

Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountaineer

SPRINGFIELD, N.J., VOL. 70, NO. 39

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1989

TWO SECT

18

THIS WEEK

NEWS

Offices closed

The offices of this newspaper will be closed Monday in observance of Memorial Day. We will reopen Tuesday.

The deadlines for the June 3 edition are as follows:

• Lifestyle, including church and club news, etc. — today, noon

• Letters to the editor — Friday, noon

• What's Going On — Friday, 3 p.m.

• Display advertising — Friday, noon for Section B, and 5 p.m. for Section A

• Sports news — Friday, 9 a.m.

• General news — Tuesday, 9 a.m.

• Classified advertising — Tuesday, 3 p.m.

• Legal advertising — Tuesday, noon

Honor the war dead

THE ARTS

Breath of spring

This singer's voice is like a breath of spring, even after many years using her vocals. See Page B3.



Strawberry festival

David Johnson rehearses the title of Jubilation T. Compose from U.N. Abner, for Strawberry Festival '89 at Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church. See Page B4.

NEW MEDIA

News updates

Get local updates throughout the week. Call our Infocourse hot line at (908) 686-9898. For a menu of items, see Page B4.

Web site

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

WEATHER

Friday: Partly sunny

70

Saturday: Mostly sunny and warm

84

Sunday: Mostly sunny

85

For the most up to date reports, call (908) 686-9898, Ext. 3790.

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Springfield celebrates Youth in Government Day

By Wallace Elliott
Staff Writer

One could tell right away that the Springfield Township Committee meeting would not be an ordinary one Tuesday.

Visitors who attempted to use the Municipal Building lobby pay phone had to step around some 20 backpacks before it. Entering the Municipal Clerk's office, an employee was making photo identification cards of unfamiliar people in poses like Township Committee member or Chief of Police.

The faces were young, belonging to those being guided through the lobby by more familiar adults. They were threading their way past the backpacks and by several older people who were waiting their turn at the elevator.

Welcome to the Township Committee's annual Youth in Government and Senior Citizen Day. The governing body as Mayor Greg Clarke explained, decided to accommodate both groups with a 2 p.m. starting time.

Youth in Government Day is an annual event where selected seventh-grade students from the Gaudineer School learn the workings of local government. Clarke said. "We have also tried to schedule a daytime session so that some of our senior citizens will not go out at night can attend."

Holding a mid-afternoon session, although it means Committeeman Steve Gohlsain would be unable to attend, as he works in New York.



Photo By Milton Mills

Florence M. Gaudineer seventh-grader Adam Formal, left, acts as mayor of Springfield during the special Township Committee meeting Tuesday while the real mayor, Greg Clarke, looks on. The meeting was part of the committee's annual Youth in Government and Senior Citizen Day at Town Hall. Members of the local government invited selected seventh-graders and all senior citizens to participate.

allows both parts of our community to participate.

With those remarks, Clarke turned the meeting to his younger counterpart, Adam Formal, to run the morning. Formal and his full board, with some occasional help, held public hearings, passed resolutions and ordinances and took questions from the public.

"This is a part of the social studies curriculum about government," Gaudineer teacher Merle Murphy said. "They've been given tours by committee members and officials since 12:30 p.m. The administration has been kind enough to expand the number of students, so they can be an honorary fire chief, municipal clerk or assistant engineer."

"I must hand it to these students," Fire Chief Bill Gras said. "They are sharp and quickly pick things up."

How sharp they are came out in the public comment session. Honorary Chief of Police Michael Gleicher asked why Springfield was one of the few towns not filing for Union County's \$2-million downtown improvement grant program.

Specialist studies skills for students

By Joe Lagura
Staff Writer

Members of the Mountaineer Board of Education learned how to study Tuesday night. A significant portion of the regular meeting was dedicated to a study skills presentation made by Beverly Ellenport.

Ellenport, a reading specialist at the local school, presented her updated "Study Skills Notebook" to both the board and the public. The notebook has been a staple for borough students for several years.

The book originally resulted from a week-long workshop on training and study skills. Ellenport attended in 1992.

"The students just don't know how to work with the information they were given," she said.

"After working a full summer to put the book together, Ellenport presented the final product to the board in July of 1989, after which her curriculum was implemented. The Tuesday night presentation introduced an expanded book, complete with colorful and amusing illustrations.

The book's specialists are divided as follows:

- Student Assessment of Skills
- Using the Assignment Book
- Getting Organized
- Note Taking
- Learning Styles

Study Strategies

• Note Taking Strategies

The book is designed to encourage and allay fears in students. It also serves to increase awareness as to how each student learns. The chapter on learning styles points out the various approaches — visual, auditory, tactile — in which a particular individual might naturally rely during the learning process. The book assures the student that the most comfortable approach is the right one.

The "test-taking chapter" addresses test-taking anxiety and steps to reduce this anxiety. "The section on writing organically" presents ideas, although everyone can use a study time management chart. The book of strategies to plan study time, materials and appointments and the adoption of a long-range planner to prepare and execute long-term reports, step-by-step. The use of symbols to expedite note-taking also is encouraged.

Ellenport also demonstrated for the board the use of the "sequence chain" — a series of connected boxes in which students write in the events leading up to the major events being studied.

"We want the children to become responsible, independent learners," Ellenport said.

In other business, the issue of invit-

ing high school students to Tuesday night's forum on May 30 at the school was discussed. The forum, which will include Mountaineer Police Chief/Interim Business Administrator James Dubbie, Union County Prosecutor Thomas Manahan, psychologist Steven Tobias, and borough council members, will focus not only building self-questions but emotional issues and questions about Internet safety, as well.

"I saw some interviews with kids from Columbine," board president Pat Zaichler said. "They kind of knew something was going to happen in light of that. I thought it would be good to have some students here. This is a dialogue, but they shouldn't be made to feel like they're obliged to speak. I just think it would be a good idea to extend the invitation, and if they come, they come."

Kids want to talk about how their lives are, board member Frank Oeger said. "They don't want to talk about security issues."

Chief School Administrator Gerard Schaller said, "Right now we want to get the public involved. Several issues will come out of the forum that we can later expand on."

Vice President Sally Rivoiccio said, "We should put together a forum specifically for the students."



Springfield gymnast Andie Sablosky, 9, perches on a balance beam with her sister, Jayme. Andie placed fourth in the state in the floor exercise when she qualified for the B State Championship this month at the Northeast Gym in Montville.

Residents speak out against possible transfer of principals

By Wallace Elliott
Staff Writer

A collection of two petitions over possible principal changes urged Springfield's Board of Education Tuesday night.

Elaborate of 36 signatures members spoke of what they saw as the loss of transfer of several administrators from the board. The board and Superintendent of Schools Cary Freedland told of what they saw as premature acquisition of an incomplete administration plan.

The board praised the work of Elizabeth Young and Dennis McCarty, principals of the Redemptorist and Convent schools, respectively. They have been members of the two school not being retained or being transferred.

"We're able to do through the best principal in the area, Superintendent PFA Freedland, Nancy Schiller and I've been able to do this," said Freedland. "We take this as a challenge to do better. We've worked with the board and we're in a excellent position to do this."

principal and a guidance counselor coming in. Gaudineer then should be done considering about keeping a person familiar to our students," Merle Rosenbaum said. "That person should be Dennis McCarthy. He goes beyond the call of duty by taking an interest in each child."

