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WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2000 - SECTION B

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That old standby

By noon on Thanksgiving Day, Ann Ferguson was stirring the broccoli and corn preparing for her party. The 150 seniors in the room at the Linden Senior Center on Hill Avenue, as well as the shut-ins, were about ready to begin their holiday celebration.

In her role as executive director for the Linden Housing Authority, this is the day Mrs. Ferguson sponsors, on her own, a dinner for the residents of the building. Beyond her day-to-day organizational challenges in the position, Mrs. Ferguson also sponsors a Christmas day dinner for residents.

Left Out

By Frank Capace

But last Thursday her focus was organizing the dinner for the building's residents. A new sign and public phrase seemed very distant. It is those organizational skills which will be recognized on Dec. 20 when officials honor her by naming one of the city senior buildings in her name.

A former staffer for Mayor and State Sen. John Gregorio, she honed the skills with a stint at the Elizabeth Housing Authority. Her training was valuable as she faces the responsibility of administering an agency and the rigors of the Housing and Urban Development people from Washington. Her skill is getting people to accomplish projects for the greater good.

The irony is that this major event with the sign will be planned and implemented by the authority under Chairman Sy Lubin. Ferguson's only role will be to show up.

But, on this holiday, she was directing Housing Commissioners Lubin, Tony Orlando, Rich Hunt and Ed Wolfab. They were volunteers serving the locals. Assemblyman Joe Suliga and Municipal Court Judge William Daniel spent their Thanksgiving Day carving turkey for the diners.

As Suliga complained about the dull knife, Ferguson quipped that he should find additional funds for new equipment. "After all, I have to run this place on an economical basis." Satisfied with the carvers, Ferguson quizzed how much turkey was going on each plate. "I need to plan and need somebody right away with clean hands to help in the kitchen."

A peek in Ferguson's office is a tour into organized clutter. A quick count sees 25 plaques and awards. She reveals that her personal favorite is the Jubilee Medal Pro Moris from Arch Bishop McCarrick. I cannot help but thinking that after all God, family, city and party really do define Ann Ferguson.

The result of her efforts is that old standby quality of life. The aging and care of our seniors consumes much of our resources and our thoughts. The vision of Mrs. Ferguson organizing the event and Suliga and Daniel each sitting at different tables exchanging conversation and jokes with the residents during the meal was for me a pretty spiffy holiday memory. A woman jumped up to extend her "heartfelt thanks" to Ferguson for the event. The sponsor deflected the praise pointing to the servers including her sister and niece for their help. She also reminded the servers that there was still deliveries to be made to the Murski Building next door. Planning is never far from her agenda.

Two miles away, Mike Maris was managing the activities from the front cash register at the Rustic Mill Dinner in Cranford. By 2:30 p.m., it was clear that the 3 p.m. closing sign was not going to be enforced. At 2 p.m., a family of four strolled in followed by an elderly couple. The man, who arrived at 2:53 p.m., was pleased to find out his holiday dinner would be served to him sitting alone at the counter. "I was hoping to leave just at 3 p.m., but what can you do; it's people and it's Thanksgiving," Maris confides to me.

See THE, Page B2

Freeholders to drop plans for juvenile detention center

Declining population, price tag cited as primary reasons

By Mark Hryniak

Regional Editor

After spending more than \$2 million on the project, the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders likely will not make a \$20-million commitment to construct a new juvenile detention center near the Goethals Bridge in Elizabeth. Freeholder Chairman Daniel Sullivan said the cost to build a new center is just not worth it given the declining population at the current facility.

Barring "real dramatic, sustained" increase in crime, Sullivan does not see support for a new center. "There are a lot of other things we'd rather spend money on," said Sullivan, especially with the projects the freeholders are being asked to consider, such as \$7 million for an addition to the county vocational technical schools.

The county bonded \$2.185 million to purchase the three-acre property from Olympia Trails in April 1999. In January, the freeholders awarded a \$600,000 contract for construction management/hazardous waste investigative services at the site, at 200 Bayway Ave. Sullivan said the county likely will sell the property once freeholders move forward with the dropping the plans. He expects a resolution to be approved at tonight's freeholder meeting.

Since he came onto the freeholder board in the

mid-1990s, when plans for a new center began, Sullivan said the juvenile center's population has declined and few offenders stay longer than a few days. Much of the pressure for a new facility at that time, he said, came from the state because the center's conditions did not meet standards.

Ed Force, a Republican who served on the freeholder board from 1994 to 1997, believes the freeholders are making a big mistake by not building a detention center. "Crime is down all over but that's the sign of a good economy," Force said. "These things are cyclical."

"They're doing a big injustice by not building it. There will be a need again," Force questioned what makes the property valuable now that the county is looking to sell it.

During his tenure, Republicans were unable to get enough support from the 5-4 Democratic-controlled freeholder board to construct a juvenile jail across the street from the courthouse and Administration Building where the Andrew K. Rucifoli Justice Center now stands.

Sullivan said there may be other options to service juveniles that county officials will discuss, including possibly privatizing certain functions at the detention center.

"It's not a good thing to invest in," said Freeholder

See JAIL, Page B2

Voter turnout

Municipality	1996	2000
Berkley Heights	76%	77%
Clark	78%	75%
Cranford	79%	77%
Elizabeth	61%	56%
Farwood	78%	79%
Garwood	76%	73%
Hillside	72%	68%
Kenilworth	75%	70%
Linden	71%	69%
Mountainside	80%	78%
New Providence	77%	77%
Plainfield	64%	63%
Rahway	73%	69%
Roselle	68%	67%
Roselle Park	71%	68%
Scotch Plains	76%	75%
Springfield	78%	75%
Summit	76%	77%
Union	74%	70%
Westfield	78%	78%
Winfield	75%	74%
Overall	72%	70%
Average	74%	72%

Source: Union County Clerk

Public hearing on proposed trash facility tonight

By Mark Hryniak

Regional Editor

The Board of Chosen Freeholders will conduct a public hearing at its meeting tonight when a final vote will take place to include a waste transfer station in Linden within the county's solid waste management plan. The freeholder meeting is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. in the freeholder meeting room on the sixth floor of the Administration Building, Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth.

Browning Ferris Industries has applied to build a transfer station in Linden's Tremley Point area along the Arthur Kill to handle New York City's household waste. Certification would still be needed from the state Department of Environmental Protection should the freeholders approve the plan.

BFI hopes to secure a 20-year contract to take New York City's household trash. The

Fresh Kills landfill in Staten Island is scheduled to close at the end of next year which means New York City must find a new home for its garbage. Under the proposed plan, the trash would be shipped to Linden's Tremley Point by barge and then be transferred to rail cars which would travel to landfills in southern and western states.

The "unit" train would not stop to pick up other items along the way and would have special priority when traveling the rail lines, according to company officials. A unit train is one that carries only one commodity, in this case trash.

Company officials expect the transfer station to begin operation within three years, allowing 18 months to obtain permits and then 18 months to construct the facility. A vote from the New York City Council was expected this week to

approve an amendment to its own solid waste management plan. The New York City Council's Environment Committee was scheduled to conduct a hearing Tuesday afternoon.

A large citizen turnout is expected at tonight's public hearing, in addition to officials from Middlesex and Somerset counties. Earlier this month, when the Union County Utilities Authority recommended the plan by a 5-1-1 vote, a standing-room only crowd comprised of both Middlesex and Union county residents was in attendance to oppose the project.

The Linden facility is expected to receive between 6,000 and 7,000 tons of New York City garbage daily, which would be shipped from the site within 24 hours.

Under a 20-year contract with BFI, Linden would receive host community fees of \$1 per ton, as much as \$2.5 million per year, with a

minimum annual payment of \$1.2 million. BFI also would handle Linden's garbage collection, saving the city an estimated \$800,000 annually. BFI also would pay for the costs associated with Linden's 25-year contract with the Union County Utilities Authority to dispose of its trash, which has not even started yet.

The 32-acre site at 4900 Tremley Point Road is owned by Tremley Point Marine Terminals, which would lease 17 acres of the land to BFI for the trash depot. The son-in-law of Linden Mayor John Gregorio, Domenico Pucillo, is one of the principal partners of Tremley Point Marine Terminals.

Browning Ferris Industries plans to spend \$300 million in construction and equipment, including a \$50-million state-of-the-art enclosed building which officials said will keep the odor of trash from escaping the facility.



Some of the kids whose Christmas was made happier last year through the Sheriff's Office Tree of Hope spend time at their party with, from left, Sgts. Joe Bonafide, Chuck Readie, Nancy Zimmerman, Cindy Weber, Marianne Hopko, and Officers Charlier Stillitano, Andrea Eilbacher, Pat Smith, and in the rear, Capt. Vincent 'Santa' DeTollo.

Officers seek help for Tree of Hope

One Christmas Eve afternoon a female sheriff's officer was called to a courtroom to comfort a small child. In that courtroom a young boy of about 5 was crying hysterically as his mother was being placed into custody under order of the judge.

The woman was a regular to the court with a long history of abusing drugs and the child. The officer tried to console the boy thinking he was upset at his mother's removal. But that was not the problem. The boy was used to the scene with his mom and was crying because she knew he would be going to a shelter.

Since it was Christmas Eve he was afraid Santa wouldn't be able to find him to bring him the race cars he asked for if he couldn't go home. She promised that little boy that Santa would find him no matter where he was and he calmed down. The officer made sure Santa found him that year and never forgot the little boy. In 1997, that officer and five others

started a program that would bring gifts to sick and needy children for the holidays. With that little boy in mind, the Tree of Hope was planned.

Each year since then the program has grown to reach more kids: kids who are suffering from HIV/AIDS and other serious illnesses; kids who are abused, neglected, underprivileged or living in shelters; kids for whom Christmas would be just another day without the help and support of all those who aid the Tree of Hope through donations of money, toys and clothing.

In its first year Tree of Hope reached 39 unfortunate children. Last year it brought gifts to more than 300.

"We want to continue to bring smiles to the faces of children who know too much suffering," said Sgt. Nancy Zimmerman of the Union County Sheriff's Office. "Through donations of items and money as well as individual child sponsorships we hope to be able to continue to bring

some joy to these kids during the holidays. We are a federally recognized organization making any donations tax deductible."

If you would like to help, monetary donations can be sent to: Union County Sheriff's Officers Tree of Hope, P.O. Box 4, Kenilworth, 07033. Make checks payable to "Tree of Hope."

Item donations can be dropped off at Union County Courthouse, Sheriff's Office, 2 Broad St., Elizabeth. Ask for a Tree of Hope committee member at the security machine. Pick up of items also can be arranged.

If you have any questions about making donations, arranging item pick-ups, or the Tree of Hope in general, call Zimmerman at (908) 276-1574 or Sgt. Cindy Weber at (908) 527-4492. You can also leave a message at (908) 276-1574 on the machine and a committee member will return your call within 24 hours even on weekends.

Tree lighting tomorrow

Union County's annual holiday tree lighting ceremony and charity drive will be Friday from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Watching Stable, 1160 Summit Lane, Mountainside.

"There is a lot planned for this festive evening," said Freeholder Chairman Daniel Sullivan.

In addition to illuminating a 30-foot tall tree, there will be a holiday sing-along, a petting zoo, demonstrations by the K-9 Unit of the Union County Sheriff's Office, a mounted drill team presentation by the Watching Stable, a visit from Santa Claus, and refreshments. Those planning

to attend this event are encouraged to bring cameras for taking pictures with Santa.

"We are asking those who attend to bring along an item of dry or canned food, or a new, unwrapped toy in lieu of an admission fee," Sullivan added. "All the items we collect will be distributed to Union County charities."

For more information about the Union County tree lighting ceremony, call the Department of Parks and Recreation at (908) 527-4900. In the event of rain, the program will be presented on Saturday, at the same time and place.

