. The officers to be installed for a second term include: Presidential Cabinet, Ruth Grossman, Mrs. Karish, Fay Miller, Ruth Piller, Mazel Tenenbaum, Vice President of Community Services Helen Rich, Executive Secretary Miriam Shalek, Treasurer Edna Gieber, Counsellors Barbara Fried and Terry Sitrus.

Recreation Department seeks tennis attendants

The Springfield Recreation Department is looking for attendants to work morning and afternoon hours. The attendants will check tennis badges, collect guest fees and post-tennis sign-up sheets. The position pays up to \$8 per hour. Those wishing to apply should call (973) 467-4608 or apply in person at the Sarah Bailey Civic Center, 30 Church Hill, Springfield.

Registration available for Bulldog Basketball

Deposits for the Bulldog Basketball Camp are due by May 30. Boys and girls ages nine to 14 can participate in the summertime activity from 8:30 a.m. to noon from June 28 through July 2. The camp will be held at Jonathan Dayton High School on Mountain Avenue in Springfield. Enrollment is limited and done on a first-come, first-served basis. The fee is \$100. Make checks payable to David Konic, 463 Theresa Terrace, Union, NJ 07083. For more information in for a copy of the camp brochure, call or e-mail for more information, contact Konic at (973) 376-1025.

Hidden children featured at Congregation Israel

The public is invited to participate in a program that remembers and honors the "hidden children" of the Holocaust at 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

Beginning with this program next week will feature an award-winning exhibit on display at the synagogue that track the lives of many of those children and their Christian rescuers from the Holocausters until the present day.

through April 30 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For additional information or for group reservations, call (973) 967-0666. Congregation Israel is located at 339 Mountain Ave. at Summit in Springfield.

Saturday's program will feature speaker Leon Ginsburg, a Holocaust survivor who was hidden in Eastern Poland as a child for several years. Ginsburg's story was presented in the book, "The Century" by Peter Jennings.

The exhibit opens Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., and continues through April 30 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For additional information or for group reservations, call (973) 967-0666. Congregation Israel is located at 339 Mountain Ave. at Summit in Springfield.

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Recognition program for teachers faces overhaul

By Walter Elliott
Staff Writer

Springfield's Teacher Recognition Program may be changing its name, its next month and completely revamped next year. That would be the result should the Springfield Board of Education adopt a recommendation made by Superintendent of Schools Gary Friedland April 13.

Friedland proposed a two-step revision. He initially suggested replacing the current program with a recognition ceremony for all staff next month.

"We have been part of the county, state and federal teacher recognition program for the last 34 years," Friedland said. "While it has been a successful program, the problem with a small school system like ours is that we're running out of tenured teachers to recognize."

Friedland said the first phase would remove Springfield from the Union

County program. The district would continue with the state and national programs, as the award ceremony continues with Teacher Recognition Month.

The second phase involves creating a Distinguished Service Award. The proposed criteria are to give an award of bettering the district through program and classroom improvement, a history of self and professional development and a willingness to contribute to the total school program.

Friedland forces a staff member at the elementary level and another at the middle and high school levels receiving this recognition. He does not see the Distinguished Service Award to be implemented until May 2000.

"The all-district recognition would take place next month and the service award next year," Friedland said. "Criteria, procedures and a public

ceremony need to be developed and they won't be ready for May. I suggest that the board's Public Relations Committee, the Springfield Education Association and administrators work on the revamping."

Springfield would not be the first Union County school district outside of the Teacher Recognition Program. The county superintendent's office statistics revealed that Clark, Cranford, Scotch Plains-Fanwood and Summit do not participate last year. Twenty-three districts, including the county-tech and special education schools and the Morris-Union Jointure Commission, held awards ceremonies.

Friedland's presentation was preceded by four specialists on legal and insurance matters. The first expert was Board Attorney Yvonne A. Gallagher, who gave an overview of student suspension and expulsion procedures.

The other three were Jointure Com-

mission officials: Grah, Coddington, plus Jim Kuchum and Paul Tracy of the Public Entity Risk Management Association of Saddle Brook, who outlined a new self-insurance health benefits plan for the district. The plan calls for Springfield joining as a partner with the Jointure Commission and nine other local districts.

Springfield in an attempt to stemming health care costs is looking for its third-insurance carrier in six years. PERMA is asking for a commitment letter by Thursday.

PERMA's deadline may not be easy to meet as the board agreed to make Monday the next regular voting session. Monday's scheduled meeting is now a committee-only session due to a possible lack of a quorum — enough board members to officially conduct business. Both meetings are to be in the Jonathan Dayton High School teachers' room at 7:30 p.m.

Internet sting operation nabs Springfield suspect

By Mark Hrymko
Regional Editor

An internet sting operation led to the arrest of a Springfield man in a Morris County park last week.

Bail was set at \$50,000 cash for Steven Elkin, 40, of Chirnney Ridge Drive, after he was arrested April 14 at Higdon Park in Randolph by FBI agents and Morris County detectives working with the Operation Innocent Images Task Force, said Sgt. Stephen Foley of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office. The task force targets people using the Internet to arrange sexual meetings with children.

Authorities arrested Elkin following several weeks of communication via the Internet, Foley said. Elkin believed he was communicating with, and expecting to meet, a 14-year-old girl when in fact it was

a team of task force agents, Foley said.

Elkin, a mortgage banker, was charged with attempted sexual assault, endangering the welfare of a child, and attempting to entice a child into a motor vehicle, according to Foley. He also was ordered to have no unsupervised contact with anyone under the age of 16, Foley said, and was being held at the Morris County Correctional Facility in Morrisstown.

Elkin may have to be a Megan's Law registrant, but Foley stressed it was "way too early" to discuss that subject since a conviction would be needed.

Megan's Law requires sexual offenders in register with police and depending on which tier offenders are placed in, certain parts of the neighborhood are notified.

Borough residents face no tax increase

By Pamela Isaacson
Managing Editor

Mountainside residents will see no tax hike in 1999, as the Borough Council voted unanimously Tuesday for the \$7.38-million municipal budget.

Residents living in the average assessed home of \$355,000 will pay \$0.81 for every \$100 of assessed value. This calculates to \$1,255.40 for municipal taxes only. The school and county taxes also are components of the tax bill.

According to Mayor Robert Vigilanti, council members found several other tax taxpayers to fund additional programs within the borough. To recent years, the addition of the cellular towers outside Borough Hall and taxes from Brighton Gardens and Sony Theaters have reduced the burden.

"We have not been bashful in both out after funds," Vigilanti added.

As an example, he cited recent plans to construct a commuter parking lot adjacent to the public library. The \$190,000 project will only cost the municipality \$5,000, as a state grant will supply a majority of the funds.

