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SPRINGFIELD, N.J., VOL. 71 NO. 31

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2000

TWO SECTI

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Planning Board approves complex with condition on acc

By Joe Logura
Staff Writer

After five months of detailed testimony, the Summit Planning Board approved the proposed 138-unit Bryant Park Commons apartment complex Monday night, with a condition providing for a secondary means of access.

The landlocked former site of the Carter-Bell Manufacturing Company has been at the center of the Planning Board's life since last November. The location, surrounded by a stream, a Park-n-Ride, the Troy Village apartments, unused railroad tracks and Bryant Park, has, for 70-plus years, been accessed for industrial purposes by a single entry, Summit's Park Drive.

Attorney Bruce Pitman, representing the Short Hills-based K&K Developers Inc., trotted out a number of expert witnesses during the course of the hearing, key among them engineer Kevin Page, who testified to the near-impossibility of creating a second access road.

At the board's first meeting in November, Page told the board in no uncertain terms that the Department of Environmental Protection would never issue a permit in cross a stream — the best existing access — in an instance in which an access point already exists. The developers, however, made no attempt to contact the DEP.

Planning Board members repeatedly expressed their concern about safety issues involving Park Drive. Questions as to whether it was a roadway, driveway or right-of-way abounded throughout the hearing, with the developers proposing changes to the road's physical structure to meet current Residential Site Improvement Standards.

The final dimensions for the improved roadway consist of a pair of 14-foot lanes with a 4-foot island with 6-foot sidewalks on either side.

Traffic expert Harold Maltz, brought before the board several times by Pitman, testified to the satisfactory nature of traffic flow in the

area, and repeatedly referred to the safety of entering and exiting Park Drive. However, at the board's last meeting, March 2, Summit's Fire Chief Christopher Cotter and Police Chief William Schneller both said they would prefer to see wider access — and preferably, a second means of access.

After board member John Maher moved to deny the application, the board went into executive session, returning with the decision to grant the application with a waiver. The City of Summit will have to request the waiver from the state for a second access road, which must be done within 30 days.

Maher's motion to deny the application surprised no one. Pitman, who minutes before in his summation had said, "We don't want approval with the right to seek a waiver," sat silently.

"For the last 70 years, there's been only one access to this site," Pitman said in his summation. "Our roadway meets all Residential Site Improvement Standards, your ordinances and

the municipal land use law. This board has an obligation to assist Springfield in helping with Mt. Laurel housing. There has to be a regional obligation. We're not seeking waivers or exceptions."

Another hurdle concerned the RSI standards recommendation of a distance of at least 150 feet separating closely intersecting streets. Maltz previously testified to the distance separating Park Drive from the nearby Middle Avenue as 150 feet. Surveyor Kenneth Kenon made his own official measurement, testifying Monday night to a distance of 129.22 feet.

Maltz then spoke, telling the board that the RSI standard of 150 feet is for new streets being constructed, and that distances in the 125-foot-range often suffice for existing streets in most municipalities.

"The purpose of the 150 foot 'T' offset is to avoid corner cutting and an interlocking left-turn situation," Maltz said. "I saw no instances of corner cutting from either direc-

tion when I was making my measurements from Park Drive. The geometry — the distance between roads — is more than adequate."

In the public comments portion of the meeting, only one Middle Avenue resident approached the podium, urging the board to thoroughly consider the 150 foot rule.

"If the RSI standards designate 150 feet, they did it for a reason," resident Steve Baracca said. "I don't think it should be varied from 150 feet."

But in the end, the board considered the second access point more crucial than the distance between the two roads. "I'm cognizant that we're dealing with an affordable housing element," Maher said as he gave his explanation for moving to deny the proposal. "But in respect to alternative access, there's no evidence that an effort was made to approach the Department of Environmental Protection. I do have some problems with this area being served by a stream."



Florence Gaudineer School Principal Dennis McCarthy shows off his 'A+ For Teachers' honor with seventh-grader Zach Links, who nominated him for the recognition.

FMG principal receives an A+

By Cathleen Taub
Correspondent

As principal of the Florence Gaudineer School in Springfield, Dennis McCarthy regularly receives phone calls from professional athletic teams that offer him free promotions. So when the 25-year school veteran saw that he had a message from a representative of the New Jersey Nets, he "didn't think much of it."

McCarthy soon thought differently when he discovered just what that message was. Zach Links, a seventh-grader at his school, had nominated him principal in the "A+ For Teachers" contest sponsored by the New Jersey Nets. McCarthy was one of the winners.

McCarthy was a natural choice for Links to nominate. Without thinking, Links is quick to say of his principal, "I really felt that he was an inspiration."

Links easily cites several reasons why he is inspired by McCarthy. McCarthy sponsored a walkathon in honor of Shawn Jones, a student who died a few years ago and the principal has been active with the Healing Heart Foundation, a group that helps leukemia patients.

Most of all, Links praises McCarthy for the constant encouragement he gives his pupils. In his two-page nomination essay, Links compares McCarthy to Jayson Williams, one of the seventh-grader's favorite basketball players.

Links writes, "Mr. McCarthy is the Jayson Williams

of teachers, he tells us to hang in there, deal with adversity and keep up the good work."

In response to this, McCarthy said, "I was delighted that Zach wrote these very nice things about me." In fact, the principal thought it was funny that Links believed McCarthy was the real honoree. McCarthy says the honor really belongs to Links. "He wrote well enough to compete with the other essays that the Nets received."

Links' enthusiasm for his principal's success really motivated McCarthy. "He was excited for me and that made me excited," tells McCarthy.

As a contest winner, McCarthy, his family, and 25 members of the school community went to Friday night's Nets game where the principal was given his certificate at half-time. "The Nets lost in overtime — by one point — Zach doesn't want to talk about that part," McCarthy teases.

Links, dressed in his matching blue Nets sweat, let out a sigh as he considered his favorite team's loss. He is a devoted Nets fan who discovered the "A+ For Teachers" contest when he "was searching the Nets website as usual."

Both Links and McCarthy are both proud of one another as they hold McCarthy's certificate signed personally by Nets Vice President Willis Reed and smile.

Nothing left for school budgets except approval by the voters

By Kirsten Matthew
Managing Editor

Judgment Day came and went Tuesday for the Springfield and Mountainside school budgets — the public had its hearings and both budgets have now been approved by the respective boards of education.

The final approval of both budgets will be determined by the voters on April 18.

Mountainside's \$9-million budget for the 2000-01 school year reflects a rise in taxes. The tentative tax levy is up \$390,417 from the 1999-2000 school year, to a total anticipated tax levy of \$8,066,039.

If approved by voters, the Mountainside school budget will result in a two-cent tax rate increase. This will build-out to an increase of \$40 a year for the average assessed property of \$200,000 — or \$3,340 in school taxes next year.

Part of the increase resulted from the \$123,000 more the school plans to spend on staff benefits this year; the proposed plan allows a total of \$623,000 for benefits. The budget also includes funding for three additional teachers at Deerfield School

and the potential for an additional kindergarten teacher due to a possible student increase next year. Although some cuts were made in funding for textbooks, maintenance and supplies, a \$600,000 surplus was included in the budget.

The large surplus this year reflects the first in a series of tuition reimbursements or credits that Mountainside received from the state for the cost of sending each Mountainside student to Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights during the 1997-1998 school year.

Since an auditing system is in place, reimbursements occur every two years. The state initially calculated that tuition rate at \$12,500, but because only 199 students attended GL that year, the out-of-district contract called for a credit. This year, that credit amounted to \$193,000, said Business Administrator Fran Tolley.

During the public hearing, former Mountainside Board of Education member Pat Knodel asked the board members how that money would be applied to the budget.

"Are we giving that money back to the taxpayers?" asked Knodel, who is running for the board this year.

Tolley said most of the money was absorbed by the instructional and employee benefits budget categories. The areas with the largest increases on the budget, the additional surplus will carry over into future school budget years, board member Richard Kress said.

"That's why the surplus is here. And right now we're looking at that for the 2004-2005 school year," he said. The anticipated 225 out-of-district students that year will mean higher tuition bills in the future, he said.

"The thing that prevented us from getting a large increase this year is the fact that we did get the refund from Berkeley Heights," Kress added.

Springfield
There was little comment from the public or Board of Education members at Springfield's public hearing Tuesday night, save for a couple of questions from residents.

The district's \$21.3-million budget for the 2000-01 school year represents a 2.76-percent increase over the current year. This change will mean an approximate \$140 tax hike for the average assessed property of \$200,000. See BUDGETS, Page 9

Farmer's Market moves forward

By Joe Logura
Staff Writer

The Springfield Township Committee voted Tuesday night to bring some fruits and vegetables — and some flowers — to the township in the form of a Farmer's Market.

The market, scheduled to begin after the Fourth of July in the parking lot of Jonathan Dayton High School, is the brainchild of Township Committee member Roy Hirschfeld. The ordinance was tabled in early February as the committee awaited word on the use of the Dayton lot from the Board of Education. School budgeting resulted in the board's delay.

The market will offer "Jersey Fresh" fruits and vegetables, along with organic produce. According to Hirschfeld, one of the potential mer-

chants also is interested in selling flowers.

Hirschfeld, however, is guarded in his hopes for the market. Although he expects to start small, with only a handful of merchants, one merchant — Foodtown — has recently dropped out, with the remainder, including Sam's Market and Or Farm in Long Valley, yet to make commitments.

The market, which is scheduled to be in the Dayton parking lot on Sundays, from 1 to 3 p.m., beginning with the first Sunday after the July 4 holiday, has some neighboring competition. Summit also has a Farmer's Market on Sundays, with Millburn having its own on Fridays.

Hirschfeld has attempted to join the New Jersey Farmer's Cooperative Council, an organization consisting of

farmers who participate in such markets, but the council's full membership makes joining an impossibility for this year. Hirschfeld said he intends to join next year.

Township Administrator Richard Sheola assisted the project with the writing of a grant, a fact which Mayor Clara Harelik mentioned Tuesday night.

"I wrote a grant for the market, so it wouldn't be subsidized through tax dollars," Harelik said, reminding everyone that the jitney, now firmly established at Duffy's Corner, also began with a grant.

Deputy Mayor Steven Goldstein also lent his support to the market, saying, "I hope everyone checks it out and gives it its own chance to succeed or fail."

School board candidates talk about uniforms, kindergarten

By Mark Hrywna
Regional Editor

Candidates for the Mountainside Board of Education shared their views on two issues tackled by the school district within the past several months: full-day kindergarten and school uniforms.

Incumbent Frank Geiger is seeking his fourth, three-year term on the board while Patricia Knodel looks to return to the board after losing in last year's election — which ended a 26-year tenure. Meanwhile, MaryBeth Schaumburg has mounted a write-in campaign after she learned that Knodel decided to run in place of Linda Esmerale.

Two seats on the seven-member board are available in the April 18 election.

Full-day kindergarten
The Board of Education earlier this month approved full-day kindergarten, extending the school day for kindergartners from 8:30 to 3 p.m., starting in September.

Schaumburg said full-day kindergarten is something that will become widespread within school districts. "Teachers need time with kids and not have to rush them through," especially with added state curriculum requirements. The full day is "just allowing a more appropriate pace," she said, not adding activities or curriculum.

"You can't change what is required of a child in kindergarten today. Kids are so rushed that 90 minutes adds more to their school needs than takes away from family needs."

Geiger was confident in the recommendation of school administrators, particularly after researching other neighboring districts' experiences with full-day kindergarten.

"Unless I had evidence that it was not good for the district, I wouldn't have voted for it."

"All-day kindergarten programs came into vogue some 25 years ago as a way to fill empty classrooms, to provide jobs for 'RIFed' elementary

teachers and to accommodate the economic needs of working mothers," Knodel said. "The pros and cons of this has been argued in educational circles ever since."

"I believe parents, as the prime educators of their children, should be permitted to spend as much time with their children in these early formative years as possible."

