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WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2000 - SECTION B

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Crossing over the line

Three months ago Karen McCoy crossed over the aisle from councilperson to serve as the appointed mayor of Hillside. Inheriting a budget shortfall of \$3.5 million, being handed a budget proposal on the day her predecessor, Barbara Rowen, resigned and the general bitterness of recent Hillside politics, makes the challenge she faces pretty daunting.

For McCoy, a lifelong resident of Hillside all her 30 years, the spoken credo of "seeking positive change" will face a real test. But meeting the challenge is where McCoy has set her focus.

Left Out

By Frank Capece

She reels off her priority needs for the community of just under 22,000. From a joint \$600,000 flood control project with the Army Corps of Engineers to deal with the problem on Harvard and Yale avenues, the need to establish a community day care center and to use selflessness to bring major new corporate business to the township, she knows the problems. The role of chief salesman for the community hasn't blurred the realism of McCoy. She doesn't shy away for the questions regarding the racially diverse population of Hillside. I call it the suburban town with real urban problems.

McCoy says, "I remember as a youngster in Hillside there was an invisible line. I'm not naive enough to forget that there is still an underlying problem in society. But when I look at the diversity of the current governing body, I see a township that is working."

McCoy speaks often about unity. She praises the municipal employees union for "bearing the pain" in dealing with the shortfall left by her predecessor. She praises the chief of police John Bryson for the decline in crime in Hillside.

The hiring of six new firefighters and the lower scales of starting municipal salaries, are all efforts by McCoy and the council to meet the budget problem and still provide services.

A former ally of Rowen, McCoy broke with her over what she called "the personal agenda of her predecessor as opposed to the people's business." But the attacks on Rowen by McCoy are limited. Only with prodding does she criticize Rowen for "isolating the town both economically and socially."

Council member Peter A. Corvelli brings a different perspective and praises McCoy. Corvelli first started his elected run in Hillside in 1977. He describes McCoy using terms like "respect and trust." An open critic of Rowen, he says, "We no longer have editors. Karen encourages all voices in the problem solving process that is municipal government."

The problem side of the equation is probably the one area everybody agrees about in Hillside. McCoy has made the energizing of the Urban Enterprise Zone and the needs of the state assistance priorities. She has established an "ongoing dialogue" with her neighbors the cities, Elizabeth, Irvington and Newark.

Hillside has been especially hard hit by aging industrial concerns which have aggressively sought tax appeals because of the decline of the manufacturing base in New Jersey.

The 2.7-square-mile community experienced the trend in the late '80s and early '90s of manufacturing plants moving and leaving behind often abandoned properties known as brownfields.

Despite bordering on some sides by large urban communities, the individual homeowner rate in the town is still over 75 percent. An See CROSSING, Page B4

New corrections hires aim to combat overtime pay

By Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor

With overtime pay in the Division of Correctional Services surpassing \$6 million in 1999 and the county's overall overtime cranking the \$10-million level, officials are banking on the hiring of 40 new corrections officers to rein in those figures.

The Board of Freeholders last month authorized the hiring of 40 corrections officers, who are in the process of being hired. Some already have begun the 13-week training program at Somerset County Police Academy before their three-week orientation at the Union County County Jail in Elizabeth. They are expected to start on the job by late April.

The additional officers should net the county an annual savings of \$1.2 million, according to Director of Administrative Services Joseph Saleme. Saleme, along with Jail

Director James Coleman, conducted a staffing analysis last fall which produced the figure of 40 officers.

Over the past five years, Saleme said the jail has consistently been nine officers short. Of the additional 31 officers would bring the change to an optimum total of 330.

As it stands now, the jail director, Saleme said, must fill 21 posts every day using overtime, before any vacation or sick time is accounted for. The county jail, which opened in 1990, has a capacity of 1,495 inmates. As of Monday, there were 1,361 inmates.

Paying the salaries and benefits for 40 new officers, Saleme said, will be less expensive than expanding the overtime pay. The average corrections officer earns \$32 to \$34 per hour for overtime, time-and-a-half, versus a new hire who would earn \$13 or \$14 an hour.

The county is currently in negotia-

tions with the union representing corrections officers, PBA Local 199. The average salary for a corrections officer is approximately \$45,000 while the starting salary is \$25,000. The maximum salary on the scale is \$51,545, however there are officers who doubled that salary last year thanks to overtime.

The turnover in corrections officers is high. Five officers who worked at the jail less than a year recently left after being hired by the Elizabeth Police Department.

Training the officers can cost between \$8,000 and \$9,000, according to Coleman. The topics in training corrections officers may be the same as police officers but the applications are different, he said. "Police officers don't work in jails and corrections officers don't work in cars."

County Manager Michael Lapolla said overtime pay will be high any time there are facilities that must be

maintained 24 hours a day, seven days a week such as the jail.

"These aren't jobs people get in line to pick. There are no holidays, no anything."

Other county facilities that require 24-hour staffing are Runnells Specialized Hospital in Berkeley Heights and the George W. Herlich Juvenile Detention Center on the seventh floor of the Courthouse Annex.

Overtime at Runnells Hospital typically reaches \$1.5 million annually, based on the past several county budgets. The detention center is operated by the Department of Human Services and houses juveniles who have been arrested on serious delinquency charges. The Division of Youth Services spent about \$390,000 in 1999 in overtime pay and has budgeted \$620,000 in 2000.

	Overtime Corrections	Salaries Corrections	Overtime County
2000	\$5.75	\$17.3	\$10.2
1999	\$6.4	\$18.2	\$10.4
1998	\$5.0	\$17.3	\$8.8
1997	\$4.2	\$17.0	\$7.5
1996	\$4.2	\$15.2	\$7.4
1995	\$4.2	\$13.8	\$7.4
1994	\$4.0	\$11.4	\$7.0
1993	\$4.4	\$10.6	\$7.3

Source: Union County budget documents
* Proposed. All figures are in millions.

Park supervisors have new deal through 2000

Rank-and-file go to fact-finder

By Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor

While the rank and file employees in the Division of Parks and Recreation continue working without new contracts, the Board of Freeholders last month approved a settlement with their supervisors, the Union County Park Foreman's Association.

The Union County Park Foreman's Association represents 20 supervisors within the Division of Parks and Recreation. The union had been working without a contract since the last one expired at the end of 1997.

The new contract calls for approximate wage increases of 2.9 percent per year in each year of the contract, effective Jan. 1, 1998 through the end of this year. Although the union had been without a contract for several years, the contract was settled within the negotiations stage, not having to go to mediation or fact-finding, according to Union County Director of Administrative Services Joseph Saleme.

Members of the foremen's union will receive wage increases of \$850 in each of the first two years of the contract and \$950 in the third year. Supervisors will receive a \$300 bonus in the first year, not on the base salary, according to Saleme. They also are eligible to get a \$500 bonus in years two and three if they receive an outstanding performance evaluation determined by their supervisors.

United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers Local 494 represents 110 employees in the Division of Parks and Recreation including

welders, painters, tree climbers, maintenance workers, laborers, greenskeepers, stable workers, carpenters, masons, plumbers, electricians and mechanics. Their last contract expired at the end of 1997 and their negotiations will head to a fact-finder assigned by the Public Employees Relations Commission in Trenton.

A fact-finder offers a nonbinding recommendation on how to settle the contract dispute. The county can either accept the recommendation or ultimately implement what it wants. Although the two sides may meet with the fact-finder as early as this month, it could be anywhere from four to six months before the process is completed.

The union and county jointly filed an impasse in April after 12 months of negotiations. Six sessions were held with a mediator. The last contract took one and a-half years to settle, according to UE 494 president Joseph Porosky.

The union rejected the county's offers in December and June. The last offer included \$750 raises in the first two years of the contract and \$850 in the third year, in addition to another step for employees at the maximum on the salary guide. More than 70 percent of the union is at the maximum.

Union members believe the fairest method for all employees is percentage raises versus flat wage increases. Members are clamoring for increases closer to what other unions, as well as freeholders and department heads, received: between 3 and 4 percent. See COUNTY, Page B4



At Miss New Jersey 1999 are, from left, Miss Watchung Valley Pageant Director James Dougherty, Miss Watchung Valley Victoria Andrews Paige who became Miss New Jersey and a top 10 winner at Miss America, and Miss Union County Area Director Susan Dougherty. The search is on for Miss New Jersey 2000.

Search is on for Miss Union County

Do you know Miss America 2000? She might be your daughter, cousin, niece or best friend.

According to Susan Dougherty, director of Miss Union County Area, the local chapter of Miss America, "The search is on! She's probably living next door to you, so look around and help us find the next Miss America right here in Union County."

And that might not be so far fetched.

James Dougherty, director of the Watchung Valley Scholarship Pageant, said, "The current Miss Watchung Valley, Victoria Andrews Paige, a junior at Princeton University, was crowned in Hough Auditorium at Arthur L. Johnson High School last February. From there she competed in the Miss New Jersey Pageant. After winning that crown, she took Atlantic City by storm and was honored by being named in the top 10 of the contestants for Miss America."

The Miss Union County Area and Miss Watchung Valley Scholarship Pageants are run simultaneously with the two top scores taking home titles and the right to continue to the Miss New Jersey Pageant in the late spring.

Girls who are between the ages of 17 and 24 who possess poise, physical fitness, speaking ability, have good interpersonal relationship skills and talent may apply.

Unlike some traditional beauty pageants, there is no entry fee or sponsorship fee. The Miss America Pageant, a volunteer organization, is the world's largest scholarship program for women giving over \$30 million annually in cash and in-kind scholarships. Usually the winners are college girls seeking help in their college bills, but high school seniors may apply.

For more information, call (732) 382-5367 to leave a name, address and phone number. An application form will be sent.

United Way celebrates Black history

United Way of Union County has joined the celebration of Black History Month by distributing 5,000 keepsake bookmarks to public and high school libraries throughout Union County.

Printed on a heavy card stock, the commemorative bookmarks feature his sketches and famous quotations from Frederick Douglass, Paul Robeson, Sojourner Truth and Harriet Tubman. The bookmarks are intended to educate library patrons about African-American history and inspire the public to share in the month-long celebration.

"The United Way bookmarks will help communicate some of the outstanding contributions of African-Americans and promote a greater understanding of African-American history throughout our community," said Larry Lockhart, vice president of the campaign at United Way of Union County.