Although there was a public hearing on the budget, no members of the public surfaced with questions.

Salary ranges

In another unanimous vote, the council passed a 15th 16-ordinance that set salary ranges for the mayor and council members. The mayor said he plans to appoint a bipartisan committee to study the issue, hold public hearings and make a public report to the council.

"It is clear to me from comments made by borough residents during public hearings on both the 1998 reorganization ordinance and the salary ordinance that there are very mixed feelings among our residents," Vigilanti said.

After the council voted in February to change the expense reimbursement policy, council members and \$3,000 for the mayor, residents filed a petition requesting that the issue go before a public vote on the November ballot.

"The effect of the petition is that the salary ordinance is inoperative and it will not become operative unless a majority of the voters

'You could have avoided this entire situation by doing this and talking about it in the beginning.'

— Scott Schmedel

approve it in the November election," Vigilanti explained.

Rather than wait until November, Vigilanti said he would prefer to rescind the ordinance.

"I want to thank you for the action you have taken tonight on rescinding the original ordinance," said Adele Magnifico, a resident who had opposed future salary ranges at previous meetings. "The resident's voice is taken as responsible, sound and nothing less than a fair community member was hoping for."

Scott Schmedel of the Mountain-side Democratic Club also commended the mayor and council members for Tuesday's vote. "You could have avoided this entire situation by

doing this and talking about it in the beginning," Schmedel said. "It came around to this after there was a demonstration, a protest."

Schmedel also urged the mayor to include active registered Democrats on the committee.

Farewells

Tuesday's meeting was the last in Mountain-side for Borough Administrator Greg Bontz, as tomorrow will mark his last day in the position. A resident of Somerset County, Bontz accepted a job as administrator of Branchburg Township.

Mountain-side Police Chief James DeBrie will serve as acting borough administrator for a period of six months.

Learning Center to host guest lecturer for parents

A presentation by Robert A. Bernstein, esq. of the law firm of Clements, Dickson & Mueller, P.A., will take place at the Morris-Union Jointure Commission Developmental Learning Center, 426 Boulevard, Kenilworth on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Bernstein's presentation will focus on estate planning for parents of children with developmental disabilities. He will specifically discuss the preservation of assets and eligibility for governmental benefits for the disabled child.

In addition, Bernstein will discuss guardianships and the use and benefits of a special needs trust. Selecting an appropriate trustee to administer any trust which is set up for a child who is physically or developmentally disabled, and the trust's role and responsibilities in acting as a trustee under a trust set up for a developmentally disabled child.

The presentation is sponsored by the parent group of the Morris-Union Jointure Commission. The Morris-Union Jointure Commission has facilities located in New Providence, Springfield, Kenilworth and Mountainside that provide services for students classified as autistic or exhibit autistic-like behaviors.

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COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

With voting done, support the board

Now that the Board of Education elections are behind us, we ask residents to continue their involvement beyond voting.

Whether your favorite candidate gained a seat on the board, whether your opinion on the budget was shared by a majority of voters, you must be involved. The jobs of the Board of Education can only be fully realized if you participate in that work.

This is not to say that you should blindly support every initiative the board proposes. Conversely, we are not implying that every such initiative should be fought by a militant public. We simply mean you should stay involved by attending meetings, by doing your homework on the issues and all the implications involved, and by keeping your eyes and ears open. Come to the board's meetings with your opinions based on the facts of the matter at hand and not by the sometimes misguided mass public opinion.

Whether or not you have children or grand children in the district, the work of the board will impact your life. You may never have the need to set foot on school property, but the business of the school district is far-reaching. Just look at the school-tax portion when you get your May tax bill, or trying to get a fair value on your house if the school district is substandard. These are just two ways in which your life is affected by this board's decisions.

In any given community, the governing body usually eclipses the board of education because many residents innocently believe it is this group of officials who will have the most impact on the quality of life in town. While the governing body certainly does have a great say in how a town is run, we must not overlook the "integral role" the school board plays.

Having realized this, we have no alternative but to take an active role. Don't worry about your neighbors; if none of them wants to join you, go alone. Be that resident whose day-to-day needs and issues must also be considered by the board. If enough of us take this approach, success can be the only outcome. The board will benefit, the students and teachers will benefit, and you — the resident who must pass the bill and deal with the outcome — will most assuredly benefit.

A reason to rejoice

Is there any regular citizen who can name all nine members of the Union County freeholder board? How about the county manager, county clerk/register or surrogate? Asking them to name even one department director is like asking them to list the elements of the periodic chart.

Let's face it, no matter what officials on the county level do, they will never be recognized as much as their counterparts on the local and state levels.

But instead of who they are, the real question should be, "What do they do?" For the amount of money citizens pay in property taxes each year, all they get in return are parks that, always need more maintenance, the clerk's office, where passports can be applied for and a tax bill that comes four times per year.

And for that these officials are being recognized during "County Government Week," April 18-24, a bipartisan slap on the back from Gov. Christine Whitman and the Legislature to add credence to the job they are supposed to do. County government is an anachronistic form of government which has outlived its usefulness in New Jersey. It was created by our forefathers to govern the area when it was undeveloped and untamed. Now, the state is the most densely populated in the nation and in most places, towns abut each other and boundary lines are blurred.

Former Union County Manager Ann Baren espoused the elimination of county government and even reduced the number of county departments in 1994. Unfortunately, those efforts were reversed after her departure, and today, Union County government has grown instead of decreased.

The governor has started signing the tune that tax dollars can be saved through consolidation of services or regionalization. She even signed into law, last week the REAP and REDI bills, Regional Efficiency Aid Program and Regional Efficiency Development Incentive program, respectively, to reward and encourage all governments and school boards to study and share services.

We suggest cutting County government in addition. The Superior Court system was taken over by the state several years ago and the same should be done with the prosecutor's and sheriff's offices, as well as other essential services now provided by the county. Other services could be absorbed by municipalities or through shared services. This centralization would create uniform systems of service provision, reduce bureaucracy and cut administrative costs.

Let's eliminate county government and save our celebration for when we don't have to pay so much in property taxes.



REPTILES GALORE — M.J. DelCampo, left, Rachel Giordino and Carmen Giordino hope the ball python will not break free. The snake was on display as part of the 10th Annual Wildlife Sunday at the Trailside Science and Nature Center April 11.

Penal code implementation requires examination

As I See It

By Norman Rauscher

While there have been some changes in the implementation of the penal code in recent months, a detailed revision is truly overdue, and the quicker we get to the better off we all will be.

