

# Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountainside

SPRINGFIELD, N.J., VOL. 72 NO. 15

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2000

TWO SECT

S

## Teachers picket in school yard

By Joe Lugara  
Staff Writer

It's been cold, but Springfield teachers have been in front of Jonathan Dayton High School every morning before the bell rings, marching under the windows of the Board of Education's offices.

Failing to settle during their last mediation session Nov. 13, the two factions will meet again Monday at 4:30 p.m. The meeting will mark the fourth mediation between the two groups, and the 11th overall, dating back to March 28. "We both hope to settle," said Bob Burkhardt, President of the Springfield Education Association. "All of us in the association are anxious to come to an agreement."

Burkhardt said the association "has a package that we feel we could settle with. It has all the things we need, and we feel we've narrowed it down — we've put some things aside and we feel we can settle."

Burkhardt said "our last few contracts were typically three years, mainly because both factions would rather not go through this every year." He said multi-year contracts offer the possibility of pushing a particular issue back a year or two if necessary — a process that may be helpful, if not necessarily desirable.

Superintendent of Schools Gary Friedland told the *Echo Leader* previously that the contract's "major points" involve salary, benefits, and terms and conditions of employment. In defining "terms and conditions," Friedland has cited the number of class periods worked by teachers, stipends for running clubs and other activities, and class coverage.

Friedland referred to "salary, benefits and the length of the work year" as issues that continue to be "open." He said the issue of work year length harks back to the 100 hours of Professional Development Standards as required by the state. Such training, which would occur every five years, has the potential to

See SETTLEMENT, Page 10



Springfield School District teachers demonstrate outside Board of Education offices at Jonathan Dayton High School last week before school. Talks have been stalled in the factions' contract negotiations over issues involving health benefits, work rules and salaries. The groups plan to meet on Monday.

## Voters to decide of township ath

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BOND REFERENDUM  
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Call Tuesday after 10 p.m. for electronic returns.

By Joe Lugara  
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, voters in Springfield will have the opportunity to say yes or no to the Board of Education's track and field rehabilitation project.

The \$3.4-million project will correct problems to the grading and drainage of a number of fields belonging to the Board of Education. About \$1.6 million will be put toward improvements to the county-owned Meisel Park. The county has promised \$325,000 for work on the track at Meisel.

Approval of the referendum would cost township taxpayers about \$85 a year — \$21.25 per quarter — on the average assessed home over a five-year period. In November, the board announced that it had received a pledge of \$674,076.80 from the state, which has helped reduce that amount. The county's promise of \$325,000 has

also helped lower the total to its current figure.

Polls will be open from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday in the township's regular polling locations.

The project is a result of a master plan written by Superintendent of Schools Gary Friedland in December 1997. The plan was presented to the Board of Education in early 1998, at which time board members requested the creation of an ad hoc committee to further review its details. Last June, the ad hoc committee prepared its own report, asking the board for a facilities study. By September, the board had awarded a contract to the Clark-based Tarquin Organization for the development of schematic plans.

Friedland and Buildings and Grounds Committee Chairman Richard Falkin hosted several meet-

See MEISEL, Page 10

## Sewer authority budget rises for 2001

Borough and township assessments rise

By Mark Hrywna  
Regional Editor

Mountainside and Springfield will see their share to the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority increase next year, both by about one tax point, based on the authority's 2001 budget passed last month.

The RVSA's Board of Commissioners approved a \$16-million budget for 2001 by a vote of 7-0, with representatives from Clark, Mountainside, Rahway and Roselle Park absent. The budget for 2001 is up \$4.8 million, 42 percent, from \$11.4 million in 2000.

Nearly 40 percent of the budget is derived from assessments from member municipalities. Assessments are determined by a municipality's contribution to the sewer system based on a five-year moving average, which begins Oct. 1 and ends Sept. 30 each year. RVSA Secretary/Treasurer Bob Materna said most of the 11 member towns are stable in their contributions which do not change much, generally less than 1 percent per year.

Woodbridge is the largest contributor, at nearly 25 percent, followed by Clark, 17 percent, and Westfield, 12 percent. Other member towns vary anywhere from 2 to 8 percent.

The \$9.96 million in assessments from member towns is up \$1.76 million, 21.5 percent, from the \$8.2 million in the 2000 budget. In 1999, the total assessments were \$8 million and in 1998, nearly \$7.7 million.