Board president Richard Palkin read one petition signed by residents. The first stated that the board if obligated to first and allocate faculty staff and administrators on an impartial basis and to reflect the community's diversity. The other stated that the superintendent, with the board's permission, may displace personnel as would best suit an effective educational program.

"The board is in the process of making a decision as to how to restructure a superintendent or a restructured plan from the superintendent," Palkin said. "We take this as a challenge to do better. We've worked with the board and we're in a excellent position to do this."

response to the petition. The first part was explaining that Young received a notice of possible reassignment as a result of procedure. He said that the state requires the posting of a notice for all non-tenured employees by May 15.

"You may recall that the hiring of teacher-superintendents is the only part of the plan underway," Freedland said. "I have some other recommendations on the board last year and the board rejected them. We have since been studying the figure, which includes an outside consultant's report."

The superintendent's report, said Freedland, has not been presented, jumping him from "drinking any recommendations."

"I'm surprised by the reaction of people on a range of a personnel or salary matter, which are discussed primarily," Freedland said. "The one we are interested in is not salary and the board will take the personnel and salary matter. I support this statement, based on the board of the superintendent has asked information which was so far from confidential."

Young gymnast leaps toward state medals

By Joe Lagura
Staff Writer

Watching Andie Sablosky of Springfield practice her vaults in the week ending on May 27.

Sablosky, a 9-year-old, gymnast, qualified for the B State Championship May 16 at the Montvale Gym of Montville.

Andie Sablosky is the best in the Northeast. Young for two hours, four times a week. Sablosky is quickly moving up the general's ladder.

The success has followed at Springfield's Elm School of Gymnastics in Montvale, having graduated last year on June 10. Sablosky, through local C. Gaudineer, qualified for the B State Championship in Montville. The championship was held in Montville, New Jersey, and Sablosky was the only girl to qualify for the state.

points to advance Level C requires 22 points, named twice. Level B demands 29 points earned twice.

Sablosky, already ahead of the game for her age by achieving Level B, has previously put up 30-point scores on the vault and the uneven bars. She is able to execute her vault, 30, that has made it all over again.

Thus far, her first career is represented by a vaulted table bar named "Pony," who has the honor and responsibility of carrying the weight of a ribbon — all 22 of them.

Following on Sablosky, trainer Gloria Friedman said, "They practice every day on an A.C. facility in Montville. You see Andie's name in right now. That wasn't enough to make it."

Joe CRESWELL, Page 7

Welcome to the ECHO LEADER

How to reach us:
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News releases of general interest must be submitted to the Editor at noon on Wednesday to be published in the following week. Features must be submitted at least two weeks in advance. News releases should be 250-300 words and ask for Editor.

Style reprints:
50 or more copies of reprints may be ordered from the newspaper. You must call Tom Casavan at 908-686-7700. All material is copyrighted.

Letters to the editor:
The Echo Leader provides an opportunity for opinions and welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be typed, double spaced, must be signed and should be accompanied by an address and daytime phone number for verification. Letters and photos must be received by 5 a.m. Monday. It is acknowledged for publication that they are subject to editing for length and content.

e-mail:
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar is prepared by The Echo Leader in conjunction with various community activities and government meetings. To give you community events the public by e-mail, visit our website at www.echoleader.com.

June 5
• The Mountainside School District will present a forum called "Parental and School Responsibility for Keeping our Children Safe" at Deerfield School at 7:30 a.m.

June 12
• The Springfield Plant opens at 11 a.m. Pool registration is still being accepted for early registration fees. Register Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Fridays 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Sarah Bailey Civic Center, 30 Church Mall. Early registration ends June 11.

June 19
• The Mountainside Rescue Squad will host a benefit called "Art to the Rescue" from 7 to 10 p.m. at 100 Mountain Ave., Mountainside.

• Congregation Israel of Springfield will host a special Haggidat Kabbalat Shabbat Service. Mincha will begin at the regular summer time of 7:15 p.m. The Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv will follow. After the service, all in attendance will join for a festive family Shabbat dinner. The cost is \$18 for adults and \$9 for children 15 and under.
For additional information, call (973) 467-9066.

June 26
• Join the Westfield/Mountainside chapter of the American Red Cross, 321 Elm St., Westfield, for babysitting training. The cost is \$9.95. Training is from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on June 5 and from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on June 12. Each child is required to bring a Cabbage Patch Kid or a teddy bear of equivalent size. Registration closes Tuesday. For more information, call 232-7090.

• The Westfield Board of Health will conduct a Health Day from 9:30 a.m. at the Westfield Municipal Building, 425 Elmwood St. in Westfield. The events open exclusively to residents of Westfield, Fairwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Roselle Park and Springfield.

June 27
• The Springfield Garden Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Presbyterian Parish House, 17 Church Hill in Springfield. The guest speaker will be Holly Hoffman, director of the Fairleigh Museum. She will discuss land scaping with wildlife. For additional information, call (973) 376-3436.

June 12
• The Rotary Club of Springfield presents Springfield Spring Night at 5:15 for adults and \$8 for students with a student identification. Dance lessons will take place from 6:45 to 8:45 p.m. and Big Band Music from 9 p.m. to midnight.
For additional information, call (973) 467-2291, ext. 420.

June 19
• Registration is available for Springfield Recreation's Summer Playground Program, June 28-Aug. 13, at the Chisholm Community Center. The program is available for boys and girls ages 5-12. Activities include games, arts and crafts, athletics, special events, field trips and the playground summer olympics. For additional information and for an application, call (973) 912-2227.

• The Springfield Junior Baseball League is accepting applications for those people wishing to join the Baseball League's Board of Directors. Letters of those interested may be mailed to Springfield Junior Baseball League Inc., PO Box 312, Springfield, NJ 07081.

• The Springfield Senior Citizen Nutrition Program is now located at the Sarah Bailey Recreation Center, A nutritional hot lunch is available for seniors for \$2. 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 Madden Center at (973) 912-2206.

• The Oncology Department at Overlook Hospital has established a free cancer support group for adults living with any type of cancer. The group meets the first and third Tuesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the hospital, 99 Beauvoir Ave., Summit. The group is led by Debra Haupt-Saltzman.
For more information, call 522-5352.

Springfield pool opens flood gates Saturday

The Springfield Pool opens Saturday at 11 a.m. Pool registration is still being accepted for early registration fees. Register Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Fridays 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Sarah Bailey Civic Center, 30 Church Mall. Early registration ends on June 11.

Smith and Jessica Johnson will be the children aged 5-10 and starts June 28 at the pool. Register before June 11 for the camp program.

Deerfield hosts safety forum

All parents and guardians are invited to Mountainside's Deerfield School at 7:30 p.m. today for an informal forum called "Parental and Safety Responsibility for Keeping our Children Safe." Sponsored by the Bureau of Education, the program will include guest speakers such as Mountainside Chief of Police/District Business Administrator James Debbie, Stephen Tobias, a school psychologist

from Rutgers University, and Union County Prosecutor Thomas Manahan.