When the framers of the U.S. Constitution hammered out the section on state rights, it was not as far-sighted as it could have been in criminal cases. States' rights may directly affect the implementation of the criminal code because those rights deal with extradition.

If a person lives in New Jersey, commits a crime in Iowa and then escapes to Montana, there is no assurance the arrestee will be shipped back to Iowa to stand trial for his crime. Instead, the state legal arguments and court appearances could keep the suspect in Montana for an indeterminate time, all in the name of states' rights. This scenario of legal arguments and state's rights could go on for months, and often does.

I don't think the framers of the Constitution had these types of delays in mind when they set up the states' rights section. Those framers were certainly not interested in delaying justice.

But, these delays happen all too often — much to the dismay and concern of many of us.

Another aspect of the penal code is serious need of revision is the parole system, while the fully-licensed sentences handed out by some justices also need some drastic change.

Nowadays, when a judge hands down a life sentence, don't let the family farm that the convicted person will spend his or her life in jail. Not too many years after the sentence has been imposed, a lawyer may very well churn up the settled dust and charge the prisoner did not get a fair trial for any number of possible reasons. And, since death has been established about the trial, another trial will take place. Guess what? This time that person is innocent. Or is he? Or did the justice system go awry?

Even if there is no new trial, too often a convicted rapist or child molester, who has received 10 to 20 years, is released in a minimum amount of time. And, guess what, once out, this person goes to rape and molest again.

Many of these violators know they will be out of a jail before their sentences are served. And, even those notifications about past crimes may not stop that violator from going out and committing the same crime again.

Where is the justice here? Remember how long it took for the law

enacted after the brutal murder of Megan Kanka to become effective because of publicity about a convicted person's civil rights?

What about the rights of the victim? What about the rights of the families of the murdered and violated persons?

And, where is there any proof that letting prisoners out before the sentence is served is an action which will set that prisoner on the straight and narrow? The repeated appearance of criminals in the courts is a vivid testimony that letting prisoners out early is not a deterrent to future criminal acts. So, why not keep them in prison until the full sentence is served?

There are also a few crackpots who think the prison doors should be open because people should not be locked up. Well, I prefer to have murderers locked up, and I sure don't want one of them following me home anytime.

Yes, the penal code and its implementation certainly needs drastic changes. There is a need for a complete overhaul. Sending prisoners off to jail for a short time to watch television and work out is not a punishment to fix the crime.

Norman Rauscher is a former newspaper publisher and frequent columnist for this newspaper.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Two in two out hazardous

To the Editor:

While we applauded the effort of the editors in the April 1 edition of the *Echo Leader* titled "Safety regulation deserves support," we feel that the article missed its mark. The article was well written in supplying the facts of the "two in, two out" rule implemented by the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration which mandates firefighters arriving first on the scene of a fire must wait to enter the interior of a structure until there are two firefighters at all firefighting gear, including breathing apparatus, standing by at the entrance to assist them if they become injured or trapped.

Where the article missed the point is, while the rule seems like common sense and would make firefighters safer at a fire, what it didn't address is how this was realistically going to be accomplished.

The firefighting residents of Springfield, who know exactly who and what is coming when we call for help to a fire, the Springfield Fire Department consists of 20 career personnel and approximately 10 volunteers. Sounds like a lot, right? Realistically, there are four shifts of career personnel, each with an officer and three firefighters. These four shifts work a schedule to provide coverage 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There are five career staff members, which include the chief, deputy chief and the Fire Prevention Bureau. Work hours are during the day on weekdays when administrative work and inspections must be accomplished. Our volunteer members are *power on duty* but respond from home when they are available.

Now for the reality of the situation: While there is enough support staff on standby to barely cover the "two in, two out" rule, approximately 50 hours of the week, the 18 hours left are supported by only the four shift members on duty at any one time. During seasons and vacation time this number drops to less.

The April 1 national magazine comes to me. Originally, OSHA mandated that for two firefighters to enter the structure, two additional firefighters must remain at the structure entrance with the sole responsibility of being the safety team. The officer committed to taking charge of the fire ground — this is not a function that can be accomplished from the interior — and the driver of the fire pumper, who is now committed to pump operation and supplying the water needed to extinguish the fire or perform a rescue, should not be considered as part of the rescue team because at least one of the rescuers cannot have any other job on the fire scene, other than to be available for rescue.

There is some question as to whether or not the officer, incident commander can be utilized as part of the team. This obviously is not a safe practice and would require us to try to drive your car while blindfolded. One just needs to do the math to realize that four men cannot accomplish this, under the best case.

What does this mean to the citizens of Springfield? It means that while your home or business may be burning, when the Fire Department arrives, help will

mean wait for additional help to arrive before having enough staff on scene to be able to enter the structure and extinguish the fire. This additional help can come from two different sources. Recall of career personnel and volunteer firefighters, both of whom will be responding from home and/or through a fire department from another municipality.

Both of these create an obvious delay in response time. A fire disables in size every two minutes, meaning that a single room fire could be two rooms in four minutes, four rooms in six minutes and an average home of eight rooms in eight minutes. The average response time for the first arriving fire unit to arrive on scene is three minutes. This is certainly enough time to get in and extinguish or, at the least, to fire one room until more help arrives.

While larger structures with three times our manpower should have no problem complying with the rule, the Springfield Fire Department will be working under a tremendous handicap. The New Jersey Career Fire Chiefs Association, the New Jersey Deputy Fire Chiefs Association, the New Jersey State Firemen's Mutual Benevolent Association and the International Association of Firefighters have taken a position that our staffing levels are unsafe. The additional manpower needed to perform as a functional fire department would probably cost the average homeowner no more per year than an evening at the movies.

Fire Department administration has done everything possible to convince your Township Committee to hire this additional manpower but to no avail. The committee has taken the position that, hopefully, we will not have any fires and will not increase the manpower by even one man per shift. They stated that they are willing to take their chances.

If you are willing to also take your chances, then ignore this letter. If after reading this letter you are concerned as we are for the safety of yourself, your family and your neighbors, then it's time for you to take action. Please take the time to write to your mayor and let him know how you feel. If you have the time, attend a Township Committee meeting and voice your opinion.

No one believes that they are going to have a fire but, since we responded to nearly 1,200 calls in 1998, obviously someone is. This new OSHA rule is now in effect, so there is no time to waste! Don't be the first citizen to watch their home burn to the ground while your Fire Department stands by in despair waiting for the cavalry to arrive. Remember, there is no monetary benefit for our members because of this request. Our only concern is for the protection of life and property for the citizens and business owners of Springfield.