In addition to distributing the bookmarks, United Way of Union County's health and human services agencies are sponsoring several exhibitions to commemorate the contributions of African-Americans throughout the month of February.



Elise Glennon, director of resource development and marketing, left, and Larry Lockhart, vice president of campaign, display United Way of Union County's Black History bookmarks. United Way of Union County distributed 5,000 of the keepsake bookmarks to public and high school libraries throughout Union County.

Freeholders to conduct hearings on county's 2000 budget

The Fiscal Affairs Committee of the Board of Freeholders has scheduled the following hearings on the 2000 county budget:

• Tuesday at 6 p.m., Department of Human Services, County Surrogate, Department of Administrative Services and Department of Public Safety.

• Feb. 26 at 10 a.m., Division of Building Services, Prosecutor's Office, County Counsel and Division of Parks and Recreation.

All hearings will take place in the freeholder meeting room on the sixth floor of the Administration Building, Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth.

Blood drives are scheduled

The Blood Center of New Jersey is asking people to make a special effort to donate over the upcoming holiday season. The following blood drives are scheduled in Union County:

- Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Linden Fire House No. 4, 2400 S. Wood Ave., Linden.
 - Feb. 18, 3 to 7 p.m., Union Hospital, 1000 Gallop Hill Road, Union.
 - Feb. 19, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., VFW Post 335, 479 South Ave., Cranford.
 - Feb. 27, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Temple Beth Israel, 1920 Cliffwood Ave., Scotch Plains.
 - Feb. 28, 5 to 9 p.m., Moose Lodge 913, 43/115 Luigen Road, Linden.
- For more information or to sign up to donate, call (800) BLOOD-NJ.
- The American Red Cross Greater Union County and Plainfield Area sponsors the following blood drives:
- Today, 1 to 6:30 p.m., The Arc/Chaparral House, 203 W. Jersey St., Elizabeth.
 - Feb. 24, 3 to 8:30 p.m., Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad, 875 Raritan Road, Clark.
- For information call (908) 353-2511 or (908) 756-7190.
- For more information or to sign up for a blood drive, call the blood center at (800) 652-5663, ext. 140.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CDC's 'Mame' is a family affair

When the Cranford Dramatic Club raises the curtain on "Mame" this weekend, it will truly be a family affair. Jonathan Schwartz will portray the role of young Patrick Dennis, continuing a tradition that covers three generations in his family. He, and his parents, Michelle Massa and Neville Schwartz, and his grandmother, Fran Massa, have all appeared on the stage of the CDC theater.

Fran Massa's career began with a featured role in "Kiss Me Kate" in 1965. She had been a club and band singer, and after her debut, she went on to appear as Lucy in "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," as Adelaide in "Guys and Dolls" and in "Jacques Brel ...". She also appeared in non-singing roles in such shows as "I Remember Mama," "How the Other Half Loves" and "Waltz of the Toreadors." In addition, Massa appeared in several children's theater productions at CDC with her other children. In "Peter Pan," she played opposite her son, John, now an architect living in New York; in "Cinderella," she was opposite her daughter, Michelle, and in "Beauty and the Beast," she appeared with her daughter, Chrissy, now a teacher in Michigan. Michelle Massa also choreographed "Beauty and the Beast."

Michelle Massa made her debut while a teenager in

1973 in the CDC production of "Godspell." Most of her work has been as a choreographer on such shows as "My Fair Lady," "Mary Poppins," "Follies," "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" and several children's productions. She also choreographed her mother and her husband in "The Music Man." She currently is a professional choreographer and assistant production manager at Plays-on-the-Park in Edison. When she was a little girl, Massa handed out playbills and programs at CDC. She also worked on lighting and, with her mother, sold candy and soda in the lobby during intermissions.

Jonathan, a sixth grader, has already appeared on the CDC stage as Artie in "Lost in Yonkers," in which he was directed by his father. He also appeared as the mayor in "The Wizard of Oz," and was cast in many school plays.

His grandmother used to be in the Outreach Program at CDC. "We went around to places like children's hospitals and entertained," she said.

Tickets for "Mame" are \$15 and can be reserved by calling (908) 276-7611. The Cranford Dramatic Club is located at 78 Winans Ave. in Cranford. "Mame" will be presented Friday, Saturday, Feb. 18, 19, 25 and 26 at 8 p.m.



Actors rehearse Steve Martin's 'Picasso' at the Lapin Agile, which opened Saturday night and will run through Feb. 27 at the Forum Theater, Metuchen. Preparing for the performance are, from left, Jackie Neill, Paul Whelihan, Daniel Kaufman as Picasso, George Cavey and John Martello.

Forum presents meeting of minds

Theater View

By Bea Smith
Staff Writer

The Forum Theater in Metuchen — right around the corner from Clark, Rahway and Linden — is its artistic director, Peter J. Loewy, and its unique cast of characters are to be congratulated for undertaking such an ambitious, challenging and thought-provoking comedy as Steve Martin's "Picasso" at the Lapin Agile.

A most unusual production about two great minds of the 20th century, Pablo Picasso and Albert Einstein, exchanging ideas in a Paris bar, the Lapin Agile, in 1904, while other characters stand around drinking and offering advice, was thoroughly enjoyed on opening night last Saturday. According to the versatile, ever-talented playwright, actor-comedian Martin, the play, which received the Outer Critics Circle Award for Best New Off-Broadway Play and Best Playwright, the story is set a year before Einstein published the "Special Theory of Relativity" and three years before Picasso painted "Les Femmes d'Alger."

What gives this comedy, all in one act, such powerful communication with its audience, is the distinctive cast of nine characters. Every actor has become one with the character he or she portrays that it's a delight to watch the comedic proceedings rampan on the Forum stage. Daniel Kaufman is excellent as Picasso, at the age

of 23, a virile, rather wild artist, whose appreciation of the female gender goes far beyond his paintings. He can break a woman's heart with the twist of a brush and a fast embrace.

Then there's the quiet, ever-calculating 25-year-old Einstein, marvelously portrayed by Terence Burnette. In its wildest imaginations, the audience can truly picture Einstein looking and thinking like this back in 1904, just like Martin has created him.

The others, all strong individual characters, include Paul Whelihan as Freddy, the owner and bartender of the Lapin Agile; George Cavey, wonderful as the handsome Gaston, an older man, who after every intelligent or funny statement, and a drink, must run to the men's room; Jackie Neill, deep and comedic at the same time, who plays Germaine, a waitress and Freddy's girlfriend; John Martello, who gives an exceptional performance as Sagot, Picasso's art dealer;

Ian August, who stumbles around the stage as a strange young man, Charles Dabnow, Schmendiman; and, of course, Ray Mogenis, who entertains the audience as a visitor from the 20th century, who resembles Elvis Presley.

One of the most impressive performances given by an actress in three roles is offered by Leonora Gershman, who is Suzanne, at 19, in love with Picasso. The Countess, and a female admirer. She actually looks like three different people. Amazing!

This is not an easy play to direct, and Loewy, who has had years of experience in this field, and who also is the producer and founder of the Forum Theater Co., has offered a valuable contribution of his talents to "Picasso." With the Forum's ever-faithful Vicki Tripodo, whose talents this time around are dedicated to stage managing, and Herick Goldman as lighting designer, Frank Knox as set designer, Michael Weeks as sound designer and Harriet Salzman as costume designer, "Picasso at the Lapin Agile" is a direct hit.

It will run through Feb. 27, which will give the real theater-goers an opportunity to enjoy a most unusual, very funny piece of theater. In fact, when the play is over, one feels as if one was part of a historical moment in the lives of Picasso and Einstein.

Russian choir to visit Westfield Saturday

Akafist, the Male Chamber Choir from Moscow, returns to present the magnificent traditions of Russian folk songs with Orthodox Church singing, continuing the legacy of Russian choral music at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 250 Gallows Hill Road in Westfield. The concert will be presented Saturday at 8 p.m. A reception will follow.

Organized in 1990 by artistic director and conductor Andrei V. Malyutin, Akafist is comprised of highly trained musicians who are graduates of the Moscow Conservatory and other renowned institutions. Disciplined control and declamatory delivery of every note have earned Akafist its

place on the world's stage. The singers possess the vocal qualities of operatic virtuosos. Their repertoire spans the music traditions of the Russian Orthodox Church from the 16th to the 20th centuries and all the popular Russian folk songs, as well as songs and spirituals familiar to Americans to show their versatility and interpretive skills in rendering these selections.

Their appearance at Holy Trinity will debut the third North American tour of Akafist. Their recorded tapes and CDs will be available for purchase.

Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased in advance by calling the church office at (908) 233-8533.



Keeping show business in the family, Jonathan Schwartz prepares for his Friday-night opening as young Patrick Dennis in "Mame" at Cranford Dramatic Club. Joining him on the project are his mother, choreographer Michelle Massa, and his grandmother, community theater veteran, Fran Massa.

Union artist shows work in Center

Paintings and works on paper by Joe Lugara will be exhibited in a one-man show at Van Gogh's Ear, 1017 Stuyvesant Ave., Union, now through March 1.

The artist, a Union resident and a staff writer for Worrall Community Newspapers, has exhibited at various locations throughout New York City and New Jersey. His works appeared most recently in New York City in group shows at Get Real Art, Caelum Gallery and Knickerbocker Gallery. A one-man show of recent abstract work was held this past November and December at ADP Corporate Headquarters in Roseland.

A self-taught artist, Lugara works in a variety of styles, several of which will be included in the present exhibition. His watercolors — semi-abstract portraits and abstractions layered with color — often give the impression of looking through tinted transparencies. Black lines — applied with an ink-

dipped twig — jump, twist and cut throughout the various planes of color. "Watercolor's a mobile medium," the painter said. "I want the pictures to seem like they're shifting, almost as if they're still wet. I want the viewer to feel a kind of edgy anticipation, as if the picture's going to evolve into something else while they're looking at it."

Lugara's black-and-white works on paper, called "moss drawings," are described by the artist as "skeletons of the watercolors, the framework. There's no color; it's black ink applied to damp watercolor paper. They're all about line and tone — and movement."

Despite the fact that the moss drawings, as "skeletons," appear to evade the artist's watercolors, the evolution actually occurred the other way around. "I started with color and eventually squeezed it out," Lugara said.

