

Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountaineide

SPRINGFIELD, N.J., VOL. 72, NO. 01

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2000

TWO SEC

Moving on



Photo By Jeff Groat

Originally intended to close for business on Tuesday, Springfield's Farmers Market will be moving from the parking lot of Jonathan Dayton High School to the front lawn of the Springfield Public Library beginning in September. The market will operate from 1 to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays through October.

Life-saving devices carried by township

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer

In some communities, defibrillators in police cars are becoming somewhat common. But in Springfield, the life-saving device, used to restart the heart, hasn't yet found its way into any of the township's cruisers — nor is it likely to.

The subject was recently touched upon in an Aug. 15 letter that sent to this newspaper by one of the township's emergency medical technicians. The letter cited Mountaineide, along with Millburn and Summit, as three neighboring communities currently equipping their patrol cars with defibrillators.

The author also challenged Springfield Police Chief William Chisholm's alleged observations that the life-saving devices are prohibitive in terms of cost, and that the two defibrillators used by the First Aid Squad were paid for through township money. The squad's defibrillators were paid for through public donations and a grant from a private foundation.

'We feel we have adequate response, with a three minutes or less response time by our Fire Department, along with First Aid.'

— Richard Sheola
Administrator

The Springfield Fire Department, which actually serves as the first responder in the township, has two defibrillators, both of which are owned by the township. Township Chief William Graa said, "If we put defibrillators in police cars, we'd have to have extensive training to go with it." Township Administrator Richard Sheola said, "We feel we have adequate response, with a three minutes or less response time by our Fire Department, along with First Aid."

Whether or not Gov. Christine Whitman would require each community to have at least one defibrillator available to a police department is up in the air. Laura Osterbourg, a spokeswoman for the governor's office, said simply, "I don't think there's a law for the entire state."

Mayor Clara Harrell was also seen at the meeting. Mayor Clara Harrell was also seen at the meeting. Mayor Clara Harrell was also seen at the meeting.

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Patrols hone in on Temple Drive traffic

By Joan M. Devlin
Staff Writer

Springfield resident Michael DeViscovo pleaded for the help of the Township Committee at the Aug. 22 executive session, fearful for the safety of his two small children due to speeding traffic along Temple Drive.

DeViscovo, who lives next to Temple Beth Ahm, claims traffic on the residential street is heavy — with speed a factor. The posted speed limit is 25 miles per hour.

"My children play on our front lawn; anything can happen when cars speed by; there is a turn there, and my wife and I are very fearful. I need your help," said the distraught man.

He even made a sign saying "Please slow down; my children are playing here," but he said it did no good at all. He explained that it is a short street — a cul-de-sac — with only five houses and the temple. He said the former school was a friend, and very cooperative, but added that since the new rabbi at Temple Beth Ahm has picked up speed, especially with weekend wedding affairs, the traffic has become more dangerous.

"Drivers after weddings come out and have been drinking, and race down the block; we are terrified they might jump a curb and hit one of the children. We are so upset we even thought about putting our house up for sale," DeViscovo said.

At that point, Mayor Clara Harrell asked DeViscovo if he had any ideas that might help. He replied that he had thought of speed traps, an officer with a radar gun, or just police presence there on Temple Drive. Speed traps or a grid, were ruled out by Township Administrator Richard Sheola who said the state had to approve those, but both Sheola and Harrell were sympathetic to his plight. Harrell thought the idea of a police car on the block, showing police presence, was the best idea. Sheola agreed.

The mayor promised to contact the police and ask for an extra patrol of the block, if possible, in an effort to slow down the speeders. Sheola also said he would call on DeViscovo's behalf.

On Friday, Capt. James Hietala of the Springfield Police advised he had taken immediate action by dispatching a patrol car with a radar unit to Temple Drive. Tickets will be issued to all speeders, Hietala warned.

Harrell said she would be contacting the rabbi to suggest a memo be sent to members, via children at the school, or directly, to ask them to be aware of the traffic problem and the fact that children were at play in the immediate area. She was confident that, with all of these measures, the matter would be solved.

Rabbi Mark Malach of Temple Beth Ahm was on vacation and could not be reached for comment.

Dog days of summer



Photo By Jeff Groat

Mike Hodie and his 4-year-old daughter Cattie play with their beagle hound on the lawn of the Springfield Public Library. The library hosted its first annual pet show on Aug. 17.

Big drainage project slated for borough

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer

Mountaineide will be getting some drainage assistance in the vicinity of Route 22 and Evergreen Court next year.

According to John Dourgarin, a spokesman for the state Division of Transportation, \$2.1 million in federal funding for engineering and construction costs will be allotted for the project, which is not expected to kick off until the fall of next year.

Dourgarin said the project, intended to enlarge and improve drainage, is in a "preliminary engineering" stage. In addition to the enlargements and improvements, drainage inlets will be added along Route 22 to improve the flow of water off the highway.

"The work will be done mostly on the eastbound 22 side, near Evergreen Court," Dourgarin said. "There's a need for more retention basins because it's a low-lying area. The police reports validate the flooding."

The project, and its cost, came as a surprise to borough officials when it was brought to their attention several weeks ago. Mayor Robert Vigilant said planning for the project is still in the early stages.

However, the mayor recalled receiving a letter from the DOT "around three or four months ago saying that they were going to review all Mountaineide roads coming onto Route 22."

Of Evergreen Court specifically, Vigilant said, "I used to live at the end of that road, and there's a dip there, and it can flood. It sounds like the state is going to correct that. The first 10 or 15 feet of the street is under state control."

Vigilant also pointed out that a large pipe exists under Route 22 in the area, feeding into Echo Lake Park, and that "the mountain is washing into the lake." He questioned, somewhat hopefully, whether the DOT was going to include that pipe in its work.

Borough Engineer Michael DiSto also was taken aback by the news, stating that he had not yet received any notice about such work.

Former GOP district leader to run for a committee seat on an independent ticket

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer

Gary Butler got some surprising news in the mail, and it prompted a big decision.

Butler, a 20-year resident of Springfield, discovered suddenly in June that he was being replaced as the township's Republican district leader. The news came only one week before the primary, when he received his voting ballot from the League of Women Voters.

Butler decided right then and there to run either independently for district leader, or independently for the Township Committee, with the Township Committee winning out. The five-member, all-Democratic Township Committee has two seats up for grabs. Committee members Gregory Clarke and Roy Hirschfeld are the incumbents. Florence Faraone and Kevin Scholla are the Republican challengers.

Butler's notion to run as an independent write-in was sparked, in part, by the success of Mountaineide's MaryBeth Schenck, who successfully campaigned for a seat on the borough's Board of Education earlier this year. Butler's idea, however, is to take the independent concept beyond the November vote.

"I'm actually starting a new independent party in Springfield," Butler said. "I don't think there's anything quite like that going on in these smaller towns. I think it might be the time for it. I've had a lot of support on this — from Republicans, Democrats and Independents."

Butler has seen the Township Committee switch over completely from Repu-

blion to Democrats, and said he doesn't see much of a chance for a Republican candidate to triumph this year. The problem, as he views it, is a lack of camaraderie, an inability to get together.

"They're not doing enough to get the people behind them," Butler said of the Republicans. "They need to generate excitement, have a camaraderie, get some fund-raisers together. The bigger the group gets, the more it's able to do."

Butler clearly defined his feelings in a written statement: "I decided that I couldn't change the leadership of the Republican Party, that I'd establish a new Independent Party that will start clean and not be obligated to anyone."

Although Butler is complimentary toward some of the work the Township Committee has done, he remains concerned about the town's indebtedness, particularly in regard to the number of bonds issued. "Every week there seems to be a new bond issue passed by the Democrats," he said. "There are three to be big tax increases when it comes time to pay for these things."

The candidates also pointed out that the township's Police Department is in need of attention, as is the downtown area. As president of the B&W Printing Company in Keelworth, a business established by his father in 1957, Butler is part of the Union County Chamber of Commerce — an organization to which Springfield also belongs, and a connection Butler feels will assist with downtown developments and improvements. Speeding on the township's major roads, including Mountain, Meisel, Morris and South Springfield avenues, is another concern, as are environmental issues.

Butler can be reached by e-mail at bwpresident@worldnet.att.net, or at P.O. Box 131, Springfield, 07081.

Ex-police officer sentenced to probation

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer

Almost a year after his arrest in Westfield, Springfield Police Officer Michael Ferrigno is looking at probation, but not jail time.

Ferrigno, 35, a 10-year veteran of the township's Police Department, was sentenced to three years' probation by Superior Court Judge John Threlkoff for falsifying a prescription in order to obtain the narcotic oxycontin.

The officer was arrested Sept. 10 when he attempted to fill the fraudulent prescription at Quora's Drug Store on East Broad Street in Westfield. In June, Ferrigno pleaded guilty to the charge of obtaining a controlled dangerous substance by fraud.

Under the terms of the sentencing,

Ferrigno will have to undergo random drug testing.

According to information provided by Westfield Police at the time of Ferrigno's arrest, the officer obtained the prescription from a physician in a South Orange medical group. As the pharmacist prepared to call the physician from the store, a call to the physician — identified by police only as Dr. Mehta — revealed that Ferrigno was not a patient.

Ferrigno was charged with forgery and attempting to obtain a controlled dangerous substance. The charges carry jail time, but not for a first-time offender.

Ferrigno allegedly suffered a physical injury on the job, reported to be a back injury, sometime in late 1998. It

is not known whether he was given a prescription for oxycontin for that particular injury.

According to Township Administrator Richard Sheola, Ferrigno applied for a disability pension Oct. 1,

"but we've had no word from the Pension Board yet." Ferrigno has been off the township's payroll since that time.

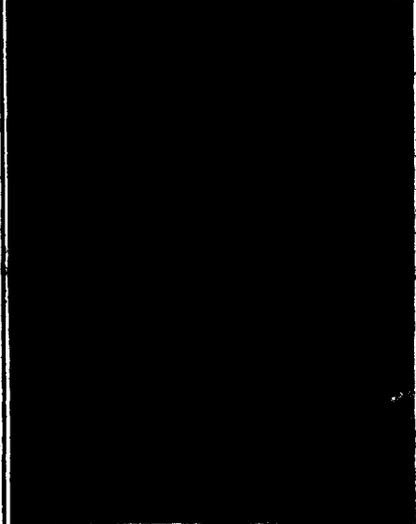
Springfield Police Chief William Chisholm was on vacation and unavailable for comment.

Offices closed

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

- The deadline for the Sept. 7 edition are as follows:
 - Lifestyle, including church and club news, etc. — today, noon.
 - Letters to the editor — Friday, noon.
 - What's Going On — Friday, 3:30 p.m.
 - Display ads — Friday noon for Section B and 5 p.m. for Section A.
 - Sports news — Friday, 9 a.m.
 - General news — Tuesday, 9 a.m.
 - Classified advertising — Tuesday, 3 p.m.
 - Legal advertising — Tuesday, noon.

Docking the boat



Three-year-old Michael Signorelli plays with his toy boat in the baby pool at Springfield's Echo Lake Park earlier this month. The pool season is drawing to a close; Labor Day marks the last day of summertime fun at the community pool.

Welcome to the ECHO LEADER

How to reach us:
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. Monday through Friday. Call us at one of the telephone numbers listed below.