"My own experience in substitution in an all-day kindergarten program convinced me that 5-year-olds do not need all-day kindergarten," said Knodel. "I feel that the educational needs of 5-year-olds are better served in a small group situation with one teacher."

"Given my druthers I would have three-hour kindergarten sessions," Knodel said. With approximately 78 pupils registered for the fall and three state-approved kindergarten classrooms, she suggested each classroom teacher would have 26 students — 13 in the morning session and 13 in the afternoon session.

"There would be no need for an assistant with a teacher-pupil ratio of 1:13. Each teacher would be handling the same number of total students whether the session is three hours long or all day."

School uniforms
Uniforms may simply come down to a matter of interpretation, Geiger said, of what exactly is a uniform. Students dressing identically is not something he would be in favor of. However, if a uniform means being neat in appearance, then he is in favor.

Schools should be able to dictate dress in certain situations, such as field trips; an instance where Geiger would like to see higher standards of dress as students are representing the school district.

Some schools consider a uniform anything that students and parents can do without from a particular catalog, he said. Geiger suggested allowing students to dress for one day in what they believe is an appropriate uniform.

"It's tough to bring in new issues

where half the parents are decidedly against it," Geiger said. "There are a lot of good reasons to have a strict code," he said, "but I don't think the district is ready for a very strict uniform policy."

Although Schaumburg never had a strong feeling to either side of the uniform debate, she said the way it was done in Mountainside was appropriate. Approximately half of parents surveyed were against it while one quarter were undecided and another quarter for. A committee charged to study the matter recommended the issue of uniforms be dropped.

A dress code is fine, Schaumburg said; there is a valid argument to have a dress code that until the recent past had gone unenforced. If it is enforced, she said, the district must take away the extremes.

"As one who wore a uniform all through grade school and high school, I have no problem with uniforms," Knodel said. "They certainly do simp-

lify things for parents and also for students."

"Today, with the influence of television, label comparisons and the safety issues involved, I can understand."

See CANDIDATES, Page 9

Spring ahead

Readers are reminded to push their clocks forward one hour before retiring to bed Saturday in anticipation of Daylight Savings Time, which begins Sunday at 2 a.m.

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The Echo Leader is published every Thursday by Worrall Community Newspapers, an independent, family-owned newspaper company. Our offices are located at 1291 Stuyvesant Avenue, Union, N.J. 07083. We are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every weekday. Call us at one of the telephone numbers listed below.

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Deerfield to present 'Annie, Jr.'

The Deerfield School Drama Club, Mountainside, presents "Annie, Jr." Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. in the school gym/auditorium, 302 Central Ave.

"Annie" was written by Thomas Meehan, with music by Charles Strouse and lyrics by Martin Charnin. The story is based on "Little Orphan Annie," a comic strip in The Chicago Tribune. The version to be performed by the Deerfield School students, is from the Broadway Junior production, Music Theatre International.

The show takes place in New York City at Christmas time, 1933, and features memorable, fun songs such as "Maybe," "Tomorrow," and "You're Never Fully Dressed Without a Smile." Little Orphan Annie is longing to find her parents who left her at the orphanage when she was just a little baby with the less-than-wonderful Miss Hannigan.

The story is a warm-hearted expression of a child's search for love and acceptance and appeals to audiences of all ages. The Deerfield School production will be performed with sets and costumes of the period. Music teacher Jeannette Maraffi is the director and musical director of the show. Deborah Posner, physical education teacher at Deerfield is choreographer.

Eight-graders appearing in the show include Tamara Casulli as Miss Hannigan, Joey Nicastro as Mr. Burns, Brian Wolford as the Apple Seller, Jon Landis as Sandy, Matthew Christian as Drako, Janice Boyce as Cecille, Sarah Hu as Annette, Greg Tomlin as Daddy Warbucks, Eric Caszar as Ben Healy, Guy Marretta as Rooster Hannigan, Andrew Harris as President Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Morgan Hill, Jean Brodian and Erin Sanders, chorus.

Seventh-graders in "Annie, Jr." are Fredrick Mack as Annie, Allison Gioia as Duffy, Louise Fratsky as Grace, Christy McCurdy as Lily, Kristen Pasterecky as the Star-To-Be, Jimmy DeCastro as Li, Ward, Michael Kolanko as the Dogcatcher, and Jessica Landis as Mrs. Pugh. Britany Benito is the solo dancer and uherette, and Ashley Force, Lyndsey Thomas, Lindsay Scholz, Molly Schmidt are members of the orphan chorus.

Sixth-grade cast members include Ana Lopez, Linnea Buttmore, Jocelyn Thau, Tessa Perrin, Allison Buckley, Kara Uzzolino, Noelle Gostyla, Scott Foster, Lauren Anderson, Julianne Boyce, Karole Friensky, Lauren Hauser, Krystina Kingston, Amanda Paskow, Raquel Rodrigues, and Darle West.

Tickets are \$5. A special dress-rehearsal tonight at 7 p.m. is open to senior citizens at no charge. For information call the school at (908) 232-8828.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar is prepared by the Echo Leader to inform residents of various community activities and government meetings. To give you community event the publicity it deserves, mail your schedule to managing editor, Echo Leader, P.O. Box 3109, Union, 07083.

Tuesday
• St. James Church, 45 S. Springfield Ave., Springfield, sponsors a winter shopping trip to Valley Fair Reading, Pa. outlets. Tickets are \$10 per person. For reservations call Tony Graziano at (973) 376-5612.
• The Deerfield School Drama Club, Mountainside, presents a special dress rehearsal of Annie, Jr. for senior citizens at no charge at 7 p.m. in the school gym/auditorium, 302 Central Ave.
• For information call the school at (908) 232-8828.

Friday
• The annual Mountainside PTA Book Fair is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and April 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the All-Purpose Room at Deerfield School, 302 Central Ave. For information call Susan at (908) 654-6399.
• The Deerfield School Drama Club, Mountainside, presents "Annie, Jr." at 7 p.m. in the school gym/auditorium, 302 Central Ave. Tickets are \$5.
• For information call the school at (908) 232-8828.

Saturday
• Volunteers are needed to assist with trail maintenance projects in the Watchung Reservation between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Meet at Trailside Nature & Science Center, 452 New Providence Road. Bring lunch, a mug for beverage, a shovel, pickaxe and gloves if you have them. For ages 14 and up. Call (908) 789-3670 for pre-registration, which is required.

• The Deerfield School Drama Club, Mountainside, presents "Annie, Jr." at 7 p.m. in the school gym/auditorium, 302 Central Ave. Tickets are \$5.
• For information call the school at (908) 232-8828.

Sunday
• Temple Beth Ahm in Springfield will conduct its first meeting of Hazzak, an organization for people 55 and over in the temple ballroom at 10 a.m. All are invited. The meeting will be an overview of Hazzak, part of United Synagogue - RSVP to the temple-office by March 27 at (973) 376-0519.

• The History & Future of Astronomy will be presented at Trailside Nature & Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside, at 2 p.m. Admission is \$3 per person, \$2.55 for seniors. For ages 6 and up with an adult. For information call (908) 789-3670.

• April Foolers will be presented at Trailside Nature & Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside, at 2 p.m. Donation is requested. See if you can be fooled with photos of camouflaged insects and try your observation skills at locating manufactured items camouflaged. For information call (908) 789-3670.

• A concert/festival of African-American Music, "African Rhythms to Jazz," will be presented at the Donald B. Palmer Museum of the Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave. Admission is free by ticket only. For information call (973) 376-4920.

• Stellar Spring Skits will be presented at Trailside Nature & Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside, at 3:30 p.m. Learn about the departing winter and newly visible spring stars and constellations. Each family will get a spring star map to take home. Admission is \$3 per person, \$2.55 for seniors. For ages 6 and up. For information call (908) 789-3670.

Monday
• The Springfield Board of Education meets at 7 p.m. for a conference meeting in the board conference room at Jonathan Dayton High School.

Tuesday
• The Mountainside PTA sponsors a Board of Education election forum from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Deerfield Cafeteria, featuring presentations by all candidates including for the Mountainside school board. Invited candidates include incumbent Frank Getzler, Patricia Knodel and write-in candidate Mary Beth Schaumburg. For information call Jen Gerberg at (908) 654-5474.

Wednesday
• Zella R.P. Geltman will bring her counselling and training services to the Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., for an ongoing course, "Write your life stories — memoirs writing made easy." Meetings will be the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 10:30 a.m. to noon. For information call (973) 376-4930.

• There will be an installation of the slate of officers and trustees at 6:30 p.m. of the combined units of Springfield, Mountainside, Westfield, Hillsdale and Scotch Plains B'nai B'rith, Unit 2093 at Temple Beth Ahm, 60 Temple Drive, Springfield. Admission is free for members. \$5 for guests.

Upcoming events
April 6
• The Foothill Club of Mountainside will have a luncheon at noon at B.G. Fields. For reservations call Genevieve at (908) 232-3626.
• The Union County Prosecutor's Office will sponsor the "Family to Family" program at 7:30 p.m. for parents, students and school personnel about substance abuse and treatment at Florence M. Gaudinger, South Springfield Avenue, Springfield. The program is also sponsored in conjunction with the Springfield Board of Education and Union County National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence.

April 9
• The annual Kiwanis Classic Car Show will be from 9 a.m. to noon at Jonathan Dayton High School in Springfield. Mail-in registration is \$10, \$15 the day of the event. Admission is free. Rain date is April 16. For more information call (973) 913-9118.
• The Springfield YMCA, 100 S. Springfield Ave., will present YMCA Healthy Kids Day 2000, a special program aimed at raising awareness of the importance of children's safe, healthy development. Admission is free and activities run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For information call (973) 467-0659.

April 10
• The Springfield Township Committee will meet for an executive session meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave.

• The Mountainside Board of Education will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Deerfield School, Central Avenue.
• The Springfield Township Committee will meet for an executive session meeting at 7:30 p.m. and a regular meeting at 8 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave.

• The Mountainside Borough Council will meet at 8 p.m. for a work session meeting in Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 East.

April 12
• The Springfield Board of Health will conduct a free rabies clinic from 6 to 7 p.m., which will be offered for the inoculation of both cats and dogs, at the Springfield Department of Public Works. No appointments are required.

• For more information call the Springfield Health Department at (973) 912-2211.

April 13
• The Mountainside Planning Board will meet at 8 p.m. in Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 East.

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WHITING
Deposits FDIC insured to \$100,000

Olock recalls nearly three decades of law enforcement

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer
For 27 years, John Olock kept his eyes on Mountianside's population. Now he keeps them on a population of doctors, therapists and patients.

A lieutenant in the Police Department since 1991, Olock stepped into his new position as Director of Security for the St. Barnabas Ambulatory Care Center immediately following his March 1 retirement.

"I knew I wasn't going to put in more than 30 years with the Police Department," Olock said. "But I didn't really retire. I just changed careers."

Olock's new beat is a sprawling medical facility with 68 employees. Located on South Orange Avenue in Livingston, the center is the site of both outpatient surgery and various forms of physical rehabilitation for adults and children. Quietly busy and filled with sunlight angling through its tall glass windows, the center is a far cry, in terms of atmosphere, from police work.

"I enjoyed it," Olock said of his time on the force. "As a Mountianside police officer, you perform a lot of public service for the residents — vandalism calls, disputes between neighbors and assisting senior citizens in various ways. I liked that public service aspect. There was probably more of that than there was of law enforcement."

In his 27 years, however, Olock has seen his share of action. He recalled incidents on Route 22 in which a former Southern State prisoner told him plainly "I have a gun," and a situation

involving a stolen car in which the suspect stepped on the accelerator, dragging him and throwing him to the ground. In January 1978 Olock was on the scene of a double axe murder and suicide.

"It's probably harder to be a police officer in a small town like Mountianside than it is in a bigger city," Olock continued. "The readiness level is different in a small town. There are peaks and valleys in a small town — whereas, in a bigger place, like Newark, you're always ready."