Municipalities allocate their assessments through local budgets as appropriations and funded through local taxes.

"I'd be surprised if our usage went up by that amount," said Westfield Mayor Tom Jardim of his town's assessment, which is rising nearly a quarter of a million dollars. Like many mayors of RVSA communities, Jardim said his municipality has concentrated on poling its sewer lines and reducing inflow and infiltration.

This year's hike for Springfield, said Mayor Clara Harelik, "begs the ultimate question, what happens next year?" Springfield's assessment had been consistently minimal the last several years — about 2 or 3 percent — but the 2001 assessment will rise by \$126,000, more than 21 percent. Mountainside's increase of \$47,236 equals about one tax point, said Mayor Anthony DiStasio, or about \$17 per household.

Increases in the budget can be attributed to principal payments on debt service of \$2.9 million in 2001, compared to \$832,222 in 2000, due to a final installment on sewer bonds that will mature next year. "Other

expenses" under the appropriations for "cost of providing services" is up from \$4.8 million to \$5.2 million. The line item "other expenses" includes the cost of engineering, maintenance, supplies and other such items dedicated to the operation of the physical plant in Rahway.

Legal fees, which are included in the "other expenses" line item under administration, are expected to be \$254,000, up from \$163,000.

The 2001 spending plan includes a \$3-million capital improvement program to construct a new laboratory facility, install a service water/foam spray system, and replace the grit

See FUNDS, Page 10

Municipality	2001	2000	1999	1998
Clark	\$1,721,088	\$1,446,192	\$1,478,200	\$1,363,331
Cranford	\$830,664	\$654,425	\$935,200	\$943,489
Garwood	\$435,252	\$367,822	\$356,000	\$325,262
Kenilworth	\$501,984	\$458,596	\$382,400	\$346,792
Mountainside	\$339,636	\$282,400	n/a	n/a
Flatway	\$870,504	\$674,891	\$788,000	\$837,376
Roselle Park	\$219,120	\$183,719	\$172,000	\$168,091
Scotch Plains	\$646,404	\$630,714	\$495,200	\$462,133
Springfield	\$713,136	\$687,045	\$678,800	\$569,788
Westfield	\$1,214,124	\$986,445	\$919,200	\$865,058
Woodbridge	\$2,468,088	\$2,037,751	\$1,896,000	\$1,820,080
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,960,000</b>	<b>\$8,200,000</b>	<b>\$8,000,000</b>	<b>\$7,689,400</b>

A municipality's assessment is based on the amount of flow to the RVSA. Prior to 2000, Mountainside was not a full member of the authority and contracted through Cranford.

## Polling stations in Springfield for Tuesday's public question

The following is a list of Springfield polling places for Tuesday's bond referendum question on the Board of Education's proposed \$3.4-million track and field rehabilitation project:

- Districts 1 and 4: Presbyterian Parish House, Church Mall, lower level off parking lot
- Districts 2 and 3: Sarah Bailey Civic Center, 30 Church Mall
- Districts 5 and 6: James Caldwell School, Caldwell Place, gym
- Districts 7, 8 and 9: Florence M. Gaudineer School, South Springfield Avenue, gym
- Districts 10, 13 and 14: Edward V. Walton School, Mountain Avenue, gym
- Districts 11 and 12: Thelma L. Sandmeier School, South Springfield Avenue, gym

Polls are open from 2 to 9 p.m.

## Extra police patrols deployed for holidays

By Joe Lugara  
Staff Writer

Have one for the road and a cop as a chaser.

With the holiday season and holiday revelers both in full swing, the Mountainside Police Department has stepped up its activities in catching drunk drivers.

"These are roving patrols," Det. Lt. Todd Turner warned. "There are no specific road blocks."

According to Turner, the extra patrols have been in effect since "the night before Thanksgiving," and will last through New Year's. "We conduct the patrols randomly throughout New Year's," Turner continued, "with an emphasis on the weekends. We do this every year, and every year we're successful."