Voice mail:
Our main phone number, 908-686-7700 is equipped with a voice mail system to better serve our customers. During regular business hours, a receptionist will answer your call. During the evening or when the office is closed, your call will be answered by an automated receptionist.

To subscribe:
The Echo Leader is mailed to the homes of subscribers for delivery every Thursday. One year subscriptions in Union County are available for \$24.00, two-year subscriptions for \$43.00. College and out-of-state subscriptions are available. You may subscribe by phone by calling 908-686-7700 and asking for the circulation department. Now, at least, two options are available for processing your order. You may use MasterCard or VISA.

Missing newspaper:
If your Echo Leader did not get delivered please call 908-686-7700 and ask for circulation.

Back issues:
To purchase back issues of the Echo Leader please call 908-686-7700 and ask for circulation. Additional charges may apply.

News items:
News releases of general interest must be in our office by 11 a.m. to be considered for publication the following week. Pictures must be black and white glossy prints. For further information or to report a breaking news story, call 908-686-7700 and ask for Editorial.

Story reprints:
For permission to reprint any item printed in the newspaper you must call Tom Canavan at 908-686-7700. All material is copyrighted.

Letters to the editor:
The Echo Leader provides an open forum for opinions and welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be typed double spaced, must be signed, and should be accompanied by an address and day time phone number for verification. Letters and columns must be in our office by 9 a.m. Monday to be considered for publication that week. They are subject to editing for length and clarity.

e-mail:
The Echo Leader accepts opinion pieces by e-mail. Our address is Editor@echoleader.com. e-mail must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be considered for publication that week. Advertising and news releases will not be accepted by e-mail.

To place a display ad:
Display advertising for placement in the general news section of the Echo Leader must be in our office by Tuesday at 5 p.m. for publication that week. Advertising for placement in the B section must be in our office by Monday at noon. An advertising representative will gladly assist you in preparing your message. Call 908-686-7700 for an appointment. Ask for the display advertising department.

To place a classified ad:
The Echo Leader has a large, well read classified advertising section. Advertisements must be in our office by Tuesday at 3 p.m. for publication that week. All classified ads are payable in advance. We accept VISA and MasterCard. A classified representative will assist you in preparing your message. Please stop by our office during regular business hours or call 1-800-564-9911, Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

To place a public notice:
Public notices are notices which are required by state law to be printed in local weekly or daily newspapers. Public notices must be in our office by Tuesday at noon for publication that week. For more information, call 1-808-686-7700 and ask for the public notice advertising department.

Facsimile transmission:
The Echo Leader is equipped to accept your ads, releases, etc. by Fax. Our Fax lines are open 24 hours a day. For more information, call 201-765-2557. For all other transmissions please dial 908-686-4189.

Web site:
Visit our Web Site on the Internet called LocalSource online at <http://www.localsource.com>. Find all the latest news, classified, community information, real estate and hometown chat.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Sunday

• Trailside Nature and Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountaineer, hosts a walk along the shore of Lake Surprise at 2 p.m. The public is invited to explore the undulating mile-long shoreline while looking for water fowl, autumn wildflowers and fall fruits.

• Donations are welcome. For more information, call Trailside at (908) 789-3670.

• Children 6 years old and older can learn about the fall sky during two planetarium shows scheduled for 2 and 3:30 p.m. at the Trailside planetarium. Each family will get a fall sky map to take home. Admission is \$3 per person and \$2.55 for seniors.

Tuesday

• The Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., hosts its continuing lunchtime video series at noon with "A Few Good Men."

• Participants should bring a brown bag lunch to the show. Coffee and cookies will be provided. For more information, call (973) 376-4930.

• The Mountaineer Board of Education meets for a special executive session to discuss district goals at 5 p.m. in the media center at Deerfield School, 302 Central Ave.

Wednesday

• The Springfield Planning Board meets for a regular monthly meeting at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave.

Upcoming events

Sept. 9

• Trailside Nature and Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountaineer, continues its trail maintenance projects in the Wauchung Reservation from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Volunteers 14 years old and older should bring lunch, a mug for a beverage, a shovel, pickaxe and gloves, if available.

• Interested participants must pre-register by calling (908) 789-3670.

Sept. 10

• Congregation Israel of Springfield will host its annual barbecue and picnic from 4 to 7 p.m. on Rosner Field on the corner of Irwin and Adams streets.

• Reservations are required. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for children between the ages of 3 and 12 years old. Children younger than 3 years old are admitted free.

• Checks should be made payable to Congregation Israel, 339 Mountain Ave., Springfield, N.J., 07081 and should be brought to the attention of Sherry Silver. For more information, call the Shul office at (973) 467-9666.

• Trailside Nature and Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountaineer, will host two planetarium shows. At 2 p.m., children 6 years old and older can learn about the fall sky. Each family will get a fall sky map to take home.

• At 3:30 p.m., children between the ages of 4 and 6 years old can hear sky stories from different cultures around the world, and learn how, long ago, they used their imaginations to create stories about the animals and people they saw among the stars.

• Admission to shows is \$3 per person and \$2.55 for seniors.

• Trailside will offer a special family program, "Autumn Migrants," at 2 p.m. Families will have an opportunity to scan the skies for migrating birds, monarchs and dragon flies. Participants should bring binoculars, if available. Donations will be accepted.

Sept. 11

• The Springfield Township Committee will meet for an executive meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Annex Building, 20 N. Trivett Ave.

• The Springfield Board of Education will meet for a conference meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the board meeting room at Jonathan Dayton High School, 125 Mountain Ave.

• Our Lady of Lourdes Altar Rosary Society will meet at 7 p.m. at the church on Central Avenue in Mountaineer. A 7:30 p.m. service will be conducted by Rev. Patrick Leonard, followed by a demonstration from the Union County Sheriff's K-9 Unit at 8 p.m.

Sept. 12

• The Springfield Township Committee will meet for an executive session at 7:30 p.m. followed by a regular meeting at 8 p.m. in the Committee Room at the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave.

• The Mountaineer Board of Education will meet for a regular meeting at 8 p.m. in the Deerfield School Media Center, 302 Central Ave.

• The Mountaineer Borough Council will meet at 8 p.m. for a work session in the Municipal Building, 1385 Route 22 East.

Sept. 13

• The Springfield Board of Health will meet for a regular monthly meeting at 7 p.m. in the Municipal Annex Building, 20 N. Trivett Ave.

Sept. 17

• The Springfield Chamber of Commerce will present the Springfield Fall Festival and the Kiwanis Car Show at Jonathan Dayton High School on Mountain Avenue from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The festival will include a disc jockey, rides, games and food vendors.

• Rain date is set for Sept. 24. For inquiries call 21st Century Productions at (888) 4NISHOWS.

Sept. 19

• The Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., will host its continuing lunchtime video series at noon with "Armageddon."

• Participants should bring a brown bag lunch to the show. Coffee and cookies will be provided. For more information, call (973) 376-4930.

• The Mountaineer Borough Council will meet at 8 p.m. for a regular meeting in the Municipal Building, 1385 Route 22 East.

Sept. 25

• The Springfield Township Committee will meet for an executive meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Annex Building, 20 N. Trivett Ave.

• The Springfield Board of Education will meet for a regular meeting at 8 p.m. in the Deerfield School Media Center, 302 Central Ave.

Sept. 26

• The Springfield Township Committee will meet for an executive session at 7:30 p.m. followed by a regular meeting at 8 p.m. in the Committee Room at the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave.

• The Mountaineer Board of Education will meet for a regular meeting at 8 p.m. in the Deerfield School Media Center, 302 Central Ave.

Ongoing

• The Springfield Recreation Department conducts blood pressure screening the second Wednesday of every month at the Sarah Bailey Civic Center, 30 Church Mall, from 1 to 2 p.m. It is open to all residents of Springfield. For more information, call (973) 912-2227.

• The Friends of the Springfield Public Library would like donations of used paperback novels. Also welcome are magazines within the last year. The library is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Tuesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday hours are from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information, call (973) 376-4930.

• Temple Sha'arey Shelom Religious School, 78 S. Springfield Ave., Springfield, is accepting registrations for the next school year beginning in September. Kindergarten through third grade is scheduled to meet Saturdays from 9 to 11:45 a.m. Fourth grade through seventh grade will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Eighth grade through 10th grade will meet Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

• For more information about the religious school program or to register students for the fall term, call Cantor Amy Daniels at (973) 379-6646.

Palmer Museum to feature local artist in solo exhibition

The monotypes on silk and encaustic paintings of Maplewood artist Barrie Andrews will be featured in a solo exhibition, called "Terra Alchemy," at the Donald B. Palmer Museum of the Springfield Free Public Library from Sept. 5 to Oct. 7.

Andrews paints deftly colored, metaphorical landscapes from his drawings and imagination. They have a dramatic, luminous quality and stem from the investigation of four images: bridges, islands, pyramids and bells.

Andrew's sensitive approach to monotype is achieved by alternately painting and wiping etching inks in layers of different viscosity on an acrylic plate. She then carefully prints a single, unique impression from the plate on silk fabric using a large etching press. Andrew's newest work in encaustic combines her affinities for transparency and vibrant color. The ancient art of encaustic is

accomplished by painting on paper mounted on wood with hot, pigmented wax and manipulating it with tools and torches.

Andrews has exhibited in Wisconsin, Massachusetts and New Mexico. This is her first solo in New Jersey since moving here from Boston. She is represented in numerous private collections throughout the United States.

A reception for the artist will be held Sept. 9 from 2 to 4:30 p.m. To arrange to meet with the artist, call Barrie Andrews at (973) 761-0773.

The Donald B. Palmer Museum is located in the Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave. The hours of the exhibit are Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday hours, starting Sept. 24, will be from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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HEALTH

Board of Health will meet next on Sept. 13

The Springfield Board of Health has set its meeting schedule for the year in the Annex Building located adjacent to the Springfield Municipal Building.

Meetings are at 7 p.m. on the following dates: Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, and Dec. 13. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

First Aid Squad issues a few emergency tips

Prepare now for emergencies. The Springfield Volunteer First Aid Squad reminds residents that they are an important link in providing emergency medical services to the township. Just the few simple following steps can make all the difference in the world:

- Remember to post emergency numbers on each phone.
- Learn first aid and CPR.
- Support your emergency First Aid Squad.

The Springfield Volunteer First Aid Squad has kicked off its 2000 fund drive. Mailers have been sent to every home and business address in Springfield.

Fund Drive Chairman Ray Nesscher reminds the public that the squad is a volunteer organization dedicated to providing emergency first aid services to the people living in town, their families and those working in or passing through the township.

The squad responds to more than 1,000 emergency calls each year and to date there has never been a charge for its responses. The costs of operating this service for the community are significant and each and every household and business must lend its financial support to ensure that the squad can maintain and upgrade its equipment to the highest standards, according to the squad.

Nesscher has asked the public to look for the mailing and respond with fully tax-deductible donations.

Foothill Club will host lunch, trip

The Foothill Club of Mountaineer will meet at noon Sept. 7 at the Herfield House for a luncheon.

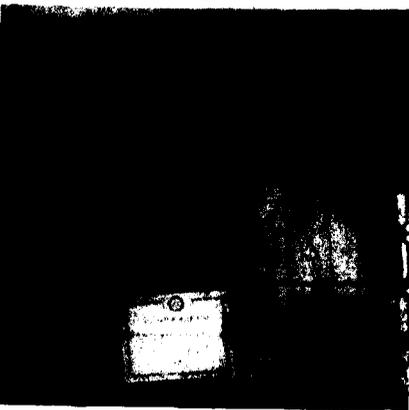
Annual donations will be presented by club president Ruth Goense. May or Robert Vigilant will be the guest speaker. Guests are welcome.