As for the oils, "the forms are more solid than those in the watercolors or black-and-white drawings. I often leave the forms open-ended in water-based mediums, so they're almost airy. But since oil is a thicker, opaque medium, I'm much more likely to enclose the shapes to make them bulkier, so they're more physically present. I try to make complete use of the natural physical quality of the paint. I like oil for its opaque characteristics just as I like watercolor for its natural transparent quality. I don't choose a medium and then turn away from the thing it naturally does best."

A strong similarity nevertheless exists between the oils and watercolors, especially in the painter's often riotous color passages. "Color induces emotion, and emotion is what painting's about," Lugara said.

For more information on "Joe Lugara: Paintings and Works on Paper," call (908) 810-1844.

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Crossing over the line

(Continued from Page B1)
interesting cultural change noted by McCoy has been a growing Hispanic population.
McCoy is one of the two minority mayors and one of two female mayors in Union County. She is still balancing her professional duties at Essex County College, the seven-day work demands of being mayor, and her personal life including her engagement. She quickly points out that her fiancé, Bruce, has agreed to move to Hillside when they marry.
McCoy's tenure runs another year, when Rowen's original term

would have run out. She hasn't made any decisions as yet to run on her own for the position she was appointed to by council members. But the woman who only left Hillside to gain her degree from the University of North Carolina can't help but think about being the first elected minority mayor and second woman under the new form of government in Hillside.

That's the kind of challenge and crossing over lines which just might interest Karen McCoy.

A resident of Cranford, Frank Capece is an attorney.

County seeks lower starting pay

(Continued from Page B1)
The county, however, has settled six of nine contracts with unions recently that included flat wage increases as opposed to percentage raises. Salernite said the wage hike tends to give a little more percentage raise to lower salaries employees and saves on the compounding effect of percentage increases.
Another objective the county has in contract negotiations is to lower starting salaries. There are 22 job classifications with the Division of Parks and Recreation with a majority of UE 494 members being laborers or building maintenance workers, according to Salernite.

By the end of this contract, which would expire at the end of 2000 should it be settled, Salernite said the county is looking to increase the num-

ber of steps in the salary guide from 10, for those hired before 1995, to 16 and lower the starting salary for a laborer from \$25,977 to \$23,502.
Under the county's last offer, laborers not at the maximum step would get a step increment, which equals roughly \$650. Laborers at maximum would see increases that would equal approximately 3.6 percent in each year of the contract.

By the end of the three-year contract, under the county's last offer, laborers would see their annual salaries rise from \$32,467 to \$36,115 while recreation maintenance workers at maximum, \$34,509, would have their salaries go to \$38,223.

Your abilities can earn extra income. Advertise them with a classified ad by calling 1-800-564-8911.

Area barbershop quartets offer tuneful Valentines

The Rahway Valley Jenevaires in conjunction with the Deans of Harmony, both barbershop choruses of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America Inc., a non-profit musical and educational organization, is announcing its seventh year of performing "Singing Valentines."

Send a musical Valentine that your sweetheart or someone special will never forget. A barbershop quartet, dressed in formal attire, will sing two songs at a location of your choice, such as the workplace, a residence, a restaurant, etc. The recipient will also receive a special Valentine candy, a flower and a picture of the event. This service will be available Friday through Monday at a cost of \$45.

"Availability of quartets is limited, so reserve your serenade now," said Valentine Chairman Bill Ahern.

For more information or to arrange the time and place for a special singing Valentine call (732) 968-6677 for Somerset and Union County coverage, (732) 431-2373 for Middlesex County coverage, and (732) 968-6677 for other locations.

The Rahway Valley Chapter's funding has made possible in part by the New Jersey Council on the Arts/Department of State.



Getting ready to spread some romance are barbershop quartet singers, from left, tenor Doug Brown, lead Clint Crane, bass Jack Robinson and baritone Ken Friedlander.

YMCA invites area skiers on Catskill trip

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA will sponsor a ski trip to Bel-

Mountains, N.Y., Feb. 24. Cost is \$50 per person, with rentals extra. For more information, call the

Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA, 1340 Marine Ave. in Scotch Plains, at (908) 889-8880.

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Country inns come to life at The Grain House

By Bill Van Sant
Associate Editor

Grain isn't all it takes to make a great meal. You also need hearty servings of atmosphere and professionalism. Visitors to the Grain House Restaurant in Basking Ridge, right next to the Old Mill Inn, will find all three — in abundance!

Situated next to the Old Mill Inn hotel in Basking Ridge, in a building dating back to 1768, the Grain House Restaurant is a veritable passport. Whether the destination is another time or another place is irrelevant. Once seated and enjoying the food and ambience, you will be transported, leaving the cares of the outside world behind.

Of the restaurant's two dining rooms, my companion and I enjoyed the surroundings in the pub room, with its roaring fireplace and live music. We began with salads — my companion favored the chicken Waldorf salad while I had the Roquefort salad. The Waldorf featured diced roasted chicken, celery, raisins and walnuts — the traditional components of the dish — in an herb mayonnaise atop mixed field greens. The tang of the dressing on the greens made for an intriguing flavor combination with the richness and sweetness of the Waldorf ingredients, adding up to a first course which could have been a meal.

The Roquefort was an unbelievable — and unexpected — treat. Served over field greens, the plate featured imported blue cheese chunks, toasted pecans and sliced autumn pears. Fall tossed in a roast shallot vinaigrette. The combination of the pears, the blue cheese and the vinaigrette proved tantalizing and satisfying all at once.

Our main course consisted of roasted pork loin for my companion and braised lamb shank for myself. The pork — stuffed with pecans, wild rice and caramelized apples and served with a calvados demi glaze — was cooked to perfection, with each of the flavors on the plate exquisitely complementing one another. As for the lamb, the meat fell from the bone with a touch of the fork, guaranteeing a tender, tasty treat. With root vegetables swimming alongside in a Zinfandel sauce and topped with rosemary butter, the succulence of the lamb never once lost its identity in this melange of delicious flavors.

Dessert consisted of warm bourbon bread pudding and creme brulee, both expertly prepared and the perfect finale to our meal. We also sampled one of the specialties of Chef John Tomaszek: the ginger gelati, usually served atop the pecan pie. Foregoing the pie, we savored the delicately flavored frozen treat, made especially for the Grain House according to Tomaszek's recipe.

However, as sumptuous as the food was, our evening was only made better by our surroundings. The succo walls with their woodstove beams add the fireplace made for a true "country inn" experience. Add to that the excellent vocals and guitar playing of Ed Wilson — who will be back Feb. 19 and 24 — and you've got the makings for a wonderful night out.

The Grain House features smoking and non-smoking dining rooms, as well as 18 private rooms for entertaining, special occasions and meetings, as well as outdoor patio dining in late spring and summer and a full-service bar year-round. Acoustic entertainment is available in the pub dining room every Thursday, Friday and Saturday night. In addition, children younger than 10 years old eat free when ordering from the children's menu before 6:30 p.m. and when accompanied by an adult. Vegetarian and low-fat items are available upon request.

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Hines, OMTI share Russian passion Sunday

Jerome Hines and Opera Music Theatre International will present a spectacular performance of Russian musical masterpieces at a banquet conducted in New Jersey's premier Russian restaurant, Emerald. The event will take place Sunday at 5 p.m. at the restaurant, located at 633 Morris Turnpike, Springfield.

Performances of Russian arias will be given by three of Opera Music Theatre International's most brilliant and promising artists: Frank Basile, Dari Dragun and Genya Muzyzka.

Basile, a former member of the United States Air Force Singing Sergeants, has performed numerous lead roles in opera, musical theater and oratorio with such companies as the Metropolitan Opera, Washington

Opera, Augsburg Opera, Utah Opera, Nevada Opera Theater and Taconic Opera. His roles include Bartolo in "Il Barbiere di Siviglia," Germonio in "La Traviata," Tonio in "Pagliacci," Sloan in the world premiere of "Dreamkeepers," and Robert Prescott in the world premiere of "Barfoot to Zion," and has been seen as a featured soloist with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

Basile was the regional winner of the 1996 Natasa Competition and has appeared in "Who's Who in Music." He has performed under the baton of distinguished conductors such as Erick Kunsel, Gian Carlo Menotti and Leonard Bernstein. Basile is making his debut with Opera Music Theatre International.

Dragun is an exciting mezzo-soprano who dazzled audiences in the United States and Italy with roles in "Goya," "Le Nozze di Figaro," "Ama! and the Night Visitors," "Tosca," "La Traviata," and "Elektra," to name a few. Her soloist concert performances include "Oklahoma!" and "Marie's True Story of Cinderella." Dragun has worked with the Westminster Singers, Westminster Choir, Westchester Symphonic Choir, Fuma Sacra, Spoleto Choir, Central Jersey Choir, The Great Festival Chorus and the Festival Choir of Metuchen. Dragun has also worked with conductors Leonard Bernstein, Joseph Flummerfelt, Ricardo Muti and Lonn Massei.

Muzyzka is a remarkable soprano

who has performed featured roles in "Le Nozze di Figaro," "La Boheme," "Don Giovanni," "Carmen," "Hansel and Gretel," "Die Fledermaus," "Rigoletto," and "La Traviata," to name only a few. Muzyzka performed solo engagements and oratorio in "Gloria," "Requiem," "Missa Brevis in C," "Arias for Soprano and Flute" and "A German Requiem." The Times Herald-Record in Newburgh, N.Y. wrote, "Genya Muzyzka is...refined with her lyric soprano..."

Following the concert will be music and dancing. Individual tickets are \$50 and are available through Opera Music Theatre International by calling (973) 762-8191. All checks are to be made payable to OMTI.

Rahway Arts Guild examines 'lay of the land'

From Wednesday to March 10, The Gallery at the Arts Guild of Rahway will present "The Lay of the Land," an exhibit of three artists' work based on landscape.

The show features the realistic landscape paintings of Jersey City artist Peter Schrohr, abstract works based in the landscape by Michael Metzger of Westfield, and aerial photography by Linden artist Owen Kanzier.

Landscape has been a favorite subject of artists from the times of the ancient Greeks and Romans right up to the explosive revolution of the Impressionists in the 19th century. During the 20th century, interest shifted. Landscape was a subject of the Fauves and Analytical Cubism in the early part of the century, but the new interests in abstraction and formal concepts led to a different focus in art. Still, landscape inspired many artists such as the early Mondrian or the more contemporary Richard Diebenkorn to create formal abstract works based on the elements of nature. With the focus on contemporary social and political issues in the art of recent decades, landscape was not considered a fit subject for "serious" art and such paintings largely disappeared from the art scene.