The patrol involves two extra officers per night to supplement the borough's usual patrol of four. The increased patrol resulted in a drunk driving arrest the

See BOTTLE, Page 10

## Oh Christmas tree

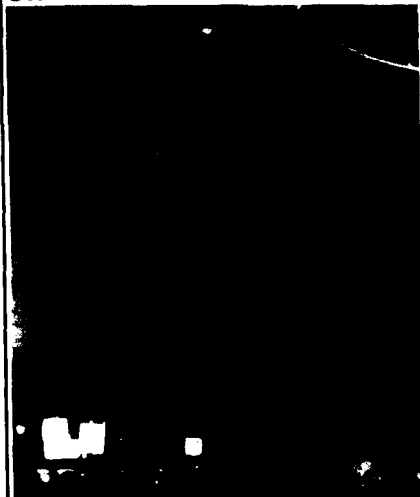


Photo By Melissa Mills

Borough residents join in the lighting of Mountainside's Christmas tree Saturday afternoon outside Borough Hall. Mountainside Girl Scouts led everyone in caroling before decorating a mitten tree with knitted items donated by the community.

## Planning Board OKs district's expansion

By Joe Lugara  
Staff Writer

The Mountainside Board of Education took its expansion and renovation plans to the borough's Planning Board Nov. 29, and the response was a good one.

Chief School Administrator Gerard Schaller and Board of Education President Pat Tacschler provided the board with background on the project, while architect John Kelemen described some of the proposed renovations and expansions to Deerfield School and Beechwood School.

Impressed with the presentation, Planning Board members decided to put the board "on the fast track" by

immediately approving a resolution supporting the project. The resolution provided Board of Education members with extra ammunition for their Friday meeting with representatives from the State Department of Education in Trenton.

Satisfied that the district's plans would not impinge on the issue of open space, and impressed by the Board of Education's thoroughness in researching the topic, the Planning Board voted its support unanimously and enthusiastically. Although required by law, the meeting between the two factions did not necessitate official approval on the part of the Planning Board.

Kelemen told Planning Board members the Board of Education is "shooting for the third week of March" for its referendum. The project would cost about \$5 to \$6 million for renovations and additions to Beechwood, and more than \$1 million for renovations to Deerfield.

Kelemen said the state "has agreed to pay up to 40 percent for all new constructions and additions" for projects included in five-year plans. The State Department of Education currently requires every district to develop its own five-year plan.

"A good percentage of this will be paid by the state, we hope," Kelemen said. "Hopefully, those at the starting

line will be the ones most likely to get the closest to the 40 percent."

The referendum, he added, will consist of "two parts — how much the state will allocate and how much will come from local funding." Long Range Planning Chairman John Perrin confirmed Kelemen's observation, informing the Planning Board that the state will have to commit to its percentage before a referendum can be put to voters.

Kelemen said that Beechwood will receive "approximately a 9,000-foot addition" in order to house about 240 students pre-K through grade two.

See DISTRICT, Page 10

## County comes up short on project funds

By Joe Lugara  
Staff Writer

The Springfield Board of Education met for its conference meeting Monday night, with Superintendent Gary Friedland briefly reminding those in attendance that the state has pledged \$674,076.80 to the district for the board's track and fields renovation project.

Friedland also announced that the county has promised \$325,000 for improvements to the track at Meisel Park. The board had requested \$700,000. The combined funding from the state and county has reduced the cost of the project to \$100 a year over five years on the average assessed home, to approximately \$85. The referendum will be up for vote on Tuesday.

The board spent the better part of the meeting reviewing proposed changes to its Course of Study for the 2001-02 school year. The Course of Study, published every January, is the catalog used by district students to select their classes for the upcoming school year.

"Tonight we'll go through the changes, and next time we'll have the book fully typed up," Assistant Superintendent Judy Zimmerman said. She admitted

that changes in statewide graduation requirements are still coming through, and the board does not yet have "a full picture of what they'll mean. As we learn more from the state, we'll be able to refine."

Language Arts Supervisor Ken Mattfield, who made the presentation, described the changes to graduation requirements as coming through "fitfully." One change, involving world language, requires students to complete 10 credits — or two years — in the subject, as opposed to the current "one or two" years. The new requirement will apply to the 2001-02 freshman class.

Mattfield pointed out that students in English as a Second Language classes will meet the world language requirement by virtue of their ability to speak two languages, although the graduation requirement in connection to this particular area has not yet been defined by the state.

In regard to the arts, every high school student is currently required to take five credits, or one year, in "fine, practical or performing arts" during each year of attendance — a requirement that will not change. However, beginning next year, the state will phase in additional requirements under the banner of "Visual and Performing Arts."