Call Genevieve at (908) 232-3626 for a reservation.

The Foothill Club of Mountaineer will offer a bus trip to Mt. Haven Resort in Pennsylvania Sept. 28. The cost is \$40 per person including tax and gratuity.

Call Rose at (908) 232-4043 for an early reservation.

A new inductee



Inducting Officer Dan Falcone inducts Aviva Schwartz into the Mountside Rotary Club. Schwartz is the director of Community Relations for Marriott's Brighton Gardens Assisted Living facility of Mountside.

Dayton senior strives toward perfect attendance

By Kirsten Matthew
Managing Editor

Jonathan Dayton High School senior Lisa DeNicolo may soon walk among an elite and rare group of New Jersey students.

Once the school bell rings in the start of the new school year in September, the 17-year-old vice president of the senior class will be just 182 days away from a 13-year school history with a perfect attendance record.

"She's perfect," Assistant Principal Kevin Murphy confirmed. "It certainly is an outstanding accomplishment. It shows a lot of responsibility to attend school every day for four years."

A plaque hanging on the wall of DeNicolo's bedroom at home confirms her prior track record with zero absences at the James Caldwell and Florence M. Gaudinier schools. An older sister, Michele, now 22, made it through Gaudinier with no missed days, but was then hit by a car and missed several weeks during her days at Dayton.

DeNicolo has had her share of scrapes — near misses that almost put an end to her perfect attendance streak.

There was the time she broke her arm in the second grade while swinging on some bars during the lunch recess. She had her arm X-rayed, set and put in a cast, and returned to school for the remainder of the day.

Then there was the time she was hit in the face with a baseball on a Saturday afternoon at the batting cages. The fourth-grader had a fractured cheek bone with seven stitches, a ripped cornea and a black eye and still returned to school Monday morning — with sunglasses on.

"She's a trooper," her mother, Kathy, admits. She recalls how her two oldest daughters "brought all the germs home to Lisa before she started school."

Eating well, getting plenty of rest and exercising regularly have probably contributed to her success, DeNicolo suggested. She also attests that she enjoys school.

The cross-country captain and four-year class officer regards her achievement humbly. "I'm just an average student. I just never missed a day of school," DeNicolo said.

A member of the National Honor Society, the Spanish National Honor Society, the Key Club, the Spanish

Club, Peer Leadership and the student council, DeNicolo has only missed the honor roll on one occasion in her high school career.

"When you're in high school and don't go, you miss a lot of work," the honor student said. "I don't like to miss anything."

Recent studies have shown that academic performance hinges on attendance. The studies indicate that when school attendance drops below 93 percent, students' test scores begin to drop.

According to Frank Belluscio, a spokesman for the New Jersey School Boards Association, the statewide attendance average runs around 93 percent. While he had no solid records to confirm how many students in New Jersey graduate with perfect attendance, he did note that he only recalls two students in the past 15 to 20 years.

"She would certainly be in a select group. It's very rare," Belluscio said. Jonathan Dayton High School Principal Charles Serson said that DeNicolo has been an outstanding student who exhibits a tremendous amount of school spirit.

"She's looked at as one of the leaders in the school and we're very proud

Lisa DeNicolo

to have her here," Serson said. To keep up her perfect record, DeNicolo said she even plans to attend school on senior cut day. Most of her friends at school are aware of her unique standing and tell her she should get a scholarship. "There's a lot of family pulling for her," her mother notes. "We always knock on wood."

RECREATION

Registration under way

Registration for fall preschool and youth classes at the Springfield YMCA, 100 S. Springfield Ave., has begun and will continue until classes are full. The Fall 1 session runs Tuesday through Oct. 25.

Classes for children 2 years old to grade four provide basic skills in sports such as indoor soccer and basketball.

Teens between the ages of 13 and 18 years old can enjoy a comprehensive health and fitness program, including cardiovascular and weight training, aerobics, yoga, body sculpting and spinning.

For more information, call the YMCA at (973) 467-0838.

Registration has begun for after-school care

Registration for the Springfield YMCA Afterschool Child Care program for the 2000-01 school year is under way.

The YMCA provides quality child

care for children in grades kindergarten to six who attend Springfield and Millburn public schools.

YMCA child care provides opportunities and experiences that stimulate children's physical, social, intellectual and emotional development. Activities include art projects, games, swimming, science, homework and more.

Morning and afternoon care is available. Financial assistance is available for all YMCA programs.

For more information, call Maggie Bauman at the YMCA at (973) 467-0838.

Recreation Department takes tennis reservations

The Springfield Recreation Department has announced that tennis reservations will now be taken.

Reservations can be made by calling (973) 912-2226 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Book signing Sept. 9

On Sept. 9 at 2 p.m., Barnes and Noble of Springfield on Route 22 hosts Richard R. Karlen, author of "Devil's Dance," who will engage in a discussion and book signing of his most recent novel, "Looking for Bernie."

In "Looking for Bernie," Karlen explores, in a span of one week, the misadventures of an alcoholic dentist and the impact that his alcoholism has upon his family. The novel takes the reader on an odyssey of the cities of Newark and New York in the year 1956, a time when America was struggling to come to grips with its moral deficiencies as a racist society.

Karlen grew up in Newark, attended the University of Chicago, and the New York University School of Dentistry. After spending three years in the Air Force, he returned to Newark and practiced dentistry for 35 years in the Inboard Studio, until he retired in 1995 to begin a new

career as an author. He currently lives in Scotch Plains with his wife, daughter and twin grandchildren.

Karlen's most recent novel, "Answer Man," will be published this fall.

For reservations, call Chris Wagner at (908) 233-6774.

Sha'arey Shalom is now accepting registrations

Temple Sha'arey Shalom Religious School, 78 S. Springfield Ave., Springfield is now accepting registrations for the 2000-01 school year.

Kindergarten through third grade is scheduled to meet Saturdays from 9 to 11:45 a.m.; fourth grade through seventh grade will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.; and eighth grade through 10th grade will meet Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

The underlying principle of the religious school is to instill in the students a sense of respect and pride for tradition.

EVENTS

"The school is so successful by providing a loving, supportive, atmosphere in which children can study their heritage; by creating a feeling of community with Jews in other times and places; and by instilling a sense of responsibility for the well-being of all people," said Director of Education Amy Daniels, a temple cantor.

Temple Sha'arey Shalom Religious School has a graded curriculum beginning in kindergarten and continuing through bar/bat mitzvah and confirmation. It is encouraged that children begin religious school training as early as possible. The curriculum is designed to give students a broad understanding of various facets of their heritage through regular classroom learning activities, individual studies, trips, arts, crafts, music, dance, worship and retreats.

Temple Sha'arey Shalom is a Reformed Jewish congregation affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Members are

from the communities of Cranford, Elizabeth, Millburn, Springfield, Union, Westfield and other surrounding communities.

To register students for the fall 2000 term or for more information about Temple Sha'arey Shalom's religious school program, call Daniels at (973) 379-6646.

Commission hosts Clean Communities Weekend

The Springfield Environmental Commission is inviting volunteers to sign up for its eighth annual "Clean Communities Weekend." The event will be Oct. 14 and 15, rain or shine. Participants will receive free refreshments and T-shirts.

Groups and families interested in signing up for this year's event should call the Springfield Office of Recycling at (973) 912-2222 and leave their name and phone number.

**OVERLOOK Hospital
Community Health**

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

2000

Overlook Hospital and Atlantic Health System invite you and your family to take advantage of our community health events to become more informed health care consumers.

To register for a program, call us at 1-800-493-0580 (1-800-247-0580).

All programs are free of charge and held at the sponsoring hospital unless otherwise noted.

Registration is required for these programs.

Parent Advice Line
1-800-878-KIDS

Connecting the Mind, Body and Spirit
This program will unveil the powerful connection between the mind, body and spirit through massage, humor and relaxation.
Wednesday, September 13
7 to 10 p.m.
Presenters: Nancy Cotter, M.D., medical director, Atlantic Mind Body Services; Jean Marie Rozore, L.C.S.W., program coordinator; and Valerie Spangenberg, N.A.C.N.P., D.C.N., clinical hypnotherapist

Prostate Health Lecture & Screening
Learn the facts about prostate cancer and the importance of prostate health. A PSA screening test will be offered to men who are at high risk for prostate cancer and not presently under the care of a physician. If you are eligible, please bring registration fee and two self-addressed stamped envelopes (one addressed to yourself, and the other to your primary care physician).
Monday, September 18
Lecture/Discussion: 7 to 8 p.m.
Screening: 8 to 9 p.m.
Presented by: Alan David, M.D., urologist
Fee: \$10 (for those having PSA)
Co-sponsored by Merck Pharmaceuticals

Diabetes Screening
Find out if you have diabetes through a non-fasting blood glucose screening. Immediate results available.
Monday, September 25
9 to 11 p.m.

Tai Chi
This Chinese martial art form combines graceful body movements with breathing exercises and mental focus.
Monday, September 18
5:45 to 6:45 p.m.
Instructor: Steve Ruzin, 5th dan Tai Chi and certified Qi Gong specialist
Fee: \$100/10 sessions or \$15/session

Menopause: The Mind Body Approach
Inform yourself about the physiology of menopause and self-help ways to minimize symptoms.
Tuesday, September 19 (4 sessions)
10am to 2 p.m.
Instructor: Ann Ruzin, R.N.
Fee: \$10

Hospice Volunteer Training
This six-week course trains volunteers to bring friend-ship and loving care to homebound, terminally ill patients and their families. Participants will offer companionship and emotional support, run errands and provide respite to caregivers. No medical background is necessary.
Monday, September 18 through October 31
9 a.m. to Noon
Location: Atlantic Hospital, 33 Butler Street, Millburn
To register or for more information, call (973) 379-8444.

Overlook Hospital
ATLANTIC HEALTH SYSTEM

Member: Memorial Hospital • Overlook Hospital, Summit • Mountaintop Hospital, Monticello • The General Medical Center of Passaic • Atlantic Hospital • Memorial Hospital • Bergen Hospital

Here's a way to make your car inspection run smoothly:

make an appointment at Westfield.

Starting August 1, the Westfield Inspection Station will perform inspections BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

Appointments can be made by calling 1-888-NUMOTOR, or starting August 30, by logging onto www.dmv.nj.gov

When arriving at the inspection station, remember to have all your paperwork, a current driver's license, registration, and insurance card ready for the inspector. Your registration doesn't have to be new, just valid.

**410 South Avenue East
Westfield**

Monday through Friday 6:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Saturday 6:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Late Night Tuesday until 7:30 p.m.
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COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

A tough call

The space crunch at Deerfield School has now forced the Mountaineer Board of Education to suspend its home economics program for the 2000-01 school year.

For the sake of space, the ovens and sewing machines in two classrooms will be shipped to storage so the precious space can be occupied full time by sixth-grade social studies and language arts literacy classes.

We respect the Board of Education for making this tough call in the face of such increasing enrollment numbers. The district's core curriculum must take precedence during these trying times while expansion options are weighed for the future.