Yardis hopes to be discussed include safety and security in the school system, parental responsibility, addressing the emotional challenges facing today's children and monitoring internet access.

NEWS CLIPS

Borough Library Friends seek donations for sale

The Friends of the Mountainside Public Library are asking for donations for their first ever book sale. They will be accepting donations from Saturdays through June 27. Delivery of items to the library at Garrison Plaza, off of Buck Hill Road.

They will accept small furniture, toys, sporting gear and any treasures that are in good condition and fit to sell. At this time, they are not accepting books or clothing. Non drivers can arrange to pick up by calling the library at (908) 233-0115.

All proceeds will benefit the Mountainside Public Library.

Civic groups offer abuse prevention courses

Five New Jersey nonprofit groups will be the beneficiaries of a free workshop on abuse prevention given by Robin Glasman, a Mountainside sociologist, educator and author whose research focuses on domestic abuse prevention. The two-day workshop is designed for parents and their daughters between the ages of 12-17.

The seminar is called "Daughter Power: Wife Abuse is Preventable." The goal of the session is to empower girls and their parents through insight, Glasman said. "Nearly every abusive husband was an abusive boy. The sooner adolescent girls learn to recognize abusive tendencies in their male peers, the less likely they will be to become involved with a man many women who will abide."

To qualify for the workshop, an organization must be nonprofit and have a presence in at least one of the following counties: Union, Somerset, Middlesex, Bergen, Passaic, Warren, Sussex or Hunterdon. To schedule the workshop, call Meryl Corsover at 301-1991 immediately, as it must take place between July 1 and Dec. 15. You can also request the "Daughter Power" workshop by faxing a note to (908) 301-9999.

Congregation Israel holds graduation service

Congregation Israel's Early Childhood Program will hold its graduation June 4 at 10 a.m.

The graduates, Tze. Masha, Apan, Ezy, Boxher, Noah, Eidelman, Yonah, Kadish, Joshua, Knud, Shira, Yonah, Nachler, Benjamin, Rosenbaum and Eleazar Sandman.

The program's theme will be centered around Shabbat. A song presentation will take place by all the classes. The four-year-olds will receive graduation certificates.
For additional information, call Congregation Israel at (973) 467-9066.

Township YMCA offers summer program

The Springfield YMCA announces Wrap-up Camp, a summer program for boys and girls entering grades 1 to 5. This YMCA camp runs in one-week sessions beginning on June 28 and runs through Aug. 20.

Registration is ongoing. Financial assistance is available. For fees and more information, call Virginia Baum, Springfield YMCA senior program director, at (973) 467-0638.

Workshops available for children, families

The Trailside Nature and Science Center on Mountainside offers spring classes for children ages two through four with an adult, children ages four and five, and first through fourth-grade students and families. For a complete spring brochure, call or visit Trailside Nature and Science Center, 432 New Providence Road, Mountainside, or call 789-3670.

Mountainside Recreation visits Shea Stadium

The Mountainside Recreation Department still has tickets available for the Mets vs. Boston Red Sox game scheduled for June 15. The game starts at 1:40 p.m.

The registration fee for the game is \$28 for each person and includes the ticket and bus transportation. The bus will leave Deerfield School at 11 a.m. and will return after the game.

Children must be accompanied by an adult. Registrations are being accepted at the Recreation Office at Borough Hall. For additional information, call 232-0015.

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Developmental Center finds success at Gaudineer

In September, the Florence M. Gaudineer School in Springfield opened its doors to the Morris-Union Jointure Commission.

The Developmental Learning Center in Springfield is the fourth facility Commission opened since September 1990. The other three facilities are located in New Providence, Mount Laurel, and Kentwood. All four programs provide specialized services to students classified as autistic or who exhibit autistic-like behaviors.

The DL Center in Springfield is located in the rear wing of the Gaudineer School. This area has been organized to include six classrooms, a staff lounge and a main office. The 1998-99 school year for the DL Center in Springfield opened with 17 students ranging in ages from five to 12. The first four classes to open were two primary classes, ages five to eight, and two intermediate classes, ages nine to 12.

As of April 12, an additional primary class opened, which makes the total student enrollment 19. The projected total student enrollment for the DL Center in Springfield is 26 students. Components of the program offered at the DL Center in Springfield include speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, adaptive physical education, music and art. In addition, students, eight years and older, participate in vocational education.

Jennifer Halloran, vocational education teacher, works with students individually, as well as in a group. She works on skills such as collating, finding paper in shops, stuffing envelopes and sorting by color, size, category and number. The students also work on mastering domestic skills such as washing and setting the table, sweeping, vacuuming, folding clothes and washing dishes.

Halloran expressed how the stu-



Teacher Assistant Patricia Victor works one-on-one with Javon Campbell, an intermediate student at the Developmental Learning Center in Springfield. The center, representing the fourth facility of the Morris-Union Jointure Commission, is located at Florence M. Gaudineer School.

dents enjoyed working on special projects. For the holiday season, students made an assortment of crafts for a boutique for parents and younger students to shop for the holidays. In preparation for the spring, the students planted daisies and herb gardens. Over a month ago, the students baked and packaged cookies for sale to the staff and parents.

The director, Steve O'Hanlon, has worked collaboratively with Dennis McCarthy, principal of Gaudineer School, to introduce the DL Center students and staff to the Springfield commu-

nity. A very important component of this partnership is the communication and working relationship that has developed over the past year between O'Hanlon and McCarthy. Logistics needed to be figured out for lunch, transportation for special sports activities and the DL Center students' arrival and departing times at DL Center buses and buses stops.

In addition, the past year has brought the Gaudineer School staff who introduced to O'Hanlon who provided a background on the DL program and students. The commu-

nication has been a vital step toward the integration of the DL Center program in the Gaudineer School.

McCarthy expressed his support of the DL Center students being at Gaudineer because it gives students the opportunity to have contact with students with disabilities during their regular school day. Parents, students and staff have been in favor of the DL Center program being located in the school.

O'Hanlon expressed how it is very motivational for the DL Center staff and students to be in a regular school setting.



World War II Navy Veteran Stanley Wnek, a supporter of the Springfield Memorial Day Parade, donated a commemorative book about the Veterans of Foreign Wars to the school library.

Township plans activities for Memorial observance

By Walter Elliott
Staff Writer

Memorial Day observances started early in Springfield Friday. Resident Stanley Wnek donated a copy of the Veterans of Foreign Wars centennial history book to the Gaudineer School, and talked about his World War II experiences before a two-library classes.

"I think it's important for our children to learn what veterans have done for our country," Wnek said. "One way to help with this and to donate copies of the just-published VFW book to the Gaudineer, Jonathan Dayton and Springfield Public Libraries."

Wnek, in his United States Navy Lt dress uniform, talked about how a young man from Irvington wound up fighting in the European and Pacific theaters of World War II. He recalled his first impressions of Memorial Day.

"I looked forward to the parade in town," Wnek said. "It was the Great Depression, where not many people could head out to the shore. The parade was an event." Wnek in the late 1940s was deciding whether to play professional baseball or enter college. While trying out in a Yankees minor league club, for the advice of his coach, he signed on to a university.