— Help us to help you. All of the citizens who have helped out for four help in the past need to remember how they felt when help arrived. It is time to start helping again. You may not have the time or ability to volunteer to fight a fire but your call, letter or visit to your mayor may help us to put one more man on the fire.

— Jim Arango, Springfield

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Tom Zimmerman
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Mary Ann Car
"I do some reading but I'm here dropping off books for my mother. She reads two or three books a week."



Linda Corona
"In the last week, I read a murder mystery by Catherine Coulter and a book which came out on the 100th anniversary of the Rough Riders. The second book was titled 'The Boys of '98' and was about Teddy Roosevelt's group in the Spanish-American War."

RVSA holds elections for new chairman, vice chair

The Railway Valley Sewerage Authority announced the election of Allen Chin of Westfield, as the chairman of the 10-member board and Thomas McHale of Kenilworth as vice chairman. As a 15-year appointed commissioner to the authority, he has been elected chairman three times. His one-year term as chairman and five-year term as commissioner expires in February.

"This year the authority is ready to move forward on capital improvements such as adding pumping capacity and making improvements to our laboratory," said Chin. "We are also anticipating the opening of our employees' facilities building and looking forward to having Mountianside as our newest member municipality."

Chin is president of George G. Sharp, Inc., a naval architectural marine & engineering firm which has its corporate office in New York City as well as eight branch offices nationwide. He is a licensed professional engineer, earning a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering from Ohio University and a master of science degree in mechanical engineering from Stevens Technical Institute in Hoboken. Chin was named the 1997 Small Business Person of the Year by the Small Business Administration.

McHale also was appointed chairman of the Legal Committee. McHale has served the authority for five years and served his township for 30 years as a councilman, planning board member, board of adjustment member and volunteer for both the Kenilworth Fire Department and the rescue squad. He also served on the Board of Education for 12 years from 1970 to 1982.

McHale worked as a supervisor for Schering Plough Pharmaceutical manufacturing for 41 years, before retiring in 1990. He and his wife, Jane, have lived in Kenilworth for 43 years.

The authority is an autonomous wastewater treatment agency serving more than 300,000 residential and 3,500 industrial and commercial customers in Springfield, Mountianside, Clark, Cranford, Garwood, Kenilworth, Railway, Roselle Park, Scotch Plains, Westfield, Winfield and Wordinghge.

Pastors visit refugee camps in war-torn nation

By Walter Elliott
Staff-Writer

Two clergy leaders explained to their respective congregations in Springfield and Summit Sunday their experiences during a visit to war-torn Kosovo. The pair, Pastor Jeff Markay and Associate Pastor John Yarbrough, said they were chosen to be part of a mission to the Macedonian-Kosovo border.

"I'm glad to be back here with you," Markay said before his Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church Sunday. "I will share with you some of what I have seen in the Bzard and Bojane refugee camps. What I have seen has been both heartbreaking and hopeful."

"I was working on a sermon for the April 11 worship service when we got a call from Dr. Michael Christensen in Madison about these people before," Yarbrough, of Carter Church in Summit, said. "He asked if we wanted to make a needs assessment of the Kosovo refugees. We had to be ready to go in 48 hours."

Christensen's phone call to Markay and Yarbrough was the start of a week-long mission approaching the heart of the latest Balkan conflict. The couple would learn of the refugees suffering, observe the efforts of relief agencies serving them and report back on what they discovered.

Their report is on behalf of the United Methodist Committee on Relief and CitiHope International, worldwide agencies currently focusing on problems in Eastern Europe. They also reported to their congregations Sunday — and will report to the public in a special Drew University sponsored discussion tonight.

"This is the first time UNCOR and CitiHope worked on a project together," Christensen said. "CitiHope has been concentrating on economic and relief conditions in nations of the former Soviet Union. We have done work with Chernobyl and the Crimea section of the Ukraine — and in Bosnia."

Christensen said Markay and Yarbrough's names came up when he and the CitiHope board began assembling "the six-member assessment team." The husband-and-wife team



The Rev. Jeff Markay, pastor at the Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church, listens to refugees tell of their escape from Kosovo to the refugee camp in Bojane, Macedonia. Markay was one of three pastors who recently returned from Macedonia after completing a needs assessment of the Bzard and Bojane refugee camps.

have traveled before, particularly Markay in Hungary.

"I had something of a premonition before I got the call," Markay said. "I was reading through the New Testament and came across Paul being asked by the Macedonian church to come speak there. The Macedonian church was known then for being faithful contributors — they're named 19 times in the Bible — and I wondered over the news on television."

"Here's a great deal of prayer, we decided to go," Yarbrough said. "We're mailed to our friends to keep us in their prayers. My partner, the Rev. Charles Rush, was away at the time, and I asked members Bill Campbell and Squire Knox to lead Sunday's sermon and worship service."

Markay also charged members of his congregation to continue the services, as the pastors flew with the team to Athens. Through a connecting flight to Thessaloniki, Greece, and a border-crossing taxi, they arrived at the Macedonian capital of Skopje within 48 hours.

"Skopje's a city dotted by minarets and is an example of Christians and Muslims living and working together," Markay said. "Our host, who is a Macedonian minister and the only Methodist in the cabinet, gave us whatever we needed for our stay. We had considered taking a train to Skopje, which ends in Belgrade, but that was the one we decided."

"You can hear gunfire or the roar of NATO jets (flying by)," Yarbrough said, "but we never felt in danger. We began getting prayer responses on e-mail before we left. There were people we didn't know who were praying for us."

Markay and Yarbrough came within six miles of the Kosovo border when they were driven to the camps. There, they and the team listened to the tales of forced expulsion and deprivation. At the same time, they saw acts of hope and charity in the camps.

"The Red Cross, Red Star of David, and the Red Crescent were working alongside each other," Markay said. "There were Israeli doctors birthing Muslim children. There was a mother who lost her own child in the flight and was caring for a child who didn't know where her parents were; she said she hoped someone was aiding the lost child, the same way."

"The lost girl was 10 years old," Yarbrough added. "There were Lithuan workers building a prayer tent for Muslims. They built it a second time to point the tent to the east."

Markay, Yarbrough and Christensen ate to discuss the Kosovo crisis and their observations in Drew University's Hall of Sciences Auditorium, Room 4, in Madison at 7:30 p.m. tonight. It will be followed by a brief prayer vigil.

Call Christensen at (973) 408-3738 for details.

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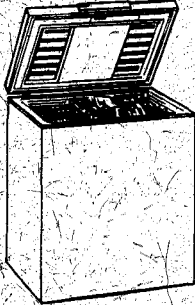
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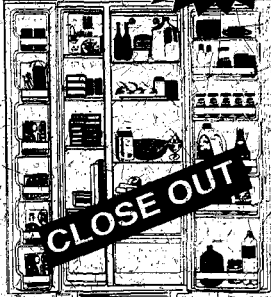


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OBITUARIES

Sol Waltman

Sol Waltman of Springfield and Boca Raton, Fla., died April 21 at the St. Elizabeth Cancer Care Center, Maun, Fla.