The Mountaineer School District is no exception to a nationwide trend that has left schools cramped and modular trailers peppering the school grounds. According to a report released by the U.S. Department of Education last week, enrollment across the nation will reach an all-time high in the upcoming school year. Fifty-three million children will crowd the country's public and private schools in September. In New Jersey, our public schools are facing enrollment figures that haven't been paralleled since the 1970s.

Fortunately, relief could be on the way in the form of a measure passed by the Legislature earlier this year that earmarks \$8.6 billion for new buildings and renovations — the largest school construction project in state history. While most of the funding will go to the poorest districts, \$600 million will be distributed discretionarily to those districts that plead their cases to the state.

We encourage Mountaineer school officials to seek this discretionary aid to help offset potential school tax increases in the years ahead. Enrollment projections are not expected to plummet any time soon. In fact, demographers predict a statewide enrollment peak within the next five years.

On Sept. 12, school board members will hear the recommendations of two subcommittees formed in the spring to examine the potential of reopening Beechwood School or expanding at Deerfield School. School board members should not waste time in making this important decision. The quality of the education provided to the district's students depends on it.

Keep spirit alive

As the summer draws to a close, Labor Day is a time to reflect on the work we've done, what we've received for our efforts and what it really means to us. In today's electronic age of instant results and instant solutions, we seldom have the time, let alone the desire, to take a minute and really think about the world in which we live.

When Labor Day was first recognized near the end of the 19th century, it was to commemorate the efforts of the working class man, who had only just discovered the solidarity of unions. It was a time to give the laborer a well-deserved break in their busy schedules and to savor the end of summer with their families.

Gradually, the laborer transformed into something more, even as the work being performed went through a catharsis. Through World War I and the Great Depression, as people found the only way to survive was to cling together as a family, Labor Day came to signify this spirit of camaraderie.

Following World War II, our society grew increasingly industrial, even as women found a new place in the formerly all-male work environment. Labor Day became a chance to celebrate the freedom that our society — one which we had fought so valiantly for — offered us.

Now, with the 20th century drawing to a close and a new millennium upon us, though the kind of pressure has changed, it is still felt every day. We have become a culture in which anything is possible, and the only question that seems to remain is what challenge is next for us to overcome.

And yet, in the midst of all this advancement and constant activity, Labor Day serves as a reminder of what it's all about. We might do different kinds of work in occupations never even dreamed of 100 years ago, but it is our unity — as a team, a country, a family — that demonstrates what we've achieved.

Perhaps we really need a day to consider how fortunate we truly are. Many of the freedoms we take for granted — freedom of speech, freedom of press, freedom to do what we want and work where we please — are nothing more than distant fantasies in other countries throughout the world. We have grown so accustomed to saying whatever we think and getting whatever we want, maybe it would do us a little bit of good to recognize how fortunate we are.

But this doesn't mean we haven't had to earn our success, only that we shouldn't forget our roots. By working together, we have reaped the rewards, and proven the benefits of our teamwork.

So whether you're at the beach with friends or having a barbecue with your family in the back yard, you're still commemorating our desire to work together. Try to keep that spirit alive as you celebrate this weekend.



THE WINNERS — Springfielders, from left, Daniel Perez, Jessica Khordos, Alexis Miller and Christian Zambrana bask in the sun after their victory at the Springfield Municipal Pool. They were the grand prize winners in the Recreation Department's second annual Little Mr. and Miss Springfield Personality Contest on Aug. 19.

Maybe this school thing isn't so bad after all?

I am in mourning for 5-year-old kids around the country.

It's a feeling I experience, without fail, around mid-August. That's when I begin to cringe in sympathy for those brave little soldiers who will be marched, for the very first time, into their new world: the kindergarten classroom.

It happened to me in 1965. Perhaps you wonder why a 41-year-old man can so easily hark back to this time in his life. I confess. It feels like just yesterday that I arrived at the curb in front of Franklin Number 3 School in Passaic.

Mom was at the wheel of our new Plymouth. My mood was as black as the flat paint on that bloated vehicle. The beast was so big, I felt alone in the front passenger seat, despite Mom's presence. I couldn't even call upon the security of a seatbelt.

There I was — totally unprepared to open the door and take my last walk as a totally dependent, wet behind the ears, self-admitted mama's boy.

The door looked heavier that day than ever before. And so did my arm. I couldn't get myself to lift it off my lap to grab the sun-baked, chrome handle that was as hot as I was scared. I didn't know that I was mature enough to sweat until that September day.

Next thing I knew, Mom did the dirty deed for me. I didn't even realize she exited from her side, walked around the car and opened my door. How dare she when I was ill-prepared? I looked up at her like the saddest puppy there ever was.

No — all this doesn't feel like it happened 35 years ago. It's not like yesterday, either. It's like it happened this morning, that's how fresh it is for me.

Mom extended her hand to me, as if she were assisting my little, old grandmother. I wasn't proud. I



accepted because I needed it. I was dead weight on rubber legs.

Funny thing, I didn't cry. Oh, I wanted to, but I didn't. I don't know why. It's not like I was known as the "brave kid that lives on River Road." That title belonged to my friend Davey down the block.

This kid had such guts. He approached play like it was a war. He played tackle when everyone played touch football; he'd skateboard down Ackerman Avenue at warp speed, right in the middle of the street. We were relegated, not to the sidewalk. He shoveled snow into the corner mailbox without concern for the constant warnings given by our respective parents. "Don't play around the mailboxes," all the moms would say. "They're government property and you can go to jail." Hey, that was enough to keep me on the up-and-up.

Not Davey. He was brave, man. Fearless. If he could laugh in the face of doing time for mailbox tampering, then the act of getting out of the car unassisted on the first day of school was surely the job for him. "Where the heck was he anyway?" I thought.

Somehow, I got up. I found myself standing in front of Mom, facing the towering, imposing brick facade with the words "Number 3 School" devouring me. By the way, that "towering, imposing building" was a puny two stories. But that day it was towering. Really?

Her hands were on my shoulders, squeezing my boney scapulas as if to say "Ronny, you can do this." Suddenly, Mom let go and turned toward the car and opened the door. I was excited beyond words. I thought to myself "Yes! We're going home! Mommy isn't going to leave me here after all. Yeah!"

No such luck. She reached into the back and pulled out what I prayed she'd forget: a shiny red bookbag, and, hold onto your seats now gentle reader, my white starched-stuff-as-a-board sailor's hat.

Wait. This gets worse. The sailor's hat matched perfectly the just-as-white-washed sailor's suit I was wearing! Not to mention the appropriately matched patent shoes. Quite the package, I was. All I was missing was the bull's eye and sign on my back saying "Please, make fun of me so I can be further humiliated. Then, just to spice things up, kick me."

This is how I was sent to greet my independence. Can you beat that? I haven't any memory of how we made it to the steps leading to the steel-framed glass doors, the other side of which awaited my personal hell. A hundred stairs — actually, six stairs — lay before me. It would be the greatest, longest — five seconds — ascent of my life.

To reach the top, turn around and wave to Mom, was the task. Unlike the guy "on Mission Impossible," I had to accept it. There was no turning back.

Mom hugged and kissed me goodbye. It was a long embrace. I wouldn't see her again for days — five hours. She pulled up my dragging bell-bottoms, and twice tugged my shirt at the bottom to be sure I looked crisp as I was piped aboard. I turned and marched upward.

When I finally reached the top — seemed like an hour later — I turned around and saluted her — no kidding, people — like the trooper I was. Donning my cap, the red lunch-filled bookbag in my right hand, imaginary target and sign taped to my back — this was it. I gulped a ton of saliva — well, by now you know it probably wasn't "a ton" — and turned around to meet my fate.

And that's when it happened. I looked into the distance. And there, coming toward me was a vision. The sight became clearer. It was a girl. She was sooooo tall, sooooo pretty. A model in real life, my life.

She walked up to me and stopped. She showed me a smile that filled my chest with a rush of warmth. Then she touched my shoulder and spoke to me with silken words. Like a soughed. Her thick, black, '60s flip-hairdo framed her perfect face as she spoke. "Hello Ronny. I'm Miss Wilson. I'm your kindergarten teacher. Welcome to Number 3."

She was the most beautiful girl I'd ever seen in my whole life! I choked out the words "Nice to meet you, Miss Wilson." She took my hand and walked me into the classroom.

On the way she said how handsome I looked in my sailor outfit. I responded the only way a love-stricken, red-blooded, American boy could. "I picked it out special for you, Miss Wilson."

Then I thought, "Maybe this school thing isn't so bad after all."

A resident of Mountaineer, Ronny Glassman is an adjunct professor of humanities at several colleges in New Jersey. His latest book, "Witness to the Pain: When Dads Hurt Moms, They Hurt Kids, Too," will be available late fall.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Joe's Place misses the dis-ease

To the Editor: Joe Lagara's "Joe's Place" of Aug. 17 follows an all too common thread of Mr. Lagara's offerings. Invariably, he identifies a symptom, but misses totally the dis-ease.

Case in point: The enclaves Joe cites are based due to the rush to the voting places by the enfranchised, be they racial, gender, age, or property based. Since the 14th Amendment as well as suffrage, each new voters bloc misses an all important step as exemplified by Madison, Hamilton and Jay.

Having the right to vote is one thing, dissenting and interpretation of, "The Constitution of these United States of America" — the body of the document, not the amendments — as it bears upon each group, certifies each bloc, and serves to recast the molding of this union, is another right too.

To pool-pool the white Anglo-Saxon Protestant Federalist Papers is to be blind to their intent, as these tracts of discussion and dissemination were the foundation upon which were laid the first 10 amendments — The Bill of Rights — plus that later-come the 27th Amendment. These served to establish the rules of government conduct toward "we the people," as well as establishing the political gamesmanship for the white male over 21 years of age with property.

Just in case folks like Joe haven't figured it out yet, the game is rigged until each bloc positions, advances and affirms their own rules of play and governance.

Until then — tick-toe — the game is locked, and you are forever on the outside, looking in.

With so many learned peoples, of law especially, and the written word on the sidelines of each and every new set, we have to wonder at the complete lack of insight by so many enfranchised yet disempowered Americans.

It's your country, do you want to play? Fight, you learn the rules, defend, and amend. And amend again — through the states if need be; otherwise, it's all

done. Right, Joe? As Bruce Willis said in "Die Hard," "Welcome to the party, pal!"

Gilbert J. Strong Jr.
Maplewood

Police should carry defibrillators

To the Editor: The question that begs to be answered is why aren't the Springfield Police carrying the semiautomatic defibrillators in their patrol cars?

Recently, Mountaineer equipped two of their patrol cars with these devices. Also, Millburn, Summit and many other municipalities have their police carry them in their cars.

In an article in the July 21 *The Star-Ledger*, Police Chief William Chisolm stated that the township bought defibrillators for the Fire Department and the First Aid Squad. Chief Chisolm is in error with that statement. While I cannot speak for the Fire Department, I know that the First Aid Squad paid for two defibrillators by themselves through generous donations from the public and a grant from a private foundation. The township most definitely did not buy these life-saving machines.

Chief Chisolm also mentions that the cost of the defibrillators is prohibitive. Well, if Chief Chisolm did any research he would know that the cost of these machines has dropped dramatically over the past few years. The cost is approximately between \$3,000 and \$5,000 each.

The police are usually the first to arrive at the scene of a medical emergency, why shouldn't the residents of Springfield have access to the most advanced pre-hospital emergency care possible?