Potluck supper Monday

Women for Women of Union County announces its annual Potluck Supper, scheduled to take place Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Westfield Municipal Building, 425 E. Broad St., Westfield. Potluck Supper is a women's social event open to members and friends of Women for Women, and to those considering joining the agency's membership. The event is free, though donations are always welcome. Participants are asked only to bring one of their favorite dishes — salad, appetizer, entree or dessert — to be sampled and enjoyed among the attendees.

The event's guest speaker, Jane Hoffman, certified aromatherapist, will share her passion and expertise in using aromatic products, including oils, perfumes and lotions, and as therapeutic means of healing, reducing stress and enhancing well-being. Hoffman has been involved with aromatherapy for several years. In addition to extensive training and teaching, she manages her own aromatherapy business, Jane Hoffman, Aromatic Botanicals.

This year's Potluck Supper will not only feature an assortment of favorite recipes and taste treats, but participants will enjoy a fragrant introduction into the world of aromatherapy so they may explore how it can enhance personal wellness, tranquility and enjoyment.

Headquartered at its new 1801 E. 2nd St., Scotch Plains location, Women for Women is a not-for-profit agency offering short-term, low-cost individual counseling and legal referral services, as well as support and self-actualization groups for women and children in the community.

To register in advance for the potluck supper, to become a member, or to obtain more information about the agency and its services, call (908) 322-6007.

Vo-tech school elects student government

The student government at Union County Vocational-Technical High School has elected its officers for the coming year. For the morning session they are Taylor Armstrong, Roselle, president, Cosmetology II; Jared Womley, Westfield, vice president, Graphic Communications; Sarah Jasper, Rahway, secretary, Child Development; and Michael Barbosa, Linden, treasurer, Maintenance Mechanics.

For the afternoon session they are Padaro Wilkins, Roselle, president, Law Enforcement; Jussic Owens, Rahway, vice president, Cosmetology; Tayah Ragland, Roselle, secretary, Office Systems Technology; and Raquel Cassells, Summit, treasurer, Cosmetology.

James Nardi is instructor of Electrical Technology at UCVTS and also serves as advisor to the student government.

COUNTY NEWS

UCLSA holiday party

The Union County Legal Society Association will sponsor its annual holiday party Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Danmar Restaurant, 230 Westfield Ave., Roselle Park. There will be a pre-dinner parking lot at 40 promptly and dinner will be served promptly at 7 p.m. The cost for dinner will be \$22.

For more information or meeting reservations call Judy Reed at (908) 588-4892 or Helen Grayson at (908) 577-1506.

Free flu shots for seniors

Residents of Union County for 65 years old and older can receive free flu shots at Rumlle's Specialized Hospital of Union County on Friday in the hospital's clinic, 40 Watching Way, Berkeley Heights, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. No appointment is necessary, but you must be a resident of Union County, and quantities are limited.

Holiday cooking demo

The Junior League of Elizabeth Branch sponsors a holiday cookie demonstration today from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at The Jumble Store, 110 Walnut Ave., Cranford. League member and cookie expert, Kelley Komar of Cakes by Kelley, will be back for a repeat performance during which she will show how to make several different types of holiday goods.

Megan's Law explained

The Union County Prosecutor's Office will be conducting a seminar at the John H.L. Stampler Police Academy in Scotch Plains for organizations caring for or working with children. The seminar will be offered on Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. and again on Dec. 15 from 10 to 4 p.m.

The seminar will explain all aspects of Megan's Law including who is eligible to receive a sex offender notification and what you may do with the information if you receive it. Organizations who should attend include anyone who owns or operates an establishment where children gather under your care such as Scout Troops, athletic associations, religious education programs or church youth groups. Registration as a community organization is not limited to nonprofit organizations. If you run a dance or

gymnastics school and accept responsibility for the children while they are attending classes, you may also qualify as a community organization.

For a register or for more information, call the Released Offender Unit of the Union County Prosecutor's Office at (908) 522-4511.

Newark historian speaks to historical society

Charles J. Cummings, Newark historian and assistant director of the Newark Public Library in charge of the New Jersey Information Section and special collections, will speak at the meeting of the Union County Historical Society at Scott Hall at the Third Westminster Presbyterian Church, South Avenue between Salem and Westminsters avenues, Elizabeth at 2 p.m. on Sunday. His topic will be "Worlds Apart Side by Side."

Cummings writes a weekly historical column on Newark for the Newark Section of *The Star Ledger*, and has co-authored several books on New Jersey history. He has assisted many students and authors in writing books and studies of Newark.

The afternoon also will feature the Union County Historical Society's annual holiday party.

Guild toy sale today

The Volunteer Guild of Rumlle's Specialized Hospital of Union County will sponsor a toy sale today from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the multi-purpose room of the facility, 40 Watching Way, Berkeley Heights. For more information call the Office of Volunteer Services at (908) 771-5847.

'Breakfast with Bagger'

Assemblyman Richard Bagger of Westfield, R-Union, will address the Union County Council of the League of Women Voters at its holiday party at The Westwood, in Garwood, on Saturday at 10 a.m. Publicized as "Breakfast with Bagger," members and friends of the leagues of Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Summit-Cranford, Hillside-Linden, Plainfield, Springfield, Union and the Westfield area will gather for a hearty breakfast and to learn of the "State of the State" from Bagger.

A question-and-answer period will follow. For information and reservations call (908) 756-9682.

Literacy Volunteers selects new officers

The annual meeting of Literacy Volunteers of Union County was conducted last month at the Knight of Columbus Hall in Scotch Plains and officers were voted on and approved.

The officers are: Karen Pandeck, president; Janet Wheeler, vice president; Karen MacQueen, treasurer; and Bonnie Anderson, secretary.

An awards luncheon was conducted with presentations going to the following: *Sister Patricia Flynn*, Most Dedicated Elizabeth staff member.

Eula Bornstein, Tutor of the Year; Milagros Azcona, ESL Student of the Year; Bill Magrath, ESL Tutor of the Year; Laurie Kramer, Basic Literacy Student of the Year; Helen Chovosh, Basic Literacy Tutor of the Year; Mary Mitchell, Elizabeth Basic Literacy Student of the Year; Dorothy Klempner, Elizabeth Basic Literacy Tutor of the Year; and Mary Keegan, Elizabeth ESL Tutor of the Year.

This past year there were 960 adult students served in Union County by Literacy Volunteers.

If you would like to volunteer for this free adult tutoring organization, call the office at (908) 518-0600 for more information.

Jail population once very high

(Continued from Page B1) Lewis Mingo, liaison to the Youth Services Commission. "We don't want to build it just to build it because it sends the wrong message." He also would not want a facility that is underutilized.

"We don't want to waste a lot of money if we don't have to. We want to make sure that it is a real investment, it's on solid ground," Mingo said.

The George W. Herlich Juvenile Detention Center on the top floor of the parking deck adjacent to the County Courthouse Annex has been in operation since 1968 and has a capacity of 88. A new facility would have been able to house 86 juveniles.

The average daily population at the center is between 45 and 50 but according to Assistant Prosecutor Deborah White, supervisor of the Juvenile Justice Unit, the juvenile center population was as high as 90 in recent years.

The current facility "severely limits" what can be done and the issue of overcrowding has an effect on a

judge's decision to release juveniles until trial or sentencing, she said. White would like to keep juveniles at the center for two or three months versus sending them to training school, however, state permission is needed and with a crowded facility, it cannot be done.

The nature of the cases that juveniles are committing, White said, are more serious crimes, such as aggravated sexual assault and attempted murder.

Mingo described the situation as a "Catch-22." Is the declining population as a result of "crime decreasing or are kids just not being assigned to the center?" At one time, he said, the center was overcrowded, creating a bad situation both for the juveniles and maintenance of the facility.

Firefighter Angel Estrada, who chairs the board's Juvenile Detention/Jail Task Force, stressed that a need still exists to service the juvenile jail population and the county must find the best way to address that need. "It's still there unless we find some alternatives."

The old standby comes through

(Continued from Page B1) Promptly at 3 p.m., the phone rang. I hear Maris politely tell the caller that the Rustic Mill was closing and they should make other plans for their dinner. My thoughts were that this caller would have gotten a less polite response if Ferguson had answered the phone.

She probably would have scolded him for waiting too long to make plans. That would have no doubt been followed by an invitation/order to come over and join her at the dinner she was running.

A resident of Cranford, Frank Capace is an attorney.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Paper Mill, NJ Ballet mark 30-year collaboration

By Bea Smith
Staff Writer

The incredible team of Angelo Del Rossi, executive producer of the Paper Mill Playhouse, Millburn, Carolyn Clark, director of the New Jersey Ballet Co., and Paul McRae, assistant to Clark, will be celebrating a phenomenal 30 years of staging successful "The Nutcracker" performances at the Millburn theater.

In fact, on the evening after its opening at a party Dec. 16, Del Rossi will be honored for his dedication, perseverance and enthusiasm for the Tchaikovsky ballet production that has become a legendary Christmas tradition for adults and children alike throughout the country.

During a recent luncheon interview at the F.M. Kirby Carriage House next door to the Paper Mill Playhouse, with the three "superstars," nostalgia was in order, and while all three enthused about the "greatest of great ballets" opening Dec. 15, running through Dec. 27 with four companies performing the full ballet at various showings, an electric excitement emanated throughout the dining room.

"The children have been in rehearsal since October," said Clark, "and there are close to 100 members of the cast at one time. Every Sunday we rehearse 240 children for four different casts. We have 16 soldiers, 16 angels and 16 clowns, plus all the other members of the cast. And we have three completely new sets this year. We're just thrilled at Michael Anania's new Snow Drop and new second act drop."

"Mr. Anania," added McRae, "has turned out a lot of wonderful sets at the Paper Mill. But wait until you see these scenic wonders."

"What's so great about this particular ballet?" explained Del Rossi, "is that it becomes increasingly better each year. The caliber of the dancers is equal to any ballet ever staged anywhere. And the performers of this company are outstanding. The choreographic quality of the dance is first rate."

The trio discussed the beginnings of "The Nutcracker" at the Paper Mill Playhouse. It all began in the late 1960s when Clark approached the late Frank Carrington, founder and producer of the Paper Mill Playhouse, with the idea of staging the ballet there. They talked about the multitude of things that had to be done in order to bring "The Nutcracker" to the public — "money, choreographer, costumes, special props and sets, addi-



A luncheon celebration of the 30th year of the New Jersey Ballet Co. staging of 'The Nutcracker' at the Paper Mill Playhouse, Millburn, was held recently at the F.M. Kirby Carriage House. Standing is Angelo Del Rossi, executive producer of the theater; as he celebrates the occasion with Carolyn Clark, director of the New Jersey Ballet Co., and her assistant, Paul McRae.

tional dancers, musicians, and many, many children."

"Many of the people believed that a ballet production of this kind wouldn't attract a big enough audience," said Clark. "But they proved to be wrong. We wouldn't be coming back for 30 years if that were so. We wanted the Paper Mill to become a state of the art center with the New Jersey Ballet Co."

Edward Villella, former international star of the New York City Ballet, was the production's first Cavalier, and resident choreographer George Tomal "created the original choreography for the Snow Scene and the Kingdom of Sweets and has been appearing in the role of Drosselmeyer since 1976. Joseph Carow staged the party and battle scenes, and Alfredo Siliigni was the production's first conductor.

"Our first Clara, Carolyn Brown, came back to coach this production," said Clark, "after 30 years. She's still young and beautiful. She was only 11 when she first started, and she did it *en pointe*, which is very demanding."

Clark, herself, began ballet dancing as a young girl. "One of my first performances was summer stock theater here at the Paper Mill. That was from June through September," she recalled, "and I was always an

ingenue, with a big bow and a short dress. I also did *pas de deux* in many ballets."