The current exhibit in The Gallery at the Arts Guild of Rahway presents three artists who breathe new life into landscape-based art. The show includes the meticulous oil paintings of Schrohr which realistically portray nature in works whose breadth far surpasses their small scale. These paintings are strangely

silent landscapes with a pronounced formal quality emphasizing the relationships of the elements of the pictures in a manner reminiscent of abstract compositions.

Metzger, a professor of art at Kean University and frequent exhibitor, is an abstract painter whose works are based on landscape. These impressive paintings present the very essence of light, earth and water through vibrant color and rich textures. These paintings inevitably lead the viewer to reflect on the natural world so deftly implied through abstract means.

The third artist in the exhibit is Owen Kanzier, who makes his living as an aerial photographer. Aside from his commercial photos, he produces aerial pictures as fine art and has exhibited widely around New Jersey for many years. Kanzier has a knack for creating images that show the abstract nature of landscape when viewed from the air.

Whether the visitor favors realism, abstraction or photography this exhibit holds something everyone will be sure to appreciate.

The Gallery at the Arts Guild of Rahway is located at 1670 Irving St. at the corner of Seminary Avenue in downtown Rahway. Gallery hours are Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m.; Thursdays from 1 to 3 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m.; or by appointment. For information, call (732) 381-7511. Admission is free.

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- Union High School Class of 1965 will conduct its 35th reunion April 29. For information, call Reunions Unlimited Inc. at (732) 617-1000.
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- Union High School Class of 1990 reunion is scheduled for June 10. For information, contact Reunions Unlimited Inc. at (732) 617-1000.
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Happy Valentine's Day

February 14th

Chris and Mike:
Happy Valentines Day to my two special boys.
Love Mommie.

Barbara, I love you with all my heart now and forever.
Happy Valentines Day. Your husband, Anthony.

Somebunny Everybunny Loves Somebunny Sometime.
Happy Valentines Day HoneyBunny.

Basim, One year has passed, two hearts have bloomed, unforgettable memories shared...
Special joy ahead. Your Valentine, Cynthia (SOOOS) Kisses!

Ed, I Can't wait to begin this new adventure with you!
I love You, XXXXX: Kate.

Mimi and Ange:
Happy Valentine's Day. I still have points remaining.
Love Pointless

Pete Cai, the thought of you makes me smile. To be with you, makes my heart melt.
Love you, Laurie.

Quirido Edison, Con Estas Cortas Palabras Quiero Recordarte El Amor Tan Inmenso Que Siento Por Ti Te Amo Vivian.

Nala, I apologize for what has happened. Looking ahead to someday again ruling with you atop Pride Rock.
Love, Simba

To our precious Kayla and Josh, we love you very much!
Grandma Sherry and Poppy Leon.

Dr. Y. D. Baytops, You will always be my sweetheart. We miss you very much.
Love, The Trueway Family.

A.J. Happy Valentine's Day to our darling grandson. You have brought so much joy to our lives and we love you.
XXX Grammie & Grandpa.

All, Happy Valentine's Day. You have given me so much during our 36 years together. I love you.
Pat

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Inn provides options for romantic getaways

Love is "inn" the air at The Olde Mill Inn and Grain House Restaurant in Basking Ridge, where a romantic interlude is being planned for Valentine's weekend — Feb. 11, 12, 13, and 14.

"For those seeking the perfect Valentine gift, our "Romantic Get-Away Package" fills the bill," says Melanie Kamamis, assistant general manager of the Olde Mill Inn.

The restaurant will be serving an intimate four-course prix-fixe dinner in front of a blazing fireplace in the cozy William Childs Dining Room. Following dinner, the couple can choose to retire and enjoy champagne and chocolates in their room at the inn. The complete package is presented at \$229 and includes a complimentary continental breakfast the next morning. For those just seeking a romantic dinner, the price is \$99 per couple.

The Olde Mill Inn and Grain House Restaurant are located just off I-287, exit 30B for Route 202 and North Maple Avenue, Basking Ridge. Reservations for the St. Valentine Feast may be obtained by calling the Grain House Restaurant at (908) 221-1150; and for the complete "Romantic Get-Away Package" call (908) 221-1100.

Recipes offer chance for tableside romance

Valentine's Day is a day to make someone feel special, so why not let the meal you prepare reflect this feeling as well.

Listed are some quick and easy Valentine's cooking ideas that are offered this season at home show cooking classes by Marie Markey, independent kitchen consultant for the Pampered Chef. For additional cooking tips, holiday ideas, or free cooking product information, call (908) 755-3213 or e-mail mmpamprch@aol.com.

Luv Pizza

Take a loaf of thawed frozen bread dough and shape into a "V". Roll it out with the roller to create a heart-shaped crust. Using a pastry brush, brush on olive oil and garlic that you pressed through a garlic press. Spread Alfredo sauce — available as jarred sauce in supermarket — on top of crust, evenly coating with approximately one cup. Top with sliced red pepper and sliced pepperoni. Top with freshly grated Parmesan cheese. Bake at 350 for 35 minutes.

Sugar Kisses

Using a small scoop, drop refrigerated sugar cookie dough onto a baking stone. Bake following manufacturer directions. As soon as the cookies come out of the oven, place a chocolate Hershey's Kiss in the middle of each cookie. Decorate with red sprinkles if desired. Remove from stone and let cool on cooling rack.

Chocolate Hugs

Using a small scoop, scoop refrigerated chocolate cookie dough into a greased muffin/puffin pan. Bake at 350 for 15 to 18 minutes. Immediately place an unwrapped Hershey's Hug candy in the middle of each cookie.

Place an unwrapped Hershey's Hug candy in the middle of each cookie.

Shaped Biscuits or Cookies

Shape biscuits or cookies into a heart. Roll dough into a tube and cut the tube into 22 slices. Lay out slices using a diagram in the shape of a heart.

For biscuits, three packages of refrigerated biscuit dough will be needed for cookies, only one. For a special breakfast treat, use cinnamon biscuits following manufacturer's direction and prepare using diagram in the shape of a heart.

Strawberry Fans

Leaving stem on, slice strawberries three-quarters of the way from the pointed end toward stem using the wires of an egg slicer. Then with your fingers, twist the strawberries to spread out the slices to make a fan. Use as a garnish on favorite dessert or to make any plate special.

Place a large package of chicken wings or drumettes in 9x13 stone-wear baker. Top with a can of whole cranberry sauce. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Zest orange with zester and sprinkle on chicken. Bake at 400 degrees for one hour.

Heart Sandwiches

Make heart-shaped bread using a heart bread tube following directions on the tube, or slice soft white bread using heart-shaped cookie cutter. Cut lunch meat with edge of a cookie cutter, as well. Assemble. Other ideas include rice crispy treat bars, rolled sugar cookies, and brownies.

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Green Seedless Grapes.....	.89c lb.
Red Seedless Grapes.....	.99c lb.
Green Leaf Lettuce.....	.2/1
Red Leaf Lettuce.....	.2/1
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Teen arts panel seeks young area filmmakers

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders is pleased to announce two upcoming artistic opportunities for teen-age musicians, composers, videographers and filmmakers through the new Jersey State Teen Arts Program.

The first of these opportunities is the Young Composer's Festival, funded by a grant from the Frank and Lydia Bergen Foundation, which will take place at Westminster Choir College in Princeton. The other is the Young Videographer's Festival, funded by a grant from the Tribune New York Foundation. The schedules of these events will be announced soon.

"We encourage Union County student artists between the ages of 13 and 19 to sign up now to be involved in these professional artistic programs," said Freeholder Chairman Daniel Sullivan. "These festivals will be great showcases for the skills of our creative teen-ages."

For applications and information, please call the New Jersey State Teen Arts Office at (609)397-0505, or the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs at (908)558-2550.

Carving a niche



Students at Gym Jams, the Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA nursery school program, recently had a woodworking lesson with the help of Joe Macola and Jimmy Hatfield of Lowe's. The children learned how to correctly sand and hammer wood pieces into a trivet. Joining in the project are father and daughter Joe and Madison Macola of Scotch Plains.

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"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He Loved us, and sent his Son (Jesus) to be the propitiation; substitution for our sins. 1 John 4:10"

Yes you do have a special Valentine - the very author of love itself - God. He has proved that He loves you in spite of your failings. Will you respond to Him? Call for more information.

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Healthy Living

Overlook breaks ground with biopsy technique

Until recently, vacuum-assisted, stereotactic image-guided breast biopsy was only available to women whose lesions could be seen on a mammogram, an x-ray picture of the breast. Most people don't know that some breast lesions cannot be seen on a mammogram and can only be seen on an ultrasound.

For these women, a minimally invasive, vacuum-assisted, image-guided breast biopsy was not an option. These women often required open surgery, an invasive procedure that for some women can lead to scarring, disfigurement and pain.

Overlook Hospital's expertise in the use of stereotactic image-guided breast biopsy using the Mammotome system has earned them the status as a training center for the new Mammotome Hand-Held Breast Biopsy System with Ultrasound.

"Overlook is among the first 55 institutions in North America that have access to this new technology," said Dr. Louis Peril, a radiologist at Overlook who specializes in breast procedures and is an instructor of the new Mammotome Hand-Held Breast Biopsy System with Ultrasound.

"Overlook Hospital is now a training

center with continuing medical education credits for physicians in the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area who want to be trained in the use of image-guided breast biopsy with ultrasound."

The Mammotome with ultrasound now offers a technology for biopsy of a wider range of breast abnormalities which may indicate cancer. Similar to stereotactic breast biopsy, the breast biopsy with ultrasound is an outpatient procedure performed in less than an hour and requires no stitches. Women are able to return to their normal routine immediately afterward with only a small adhesive strip to cover a 1/2-inch incision that is about the size of a match head.

Another innovation to the Mammotome system with ultrasound allows women to actually watch their biopsy being performed as it happens on an ultrasound monitor that can be viewed through video glasses.

Procedures with the Mammotome involve the one-time insertion of a probe directly into the area of the breast that appeared suspicious based on a mammogram or ultrasound. With either ultrasound or stereotactic imaging guidance, a doctor uses the Mammotome to gently vacuum, cut and remove tissue for examination.