Born in Newburgh, N.Y., Mr. Waltman moved to Springfield 40 years ago. He also maintained a home in Boca Raton for many years. Mr. Waltman was co-owner of Twin Star Farms, New Paltz, N.Y. Earlier, he had been executive producer for 15 years for Paramount Supermarkets Inc. and owner of State Produce Co., Newark. Mr. Waltman served in the Army during World War II. Surviving are his wife, Betty; daughter, Ellen Tye; another living a sister, Elsie; Edwin, and two grandchildren.

Edward Street

Edo and Susan, 77, of the Holiday Heights section of Berkeley, Township, formerly of Springfield, died April 9 at Continuum Medical Center, Lomb, Pa.

Born in Caldwell, Mr. Street lived in Springfield before moving to Holiday Heights seven years ago. He was an accountant for Pabst Brewery, Newark, for 55 years and retired in 1982. Mr. Street was a member of the American Legion Post 258, Springfield, and the Springfield First Aid Squad. He graduated from Rutgers University, with an Associates accounting degree. Mr. Street served in the United States Army during World War II. Surviving are his wife, Susan, his sons, Roger and Gary, a brother, Maurice, and two grandchildren.

Wilma E. Hyde

Wilma E. Hyde, 86, of Mountain Side, formerly of Union, died April 22. Born in Carteret, Mrs. Hyde lived in Bridgewater, Conn., Union and Saratoga before moving to Mountain Side. She was a cosmetologist before retiring many years ago. Surviving are two daughters, Elaine M. Wolfe and Catherine M. Kinginger, four grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Marie E. McDonnell

Marie E. McDonnell, 63, of Summit, died April 17 at Overlook Hospital, Summit. Born in Brooklyn, Mrs. McDonnell

lived in Summit for the past 43 years. She was a member of St. Theresa Church, Rotary Society and the Newcomer Club, both of Summit. Surviving are her husband, John, and a brother, Kenneth, Sabella.

Clara M. Lutz

Clara M. Lutz, 97, of Summit, died April 16 at the Ashbrook Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Spots Plains. Born in Stuttgart, Germany, Mrs. Lutz lived in Menclair before moving to Summit in 1992. Surviving are a son, Raymond D., and a grandchild.

Irene J. Hynes

Irene J. Hynes, 92, of Springfield, died April 19 in Union Hospital. Born in Jersey City, Mrs. Hynes lived in Mountside for 20 years before moving to Springfield 10 years ago. She was a retired factory worker at Schlitz Embroidery, Palisades Park, for many years and retired 30 years ago. Surviving are two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Michael Friedman

Michael Friedman, of Springfield, a certified public accountant in Union for many years, died April 22 in St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston. Born in Newark, Mr. Friedman lived in Springfield for more than 35 years. He was a partner in Adler, Lowenberg, Amato & Friedman in Union for many years. Mr. Friedman was a graduate of Rutgers University, Newark. He was a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants of New York City and the National Society of Accountants. Surviving is a sister, Rosanne Schwartz.

Mary J. Lefebvre

Mary J. Lefebvre of Springfield, died April 13 in June. Born in Newark, Mrs. Lefebvre lived in Bloomfield and West Caldwell before moving to Springfield 17 years ago. She was a part-time crossing guard for the West Caldwell Police Department. Previously, Mrs. Lefebvre worked in the office of Ivers-Lee Co., Newark, for 16 years. Surviving are a sister, Alice, McCarthy, a nephew, Richard, and two grandchildren.

Retirement workshops held at Madison House

Michael Rosenborg, president of Diversified Capital Advisors Inc., of Springfield, will be conducting a retirement workshop at the Madison Community House. Participants may select from two retirement sessions. Session one will be held on Tuesday and session two will be Tuesday and April 29. All workshops will run from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. The workshop is generic and educational in nature, designed to teach participants how to properly plan for retirement. Rosenborg, a registered financial planner with 18 years of experience, is a registered representative and associate registered investment advisor with Financial Network Investment Corporation-BNC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Acta Retirement Services Inc.

Topics to be discussed include: defining and creating your retirement investing with the future in mind, evaluating your sources of income, protecting your health and wealth growth, investing and enjoying your estate for maximum efficiency and managing retirement funds and lump sum distribution. Each participant will receive a fully interactive, 140-page guide that helps them assess their current financial situation and focus on their retirement objectives and estate preservation requirements. Michael Rosenborg, president of Diversified Capital Advisors Inc., of Springfield, will be conducting the workshop. Rosenborg is a registered financial planner with 18 years of experience, is a registered representative

and associate registered investment advisor with Financial Network Investment Corporation (FNI) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Acta Retirement Services Inc.

There is no cost to attend the workshop, but seating is limited and reservations are required. To make a reservation, contact Diversified Capital Advisors at 973-564-6565.

County sponsors park clean-up

Later this year, a clean-up of Echo Lake Park in Mountainside will be Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. The clean-up is sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the county manager, the Division of Parks and Recreation and the Bureau of Environmental Affairs. Volunteers will meet at the pavilion by the lower lake of Springfield. Acta in Mountainside Echo Lake Park is a county park. Refreshments, T-shirts and gloves will be provided. Participants should note the clean-up will take place outdoors - rain or shine. Along with rakes, water and shovels and gloves, appropriate clothing and footwear is a must. Pre-registration is encouraged. Anyone interested in participating should call the Union County Bureau of Environmental Affairs at 654-9800.

To place a classified ad call 973-763-9411 by 3 p.m. Tuesday.

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League of Women Voters presents women's guide

The League of Women Voters of New Jersey Education Fund has recently published the revised edition of the Women's Guide to Rights and Resources in New Jersey.

Bonnie Packer, president of the Summit League, presented copies of the handbook of health and human services to women to Susan Chase, executive director of the Resource Center for Women, 393 Woodland Ave., Summit. The Resource Center for Women educates, informs and supports women in the community through professional-led programs and services. Programs are held at the Parish House of Calvary Episcopal Church. The center's office is on the second floor.

The guide is a unique tool advising women of their rights and entitlements in the state. It provides information on women's health issues, violence against women, gender discrimination, child care, marriage and divorce, financial security, and immigration and naturalization.

The 50-page handbook was funded by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which is the nation's largest philanthropy devoted to health and health care. This grant has also enabled the league to put the Women's Guide to Rights and Resources in New Jersey on its interactive website at www.lwv-nj.org.