"The attack on Pearl Harbor changed that and I joined soon afterward," Wnek said. "The Navy allow-

ed me an education of different places and cultures. I learned geography and that the United States of America is the best country in the world."

"When asked about changes of the Memorial Day holiday since World War II, Wnek shook his head.

"There are fewer people attending," Wnek said. "Part of the problem is that our World War II veterans are dying every day. It's to where there are more people in the parade than watching."

Wnek and his fellow veterans are trying to counter the trend. An outreach to the schools by Wnek, Edith Smith of the American Legion and Guy Byswinski of Post 140 have talked before students before Memorial and Veterans days for the last two years.

Smith and Wnek are members of the Springfield Veterans Alliance, which conducts the annual ceremonies and parades. The day begins with a memorial at the Springfield Fire Headquarters at the corner of Elm, Wall, Pine and North Third Avenues at 8 a.m. It's followed by a salute at Veterans Memorial Park at the corner of Mountair Avenue and Shunpike Road at about 8:30 a.m.

"The parade itself starts at 10 a.m. at the Walton School and ends at the Memorial Building lawn. A short ceremony there concludes the observance."

Gymnastics requires support from Sablosky family

(Continued from Page 1)

Sablosky was the only gymnast in the competition to perform a backflip with a full twist twice in the same routine. On the uneven bars, she performed a back flip release from the high bar to the low bar, a signature move of famed gymnast Nadia Comaneci that Sablosky learned in about three weeks.

Sablosky is far enough advanced to compete with 11- and 12-year-olds. This is her second year of competition, as children are not allowed to compete until the age of eight.

She began her training at age five with Jim Sargent, coach of Olympic team member Dominick Minicucci. Sargent's son, D.J., along with Hen-

ry, now coaches Sablosky. "She was always just jumping up and down," Sablosky's mom, Alyssa Sablosky, said. "We used to say if she had a tail she'd swing from it."

"I started doing back handsprings when I was five," Sablosky said. "I'm bright, smiling, friendly girl. Sablosky prides herself on going along with physical skill. She enjoys what she does and it shows in her face and her movements when she goes about it."

"The kids all embrace each other

here, despite their age differences," Alyssa Sablosky said. "When else can a 12-year-old be involved with 12-year-olds and be accepted? In a way, this is an education for her."

A dreamy sight in the household, as Sablosky's mom describes it, is that of her 11-year-old daughter standing at the door with her bag saying, "I'm ready to go."

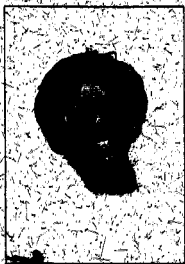
Sablosky practices at Sargent's gym, which seems to be a family affair. Her dad was there, along with her mom, her brother Jeffrey, age five, and her sister

Jayne, 13. No one seemed to mind one bit about being there, watching Sablosky work seriously at her craft.

"and she is serious. There's always a little sense of fear in gymnastics," her mom said. "Otherwise, you can get reckless. And she doesn't get reckless."

This newspaper is a reliable means of researching the community market. To boost your business in the community, call our ad department at 908-646-7700 today.

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Littleton, NJ
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COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

Wasted opportunity

When opportunity knocks, you need to open the door. Or at least look through the peephole. Neither Springfield nor Mountsides bothered to get off the couch.

This time, opportunity arrived in the form of a Union County grant program that offered a piece of \$5 million to help its towns improve their central business districts. The funding, provided by "Project Downtown Union County," was to be divided during the next month among the 14 municipalities that applied.

How much will Springfield or Mountsides receive? Zero.

Residents in these municipalities, especially in Springfield, complain that their downtown district is not comparable to the downtown of neighboring communities. Money from this Union County grant could have vastly improved the township's business area. At the very least, funding from the county could have served as a starting point to let the downtown improvement horses out of their gates.

The responsibility lies with the mayor, the Township Committee or Borough Council and the business administrator to complete these applications, to strive for the best for their community. Why did they shirk this responsibility?

Only Elizabeth and Linden were not eligible for the grant because they had received previous funds. Springfield and Mountsides seem like ideal candidates. Now they will not even be considered.

Now, shoppers, rather than stopping in Springfield, will continue traveling along Morris Avenue to Summit to visit a real downtown area. And Summit can only improve, as the city is looking to use whatever grant money it receives to continue its downtown improvement project. Now, potential Mountsides shoppers will continue toward Westfield and Cranford.

It is possible that there will be another round for applications due by Sept. 15. If opportunity knocks again, at least take a look outside the door.

Lest we forget

We will observe Memorial Day on Monday. This day seems to have lost some of its original meaning. Many shore business owners and other tourism-related merchants consider it the kick-off to the summer season. Students consider it a benchmark to count the last days until graduation or the end of the school year. Many workers view it as a three-day weekend.

The lack of significance given by the public to this holiday could be due, to several reasons. World War II and Korean War veterans are growing old and dying, and Vietnam veterans, who are well into middle age, do not become as active in veterans organizations as their predecessors.

When "Saving Private Ryan" was released in theaters last summer, a new generation was awed by the carnage and sacrifice of Allied soldiers during D-Day. Many people also view World War II as "the last good war" where America's goals and enemies seemed clear-cut. The subsequent conflicts in Korea, Vietnam and Iraq were more controversial among the American public, and the outcomes less successful.

The controversial nature of a war should not lessen our respect and appreciation for those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Many of those who died in these conflicts were barely in their 20s. Their lives were cut short before they had the chance to further their education, begin their careers, get married and have children. They put duty to their country ahead of their personal safety and dreams. This sort of patriotism and commitment must never be taken lightly.

With advances in military technology and live television coverage of wars, such as Desert Storm and in Kosovo, it seems that weapons overshadow the soldiers who use them. We watch in amazement as a smart-bomb travels down a chimney in Iraq. Our appreciation of the improvement in weapons should never mean more to us than the military personnel who risk their safety to protect American lives and interests.

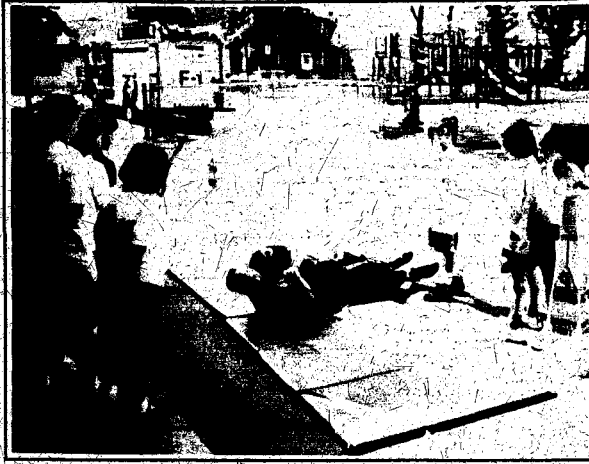
Veterans groups in different towns will be holding various Memorial Day activities. Some will hold parades with school groups and other community organizations taking part. Others will visit graveyards to place wreaths or hold simple services to pay respect to their fallen comrades. We urge all residents, even if they cannot attend these ceremonies, to set aside some time during the day to remember those who have died on the battlefield.