I urge the Township Committee and the administrator to seriously consider acquiring at least two of the semiautomatic defibrillators. I also urge the people of Springfield to write to our elected leaders to get action.

Peter Shewins, E.M.T.
Springfield

Echo Leader

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and Mountaineer Echo

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We're asking Now that crime is down, do you feel safer?



Sarah Moskowitz

"Yes. I do feel it's safe here. We have lived in Springfield for the past eight years; we have always felt that way."



Jean Carver

"I haven't noticed any change. I have lived in Springfield for 38 years, and have raised five children here. I have always felt safe."



Rita Tuma

"Yes, I really do feel safe here; I always have. I have been a resident for 27 years."



Jason Wasserman

"I am 16 and have lived here my whole life. I have always felt safe in Springfield."

Recalling a forgotten Revolutionary battle

Every student of the American Revolution is aware that New Jersey was the area in which some of the most important battles of that war took place.

However, there were also many minor battles and skirmishes that happened here that are often overlooked or ignored by those same students. There has been a fair amount of publicity given to the battle of Springfield that occurred on June 23, 1780, although some historians attach little importance to it, even though several thousand soldiers were involved. It is possible that they are not aware that an earlier battle had been fought in Springfield in 1776.

This engagement happened in December of that year. This was about the same time that George Washington and his army were in retreat from Fort Mifflin and had not yet defeated the enemy in Trenton after re-crossing the Delaware River. Gen. Howe, the commander of the British forces in the colonies, had been attempting to prevent the recruitment of more troops for the American army. The British had even offered amnesty to anyone who would sign an oath of loyalty to King George.

In an effort to offset this attempt, Washington ordered three regiments to move from Peekskill to Morristown, and reinforce the 800 militiamen there. He also hoped that the presence of these troops would inspire more recruits to join the army.

The Way It Was

By William Frolich

Although badly undermined, the three regiments arrived in Morristown about the middle of December, with a total force of 520 men. The militia were under the command of Col. Jacob Ford Jr. and the officer in command overall was Gen. William Maxwell.

British Gen. Leslie landed Dec. 14 with 800 men at Elizabethtown Point and set up camp. He marched toward Springfield Dec. 17 and were probably headed for Morristown, but were stopped by the American forces at Springfield. A sharp fight ensued, with casualties on both sides. Major Spencer of the local militia had his horse shot from under him, but was unhurt.

The fighting ended at darkness, which comes early in December, and the militia backed away and prepared to resume the battle the next day. Leslie loaded his dead and wounded into wagons and retreated, moving toward Princeton.

There are records of many other skirmishes and raids that took place in New Jersey during the war for independence. During that time, the British were quite in control of Staten

Island, and raiding by both sides was easy and frequent. Elizabethtown was attacked in December 1776, and also in July 1778 and January and June 1780.

Other attempts were made at Springfield in February 1777, October 1779 and, of course, June 1780. Rahway, known as Spanktown at that time, was hit in 1777. An engagement called the Battle of the Short Hill took place in the middle of 1777 and spread across Perth Amboy, Ash Swamp, Scotch Plains and Westfield.

Another incident that is sometimes overlooked in the history books took place in January 1776, several months before the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. Around noon on Dec. 22, William Alexander and a group of militiamen set out from Elizabethtown to Perth Amboy with the intention of capturing a British merchant ship lying in the Lower Bay. Word came that evening to Elizabethtown that an armed vessel had left from New York in order to escort the ship safely to the city.

Knowing that Alexander was not aware of the escort, the local committee felt that he should be warned. They assembled three boats and whatever armament that was available and approximately 100 men to assist him. They set out down the Arthur Kill and met Alexander in Perth Amboy and told him of the news. He and 40 of his men joined the group and sailed to meet the merchant vessel. Luckily

they met the ship before the armed escort did and boarded her with no opposition.

The ship, named Blue Mountain Valley, was carrying a cargo of potatoes, hogs, coal and other items, intended for the British troops in Boston. The ship was brought into Elizabethtown and later the vessel and the cargo were ordered sold, and therefore never arrived to aid the British garrison in Boston.

Some of these battles were reenacted during the American bicentennial celebration, with members of the Brigade of the American Revolution taking an active part. This brigade is made up of people who study the records of actual units that fought in that war. The members present programs and recreations of the life of a soldier in the 18th century, including a mock skirmish with plenty of noise and black powder smoke.

While many of the reenactments are done in celebration of actual ingredients and are performed as closely as possible on the original battle sites, they are usually done with far fewer participants and a very loose script.

However, the spectators get a good idea of what the soldiers faced in battle.

A resident of Roselle, William Frolich is a member of the Union County Historical Society.

AT THE LIBRARY

Jazz band to play at Palmer Museum Sept. 24

Mary Feinsinger's Klezmer All-Stars will be performing at the Donald B. Palmer Museum of the Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., Sept. 24 at 2 p.m.

Mary Feinsinger's "Klezmer All-Stars" are four outstanding musical artists who combine their talents to present a unique sound in klezmer music — often called "Jewish Jazz." They offer an exciting mix of tradi-

tional and original klezmer tunes, Yiddish songs, and gypsy, Russian and Latino melodies. Their lively music will delight audiences of all ages.

There are records of many other skirmishes and raids that took place in New Jersey during the war for independence. During that time, the British were quite in control of Staten

Island and teaches at Manas College of Music.

Margot Leverett is at the forefront of the new generation of klezmer clarinetists, and performed original and traditional music for TV, dance, theater and the concert stage. Leverett's new CD, "The Art of Klezmer Clarinet," is pure klezmer clarinet party music.

Barry Mitterhoff, mandolin, guitar and tenor banjo, is one of New York's foremost performers and instrumental teachers. He has performed with The

New York City Ballet orchestra and played the mandolin at a 1999 Metropolitan Opera premiere.

Peter Stan, on accordion, was a member of the West End Klezmer. Born in Australia into a musical family from Yugoslavia, he brings the richness of Balkan music to the All-Stars.

This program is free and open to all, with an attendance limit of 12 people. Tickets will be available beginning today at the circulation desk.

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County's 'senior scholars' find it's not too late to learn

More than 300 senior citizens participated in the first session of Senior Scholars classes offered at three campuses of Union County College by the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

"Senior Scholars exceeded all of our expectations," said Freeholder Chairman Daniel Sullivan. "His first session was filled in a short time and participants love the courses. Now we're developing courses for the fall sessions."

Under the Senior Scholars program, developed by the Freeholder Board this year, all Union County residents 60 years old and older are invited to attend classes at Union County College. Areas of study include computers and the Internet, the arts and health and fitness.

Most courses are still in session.

They are being held at the Cranford, Elizabeth and Plainfield campuses of Union County College. Most courses last three to four weeks.

"Computers have been by far the most popular Senior Scholars courses we have offered, followed by the arts and health and fitness," said Freeholder Vice Chairman Alexander Mirabella. "For the fall, we will open new courses in all of these areas and expand many of the courses we're offering now."

The computer classes offered through the Senior Scholars program include introductory and advanced courses in Microsoft Windows and Word, the popular word processing program. Seniors also took courses on navigating the Internet, sending and receiving e-mail and designing pages on the worldwide web.

Additional computer classes will be offered in the fall sessions and class

sizes will be increased to meet the growing demand.

The college will also offer new courses in sculpture, drawing and sketching, watercolors, pastels and colored pencils and photography, in addition to special courses in college for seniors with visual impairments and Alzheimer's disease. In the performing arts, the county is offering courses in drama and in singing for the holidays.

Courses will also be offered in health, fitness and alternative therapies such as aromatherapy and Reiki.

Senior Scholars is one of three initiatives developed this year by the Board of Chosen Freeholders for the county's over-60 population. Another initiative, Senior Focus, provided funds to every municipality in Union County for improving and expanding existing senior citizen centers or building new centers. In total, \$3 mil-

lion in grants was given to the county's 21 towns.

The third initiative, Seniors in Motion, will provide vehicles to expand municipal transportation programs for seniors and people with disabilities or develop programs in towns where there currently are none.

"Senior citizens are the men and women who built Union County's communities and made them what they are today. We owe it to them to build the best possible system of supports and services," said Sullivan.

"These initiatives complement the work of our Division on Aging, which serves thousands of residents each year through programs like meals on wheels, meals at senior centers, our toll-free information and assistance line and outreach by professional staff to help senior get the services they deserve."

Among counties, Union has the

third-largest population of just less than 500,000 residents, with nearly 100,000 residents, or about 20 percent, older than the age of 60. As the baby boom generation ages and approaches senior citizen status, it is expected to increase to 25 percent.

"These initiatives build a system of supports and services that seniors will need as they become a larger part of this county's population," said Mirabella. "We are preparing the county to meet the needs of the next generation of seniors."

Enrollment for the classes should begin in the last week of August. Enrollment forms are in the county's Continuing Education Fall 2000 brochure, which is mailed to most addresses in Union County and is available in municipal buildings and libraries, and at the Cranford, Elizabeth and Plainfield campuses of Union County College.

Polish Cultural Foundation will offer fall courses

The Fall Studies program at the Polish Cultural Foundation in Clark will resume the week of Sept. 11 and will include courses in language study and culture.

Evening classes in Beginner's Polish, Intermediate Polish, Intermediate-Plus Polish, and Beginner's English begin Sept. 14 and meet for 12 sessions. The Intermediate English course meets Wednesdays beginning Sept. 13. A new offering this fall, Beginning French, meets Monday evenings beginning Sept. 11. Classes are from 7 to 9 p.m. with the exception of Intermediate-Plus, which meets from 6 to 8 p.m.

During the month of October, a one-day workshop in Wycinanki is offered. Participants in this workshop, which takes place Oct. 18 at 7 p.m., will learn the art of Polish paper cutting and make beautiful decorations for the home. On Nov. 18 at 2:30 p.m., a workshop called Traditional Polish Christmas Ornaments is scheduled. "From Potsdam to Poland," a lecture and slide presentation, will be presented Oct. 9 at 7:30 p.m. All one-day workshops and lectures are free to the public, however a donation is suggested.

The Polish Cultural Foundation is located at 177 Broadway, Clark, just off exit 135 from the Garden State Parkway. For more information, a copy of the Fall 2000 brochure, or to register, phone the foundation office at (732) 382-7197.

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back to SCHOOL

Karate World students bring medals home to New Jersey

From Aug. 5 to 9, 16 students from Karate World in Kenilworth went to Orlando, Fla. to went up against a total of 480 taekwon do competitors at the 2000 AAU Jr. Olympics.

Master Jeff Dunn expressed his pride in all his competitors. "It's hard enough for adults to get up in front of many strangers and compete. These kids held themselves in such a professional manner, they conducted themselves better than most adults," he said. "The level of maturity they have demonstrated made me proud. We saw many competitors running around and playing before the tournament. I was impressed with my students working hard until the last minute. I'm so glad their hard work and dedication paid off. Most divisions averaged 20 or more competitors. We took 22 medals total - now that's impressive! Once the tournament was over, we hit the Disney park to celebrate!"

In the synchronized forms division, there were 60 competitors. Karate World had two teams that entered, one of which won the silver, the other won the bronze. Both teams managed to captivate the spectators, as well as the judges. "I'm particularly impressed with my students that sparred," Roxanne Dunn said. "Erik Augenzucker, who is legally blind in his left eye, won his first match, first place in sparring. He has come such a long way. He used to be scared of sparring, now he's anxious to get in the ring. Jessica Phoney also did an awesome job, taking the silver in sparring. She had to fight a girl twice her size and still triumphed."