"Paul was studying ballet when he was 11 years old and also served as an usher."

"I grew up here at the Paper Mill Playhouse," McRae admitted.

"I appeared in a variety of roles in 'The Nutcracker,'" McRae said. "I played all the male roles except for the prince. I also played the Mouse for a number of years, but lately, I've been playing the father in the first act. Also, you know, I'm assistant to the director."

Clark talked about some of the principal dancers who have been with "The Nutcracker" almost from the beginning. "Rosemary Sabovick-Bleich has been with us for about 20 years, and Debra Sayles, who can never be replaced, retired after 25 years. Rosemary is phenomenal. She dances to perfection, and through the years, she never seemed to age or tire. She is one of the most important performers in the New Jersey Ballet Co."

She explained that the ballet company has been doing "The Nutcracker" for 42 years, "30 years at the Paper Mill in addition to summer festivals. If it weren't for Angelo, the Paper Mill wouldn't be where it is. Who would have thought that we would

have so much success in such a precarious business? We're very inspired. But what we need is a whole lot more funding so we can do a lot more dance."

Every year, she indicated, the performers "look forward to 'The Nutcracker.' They think about next year as soon as the curtain comes down. They worry about outgrowing their parts," Clark said. "It's really very sad. They're usually there for three years."

And the youngsters in the audience "become enthralled with the ballet. It's very, very healthy entertainment in the world of today. They use their imagination, and they love it when it ends happily ever after. Children respond immediately to movement, too. I think it's the greatest activity that the children can be a part of. The ballet affects them mentally and emotionally."

"And it's rewarding to spend a lot of time with the children," said McRae.

"We try to keep the excitement of the performances alive for the audience," said Clark. "Classical ballet is a perfect art form. None of us is ever perfect, but we always strive to do better. We have a passion for it." And that's what makes it perfect.



'Death Knows Me' is among the works by Miriam Beerman currently on exhibit in the Tomasulo Gallery at Union County College.

'Walk through ghetto' isn't necessarily a work of art

Montclair resident Miriam Beerman's current exhibition, "Documents," takes the visitor on a tough walk through a Polish Ghetto.

Called *Lodz*, the ghetto, as Beerman describes it in a statement, is a place "where Jews lived in an extremity of pain and hunger before the 'Final Solution.'" Direct quotes from the diaries of those who lived in the ghetto, in fact, are incorporated by Beerman into her mixed media piece "Lodz Diaries."

Beerman's show, like an exhibition on the Holocaust, serves the viewer as an experience only. The work wasn't created to be enjoyed at any level; from the damaged faces to the enourous paint strokes, Beerman's pieces have the raw texture of life on the street.

Like much of the work of German artists over the last 30-plus years, Beerman's pieces are aggressively expressive. Her colors are dingy and her surfaces unpleasantly rough, like concrete. The faces in her "Ghetto Documents" series, her strongest works in the show, are miserable but monumental, starving and unwashed and all too willing to die — that is, if they're not already dead.

"Ghetto Documents I," an acrylic and mixed-media portrait on paper, typifies Beerman's violent approach. Executed in gestural brushstrokes of browns, blacks, sickly greens, beige and just a little gold, and depicting the head of a man of indeterminate age, Beerman's close angle implies a glimpse inside a coffin. The subject, with his eyes rolled up and a right hand tentatively touching his shoulder, seems like a fresh corpse crammed into a small dirty box.

The slightly smaller "Ghetto Documents II" offers a horrifying portrait in grays and blacks of what appears to be a barely living person. Sporting one closed eye and a mouthful of rotted teeth, the subject's skull shows plainly under the skin; practically mummified, the sense of encroaching death very nearly causes a shudder in the

In the Galleries

By Joe Lugara
Staff Writer

viewer. The image reeks of decay, a feeling vaguely enhanced by two small wrapped "packages" of sequined dress material suspended from the work. The sequined packages offer the only indication — however faint — of the subject's sex, combined with a suggestion of lost glamour and prosperity.

The spirituality of Georges Rouault's clowns comes across in "Ghetto Document III." Although Beerman again uses broad, slashing black strokes to define the oval head and background, the subject's essence somehow manages to slip through with the help of slight touches of red, green and yellow in the picture's underpainting. The mouth is open, as if speaking an encouraging thought, giving the piece, despite its heavy blacks, a slightly less defeated quality than Beerman's other works. Although certainly not triumphant in spirit, "Ghetto Document III" at least seems to hold out some hope for humanity, however faint.

The show's largest piece, the oil and mixed media "Owceimic," also fails to hit the mark. Rather than being secured to the wall, the 70½-by-114-inch canvas rests heavily on two stubby legs set on the gallery floor — an installation technique that only succeeds in looking sloppy. Beerman fails to make full use of the enormous canvas, letting the features of only a single face peer out through the heavily encrusted surface. The painting is mysterious without being interesting, its meaning obscured and ignored in favor of an overheated technique.

"Documents" is on exhibit at the Tomasulo Gallery at Union County College in Cranford through Dec. 14.

NJ Intergenerational to perform this Sunday

The New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra of Cranford, conducted by Lorraine Marks, will perform its annual holiday program Sunday at Cranford High School, 201 West End Place, Cranford, at 3 p.m.

The program is titled "Making Joyful Sounds," and will feature a commission by Mario Lombardo, composer and Cranford resident, written especially for the NJIO, titled "Music in Our Lives," which will be performed jointly by the Brookside School chorus of Cranford and senior citizens chorus, the "Side-By-Siders."

The concert will begin at 3 p.m. and admission is \$4 for general seating. Seating is reserved for groups of 10 or more. Doors will open at 2:30 p.m. Handicap access is available as well as large-print programs.

The NJIO, the only orchestra in this state with an intergenerational configuration between the ages of 4 and 89, and conducted by Lorraine Marks, is now in its seventh year. It has achieved a great deal of media attention and success over the past six years, performing as far away as Washington, D.C.; appearing on NBC and CBS television; at Lincoln Center Plaza in the Fountain Concert Series, The United Nations, and playing many concerts in the New Jersey met-

ropolitan area. The NJIO has performed in Monroe Township inaugurating the township's newly established Cultural Commission, and was invited to open the lecture series of renowned author Andrew Weil, which was held at the newly renovated Tresson War Memorial.

For additional information on the NJIO, call (908) 709-0084, or visit the NJIO web site at www.bobdevlin.com/njio.html. The e-mail address is NJIOrc@aol.com.

The NJIO has performed for such organizations as the American Heart Association, the Special Wishes Foundation, and Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation. A lecture and slide presentation on the "Birth of an Orchestra" is presented to many local and statewide civic organizations.

Funding has been made possible through a grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, and administration through the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, and also in part by the Cranford Public Schools, the Rotary Club of Cranford, and the Recording Industries Fund, which fund in whole or part the instrumental music performances, as arranged by Local 151 of the American Federation of Musicians.

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On stage or at sea, resident loves the spotlight

By Bea Smith
Staff Writer

Gerri Garrick of Kenilworth likes to perform and she likes to travel, and the beautiful blonde actress singer likes to do both — quite frequently.

She performs theater on cruise ships, does improvisational performance and appears in plays and cabaret acts in community theaters. "I've been in the entertainment business for the past 10 years," Garrick said. "I've worked with the national tour of 'Will Rogers Follies.' I've worked on cruise ships to Australia, New Zealand, all over the Caribbean Area, the last one was a recent trip to Mexico and the Caribbean."

Garrick admitted that "I just always wanted to be a performer. When I was a child in the third grade at Harding School in Kenilworth, I did a little tap dance in a school show. I remember the laughter and applause. And I loved it! What I didn't know was that I had a huge hole in the back of my



Gerri Garrick

neck. But I really didn't care," she grinned. "They all laughed. And that's really what mattered to me."

She admitted that "I enjoy comedy. In fact, I did stand-up comedy a few times years later."

Garrick said that she was "in a lot of plays in Harding School and all the musicals and plays at David Bradley High School — acting, singing, dancing. I also studied dance my whole life, and from age 7, I studied dance at the Cindy Smith Dance Studio in Cranford, all the way through high school."

Garrick, who resides with her parents, Frank and Peggy Garrick, played the leading role of Sandy in the lean Ann Ryan production of "Grease." "I was in 'Grease' for the Union County Summer Theater, and Bebe in 'A Chorus Line' with Stratford Productions. She also appeared as a principal singer in lean Ann Ryan Productions' "Houray for Hollywood," "Showstoppers" and "Gott! Dance." She was seen as a singer/dancer for Ray Kennedy Entertainment's "Rock Around the Clock" and "A Broadway Melody" and "Swing and Sing" for Disney Studios

in Tokyo. Garrick has also done commercials and voiceovers.

Garrick has already performed on six cruises, including the Crown of Conrad Jewell, the Crown of Conrad Monarch, The Conrad Sagaford, the Norwegian and the Star and Dynasty. "When she received her first six-month contract on a cruise ship, she talked about being seasick. "It was my first ship," Garrick recalled, "and during rehearsals, I became seasick." She laughed, "I did my part during rehearsal, lying on the seats. But I got used to it after a while."

She is really interested in "going into television and films. I like the aspect of doing films," Garrick said. "I've had experience in ballet, choreography, as a pianist, as a comedienne."

But in the meantime she wouldn't mind another cruise for another six months. As long as she doesn't get seasick. And Garrick doesn't have to worry about that.

She's riding the waves of success right now.

Barbershoppers tune up for Saturday's concert

Local residents will be singing in a barbershop quartet and chorus as part of the Railway Valley "Jerseyaires" 83rd annual holiday show, "The Phantom of the Barbershop," Saturday in the auditorium of Railway High School, 1012 Madison Ave., Rahway.

The show will feature the Jerseyaires chorus directed by Marty Israel, and the stars of this year's show will be the 1999 SPEBSQSA International Gold Medal winners, "Fred," purported to be the greatest and funniest barbershop quartet in the world.

"The Phantom of the Barbershop" is a spoof on the popular Broadway show and is loaded with comedy and four part barbershop singing.

"Tickets are selling fast so buy yours early," said Chuck Spizdral, the "Jerseyaires" public relations officer. Two performances will be held Saturday: the first show will be performed at 1:30 p.m. and the second show at 8 p.m. at Railway High School.

Prices of tickets are \$18 for reserved seating, and \$12 for adult general admission. Discounted tickets for the afternoon performance only are \$10 for senior citizens, and \$5 for children younger than 12 years old when accompanied by an adult.

For reservations or ticket informa-

tion go to www.users.drew.edu/bazewo/rvc or call John Huetz at (973) 761-4965, Charles De Agazio at (732) 494-3580 or purchase tickets at the local stores.

• Fairwood Bagel and Deli, 32 South Marine Ave., Fairwood
• Musical Discount Center, 348 North Ave., Garwood
• Roselle Foodtown, 550 Raritan Road, Roselle

• Hynes Jewelry, 2 Eastman St., Cranford

The Railway Valley "Jerseyaires" chapter's funding has been made possible in part by the Union County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State.



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For Dec. 4 to Dec. 10
ARIES (March 21-April 19): Do something about your longing to visit a distant port. Drop everything to call your travel agent or book a trip online.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Hammer out a financial plan that works for you and your partner or mate. It helps to also get some input from other family members.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21): Deal with control issues in a close personal relationship. Back up to give your loved one space to think without your constant monitoring.