"Women find that the Mammotome biopsy is easier on them than open surgery," said Dr. Peril. "The Mammotome is highly accurate in helping doctors diagnose early stage breast cancer, and is becoming the standard way biopsies are performed in this country."

More than one million breast biopsies are performed each year in the United States, of which approximately eight out of 10 result in a benign, or non-cancerous, finding.

According to a survey by Roper Starch sponsored by the National Alliance for Breast Cancer Organizations and Ethicon Endo-Surgery Inc., a Johnson & Johnson company and the manufacturer of the Mammotome, most women do not know that they have biopsy options. The survey found that more than two-thirds of women who had an open surgical biopsy, said it was the only option their doctor discussed with them.

Breast cancer is one of the most common forms of cancer among American women, with more than 175,000 cases of the disease diagnosed each year. Breast cancer claims the lives of more than 43,000 women annually.

As with any breast biopsy procedure, the Mammotome biopsy may present risk. Patients should consult their doctor to see which biopsy pro-

cedure is appropriate for them.

Winner of the 1999 New Jersey Governor's Award for Performance Excellence — the highest state honor an organization can receive for quality and performance — Overlook Hospital is an Atlantic Health System 400-bed major teaching hospital in Summit. Home of New Jersey's first stereotactic radiology program for the treatment of cancer, Overlook's specialty services include the Neuroscience Institute and Brain Tumor Center of New Jersey; The Valerie Center, a podiatric oncology cancer program; The Children's Medical Center of Atlantic Health System; a Chest Pain Center; the Same-Day Surgery Center and Hernia Center; and a Wound Care Center.

Sell it with a classified ad. 1-800-564-8911.

Volunteers are sought for Sharing services

The New Jersey Organ and Tissue Sharing Network announced recently they are seeking volunteers to help them in their efforts to educate and inform New Jerseyans of the option to donate and of the life-saving benefits of transplantation.

"We can't do it alone," said Joseph Roth, president and chief executive officer of The Sharing Network. "Being a Sharing Network volunteer is very rewarding because you will actually help get the word out about the benefits of organ donation so that we may help some of the 1,800 people in New Jersey currently on waiting lists for life-saving transplant operations."

There are volunteer opportunities available in the following areas:

- **Speaking Engagements.** Information is presented on organ and tissue donation in addition to sharing personal experiences. Volunteers also identify and initiate future venues to present organ and tissue donation awareness programs.

- **Health and Community Fairs.** Participation in local events and health fairs sponsored by hospitals, corporations, businesses, government entities, houses of worship, civic organizations, schools and universities.

- **Office Projects.** Assistance with mailings, collating, light typing, coding registry brochures and filing.

- **Publicity.** Volunteers have the opportunity to share their stories with local newspapers or to be interviewed on cable television

programs or radio stations to help promote donation.

The Sharing Network's volunteers consist of transplant recipients, donor family members, people waiting for a transplant, friends and family members, and caring people who have taken on donations as their cause.

To support and prepare volunteers to educate the community, The Sharing Network offers the required Phase 1 training sessions at no cost. An open house is offered, as well as an opportunity to interact and work together for a worthwhile cause.

Some of the services provided by The Sharing Network include speakers bureau; on-site "Lunch-n-Learn" donor awareness programs; informational displays at health fairs and community, civic and religious groups; high school classes and programs; payroll staffers; articles tailored to newsletters; video lending library; and free promotional giveaways.

For more information on how to become a volunteer for The Sharing Network, call (973) 379-4535, ext. 3336.

The Sharing Network is a non-profit, federally-certified, state-approved procurement organization responsible for the recovery of organs and tissue for transplant in New Jersey. For more information on how to become an organ donor or to join the New Jersey Organ and Tissue Donor Registry, call The Sharing Network at (800) 742-7365, or visit the website at www.sharingnj.org.

The Mammotome Breast Biopsy System

Breast Biopsies

- The removal of tissue for examination and a critical step in the diagnosis of cancer.

- The only definitive way to diagnose breast abnormalities.

- More than 1 million breast biopsies are performed each year in the United States.

- Approximately eight out of 10 breast tumors are benign.

The Mammotome Breast Biopsy System:

- Helps doctors accurately diagnose breast abnormalities.

- Is performed in less than one hour, and requires only a single 1/2-inch incision, about the size of a match head, needs no stitches; and is performed on an outpatient basis with local anesthesia.

- Offers women an alternative to an open surgical biopsy, the most common biopsy method, which can leave scars and result in disfigurement of the breast.

- Is compatible with both ultrasound and stereotactic imaging systems.

- Was created for use in physician offices, breast cancer centers, and hospitals.

How It Works

- Doctors use ultrasound or stereotactic imaging to direct a probe into the suspicious area of the breast, and through the use of a vacuum system, gently draw out tissue for examination and evaluation.

- The probe is inserted once and leaves an incision so small no stitches are required.

- Women are able to resume normal activity immediately following procedure with only a small adhesive strip to cover the incision site.



Dr. Louis Peril

Facts to Know About Breast Cancer

Prevalence

- Most common form of cancer in women in the United States, excluding skin cancers.
- Approximately 175,000 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed this year and more than 43,000 women will die from the disease.
- One out of nine women in the United States will develop breast cancer in their lifetimes — a risk that has increased from one out of 14 in 1960.

Risk Factors

- Every woman is at risk for breast cancer; 70 percent of cases occur in women who have no identifiable risk factors.
- According to the American Cancer Society, risk factors include aging, personal history of breast cancer, family history of breast cancer, previous breast biopsy, early menstruation, childbirth after 30 or no childbirth, and menopause after 50.

Screening Mammograms/Biopsies

- Fewer than half the women age 40 and older in the United States have regular screening mammograms.
- Mammograms can reveal breast cancer at its earliest stage — as much as two years before it can be felt in breast exams.
- More than one million breast biopsies are performed each year in the United States; approximately 80 percent of breast biopsies are proven benign.
- Open surgical biopsy is the most common biopsy procedure.
- Minimally invasive breast biopsies are increasingly becoming an important option for women because they are accurate, do not involve general anesthesia or sutures, and result in minimal scarring.

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Kean unveils its metalwork exhibit

A collection of more than 30 metal sculptures and artistic jewelry pieces will be on display at the group art exhibition "A Closer Look: Contemporary Metalwork and Jewelry" at the James Howe Gallery at Ken University, now through Feb. 28.

The exhibition will display the works of 14 national and international exhibiting artists. In their works, the artists challenge traditional ideas about metal-smithing with precise sculptures in a variety of metals including gold, silver, lead and tin. The metal-smithing works comment on subjects such as Americana, body language, consumerism and handmade versus industrial production. The jewelry pieces scheduled for display are thought-provoking collections.

The unique combinations of materials, the detail and intricacies of small-scale pieces, and the conceptual statements of the works are worth a close look.

The art exhibition can be viewed by appointment or during gallery hours, Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Friday from 10 a.m. to noon.

For more information, call Jennifer Crupi at (908) 527-2307.

What's Going On?

FLEA MARKET

SATURDAY
February 12th, 2000
EVENT: St. Thomas Flea Market, New and Used Items
PLACE: St. Thomas Center, 1407 St. George Avenue, Rahway
TIME: 9:00am-4:00pm
PRICE: \$20 per table. Vendors wanted. Please call 732-382-2417
ORGANIZATION: St. Thomas Church

SATURDAY
February 19th, 2000
(Snow Date February 26th)

EVENT: Flea Market
PLACE: Redeemer Lutheran Church, 134 Prospect Avenue, Irvington, NJ
TIME: 9am-2pm
PRICE: New and used clothes, shoes, records, housewares, books, jewelry, etc. Call 973-372-0084 or 973-763-3281 between 9am to 6pm.
ORGANIZATION: Redeemer Lutheran Church

SATURDAY

February 19, 2000
EVENT: Flea Market, Craft and Collectible Show, Indoor and Outdoor
PLACE: Municipal Building, 430 Westfield Avenue, (off Raritan Road), Clark, NJ
TIME: 9:00am-5:00pm
PRICE: Featuring over 75 quality dealers selling a variety of new and used merchandise. Join in the fun of shopping for great buys, while supporting St. John's Rotary Society. For more information call 201-997-6556.
ORGANIZATION: St. John's Rotary Society

What's Going On is a paid directory of events for subscribers. It is prepared and posted just \$29.99. It's a guide for local events in your county and just \$19.99 for the state. You can also be an advertiser. Call 408 Hills Street by 407 7th St. Madison, NJ. For more information, please call 908-426-1111. You can also be an advertiser. Call 408 Hills Street by 407 7th St. Madison, NJ. For more information, please call 908-426-1111.

Bill Van Sant, Editor

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HOROSCOPE

For Feb. 14 to Feb. 20

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Visualize what you want, and you're one step closer to attaining your goal. A good deed is rewarded in an unexpected manner. Stay open in order to receive.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A rebellious mood creates a rift in a close personal relationship. Back up and try an old-fashioned, reliable approach to love. Meet one-on-one and talk face to face.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): It takes time to build trust in a partnership. Think twice before accepting as truth what you read or hear about someone in your life. Avoid gossip!
CANCER (June 22-July 22): Financial pressures may cause you to seek legal counsel. Prepare yourself to ask and answer some very difficult questions. Answer an argument.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A deep understanding may be achieved if you are willing to listen to reason. Gather important information about a legacy or will before making a decision.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't expect a partner or mate to come close to matching your fantasy-driven expectations. Back up a promise you recently made with a plan of action.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): A steady effort is rewarded with great success. Put your nose to the grindstone, and you can expect to tackle a challenging assignment with ease.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): New ideas take center stage. Don't dismiss a concept just because it's not familiar to you. A creative presentation goes over well with your peers.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your need for rest or relaxation is high this week. Try approaching your

work at a slow pace. Make sure that your actions and words go hand-in-hand.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Straightforward communication works best with loved ones or family members. Stop beating around the bush, and express your true feelings.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep a closer watch on your budget and personally attend to the details associated with paying bills on time. Exercise and meditation help to avert stress.