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### PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Dr. Llana Zarafu

#### Hospital dedicated in retired executive's honor

The Day Hospital at Children's Specialized Hospital of Mountaineer has been dedicated as the Dr. Llana W. Zarafu Day Hospital in honor of the recently retired former executive vice president and medical director. The Day Hospital, a unique facility which allows children with disabilities who require intensive therapy on a daily basis the opportunity to return home to their families every evening, is one of many innovative services introduced at Children's Specialized during Zarafu's 14-year tenure.

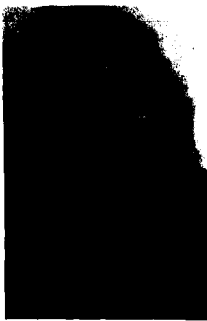
Another of Zarafu's major accomplishments at the hospital was the establishment of a primary care program for children with chronic illnesses, believed to be the first in the United States when it was introduced.

"Dr. Zarafu is a professional of formidable intellect," said Children's Board Chairman W. Peter Metz, "possessing boundless enthusiasm and a deep compassion for children. Under her medical leadership, Children's Specialized Hospital achieved significant programmatic as well as physical expansion and notable recognition from the medical community. She is a woman of extraordinary wisdom, vision and leadership."

Born in Israel, Zarafu received her medical degree from the State University, Durnnate Medical Center, Brooklyn, and her undergraduate degree from New York University, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She completed post-doctoral training at State University, Kings County Medical Center, Brooklyn, and was a Research Fellow in Neonatology at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York.

#### Dorlen awarded by NJPA

Dr. Rosalind S. Dorlen of Mountaineer, a diplomate in clinical psychology and psychoanalyst in private practice in Summit, was recently named Psychologist of the Year by



Dr. Rosalind Dorlen

#### The New Jersey Psychological Association

Dorlen was recognized for her advocacy efforts, community projects, public policy agendas, and initiatives to educate the public about the ways in which psychology enhances the lives of individuals, families, businesses, and communities. Among her many committee and leadership positions, she has served as president of the New Jersey Psychological Association, member of the Ethics Committee, and is the chairperson of the Council on Psychological Health.

Dorlen is a member of the Summit Municipal Alliance for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse and serves on the Advisory Board of Overlook Hospital. She has lectured, written, and made numerous TV appearances about parenting, depression, stress, violence, and building healthy workplaces and communities.

#### McDole wins chef award

Michael McDole of Springfield, executive chef at Crystal Plaza, was awarded the silver medal for an appetizer and entree combination he prepared at the fourth annual Chef's Championship at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York City last month.

The Chef's Championship featured more than 66 participants competing in nine separate cooking competitions for more than \$22,000 in cash and American Culinary Federation certification points.

A graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, McDole joined Crystal Plaza more than 14 years ago. Award-winning offerings such as pan seared rib snapper and baby rack of New Zealand lamb are all perfectly created under McDole's supervision.

### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar is prepared by the *Echo Leader* for area residents of various community activities and government meetings. To give your community event the publicity it deserves, mail your schedule to: *Echo Leader*, Attn: Managing Editor, P.O. Box 3109, Union, 07083.

#### Today

• The Springfield Veterans of Foreign Wars conducts memorial services at 11 a.m. at Veterans Park, Summit Pike Road and Mountain Avenue, Springfield to commemorate Pearl Harbor Day.

• The Township of Mountaineer meets at 8 p.m. at B.C. Fields Restaurant in Westfield for its annual Christmas luncheon. For reservations call (973) 476-4930 or stop by the library to reserve a spot.

• The Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., presents a Hanukkah program for children in kindergarten through grade 3 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Laurie Hardy of Youth Stages will conduct a creative dramatics workshop using puppets, costumes and scenery.

• Pre-registration is required. Call (973) 476-4930 or stop by the library to reserve a spot.

#### Saturday

• The Mor's Fellowship of End Psychologists lunch presents a slide program called "America the Beautiful: Destruction and Reconstruction" from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at the parish house, 37 Church Mall.

• For information call the church at (973) 379-4320.

• The Springfield Recreation Department sponsors youth basketball pre-season clinics at the Gaudineer School gym, Mountain Ave. Times vary for each grade level. Participation is limited to those previously registered for the youth basketball program.

• For information call the Recreation Department at (973) 467-3790.

#### Sunday

• Trailside Science and Nature Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountaineer, continues its Sunday family programs with a natural ornaments workshop at 2 p.m. Participants can create holiday ornaments using natural materials — one for Trailside's tree and one to take home.