CANCER (June 22-July 22): Channel your energies along very positive avenues this week. Sign up for an exercise class, and make a commitment to get or stay in shape.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A short-term goal is well within your reach already. Finalize your plan of action, focus on your mark, and then go for it!
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Undue stress or tension at home could adversely affect your performance at work. Balance is the key to solving this dilemma. Get more rest!
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): You have a lot going on mentally this week. Don't hesitate to speak your mind, and let others know where you stand on a sensitive issue.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): It seems that the more money you have, the more money you need. Review or revise your budget to figure out a way to safely cover all of your expenses.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Enhanced popularity should make this a very pleasant period for you. Find delight in meeting interesting people and making new friends.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Playing a passive role behind the scenes sounds like a good idea for you this week. Turn over the reins of management to a competent co-worker.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Help bring a diverse group of people together to support a common cause. Your selfless or charitable acts will be rewarded.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Recognition leads to career advancement or success on the job. Stick your head out of the crowd and roar with a sense of fierce ambition.
 If your birthday is this week, transformation is your key word for the coming year. Take a close look at your life as it is now because it will soon look very different. Let go of the old, release the dead weight around your neck and embrace change like an old friend. Create a void, and fill it with objects from your updated list of wants and desires. March will be a real turn-the-corner month for you. Go forth without fear.
 Also born this week: Tyra Banks, Frankie Muniz, Andrew Cuomo, Aaron Carter, Sinead O'Connor.

Linden Art Assoc. continues classes

The Linden Art Association, a non-profit organization for all ages, recently began its 46th year of weekly evening classes. Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Santmysle Recreation Center, on Melrose Terrace at Orchard Terrace.
 Anyone interested in joining this group to discover and/or develop their talents in visual arts is welcome to stop by on a class night to see the members working on their varied projects under the guidance of a very versatile professional instructor.
 Classes are held in a five-week segments, as follows:
 • Wednesday, Dec. 13, and Jan. 3 and 10
 • Jan. 17, 24 and 31, and Feb. 7 and 14
 • Feb. 21 and 28, and March 7, 14 and 21
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Morristown Antiques Center
 By Wendy Cinquanta
 A&E Correspondent

Nestled comfortably on a side street in historic downtown Morristown is the Morristown Antiques Center.

A spacious, well-designed layout contributes to the overall sense of atmosphere.

A center island consisting of the cash wrap and surrounding glass cases greets the visitor upon entering. Immediately following this is a pleasant welcome by a staff member. This is the most notable characteristic of the establishment: a staff that is numerous enough to cover all areas of the store, that is friendly and attentive without being overbearing. This shop demonstrates truly exemplary customer service.

Among the treasures at the center are numerous specialized collections. One of the most intriguing is a booth showcasing tennis rackets which feature likenesses of famous players, baseball mitts, prints of various sports, and a beautiful display of golf clubs. This includes a history of the Morristown golf clubs made by Spalding alongside the clubs, which are circa 1898 to 1905. Other clubs are there as well, all of historic interest. For those more attracted by small pieces there is a lovely group of tiny treasures, each occupying its own shelf. Silver napkin rings, some of which are monogrammed, make for a unique collectible. There are also cameos, small silver and glass jars, opera glasses of varying styles, and frames.

Also of note are a decanter set in a carved Black Forest bear design holder, circa 1880; an Indian carving, circa 1940, of a Saskatchewan elder; a huge 1800s oak carved chair; Steiff cat and donkey, both on cast iron wheels, from 1910 and 1920 respectively; and an incredible German painted cupboard from 1810.

With the holidays just around the corner, you may want to check out the many booths and cases that contain glass ornaments and other decorations.

The Morristown Antiques Center is located at 45 Market St. — Route 202 North — and now has extended holiday hours now through Christmas. They are open daily 10 to 6. They may be reached by calling (973) 734-0900. The center hosts seminars and a gift registry and gift certificates are available.

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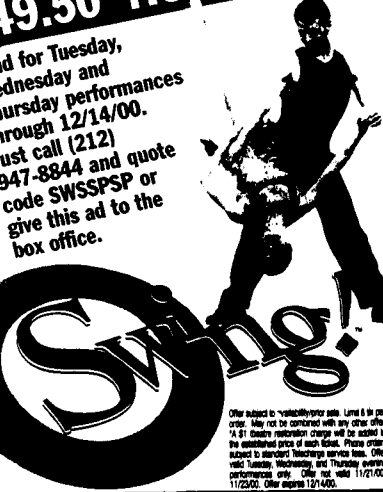
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Stepping Out is a weekly calendar designed to guide our readers to the many arts and entertainment events in the Union County area. The calendar is open to all groups and organizations in the Union County area. To place your free listing, send information to Arts and Entertainment Editor Bill VanSant, Worrall Community Newspapers, P.O. Box 3169, Union, 07083.

Stepping Out

described performances today at 2 p.m., Saturday at 2:30 p.m., and Sunday at 6:30 p.m., each with a sensory seminar 90 minutes before curtain, a sign-interpreted performance Sunday at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 6 at 8 p.m.; Gay and Lesbian Night, Wednesday at 8 p.m., with post-show reception, and Singles Night, Dec. 7 at 8 p.m., with post-show reception.

Tickets are \$37 to \$60. For information, call (973) 376-4434, or buy tickets with Visa, Mastercard or Discover at www.papernail.org.

THE ELIZABETH PLAYHOUSE will present "The Torch-Bearers" by George Kelly through Dec. 17. Shows are at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$8 for general admission, \$6 for students and senior citizens; all seats are \$5 at Friday performances. The Elizabeth Playhouse is located at 1100 E. Jersey St., Elizabeth. For information, call (908) 355-0077.

THE BACK PORCH in Rahway will present Open Mike Night every Tuesday at 9 p.m.

Also going will be Not In That Order, Dec. 22.

The Back Porch is located at 1505 Main St. in Rahway. For information, call (732) 381-6455.

CROSSROADS in Garwood presents a series of jazz, blues and comedy concerts. Every Sunday is Comedy Night at 7:30 p.m. Every Tuesday is the Jazz Jam. Every Wednesday is The Juggling Sons. Every Thursday, ladies drink half-price.

Today: Basic and Divine Afflatus Friday: Boonville 5 Saturday: Nick Buccivilli Band Dec. 7: Saccrow and Sad Afflatus Dec. 8: Bernie Worrall and the Wood Warriors

Dec. 9: Rhett Taylor
Dec. 14: Stanley Jordan
Dec. 15: What's the Word
Dec. 16: Royal Scam in a Steely Dec. 16: Tribute
Dec. 21: Day One
Dec. 22: Budo Vooba
Dec. 23: Everlongue
Dec. 27: Rooster
Dec. 28: Satyagrah Parsun and Hollywood
Dec. 29: Juggling Sons
Dec. 30: Funky Back Widows
Dec. 31: Grant Green Jr. — open until 5 a.m., call for information

Crossroads is located at 78 North Ave. in Garwood. For information, call (908) 232-5666.

TAVERN IN THE PARK in Roselle Park will present Teddy Halek in "An Evening of Frank Sinatra" Saturdays at 9 p.m. Tavern in the Park is located at 147 W. Westfield Ave., Roselle Park. For information, call (908) 241-7400.

VAN GOGH'S EAR CAFE in Union will present a series of musical events in the coming weeks. Tuesday nights are "Acoustic Tuesday," with open mike from 8 to 9 p.m. for folk singers, poets and comedians, followed by a featured folk performer. Open mike participants sign up at 7:30 p.m., and get 10 minutes at the microphone. Jazz and blues are featured Sundays at 8 p.m. Cover charge is \$3 for all Sunday concerts.

Sunday: Groove Apparatus
Tuesday: Klem Kelly
Dec. 10: Steve Minzer Trio
Dec. 12: Andrea
Dec. 17: Joe Krize and Dave Hassel Quartet

Van Gogh's Ear is located at 1017 Stuyvesant Ave. in Union Center. For information, call (908) 810-1644.

THE WASHINGTON AVENUE PUB in Linden will present karaoke and the 100-Proof Duo Band every Saturday night. In addition, Monday features Football Bowl Specials, and Thursday is Ladies Night. The Washington Avenue Pub is located at 704 Washington Ave. in Linden. For information, call (908) 925-3707.

DISCUSSION

THE EDISON ARTS SOCIETY WRITERS CIRCLE will meet at Barnes and Noble in Clark Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m. The Writers Circle meets the second Monday of every month and new members are always welcome. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call (732) 574-1818.

ELIZABETH PUBLIC LIBRARY will sponsor a series of free film classics at the Main Branch in the coming weeks. All films begin at 10 p.m.

The Main Branch of the Elizabeth Public Library is located at 111 S. Broad St. For information, call (908) 354-6060.

KEAN CHILDREN'S HOUR at Kean University in Union will present "A Christmas Carol" Sunday at 2 and 5 p.m. in the Wilks Theater on the Union campus, Morris Avenue. Tickets are \$6. For information, call (908) 527-2337.

UNION RECREATION DEPARTMENT will sponsor weekly ceramics classes for children between the ages of 7 and 12 at the Recreation building, 1120 Commerce Ave., Union, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. For information, call 964-4828.

OPEN MIKE POETRY NIGHT will take place at Barnes and Noble in Clark Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. Open Mike Poetry Night is sponsored the second Sunday of every month in the Music Department. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call (732) 574-1818.

THE ORCHESTRA OF ST. PETER BY THE SEA will perform a concert to benefit the Rutgers Hospital Wednesday at 8 p.m. at the Union County Arts Center, 1601 Irving St., Rahway. Tickets are \$15, \$20 and \$25. For information, call (732) 499-8226.

CRYSTAL GAYLE will appear in concert Dec. 8 at 8 p.m. at the Union County Arts Center, 1601 Irving St., Rahway. Tickets are \$25, \$32 and \$26. For information, call (732) 499-8226.

INTERFAITH SINGLES, for single adults older than 45 years old, will meet every Sunday from 9 to 10:30 a.m. for discussion and continental breakfast at the First Baptist Church, 170 Elm St. in Westfield. Donation is \$2. For information, call (908) 889-5269 or (908) 889-4751.

PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE will continue the 2000-01 season with "Victor Victoria," starring Judy McClane, Robert Cucciolli and Lee Roy Reams. The show runs through Dec. 10 at the theater on Brookside Drive in Millburn. Evening performances are Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., Matinees are Thursdays and Sundays at 2 p.m., and Saturdays at 2:30 p.m.

Special performances are audio-

FROM BODY TO SPIRIT

Pat Feeney (Mural), will be on exhibit at the Arts Guild of Rahway through Dec. 15.

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

PUBLIC PATHWAYS: "The Olmsted Legacy," a photographic journal by Nancy J. Oni, will be on exhibit at the Kent Place Gallery in Summit through Dec. 15. An opening reception will take place Friday from 6 to 8 p.m.

Gallery hours are Mondays to Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., or by appointment. The Kent Place Galleries is in Kent Place School, located at 42 Norwood Ave. in Summit. For information, call (908) 273-0900, ext. 332.

ART FOR GIFT-GIVING, an exhibit of 17 artists' work by the Westfield Art Association, will be on display at the Westfield Art Gallery through Dec. 23.

Gallery hours are Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m. The Westfield Art Gallery is located at 150 E. Broad St., Westfield. For information, call (908) 789-9696.

SMALL WORKS by members of the Westfield Art Association will be on exhibit through Dec. 30 at the Town Book Store of Westfield.

Hours are Mondays and Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesdays through Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Sundays, noon to 6 p.m. The Town Book Store is located at 255 E. Broad St., Westfield. For information, call the store at (908) 233-3535.

CHRISTMAS MINIATURES will be on exhibit at the Swain Galleries in Plainfield Saturday through Dec. 31. An opening reception will take place Saturday from 5 to 7 p.m.

Gallery hours are Tuesdays to Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sundays, noon to 4 p.m. Swain Galleries is located at 703 Watchung Ave., Plainfield. For information, call (908) 756-1707.

PHOTOGRAPHER ANNE ROSS will have her work exhibited throughout the Wisner House at the Reeves-Reed Arboretum in Summit through December.