A 1969 graduate of David Bearley Regional High School in Kenilworth, Olock graduated from Kenilworth University in 1997 with a bachelor of arts degree in public administration; on May 4 he will graduate with his public administration master's. He said his education has helped him greatly in handling the 24 employees he currently supervises. His staff keeps an eye on the St. Barnabas facility 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Olock came to Mountianside as a patrolman after nine months with the Kenilworth Police Department. He was promoted to sergeant in 1988, became a resident "four days before Christmas" in 1990, and was made a lieutenant the following year. As a patrolman, Olock assumed Firearm Officer's duties in 1979, training other patrolmen in the handling of firearms — a responsibility he held throughout his entire career in law enforcement.

In the early 1990s, Olock was instrumental in establishing the borough's DARE program, which he considers an extension of his efforts



John Olock

with the New Jersey Narcotic Enforcement Officers Association.

"It's one of my favorite things I've done," he said. "And I think it's helpful for the kids. The pressures in society today are tough. I feel that if it can help keep kids off drugs today, then that's our future."

Olock continues to remain active with the Union County Firearms Association as treasurer. He also is a life member of the State PBA and the Mountianside Local PBA, as well as a board member of the American Society of Public Administrators. A golfer and fisherman, "both salt-water and freshwater," Olock and his wife have two daughters — Allison, six years old and a student at Deerfield, and Christine, 22. As for continuing his post-law-enforcement life in Mountianside, the chances look good.

Olock said, "We have our house under contract right now. My wife and I always talked about owning our own house."

Conti to be remembered with tree

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer

An admired and beloved Mountianside resident might soon be honored with a memorial.

Mountianside resident and Democratic Club member Lou Thomas has approached the Borough Council with a proposal for a tree planting honoring the memory of Ann Conti. Conti, who served as Union County Surrogate, died last July.

"All who knew Ann knew that party affiliation meant nothing," Thomas said. "She helped everyone she could."

Thomas referred to the tree planting as "a fitting memorial" for Conti, who was surrogate since 1983, assisting with wills, probates and other legal matters often faced by family members following a death.

Conti, who served as a member of the Board of Directors of the National College of Probate Judges, was the first female president of the Union County Bar Association and

one of the founders of Women Lawyers of Union County. A Mountianside resident for 22 years, Conti held, as Thomas noted, the highest elected office of any Mountianside resident and was instrumental in founding a senior citizen lawyer referral service in the borough.

Thomas suggested the area of the library, with its heavy traffic, as a suitable location for the memorial. Prior to his asking the council, Thomas called Acting Borough Administrator and Police Chief James Debbie to get his thoughts on permits and regulations. Debbie did not anticipate any obstacles, calling Thomas' proposal "a great idea."

Ann was a sweetheater," Debbie said. "This is the very least we can do. I think the idea of a tree is great." Debbie said Thomas will be contacting the borough's Shade Tree Commission, from which the tree — or trees, if enough funds are raised for two — will be selected. "Once Lou gets the ball rolling, then we'll pass a resolution," Debbie added.

Township Committee aims to avoid any increases in municipal taxes

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer

Here comes the budget. Springfield's municipal budget is weighing in at \$18,083,224. According to Township Administrator Richard Sheola, the budget was introduced with a tax increase of 3.75 percent, amounting to a \$53 increase on the average assessed home of \$150,000. But the township is expecting no increase, regardless of whether or not it receives the "extraordinary aid" it applied for from the state. A public hearing on the municipal budget is expected in April.

"Extraordinary aid is a special fund the state established some years ago, for municipalities under distress," Sheola said. "This year there's extraordinary aid for what we call 'flood towns.'"

Springfield certainly qualifies as a "flood town." The September storm damaged the township to a tune of \$2 million, flooding the basement of the Municipal Building and forcing the Police Department to relocate to the Sarah Bailey Civic Center for a period of several months, during the township into a state of emergency.

Sheola pointed out that the township is seeking \$400,000 in "extraordinary aid" to assist with the costs of the damage. If not received, the township will dip into its surplus to keep the tax rate down.

"We have \$4.8 million cash on hand," Sheola said. "Of that, we used \$2.4 million to fund the budget. The \$400,000 would come out of the \$2.4 million, keeping the

tax rate at zero," Sheola described the township's surplus figure as "very healthy."

"We would not be dipping into cash surplus without a stable surplus account," Mayor Clara Harelik said. "Without the \$400,000 for flood, the budget factors in at \$17,683,224, a 1.6-percent increase over last year. Settlements with three township police officers — in amounts of \$150,000, \$185,000 and \$300,000 — were all handled by the township's insurance company, according to Sheola, with the balance paid for by the township last year.

For the coming year, the township expects its greatest expense to go toward the construction of a new fire house. The Schiele Oil building next to the Post Office on Mountain Avenue has been mentioned as a possible site for the new facility, with the old fire house behind the Municipal Building to be renovated for use by the Police Department. Harelik cited the projects as among her top priorities when she took office in January.

"You have to have all your funds in place before you commit to a project," Sheola said. About \$450,000 of the capital budget is scheduled to be paid for "in cash we already have," he added. "I'm of the theory that you pay as much cash as you can; pay the smallest stuff in cash."

Sheola pointed out that the current budget has more than \$3.8 million in "potential" capital projects, with "a good portion" going toward the fire house project.

The township is not currently facing the running out of grants. The grant for the junction at Duffy's Corner, for instance, will not run out until next year.

Pedersen files suit in Superior Court

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer

Springfield, Police Capt. Vernon Pedersen's lawsuit against the township, originally filed in federal court, has been filed in State Superior Court.

According to Ronald Ricci, Pedersen's attorney, the suit was filed with the state within the past two weeks and is in the process of being served to the defendants again.

"We originally filed in federal court because you get to court quicker that way," Ricci said. "But the judge felt that there were more state claims. He felt it was more appropriate to file with the state."

Only one of Pedersen's nine charges could be classified as a federal charge, thus necessitating a change to the state level.

Pedersen was fired by the Township Committee in July 1998 on the heels of an anti-Semitic remark he made to Lt. Ivan Shapow during a recorded telephone conversation. Pedersen was reinstated in February 1999 by Union County Superior Court Judge Edward Toy. The suit alleges, in part, that

Pedersen "was further terminated...because he did not practice the Jewish religion" but was rather a practicing Christian. The Plaintiff's race was the determining or motivating factor behind his termination and his termination violated his right to freedom of religion as set forth by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution.

The suit also referred to a "loss of consortium," alleging that the firing resulted in injury to Pedersen's intimate marital relations. Township Committeemen Roy Hirschfeld and Sy Mullman were named as defendants, along with former committeewoman Judith Blitzer, Police Chief William Chisholm, the township's labor attorney Mark S. Ruderman and Township Attorney Bruce Bergen.

Mayor Clara Harelik and Deputy Mayor Steven Goldstein were not on the Township Committee at the time of Pedersen's firing, and were not named. Committeeman and former mayor Gregory Clarke, who did not vote to fire Pedersen, also was not named.

Pedersen later apologized to Brooks, but the incident proved to have extended consequences, with Sgt. Peter Davis, along with Shapow, both of whom claimed to have been subject to retaliation by the department after demonstrating their support for Brooks. Filing their own lawsuits. The township eventually settled out-of-court with all three officers last year, with Shapow's \$300,000 settlement proving the largest.

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COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

An informed choice is the best choice

Be a part of the educational process. Learn about this year's candidates for the Mountainside Board of Education. The Mountainside PTA sponsors a candidates forum Tuesday from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Deerfield cafeteria. All three candidates for the school board will be there: incumbent Frank Geiger, Patricia Knodel and write-in candidate MaryBeth Schaumberg. All three will make presentations about their candidacy. Two of the board's seven seats will be up for election on April 18.

All three candidates have shown a desire for helping to make the school district the best it can be and moving forward into the 21st century.

If you cannot find an hour in your schedule to make it on Tuesday night, the forum will be televised later on local cable access. Be sure to watch it.

As a parent and resident of Mountainside, it is imperative to do your civic duty and vote. As a voter, it is vitally important to be informed — not only about the candidates but also about the school budget since that will be voted on as well. Information about the borough's school budget will be presented as well.

We urge all residents, whether they have children or not, to make their best effort to become informed about this year's school board election.

Setting a good example for others

Twenty juniors and seniors at Jonathan Dayton High School in Springfield were inducted into the National Honor Society this school year. This rare honor is not only about grades and test scores but much more.

Honor Society members are not just students who get high grade point averages or high SATs. Some might believe these are "the nerds" or "the brains" of the class. Although they do excel in the educational area of high school, these students also must show qualities such as leadership, character and service.

Many of these students do more than simply study for school. They volunteer in town and are active within school, beyond just the classroom.

Honor Society members are fine examples of the product of a school system. In a time when parents or elected officials seek to rank schools for excellence and accountability of school administrators, these are students who possess qualities that cannot be quantified by a simple ranking or score.

Honor Society students can include their inductions on college applications and essays and they should; it is a great accomplishment. But they have shown that they have learned valuable lessons, lessons that cannot be calculated on a standardized test or quantified for a college application. However, the lessons they have learned are of utmost importance in growing and becoming productive citizens in society and leaders in the future.

Well deserved

Last week, the Mountainside Borough Council officially promoted two of its Police Department members following the retirement of another.

After 27 years with the Mountainside Police Department, John Olock retired, reaching the rank of Lieutenant. Although it is not officially a retirement altogether, he is now the director of Security for the Saint Barnabas Ambulatory Care Center in Livingston.

His retirement from the department created a vacancy which the Borough Council has filled by elevating Lt. Richard Osieja to the rank of captain and Cpl. Todd Turner to the position of lieutenant.

Law enforcement and police work is not the easiest of jobs. Sadly, there are many who are unable to reach retirement simply because of the dangers of their job; a sad but true fact of life for police officers. They put their lives on the line each and every day, and for people whom they usually do not even know.

We commend Turner and Osieja for their promotions as well as Olock for dedicating nearly three decades to protecting the residents of Mountainside. We wish all three law enforcement officers the best of luck in their new positions.

"There is no such thing as total freedom of the press."

—Cheong Yip Seng
Singapore newspaper editor
1994



GO TEAM GO — The St. James cheerleaders, from left, kneeling, Courtney O'Reilly and Madeline Lawlor, and standing, Nicole DePrimo, Cara Flynn and Caitlin Quagliata, add enthusiasm and moral support to the games played throughout the season by the two CYO basketball teams of Springfield.

Let's hope all these questions are worth it

The big count is on April 1. We are all obligated to fill out the census forms delivered recently and honestly report on the status of each member of the family. I have no problem with this Constitutionally-required activity. But, I am a bit suspicious, not only about some of the questions on the census form, but also about how the process is being conducted this time around.

Before the actual census form arrived, we all received notification it was coming. That notification was printed in English on one side and in five other languages on the other side. I am no linguist. But I did figure out one of the foreign language selections was Spanish and another looked like Japanese.

The others were completely incomprehensible to me until someone more attuned to other languages said the two of the others were Vietnamese and Tagalog, the language spoken by people from the Philippines.

While I was not happy about all these translations, what bothered me more was the invitation to have regular census forms sent out in these other languages. If they were needed. Fine. We want an accurate count.

As I See It

By Norman E. Rauscher

But, who is counting to make sure that after receiving a form in English and then in another language, that both forms aren't being filled out. I can't believe there's someone, somewhere, doing a check to make sure only one form is being filled out. And, since the results of these counts means really big bucks, I want some assurance that big cities, and small, too, are not beefing up the returns by having residents fill out more than one form.

Before the form arrived, I also received a postcard asking me to join the census work force. I didn't pursue that offer, but I assume there's a shortage of available personnel, since we are supposedly enjoying almost full of employment. In the past, these plum jobs usually went to the politically connected. Nowadays, that "pull" is not needed.