We also urge all residents to remember our veterans, those living and dead, year-round by flying the flag from the front of their homes.

As the saying goes, "Lest we forget."

"Freedom rings where opinions clash. Every man has a right to be heard."

Adlai E. Stevenson



STOP, DROP AND ROLL! — Springfield Fire Official David Mass instructs Caldwell School students the mechanics of "stop, drop and roll." The department brought the Union County fire safety trailer to the school May 12 to cover topics such as dialing 9-1-1, exiting the home during a fire and escape planning.

Trash on roadways spoils scenic splendor

It was not too many years ago that when the spring breezes blew, the family took to the automobile to take to the back country road to see spring and the forthcoming summer in all its glory.

While it is still possible to take what country roads are left, the pristine countryside is not so pristine any more.

Those country roads, and yes, also the city and suburban streets, are littered with debris.

Nowadays, if one can survive the fumes of the diesel trucks and the lack of views from the latest spin utility vehicles, it takes no great observance of nature to find that the roads are littered with debris.

Just recently, one of Summit's schools took on the task of cleaning up just one stretch of local road. They were surprised to learn that not only was the debris just plain "junk," but much of it was recyclable material which the county had the sense to turn over for reuse.

Others have not been aware of the debris problem. At least one real estate agency's large one, albeit has

As I See It

By Norman Rauscher

spent some years promising to clean up certain roadways in the state. And on a regular basis, you will see these roads evading the onslaught of traffic to try to bring cleanliness to the roadways they have promised to clean up.

But, all these positive efforts do not reach the core of the problem. The roadways are lined with beer and soda cans, from fast food wrappers to candy bars, and whatever coffee cups have not been thrown into the back seat.

Even worse than the debris consisting of empty cans and coffee cups are these people who find cigarette trays overflowing. What could be more embarrassing than walking through the supermarket parking lot completely with an overloaded grocery cart, and

find your way blocked by a pile of cigarette butts?

Of course, the big offenders do not use market lots where they may be observed; they take to the open road, pull over and then deliberately dump everything that can be called debris, including cigarette butts, onto what was the pristine countryside.

This discarding of debris on public streets and highways is symptomatic of a throw-away society. Everything we use nowadays appears to be disposable. Go into any shop for anything and the item will be wrapped — not in something which will last just until you get it home, if you're lucky.

But, while the wrapping goods may be shoddy, there's no excuse for using the public by-ways as the garbage dump or excuse for recycling center. Unfortunately, many of these items are non-recyclable. They will stay in the waste stream for many a month, no matter what happens to them.

In suburban communities, great projects taken on the proper plantings, the appropriate bushes, the correct trees, many of them flowering wonders. But all this is marred by the

debris which lines the base of these natural wonders.

Watch carefully and you will see parents casually dumping along the roads, with the children watching, and then will wonder why their children turn out to be slobes. We talk about role models, but evidently that phrase does not apply to behavior related to material goods.

Other countries where the people are not so well off do not discard along the roads. They use and reuse and treasure what they have. It's something seriously wrong with our society that we are bent on throwing things away, no matter where the location?

We wonder if the homes of these slobes are just as covered with debris as our roadways. Maybe, maybe not. But in any case, we don't have to look at their homes, but we sure do have to wade through their discards on the public roads and streets.

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

Creative arts are necessities, not luxuries

There's no such thing as an independent subject. Any subject of study in any school curriculum has a thread leading it to another. The arts are similarly tied, although many educators and parents often dismiss painting or dance or theater as isolated activities.

Or worse, "luxuries," something cringing but not fundamentally vital.

"Luxuries," by definition, are things we can get along without. Manicures are luxuries. The arts, whether popular or not, are clearly necessities. If they were not, they wouldn't be everywhere. The latest matter is it's Michelle Langley's "Last Judgment," a summer blockbuster movie, yet it's creative constraints and they entertain us, sometimes intelligently and with cultivated feeling, sometimes not. But they're always present.

You can find daily samples on your TV, your living room wall, coming out of your radio, quite possibly stuck to our refrigerator or tacked to the board above your desk. You can barely turn around without finding some example, some product of someone's creative effort.

For children, the arts do two things: with exceptional brilliance; they give them a chance to experience the world from various perspectives, and they alert them to new and different subjects. I don't need to argue very hard on the latter point. If you can recognize the difference between "Battle of the Bulge" and "Henry V," I'm talking about it exactly what I'm talking about.

By Joe Loggiero
Staff Writer

By extension, a variation of subject matter equals a variation of feeling. It's impossible for a World War II movie and a film based on a play by Shakespeare to offer the same kind of emotional experience. Film — or any art for that matter — offers an emotional turn. There's no arguing it. We go to movies, or the theater, or watch television or look at paintings to get emotional experiences out of them.

If you're going to make something, you're going to have to project a feeling, and to do that, you have to vary your perspective. You can't stand in one spot; you have to look at the subject from numerous angles; understand it completely. In life, we're not

always willing to do that. In art, it's necessary.

In these current difficulties, with school boards talking so frequently of getting kids to improve their communication and peer mediation skills, it would be wise for them to also examine the depth, or lack of depth, in their arts programs. Empathy and exposure to the great variety of the world's people and subject matter are more likely to come to kids through the production and viewing of creative work than through lectures.

The "communication" programs proposed by the school boards are critical and most definitely should be instituted. But the boards, as well as the parents, need to recognize that the creative arts show much more of the world than most, if we realize

the difference between "Battle of the Bulge" and "Henry V," I'm talking about it exactly what I'm talking about.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Absence shows lack of concern

To the Editor:
I recently had the opportunity to participate, along with my students, in the Youth Summit on Violence held at the College of New Jersey by the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

This is a program which began in the fall with the selection of specific school districts and specific students within those districts. The students who were interviewed and selected based on their ability to present their ideas and communicate with students from diverse backgrounds worked very hard and took this topic very seriously.

Although this process began before the Colorado Shootings, it took on additional meaning in light of that massacre. My students, who are mostly urban and do not need to publicly speaking or interacting with policy makers, were both intimidated and impressed. They did, however, make me proud and, more importantly, were proud of themselves.

We hope that after all of their hard work, the policy makers will take the time to make their suggestions a reality. The concerns that they expressed, along with those of educators, counselors, physicians and clergy from around the state, were valid and significant.

My greatest concern is that they were exposed to a panel that did not include our state governor, Christine Todd Whitman. A young man, Brian, from Princeton High School, asked, "Where is our governor, and what could she possibly have to do today that is more important than talking to students about their fears regarding youth violence?"

Well, as an adult in that auditorium when the crowd stood to cheer this young man's comment, I felt great sadness. His words were golden because they were so simply asked. What possibly could have been more important?

We — students, educators, counselors, physicians, clergy — left out very busy schedules to accommodate the need for discussion regarding these issues. Yet, Whitman did not attend. At very sad statement regarding her priorities, I feel.

Perhaps Whitman has some explanation as to her whereabouts. When the question was asked, the secretary of state said that he called her and she asked where he was. Is that supposed to make us feel better?

The fact that this summit was not a priority to her and in fact she did not know where her appointees were just shows us again how out of touch Whitman is and has always been with the needs of our state's children.