Master Jeff Dunn has watched these kids grow up into competitors, and although he does not stress on competitions, it's amazing to see how well they do. His passion for the art has been handed down to them, and they're cleaning up the medals!



Master Jeff Dunn of Karate World in Kenilworth and his wife, Roxanne, join their award-winning students after a recent competition in Orlando, Fla., at which the studio earned several medals.

Computer open house is set

On Sept. 23, beginning at 6 p.m. in the Roy W. Smith Theater on the Cranford campus of Union County College, the Department of Continuing Education will host a Computer Careers Open House. This Open House will cover information for all levels of computer users, from those who have never used a computer before or have minimal knowledge, to those who are interested in expanding their knowledge.

puter certificate programs such as CISCO Networking Academy, Local Area Network Certificate, Microsoft-Certified Systems Engineer, Windows 2000, and the Microsoft Office Professional Certificate. Union County College is also an official MOUS Testing Center.

For more information on the Open House, contact the Department of Continuing Education at (908) 709-7600.

The Open House will feature com-

Making a 'pointe'



Turning Pointe Dance Centers of Springfield Teen Dancers perform 'Thank You for Hearing Me.' Joining in the routine are, standing from left, Julie Martinez, BreighAnn Menza, Rachel Geringer-Dunn; in the middle row, Amanda Garlen, Jaime Eger, Meghan Gardner; and on the floor, Allison Cancro and Jacqueline Weiss.

4-H Clubs offer much

If you are in first through eighth grade and like pets, science, gardening, or reading a good book, then consider joining a 4-H Club this fall.

Club activities depend on what club you join. If you join a pet club, you'll make crafts for pets, like a birdhouse, picture frame for your pet, or treats for your dog. If you join a garden club, you'll make corsages or grow flower seedlings. No matter what club you join, the activities are a lot of fun.

Being a member of a 4-H Club also helps you make something of yourself. You'll learn how to make decisions, work in a group, and be a part of a team. This will happen as you work with the other members of your club to plan a community project like a pet show for a nursing home, or a club display.

The following 4-H Clubs are taking registrations for membership Friday: pet clubs, pet foster care, book reading, gardening, science and horse clubs, all of which meet at the Union County Administrative Services building at 300 North Ave. E. in Westfield, except the gardening club. The gardening club meets at the Union County Vocational and Technical Schools on Raritan Road in Scotch Plains. Clubs are open to boys and girls who live in Union County.

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back to **SCHOOL**

A new democracy



Elected prior to the end of the school year, members of the first student council at St. James the Apostle School in Springfield are, from left, James Liggins, commissioner of the script; Colleen Spadora, commissioner of finance and; Joseph Liggins, assistant commissioner general. Additional members and commissioners at-large will be elected this fall.

Springfield schools announce menus

The following is the lunch menu for Springfield elementary and middle schools for September:

- Sept. 6: Hot dog on a bun. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Baked beans, apple juice, milk.
- Sept. 7: Chicken patty on a bun. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Buttered corn, fresh fruit, milk.
- Sept. 8: Cheesy Pizza. Choice of 1, 2 or 3: Mixed vegetables, pears, milk.
- Sept. 11: Waffles/w/sausage. Syrup. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Hash browns, orange, milk.
- Sept. 12: Fish stick on a bun. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Cole slaw, peaches, milk.
- Sept. 13: Chicken nuggets on a
- dinner roll. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Corn, chilled fruit, milk.
- Sept. 14: Hamburger on a bun. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Potato rounds, mixed fruit, milk.
- Sept. 15: French bread pizza. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Sweet peas, pineapple, milk.
- Sept. 18: Cheese steak on a hero roll. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Corn niblets, applesauce, milk.
- Sept. 19: Chicken nuggets, 1/2 slice pizza. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Carrots, fruit, milk.
- Sept. 20: Grilled cheese on white. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Potato rounds, pineapple, milk.
- Sept. 21: Spaghetti with meat-sauce and bread. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Green beans, chilled pears, milk.
- Sept. 22: Pizza. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Tossed salad, grape juice, milk.
- Sept. 25: Hot dog on a bun. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Barbecue beans, pears, milk.
- Sept. 26: Chicken patty on a bun. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Mixed vegetables, peaches, milk.
- Sept. 27: Cheeseburger on a bun. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Chopped broccoli, Jell-O with fruit, milk.
- Sept. 28: Tacos with twin shells. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Shredded lettuce, apple juice, milk.
- Sept. 29: Pizza with cheese. Choice of 1, 2, or 3: Carrot sticks, pineapple, milk.

STUDENT UPDATE

Kaspereen graduates from Montclair with B.A.
Dana Kaspereen of Mountaineer received a bachelor of arts degree in speech communications from Montclair State University during commencement exercises in May.

Ciullo and Niu graduate from the Pingry School
Sean Ciullo and Grace Niu, both residents of Springfield, graduated from the Pingry School June 11. Ciullo, a National Merit Scholarship recipient, plans to attend Boston University in the fall. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ciullo of Springfield.

Rosenhaft inducted into two honor societies
Denise Rosenhaft of Mountaineer, a graduate of Governor Livingston High School, has been inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta and Phi Eta Sigma honor societies at Bucknell University. Alpha Lambda Delta is a national scholarship honor society for first-year college students.

Rosenhaft is the daughter of Eileen and Ed Rosenhaft of Mountaineer.

Marx cited for academic achievement in English
Gregory Marx, of Springfield, a senior at Darmouth College, has been cited for outstanding academic achievement in English during the spring term.

Marx is the son of Jean and Leonard Marx of Springfield.

Milman recognized
Daniel Milman of Springfield, an 11th-grader at Morristown-Bear School, was among the students listed on the school's effort honor roll for the 1999-2000 spring semester.

Blinder on list
Allison Blinder of Springfield has been named to the dean's list at Rider University's College of Education. Blinder is majoring in elementary education/political science.

Library resumes regular hours Sept. 9
The Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., is closed Saturdays and Sundays for the summer. Saturday hours, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., will resume Sept. 9 Sunday hours, 1 to 4 p.m., will resume Sept. 24.

For information, call the library at (973) 376-4930.

Two Springfield schools report several electronic items stolen

Springfield
• The Saint James Apostle School on South Springfield Avenue was robbed of a Panasonic 25-inch television, an RCA boombox valued at \$50 and a TV cable connector Aug. 26.

• Nikesh R. Patel and George E. Oliver of Piscataway were identified as the shoplifters of a pair of size 9 1/2 and size 8 Timberland boots from Bob's Stores on Route 22 West Aug. 25. The boots were recovered by store security. In a separate incident, a pair of Chippewa boots valued at \$179.99 were also taken. The boots were in the possession of a man identified as Darrell Stevens of Plainfield.

The Balfours Golf Club reported the theft of an EZ-GO electric golf cart

POLICE BLOTTER

valued at \$5,800 the same day.

• The Springfield Board of Education reported the theft of a Gateway laptop computer and a pair of 32-inch Phillips TVs with remotes from Jonathan Dayton High School Aug. 24. The thefts, which total \$2,730, were reported to have occurred between May 31 and Aug. 24.

• A man identified as Anthony Brown, 34, of Brooklyn, was arrested Aug. 23 when the vehicle he was driving was discovered to be stolen. Brown was arrested after his involvement in a motor vehicle accident at the intersection of Morris Avenue

west and Short Hills Avenue, Mountaineer.

• A man identified as Herman Johnson, 36, of Newark, was arrested by borough police Aug. 29 for having a suspended driver's license. A suspect identified as Ahmed Nasr, 30, of Somerville, was stopped on Evergreen Court for having a tail light out; he was arrested when investigation revealed him to be an unlicensed driver.

• A Newark resident identified as Achan Bey, 41, was arrested on Route 22 East Aug. 27 for having a suspended driver's license and for being in possession of both a controlled dangerous substance and fireworks.

Firefighters rescue beagle dog from bee attack on Friar Lane

Mountaineer
A beagle, attacked by bees, was rescued by Mountaineer Fire Department Aug. 28.

According to a Fire Department report, the dog, belonging to a Friar Lane resident, was "covered" by the insects. Firefighters used carbon dioxide to freeze the bees. The dog, transported to an emergency veterinary hospital, is reportedly recovering. Firefighters also removed bees from the residence.

• Some burnt food in the oven of a Peachtree Lane residence touched off a smoke alarm Aug. 28.

• A dumpster at a Route 22 office building was found to be fully involved in fire Aug. 27. The fire was extinguished without incident. An

FIRE BLOTTER

investigation revealed that the blaze was set accidentally.

• An activated alarm at an assisted living facility was caused by a hot fuse and wire on the first floor of the building.

• The department responded to a Route 22 theater for an activated alarm at 5:30 a.m. Aug. 25.

• The department responded to the Kenilworth Fire House on a request from Union County Mutual Aid Aug. 24.

• One call for an activated alarm was answered by the department Aug. 21.

• Two calls for activated alarms

were handled Aug. 20 and Aug. 18.

• The Scotch Plains Fire Department responded to a brush fire on Central Avenue on behalf of the department Aug. 16. Mountaineer firefighters were undertaking training procedures at the time.

Springfield
• The Springfield Fire Department sent a pumper to Union Fire Headquarters Aug. 25 on a request from Union County Mutual Aid. Two medical service calls were also answered.

• Two medical calls, an activated fire alarm, an activated smoke detector at Town Hall and a report of an odor of natural gas at a Short Hills Avenue residence kept the department busy Aug. 24.

Resources are plentiful at the Springfield Free Public Library

Students going back to school will find many electronic resources at the Springfield Free Public Library:

- General Reference Center provides 24-hour access to an integrated set of general interest sources: magazines, newspaper articles, children's magazines, almanacs, encyclopedias, dictionaries, reference books and more. In all, more than 400 full-text articles specifically selected for public libraries.
- Electric Library information is available on more than six million full-text documents from six different media sources which are updated daily including: magazines and scholarly journals, newspapers and wire news, TV and radio transcripts, photographs and maps, children's publications, reference and historical sources, and articles from multicultural publications.
- EBSCO, made possible in part by the NJ State Library, provides full text for 1,830 periodicals covering nearly all subjects including general reference, business, health and much more.
- Informal is a library service to meet the needs of the growing Hispanic population. Created exclusively for Spanish-speaking users, this reference tool provides indexing, images and full text of the world's Hispanic magazines.
- Reference USA is a business

resource providing access to information on all U.S. companies.

- Facts.com delivers the complete Facts on File World News Digest — 80,000 full-text articles dated back to January 1980 and updated every week. Facts.com also includes more than 1,000 special overview articles, historic documents, maps, photos, country profiles and biographies designed to augment its news coverage.
- Novelist, made possible in part by the NJ State Library, is a readers' advisory database of more than 73,000 fiction titles, which matches readers with authors or with books of interest ranging from children's picture books to best-selling novels.

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WORSHIP CALENDAR

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EVANGEL BAPTIST CHURCH - CHRIST OUR HOPE AND PEACE - 742 Shampale Rd., Springfield, Rev. Frederick Mackey, Sr. Pastor. Sundays: 9:30 AM Bible School for all ages. Nursery through 5th grade. 10:30 AM Worship Service and Nursery care. 5:30-7:00 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. Active Youth Ministry. Wide-Range Music Program. Super Senior's 3rd Thursday at 11 AM followed by lunch. Adult Parking. Choir Lit provided with assistance. All are invited and welcomed to participate in worship with us. For further information contact church office (973) 379-4351.