Now, we come to the form. I understand there's a short and a long form. Frankly, I don't know which one I have, although it is not particularly long, but it is requesting information about housing costs and values, etc. It also is requesting separate information about each member of the family, and there's space for responses about seven persons. What a family of more than seven persons does, I don't know.

Now, let's look at some of the questions. Housing costs are evidently big on the government's mind. So, responses are needed about the value of the property occupied by the family. That's okay when you own your own home and have an idea of the assessed valuation. How does an apartment renter respond to that question? I personally don't know anyone in an apartment who knows the assessed valuation of the entire property so an estimate can be made as to the value of the individual apartment.

Then, there's the question about ethnic background. Some of the questions are related to race, and at least one is related to country of origin, so to speak. That sounds easy enough, except in this country most of us have multiple ethnic backgrounds, and

there really is not enough space to be that specific.

For instance, my own ethnic background is English, Scottish and German. My wife is Russian, Romanian and Austrian. There's not enough room to list all that heritage. The problem with the question is the assumption that everyone has just one ethnic background. Not in this country.

I really think the census form writers were more interested in race. But there also is a shortfall in that area, as well, since many people's background includes at least more than one race.

Regardless of the shortcomings, I will comply with the law. The form will be filled out and returned promptly. And, I'll remember to wait until April 1 to fill it out, since that's the day for the count.

I just hope all this information brings something back to Summit and that my time is not being wasted on a fool's errand. After all, April 1 is April Fool's Day.

Norman E. Rauscher is a former newspaper publisher and frequent contributor to this newspaper.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Come out and support school budget Twenty six years is long enough

To the Editor:

The five local PTA/PTSOs urge the citizens of the Township of Springfield to exercise their right to vote.

Our local Parent-Teacher-Student Organizations have voted to support the Springfield School District's 2000-01 school budget which reflects sound planning and fiscal accountability.

We are asking each registered voter to consider the following reason for their support their budget.

First, our children's education is our primary concern. Continued enhancement of programs such as technology, summer school, evening recreation, residential tips and instructional materials necessary for classroom management is beneficial to a well-rounded education. In addition, we need to maintain the high standards that have elevated our school district to the role model that it has become.

We urge your support of this budget because it does maintain a quality education in our school system while at the same time being responsive to the taxpayers' concerns.

This election is important. We are asking each voter to go out and vote yes for the school budget on April 18. Polls are open 2 to 9 p.m.

Our children deserve the best education. You can make it happen with a yes.

Editor's note: This letter was signed by Lisa Ebert, president, Edward V. Walton School PTA; Kathy Murray, president, James Caldwell School PTA; Donna Strober, president, Thelma L. Sandmeier School PTA; Merle Rosenbaum, president, Guadalupe School PTA; Sandy Kazemi, president, Jonathan Dayton High School PTSO; Lynn Riva Cozzi, vice president, Community Conference Group of Springfield.

Credit must go to those who govern

To the Editor:

By his letter of March 23, Mr. Lou Thomas, president of the Mountainside Democratic Club, took exception to my prior letter describing him as offering "gratuitous criticisms but no ideas of his own" in his initial letter of March 3. Showing that he is true to form, in his March 23 letter, Mr. Thomas mentions my name seven times but once again fails to identify any specific ideas on how to better govern Mountainside.

Although I am vice chair of the Mountainside Republican Committee, I wrote — and continue to write — as a citizen not as a partisan. My point remains that we have a wonderful town in which we live, and some credit must go to those who govern us.

Patricia S. Gagliardi
Mountainside

To the Editor:

Linda Esemplare and Pat Knodel have now both explained their actions regarding their candidacies for Mountainside's school board. Esemplare pulls out at literally the last minute, tells no other board members what she's doing, and delivers her hand-picked replacement's petition putting Knodel in the race. Anticipating they'd secure an uncontested seat and continue to represent "approximately 70 percent" of the citizenry, they contrived this plan together.

Esemplare explains that "life situations do not always play out when it is convenient for one to make a timely decision." "It wasn't convenient" to even let other school board members know she wasn't running again. Instead, she makes a "timely decision" to hand-deliver Knodel's petition with minutes to go before the filing deadline.

Knodel wishes to be perceived as a person of integrity. Does a person of integrity demonstrate such manipulative behavior? Knodel says she's been faithful to her duties during her 26 years. Voters in last April's election seemed to think that was long enough.

Knodel and Esemplare attempt to explain so much making one wonder, what for? If they've done nothing "dishonest or illegal," as Knodel says, then why all this explanation? Is honesty the shield of defense they wish to use? Is it honest to hide your intentions when there was ample opportunity to reveal them? Knodel laments that people don't speak to them before writing letters to complain about their behavior. Many people wonder why they weren't more honest concerning their intentions in February. Is this the kind of honesty we need on the board?

The Esemplare-Knodel team has painstakingly explained their actions and thoughts, but their explanations lack the ring of truth. Their integrity seems to be nothing more than manipulative behavior.

Asking us to believe them simply because they say so, they forget that actions speak louder than words. We are to believe Knodel would inspire youth, yet her comments reveal how out of touch with them she really is. Twenty-six years of this act is enough.

Thomas Schranck
Mountainside

Our policy on letters and columns

The Echo Leader welcomes submissions from its readers. Either letters to the editor or opinion pieces on any subject will be considered for publication on the opinion pages.

This opportunity also is open to all officials and employees of the township, borough, and the County of Union.

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Published Weekly Since 1929
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and Mountainside Echo

Published By
Worrall Community Newspapers, Inc.
1291 Stuyvesant Avenue
Union, N.J. 07083
(908) 686-7700

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Filter out the carpet-baggers

To the Editor:
Being in the 7th Congressional District, we are suddenly faced with the choice of a total of 10 candidates, six Republican and four Democrats, vying for our one congressional seat. In the next few weeks, we will hear from them as to how they are going to address our district's needs and how they can help us. In other words, the same political lip service and promises one always hears.
One simple filter I am planning to use to weed out almost half of the candidates is: do they actually care about us? This should easily be determined by looking at who actually lives here, and who just moved in the district for the self-serving purpose of running. Of the 10 candidates, this filter cleans out at least five candidates, Mr. Farley and Mr. Lapolla, who are Democrats, and Messrs. Kean, Ferguson and Morrissey, who are Republicans. That leaves five candidates, who, one by one, may drop out based on their prospects.
You may be surprised that Lapolla should be tossed, since he has the backing of State Sen. Raymond Lesniak. Lapolla should not even be considered. Not only is he self-serving by recently moving into Westfield to run for this district, which probably was based on Lesniak pulling his puppetstrings, Lapolla is Union County manager who, under his three-year tenure, we the taxpayers gave him and our freeholders a total of \$1 billion — yes that's billion! — and actually have nothing to show for that billion, except maybe large county salaries and a small grant here and there.
Think about it — \$1 billion! One wonders why Lesniak is backing Lapolla, but I'm guessing it's self-serving also and may have something to do with Lesniak's law firm getting county work. And those five names being filtered out are deeply involved in each of their party's political games in which we the voters are just considered their pawns.
I would pay attention to the balance of the five candidates because at the very least they lived in the district long enough to be in tune with our district and be attentive to our needs. As for myself, since I'm Republican, I will be voting on my choice of four Republicans, since the rest were filtered out.

One last item to mention: I live in Garwood, and I didn't see any candidates quickly moving into my town to declare candidacy. Instead, they picked Westfield and Warren to schmooze, which are considered wealthy towns.
The last time I looked, Garwood was still on the map. Are any of these candidates going to hold debates or special meetings here in Garwood? Our votes could swing the election. Remember, an informed voter makes the right choice for the political process, democracy, and his friends, family and neighbors.
Bruce Paterson
Garwood

Sore loser unbecoming to McCain

To the Editor:
It's time for John McCain to get on the George W. Bush "bandwagon." A sore loser is unbecoming to McCain's stature.

Joseph C. Chieppa
Mountainside

Newcomers Club plans events

The Mountainside Newcomers Club announces the following member activities for the upcoming months:

April 8: Couples Night Out at Garwood Lanes, Garwood, from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. Cost is \$16 per person with a cash bar. Call Jen Marie Morgan at (908) 518-9499 by Saturday.
April 16: Easter Egg Hunt at "The Loop" playground, Watching Reservation, at 1 p.m. Cost is \$5 per child. Call Susan McCarthy at (908) 654-4694 by April 9.

May 6: Annual Newcomers Community Garage Sale. There will be a \$20 fee per address, and the club will provide the advertisement in local newspapers, promotional signs and community maps. Call Carole Cahill at (908) 233-8426 by April 17.

The Mountainside Newcomers Club is a social organization whose purpose is to extend a friendly greeting to newcomers in town, to help them meet other newcomers, and to do

everything possible to make them feel welcome and part of the community. Membership is open to new residents of Mountainside or established residents who have experienced a change in lifestyle, such as the birth of a child, or a change in employment or marital status.
For membership information, call Heather Pisano at (908) 389-0455.

Obituary policy

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

Obituary notices must be typed and include a telephone number where writer may be reached 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
For more information, call (908) 686-7700.

We're asking

What was the best movie that you saw last year?



Robert Roguso

"I liked 'Go' a lot — it's all about what teens do on the weekends."



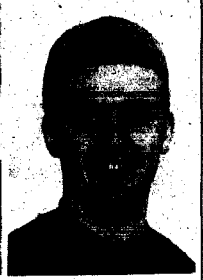
Dave Selecky

"I think it would have to be 'The Sixth Sense.' It seems so real — like it could happen. It's not too far-fetched."



James Bell

"'Face Off' with John Travolta. I loved that movie."



Alan Arbutina

"Oh, 'Erin Brockovich' was the worst — well, it was an OK movie, but the previews misled me."

EVENTS

Foothill Club luncheon scheduled for April 6

The Foothill Club of Mountainside will have a luncheon on April 6 at noon at B.G. Fields. The program will feature a Chinese auction, presented by the Ways and Means Committee.

Members also are reminded to bring donations for an Easter food basket to be given to a needy family in town. Guests are always welcome. For a reservation call Genevieve at (908) 232-3626.

Tickets are available to the Paper Mill Play House for May 25 to see "The Student Prince." Cost is \$2.50 per person.
For more information and reservations call Madeline at (908) 232-8550.

Deerfield Book Fair

The annual Mountainside PTA Book Fair will be at Deerfield School on Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the All Purpose Room. All are invited.

The Book Fair features popular titles of books for all ages including preschool and picture books. The

books are available at buy one get one free prices.
For more information call Susan at (908) 654-6399.

Candidate forum Tuesday

The Mountainside PTA will sponsor Board of Education election forum Tuesday from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Deerfield School Cafeteria, featuring presentations by all candidates running for the Mountainside school board. Moderated by the Rev. Chris Belden of the Mountainside Presbyterian Church, the forum will be televised later on Mountainside's TV-55.

Invited candidates include one incumbent, Frank Geiger; Patricia Knodt; and one known write-in candidate, MaryBeth Schumberg.
All Mountainside residents are encouraged to attend and meet the candidates who will be vying for the two available school board seats. Information will be available concerning the school budget, which is up for approval.

An informed voter will make the best decision on Election Day, April 18.

For more information, call Jerry Greenberg at (908) 654-5474.

Free rabies clinic April 12

The Springfield Board of Health will conduct a free rabies clinic from 6 to 7 p.m. on April 12, which will be offered for the inoculation of both cats and dogs, at the Springfield Department of Public Works. No appointments are required.

The public should follow some simple preventive measures to limit the possibility of exposure to rabies:
• Make certain that all cats and dogs are vaccinated against rabies.
• Do not leave family pets outdoors overnight, or feed animals outdoors.
If bitten by any animal, consult your physician immediately and call the Springfield Health Department at (973) 912-2211 or the Westfield Regional Health Department at (908) 789-4070 to report the incident.