The Reeves-Reed Arboretum is located at 165 Hobart Ave., Summit. For information, call (908) 273-8787.

NEW OUTLOOKS: "The NJCUA Faculty Exhibition" will be on display at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts in Summit through Jan. 3.

Gallery hours are Mondays to Fridays, noon to 4 p.m.; Thursdays evenings, 7 to 9 p.m.; and Saturdays and Sundays, 2 to 4 p.m. NJCUA is located at 68 Elm St., Summit. For information, call (908) 273-9121.

BRUSH WITH ANTIQUITY, paintings and carvings by Marjorie McConnell of Fanwood, will be on exhibit at the Les Malamut Art Gallery in Union Public Library through Dec. 13.

Gallery hours are regular library hours. Union Public Library is located at 1980 Morris Ave., Union. For information, call (908) 851-8450.

DOCUMENTS, the work of Miriam Beerman, will be on exhibit in the Tomasso Gallery in the Kenneth MacKay Library on the Cranford Campus of Union County College through Dec. 14.

Gallery hours are Mondays to Thursdays and Saturdays, 1 to 4 p.m.; and Tuesdays to Thursdays, 6 to 9 p.m. UCC is located at 1033 Springfield Ave., Cranford. For information, call (908) 709-7155.

NEW JERSEY INTERGENERATIONAL ORCHESTRA is accepting applications and will conduct auditions for instrumentalists for the 2000-01 season. For information, call (908) 273-8787.

WESTFIELD GLEE CLUB will welcome student and adult male singers for its 16th season. The Glee Club rehearses Mondays from 8 to 10 p.m. in the choir room of the Westfield Presbyterian Church, Broad Street and Mountain Avenue in Westfield. For information, call (908) 232-0673.

THE PROMISE will feature Michael Card in concert Sunday at 7 p.m. at Evangel Church, 1251 Terril Road, Scotch Plains. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. \$13 tickets are available for groups of 10 or more. For information, call (908) 376-8544.

THE KEAN UNIVERSITY CHOIR will be presented in concert Sunday at 3 p.m. at Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church, 888 Stuyvesant Ave., Union. Admission is free. For information, call (908) 688-3164.

THE SUMMIT CHORALE will present "A Spanish Holiday" Sunday at 4 p.m. at the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church, 716 Watchung Ave., Plainfield. Advance-sale tickets are \$16 for general admission, \$11 for students and senior citizens; at the door, tickets are \$18 and \$13, respectively. For information, call (973) 762-8466.

MOSTLY MUSIC CHAMBER SERIES will present a concert Sunday at 7:30 p.m. at Temple Emanu-El, 756 E. Broad St., Westfield. Tickets are \$20 for general admission, \$18 for senior citizens and \$13 for students. For information, call (973) 762-0108.

BROADWAY LEGEND BARBARA COOK will appear at the Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn for a one-night-only concert Tuesday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$40 and \$50. For information, call (973) 376-4343.

CRYSTAL GAYLE will appear in concert Dec. 8 at 8 p.m. at the Union County Arts Center, 1601 Irving St., Rahway. Tickets are \$25, \$32 and \$26. For information, call (732) 499-8226.

FIRST ANNUAL WESTFIELD HOLIDAY ARTISTS MARKET will be sponsored Dec. 8 to 10 at the Westfield Armory, 500 Rahway Ave., Westfield. Hours are 5 to 9 p.m. Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 9, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 10. A weekend pass is available for \$6; children younger than 10 years old attend free. For information, call (800) 833-9437.

SUMMIT FOLK DANCERS will meet Dec. 8 and 22 at 7:30 p.m. at The Connection in Summit. Fee is \$2. For information, call (973) 487-8278.

BOOKS

AUTHOR MARLOE FINE will appear at Barnes and Noble of Springfield this evening at 7 p.m. to sign copies of his new book, "A Piggy Christmas." Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West in Springfield. For information, call (973) 376-8544.

AUTHOR CAROL BINKOWSKI will appear at the Town Book Store of Westfield Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to sign copies of her new book, "Musical New York: An Informal Guide to Its History and Legends and a Walking Tour of Its Sites and Landmarks." The Town Book Store is located at 255 E. Broad St., Westfield. For information, call (908) 233-3535.

BOOKS BY WOMEN, ABOUT WOMEN, a book-discussion group at Barnes and Noble in Springfield will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. The group meets the first Wednesday of each month. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West in Springfield. For information, call (973) 376-8544.

SHAKESPEARE OUT LOUD Reading Group will meet at Barnes and Noble in Clark Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m. The group, led by Kevin Muller, will meet the third Friday of each month to read a Shakespeare play out loud. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information, call (732) 574-1818.

CLASSES

LINDEN ART ASSOCIATION will offer classes in visual arts in five-week segments on Wednesday evenings. The sessions are as follows:

- Wednesday, Dec. 13, and Jan. 3 and 10 — already in progress
- Jan. 17, 24 and 31, and Feb. 17 and 14
- Feb. 21 and 28, and March 7, 14 and 21

Classes meet at the Sunnyside Recreation Center, Melrose Terrace at Orchard Terrace. For information, call (908) 466-1408.

MUSIC FOR CHILDREN in Westfield offers various music classes to children between the ages of 10 months and 6 years old. For information on class offerings or to reserve a space at either open house, call (908) 232-4881.

CONCERTS

CHERISH THE LADIES will perform a concert of Celtic music to benefit the Community Food Bank of New Jersey Friday at 8 p.m. at the Union County Arts Center, 1601 Irving St., Rahway. Tickets are \$20, \$25 and \$30. For information, call (732) 499-8226.

SINGER-SONGWRITER KENNY SACK will make several local appearances in the coming weeks.

Saturday: Elizabeth Public Library, 11 S. Broad St., Elizabeth; 2 to 3 p.m.
Dec. 7: Clark Free Public Library, 303 Westfield Ave., Clark; 7:15 to 8 p.m.
Dec. 10: Trailside Nature and Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside; 3 to 4 p.m.

For information, send e-mail to kenny@songwriter@hotmail.com.

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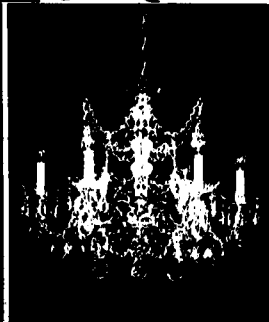
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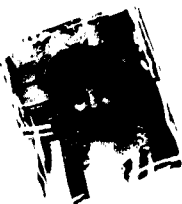
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Children's Hospital shows works of art

The New Jersey Photography Forum's annual juried photography exhibit will be on display from Monday to Jan. 31, 2001 at the Children's Specialized Hospital in the Mountainside.

The show is curated by Nancy J. On and Michael Cream, the co-founders of the New Jersey Photography Forum who said, "The show is unique and exciting with many different approaches to photography represented. Whether it is a panorama, a hand-colored photograph, a Polaroid transfer, digital image, black-and-white or color, the overall high quality of the show has something for everyone."

More than 300 photographers were invited to submit two prints to be considered for exhibition. Approximately 50 photographs were selected for exhibition by noted judges Helga Roberts, Joel Morgovsky and Ellen Debutis.

Awards of Excellence were given to Carolyn Bross and Elena Mitchell, and Awards of Merit went to Dorota Bakalus-Bowie, John Markamich, Nancy On, Edward Riedinger and Steven Selentriand.

The New Jersey Photography Forum is dedicated to furthering the interests of professional and serious photographers. The group is now in its sixth year of development and has become the largest and most recognized group of fine art photographers in the state. The monthly meetings at the Watchung Arts Center encourage attendees to share expertise and advance their skills. The meetings provide access to creative and technical information.

Simple presentations, examples and demonstrations by manufacturers are given regularly, and photographers have an opportunity to display their work for critique by others. Exhibition possibilities within the fine art community are explored. This is an invaluable resource for photographers interested in becoming exhibiting artists.

You can learn more about the New Jersey Photography Forum by visiting their web site at www.community.nj.com/cc/njphotoforum or by calling the Watchung Arts Center for meeting dates and directions at (908) 753-0190.

The New Jersey

Photography Forum
The New Jersey Photography Forum was started in January 1995 by Nancy J. On of Berkeley Heights, and Michael Cream of Summit, as an opportunity for professional photographers, photo educators and serious amateurs to meet and discuss their work, share expertise, advance skills and explore exhibit possibilities within the fine art community.

The group is now in its fifth year of development and has become the largest and most recognized group of fine art photographers in the state, rivaled only by the American Society of Media Photographers who are commercially based.

Our membership comes from all areas of the state and as a group we have tremendous variety in style and photographic technique. There are several recurring themes in our work, such as: Nature, Environment, Architecture, Heritage or Culture.

Monthly meetings begin with networking over a cup of coffee in order to foster open dialogue, sharing and camaraderie. We then have the formal meeting. At this time, there are numerous announcements regarding current issues for the group — planning upcoming exhibit activities, circulation of invitations to current shows by Forum participants, voting on issues for the future direction of the group, sharing available shooting assignments, group purchases of supplies, etc. Some members then present photographs for critique. Work shown is not limited by subject matter, size, format, black-and-white, color or alternative processes. We do limit each person to five or six prints. Each presentation and discussion lasts about five to 10 minutes in order to have enough time to get to know each photographer and their work.

Periodically during the year, the group has devoted the evening to special presentations by curators, professional photographers, manufacturers, photo labs or demonstrations of new equipment or creative techniques. The Forum meets once a month at the Watchung Arts Center on the circle in Watchung. The group does not charge an annual fee for membership. Instead, visitors are charged \$3 per meeting for regular meetings and \$4 for the special meetings. Post cards are sent out each month to remind members of the meeting and if there is room, announce members shows.

Editorial deadlines

Following are deadlines for news:
Church, club and social - Thursday noon.
Entertainment - Friday noon.
Sports - Monday noon.
Letters to the Editor - Monday 9 a.m.

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Healthy Living

Iron supplements can help women reap benefits of weight lifting

By Alison Ashton
Copley News Service
Pop Iron

Women may want to consider popping iron, as well as pumping it at the gym. A Cornell University study finds that women with low body iron — but not yet anemic — have a much harder time sustaining exercise and enjoying the benefits of training.

"Millions of women are working harder than they need in order to exercise or just physically work, and they can't reap the benefits of training as easily," says Jere Haas, director of the Division of Nutritional Sciences at Cornell. "As a result, exercise is more difficult, so these women are more apt to lose their motivation to exercise."

Though not as severe as full-blown

anemia, iron deficiency is common. An estimated 16 percent of American women are iron deficient, and most don't know it. Physically active women, as well as those who are dieting or vegetarians, are at a high risk for iron deficiency.

Haas' study focused on 42 iron-depleted women between 18 and 34 years old. Half the group was given an iron supplement, while half received a placebo. All the women trained 30 minutes a day, five days a week, for four weeks, at 75 percent to 85 percent of maximum heart rate.

All the women improved their endurance, but those who received the iron supplement cut 3½ minutes off a 9-mile time trial on a stationary bike.

The women in the placebo group shaved an average of just 90 seconds off their times.

"The study shows that women with moderate iron deficiency might not be getting all the fitness benefits of exercise training," says Haas. "They can improve aerobically but not optimally. Exercise for them is more difficult than for women with adequate iron."

Iron supplements can make up shortfalls in this mineral, but a preventive diet is even better. Haas recommends eating lean red meat. Vegetarians should consume citrus fruit and juice with meals. The vitamin C improves the absorption of iron from legumes, whole grains, green vegetables and other iron-rich foods.

Do Herbs Help or Hurt?
According to a MarketResearch.com study, more than 30 million consumers rely on herbal remedies instead of over-the-counter drugs, and another 19 million use herbs along with OTC medications. Echinacea, ginkgo biloba, St. John's wort and garlic top the list of most popular herb products.