JEWISH-CONSERVATIVE
TEMPLE BETH ARIEL 60 Temple Drive, Springfield, 973-376-0339. Mark Malachuk, Rabbi, Richard Nadel, Cantor. Dr. Scott D. Zisberg, President. Beth Ariel is an egalitarian, Conservative temple, with programming for all ages. Weekly services Mon.-Fri. 7:50 AM Sun.-Thurs. 7:45 PM Shabbat (Friday) 6:00 PM & 8:30 PM Shabbat day 9:30 AM & sunset; Sundays, 8:30 AM Pentecost & Holiday services 9:00 AM. Family and children services are conducted regularly. Our Religious School starts seventh grade. Men's and Women's Leagues. 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 sixth through twelfth graders, and a Day Adult Education Program. For more information, please contact our office during office hours.

JEWISH - REFORM
TEMPLE BETH ARIEL 60 Temple Drive, Springfield, 973-376-0339. Mark Malachuk, Rabbi; Amy Dreyfus, Religious Education Director; Nita Dreyfus, Religious School Director; Murray Ball, President. Temple Beth Arie Synagogue is a Reform congregation affiliated with the Union of American Jewish Congregations (UAJC). Shabbat services are conducted by volunteer staff. Services are held on Wednesdays at 8:30 PM, with a prelude at 8:00 PM.

Sunday morning Torah study class begins at 8:15 AM followed by worship.

Religious school classes meet on Saturday mornings for grades K-3; on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings for grades 4-6. Tuesday evenings for post bar/bat mitzvah students. Pre-school classes are available for children ages 2 1/2 through 4. The Temple has the support of an active Synagogue, 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) 379-5317.

LUTHERAN
HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH 639 Monmouth Avenue, Springfield, 07081, 201-379-4252, Fax: 201-379-5857, 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 mid-week children, teen, and adult programs, contact the Church Office Monday through Thursday, 8:30 AM. (201) 379-5317.

Redeemer Lutheran Church and School, 229 Cowpensville Pl., Westfield, Rev. Paul E. Knick, Pastor, (908) 232-1517. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1000 Westfield Ave., Springfield. For information about our services, 8:30 and 10:00 AM. Sunday morning Nursery available. Wednesday and Wednesday services, 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion is celebrated at all worship services. The church and school are handicapped accessible.

METHODIST
THE SPRINGFIELD EMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, located at 40 Church Hill in Springfield, NJ invites ALL people of all ages and backgrounds to join us in their spiritual journey. Sunday Worship Service starts at 10:30 AM. With children available for babies and toddlers. Christian Education opportunities for children begin during our Worship Service with a special time for children led by the Pastor before they depart for classes. Services of Prayer and Praise and Bible Study, Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Ministerial Institute: Singles, Married Couples, Women, Men. We welcome everyone who is seeking to come and worship with us.

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ROMAN CATHOLIC
THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JAMES, 45 South Springfield Avenue, Springfield, New Jersey 07081. 201-376-3044. SUNDAY EUCHARIST: Sat. 5:30 p.m. Sun. 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m., 12:00 Noon. Reconciliation: Sat. 1:00-2:00 p.m. Weekly Masses: 7:00 & 8:00 a.m.

ST. TERESA'S OF AVILA, 306 Morris Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901. 908-277-3700. Masses: 7:00 AM, 8:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 Noon, 1:15 (Spanish), 5:00 PM at the Church; Children's Mass - 9:00 AM at the Church; Holy Name Society for 14th; Weekly Masses: 7:00, 8:30 AM, 12:10 PM; Saturday Masses: 8:30 AM; 12:10 PM; 7:00 PM; 8:30 PM; 10:00 PM; 11:00 PM; 7:30 PM evening Mass. Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:00 - 5:00 PM.

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THIS IS H.S. FOOTBALL

By J.R. Parachini
 Sports Editor
 Believe it or not, the 2000 season commences for some area teams next weekend.

For the third year in a row Elizabeth finished as our No. 1 team as the Minutemen captured a second state championship in three years last season.

Third-seeded Elizabeth beat fourth-seeded Montclair 26-14 in the 26th annual North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 championship game in December of 1999. The title contest was played at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford.

It was the second consecutive year that the third seed won the section and the sixth time in the 1990s, the other years being 1990 (Randolph), 1993 (Union), 1994 (Montclair), 1995 (Morris Knolls) and 1998 (Roxbury).

No. 2 Rahway, the third seed, was defeated by top-seeded Morristown 46-0 in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 championship game at Giants Stadium last December.

Morristown leads the state with a 30-game winning streak and is now an unblemished 9-0 in the state playoffs, including five championships, the last three captured consecutive.

Morristown is back in Group 4 this year. The Colonials won the first North 2, Group 4 playoff championship game in 1974.

Elizabeth also finished No. 1 in our area in 1997 and 1999. Johnson Regional finished No. 1 in 1995 as the Crusaders have been the only team so far to finish No. 1 with an unbeaten record. Union was No. 1 in 1996.

Elizabeth is now a perfect 5-0 in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 championship game, with its first and fifth title wins coming at Giants Stadium.

Rahway is now 3-3 in North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3 championship games and last year appeared in its first one in 15 years.

Elizabeth also became Union County's 12th and final state champion in the 1990s.

The Minutemen started out 0-5 in the playoffs in the 1990s after the 1996 season. Since the 1997 season, Elizabeth is 6-1 in the state playoffs, with two championships.

Here's a look at Union County's state champs in the 1990s:

Union (3): 1991, 1992, 1993
 Roselle Park (2): 1992, 1993
 Summit (2): 1993, 1994
 Elizabeth (2): 1997, 1999
 Scotch Plains (1): 1990
 Brearley (1): 1991
 Johnson (1): 1995

1990: Scotch Plains in North Jersey, Section 2, Group 3.
 1991: Union in North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 and Brearley Regional in North Jersey, Section 2, Group 1.
 1992: Union in North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 and Roselle Park in North Jersey, Section 2, Group 1.
 1993: Union in North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4, Summit in North Jersey, Section 2, Group 2 and Roselle Park in North Jersey, Section 2, Group 1.
 1994: Summit in North Jersey, Section 2, Group 2.
 1995: Johnson Regional in North Jersey, Section 2, Group 2.
 1997: Elizabeth in North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4.
 1999: Elizabeth in North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4.

Union and Elizabeth finished as the winningest teams in Union County in the 1990s, the only teams in the county to have a perfect 10 winning seasons in the decade.

Union finished with an 85-18 (.825) record and made the playoffs nine times, while Elizabeth came in at 82-20-1 (.804) and made the playoffs eight times.

J.R.'s final picks record for 1999: 69-24 (.734)

FINAL 1999 TERRIFIC THIRTEEN
 1. Elizabeth (11-1)
 2. Rahway (10-2)
 3. Union (8-3)
 4. Linden (6-4)
 5. Johnson (6-4)
 6. Dayton (6-4)
 7. Brearley (5-5)
 8. Roselle Park (4-6)
 9. Hillsdale (3-7)
 10. Cranford (2-8)
 11. Roselle (2-8)
 12. Gov. Liv. (2-8)
 13. Summit (1-9)

Locals guide team to title



Stephen Kress of Mountainside and Kevin Dash and Dean Chencharik of Springfield helped the Vailsburg Junior American Legion Post 395 baseball team capture the Union County championship and qualify for the state tournament this summer. Dash pitched a three-hit shutout in the squad's 4-0 semifinal victory over Livingston, while Kress and Chencharik contributed to the team's 13-2 win over Cranford in the title contest. Kress, a catcher, and Chencharik, a rightfielder, attend Seton Hall Prep in West Orange along with Dash. The three helped Seton Hall Prep's freshmen team post a 21-4 record this past spring season.

Summit Lacrosse Club is the place to get started

Organization continuing to blossom

By John Zucal
 Staff Writer
 With the end of summer, a number of former lacrosse players from Summit High School will head to colleges to study and prepare for the spring 2001 season.

For most of them, as well as those who graduated before them, the Summit Lacrosse Club was responsible for getting them started in what is the oldest sport played in North America.

The Summit Lacrosse Club opened in 1971 as a way of giving children another sport besides the major ones. The program has blossomed, especially in the past five years. About 50 players participated in the club's teams five years ago. Now, roughly 240 students in grades 2-8 are active. That number will increase if plans for girls' teams come to fruition.

Brett Haire is the organization's treasurer. One of the club's selling points is the sport's uniqueness. "Someone can be a great football player in high school, but there are plenty of them throughout the country," Haire said. "But if you're trying to advance your child in the world of sports and build a resume of distinction, there's a sport which can make them unique when colleges do their admission evaluations."

What adds to the sport's uniqueness is the limited area where lacrosse is successful. "The main areas are Maryland, around Baltimore, upstate New York and western Long Island," Haire said. "Clubs in northern New Jersey and southwestern Connecticut are starting to compete on the national level. It's centered here, but not because of some marketing campaign, but because they don't play the game in Kansas or other parts of the country."

Another ingredient lacrosse adds is its history as a sport, which was around well before the major sports. "Lacrosse is the first American sport," Haire said. "It came from the Indians playing, tribe-to-tribe, long before the white man showed."

Haire said lacrosse's rules, its play right down to the stick, derived from the Indians. Among those who coach and are members of the organization's board of directors include president Leo Payton, an SHS graduate, four-time All-American at the University of Pennsylvania, member of the New Jersey Lacrosse Hall of Fame and who holds a number of Summit High records;

chairman Peter Cordrey, a captain in Princeton's lacrosse program during the 1980s; and Darren Lowe, a four-time All-American at Brown University who was a member of the national World Cup team. Haire said Lowe is, "perhaps the finest attacker this sport has seen in a long time."

The club has sent a number of players into Summit High's lacrosse programs. Among them are Scott Schroeder, a goalkeeper at Georgetown; Scott Kinum, a captain at Dartmouth; and Haire's son, Jamie, who played with the NCAA Division 3 champions at Middlebury this past spring.

Graduates also include Liza Hillebrand and Erin Beaumont, members of Summit High's 1999 NISIAA Tournament champion girls' squad. Hillebrand now attends Princeton University, while Beaumont plays at Amherst College. Other girls' graduates include Christina Curiale, at Rutgers University, and Elizabeth Britt, a 1998 graduate who attends Stanford University.

On the boys' side, 1999 graduates Bowen White and Brian Eckhardt are attending colleges. White, who captained the SHS boys' squad in 1999, attends the University of North Carolina, while Eckhardt is at Cornell University. Brian Fleming, Summit's 1995 captain, was a two-time All-American at Brown College and 2000 captain. Ned Britt and Haire's son David will continue at excellent schools. Britt at Yale and Haire at Colgate.

Haire said the club's mission is simple. "We want to provide a seamless fabric of lacrosse which begins in first or second grade and continues through high school," Haire said. He noted the high school is represented on the board as a way to provide club coaches input as to the skills they wish for their players to have upon arriving at SHS.

While some sports, such as basketball or soccer, can provide opportunities to play throughout the year, do not plan on seeing fall lacrosse in Summit. Haire said that will benefit the children.