B'nai B'rith plans trip

Springfield B'nai B'rith plans a trip to Resorts Casino Hotel April 30. The package includes breakfast at Bagel Chateau, 222 Mountain Ave., Spring-

field, at 8:30 p.m., and \$17 back in coins from Resorts.

The bus will leave from Echo Plaza Mall parking lot between Mountain Avenue and Route 22, Springfield at 10:30 a.m. The cost of the trip is \$22 per person.

For information and reservations call Jerry Kamen at (908) 687-9120 days or (908) 277-1953 evenings. RSVP by April 12.
Mail checks to Jerry Kamen, c/o Day Cleaners, 2824 Morris Ave., Union, 07083. Reserve early.

STORK CLUB

Sarah Yee

A 7-pound, 11-ounce daughter, Sarah, measuring 21 inches, was born Dec. 21, 1999 in Al-Amal Hospital, Damascus, Syria, to Mr. and Mrs. James Yee of Springfield.

She is the couple's first child.
Ms. Huda Suboh is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Faith Suboh of Damascus, Syria. Her husband is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Yee of Springfield.

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OVERLOOK HOSPITAL Community Health

CALENDAR

Programs are free of charge unless otherwise noted. Call 1-800-AHS-9680 to register.

National Alcohol Screening Day
Participants receive educational information, complete a written screening test, and consult with a chemical dependency professional.
Thursday, April 6
4 to 6 p.m.
To register, call 1-888-AHS-1400.

Total Cholesterol Check
This screening uses the finger stick method and does not require fasting.
• Wednesday, April 12, 10 to noon
Overlook Hospital's Healthy Business Fair
Location: Renaissance America, 300 Main Street, Madison
• Friday, April 21, 1 to 3 p.m.
Location: Overlook Hospital, Summit
• Fee: \$10

Laser Vision Correction
Learn about the LASIK alternative to glasses and contacts.
Tuesday, April 25, 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Presenter: Joel Corbin, M.D., ophthalmologist

The Phases of Women's Health: What Every Woman Needs to Know
A forum exploring pertinent topics for women of all ages including stress management, fitness and nutrition, infertility, osteoporosis and marriage/relationships. Participants will enjoy brunch, a keynote presentation and breakout session of choice.
Saturday, April 29, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Registration required
Fee: \$15



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RELIGION

Sha'arey Shalom concert

Temple Sha'arey Shalom, 78 So. Springfield Ave., Springfield, will present a concert by Julie Silver, one of the stars of contemporary Jewish music, on Saturday at 8 p.m.

Silver's music has made its way into homes, synagogues and camps and weaves its way into the fabric of American Jewish life. Silver writes and sings both liturgical-based as well as new American Jewish ballads. Her style is diverse, soulful and engaging. Her music is easy to sing, easy to remember, and more importantly, it touches people with its beauty and simplicity.

The public is invited to attend this joyous and uplifting evening with Silver. Tickets purchased in advance are \$18 for adults; \$9 for students through high school. Tickets purchased at the door are \$20.

One can be listed in the program as a contributor for \$36 or a patron for \$50 which includes a wine and cheese reception prior to the program with reserved seating.

For more information or to purchase tickets call the temple office at (973) 379-5387.

Temple Sha'arey Shalom is a Reform Jewish congregation affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Membership is from the towns of Cranford, Millburn, Springfield, Union, Westfield and other surrounding communities.

The temple serves as a social, educational and religious focal center for the communities, with an outreach program, active Sisterhood and Brotherhood, and aaron social action program.

Temple Beth Ahm to start chapter of Hazak

Temple Beth Ahm, 60 Temple Drive, Springfield, is starting a chapter of Hazak, an organization for people 55 and older.

The first meeting will take place Sunday in the temple ballroom at 10 a.m. This first meeting will be informative with an overview of Hazak, part of United Synagogue. An antique roadshow will be conducted by Sandy Holover, an expert appraiser of Aalen's Galleries.

What is Hazak? Hazak is a mem-

bership organization created by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Like Women's League, Men's Club, USY, and Kadima, Hazak is for a special segment of the Jews who belong to the Conservative Movement.

Not so long ago people in their 50s and 60s were considered old, felt old, and didn't live too much longer. Today is another story, however. Now, the 50s are the young point of a whole new stage of life that can extend another four or five decades.

Not everyone will choose to live these golden years in the same way. In fact, the number of life-style choices in today's world is the greatest in the history of mankind. Hazak is an option available to Jews who enjoy associating with fellow Temple members and who want to continue these friendships in Temple-centered activities as they enter a period characterized by increased leisure time.

Special worship services at First Presbyterian

Special worship and renewal opportunities are every Sunday and Wednesday through April 23 at the First Presbyterian Church of Springfield, 210 Morris Ave., on the corner of Morris and Church Mall.

On Sunday, following the 10:15 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary, Darlene Kline an ordained candidate for ministry, will speak about empowering the lay person for care giving in all of its aspects from small encouraging contacts to the larger picture.

Kline is a lay leader in the "Stephen's Ministry" program, the Methodist Presbyterian Church and is highly qualified in the care giving ministry. Her presentation will be in the chapel as part of the special Sunday "bunch" fellowship hour.

All are invited and welcome to these opportunities to reconnect and deepen relationship with God and church.

Emanuel United features taize prayer services

The Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church, 40 Church Mall, Springfield is offering Taize Prayer Services every Wednesday in Lent. A simple dinner of soup and bread will

be offered from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, to be followed by a Taize Prayer Service from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. A free will offering will be requested.

Taize is a small town in France, where hundreds of thousands of people visit each year so that they can worship, grow in their relationship with God and enjoy Christian fellowship with people from all over the world. Worship at Taize includes singing and more singing.

The schedule is as follows: Wednesday - Special Taize Prayer Service for healing and wholeness.

April 12 - Taize Prayer Service. All people from all denominations or no denomination are welcome at the Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church.

For more information or directions call the church office at (973) 376-1695.

First Presbyterian Church offers numerous services

Special opportunities for Worship and Renewal are offered on Wednesday evenings and Sunday morning in March and April by the First Presbyterian Church in Springfield. All services will be in the Sanctuary of the historic church at 201 Morris Ave., at the corner of Church Mall. The Wednesday evening programs are from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. On Sundays following the 10:15 a.m. Morning Worship, the special programs will begin at 11:15 in the Chapel with coffee and goodies served during this Fellowship Hour.

All are welcome and invited to come to reconnect, renew and deepen our relationship with God. The Wednesday evening 7:30 to 8:30 schedule includes:

- Wednesdays, the Rev. Gary Weitzel, pastor, Garwood Presbyterian Church, preaching.

Sunday morning opportunities begin with 10:15 Worship followed by the "Bruch Series"

- Sunday, the Rev. Robert Morris, Episcopal priest on "The Pilgrimage of Life."

AT THE LIBRARY

'African Rhythms to Jazz'

On Sunday at 2 p.m., a concert/lecture of African-American Music - African Rhythms to Jazz - will be presented at the Donald B. Palmer Museum of the Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave.

The music will be performed by the Carmo Jackson Ensemble, and a lecture, the evolution of jazz - a people's struggle depicted through their music - will be given by Professor Yusef Ali.

Carmo Jackson, a native of Newark, is a jazz singer who has the "Divina" qualities of the great Dinah Washington and Sarah Vaughan, and has delighted audiences at the Newark Jazz Festival and the Theater Grill of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center. She has received enthusiastic reviews for her CD featuring "The Neanness of You."

Ali is an associate professor at William Paterson University in Wayne. At Rutgers University, from 1980 to 1995, he was director of the Paul Robeson Cultural Center, and also at Rutgers University, from 1992 to 1995, he taught African-American Music History in the department of African Studies.

Ali is a drummer/composer and bandleader, and has traveled throughout the world performing America's original art form, jazz and popular music. He has performed and/or recorded with pop artists Gladys Knight and Aretha Franklin and jazz artists Elvin Marsealis, Benny Carter, Lionel Hampton and many others.

Funding for this concert has been provided by the A. Leigh Butler Memorial Fund. Balbir, a longtime local resident, was active in all library issues. Because of his actions on behalf of the county system and of local libraries in Essex County, the New Jersey State Library Association awarded him its Library Service Award in 1988.

Admission to this concert is free by ticket only. Tickets may be picked up at the Circulation Desk prior to the performance.

For information call (973) 376-4930.

'New Jersey Architecture'

"New Jersey Architecture" will be the subject of a guest lecture and slide show presented by historic preservationist, Susanne C. Hand, at the Mountain State Public Library, Constitution Plaza, on Monday at 7:30 p.m.

Funded by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, the slide lecture presents a chronological overview of New Jersey architecture from the early 18th through the mid-20th centuries.

Structures include houses, barns, mills, factories, schools, and commercial, civic and institutional buildings, plus a discussion of how appearance relates function, technology and available materials. The talk also relates architectural styles and building types to broader issues in American culture.

Hand is the former chief of the New Jersey Office of Historic Preservation and also the author of New Jersey Architecture, published by the New Jersey Historical Committee. She is currently a principal at a Princeton-based consulting firm, specializing in historic preservation and planning.

The New Jersey Council for the Humanities serves the people of New Jersey by developing, supporting and promoting projects that explore and interpret the human experience, foster cross-cultural understanding and engage people in dialogue about matters of individual choice and public responsibility. The Council, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities, sponsors free programs at sites throughout New Jersey.

The program is free and open to the public. Call (908) 233-0115 to reserve seating space for "New Jersey Architecture."

'Write Your Life Stories'

Zella R.P. Gelman will be bringing her counseling and training services in the Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., to hold an ongoing course, "Write Your Life Stories." Memoirs Writing Made Easy. Beginning Wednesday, these meetings will be the first and third Wednesdays of

each month from 10:30 a.m. to noon. No writing experience is necessary, and no registration is required.

Gelman will offer methods by which memoirs writing can be made easy, how to get started, having a purpose, how to tell stories, making a list of ideas from life experiences, tips on editing, suggested reading, and how working with a group provides feedback for each other and enhances people's stories.

Gelman, a resident of West Orange, attended Rutgers University and Kean College, now University. Since 1985, Gelman has been a group facilitator in Human Relations, Adult Singles, Building Self Esteem, Writing as Therapy, Stress Management, Memoir Writing at such places as Daughters of Israel, JCC, Barnes and Noble and Montclair Adult School. Gelman has several publications including "Tales of Our Lifetimes," an anthology of, and tips for, writing memoirs.

The dates are: Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. to noon on April 5 and 19, May 3, 17 and 31, June 14 and 28, July 12 and 26, Aug. 9 and 23, Sept. 6 and 20, Oct. 4 and 18, and continuing until further notice.

For information call (973) 376-4930.

Lunchtime travel videos

The Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., will present its Lunchtime Video series Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. The series continues at noon on the following Tuesdays of every other week as follows:

April 11: A road trip to Blue Ridge, Vermont, Michigan, Red Rock Rim, northern New Mexico and Natchez Trace.

April 25: Yosemite, Washington, Oregon and northern California.

May 9: Yellowstone, The Grand Canyon, Zion, Mt. Rainier, Redwoods and Crater Lake.

May 23: A guide to America's National Parks.

For information call (973) 376-4930.

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Peace in the Middle East



Springfield's Florence M. Gaudineer students, from left, Jeremy Marx, David Zabludovsky, Drew Krumholtz and Alyssa Mason, and their teacher, Barry Bachenheimer, show off their autographed picture and personalized note from Madeline Albright, United States Secretary of State. Students wrote to Albright to share the Middle East Peace Plan they developed while studying the Middle East in geography class.

Candidates discuss uniforms, kindergarten

(Continued from Page 1) stand the desire of the parents who want uniforms. When one reads the list of taboos in the dress code, I think uniforms might go a long way to help simplify life at Deerfield School as well.

"Behavior of students and academic achievement is believed, by some, to improve when uniforms are worn. It may be an idea whose time has come for public school students."

In a letter to this newspaper, Knodel rebutted critics who have taken exception to her filing for the school board race. Esemplare had planned to file for re-election but unforeseen circumstances just before the filing deadline did not allow her to do so she asked Knodel to run.