Copies of the guide may be obtained for the cost of shipping and handling through the Summit League of Women Voters 84908, 276 77 of the Resource Center for Women at (908) 273-2258.

Overlook golf tournament will be at Canoe Brook

The annual annual Overlook Hospital Golf and Tennis Tournament is set for May 10 at Canoe Brook Country Club, Summit, beginning with registration at 10:30 a.m. The event sponsored by C.R. Bard Inc. and Summit Bank, features a \$1-million golf shoot-out. All tennis participants will have the opportunity to play tennis with Colin Dibley, winner of the U.S. Open 25+ Singles, Wimbledon 25+ Singles and Double, and Dow World Senior Open. Dibley, held the record for the world's fastest serve at 146 mph. For information call the Overlook Hospital Foundation at (908) 572-2841.

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Resolution stalls Edwards hearings

By Walter Elliott Staff Writer

The public hearings over the proposed Edwards Super Foods store at the Springfield Zoning Board of Adjustment continued under a procedural debate Tuesday night.

Attorney James Sargent dropped out of the hearing, leaving the applicant, Royal A. Alford, Springfield, L.L.C., and his engineering manager, Robert Hudson, Sargent, to answer questions from the hearing. Kenneth Narva, a Springfield resident, expressed his concerns about the project. He said he would like to see the board determine whether the project is a zoning violation. Hudson, a pending rezoning resolution before the Township Committee, however, prompted opposing lawyers to withhold their cross-examination and Chairman Stuart Applebaum to postpone the public's part of questioning.

The Township Committee has put up a resolution which would change the zoning status of the former Saks Fifth Avenue property, Applebaum said. It passed a first reading and has scheduled a second one for Tuesday. Should there be any opposition, it appears to be a question of whether the applicant has to rezone neighbors and restart the hearing process from square one.

The Township Committee introduced the proposal zoning reclassification in its April 15 meeting. The

proposal would change the five-acre retail parcel into an affordable housing general commercial category.

The rezoning will help it comply with our affordable housing obligation, Township Attorney Bruce Bergen said, before the committee meeting. It would permit building a senior citizens center with 20 percent of the apartments going to low- or moderate-income residents.

Bergen said the rezoned parcel would allow retail commercial space to keep up with the Saks Fifth Avenue neighborhood. Two of the new zone's restrictions are a maximum retail size of 7,000 square feet and a 200-foot setback from the Millburn-Springfield border. That setback becomes 250 feet when the municipal border, which runs 50 feet from Millburn Avenue, is included.

Original property owner Saks Fifth Avenue asked for the smaller setback when a widening of Millburn Avenue was considered in 1968. The owners also received permission to expand parking lot and a building extension zone, a residentially zoned area from the Springfield Planning Board at the same time.

Royal Alford said the variances permitting the extensions are grandfathered into Edwards' supermarket application. Opponents, mainly the Colonial Association, and Millburn Township said they are not grandfathered. The four-year-old debate has continued before both townships' zoning boards and in superior and state appellate courts since.

The Township Committee's rezoning proposal throws a new twist into

the application process. Applebaum board attorney Neil Dworkin, Township Engineer Robert Kirkpatrick, Township Planner Robert Michalek and other panelists struggled with the proposal's ramifications during their pre-hearing executive session.

The proposed ordinance is tied into a proposed state building code zoning or planning board's time of decision, Dworkin said. Under the state bill, the restrictions and conditions which an application is made, would be honored should a town council or other governing body make rule changes. There is no decision where the state bill is headed and the Township Committee has not held a second reading of their ordinance proposal.

"We don't know whether the applicant has to start from square one," Applebaum said. "There's a lot of research to do but we'll come tell if the Township Committee passes the ordinance."

Opposing lawyer James Baran, James D'Elia and Eric Wasser listened to Applebaum's explanation before speaking. They then spoke about continuing the hearing and delaying the rezoning of their cross-examination.

"I've learned of the ordinance yesterday and did not perform any pre-trial preparation today," Baran said. "Until the ordinance is voted on, we'll reserve our right to cross-examine."

The Township Committee is to take up the rezoning ordinance Tuesday. The Zoning Board is set to revisit the Edwards hearing May 18. Both meetings are to start at the Municipal Building at 6 p.m.

A bug's life



Philly by Jeff Grant
A cockroach takes a rest from a long day at the Trailside Nature and Science Center's 10th annual Wildlife Sunday April 11. Over 1,600 visitors attended the various presentations, nature walks and demonstrations.

Local Assembly office will be open on Saturday

The legislative office of Assemblyman Richard D. Bagger will be open to residents of the 22nd Legislative District from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

In addition to regular business hours on weekdays and on Saturdays, Bagger's office at 209 Elm St., Westfield, is open from 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Thursdays.

The 22nd Legislative District includes Mountain View, Berkeley Heights, Clark, Chatham Township, Cranford, Dunellen, Fairwood, Garwood, Green Brook, New Providence, North Plainfield, Long Hill, Scotch Plains, Warren, Watchung, Westfield and Winfield.

For more information call Bagger's legislative office at 232-3673.

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12:00	at Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	ATLANTIC CITY
13:00	at Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	ATLANTIC CITY
14:00	at Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	ATLANTIC CITY
15:00	at Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	ATLANTIC CITY
16:00	at Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	ATLANTIC CITY
17:00	at Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	ATLANTIC CITY
18:00	at Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	ATLANTIC CITY
19:00	at Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	ATLANTIC CITY
20:00	at Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	ATLANTIC CITY
21:00	at Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	ATLANTIC CITY
22:00	at Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	ATLANTIC CITY
23:00	at Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	ATLANTIC CITY
24:00	at Tampa Bay	7:00 PM	ATLANTIC CITY
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Throwing out the first ball honors went to the Outback Restaurant's Ed Young, left, and Springfield Mayor Greg Clark, with Major League catchers Jarred Weiss, left, and Louis Puopolo.

Springfield Junior Baseball has quite an Opening Day

League includes some 350 children

The Springfield Junior Baseball League held its opening day ceremonies last Sunday, marking the 49th season of the youth league.

The Outback Restaurant of Springfield entered the ceremonies, which included some 350 children making up the K-Ball, T-Ball, Intermediate, Minor, Major and Pony leagues.

Springfield Mayor Greg Clark and Deputy Mayor Steve Mullman were in attendance and Mayor Clark, along with Outback manager Ed Young, were given the honor of throwing out the first ball of the season.

In addition, the National Anthem and flag-raising ceremony was led by four Dayton High School students: Rachel Kuchner, Monica Schwartz, Dan Kuzem and Adam Slater gave a moving rendition of the Star-Spangled Banner, which was greatly appreciated by the crowd.