"Today, there is an enormous amount of pressure on kids to spend a lot of time polishing their skills," Haire said. "The beauty of lacrosse is that it's only a spring sport. They can play football, they can play basketball, they can do other activities. This allows for kids to do something which is becoming increasingly difficult — being kids."

Football season about to begin

The 2000 high school football campaign is about to kick off for local squads Governor Livingston, Summit and Dayton.

Summit opens its season next weekend at home against Delaware Valley and will have its game scrimmage this weekend.

Governor Livingston and Dayton will have their game-scrimmages next week and begin their seasons on the following weekend.

The NISIAA playoffs begin on the weekend of Saturday, Nov. 11 and the consolation games for teams that do not make the playoffs are also that weekend.

Joe Hubert has been the head coach at Governor Livingston since 1986 and his team will host Hillsdale on Saturday, Sept. 16 at 1 p.m.

Mike Columbo is in his third season as the head coach at Summit. His Hillsborough squad is scheduled to host non-conference foe Delaware Valley on Saturday, Sept. 9 at Taddock Field at 1:30 p.m.

Kristofer Kobler makes his debut as Dayton head coach on Sept. 16 at home against New Providence, a 1 p.m. start at Meisel Field in Springfield.

Dayton seeks a second consecutive winning season, while Governor Livingston and Summit are seeking to rebound from sub-.500 campaigns.

Governor Livingston is the only one of the three to have a game scheduled to be played on Thanksgiving. Dayton has one scheduled the night before, while Summit will face New Providence on Thanksgiving in 2001.

Gov. Livingston North 2, Group 2

Sept. 16 Hillsdale, 1:00
 Sept. 22 at North Plain, 7:00
 Sept. 30 at Ridge, 1:00
 Sept. 23 Mendham, 7:30
 Sept. 29 at Morris Hills, 2:30
 Oct. 7 Westfield, 1:30
 Oct. 13 at Fairway Hills, 7:00
 Oct. 21 at Dayton, 1:00
 Oct. 28 Johnson, 1:00
 Nov. 4 Manville, 2:00
 Nov. 23 Immaculate, 10:30
 Mountain Valley Conference
 Mountain Division
 1999: 2-8

Summit North 2, Group 2

Sept. 9 Delaware Valley, 1:30
 Sept. 16 Dover, 1:30
 Sept. 23 Mendham, 7:30
 Sept. 29 at Morris Hills, 2:30
 Oct. 7 Westfield, 1:30
 Oct. 13 at Fairway Hills, 7:00
 Oct. 21 at Westfield, 1:30
 Oct. 28 Mount Olive, 1:30
 Nov. 4 at Hanover Park, 2:00
 Iron Hills Conference
 Hills Division
 1999: 1-9

Dayton North 2, Group 1

Sept. 16 New Providence, 1:00
 Sept. 22 at Manville, 7:00
 Sept. 28 at Immaculate, 7:00
 Oct. 6 at Bound Brook, 7:00
 Oct. 14 Roselle Park, 2:00
 Oct. 21 Gov. Livingston, 1:00
 Oct. 28 at Brearley, 1:00
 Nov. 4 Jersey, 2:00
 Nov. 22 at North Plain, 7:00
 Mountain Valley Conference
 Valley Division
 1999: 6-4

Antones, Comcast post playoff wins

Both triumph with 21 runs

The following are Union County Senior Softball League playoff results regular season results and 60 Division standings of games played through Aug. 18:

50 Plus Division 1 playoffs
 Antones Pub & Grill 21, Bottoms Up 1 (semifinal): Antones moved to the final championship series after receiving excellent hitting from Bob Matten, John Lyp and Gary Wiese and strong pitching from Bob Lieberman. Matten banged out four hits and Lyp and Wiese connected on three each.
 Comcast Cablevision 21, Nilsen Detective Agency 7: Comcast evened the best-of-three semifinal at 1-1 as it connected on 26 hits. Bob Canales had four hits, Pat Sarullo three, Bill Reichle two doubles and four RBI and Steve Mihanzy blasted a three-run homer.
 For Nilsen, Lenny Yasuh had three hits and Al Theresa, Brian McDermott and Phil Spinelli banged out two each.

Union County Senior Softball

50 Plus Division 2 playoffs
 Legg Mason 22, The Office 10: For The Office, Tom McNulty, Ralph Eisenberger and Larry Rehak had three hits each, while Dennis Kosowicz, Armand Salvati and Jim Donnelly connected on two apiece.
 The Office 7, Legg Mason 2: Armand Salvati, Dennis Kosowicz, Ken Dunbar, Jerry Halfpenny and Teo Fernandez banded out two hits each to send The Office to the championship series.
 Rehabeo 9, Marion Jacobson Roofing 3: Rehabeo evened the best-of-three series with its six-run victory.

60 Division regular season
 Mangel Restlors 23, Haven Savings Bank 5: MR drew to a virtual tie for first place with this astounding victory. Henry Barnes banged out four hits, while Jerry Halfpenny, Mick McNicholas, Jerry Hetrick, Al Daddio, Dennis Kosowicz and John Miller connected on three each.
 In other games, Pioneer Transportation defeated L.A. Law 15-0 and 16-1. The following are results of regular-season and playoff games contested through Aug. 11:

Antones Pub & Grill 19, Nilsen Detective Agency 7: Don Montefusco and Rich Hyer had three hits each, both belting triples for Antones.
 Haven Savings Bank 10, Il Giardino Restaurant 7: Joe Wolosen and Blair Rush banded out three hits each for Il Giardino.
 Pioneer Transport 9, Mangel Restlors 2: Howard McNicholas and Jerry Hetrick connected on three hits each for Mangel's, while Charles Gemeniden and John Wheatley had two each.
 Bottoms Up 16, Union Center National Bank 6: Bottoms Up won a spot in the 50 Plus Division 1 playoffs as a result of this victory. Carmen Coppola and Walt Engelhardt belted four hits each, Tony Orlando connected on three and Rich Pelesko blasted a home run.

50 Plus Division 1 playoffs
 Antones Pub & Grill 21, Bottoms Up 3: Steve Fatula, John Lyp, Don Montefusco and Rich Hyer had three hits each for Antones as it went up a game in the best-of-three semifinal series.
 Nilsen Detective Agency 23, Comcast Cablevision 9: Phil Spinelli banded out four hits and drove in four runs, while Brian McDermott had three hits and four RBI for Nilsen. Bob DeBellis and Frank Ciampi had three hits each and Ron Virgilio had a grand slam in the semifinal opener. Ron Virgilio had three hits, Frank D'Amato and Pat Sarullo two and Brian Williams blasted a two-run homer for Comcast.

50 Plus Division 2 playoffs
 The Office 14, Legg Mason 4: Gerald Permosio and Jim Donnelly banded out three hits each to help The Office win its playoff opener. Art Wesley, Armand Salvati, Ralph Eisenberger, Lou Koehler, Blair Rush, Jerry Halfpenny, Dennis Kosowicz, Cip Weiss, Ken Dunbar and Teo Fernandez had two hits each.

The following are results of games played through Aug. 4:
 Antones Pub & Grill 16, The Office 6: In a spot start, Al Daddio pitched a shutout to lead Antones to its 17th win of the season. Don Montefusco was 3-for-3 with a home run and Steve Fatula 2-for-2 with four RBI for Antones. For The Office, Dennis Kosowicz and Larry Rehak had two hits each and Ken Dunbar pitched shutout ball, entering the game in the third inning.
 L.A. Law 5, Haven Savings Bank 4: Jerry Massone had three hits, Tony Orlando two and former Detroit Tiger Jake Woods belted a triple to lead L.A. Law.

Mangel Restlors 11, Il Giardino Restaurant 0: Howard McNicholas and Al Daddio had two hits each and pitcher Mike Danci had his third consecutive shutout. Jim Wolosen had three hits and Irwin Pigman banded out two for Il Giardino.

Antones Pub & Grill 18, Union Center National Bank 1: Antones clinched its division title behind a strong pitching performance from Al Daddio. Rich Hyer was 4-for-4, Bob Nardelli 3-for-3 and Daddio connected on two hits.
 Rehabeo 11, The Office 10: Art Wesley, Armand Salvati, Dennis Kosowicz, Howard Smith, Ralph Eisenberger, Teo Fernandez and Tony Oliva had two hits each for The Office. Rehabeo scored two runs in the bottom of the seventh to gain the one-run victory.

Comcast Cablevision 8, Legg Mason 3: Dom Devo, Steve Ferro, Charles Lehman, Pat Sarullo and Ron Virgilio had two hits each for Comcast, while Tom Lombardi had three hits and three RBI.

L.A. Law 20, Il Giardino Restaurant 8: Walt Engelhardt banded out four hits, Jerry Massone and John Senkan had three and Tony Orlando and Don Auer had two for L.A. Law. Joe Wolosen, Blair Rush, Stu Ensigner and Carlo Mella had two hits each for Il Giardino.
 Mangel Restlors 4, Pioneer Transport 3: Al Daddio, Dennis Kosowicz, Tom Pivo and Jerry Halfpenny had three hits each, while Mike Danci earned the mound victory.

The following are results of games played through July 28:
 The Office 20, Union Center National Bank 8: Dennis Kosowicz banded out four hits, including a home run for The Office. Teo Fernandez was 4-for-4 and Armand Salvati connected on three hits, one of them a home run.
 Nilsen Detective Agency 12, Rehabeo 11: Frank Ciampi and Jerry Hetrick had three hits each, while Lenny Yasuh, Phil Spinelli, Jerry Barrett, Lou Krut and Jim Venezia connected on two each for Nilsen.

Pioneer Transport 13, Haven Savings Bank 12: Bill Reichle and George Mierlo had three hits, while George Loucher and Tony Mianzio, 80, banded out two each for Pioneer.

Marion Jacobson Roofing 16, Comcast Cablevision 15: Dom Devo, Pat Sarullo and Ron Virgilio had three hits each for Comcast as it was edged by MJR. Frank D'Amato, Art Kopacz, Tom Lombardi, Steve Mihanzy and Norm Stumpf had two hits each.

Legg Mason 26, Crest Refrigeration 2: Gary Foucher belted a grand slam and Bill Kowalsky had three hits and eight RBI for Legg's. One of Kowalsky's hits was a home run. As many as eight other Legg players had at least two hits to back the excellent pitching performance of John Miller.

Nilsen Detective Agency 15, The Office 14: Bob DeBellis and Mike Volpe had two hits each, both of them blasting a two-run homer for Nilsen. Phil Spinelli banded out three hits, while Al Theresa had three and the game-winning RBI. Frank Ciampi and Jerry Hetrick connected on two hits each. For The Office, Larry Rehak, Teo Fernandez, Tony Oliva and Armand Salvati had three hits each and Chip Wieg banded a three-run homer.

Legg Mason 11, Union Center National Bank 4: Legg Mason clinched its division title with this decisive victory, outscoring the 50-Plus Division 2 champion Jack King went 3-for-3, while John Goughgan, Henry Barnes, Bill Kowalsky and Bob Clark also had multiple-hit games.

In other action, Bottoms Up defeated Antones Pub & Grill 16-15.
 60 Plus Division (through Aug. 18): L.A. Law (14-6), Mangel Restlors (13-5), Pioneer Transport (12-8), Il Giardino Restaurant (3-14), Haven Savings Bank (2-15).