"Mrs. Esemplare did not file a petition and then withdraw it after I filed mine. Mrs. Esemplare filed no petition. She acted as my petitioner."

"No one is officially a 'candidate' whose name appears on the ballot, until he or she files a petition at the board office by the filing deadline. Knodel said, which she did the afternoon of the deadline.

For people trying "to make me out to be something I am not — a person lacking integrity," is "unfair and untrue."

"We did nothing dishonest or illegal."

"In my 26 years on the board I have never done anything dishonest, never received anything or asked any favors for any of my children, never requested specific teachers or classes. I was always faithful to my duties, spent more time representing the board at state and national meetings than any other board member. I rarely missed a meeting and took many assignments that no one else wanted."

Two accidents along Morris Avenue

Springfield

Two different automobile accidents occurred Monday near the same Springfield intersection.

In the first accident, a Springfield resident was traveling eastbound on Morris Avenue when a Middle Village, N.Y., driver who was traveling southbound on Springfield Avenue ran the red light, striking the local resident in the driver's side door in the middle of the intersection. No injuries were reported.

Later, in another accident, a Paterson resident was approaching Morris Avenue in the right lane headed southbound on Springfield Avenue when a Summit driver, who was apparently attempting to switch lanes, slammed into the Paterson driver's Ford Expedition. Again, no injuries were reported.

POLICE BLOTTER

• A Briarwood, N.Y., man reported nearly \$200 worth of stolen property from his car on Saturday. The New York resident discovered a Sony Discman, seven compact discs and a handful of coins were missing after returning to his parking spot at a Fadem Road business.

• The owner of Anna's Designs on Morris Avenue reported a burglary at her store on Saturday. Among the items declared stolen were \$300 in cash and several checks made out to the business. The checks' total value was unknown.

• Staples' office superstore on Route 22, reported two brand new Sprint PCS cell phones stolen from a fenced in area inside the store on Fri-

day. A Samsung 3500, valued at \$150, and a Motorola StarTac, valued at \$300 were listed stolen.

• An unknown subject apparently entered the parking lot of Nissan World on Route 22 some time between Friday and Saturday, stripping three new cars of their wheels. Tires and rims were reported stolen from two 2000 Maximas and a 2000 Altima.

• A Panasonic digital camera valued at \$900 was reported stolen from Staples on Route 22 on March 23.

• A Highland Park driver was transported to Overlook Hospital on March 22 after she pulled her Honda forward out of a parking spot in Autoland and struck a light pole. She told police that she blacked out. An injury to the driver's right wrist was reported.

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Budgets are ready for voters

(Continued from Page 1) \$154,600. But a second question for the April 18 ballot, if approved, could mean an additional \$376,365 for the budget. That figure would raise the amount due by \$52, bringing the price tag on the average tax bill to \$192 a year.

Superintendent of Schools Gary Friedland said costs within the budget are "wrapped up in instruction." Salary and benefits for the seven teachers costs \$55,000 each, adding \$385,000. 3-percent salary increases within the \$14 million staff salary line item, adds \$420,000, an increase of \$100,000 in special education costs; and an anticipated \$300,000 rise in health insurance costs.

The second question is for security equipment, renovations that can be made in each of the five schools in the district.

Springfield's proposed school budget accounts for the addition of seven new teachers and the corresponding growth of class sizes. It also will provide the funding for out-of-district placement of special education students and updated textbooks.

Department responds to chimney fire

A wood stove in a Linden Avenue residence was the site of a small chimney fire March 21.

Firefighters were welcomed by a burning wood odor in the rear den.

FIRE BLOTTER

Occupants described the pipe as glowing near the roof area; firefighters were able to confirm the source of the heat with a thermal imaging camera. The vent was removed from the roof, with glowing embers found in the 45-degree turn in the pipe. A dry chemical extinguisher was used to put out the embers. There was no damage. The occupant was advised to have the vent cleaned before reusing the stove.

Two medical service calls and one alarm problem at a Route 22 East business were answered by the department March 21.

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NEWS CLIPS

Zingales named lead gymnastics director

Ann Marie Zingales of Summit has recently been named gymnastics director at The Connection for Women and Families, 79 Maple St., Summit. Zingales will oversee the gymnastics program and staff.

Involved with gymnastics since the age of four, Zingales was a member of her Easton, Pa., High School gymnastics team that won the 1986 Pennsylvania State Championship. She has been actively involved with gymnastics instruction at various venues in New Jersey and Pennsylvania throughout her college and professional years.

Most recently, Zingales was the lead attorney assigned to the city of Passaic with the firm of Scarinci and Hollenbeck, Secaucus. She received her Juris Doctor in 1994 from Hofstra University School of Law and a bachelor of arts in criminology/pre-law from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1991.

Currently a part-time master's of education student at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison, Zingales brings her love of gymnastics, and her organizational skills to The Connection.

"The Connection has a state of the art facility, combined with excellent programs and a dedicated and qualified staff," Zingales said. She hopes to work from this strong base to enhance and expand the current gymnastics program.

Locals plan to help bring relief to Mozambique

Between 800,000 and one million Mozambicans have been left homeless due to heavy flooding and extensive damage from Cyclone Elaine in February, according to United Nations estimates. Two Summit residents who visited Mozambique last fall urge area residents to help those in need.

"Crowded temporary housing; inferior hygiene and pools for standing water all increase the risk of malarial outbreaks in the affected area," said the Rev. Peggy Hodgkins of Calvary Episcopal Church in Summit, who visited the Anglican Diocese of Limbombe, Mozambique last fall with Lillian Cochran.

Under the "Dollar-a-Dose" program, every \$1 contributed will buy a week's worth of malaria treatment for a resident of the Diocese of Limbombe.

To contribute to the "Dollar-a-Dose" program, drop cash or a check in the specially-marked jar at the back of Calvary Church. Or send a check made out to Calvary Episcopal Church, marked "Dollar-a-Dose" to Calvary Episcopal Church, 31 Woodland Ave., Summit, 07901.

The Episcopal Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief has already contributed a \$25,000 emergency relief grant to the Diocese of Limbombe. The fund will send more donations toward rehabilitation of lives, property and organizations as they are received.

To help send a check marked "Mozambique" to "The Fund," P.O. Box 12043, Newark, NJ 07101. To donate online, go to <http://www.pbfwr.org/>.

Chinese healing arts at all-day workshop

Participants will experience Chinese healing arts currently under persecution by the Chinese government at an all-day "Qi Gong Healing Day" co-sponsored by Intervoice Center for Wholistic Living and the Aloha Holistic Health Clinic on April 8 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Calvary Episcopal Church, 31 Woodland Ave., Summit.

Qi Gong — pronounced chi gung — is part of the ancient Chinese discipline of energy medicine, which uses the mind to arouse and circulate the subtle power of the body to heal itself, according to Robert Morris, Intervoice director.

Reservations for the \$55 program may be made at (973) 763-8312, or on the Internet at www.intervoice.org.

Four presentations will give participants a comprehensive overview and experience of Qi Gong: Qi Gong Theory and Practice, Internal Cultivation for Health Maintenance, Fatu Defu — the discipline internally persecuted in Communist China.

LIFESTYLE



Christopher Brosius and Sarah Leyrer

Leyrer to marry Brosius

Stephen and Kay Leyrer of Mountainside announced the engagement of their daughter Sarah Leyrer to Christopher Brosius, son of Diane and William Brosius of Claren, Penn.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Governor Livingston Regional High School and will graduate from Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va., with a degree in early childhood education in May.

The future groom is a graduate of Claren University, Claren, Penn., and is employed at Canoe Brook Country Club in Summit as an assistant golf professional.

A January 2001 wedding is planned.

WORSHIP CALENDAR

BAPTIST

EVANGEL BAPTIST CHURCH - "CHRIST OUR HOPE AND PEACE" - 242 Shunpike Rd., Springfield, Rev. James J. Kelly, Pastor. Services: 9:30 AM Bible School for all ages - Nursery through Seniors: 10:30 AM. Sunday Services and Visitation: 11 AM. 1:30 PM AWANA Club Program for Children ages 4-11, 6:00 PM Evening Service & Nursery care. Wednesdays: 7:15 PM Prayer, Praise and Bible Study. Junior/Senior High Ministry. Adult Youth Ministry. Wide-Range Music Program. Super Seniors on Friday at 11 AM. Followed by Joint Ample Parking. Chair Lift provided with assistance. All are invited and encouraged to participate in worship with us. For further information contact church office (973) 379-4351.

JEWISH-CONSERVATIVE

TEMPLE BETH AHEM 60 Temple Drive, Springfield, 973-376-0339. Mark Malachuk, Rabbi; Richard Nadel, Cantor. Paul M. Poyser, President. Beth Ahem is an egalitarian, Conservative temple, with programming for all ages. Weekday services Mon-Fri., 7:00 AM. Sun. Thurs. 7:45 PM Shabbat (Friday) 6:00 PM & 8:30 AM. Friday 9:30 AM & sunset; Sundays, 8:30 AM. Festival & Holiday morning 9:00 AM. Family and social events are conducted regularly. Our Religious School (third-seventh grade) meets on Sunday and Tuesday. There are formal classes for both High School and Pre-Religious School aged children. The synagogue also sponsors a Pre-School Women's League. Men's Club, youth groups for fifth through twelfth grades, and a busy Adult Education program. A Senior's League meets regularly. For more information, please contact our office during office hours.

JEWISH - REFORM

TEMPLE SHAR'NEY SHALOM 78 S. Springfield Avenue, Springfield, (201) 373-5387. Joshua Goldstein, Rabbi; Amy Greenman, Cantor/Education Director; Nina Greenman, Pre-School Director; Bruce Pincus, President. Temple Sharey Shalom is a Reform congregation affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC). Shabbat worship, enhanced by volunteer choir, begins on Friday evenings at 7:30 PM with monthly Family Service at 7:30 PM.

Saturday morning Torah study class begins at 9:15 AM followed by worship at 10:30 AM. Religious school classes meet on Saturday mornings for grades K-5 on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for 4-7, and Tuesday evenings for post-bar/bat mitzvah students. Pre-nursery for grades K-5 on Tuesday and 2 1/2 through 4. The Temple has the support of an active Sinterhood, Brotherhood, and Youth Group. A wide range of programs include Adult Education, Social Action, Interfaith Outreach, Singles and Seniors. For more information, call the Temple office, (201) 379-2337.

LUTHERAN

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH 6789 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, (973) 203-3742-525. Fax: 203-379-8887. Joel R. Yost, Pastor. Our Sunday Worship Service takes place at 10 AM at JONATHAN DAYTON REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, Mountain Ave., Springfield. For information about our midweek children, teen, and adult programs, contact the Church Office Monday through Thursday, 8:30-4:00 p.m.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOLS, 229 Copperwheat Pl., Westfield, Rev. Dr. Krusch, Pastor. (908) 220-1131. Nursery available. Wednesday Evening Worship Service, 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion is available at all worship services. The church and all rooms are handicapped accessible.

METHODIST

THE SPRINGFIELD EMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, located at 40 Church Mall in Springfield, NJ invites all of Christ of all ages and backgrounds to join in their spiritual journey. Sunday Worship Service starts at 10:30 AM with childcare available for babies and toddlers. Christian Education opportunities for children begin during the Worship Service with a special time for children led by the Pastor before they depart for classes. Service of Prayer and Healing held the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM. Please call and ask about our Adult Christian Education, Young Adult Ministries, Bible Studies, Small Group Ministries, Prayer Chain, Music Ministry and other

opportunities to serve. If you have any questions, interest in opportunities to serve others, or any prayer requests, please call Rev. Jeff Mckeris at the Church Office: 973-376-1695.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SUMMIT

located in the heart of town on the corner of Kent Place Boulevard and DeForest Avenue. Church School and Bible Study held at 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. the emphasis of which is to always have a "good word" because of Paul's reminder to us in his letter to the Romans "that all things work together for good for those who love God and are called according to his purpose." The sermons are uplifting, Biblically sound and guaranteed to keep you awake. The music and weekly children's message are memorable. All are welcome to hear the Good News of God's love and salvation through Jesus Christ. Our church also offers nursery care, after worship refreshments and fellowship, and many lively programs for everyone. Come worship with us and find out how you too can have a "good word." Call the church office or Pastor Les Weaver for more information at 908-271-7100.