But do they really work?

Alan K. David M.D., chairman of Family and Community Medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, notes that numerous studies have found herbs to be promising, but many are flawed. Often studies that have demonstrated the benefits of some herbs leave important questions unanswered.

David offers a review of studies. For example, echinacea, a popular cold remedy, has been shown to reduce cold symptoms and respiratory infections when compared to a placebo. But studies have not yet determined appropriate dosages. Moreover, echinacea shouldn't be used for more than eight weeks at a time and never for progressive systemic diseases like AIDS. And no studies have proved that garlic really reduces cancer and heart disease risk.

A double-blind, placebo-controlled study did show that feverfew can reduce migraine headaches as much as 70 percent. However, as much as 15 percent of users developed oral ulcers or gastrointestinal irritation. David also notes that high-quality

studies have demonstrated that ginkgo biloba may stabilize or even improve social functioning or cognitive performance in people with dementia. The extract also has been shown to relieve premenstrual syndrome and vertigo.

Studies on the effectiveness of ginseng and ginseng offer conflicting results. And St. John's wort, which is used to treat mild and moderate depression, needs more research to determine the best dosages and long-term effects.

Finally, David points out that studies using animal subjects may or may not apply to humans, and most herbal remedies are not recommended for pregnant women and should be used for children with caution.

Hearing help is here

New Jersey residents with moderate to severe sensorineural hearing loss, the most common form of hearing impairment, now have a new treatment option, the Vibrant Soundbridge. This implantable middle-ear hearing device is designed to help adults who are seeking an alternative to acoustic hearing aids. The Ear Specialty Group, with offices in Springfield and Paramus, is currently the only center in New Jersey to offer this innovative technology.

"Before the Vibrant Soundbridge received FDA approval, there were few alternatives to hearing aids for patients suffering from moderate to severe sensorineural hearing loss," said Christine Hoffman, director of Audiology Services. "We are estimating that thousands of people in New York and New Jersey suffer from this type of hearing impairment and are going untreated due to their dissatisfaction with or inability to wear hearing aids." According to the Better Hearing Institute, untreated hearing loss costs the United States more than \$56 billion in lost productivity and medical expenses every year.

Unlike hearing aids, which amplify sound through the eardrum, the Vibrant Soundbridge improves hearing by directly vibrating the tiny bones in the middle ear, imitating the human ear's natural frequency response to sound. This device has been available since 1998 in Europe and recently received FDA approval after an extensive clinical trial.

Developed by San Jose-based Symphonix Devices, Inc., the Vibrant Soundbridge is an implantable middle-ear hearing device designed to work with the natural structures of the middle ear to enhance hearing ability for people who are limited by current hearing aid technology. The patented, priority device, which is comprised of internal and external components, treats adults with moderate to severe sensorineural hearing loss who desire an alternative to hearing aids.

This "direct drive technology" leaves the ear canal open and the eardrum undisturbed, alleviating problems commonly associated with hearing aids.

Orthodontist makes trade for sweet treats

Halloween was a great day in many respects. In the office of Lee Kaswiner, an orthodontist in Springfield, it was a day for preparation.

Dr. Kaswiner had instituted a "Candy Buy-Back Program."

Dr. Kaswiner had written a letter to all his patients and had an article published in Worrall Community Newspapers offering to buy children's Halloween candy for \$1 per pound. This candy was then to be donated to KidsCare, an organization that helps disabled and less fortunate children. These children do not have the opportunity to go out and "trick or treat."

Dr. Kaswiner purchased the new \$1 "gold" coins. When a patient arrived with their candy Nov. 1 and 2, the child weighed themselves, and the weighed themselves again while holding their candy. They then received the gold coins at the rate of \$1 per pound of candy.

The children rolled into Dr. Kaswiner's office carrying their candy for two days. Several children bought in more than 17 pounds of candy each. The final tally was more than 300 pounds of candy. Everybody won, the children received "cash for their stash," KidsCare won because it received all the candy, and Dr. Kaswiner won because he had to deal with fewer broken braces caused by eating all that candy.

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ing aids such as feedback, occlusion, unnatural sound quality, discomfort, ongoing maintenance and social stigma. The device can be implanted during a short, outpatient surgical procedure. Dr. Jed Kwartier of the Ear Specialty Group explains, "The Vibrant Soundbridge often eliminates the complaints hearing aid users have about the way hearing aids look and sound. European and American studies of Vibrant Soundbridge users clearly show a preference for this technology when compared to prior hearing aid use."

About the Ear Specialty Group
The Ear Specialty Group, with offices located in Springfield and Paramus, is the premier center in New Jersey for care of problems of the ear and related structures. Started by Dr. Jed Kwartier, a clinical associate professor at UMDNJ in Newark and nationally recognized expert in ear diseases, and more recently joined by Dr. Matthew Hanson, the Ear Specialty Group is responsible for a number of "New Jersey firsts" for ear care. Among these are performing New Jersey's first pediatric cochlear implant.

The Ear Specialty Group is committed to bringing compassionate care and the most up to date technology to residents of New Jersey. The Vibrant Soundbridge is another example of that commitment.

For Olympian, prescription keeps cholesterol in check

By Jack Williams
Copley News Service

From the time he could tell a breast stroke from a brush stroke, Mark Spitz took to chlorine like Picasso to canvas.

Now, 28 years removed from his seven Olympic gold medals in Munich, Spitz swims for fitness instead of fame.

It's in his blood.

Just like cholesterol.

If Spitz's failure to make the 1992 U.S. Olympic team at age 41 didn't confirm his mortality, credit a routine blood test three years later. He had high cholesterol, 303 milligrams per deciliter, a hidden predictor of a heart problem.

For most people, a doctor might suggest moderating saturated fat in the diet, losing weight and exercising. Spitz's diet already was low in fat. So was his body. And four to five times a week, he swam laps in a UCLA master's program at a pace that would tax competitors half his age.

"What's more, he had no family history of heart disease. He was dumbfounded."

"It would be great if I woke up with a sore elbow or something, just some kind of a symptom," he said. "Then I could run to the doctor and do something about it."

"But this caught me off guard. I was shocked and concerned."

Because he already was doing all the right things, Spitz was placed on a cholesterol-lowering statin medication, Lipitor, which reduced his cholesterol to below 200 within a month. Today it's an exemplary 176.

Spitz opted for medication because he was told the biggest drop in cholesterol he could expect otherwise was 10 percent to 15 percent.

"It was the best thing I ever did," he said. "You have to stay on it because it regulates the amount of cholesterol the liver produces."

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What's Going On?

FLEA MARKET

SATURDAY
December 2nd, 2000
EVENT: BIG INDOOR FLEA MARKET
PLACE: Rosalie Catholic High School
Rantzen Road, Rosalie, NJ
TIME: 9:00AM-4:00PM
ORGANIZATION: Rosalie Catholic High School

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
December 2nd & 3rd, 2000
EVENT: GIANT 2 DAY FLEA MARKET AND GIFT SHOW—INDOORS & OUT-DOORS
PLACE: Belleville High School, 100 Passaic Avenue, Belleville (off Jortine main Street)
TIME: Saturday, 12noon-9pm Sunday, 9am-5pm
PRICE: Over 100 Quality Dealers Selling a Variety of Unique Merchandise For Information call: 201-997-9525
ORGANIZATION: Graduation Celebration & SEPPPO

SATURDAY
December 2nd, 2000 (know date Decem-ber 2nd)
EVENT: FLEA MARKET
PLACE: Redeemer Lutheran Church
134 Prospect Avenue, Irvington, NJ
TIME: 9:00AM-2:00PM
PRICE: New and used clothes, shoes, records, housewares, books, jewelry, etc. Tables available for \$15 (per table). Call 973-372-0084 or 973-763-5281 between 9:00am to 6:00pm.
ORGANIZATION: Redeemer Lutheran Church

CRAFT

SATURDAY
December 2, 2000
EVENT: Craft Fair
PLACE: Mother Seton Regional High School, Valley Road, Clark (GSP Exit 135, across from The Holiday Inn)
TIME: 9am-4pm
PRICE: Free Admission/Peppermint Bouquet will feature over 150 crafters. Breakfast, lunch, and snacks will be available.
ORGANIZATION: Mother Seton Regional High School

SATURDAY
December 2nd, 2000
EVENT: Annual Holiday Craft Fair
PLACE: St. John Vianney Church, 420 1st Avenue, Colonia
TIME: 9am-4pm
PRICE: Free Admission and Parking — Handicapped Accessible. Over 150 crafters, handcrafted items. Breakfast and Lunch available, baked goods for sale. For information call 732-574-0150
ORGANIZATION: St. John Vianney Church

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS (IN STATE OF NEW JERSEY):
JACOB BECKER
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED TO appear upon RETURN, SUICH, KAHN & SHEPARD, Plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 7 Century Drive, Suite 201, Parsippany, New Jersey 07054, telephone number (973) 884-4700, an Answer to the Complaint and Amendments to the Complaint, if any, filed in a civil action in which DE CAPITAL MORTGAGE SERVICES, INC. is Plaintiff and DUDLEY HILL, et al., are Defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, UNION COUNTY and bearing Docket No. F-17295-00, on or before 120 days after the date of this notice, or you will be deemed to have waived your right to be heard and to defend against you for the matter demanded in the Complaint. You shall file your answer and proof of service with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Hudson Justice Complex, Civ. Rts. Trialon, New Jersey 08825, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice and Procedure. This action has been instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing a mortgage dated January 14, 1994 made by DUDLEY HILL and DABBY HILL as mortgagors to NORTH AMERICAN MORTGAGE COMPANY, recorded on 03/17/94, in Book 3227 of Mortgages for UNION COUNTY, Page 0280, et seq. (mortgage); and (2) recovering possession of, and certain premises commonly known as 718 STELLE AVENUE, RAINFIELD, NJ 07060. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County of Union, by calling 908-354-4340 or the legal services office of the county of your residence if you reside in

RUMMAGE SALE

SATURDAY
December 2nd, 2000
EVENT: RUMMAGE SALE
PLACE: Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, 739 Samary Avenue, Rahway
TIME: 9:00am-1:00pm
PRICE: Free Admission (Items sold individually, or by the bag at \$5 (small), \$10 (medium), \$20 (large))
ORGANIZATION: Holy Comforter Episcopal Church

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
December 8th & 9th, 2000
EVENT: RUMMAGE SALE
PLACE: St. George's Church, 550 Ridgewood Road, Maplewood
TIME: Friday 9:30am-4:00pm Saturday 9:30am-1:00pm
PRICE: Free Admission Clothing, bric-a-brac, household, etc.
ORGANIZATION: St. George's Church

AUCTION

SATURDAY
December 2nd, 2000
EVENT: HOLLY AUCTION
PLACE: St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, 721 Rahway Avenue, Union
TIME: 1:00pm-5:00pm
PRICE: Admission: \$5.00 — includes 25 free prize tickets. Coffee, Tea & Pastries. Crystal, Small Appliances, Toys, Holiday Items, Food Baskets, Gift Certificates, Linens, Hand Crystal Dishes and Many, Many more. For more information call 908-964-7957
ORGANIZATION: Philoptochos "St. Irene" of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church

BAZAAR

SATURDAY
December 2nd, 2000
EVENT: Annual Holiday Bazaar
PLACE: Trinity Church, North and Forest Avenues, Cranford
TIME: 9am-3pm
PRICE: 50c admission over 21 craft and gift vendors representing a wide variety of tasteful gifts. Look for hidden treasures in Grandma's Attic, then buy a hand decorated wreath to add a special touch to the holidays! After all that shopping, stop by our food and bake areas for sumptuous treats! Santa visits from 10am to noon. It's too good to be missed! For information please call the Church office at 908-276-4047
ORGANIZATION: Trinity Episcopal Church

What's Going On is a paid directory of events for non-profit organizations. It is prepaid and costs just \$20.00 (for 2 weeks) for Essex County or Union County and just \$30.00 for both. Your notice must be in our Maplewood office (463 Valley Street) by 4:00 P.M. on Monday for publication the following Thursday. Advertisement may also be placed at 170 Scotland Road, Orange, 266 Liberty St., Bloomfield or 1291 Cluyvesant Ave., Union. For more information call 763-9411.