• The cost is \$2 per ornament. For information call Trailside at (908) 789-3670.

• The Springfield Historical Society hosts its annual Christmas open house from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Cannon Ball House, 126 Morris Ave.

• The open house features tours of the historic house, which will be decorated in the colonial style for the holidays. Refreshments will be served.

• For more information call society president Margaret Bandrowski at (973) 376-4784.

#### Monday

• The Springfield Township Committee meets for an executive session at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Annex Building, 20 N. Trivet Ave.

#### Tuesday

• The Mountaineer Active Retirees meet at 10 a.m. at Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 East. Mountaineer residents and their guests are welcome.

• The Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., continues its luncheon video series with episode 5 of "New York" at noon.

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

• A public referendum for Track/Field Rehabilitation Project for Springfield School District will be con-

ducted. Polls are open from 2 to 9 p.m.

• The Mountaineer Board of Education meets for a regular meeting at 8 p.m. in the media center at Deerfield School, 302 Central Ave.

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

• The Mountaineer Borough Council meets for a work session at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 East.

#### Wednesday

• The Springfield Board of Health meets for a regular monthly meeting at 6:15 p.m. in the Municipal Annex Building, 20 N. Trivet Ave. The time for this meeting has been changed.

#### Upcoming events

##### Dec. 14

• The Springfield Chamber of Commerce will host its annual holiday party at 8:30 a.m. at the high school with entertainment provided by the students.

• The Mountaineer Planning Board will meet for a regular monthly meeting at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 East.

##### Dec. 16

• The Westfield/Mountaineer Chapter of the American Red Cross will conduct an adult CPR training course from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the chapter house, 32 Elm St., Westfield. The cost is \$30.

• For information and registration call the Red Cross at (908) 242-7000.

##### Dec. 18

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

• The Springfield Environmental Commission will meet for a regular monthly meeting at 7:40 p.m. instead of 8 p.m. at the Municipal Annex Building, 20 N. Trivet Ave.

##### Dec. 19

• The Springfield Board of Adjustment will meet for an executive session at 7:30 p.m. followed by a regular meeting at 8 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave.

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

##### Dec. 26

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

##### Dec. 29

• The Springfield Recreation Department will sponsor a family night at the New Jersey Devils/Washington Capitals 7:35 game at the Continental Airlines Arena.

• The bus departs at 6 p.m. from the Chisholm Community Center. The cost is \$44 per person. Interested residents can register with payment to "Township of Springfield" by Monday at the civic center, 30 Church Mall.

• Limited registration is available. For more information call the center at (973) 912-2227.

#### Ongoing

• The Friends of the Springfield Public Library would like donations of used paperback novels. Also welcome are magazines within the last year.

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# COMMUNITY FORUM

EDITORIALS

## Turn out Tuesday

Springfield voters will be asked to report back to the polls Tuesday to answer a bond referendum question initiated by the Springfield Board of Education regarding a \$3.4 million track and field rehabilitation project for the district.

We encourage township residents to vote yes on this referendum question.

As Superintendent of Schools Gary Friedland and Buildings and Grounds Committee Chairman Richard Falkin have repeatedly stressed, the proposed improvements to the district's athletic facilities represent a community project and a community effort. Not only are these facilities used by the students of the Springfield School District, they are also used by township residents.

The remainder of the project's scope calls for upgrades at the existing field at Florence M. Gaudineer Middle School, the track and field area at Jonathan Dayton High School, and the two baseball fields between Thelma L. Sandmeier School and Edward V. Walton School. It also points to the need for an additional tennis court at the high school, and a soccer field between Sandmeier and Walton schools.

As a result, Jonathan Dayton High School would be able to host its first home track meet in almost 10 years, its tennis team would be able to play five matches at once, and the township would gain its first bonafide community park. Springfield's athletic facilities need and deserve this attention.

Last month, the state pledged \$674,076.80 toward the \$3.4 million project, reducing the price tag to \$2.7 million. The Board of Education has also asked the county for \$700,000, of which they have been promised only \$325,000 for renovations to the Meisel Park track. With the receipt of that figure, the tax impact would amount to approximately \$21.25 per quarter — or \$85 per year — on the average assessed home during the five-year bond period.

We submit that Springfield taxpayers should support this expenditure. But we also suggest that the county try to find more funding than what the board has requested. Renovation work at the county-owned Meisel Field alone is expected to cost approximately \$1.6 million.