The season will run through mid-July, ending with the championship playoffs to be held in the Minor, Major and Pony leagues.

Teams from Kentwood have joined the Minor and Major leagues this year and the Springfield Pony League teams will be playing teams from Berkeley Heights and Mountainside.

Pirates and Royals have their hitting shops on last weekend in posing opening-season Springfield Junior Baseball League veterans.

The following are Springfield Junior Baseball League results of games played last week:

MINORS
O'Reilly's Pirates 10, Parmant's Angels 4 in the first league game of the season played last Saturday, the Pirates, coached by John O'Reilly, faced the Angels, coached by Stan Parmant.

The teams previously played an exhibition game, with the Pirates coming out on top.

In this second meeting, the Pirates pitcher was Randy Hering. He kept the Angels scoreless after two innings, having been assisted by his shortstop Korynna Suarez. With no outs and bases empty on first and second, Suarez turned a double play to stop the assault by the Angels.

Hilltoppers seeking to gain better net results this year

Summit boys' tennis team began week 4-0

By Andrew McFain
Assistant Sports Editor

Having lost just two players from last year's highly successful squad to graduation, Andrew Stranovsky and Nick Porter, who played second singles and second doubles, respectively, the Summit High School boys' tennis team looks to be equally as talented, if not more so, in 1999.

The Hilltoppers came in second at the Union County Tournament in 1998, finishing just two points back of Westfield tied, West Essex for the Iron Hills Conference Hills Division title and made it all the way to the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 2 final where they lost to West Essex.

In light of all of those achievements, veteran head coach Dave Brusis is confident this year's team has the talent to equal or surpass what last year's squad accomplished.

"I'd like to win the conference and the section and I think we have a good chance to do both, but West Essex is going to be a major obstacle for us in the back court this year as the head man at Summit. I think we have a shot at winning the county tournament this year and that's another goal of ours."

Junior Fritz Staumeyer is at first singles, where he compiled a 14-3 mark last season, and sophomore Miles Moriarty has moved up from third singles, where he was 19-11 in 1998, to the spot vacated by Stranovsky at second singles.

Sophomore Ryan Heifer, who teamed with Jesse Stern, who goes undefeated (19-0) at first doubles last season, has moved up to third singles this year. Stern, a junior, is now playing alongside freshman Steven Scherri at first doubles.

Juniors Andrew Fields and Chris Johnson, who both saw a lot of action at second doubles last season while being rotated in and out of the lineup, will remain at second doubles this season, only this time as full-time starters. Fields was 11-7 last year and Johnson was 6-2.

Stern, ranked fifth in the state last week, improved to 4-0 last Wednesday by blanking Mount Olive 5-0, straightening his record to 3-1 by registering 6-1, 6-2 victories over Saket, Chaudhari. Heifer, playing second singles, improved to 4-0 overall with consecutive 6-1 wins over Kevin Shanks. Junior Steve Dionne won his second match against no defaults by beating Barick Ringwelski 6-4, 6-2.

Both Summit doubles teams were victorious as well as Stern and Scherri and Fields and Johnson improved to 3-2 and 4-0, respectively. Stern and Scherri defeated Neil Ankarar and Arun Rajarun 6-1, 6-1 and Fields and Johnson defeated Dan Polnick and Josh Schusick 6-0, 6-2.

Bruce needed Heifer up to second singles for the Mount Olive match and needed Dionne into the lineup in order to give Moriarty a match. Moriarty is in his back wheel, struggling at a tournament over the weekend two weeks ago extra time to beat. The move was precautionary because the injury is not considered serious.

The Hilltoppers, who opened the season with consecutive victories over Parsippany Hills, Hanover Park and Mendham, the latter of which they won 3-2. They were slated to face West Essex last Friday in what undoubtedly would have been their toughest test thus far but the match was rained out.

'We're going to rely on all five positions to lead us this year, not just one or two. Every member of the team has to play well and up to their potential and they realize that because they've been here before.' — Summit High School boys' tennis coach Dave Brusis.

Friday's match, which Moriarty would have completed if he was originally scheduled to be made up on April 24 in North Caldwell, NJ, but that was rained out and it was in conflict with the Union County Tournament. A new makeup date has yet to be announced.

"We're going to rely on all five positions to lead us this year, not just one or two," Brusis said. "Every member of the team has to play well and up to their potential and they realize that because they've been here before."

The Hilltoppers, who were scheduled to host Parsippany on Monday, Scotch Plains on Tuesday and Morris Hills yesterday, will return to action today when they are slated to face New Providence in New Providence at 4 p.m.

Gov. Livingston baseball wins 3 of 4 last week

By J.R. Parachini
Sports Editor

The Governor Livingston High School baseball team began the week with a 6-3 record after winning three of four games played last week.

GL first won at Union 12-7 April 14, then fell to visiting Immaculata 19-6 Thursday, then downed host Union Catholic 6-5 Friday before returning to Summit 11-1 in Summit on Saturday.

GL defeated Summit last year in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 2 final. It was the Highlanders' first sectional championship in 15 years.

Bob Phillips (13) earned his first mound victory of the season after three defeats by tossing a three-hitter against Summit. The left-handed right-hander struck out three and had excellent control, not walking a batter.

The Canagallo brothers had a solid game, Eric getting a three-run double and Mark banging out two hits, driving in one run and scoring three runs.

Terrence Reilly was the winning pitcher against Union Catholic in a game that was shortened to five innings because of rain. Reilly limited the Yankees to just two hits, striking out five and walking two.

Phillips and Mark Canagallo had two hits each, each producing run-scoring singles for the Highlanders.

Eric Canagallo and Jason Guidicci pitched down in runs in the Immaculata loss, while Hank Hansen had four hits, drove in four runs and scored three times in the win over Union. One of Hansen's hits was a three-run homer in the third inning.

Sophomore Dan Bussicello, who started with the junior varsity team this year, pitched five innings against Union to improve his varsity record to 3-0. GL began the week with a 4-1 record in the Mountain Division standings of the Mountain Valley Conference. Wins came against Hillside, Roselle Catholic, Roselle and Union Catholic, while the one loss was to Immaculata.

Governor Livingston softball sparked by Turturiello no-hitter

Governor Livingston High School softball pitcher Gina Turturiello tossed a no-hitter Monday and led her squad to a quality win.

Turturiello improved her pitching record to 5-1 and the Highlanders (4-1-1) by outdueling Johnson's Katie Burns 1-0 in a Mountain Valley Conference Mountain Division contest held in Clark.