We all hoped that our work was not in vein; however, again, it seemed that this was a political opportunity that made high interest news and career advancement, yet had no real bearing on the educational, health or judicial policies that our governor intends to stand behind.

Lisa A. Ferrer
Springfield

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Rina Delgo Santos
"Ridiculous. Overrated."



Daniel Figueroa
"Too much hype, especially with the bad reviews."



Kathy Branchina
"It's insane. I wouldn't be a part of it. Although, I was on the phone for an hour trying to get tickets for my kids."



Jim O'Connor
"I've always been into Star Wars. I have a full-scale Darth Vader outfit. I put it on and visit kids in the hospitals — you should see their faces light up."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Freeholders' pats are short sighted

To the Editor:
I am all choked up over another stelly effort by the Union County Board of Freeholders, and certainly short the immense pride that they have in their ability to spend \$288 million of our money.

Let's face it, "replacing" the county tax in 11 towns was a feat, but it was raised in 1996. No matter, the Board was busy, not only in self-congratulation, but in a pat on the head of the Finance Committee for finding out "what could be done."

Did they consider all the take-home vehicles for which we pick up the insurance? I guess not. How about those pay raises? No. How about jobs for friends and relatives? Nah.

Well, that effort could not have taken very long. Now, according to the table on Page B1 in the May 20 edition of the Echo Leader, Mountaintops is said to be one of those fortunate towns which has a decrease, either a typo or optimism, but that tax rate — \$0.48 in both 1998 and 1999 — does not show a decrease. But, maybe there are just not enough decimal points.

In other articles on the same topic, the decrease could only be seen with an electronic microscope. However, maybe there is comfort in the fact that the overall Union County rate went from \$0.471 to \$0.463, a decrease of \$0.008 — I think that's about 1.7 percent. Yikes, again.

Frank Marchese
Mountaintops

Editor's note: While the county tax rate for Mountaintops did not change from 1998 to 1999, the amount of county taxes to be raised in Mountaintops in 1999 will be \$4,114,451 versus \$4,120,739 in 1998, a decrease of \$6,288 or 0.15 percent.

Governor Livingston announces honors

Administrators at Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights recently announced the honor roll students for the third marking period.

Grade 9

Anil Abraham, Ibrahim Ali, Greetamaji Banerjee, Brian Berz, Karen Bocian, Chung-Cheng Chang, Thomas Chen, Zoey Chebitz, Alexandra Chomiu, Amanda Clute, Stephanie Cook, Jason Corwin, Erin Coughlin, Mansa Dalia, Allison Decker, Christopher Deo, Jacob DiIorio, Lindsey Domenici, Scott Donohue, Kristina Dumez, Christine Eng, Tina Fernandez, Tara Finley, Cecilia Flier, Matthew Fox, Frank Geiger, Andrew Genco, Jason Gionta, Kara Gonin, Robby Hitchcock, Alex Hira, David Huber, Kristen Hyland, Dana Kaufman, David Kim, Richard Klumb, Andrea Knapp, Laura Kruglikov, Thomas Lallis, Ellen Valvanis, David Lior, Marc Massa, Lisa Mate, Dana McCardy, Brett McMullen, Dana Mirabella, Chris Morgan, Kelly Ng, Demek Onghis, Chris Pagan, Gregory Paster, Danielle Penabad, Gurpreet Phull, Robert Popovich, Michael Puzak, Kevin Prishard, Rajul Ram, Meridula Raman, Jonathan Regoye, Teisa

Rosenthal, Matthew Ryan, Bryant Schilling, Jaelyn Schilling, Susan Schrickenberg, Lindsey Sheppard, Vivy Sheng, Sarah Siskulic, Jessi G Swensen, Daria Skwallek, Amber Tadmori, Micah Thai, David Tuder, Vivek Venkatasubram, Deena Vicente, and Rebecca Watson.

Grade 10

Jonathan Andry, Rhonda Barkan, Kristen Berezani, Lauren Bessley, Jessica Boehmer, Jessica Bong, Paul Bowes, Jenna Burnett, Peter Caggiano, Jemal Galabrez, Frank Cavallaro, David Chen, Yvonne Chen, Hwan Jo, Cho, Jane Cong, Caitlin Connors, Christian Covino, Jara Cowic, Allison Di Vito, Patricia Drejlitz, Kay Engelmeier, Marc Fetezola, Shari Gaffan, Christopher Gibson, Eric Goldstein, Jessica Haas, Megan Lork, Kristen Joham, Xailous Lenzus, Courtney Levin, Emily Luke, Eacer Magaril, Kristen Magovern, Malcolm Mattes, Susan McDonald, John Montemurro, Alpinia O'Neil, Jessica Pluhel, Emily Poth, John Richmond, Vanessa Robert, Matt Rosenbergs, Brian Rupp, Kathryn Schmidt, Chris Sharkey, Dornika Silberbeck, Erica Shultz, Bonnie Skutnicka, Noelle Tate, George Teakik, Vijay Yama

and Rebecca Williams.

Grade 11

Miguel Aguilar, Sara Azevedo, Edward Barrett, Manprya Basiri, Mary Burbach, Ann Chang, Sharon Cheong, Elizabeth Chester, Howard Chou, Caroline Contardo, Lindsay Cjow, Jennifer Curcio, Sean Dayson, Lauren DeAugustine, Cynthia Derama, Lauree Elikin, Suzanne Ennis, Cara Fallace, Michael Penton, James Finley, Debra Fisher, Jillian Grigolone, Elizabeth Genco, Keith Goveas, Meghan Haldeman, Nanyu Huang, Chien-Hsiang Kristina Huff, Robyn Juba, Julia Kahlau, Angela Keswani, Daniel Kim, Michael Kobalaks, Eric Levy, Cindy Lin, Julia Lordi, Craig MacGregor, Timothy Marcantonio, Joseph Mayer, Heather McDonaldi, John McMillin, Steven Michejda, Indrani Mondal, Tara Mondelli, J Pallev, Nalysih, Danielle Neufeld, Andrea Oliver, Sharel Ong-chin, Whitney Pafford, Mark Papier, Veronica Paszterczyk, Dahlie Perez, Emilio Perez, Gina Piccirilli, Allison Pleja, Gina Pulano, Andrew Poon, Brian Pritchard, Karen Rizzuto, Jesse Lee Schroeder, Wai Ming Shiu, Anna Souksey, Nita Spunkel, Dana Stratus, Myrha, Timmermann, Mackelle Tubbs, Christopher Vastli,

Drew Walter, Michael Watson and Jonathan Wu.