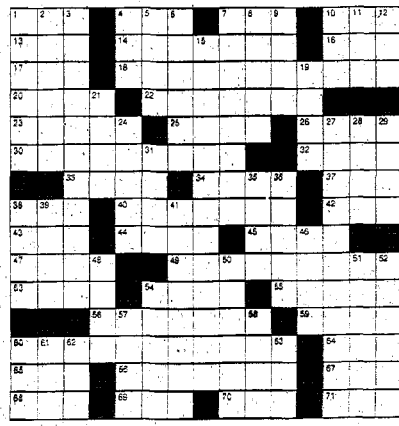
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): It's easy to get involved concerning a personal matter. Practice moderation, and adjust your expectations. Put on your best attire, and find a good reason to hit the town.

If your birthday is this week, many opportunities are found in the area of communication during the coming year. You stand to learn a lot, especially in the technical and writing fields. Follow-through with personal interests, and you'll find the sky is the limit when it comes to establishing new sources of income. Be careful when discussing money concerns with friends or anyone who could become jealous or envious of your success. Use reason instead of emotion to settle a dispute.

ACROSS

- Swedish district
- Upbeat cry
- Education union
- Cyndi Lauper "Bop"
- seeing things?
- Tacks on?
- "Touples" recorder
- peeples
- Can be negative
- Jim Stewart foe
- va
- Three Kittens' boss
- Do you live in —?
- Person of action
- L-O connection
- The Journey of —
- 1955 film
- Father
- West Point school
- The same L
- Set for one
- Kind of games
- Easy phrase contract
- DIAGNOSIS
- Rental unit
- Skater blocker
- voice from alch"
- It's on your end
- Feted
- Figure-skating move
- Of a membranous coating
- Duplicata
- Pull — lease
- Evening with Gij
- Silent movie star
- Come —
- enticements
- Wanted poster names
- Tour in Gollor
- Address O'Connell
- Howard of TV
- 70 Auction tag-on
- The sun

NINNY



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DOWN

- egg-bombed
- Louville
- Mutant favorite
- Association
- me
- Like inlar
- Vose game
- Funny, food
- R — Rooster
- Late-life TV
- Scourry
- Attentiveness
- Reagan Supreme Court appointee
- U.S. landing craft
- Fine and grainy
- Spring
- 1977 horror film
- dooper
- Easy goodness
- Israeli airline
- Of cheeks
- "Fuzzy-Wuzz" — bear
- Peak
- "Data of Venus" writer
- Knos
- Isenberg
- "Cockswife" actor
- Bragg
- Of the back
- Norman Vincent
- Bismark —
- Joyfulness
- Provo. Utah school
- 16th night
- Sheepish cry
- Blutarna got out of here

See ANSWERS on Page B12

Paper Mill offers taste of stardom

Paper Mill Playhouse will host a Wine Tasting with Kelly Bishop, star of Paper Mill's "Mame," John David Cooney, star of Paper Mill's "The Will Rogers Follies," Lee Leonard, host of N12's "Jerry's Talking," and Paper Mill Executive Producer Angelo Del Rossi Feb. 20 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the theater's Renee Fossner Art Gallery.

Wine connoisseur John Harlage of Wine Cellars of Millburn and Benardsville will conduct the tasting of great wines from Italy. The cost of the evening is \$35 per person. For more information, call Bonnie Ouyre at (732) 341-2348.

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Stepping Out is a weekly calendar designed to guide our readers to the most arts and entertainment events in the Union County area.

Stepping Out

Throughout the month of February, for information call the hospital. PAINTINGS & WORKS ON PAPER by Union artist Joe Logara will be on exhibit at Van Gogh's Era, 1017 Stuyvesant Ave. in Union, now through March 1.

COME FLY WITH US, a collection of paintings and models by aviation artist Keith Ferris, will be on exhibit at the Ken Malamut Art Gallery in Union Public Library now through March 15.

COLOR, LINE & FORM: the paintings of Alice Bryan-Horn of Maplewood will be on exhibit with the watercolor wildlife paintings of Christopher Palmer of Murray Hill at the Donald B. Palmer Museum in the Springfield Public Library, Friday to March 16.

THE LAY OF THE LAND, contemporary landscapes by painters Peter Schwan and Michael Vogel and a watercolor by Owen Kessler, will be on exhibit at the Gallery at the Arts Co. 2 of Rahway, Wednesday through March 10. An opening reception with the artists will take place Feb. 20 from 7 to 9 p.m.

AUDITIONS WESTFIELD COMMUNITY PLAYERS will conduct auditions for "Brigadoon" by Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe Feb. 21 from 1 to 5 p.m. and Feb. 28 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the playhouse, 1000 North Ave. West, Westfield.

CLASSES WESTFIELD YOUNG ARTISTS' COOPERATIVE will offer professional classes in the performing arts. Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced Acting classes will concentrate on improvisation, character development and scene study.

COMEDY STAND UP FOR HOPE, a comedy concert to benefit the Center for Hope Hospice's Father Hudson House, will be presented Feb. 19 at 7 p.m. by the Elizabeth PBA Local 4 at the Winfield Scott Grand Ballroom in Elizabeth.

DISCUSSION THE ART OF ESSAY WRITING workshop will be sponsored by Barnes & Noble in Springfield, Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. as part of the Independent Thinkers Essay Contest.

CONCERTS AKAFIST, the Male Chamber Choir of Moroson will be presented in concert

KIDS PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE in Millburn will present a series of children's shows every weekend in April and May.

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CONCERTS AKAFIST, the Male Chamber Choir of Moroson will be presented in concert

KIDS PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE in Millburn will present a series of children's shows every weekend in April and May. April 1 and 2: "Alice in Wonderland," ages 3 to 11 years old.

THEATER PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE will continue its 1999-2000 season with the play "Noises Off" through Sunday, Michael Rayn's play-within-a-play focused on the shenanigans on stage and off of a hit-rate acting troupe, and stars Brian Murray reprising his original Broadway role.



EUROPEAN TOURISTS 1, a 1999 oil painting, is among the works by Diana Jensen which were inspired by her years as a New York City bartender.

SAVING PRIVATE RYAN, a 1999 film, will be shown at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 250 Gales Road in Westfield.

WESTFIELD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA will appear in concert at the Union County Arts Center in Rahway Saturday at 8 p.m.

A RUSSIAN BANQUET AND CONCERT will be presented by Jerome Hines and Opera Music Theater International Sunday at 3 p.m.

FOLK MUSICIAN MIKE AGRANOFF will be presented in concert by the Arts Guild of Rahway Feb. 18 at 8 p.m.

SINGER/SONGWRITER WILLIAM SMITH will appear in concert Feb. 25 from 8 to 10 p.m. at Barnes & Noble of Springfield.

SUMMIT CHORALE will present the world premiere of "Psalm 27" by New Jersey composer John Kaefer, along with Leonard Bernstein's "Chichester Psalms."

DANCE SUMMIT FOLK DANCERS will meet Friday from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. to celebrate the Chinese New Year.

NUCVA is located at 66 Elm St. in Summit. Admission is free and open to the public. For information, call (908) 273-9121.

FILM UNION COUNTY ARTS CENTER in Rahway continues its Film Series through May. Unless otherwise noted for double and triple features, tickets are \$3 for 1 p.m. screenings, \$5 at 8 p.m.

FOOD & DRINK PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE will sponsor a wine tasting event Feb. 20 at 5:30 p.m. in the Renee Fossaner Art Gallery at the theater, Brookside Drive in Millburn.

GOLF GOLF CLINIC for children ages 10 to 13 will take place at the Batusford Golf Club in Springfield from 10 to 11 a.m.

All performances are at 10 a.m. at the Paper Mill Playhouse, Brookside Drive in Millburn. Tickets are \$9 for orchestra seats, \$8 for mezzanine. For information, call (973) 376-4343 beginning Monday.

UNION RECREATION Department will sponsor weekly ceramics classes for children between the ages of 7 and 12 at the Recreation building, 1120 Commerce Ave., Union, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. For information, call 954-4826.

POETRY POETRY OUT LOUD!, an open-mike poetry night, will be sponsored by Barnes & Noble of Springfield, Feb. 25 at 8 p.m.

SINGLES INTERFAITH SINGLES, for single adults older than 45 years old, will meet every Sunday from 9 to 12:30 a.m. — for discussion and continental breakfast at the First Baptist Church, 170 Elm St. in Westfield.

SINGLES KISMET SINGLES will sponsor several events in the coming weeks. For information, call (908) 232-8872 or visit the website at www.thatiskismet.com.

SINGLES ?SINGLE FRIENDS, a Catholic singles group, will sponsor a ??? at 7???. For information, call (973) 479-3537 or send e-mail to singlesfriends@aol.com.

CRANFORD DRAMATIC CLUB will present the Jerry Herman musical "Mame" Friday to Feb. 26. Tickets are \$16. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m.

KEAN UNIVERSITY will present "West Side Story" Feb. 16 to 22 in Newark. Shows are at 8 p.m. Feb. 19, 23, 24, 25 and 26. Feb. 20 and 21. Tickets are \$12 for the general public.

CARNIVAL PRODUCTIONS of Rahway will present "Bus Stop" by William Jay, Feb. 25 through March 4, at El Bodegon Restaurant, 169 W. Main St. Shows are 8 p.m. Thursday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

UNION COUNTY ARTS CENTER in Rahway will present "Man of La Mancha" March 10 to 26 at the Arts Center, 160 Irving St., Rahway. Shows are 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

WESTFIELD COMMUNITY PLAYERS will present "The Price" by Arthur Miller, March 11 to 25. Shows are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Tickets are \$16. For information, call (908) 499-8226 or visit the website at www.uccac.org.

VARIETY PENN & TELLER, the comic thrill magicians, will appear at the Union County Arts Center in Rahway Sunday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$30, \$36 and \$40.

CROSSROADS in Garwood will present a series of jazz, blues and comedy concerts. Crossroads is located at 78 North Ave. in Garwood. For information, call (908) 232-5565.

VAN GOGH'S EAR CAFE in Union will present a series of jazz concerts every Sunday at 8 p.m. throughout the winter. Cover charge is \$3 for all concerts.

Paper Mill singles make 'noises' Single theatergoers are invited this evening to join in the fun as Paper Mill Playhouse presents the side-splitting comedy "Noises Off."

ART SHOWS

SUMMIT FRAME & ART will exhibit five newly acquired paintings by W.P.A. artist Louis Wolonko. Gallery hours are Mondays to Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

PHOTOGRAPHER ART CARLSON will exhibit his black-and-white works at the Donald B. Palmer Museum in the Springfield Free Public Library through today.