FUN AUCTION

THURSDAY
November 30th, 2000
EVENT: TRICKY TRAY AUCTION
PLACE: ALJ High School, 365 Westfield Avenue, Clark
TIME: Doors open 6:00 pm, Drawing 7:30pm.
PRICE: \$6 Admission. Call 732-882-1381 for tickets. Also available at door.
ORGANIZATION: A L Johnson High School Project Graduation Class 2001

WORKSHOPS EDUCATIONAL

FRIDAY
December 8th, 2000
EVENT: Free Clinical Presentation
TOPIC: Addicted to the Dark Side of Sex Understanding and Modifying Compulsive Behaviors
PLACE: The Psychoanalytic Center of Northern New Jersey (PCNJ), 769 North Avenue, Suite 112, West Orange, New Jersey 07052.
TIME: 8:00 to 9:30pm
PRICE: Free. For reservations or further information call 973-785-7500
ORGANIZATION: The Psychoanalytic Center of Northern New Jersey (PCNJ)

OTHER

SUNDAY
December 10th, 2000
EVENT: CHAI NUKAK SHOPPING BOUTIQUE
PLACE: YMHA of Union County, 501 Green Lane, Union
TIME: 12:00NOON-4:00PM
PRICE: Free admission. Children's activities, 82 craft, crafts, potato pancake factory-make them & eat them, magic show-1pm, book fair, refreshments available. Some selling spaces still available. For more information call Jani Jones, 908-289-8112.
ORGANIZATION: YMHA of Union County

SATURDAY
December 2nd, 2000
EVENT: Holiday Jewelry and Giftware Sale
PLACE: New Eyes for the Needy, 549 Millburn Avenue, Short Hills
TIME: 10am-3pm
PRICE: Free Admission — Antique and costume jewelry, watches, silver, flatware, crystal and porcelain at reasonable prices. For information call 973-376-4903
ORGANIZATION: New Eyes for the Needy

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See ANSWERS on Page B11

REUNIONS

• Union High School, all classes, will take part in a reunion beginning with luncheon Feb. 3, 2001 in Kissimmee, Fla. For information, contact Jack Jordan, class of '51, at (561) 966-KSSX, or john881@webtv.net. John or Ellie Truhe, class of '45, at (609) 698-3621 or johndarne@aol.com. Dick Walter, class of '48, at (561) 395-3274 or dickj150@aol.com or Tom Ryan, class of '51, at (561) 483-7494 or tarjer@aol.com.

• HHSAA High School's Florida Alumni Reunion will take place Feb. 25, 2001 at noon at the Holiday Inn Catalina, 1601 N. Congress Ave., Blynton Beach, Fla. Admission, through advance registration only, is \$35 per person. For information, contact Marvin Kaleky at 466 Bnrwood Circle, Hollywood, FL 33024, or call him at home at (954) 967-0199 or at work at (954) 967-8500. He may be faxed at (954) 967-0890 or contacted via e-mail at hhaafla@yahoo.com or enuky18@yahoo.com.

• Union High School Class of 1991 will conduct its 10th reunion April 21, 2001. For information, contact Reunions Unlimited Inc. at (732) 617-1000.

Mini show begins Saturday

Plainfield's Swain Galleries will showcase a fall-scale art by 22 noted gallery artists Saturday to Dec. 31 in the annual "Christmas Miniatures" exhibit.

Among this year's 17 exhibitors are first-timers Timothy W. Jahn, noted for architectural landscapes, and Karen McCormack, who reveals personalities in her animal portraits.

"Miniatures" will vary from landscapes and seascapes to still lifes, birds, figures, wild and domestic animal portraits and others in media that include oils, watercolors, acrylics, pastels, gouaches, pen-and-ink, calligraphy and photography.

"Christmas Miniatures" open with a reception Saturday from 5 to 7 p.m. and continues Tuesdays to Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturdays to 4 p.m., and Sundays, noon to 4 p.m. at Swain Galleries, 703 Watchung Ave., Plainfield. For details, call (908) 756-1707.

Union County artists are S. Allyn Schaeffer of Panwood, Clark Block of Springfield, Patricia Brentano of Westfield, and Plainfield residents Atonzo Adams and J. Brian Townsend.

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ESSEX COUNTY
News Record of Maplewood & South Orange
West Orange Chronicle • East Orange Record
Orange Transcript • The Glen Ridge Paper
Nutley Journal • Belleville Post
Irvington Herald • Vailsburg Leader
The Independent Press of Bloomfield

DEADLINES

Business Directory 4 PM Thursday
Display - Space reservation 5 PM Friday
Ad Copy 12 noon Monday
In-column 3 PM Tuesday

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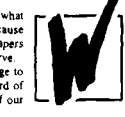
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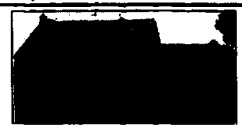
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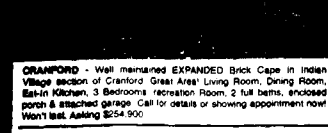
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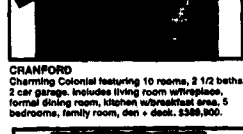
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REAL ESTATE

Summit office of Burgdorff emphasizes need for Realtor

Real estate consumers can no longer bank on consensus and wisdom to help find the home of their dreams. These unusual market conditions give rise to scenarios causing prospective buyers to move with unprecedented speed. Too often, real estate consumers are overwhelmed. Where can you go for guidance?

Colleagues in the Summit office of Burgdorff ERA offer the needed guidance for helping consumers make what might be their largest investment decision.

The real estate market of 2000 can not be compared to previous periods for many reasons. Understanding the idiosyncrasies and nuances takes an experienced professional. Consumers should be able to rely on their Realtors to navigate them through the market and empower them to make informed choices.

Realtors in the Burgdorff Summit office find the current real estate market rife with examples of homes listed and sold within a day and multiple offers abounding. "Interest rates are under 8 percent and more buyers are looking at less inventory," said office manager Doug Radford on behalf of the sales associates in the office. "The sales process is running at a blistering pace and sellers and

buyers who rely on traditional methods will be overwhelmed. Too many people panic and later regret their hasty decisions. For this reason, it is critical to work with a Realtor who can keep you on the correct path away from hysteria, and at Burgdorff, our motto and service record of integrity ensure this will always be the case."

The Summit area is particularly hot right now and Burgdorff is a market leader in this New York City commuter market, Radford said. Many of their customers come from referrals by previous clients who have told happy tales in their homes over a long time. "It is not unusual to work with the son or daughter of someone who has worked with Burgdorff before," said Radford. "Everyone in our office benefits from the other Realtors' experiences."

The Burgdorff ERA Summit office is a full-service real estate office offering the area's most comprehensive marketing programs through the innovative Burgdorff Signature Service program. Offices are currently located at 396 and 785 Springfield Ave. in Summit and 1243 Springfield Ave. in New Providence. For real estate assistance or to inquire about a career in real estate, call the office at (908) 522-1800 or (908) 464-2100.

Massard announces retirement

After more than 12 years as vice president and manager of the Burgdorff ERA Westfield office, Jean T. Massard has announced her retirement from the company.

A fixture in the New Jersey real estate industry for more than 30 years, Massard guided the Westfield office to become one of the most outstanding offices in Burgdorff history.

A member of the Westfield office since 1988, she received the Excel Award in 1999, the President's Citation in 1996, the Burgdorff Manager Leadership Award in 1993, and earned membership in the New Jersey Association of Realtors' Million Dollar Sales Club for many years.

In addition, she was a perennial winner of top company units and top company dollar awards. Under her

leadership, 28 agents in her office were inducted into the NJAR Million Dollar Club in 1998 alone.

"I have always been proud of our office's capabilities and our impressive record of selling 80 percent to 90 percent of the homes we list," said Massard. "I will miss working alongside such an experienced and talented team with such high professional standards. I consider myself lucky to have spent my final 12 years in real estate as part of the best company in the business — Burgdorff ERA."

"Jean's leadership has been nothing short of outstanding," said Judy Reeves, president of Burgdorff ERA. "By creating a cohesive, well-supported team, Jean established the Westfield office as a market and industry model for successful management."

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AUTOMOTIVE

Buick Regal takes auto design to 'Olympic' proportions

Buick's 2001 lineup includes the Regal Olympic Edition, a limited production model created to commemorate Buick's support for athletes who competed on the 2000 U.S. Olympic Team.

In Olympic Edition trim, Buick's premium mid-size model sports fashionable design cues and special features and is identified by the U.S. Olympic Team logo on its tail lamps and floor mats. The Olympic package is available on Regal LS and GS models.

The special Regal also inaugurates Buick's relationship with renowned fashion designer Joseph Abboud. Abboud has a long-standing relationship with GM that includes designing special vehicles for Concept-Care to benefit breast cancer research and awareness and for EAUG GM's "The Team Behind the Team" program supporting U.S. Olympic Team athletes.

The new Regal is available in Gold Metallic, Sterling Silver Metallic, and a new color for 2001, Graphite Metallic, with standard lower body panels that are unique to the Olympic models. A special Storm Gray paint treatment sets off the grille-mounted Buckle-In-Shield and wheel center caps. The interior is Tupe with leather seats.

The Olympic Edition also offers a special package of features including a power sunroof, Gran Touring suspension and an eight-speaker Monsoon audio entertainment system with steering wheel-mounted controls. The Olympic package is available on all Regal models.

Additional Abboud-inspired Regal LS and GS models are planned for mid-model year introduction, offering similar content as the Olympic Edition models with Abboud's diamond



Joseph Abboud

logo replacing U.S. Olympic Team badging. The mid-year models also will sport a two-tone leather-wrapped steering wheel.

"Regal has always delivered on a promise of performance, sporty styling and roominess for families," said Mark D. Hines, Regal brand manager. "With the Abboud models, we're taking it a step further by blending style with performance to create a contemporary sedan which has a classic design. This vehicle is the product of a renowned designer from the world of fashion working with car designers, merging Abboud's fashion sense with the product features our customers and their families desire."

Regal is available in LS and GS models, the latter equipped with a supercharged 3800 Series II V-6 engine providing 240 horsepower at 5200 rpm and 280 lb-ft of torque at 3600 rpm. The LS engine is the naturally aspirated 3800 Series II V-6, providing 200 horsepower at 5200 rpm and 225 lb-ft of torque at 4000 rpm. Fuel economy is 20 miles per gallon in city driving and 29 mpg on the

highway for the LS and 18/27 for the supercharged GS.

All 2001 Regals are equipped with a trunk entrapment handle to allow escape from the trunk for someone inadvertently locked in, rear wheel house liners for a quieter ride, and new interior trim and exterior colors. OnStar, GM's 24-hour on-demand driver assistance and navigation system, is standard on Regal GS models (optional on LS) and comes with one year of free safety and security service.

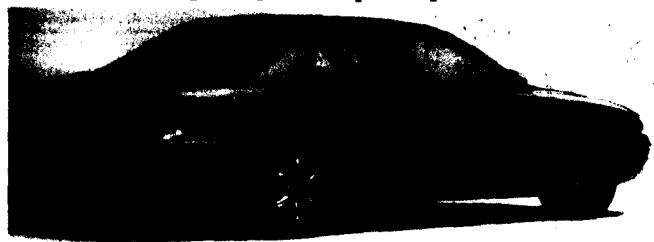
Regal provides an array of standard features including dual-zone Comfort Temp climate control, remote keyless entry, perimeter lighting, reclining driver and front passenger seats, fog lamps, dual remote outside rearview mirrors (power adjust and heated), daytime running lamps and cornering lamps.