Grade 12

Ori Abramovici, Michael Alexander, Monika Anderson, Tania Bales, Tracy Becker, Michelle Bryant, Manca Cacace, Jean Carrelli, Edward Cong, Christine Conlon, Kristin Lee Ciszar, Christopher Dalton, Dana Di Pietro, Sarah Drake, Ruth Esthak, Tom Fang, Ronnie Filippatos, Keith Freudenberger, Neda Ghaffari, David Gonn, David Hassid, Amanda Heady, Bing Kahlau, Hsuaner Kantorek, Andrew Kasey, Ann Marie Kasey, Sharon Kim, Allison Kober, Lauren Kober, Jennifer Kruglikov, Anna Kucher, Samantha Levens, Michael Lin, Stuart McVey, James Merlo, Luke Miller, Michael Minicozzi, Lauren Morimoto, Mable, Mui, Lauren Pagano, Peter Pagano, Ewel Pawlawa, Michael Perone, Robert Phillips, Rebecca Pickell, David Piorak, Jennifer Puskowski, Alexis Rehner, Denise Rosenblatt, Stephanie Sam, Stacy, Saplin, Christopher Schnakenberg, Michael Schuler, Rupa Sekhar, Matthew Sun, Brett Vandewater, Spangy Verma, Benji Viscibelli, Paul, Joshua, Ravia, Senen Ring, Scott Simbur, Jennifer Saracino, Lindsay Savin, Maria Sorvino, Alexandra Terkly, Brian Waldmeyer, Jared Weiss and Steven Weiss.

Jonathan Dayton recognizes honor roll

The following Jonathan Dayton High School students have been named to the honor roll for the third marking period.

Grade 9

Joshua Akin, Eagan Auerberg, Geoceran, Alvaro, Lauren Bellver, Lindsey Butler, Shany David, Anna Ehrlichman, Tabatha Fishin, Chase Freundlich, Jessica Gahin, Alexander K. Garcia, Jessica Goldblat, Garry Goldman, Evangelina Guisla, Varut Ham-Cohen, Martha Handeli, Scott Hollander, Michelle Krazier, Nicole L. Krivak, Yvonne Lai, Jennifer Lewis, Jonathan Lewis, Melissa Loshaw, Juliet Mara, Benjamin Maslow, Wojciech Myjliwicz, Samantha Pellet, Ross Rahmani, Camilo Rodriguez, Min, Roschi, Melissa Schwartz, Alessa Sebold, Zaid Shehady, Laurie Sherman, Ben Sheppard, Ryan A. Sromeyer, Melvin Anis, Tasha Trautman, Alpinia O'Neil, Madelinehalek, Jared Weisman and Chloé Weisz.

Grade 10

Victoria Bingle, Lawrence Blanton, James Castello, Jennifer Cheung, Cheryl Dellacomo, Anna Ehrlichman, Lillian Fishman, Jennifer Figner, Christian Florio, Chad Franzelich, Erynnia Patis, Maria Gonzalez, Ali Guckman, Russell Hayward, Alycia Johnson, Scott Karp, Benji Karpman, Victoria Krasnowski, Alan Kuznetsov, Jonathan Lippman, Rachel Matuszewska, Folan Mui, Dan Minkovskiy,

Jhessa Nico, Olga Oksov, Aljandra Pulis, Dana Rutkowski.

Grade 11

Karin Albano, Alvaro Alexander, Keith Allen, Karen Bibbo, Jonathan Block, Victoria Bronnstein, Darr Chelley, Alan Cohen, Tiffany Dopy, Raymi Dubel, Jessica Falko, Gina Ferguson, Zachary Goldberg, Dina Gordon, James Hausman, Valeria Juske, Daniel Kazemi, Michelle Khordoz, Crystal Lai, Jessica Lau, Charles

Licaste, Steven Lin, Lukas Maciak, Jeffrey Marx, Laura Moisey, Rachel Steiner, Lauren Palasi, Lindsey Parmant, Jason Pan, Kimberly Poczuta, Karyn Schachman, Marci Schulte, Jamie Stranick, Jesse Stronover, Todd Walters and Brian Young.

Grade 12

Laitia Abramovich, Sabito Bana-Giua, Valeriya Bryuzova, Robyn Blustone, Sheryl Brogstein, Lisa Chertak, Danielle Cooperman, Nancy

Dicom, Maria Ferguson, Staci Friedman, Deborah List Gill, Courtney Hydeck, Tom Kasagonis, Vyacheslav Khromobetsky, Sara Klein, Bobbi Latta, Jessica Meville, Natta Parfittio, Telesia Page, Marisa Palgu, Visvoddiali Paul, Joshua, Ravia, Senen Ring, Scott Simbur, Jennifer Saracino, Lindsay Savin, Maria Sorvino, Alexandra Terkly, Brian Waldmeyer, Jared Weiss and Steven Weiss.



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HAVING HER SAY
Springfield resident Angie Schira is addressing the Township Committee at a special meeting held at 2 p.m. Tuesday. The meeting gave residents of all generations a chance to witness the process of local government.

OBITUARIES

Joyce Kerr

Joyce Kerr, 63, of Chatham Borough, a retired Springfield high school teacher, died May 18 at home.

W. D. Mischler Jr.

Warren Doy Mischler Jr., 58, of Springfield died April 14 in North Broward Hospital, Pompano Beach, Fla.

Thomas Kelly

Thomas Kelly, 70, of Summit died Sunday at home.

Surviving are his wife, Marguerite; two sons, Thomas C. Jr. and James; two daughters, Tracy Piscocini and Christy Adams; a sister, Catherine; and two grandchildren.

Pearl Schlangor

Pearl Schlangor of Springfield died Sunday in Overlook Hospital, Summit.

Elaine Skolnick

Elaine Skolnick, 73, of Springfield died May 20 in the Fisher Hudson House of the Center for Hope Hospice, Elizabeth.

Peter von Nessi

Peter von Nessi, 81, of Mountain side died Saturday in the Manor Care Nursing Center, Mountainside.

Miriam E. Rudy

Miriam E. Rudy, 81, of Springfield died Sunday in the Glenview Nursing Home, New Providence.

STUDENT UPDATE

Six Summit and several Springfield residents will be among 924 graduates at Union County College's 65th annual Commencement ceremonies today in Parking Lot 2, Cranford Campus.

A highlight of the commencement ceremony will be the presentation of the coveted Alumni Prize for the graduate who has maintained the highest grade-point average and earned the most credits at UCC and the Post-Day Award.

Oratory receives honors

For many years, Latin has been a favorite subject for students at Oratory Prep School in Summit. Beginning in seventh grade, students have this language as part of their daily curriculum.

Obituary policy

Obituary notices submitted by local funeral homes or families must be in writing. This newspaper cannot accept obituaries by telephone.