IMAGES OF UNION COUNTY of the work of Plainedge artist Cheryl O'Neil. The gallery is located on the first floor of the Mackay Library on the Cranford campus, 1033 Springfield Ave. For information, call (908) 770-7155.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH will be observed with an exhibit by Alonzo Adams at the Swan Galleries in Plainfield Saturday to Feb. 28. An opening reception with the artist will take place Saturday from 5 to 7 p.m.

OUR UNIQUE VISION... THE SEARCH, the works of 14 photographers, will be on exhibit at the Jacob Tripp Gallery in the Community House of Summit's Unitarian Church now through Feb. 27.

A CLOSER LOOK: "Contemporary Metalwork & Jewelry" will be on exhibit at the James Howe Gallery at Kean University, Union, now through Feb. 28.

CLARK PUBLIC LIBRARY will exhibit the pastels and oil paintings of Cranford artist Mildred S. Lubas through Feb. 28 on the main floor of the library.

CHILDREN'S SPECIALIZED HOSPITAL in Mountainside will exhibit paintings in all three hallways of the facility.

Penn & Teller will bring their 'thrill magic' to Rahway's UCAC Sunday

Comic duo magicians Penn & Teller will be presenting their unique and dangerously comic brand of magic at the Union County Arts Center in Rahway Sunday for one big show.

The 1985 PBS special, "Penn & Teller Go Public," won two Emmys and the legendary Golden Rose. Other television projects have included the ABC special "Penn & Teller's Home Invasion," the Showtime movie "Penn & Teller's Invisible Thread," the NBC special "Don't Try This at Home," the PBS children's series "Behind the Scenes," and "The Unpleasant World of Penn & Teller" and "Penn & Teller's Phobophilia," both for Britain's Channel 4.

funniest people alive in Entertainment Weekly's "50 Greatest Comedians Today" issue.

Penn & Teller are a couple of eccentric guys who have learned how to do a few cool things. Together since 1975, their award-winning theater show has been a long-running hit on off-Broadway. The duo keeps a busy touring schedule, performing live more than 100 times this year alone.

The pair's most recent and most ambitious project is their weekly, Emmy-nominated variety series, "Penn & Teller's Sin City Spectacular," on the FX Network. Taped on location in Las Vegas, the show features appearances by top movie, television and music stars, eclectic variety performers and new, never-before-seen Penn & Teller tricks.

Penn & Teller will be appearing at the Union County Arts Center Sunday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$40, \$36 and \$30. The Union County Arts Center, a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to presenting the best in the performing arts, is located in the recently restored Rahway Theater, a 1928 vaudeville and silent film house in downtown Rahway.

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EVERY THURSDAY FROM 10AM - 3PM
 Montclair Marines • 691 Bloomfield • Montclair

1-888-WORK-UPS

NEWSPAPER PRODUCTION FULL TIME

We are a group of weekly newspapers with an office in Maplewood looking for a person with good typing skills. You will compose ads from advertising layouts, build editorial pages following page layouts. Along with all phases of the production department.

Newspaper publishing and Macintosh experience helpful, but not required. Benefit plan with paid holidays. Call for an appointment. (973) 763-0700 or send your resume to Production Director Worrall Community Newspapers P.O. Box 158, Maplewood, N.J. 07040

Retail Merchandiser Part-Time

Parts of Union & Hudson Counties

An opportunity exists with the Division of Quality Commerce Division. The primary job responsibilities include the initial & ongoing needs for the Cover City & Max Factor outlets. This is a great opportunity for people re-entering the work force. Prior retail merchandising experience is preferred.

- Independent & Flexible Work Schedule
- Candidates Must Be Available At Least 3 Full Days Per Week
- Competitive Hourly Wage
- Drive Your Own Car (we reimburse)
- Valid Driver's License
- Proof of Insurance

Please write/send resume to:
Procter & Gamble
 Cosmetics Division
 Attn: Recruiting Specialist
 Ref #5051, Mail Stop 2B
 1100 York Road
 Hunt Valley, MD 21030-2098
 Equal Opportunity Employer M/F
 NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE

Reach Higher! at our **SUMMIT BANK** OPEN HOUSE!

SUMMIT BRANCH
 Thursday, February 10th
 1:30pm-5:00pm
 367 Springfield Avenue
 Summit, NJ

- Part-Time Tellers (Positions are available at our Chatham, Florham Park, Madison, Morristown, Mountainside, New Providence, Summit, Watchung, Westfield & Plainfield locations.)
- Part-Time Sales & Service Representatives (Positions are available the following Pathmark locations: Gillette, East Hanover & Parsippany.)
- Floating Full-Time Customer Service Representatives (Positions are available at our Summit, Berkeley Heights, Gillette-Stirling & Westfield locations.)
- Full-Time Customer Service Representatives (Positions are available at our Summit, Berkeley Heights, Gillette-Stirling & Westfield locations.)
- Full-Time Safe Deposit Vault Attendant (Position is available at our Summit location.)

For more information about this Open House, please call our Voice Box system at either (973) 736-9898 or (908) 888-0100 and select #4400, or just drop in during the hours listed for an on-the-spot interview.

Summit Bank encourages long term growth, career advancement within the branches and offers an attractive salary, a pleasant working environment and tuition reimbursement for part-time and full-time employees. For more opportunities, please visit our website at www.summitbank.com. Summit Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

HELP WANTED

NEEDED? 11 PEOPLE to take 20 pounds by March 19th. All Natural. Results guaranteed. Free Shipping. Call (919) 888-9262

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Required by company in Kenilworth. Principal duties include: taking customer calls, order processing, processing orders and making appointments. Must have at least one year experience. Able to work on a computer. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Minimum salary \$12.00 per hour.

Applicants to: **Karna Hood**
Borne USA, Inc.
505 Boulevard
Newark, NJ 07102
Hours: Monday-Friday 9:30am-4:00pm

EMPLOYMENT WANTED

A.A.A. BRADLYN Cleaning Services. References available. Clean homes, offices, apartments, condos. Own transportation.

IN HOME CARE FOR THE ILL AND ELDERLY

• Certified Home Health Aide
• Bonded and Insured
• Live in and Hourly Schedules Available
973-763-8134

Medical Accepted Office Hours 9-5

POURAGENCY, INC. Seeking in-home care for elderly. Excellent references. Call: 908-898-9141

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

WOLFF BANNING Beds Tan at home. Buy direct and Save! Commercial. Home use from \$189. Low monthly payments. Free color catalog. Call today! 1-800-946-010

GARAGE/YARD SALES

COPIER, PINTER, BOWERS, L400 Very good condition. Call: 908-987-5859

MOVING SALE

17 Summer Avenue, Maplewood
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
8:00am-4:00pm
Spic girls bedroom set, love seats, quality boys & women clothing. Armoire, an object, pictures, lamps, rug, furniture. Range baby carriage. 14 1/2" snow boot, bikes, weights, iron yard bag, 2 women's hat size 7 1/2. Snowboard from east. Cash Only.

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KREDER ELECTRIC, INC.
Residential/Commercial/Electrical
FREE ESTIMATES
Call Tom
973-762-8203
Professional Service Owner Operator
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\$2,500 - VISAMASTERCARD. Unsecured. Guaranteed. Bad credit. Best credit. Includes full credit restoration. 20 year old company. Not a scam! 1-800-866-9099 extension 300

CASH INSTEAD: \$55 up front cash for income streams from private notes, real estate, annuities, and insurance payments. Valuation Statement. Call Dawn at J.G. Waltham: 1-800-454-9388

REFINANCE OR purchase a save \$85. Consolidate debts. Home improvement, purchases. Money for any purpose. Customer programs. Flexible terms. Good and problem credit. No money verification. All-employee and non-employee. Competitive rates. Free pre-approval. Fairmark Mortgage Corp. 1-888-496-5651
New Fairfield/Chatham 161 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, NJ 07862. Licensed Mortgage Broker NJ Dept. of Banking & Insurance #1880

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SUPER IMPROVEMENT Kitchens, Baths, Windows, Doors, Siding, Tile, Painting, Plumbing, Decks. Call: 800-888-3331

Top, Tile Refurbished. Use Within 12 Hours. Choose from Rainbow, Or Colors. All Frac. Co. Department. Call: Mr. UGU

W.K. HOUSE DOCTOR Roofing, Siding, Windows, Doors, Decks, Remodeling, Kitchens, Bathrooms, Basements, Flooring, Tile, Wood, Carpentry. All Repairs and Improvements. Please call: 908-773-5266

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Publication printing a specialty

Maple Composition
463 Valley Street
Haworth
Rear of New-Record Bldg.
Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri 9AM-5PM
Thursday and other times
by appointment
973-762-0303

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We have previous accounting experience not required. Work mornings 9:30am-12:30pm. Please schedule 10:00am-11:00am. Excellent benefits and opportunity to learn. We offer a highly competitive and a competitive wage. For more information:

The Pacer Radar
681 Morris Turnpike
Springfield, NJ 07081
973-379-1855

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4-Nanny. 24 hrs. Full-time live-in. Monday-Friday 9:30am-5pm. Part 9:30am-12:30pm. Referrals. Experience required. 908-764-8161

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The New Jersey Press Association can place your obituary classified ad in over 150 NJ newspapers. We have a combined circulation of over 1 million households. Call: 973-763-8134

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AAA LIONEL American Flyer, lives and other trains and toys. Collector pays highest cash prices. 1-800-644-6871, 973-425-1338

ANTIQUE AND Old Furniture, Dining Rooms, Bedrooms, Breakfasts, Seating Etc. Call: 973-985-4804

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GUTTERS/LEADERS Cleaned and Fluoresced. Leaf Screens Installed. Installation: 888-230-4414 or 973-359-1200. Kelvin Service

GUTTERS-LEADERS UNDERGROUND DRAINS
Thoroughly cleaned, flushed, repaired.