Regal models also come equipped with Buick's Convenience Plus package of features including delayed entry and exit lighting, theater dimming, flash-to-pass control, battery rundown protection, lockout protection, delayed locking, auxiliary power outlet, retained accessory power, theft-deterrent system and daytime running lamps. Cruise control and power windows and door locks are also standard.

In addition to the supercharged engine, GS models add leather-trimmed seats with a driver's seat side air bag, a Driver Information Center providing on-life monitoring, fluid level warnings and fuel/engine information, full-range — brake and engine — traction control and 16-inch aluminum wheels.

The GS also is equipped with Gran Touring suspension, including 16-inch all-season touring tires and aluminum or optional chrome-plated wheels.

For 2001, LS models feature GS-like black trim, body-colored grille and body-colored "Buick" lettering on rear bumper. New exterior colors are Graphite Metallic and White. Graphite is the new interior color, available in both Dunbar Cloth and Sierra-Grain Leather.



The 2001 Buick Regal, Olympic Edition, inaugurates Buick's relationship with renowned fashion designer Joseph Abboud. Abboud has a long-standing relationship with GM that includes designing special vehicles for Concept-Care to benefit breast cancer research and awareness, as well as other projects.

Treat auto repairs like a checkup at the family doctor

Taking your car to a repair shop is like taking a loved one to the doctor. You need to properly communicate your vehicle's symptoms to get it running smoothly and back on the road.

The AAA New Jersey Automobile Club in Florham Park offers the following tips for communicating effectively with your automotive technician to ensure faster and less costly car repairs:

- **Write it down.** Notes will help you remember to ask important questions and to share vital information.
- **Describe symptoms precisely.** Explain what you see, smell, and hear. Mention any driving conditions that seem to relate to the problem. For example, do you notice a rattle under the hood when the car reaches 40 mph?
- **Avoid technical jargon.** If you use a word or phrase without understanding its meaning, you may lead the technician astray. Use technical terms only if you're sure of their meaning.
- **Provide a history.** Bring copies of previous repair orders or the car's maintenance log.
- **Read before authorizing.** Look for specifics on the repair order such

as "check for hesitation as the car warms up." If the description is vague, clarify it with the technician and ask that it be rewritten.

For a free copy of AAA's The Careful Consumers Guide to Car Repair, send a self-addressed, stamped, business-size envelope to: Repair Guide, AAA Public Relations,

1 Hanover Road, Florham Park, NJ 07932.

The AAA New Jersey Automobile Club, through offices in Florham Park, Randolph, Springfield and Verona, provides automotive, travel, insurance, financial and educational services to residents of Essex, Morris and Union counties.

Potholes create mine fields on roads

A childhood memory is having your mind knocked out when you felly off a swing in mid-air, or you buddies laughingly slid off his end of the seesaw when he was down and you were up.

"POW!" That's the kind of jolt your car feels when one wheel hits a pothole at 40 mph. If your springs and shocks are weak, you feel it in your back, too. There are all too many opportunities for this to happen, according to new statistics from The Road Information Program which monitors the condition of our nation's highways.

Diminishing funds allocated for road maintenance is felt in the motorist's pocket in terms of usual wear and tear on their vehicles. Tires, springs, shock absorbers and other under-car

parts damaged as a result of neglected road conditions cost the average vehicle owner \$142 per year, according to T.R.I.P.

Don't treat your car like the drivers in television commercials who pound their vehicles over rocks and other obstacles, cautions the Car Care Council. Instead, try to slow down before impacting deep ruts, releasing the brakes before you hit. This allows the wheel to roll through rather than lock up when it drops into the hole.

Another recommendation to minimize damage from potholes: be sure your tires are properly inflated and that your vehicle's suspension parts are in good condition.

Learn more about car care on the council's web site at www.carcarecouncil.org.

Bill Van Sant, Editor
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(Tax, title license and registration are extra)

Brand New 2001 Saturn L-200
"The new, larger mid-sized Saturn!"

4 dr. 4 cyl. auto trans. power steering, power brakes, power locks, power windows, cruise tilt, AIR, AM/FM stereo CD, dual air bags. MSRP \$18,110. VIN #14503050. TI1 pymnts = \$9711. TI1 cost = \$9711. Purchase option at lease end = \$9779.

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Mazda Tribute aims to raise consumers' awareness

By Mark Maynard
Copy News Service

The Tribute sport utility from Mazda is just arriving in dealerships and, with it, a new awareness campaign for an automaker once recognized for its rotary engines and RX-7 sports car image.

But Mazda is the Mazda company of many younger buyers, and it has become a steady brand, admits Steve Odell, the new vice president of marketing. He plans to change that through a lively ad campaign.

Odell has inherited a successful MPV (minivan) — it has been selling at about 3,600 a month for the last three months — and the Tribute, which already are bringing people to the showroom and returning Mazda to the role of a full-line manufacturer.

Besides the Miata roadster, Mazda also sells the Protege compact sedan, mid-size 626 sedan, the Millennia sedan, and a B-Series compact pickup, a restyled Ford Ranger.

Also in the works is the rebirth of the RX-7 sports car. There is talk, too, of a retro-styled hot rod station wagon.

The ad campaign will tout the buyers Mazda's vehicles have garnered, such as the MPV's "Best Buy" rating from Consumers Digest and the Protege's "Best Small Car" honors from Consumer Reports.

"Mazda has a tremendous heritage among Japanese imports. It's almost got a sparkle in its eye," Odell says.

The new TV ads play off a young, freckle-faced boy who says "Zoom Zoom," which is followed by various footage to promote each model. Mazdas are prominent in the ads, but the RX-7 appears to be, which is a wink toward the RX-7's legacy. "The ads are supposed to show the manufactured fun that we had as children — and some of us still have," Odell says.

A source close to the project says the RX-7's legacy is not just a styling practice. "The concept car that was on view at last year's San Diego International Auto Show has changed somewhat but plans are moving ahead to introduce it with the next generation rotary engine."

Overall sales at Mazda are up 4 percent so far this year over 1999, due mostly to the MPV. Odell expects the Tribute to help boost sales by 10 percent for the year.

Mazda's biggest sales year in the United States was 1989, when 579,883 vehicles were sold, but sales fell with the economy in the late '80s. Sales have been rebounding, though, and reached 247,008 last year.

Odell predicts the company will reach 280,000 or more in 2001. "There is huge opportunity out there," Odell says, "and opportunity for us to be a 600,000-plus manufacturer."

Tribute is a corporate project with Ford that gave both automakers a compact sport utility. Ford's version, the Escape, went on sale in August. Tribute Escape is a global truck that will be sold elsewhere under the Maverick nameplate.

From its factory in Kansas City, Mazda will get about 20,000 Tributes in 2001. Ford will get about 200,000 Escapes.

The sales estimates are conservative, and Mazda says it will have access to more as needed. Next year, the estimates are for 35,000 maybe up to 60,000.

Tribute is a front-wheel-drive truck with an optional automatic 4-wheel drive system.

There are DX, LX and ES trim levels and two engines, a standard 130 hp 2.0-liter 4-cylinder or optional 200 hp, 3.0 V-6.

Prices start around \$17,000 for a DX with 5-speed manual transmission and go up to \$25,000 for an ES-V6 with 4WD.

Tribute and Escape are cousins but separated by marketing at birth. The notes vary are different and only the glass, roof and fatigues are shared without modification.

The Escape makes a better truck than a car. Tribute is more cuffed with puffed bumpers, a taller suspension and a sportier shift response to the 4-speed automatic transmission. In four-wheel drive mode, both are capable off-roaders, a Mazda engineer says.

Mazda headed the engineering of the vehicles, and one noticeable difference between the trucks is the fit and finish of interior materials. The Tribute drives like a well-made Japanese import and benefits from quality interior components that fit well.

The Escape handles well, but the interior seems rougher and more tolerant of truckiness.

Not much has been said about other vehicles to be built from the Tribute/Escape platform, but a hot-rod retro wagon concept might become more than an artist's rendering. "What do you think of the Chevy Nomad?" asks a Mazda source. The current Mazda project is a full-size wagon with two or four doors.

New for 2001 from Mazda

- Miata: Horsepower jumps from 140 to 155 with variable valve timing for foot revving. Minor restyling includes a new nose, 5-point grille opening, new headlights, seats, center console and optional 16-inch tires and wheels. There's also a 6-speed manual transmission, bigger brakes and a suspension brace under the hood.
- B-Series pickup: Two new engines include a 207-hp, 4.0-liter V-6, and 140-hp, 2.3-liter 4-cylinder. A Dual Sport model has the look of a rugged 4-wheel drive truck in a two-wheel drive package.
- Millennia sedan: Mild redesign front and rear; chassis reinforcements make the car 30-percent stiffer. Side air bags will be standard.
- Protege: A 2.0-liter engine will be offered, and there will be a minor face-lift and chassis and performance improvements.

Mark Maynard is automotive editor at the San Diego Union-Tribune. Contact him at mark.maynard@uniontrib.com.

AUTOMOTIVE

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Eyesight, vehicle response figure into reaction time

An issue that's been with us almost as long as the automobile is whether or not older drivers should be tested more frequently for issues of their licenses. If a person's vision, reaction time and dexterity continue to be up to standard, then that driver should be safe, right?

Not necessarily, says the Car Care Council, which contends that any driver, regardless of age, is at risk if the vehicle is not sufficiently responsive. The theory that the vehicle is an extension of the driver is a valid one, says the Council. The brakes function only when the driver causes them to. A driver with good vision can see surrounding danger and respond only if lights, windshield wipers, brakes and steering all are up to par.

If a driver's reactions are a little slower, eyesight is not quite as sharp and hearing not quite as acute, he subconsciously may hope for his faithful vehicle to get him through a driving crisis. This can mean steering out of a dangerous traffic situation or maintaining stability when one wheel gets onto the shoulder. It also can mean quick, steady response to emergency braking.

Average reaction time, according to the National Safety Council, is 3/4 of a second. At 60 miles an hour, for example, you'll travel 66 feet in that period of time. At that speed, you'll need 102 to 202 feet to bring your car to a complete stop.

Use the "two-second-plus" rule to determine if you're giving yourself enough space between yourself and the vehicle ahead. Count "one thousand and one, one thousand and two" as the vehicle in front of you reaches an overpass or other stationary mark. If you arrive at that point in two seconds or less, you're too close. Back off.

So, under ideal conditions, adding an extra second of lag time behind the vehicle ahead of you could make the big difference in avoiding a collision. This is assuming the vehicle's tires and braking system are in optimum condition and the driver's reaction time is normal.

The Council suggests that, in addition to paying special attention to safety functions of the vehicle and observing the two-second rule, older drivers or those with impaired vision or reaction time should pay special attention to their vehicles' safe operating condition.

For a free brochure on brake safety, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Car Care Council, Department SREO-B, 42 Park Drive, Port Clinton, OH 43452. Additional information is available on the Council's website at www.carcarecouncil.org.

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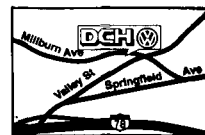
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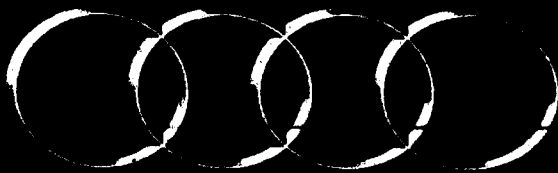
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