The win came after GL suffered its first loss of the season last Thursday, falling to Immaculata 2-1 in 13 innings in North-Branch Immaculata hinter Erica Bell struck out 19 in 15 innings, while Turturiello struck out 15. The Somerset County school won the game by scoring an unearned run in the bottom of the 15th.

Heather McDonald singled home Jen Calabrese in the fourth inning for the only run in GL's win over Johnson. Both teams continue to have nonleague contests during the regular season and in the state playoffs in North Jersey, Section 2, Group 2. Johnson slipped to 2-2 with the loss.

Calabrese had four hits, including a run-scoring triple, and runs scoring twice, in GL's 13-0 win at Millburn April 13.

Springfield Middle School baseball captures opener

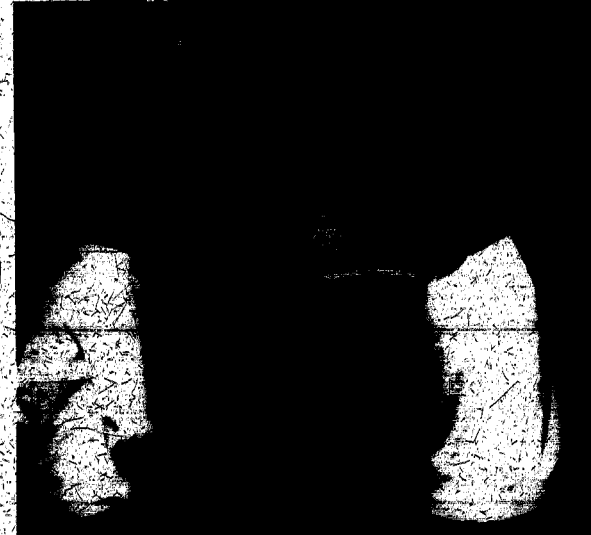
The Springfield-F.M. Claupeper Middle School baseball team opened its 1999 season last week by posting an impressive 16-3 win over Oratory Prep in Summit April 14.

Springfield was sparked by captures Kevin Dean, Dept. Dea Chanzhark and Matt Scipione.

Dean went 3-for-4 with three RBI and two runs. Chanzhark was 1-for-2 with three RBI and three runs. Scipione walked, drove in a run and scored a run. Brian Stahl, Mike Nicoles and Ted Young combined for three hits, three RBI and four runs.

It was a complete team effort, with all players contributing in the win. Also getting in on the action for Springfield were David Siker, Mike Sauer, Mike Rodriguez, Andy Tiller, Jon Rodriguez and Malcolm Covatta.

Dean closed the season victory, pitching out more as an outstanding complete game effort.



Dayton High School softballers. From left, Rachel Kuchner, Monica Schwartz, Dan Kuzem and Adam Slater, along the National Anthem at last Sunday's Springfield Junior Baseball League's Opening Day Ceremonies at Pioneer Field.

Summit Boys' Tennis

- SUMMIT VARSITY JUNIORS' TENNIS (1995)
- Fritz Staumeyer, first singles
- Steve Dionne, second singles
- Andrew Stern, first doubles
- Jesse Stern, second doubles
- Sophomores (3)
- Miles Moriarty, second singles
- Ryan Heifer, third singles
- FRESHMEN (2)
- Steve Scherri, first doubles
- Chris Johnson, second doubles
- Apr 22 at New Providence: 4-0
- Apr 26 Parsippany Hills: 4-0
- Apr 27 at Chatham: 4-0
- Apr 28 at Hanover Park: 4-0

Summit Track and Field

- Apr 23 Pefin Relay
- Apr 24 Millburn Relay
- Apr 27 at Parsippany Hills: 4-0
- Apr 29 Union City Spring Relay
- May 1 Bernards Invitational
- May 2 Elizabeth Miniemum Games
- May 3 at Parsippany West: 8-0
- May 4 Parsippany West: 8-0
- May 6 Cranford: 4-0

Dayton Golf

- The Dayton High School golf team had a 1-3 record as of Tuesday.
- DAYTON VARSITY GOLF SENIORS (4)
- Reid Mullman
- Kevin Turfche
- Evans Fischlein
- Dan Burt
- JUNIORS (2)
- Bob Brock
- Mike Skarpe
- Jared Cohen
- FRESHMEN (2)
- Dan Dotrook
- Mike Nife

Dayton Baseball

Dayton was 1-4 as of Tuesday, posting its first win of the season at Oratory 16-12 April 13.

Juniors Charan Beyer and Rob Sharkey belted home runs in the Bulldogs' triumph.

Dayton Softball

The Dayton High School softball team was 2-3 as of Tuesday. Dayton outpitched Roselle 15-7 in Kentwood last Thursday for its second win of the season.

Sophomore pitcher Linda Appleton led her team to a 1-0 win and scored a run and drove in three runs, while senior catcher Monica Nife was named MVP.

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Piggy bank



NorCrown Vice President Monte Ehrenkrantz, left, Vincent Spada, manager of the bank's Springfield office...

Players celebrate baseball, softball opening day

By Joe Luera Staff Writer The earlier anticipated, and with some sniping to the side, Mountaintop Youth Baseball and Softball leagues held their opening day Saturday.

eventually, her eyes scanning the recently resodded field. The new surface was laid for by Youth Baseball...

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DeVito completes crash investigation course

Mountaintop police officer Stephen DeVito recently completed the Advanced Crash Investigation course sponsored by the ASA New Jersey Automobile Club Foundation for Safety and Education...

OUR GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION CONTINUES!



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There's still time!

There's still time! Break the Bank Sweepstakes! Win 5% interest on a million dollars!

Come take advantage of a real advantage.

FREE CHECKING!

NorCrown Bank is the only bank that will give you free checking with no strings attached. Just look at this chart:

Table with columns: BANK, BALANCE REQUIRED TO AVOID SERVICE CHARGES, SERVICE CHARGE, SERVICE CHARGE - FULL BALANCE, FREE MACH? CARD?

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Knuckle Down and Earn!

2-year Celebration CD 5.50% APY. \$1,000 minimum deposit.

Passport Savings Rate 5% APY. \$100 minimum deposit.

Slim down loan payments.

NorCrown's Home Equity Line of Credit

1% UNDER PRIME FOR THE LIFE OF THE LOAN!

Ask for an application at our new Springfield office or call: (973) 379-5855

Flowers by NorCrown's advertisement featuring a large floral graphic and text: 'Means flowers and trees, and all things green hanging baskets, garden accessories, fresh cut blooms and unusual pottery from around the world.'

NorCrown Bank advertisement featuring a crown logo and text: '223 Mountain Avenue - Springfield, NJ 07081 (973) 379-5855'

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