Professional Directory

Accountants: ROBERTA & COMPANY BOOKKEEPING • ACCOUNTING • TAXES BUSINESS • PERSONAL

Chiropractors: HECHT FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC CARE 493 Morris Avenue, Springfield (973) 564-8885

Attorney: ROSALYN CARY CHARLES A Professional Corporation 91 Main Street, West Orange, New Jersey 07052

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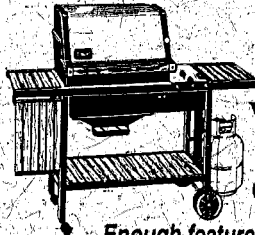
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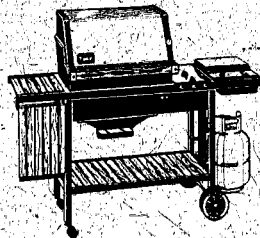


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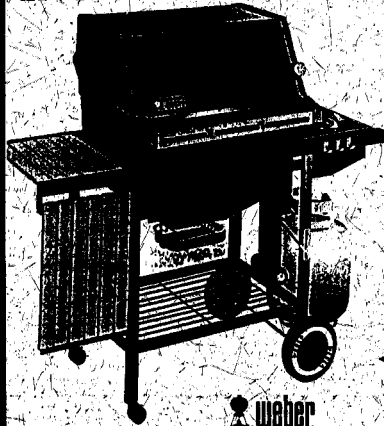
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Gas Barbecue

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- Exclusive Weber Flavorizer® System
- Virtually eliminates flare-ups
- 635 sq. in. of total cooking area
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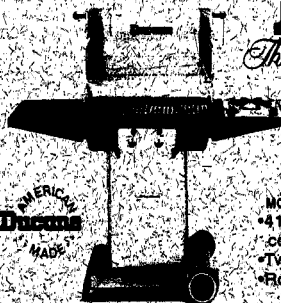
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Hearings continue on site plan application

By Walter Elliott
Staff Writer

The latest public hearing of the Edwards Super Food/Store site plan application before the Springfield Board of Adjustment was a study in presence and absence May 18.

Present for applicant Royal Ahold was only attorney James Segreto. Segreto read a letter regarding the three developments affecting the application and a variance request since the April 20 meeting. Also present were attorneys James J. Della for Millburn Township, Colonial Association leader Angie Prapan and 10 spectators.

"I request for an adjournment until June 15 and present before you a three-page letter of what Ahold intends," Segreto said. "In regards to the Township Committee resolution of our property, we're filing a lawsuit in Superior Court to Elizabeth. We will also await the decision from the state Supreme Court and will look at

appropriate measures should the ordinance be upheld."

Segreto refers to the Township Committee's rezoning the Saks Fifth Avenue/Edwards property for affordable housing and general commercial uses on April 27. The rezoned 422,691-square-foot lot on 90 Millburn Ave. will allow for retail stores of no more than 2,000 square feet. Segreto considers the rezoning as "injurious condemnation," like a comparable ordinance from Millburn which Ahold is filing a second suit.

Edwards County Assessor Judge Silvio Weiss permitted Ahold to proceed with the suit last month. Ahold also is anticipating word from the State Superior Court over grandfathering use variances in split-zoned lots.

Zoning Board Chairman Stuart Applebaum permitted the adjournment to June 15, denying Della's request for restarting the hearing process from scratch. Pranzetti told the board that traffic volume is the key issue yet broached.

"Another interested but absent party was Springfield's B'nai B'rith official Joe Tenenbaum. He and the local have been searching for a senior citizens housing site since 1995.

"If the Edwards site goes our way, the site will be good to put up senior citizens housing," Tenenbaum said. The buses come right by it and the stores are nearby.

Tenenbaum said members of the B'nai B'rith International Headquarters and Township Committee member Roy Hirschfeld toured the site last month. The international group, from Washington, D.C., supplies experts and startup money.

The International Headquarters have built similar housing developments in Pennsylvania, Tenenbaum said. "It can be done with federal Department of Housing and Urban Development grant money," depend-

ing on how much money is needed to buy the land. The International reps like the site and we can go either way."

Tenenbaum said he wasn't sure who had the idea to rezone the Saks site for affordable housing/general commercial use. The Township Committee approved the rezoning on its master plan days before the B'nai B'rith International tour.

The Springfield local announced a plan to locate a site with the goal of retrofitting the housing center as a non-profit institution. A waiting list was compiled before Tenenbaum and the subcontractors started for sites.

"Finding a site, however, has proven difficult. Some sites, like Columbia Court and the Old Money Store headquarters on Morris Avenue, are undergoing construction or remodeling. Other spots, like the Springfield Trucking Center or the Old Swim Club, may face potentially haphazard cleanup or transportation problems

restricted until 8 p.m. All parking areas will be closed overnight. Motorists traveling through Echo Lake Park in Mountaineer and Westfield will be subject to closure during the week of June 7 due to repaving. Vehicular access to the park will be

For more information, contact the Union County Division of Parks and Recreation at (908) 527-4900.

Alternate routes advised

The Union County Board of Chief Engineers advised that the public area will be closed overnight. Motorists traveling through Echo Lake Park in Mountaineer and Westfield will be subject to closure during the week of June 7 due to repaving. Vehicular access to the park will be

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Mountaineer addresses needs of seniors

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer

Mountaineer wants its senior citizens to know that the borough has their best interests at heart. To accomplish this goal, and to determine senior residents' priorities, administrators are providing a senior citizens survey.

Senior Citizen Coordinator Lisa Cassidy, who has recently worked with seniors in Westfield, said, "We're using some of the Westfield data to help determine in advance what needs our own seniors will have once they begin responding to our survey. It's just a way for us to see what we might need to implement."

The survey is distributed at senior meetings and days is available in Mountaineer's three churches, the public library and at Borough Hall.

"The purpose is to see what our real needs are and to come up with solutions and refinements," Cassidy said.

Cassidy anticipates transportation as being an important topic for seniors. Another area which she believes is important is the need for an all-purpose handymen.

"The Handyman Program is already in existence," Cassidy said. "It's important to have someone around to do the small repairs, the little things — changing fuses, setting out and putting back summer furniture, making minor repairs and improvements and doing preventive maintenance."

To be eligible for these services, a person must be a resident of Mountaineer, age 60 or older, with income limits of \$31,450 for one person or \$38,250 for two people, including Social Security. Seniors pay only the cost of materials.

There are 30 programs out there for seniors, said Cassidy. "We need to make them aware that these things are available."

Although the senior survey was not done at a meeting, Cassidy said she will mail a copy to anyone who calls her at her office in Borough Hall, Mountaineer's Department of Recreation & Senior Activities. Contains information regarding the survey.

Programs currently available to seniors include:

• Senior health — wellness programs for people 50 and over. This includes health talks, screenings, support groups, walking programs, social events and trips. For information, call (908) 964-0444.

• Dental hygiene — In University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey has opened a clinic on the Scotch Plains campus of Union County College at 4770 Karian Road. Cleanings, X-rays and screenings for cavities and gum disease are all available. The clinic is open Tuesdays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. The fee for services is \$15. For information, call (908) 889-2411.

• Hearing and assistance — A \$100 reimbursement toward the purchase of a hearing aid is offered through this program. Interested persons must meet eligibility requirements and will need a physician's prescription and a receipt for the recent purchase of a hearing aid. For information, call (800) 792-9745 or (908) 232-4406.

• The New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired provides education, rehabilitative, social and medical services and conducts eye screenings. For information, call (973) 648-3333.

• Tax counseling for the elderly — This is a free program sponsored by the IRS and AARP, providing assistance with both federal and state taxes. The service is available from February through April, one day a week at the Mountain-side Public Library. For information, call (908) 232-2406.

Various other services, including home health care, nutrition programs such as Meals-on-Wheels and Mobile Meals, legal assistance and transportation are also available.

The survey is detailed and designed to help the borough sharpen its focus in regard to the needs of its senior citizens.

To obtain a survey, or to apply for the Handyman Program, call Cassidy at (908) 232-2406. Surveys should be submitted by June 15.

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