PENTECOSTAL-NON-DENOMINATIONAL

VISIONS OF GOD FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER, 242 Shunpike Road, Springfield (located at Evangel Baptist Church, Office located at 1132 Spruce Drive, Mountainside, Phone: 908-293-2912. Pastors: Paul & Sharon Dean. Worship Service - Sunday at 10:00 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study - Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Ministries include: Singles, Married Couples, Women, Men. We welcome anyone who is someone to come and worship with us.

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 210 Morris Ave. at Church Mall in Summit, 379-4320. Sunday Morning Church Classes for all ages 9:00 a.m., Sunday morning Worship Service 10:15 a.m. (July and August with nursery facilities and care provided). Opportunities for personal growth through worship, Christian education, Choir, church activities

and fellowship. Communion first Sunday of each month. Ladies' Benevolent Society meets Wednesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. Ladies' Evening Group - 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Kaffeklubs - 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. Choir - every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. at the Chapel. The Rev. Daniel J. Rossi, Jr., Pastor.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JAMES, 45 South Springfield Avenue, Springfield, New Jersey 07981, 201-376-2044. SUN. DAY EUCHARIST: Sat. 5:30 p.m. Sun. 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m., 12:00 Noon, 1:15 (Open-Door), 5:00 PM in the Church; Children's Mass - 9:30 AM Memorial Hall will resume September 14th. Weekday Masses: 7:00, 8:30 AM, 12:10 PM. Sunday weekday Mass, 8:30 AM; Holy Days: Same as weekday masses with a 5:30 PM anticipatory Mass and a 7:00 PM evening Mass. Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:00 - 5:00 PM.

ST. TERESE'S OF AVILA, 306 Morris Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901, 908-277-3700. Sunday Masses: Saturday, 5:30 PM; Sunday, 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM, 12:00 Noon, 1:15 (Open-Door), 5:00 PM in the Church; Children's Mass - 9:30 AM Memorial Hall will resume September 14th. Weekday Masses: 7:00, 8:30 AM, 12:10 PM. Sunday weekday Mass, 8:30 AM; Holy Days: Same as weekday masses with a 5:30 PM anticipatory Mass and a 7:00 PM evening Mass. Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:00 - 5:00 PM.

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STUDENT UPDATE

Deerfield honor roll

The following students have been named to the honor roll at Deerfield School in Mountainside:

Grade eight

• High Honor Roll: Michael Amalfi, Marisa DeAnna, Jennifer Hauser, Sherrie Hui and Kevin Wyvratt.

• Honor Roll: David Apigo, Nicole Baseli, Marissa Biala, Michael Biel, Jamie Boyce, Eric Casar, Anthony DeAngelis, Eric Feller, Chase Golomb, Brittany Hamill, Arda Hoz, Sarah Hu, Irene Lenus, Christopher Manso, Justin Polce, Helena Scholz, Cecilia Watson and Jamie Zawistak.

Grade seven

• High Honor Roll: Brittany Bento, Allison Gioma, Fredrick Mack, Christine McCurdy, Stacey O'Sullivan, Samantha Pingor, Morgan Starkey and Lyndsey Thomas.

• Honor Roll: Julia Arpino, Nicole Arpino, Michelle Borsellino, Kane Checklin, Mitchell Cirio, Anthony DeRose, Ashley Force, Louise Fritensky, Jessica Gelsion, James Hughes, Zachary Janutik, Evan Kaplan, Jessica Landis, Glynis Phillips, Joseph Pijanowski, Mollie Schmidt, Vera Souvorova and Matthew Tasccher.

Grade six

• High Honor Roll: Hali Alpert, Joseph Baseli, Linnea Butnermore, Christopher Chan, Sarah Dempsey, Andrew Gennaro, Justine La Bruno, Ana Lopez and Jocelin Thau.

• Honor Roll: Massimo Arpino, Elizabeth Ays, Julianne Boyce, Kate Lynn Capodanno, Joshua Dubinsky, Claire Eng, Scott Foster, Karole Fritensky, Noelle Gozyla, Jacob Greenberg, Lauren Hauser, Diane King, Morgan Liss, Lauren Parlapiano, Jason Pastore, Tess Perrin, Mary Jane Pijanowski, Jillian Richard, Andrew Robertson, Lindsay Thomas, Kara Uzzolino, Catherine Wilson and Molly Zhang.

To attain high honor roll status, students must receive all A's in major and minor subjects.

To earn honor roll status, students must receive at least a B in all major and minor subjects, no B-minus.

Five local students earn honors at Drew

Kimberly R. Giordano of Mountainside and Springfield residents Jessica Anne Johnson, Melinda Eve Nelson, Jennifer Saracino and Bryan Scott Zanisnik were among the 551 students named to the dean's list at Drew University for the fall 1999 semester.

To earn dean's list honors, students must maintain a minimum of a 3.4 grade point average, equivalent or better than a B+ on a scale in which A=4.0.

Kennedy on dean's list

Keith Kennedy of Mountainside was among 12 Union County residents to be named to the dean's list for the fall 1999 semester at New Jersey City University.

Students on the dean's list attained a semester average of 3.5 or higher.

Lieb included on dean's list at Brandeis

Adam Lieb, son of Martin and Linda Lieb of Springfield, was named to the dean's list at Brandeis University for his academic achievement for the fall semester.

Dean's list honors are awarded to students who have earned a grade point average of 3.5 or above.

Local residents cited at Montclair State University

Jana Franke and Stacey Ann Koempel, both of Springfield, and Mountainside residents Jacqueline Fitzherbert, Christine M. Klaskin, Patrick L. Manies and Pamela A. Weage, have been named to the dean's list for the fall 1999 semester at Montclair State University.

Koempel is majoring in fine arts while Fitzherbert is studying business administration and Weage is majoring in art.

Franke, Klaskin and Manies are undeclared.

To be eligible, a student must be enrolled full time and have attained a semester grade point average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale.

Young makes dean's list at Rutgers College

Springfield resident Tamara Young, a sophomore at Rutgers College, was named to the dean's list for the fall 1999 semester.

Young is pursuing a degree in journalism.

Kuplisk Proficient Cadet

Cadet Michael Kuplisk, son of Alla Shor of Springfield, has been named Proficient Cadet, for academics with a grade point of 80 or higher for the fourth marking period at New York Military Academy.



The new postmasters of the Wee Deliver program at Sandmeier School in Springfield are, from left, front row, Nicole Milano, Kylie Karp and Jay Williams, who are joined by, back row, teacher coordinators Kristine Murray, Postmaster Joseph Gornicz, letter carrier Richard Castore and Principal Michael Antolino.

Springfield's Sandmeier school delivers

Thelma L. Sandmeier School of Springfield has become one of the thousands of schools across the nation participating in "Wee Deliver," a program introduced in 1991 by the U.S. Postal Service to help promote literacy.

Sandmeier Principal Michael Antolino, said "Wee Deliver" allows elementary school students to use the experience of exchanging letters through the In-school Postal Service to supplement their regular reading and writing lessons. At the same time, it gives them a glimpse of the responsibilities and challenges they will face in the work world.

The school's student post office, set up with the help of employees from the Springfield Post Office, functions as

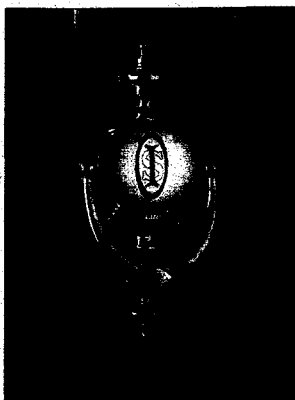
much like an actual postal operation as possible. It has its own student postmaster, letter carriers, and clerks.

Hallways and classrooms have received street names, addresses and Zip Codes. Students write and receive letters from each other using stamps they design. Their mail is collected, sorted and delivered by student postal workers.

"We think 'Wee Deliver' is a very useful learning tool for students," said Antolino. "With the help of Springfield's postmaster Joseph J. Gornicz and other post office staff, our student post office gives the children a chance to practice and improve on a variety of skills, enhance their self image and promote school spirit."



Fourth-graders involved in the Wee Deliver program at Thelma L. Sandmeier School in Springfield show off the certificates they earned.

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SPORTS

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Olsov honored

Dayton High School student-athlete Olga Olsov received a certificate of recognition from the NJSIAA for her participation and achievements this past year.

This certificate is presented to female athletes in New Jersey and the nation, acknowledging the many achievements of girls and women in sports.

A junior, Olsov was recently inducted into the National Honor Society and is an honor roll student. She is also a member of the Dayton High French Honor Society.

Olsov's many school activities include Peer Leadership, French Club, Key Club and Student Auxiliary. Her athletic participation includes winter and spring track as well as tennis in the fall.

Johnsen All-Conf.

Katie Johnsen, a senior at Oak Knoll School in Summit, was named to the Mountain Valley Conference's Valley Division girls' basketball squad by division coaches.

Johnsen, a forward, was named by guard Jahann Woodyard of St. Mary's and forwards Krissy Suckow of Mount St. Mary's, Michelle Williams of New Providence and Joanna Olinick of Roselle Park.

The second team included Oak Knoll's Katie Cummings, a freshman guard, as well as guards Magda Siwowski of Bearley and Megan LiBrizzi of Manville and forwards Megan Hannan of Mount St. Mary's and Stephanie Machin of New Providence.

Garcia scores

Mark Garcia's late-game, end-of-dash and goal on Sunday allowed Summit's 6th grade Gold lacrosse team to share in a season-opening 3-5 deadlock with visiting Cold Spring Harbor.

The score was Garcia's fourth of the contest. He tallied seconds into the match by converting a pass from behind the net by Taylor Robinson.

Garcia added unassisted goals in the second and third quarters, but the visitors posted four goals in the second and third quarters for a 4-3 lead.

Gordon Pepe tied the match with an unassisted goal in front of the net before Garcia's late score offset a goal-earned by Cold Spring Harbor. Summit received strong help from the midfield from Charlie Fortes and Jamie Bernard, while Tod Reynolds anchored the defense.

Grid clinics in May

The Springfield Minutemen's football program will have two clinics for boys presently in third through seventh grades May 13 and 20 from 9 a.m. to noon at Meisel Field.

Dayton High School head football coach Paul Sep and some of his players are scheduled to assist the Minutemen coaching staff during the two May clinics.

To participate in the clinic, a registration form must be completed and submitted at the recreation department in the Sarah Bailey Civic Center, 30 Church Mill, weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., before Sunday, April 30.

In addition, registrations for the 2000 football season are being accepted in the recreation office until May 25. The registration fee is \$95, payable in two checks: \$20 to Springfield Township and \$75 to Springfield Minutemen Football. Boys presently in third through seventh grades are eligible.

Practices are scheduled to begin Aug. 14 on the municipal pool field. Three teams, grouped by age and weight, are scheduled to play from September through November in the Suburban Football League.

More information about the two football clinics in May can be obtained by calling 973-912-2228.

Pizza fundraiser

Summit Junior Baseball will have a three-day pizza fundraiser for its leagues on April 4-6 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Summit Middle School.

Families of children in the T-Ball League, for kindergarten and first-graders, will have their pizza night April 4. Second- and third-graders in the Transition League are scheduled for April 5, while fourth- through eighth-graders are planned for April 6.

League officials said this is to accommodate as many families and other residents as possible, as more than 800 children are registered for the spring season, which opens Monday, April 10.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Included will be various forms of entertainment and baseball memorabilia for visitors to review.