AVERAGE HOUSE \$40-\$60
All debris bagged from gutter. All Roofs and Gutters Repaired. Mark Meize, 973-225-9455

R.S. SEAMLESS GUTTERS. Quality Work. A Reasonable Price. Free Estimates. Colors Available - Drop Off. Please call: 908-668-3597 or 732-966-1456

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908-588-0239 Since 1919

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EVERLAST ROOFING
Specializing in Roof Tear Outs, Re-Roofs, Flat Roofs, Gutter Installation, Tile, Cedar, Copper, Siding. Phone: 908-984-6281
24 Hr. Emergency Service
Fully Insured
GAF CERTIFIED
Fully Insured - Free Estimates

PART TIME

Part-time position available in the accounting department. Must have previous accounting experience. Salary commensurate with experience. For more information, please call: 908-898-9141

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PETS

FIN N FEATHER 239 Morris Avenue, Springfield. Tropical fish, Parrots, Accessories. Exotic birds and reptiles. Grooming and Boarding. Aquarium Maintenance for Home and Office. 973-762-5561

GUTTERS/LEADERS

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We Love Our Pets

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TROPICAL FISH + PLANTS
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Rear of New-Record Building
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by appointment
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REAL ESTATE

Now is best time to enter the industry

With a strong economy and the high demand for housing expected to continue throughout much of the first decade of the new millennium, there has never been a better time to enter the real estate industry.

According to the National Association of Realtors, there are currently 730,000 Realtors nationwide. Real estate is a white-collar profession that involves extensive training in skills such as competitive market analysis, financial advisory (to pre-qualified buyers), negotiation, sales and marketing and account management. Individuals who enter the profession today have widely divergent backgrounds, from real estate college majors making it their first career, to those who enter real estate later in life, perhaps after a career in management, finance, sales, marketing, psychology, education or another field.

What attracts most people initially to the real estate profession are the unlimited earning potential and the independence. Hard work is rewarded with high compensation. Residential real estate agents are normally independent contractors, not employees, and they earn their living by receiving commissions on the homes they list or sell.

The variety of the work and the flexibility of the hours are also great benefits of a real estate career. There is no dull routine in this profession. Meeting new people is the name of the game and every transaction has its own nuances, which keeps the work interesting. The flexible schedule allows agents to work either full-time or part-time — a benefit for those looking to accommodate their family life style.

To become a licensed real estate agent, an individual must successfully complete a 75-hour pre-licensing course, pass the New Jersey real estate exam and be sponsored by a licensed real estate broker in order to activate the license.

In choosing a company at which to work, individuals should consider the following: the location and size of the company; the experience and involvement of management in agent training; the availability and quality of a mentoring program; the quality of advertising; agent income; the company's recruiting and retention philosophy (survival of the fittest versus extensive training and support); and the availability and quality of internal training programs.

Larger companies tend to have more resources for internal training programs. "ERA offers hands-on training throughout New Jersey to help our sales associates excel and be ahead of our competitors," said Linda Trout, president/broker of ERA A. Trout Realty, Marlboro, and chairperson of Education for ERA New Jersey. The company also makes training available from an agent's home or office via ERA's Intranet site, and by satellite.

Franchises have the advantage of national recognition and generally offer standardized training programs. Pat Binney, sales consultant at ERA American Dream Realtors, Hillsborough, agrees. "I chose a national franchiser with a competitive advantage — its comprehensive training program and advanced technology."

For more information, consumers can contact their local ERA office, which can be located using the Internet at www.ERA.com.

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AMAZING MAIL with Money Machine turns your mail into an ATM! FREE report tells all! Call 800-973-2326 ext 1428 (24 hours) US

CAPITAL NEEDED up to 50% loan! Rent Call 973-450-7271. Please leave name and phone number

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GRANGE 486 HIGHLAND Avenue large 1 bedroom from \$650. Wood floors, tile bath, heat/hot water included parking available. See Super Apartment #129 or call 908-852-0165

ROSELLE PARK very large modern apartment, 1 1/2 baths, Air, dishwasher, \$950 plus utilities, lease, security. No pets. Near Parkway 508-543-804

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SOUTH ORANGE CENTER Corner St. Orange Avenue and Scotland Road. Two completely remodeled offices. One approximately 450 sq. feet and the other approximately 780 sq. feet. Excellent for attorney, accountant or other professional. Immediate occupancy. Call Mrs. Smith, 973-783-3030.

SPACE FOR RENT UNION, OFFICE space, 700 square feet. Heat, A/C, electric supplied. \$550 per month. Call 908-666-8333

REAL ESTATE

"All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination, based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination."

"We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis."

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NORTH CAROLINA Bargain Free Boat! Six Desirable homesites in waterfront community with easy access to the C&W and Pamlico Sound. Close to historic Beaufort and Atlantic Beach. Purchase includes 30,000 deeded boat slip. Only \$34,900. Terms available! 1-800-565-5863. www.carolinarealty.com

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"We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis."

APARTMENT TO RENT

NEWARK-WEEHOJIAN AREA STUDIO 1 AND 2 BEDROOMS Very spacious, nice quiet building and neighborhood. Near transportation. Superior service program.

ON SITE SECURITY SECURE UNDERGROUND PARKING Call Mr. J. for appointment 973-708-6468

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PICTURE PERFECT
MOVE-IN CONDITION
3 BDRMS, 2.1 BTHS,
DECK, LARGE LOT,
\$235,000.

Ask for Vivian Young

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Are you profiting from the families buying homes in your community?

The valuable group of customers spends more in the first six months in their new home than in any other time! Welcome Wagon is the largest and most successful marketing program targeting new homeowners.

Find out how our 70 years of experience can help your business grow.

The WELCOME WAGON

Bring new business to your door. See 128

For more information call 1-800-777-WELCOME

BURGdorff ERA

MOUNTAINSIDE COLONIAL

Fabulous Corner Hill home on over an acre of property on quiet cul-de-sac with wonderful panoramic view of New York & Bedrooms, 3 baths, fireplace in main living room & Family Room, plus full basement and 2-car attached garage. \$539,000

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WESTFIELD OFFICE
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(908) 233-0005

206 Central Ave., Westfield (908) 233-8555 • (908) 984-2084 Eves • 317-4597 Beeper

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Due to a 48% growth in closed transactions last year, Re/Max United is offering realtors the millennium deal!!!

Join **RE/MAX UNITED** with a **75 x 25% SPLIT** and make no monthly payments at all!

Yes, no monthly payments, no management fee, for real and in writing.

- ✓ GET ALL BENEFITS OF THE REMAX FRANCHISE
- ✓ GET ALL CALLS ON YOUR SIGNS
- ✓ GET ALL CALLS ON YOUR ADVERTISING
- ✓ GET PAID 75%25% AND MAKE NO PAYMENTS.

Call **Carlos Couto (908) 851-2323**

Union County Essex County Hudson County
1961 Morris Ave. 164 Ferry St. 264 Kearny Ave.
Union Newark Kearny
Carlos Couto/Maria Couto - Sole owners

Mangels & Co. REALTORS

387 Chestnut St. Union City, NJ 07080
Union Cranford
(908) 688-3000 (908) 931-1515

ELIZABETH WESTMINSTER BEAUTY
This home is a must-see! It is truly magnificent! Features include LR w/wood and beamed ceiling, FDR, window seat and Corinthian columns, large EIK w/built-in pantry, 5+ BR's, 2 full baths, 3 car detached garage, gorgeous low floors, stained glass windows and glass oval entry doors. U4405. \$219,900.

ROSELLE COUNTRY CHARM
Coastal LR w/bow window, updated EIK w/ oak cabinets, almond counter top, recessed lighting and tile in ceramic floor, 3 BR's, 1 1/2 Baths, lin. bath w/Rec Room, CAC and 1 car garage. Must see! U-4412. \$159,000.

SPRINGFIELD EXQUISITE
Three Bedroom Expanded Cape Cod. Enjoy the new kitchen overlooking beautiful grounds. The following are all new: CAC, Windows, Carpet, 2 Full Baths, skylight in MBR, finished basement/B.R., 2 car deck, Porch and even a fish pond! U4458. \$279,900.

UNION LARGE COLONIAL
This home offers 3 BR's, LR, FDR, Family Room, 2 1/2 Baths and 1 car garage. Conn Farms area. U-4427. \$179,900.

NEW JERSEY MORTGAGE RATES

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LOOK FOR THESE LENDERS ON THE INTERNET @ WWW.CM-HOTLINE.COM/WWW.HORROR.WTM

PRODUCT	RATE	FIS	APR	PRODUCT	RATE	FIS	APR
American Fed Mortgage							
30 YEAR FIXED	8.13	0.00	8.15	APP 30 YR FIXED	NIP	0.00	NIP
15 YR FIXED	7.75	0.00	7.78	FEF 15 YR FIXED	NIP	0.00	NIP
31-30 YR	6.75	0.00	7.31	\$ 228 30 YR JUMBO	8.25	0.00	8.25
NJ's Lowest Rates! www.loansearch.com							
Bank of Hope at R/W Sun 945-272-9400 1/28th % Mortgage Fed 24 Months EIK 30 years to 60							
30 YEAR FIXED	8.38	0.13	8.52	APP 30 YR FIXED	8.50	0.00	8.58
15 YEAR FIXED	8.13	0.13	8.27	FEF 15 YR FIXED	8.00	0.00	8.11
1 YR ADJ.	8.00	0.00	8.13	\$ 100 1-30 YR	7.75	0.00	8.13
Other products available. Visit us at www.bankofhope.com							
Community Bank of NJ 908-233-8000							
30 YR FIXED	8.50	0.00	8.53	APP 30 YR FIXED	NIP	NIP	NIP
15 YR FIXED	7.88	0.00	7.91	FEF 15 YR FIXED	8.13	0.00	8.13
1 YR ARM	6.00	1.00	8.11	NIP 31-30 YR	6.88	0.00	7.68
Call for jumbo mortgage rates. Free float down options! Lowmod program available							
Community Bank of NJ 908-233-8000							
30 YR FIXED	8.25	0.00	8.35	APP 30 YR FIXED	8.65	1.00	8.80
15 YR FIXED	7.88	0.00	7.90	FEF 15 YR FIXED	8.15	1.00	8.39
1 YR ADJ.	6.25	0.00	NIP	\$ 0 1 YR ADJ.	5.25	0.00	7.90
First Time Home Buyer Program Low Rates. True No Income! Asset Loan Program Available.							
Community Bank of NJ 908-233-8000							
30 YR FIXED	7.75	0.00	8.07	APP			
15 YR FIXED	7.25	0.00	7.75	FEF			
31-30 YR	7.38	0.00	8.24	\$ 350			
Call for jumbo mortgage rates. Free float down options! Lowmod program available							
Community Bank of NJ 908-233-8000							
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