Photo by Milton Mills

Mountainside's Morgan Liss is a standout gymnast out of the Sunburst facility in Union. The 6th grade Deerfield School student said her strongest event is the vault. "Morgan's a pretty good vaulter," coach Mike Krotchko said. "The vault takes a lot of speed and power. You have to run fast down the runway and exonerate into the jump." Level 8 and Level 9 squads from Sunburst Gymnastics won USA Gymnastics New Jersey state championships March 18-19 in Montville. Seven girls compete in Level 9, which is determined through rules governing the amount of different skills within a routine. Eight more form the Level 8 team.

Mountainside's Liss among group of talented gymnasts

Coach Krotchko: Morgan's a pretty good vaulter

By John Zucal
 Staff Writer

Gymnasts are a particular breed of athletes. While their training rules governing the amount of different skills within a routine. Eight more form the Level 8 team.

Sunburst gymnasts swept the top three all-around positions in Level 9. Kayla Hoffman of Union placed first on the vault and balance beam, second in the floor exercise and fourth on the uneven bars. She totaled 36.95 points out of a possible 40 to win the all-around.

"For Kayla, every event is consistent scoring — she's strong in all — which makes her pretty strong in the all-around," said Mike Krotchko, one of the team's four coaches.

Daniela Palumbo of Clark finished second in the all-around after winning the uneven bars and floor exercise, placing fourth on the vault and taking fifth on the beam. Alexandra Brochway of Scotch Plains took third on the strength of a fourth-place finish on the vault and sixth place on the beam.

"About Daniela: first, she has the talent within her," Krotchko said about Palumbo, a seventh-grader at St. John the Apostle School in Clark. "Next, she listens well and takes her coaching seriously — she tries to do the things we teach. But her talent lets her earn her accomplishments."

While Palumbo and Brochway were placing in the Junior A Division, Breanna Moroney of Metuchen, competing in the level's Junior B Division, finished in a first-place time on the vault and took third in the floor exercise.

Joining them on the squad are Amy Behr of Westfield, who placed eighth on the Junior A uneven bars, Kyla Mendes of Scotch Plains and Mountainside's Morgan Liss, who sprained her left rotator cuff March 16, two days before her squad competed. The sixth-grader at Deerfield School said her strongest, and favorite, event is the vault.

Krotchko agreed. "Morgan's a pretty good vaulter," Krotchko said. "The vault takes a lot of speed and power. You have to run fast down the runway and exonerate into the jump."

The state championship qualified the Level 9 squad for a six-state regional Saturday and Sunday in Allentown, Pa.

Level 8 is divided into two age groups. Among the 8- to 11-year-olds, Kelly Walck of Basking Ridge won the all-around title after winning the floor exercise and placing second on the beam. A second-place finish on the bars helped Daryl Koscovick of Glen Ridge finish eighth.

Lauren Wilson of New Providence was second on the vault and third on the beam for Sunburst, while Nicole Pechanec of Kenilworth was a sixth-place finisher in the floor exercise. Her mother, Yvette, is one of the team's four coaches.

"It wasn't the event I expected to get something on," said the 10-year-old Pechanec, who took first on the beam in the national Buckeye Classic in Columbus, Ohio, in February. She said she enjoys gymnastics because of the challenges it presents — competing and getting better on floor apparatus.

"That's pretty much how the training works — once you meet your goal, you have to set new ones to work toward reaching," Krotchko said.

Lisa Appelbaum of Mendham placed first in the vault and floor exercise and was third on the beam. That led her to a sixth-place finish in the level's 12-year-old division. Caitlin Comer of Washington Township also placed in the all-around, finishing fifth after taking third on the bars and fifth on the beam.

Also participating in the March 19 championships were Julie Kinal of Millburn and Stacy Osborn of Westfield.

Sunburst's coaching staff, along with Pechanec and Krotchko, includes Iva Krmolova and Paul Lakomy.

The Level 8 team also will go to regional competition, scheduled for April 15-16 at Germantown Academy in Fort Washington, Pa.

A look at the girls' photographs, accompanied by their past accomplishments, tells the story of the center's success. Numerous gold medals, championships and high placing dot the lists.

"This small group of girls have accomplished this as they progressively move up the ladder," Krotchko said. "They are dedicated to the program. They come to every practice and put everything into the practices."

Dedication is no small feat given the girls practice approximately 20 hours a week, which is spread over four nights and Saturday. Several of the girls said gymnastics was their only activity outside of school.

Hoffman, 11, said she tries to keep in touch with friends, while Pechanec also takes piano lessons.

Springfield Nettes Tri-County champs

Post outstanding 29-0 mark

The Springfield Nettes, a seventh- and eighth-grade traveling girls' basketball team, recently completed its first undefeated season by defeating Cranford twice for the Tri-County League title.

With Sara Steinman leading the scoring in both games, Springfield downed Cranford, 54-43 and 43-31, to finish 29-0. The 29 wins equaled the club record set by the 1996-97 squad while the Nettes' 49-10 record during the last two seasons set a team record. Steinman had 18 and 13 points in the respective games.

The victories allowed Springfield to sweep three games from Cranford, as the Nettes handed Cranford its only previous loss earlier in the season.

Youth Girls' Basketball

In the championship game, Krystina Seegard tallied two 3-point field goals, while Michelle Tomasino posted three consecutive baskets in the second quarter to help spark Springfield to its title. Lisa Lisowski and Lynsley Drazim added seven points apiece, while Margaret Mysliwiec anchored the Nettes on defense with a strong game.

The championship game ended the careers of two of the Nettes' most prolific scorers: Steinman posted 501 points in just over two seasons to become the program's leading career scorer. Prior to the last regular-season game, Steinman's uniform No. 51 was retired — the only Nette ever so honored.

Joining Steinman near the top of the list was Lisowski, who finished fourth all-time with 408 points in two seasons.

The Nettes averaged 44 points a game while allowing 24 as they went 19-0 in the Tri-County League.

Helping the Nettes to the championship were Stegard, Lauren Ceasar and Lindsay Coughlin, who were versatile either starting or coming off the bench; Alla Mayzel, who did double duty as a player and statistician; and Andrea Handeli, who played a number of positions.

Among the seventh-graders returning next season are Monica Grabowski, who could be a key player for the Nettes, and co-captains Amanda DiCiccio and Julie Schreier.



Sara Steinman holds her framed jersey as the Springfield Nettes retired her No. 51 prior to their final regular-season game. With the team's leading career scorer is coach Tony Tomasino. Steinman's play sparked the Nettes to a perfect 29-0 mark and Tri-County championship.

Summit girls' lacrosse to open Monday vs. Chatham

The Summit High School girls' lacrosse team, defending state champions, is scheduled to open its 2000 season against Chatham Monday at 4 p.m. The game will take place at Franklin School as well several other scheduled contests this year.

The Hilltoppers will then go on the road for consecutive games against West Essex April 5, Mendham April 7 and Mountain Lakes, April 11, all 4 p.m. starts. Summit will return home to face Madison on Thursday, April 13 at Franklin at 4 p.m.

Summit is also scheduled to play Monclair-Kimberley at Franklin on Friday, May 5 at 4 p.m.

2000 Schedule: April 3 Chatham (F), 4:00; April 5 at West Essex, 4:00; April 7 at Mendham, 4:00; April 11 at Mountain Lakes, 4:00; April 13 Madison (F), 4:00; April 15 at Monclair-Kimberley; April 17 at Dwight Englewood, 4:00; April 22 at Morristown; April 25 at Chatham, 4:00; April 27 West Essex, 4:00; April 29 Mendham; May 1 Mountain Lakes, 4:00; May 3 at Madison, 4:00; May 5 Monclair-Kimberley (F), 4:00; May 8 Dwight Englewood, 4:00; May 10 Hunjerdon Central, 4:00; May 13 at Columbia; May 18 at Oak Knoll, 4:00.

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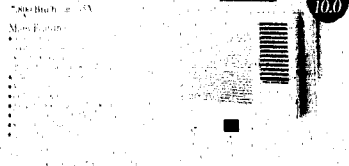
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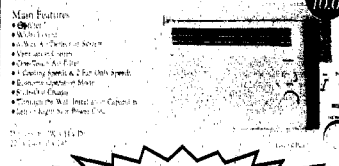
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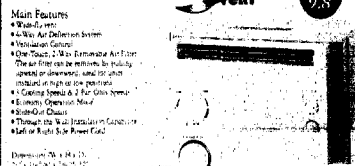
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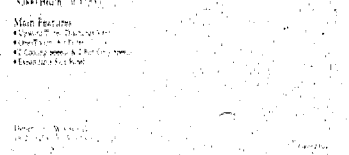


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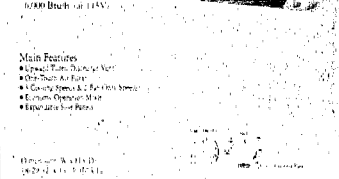
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CWC200NU



EER 8.8

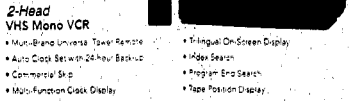
EER 8.2

A SMALL DEPOSIT WILL HOLD YOUR
AIR CONDITIONER TILL SUMMER

INSTALLATION AVAILABLE FOR WINDOW OR WALL UNITS

Panasonic just slightly ahead of our time¹

PVQU200



PVV4020

4-Head VHS Hi-Fi Stereo VCR

- Multi-Band Universal Tower Remote
- Auto Clock Set with 24-hour Back-up
- Commercial Skip
- Multi-Function Clock Display
- Trilingual On-Screen Display
- Index Search
- Program End Search
- Tape Position Display

Panasonic just slightly ahead of our time¹

PVC1330W

13" Diag. Mono TV / 2-Head Mono VCR Combination

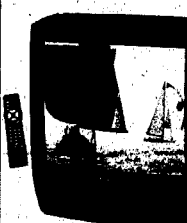


- Tower Remote
- FM Radio with Auto Scan
- Alarm Clock
- VideoTV On-Timer
- 30/60/90 Minute Sleep Timer
- Wake-up Alarm
- Front A/V Input Jacks / Expansion Jack
- 60-Minute Timer
- V-Chip Parental Guidance System
- Tape Position Display
- Time Stamp
- Channel Caption
- Auto Clock Set with 24-hour Back-up
- Self-Demo Mode
- Trilingual On-Screen Display
- Auto Repeat Mode
- Year 2000 Compliant

Panasonic just slightly ahead of our time¹

PVC2020

20" Diag. Mono TV / 2-Head Mono VCR Combination



- Tower Remote
- FM Radio with Auto Scan
- Alarm Clock
- VideoTV On-Timer
- 30/60/90 Minute Sleep Timer
- Wake-up Alarm
- VCR Plus+
- Parallel Play Picture Tube
- Front A/V Input Jacks / Expansion Jack
- 60-Minute Timer
- V-Chip Parental Guidance System
- Tape Position Display
- Time Stamp
- Channel Caption
- Auto Clock Set with 24-hour Back-up
- Self-Demo Mode
- Trilingual On-Screen Display
- Auto Repeat Mode
- Year 2000 Compliant

Panasonic just slightly ahead of our time¹

PVC2540

25" Diag. Mono TV / 4-Head Mono VCR Combination



- Tower Remote
- FM Radio with Auto Scan
- Alarm Clock
- VideoTV On-Timer
- 30/60/90 Minute Sleep Timer
- Wake-up Alarm
- VCR Plus+
- Parallel Play Picture Tube
- Front A/V Input Jacks / Expansion Jack
- 60-Minute Timer
- V-Chip Parental Guidance System
- Tape Position Display
- Time Stamp
- Auto Clock Set with 24-hour Back-up
- Self-Demo Mode
- Year 2000 Compliant

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- AAA
- Union Employees
- Union Employees
- Teachers All Towns
- Public Service Customers
- Board of Education Employees
- All Towns
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- Newark Employees
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