Now more than 40 years old and in a state of disrepair, the Meisel track has been referred to by Friedland as "a disgrace." It is slated for restoration and expansion work. Throughout the years, the fields have become a repository for Canada geese, whose feces now litter the ground. Both baseball fields will be repositioned and lights will be installed for the entire facility to extend the hours of operation, allowing the district to establish a genuine community field.

The county prides itself on the rich diversity of its 26 county parks, which, according to the "Union County Parks and Recreation Guide," offer residents "aesthetic beauty and expansive greenery, provide scenic landscapes and a serene backdrop for a multitude of recreational activities." Starting next year, the recently approved Open Space Trust Fund is expected to generate \$5 million per year toward these woodlands and open spaces. Springfielders deserve a piece of that pie, since they, too, will have contributed to the trust fund.

Moreover, the Union County Open Space and Recreation Master Plan, approved last year, recommends \$46 million in improvements to its county park facilities during the next nine years. We submit that it's not too early for the county to start by accepting the responsibility for the full cost of the improvements at Meisel Park.

Residents should turn out at the polls Tuesday between 2 and 9 p.m. and cast their votes in favor of this referendum.

## Make a difference

In an endeavor to help needy children in this season of giving, the Springfield Fire Department's Mutual Benevolent Association and the *Echo Leader* have united in the sponsorship of the Toys for Tots program.

We ask township residents to help the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve's effort to brighten the holidays of children who otherwise would not get toys on Christmas. Make a difference.

Take the time to purchase a new and unwrapped toy and drop it off by Dec. 14 at one of these drop-off points: Springfield Fire Headquarters, on Caldwell Place behind the Municipal Building, or *Echo Leader*, 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union.

*"[A newspaper's] primary office is the gathering of news. At the peril of its soul it must see that the supply is not tainted."*

—Charles Prestwich Scott, British Journalist, 1926

## Echo Leader

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Photo by Barbara Kokkalis

**THE BIG DROP OFF** — Members of Springfield Brownie Troops 501, 755 and 756 drop by the Springfield Fire Department Nov. 29 to deliver new toys for the Toys for Tots program. Firefighters, from left, back row: Mike Biotti, Tom Balke and Jim Anagnos were on hand to accept the donations on behalf of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. The toys will be distributed to needy children.

## Patients should have right to sue HMOs

The news can be devastating: The doctor enters the waiting room and informs a family that one of its members is gravely ill. The stunned family now must decide on options for treatment, from conservative approaches to major procedures including surgeries.

For that family and its stricken member, this is a time of great anxiety and apprehension about the future. Imagine, then, how they would feel if, having chosen a treatment option, their HMO decides that there will be no such treatment. Having paid for coverage, the family feels betrayed, frightened and powerless. What was already a daunting challenge has now become a surreal nightmare.

Sadly, this nightmare is hardly an uncommon one throughout our state. According to Meridian Health System, which owns four hospitals in the New Jersey shore area, 8 percent of its claims were recently denied by insurers. In 1999 alone, according to studies, four million patient claims were denied by health insurance companies.

Beginning in February of this year, I, as president of the New Jersey Senate, directed the Senate Health Committee to hold hearings on this problem and other problems which plague our healthcare system, frustrating not only patients and their families, but healthcare professionals from Mahwah to Cape May.

### The Senate Report

By Donald T. DiFrancesco

After hearing extensive testimony, including a host of heartbreaking stories, we concluded that no one seemed satisfied with how health care is being delivered. Based on that testimony, we've since put together a comprehensive, 24-point legislative package to reform and strengthen New Jersey's healthcare system from the ground up.

One of the cornerstones of this landmark package is a bill which would give New Jerseyans the right to sue their HMOs for malpractice related to the denial or delay of care.

The logic is simple: If you can sue your electrician for rewiring your home incorrectly, your lawyer if he defends you inadequately, and even your neighbor if his dog barks too loud, why can't you sue the people whose healthcare decisions can mean life or death for you or your loved ones?

Our bill would hold insurers to a common-sense standard of "ordinary care," the degree of care that a prudent carrier would use under similar cir-

cumstances in making health care treatment decisions. Currently, health insurance carriers employ defenses that enable them to elude accountability for treatment decisions that amount to malpractice. Giving policyholders the right to sue would restore accountability for the choices that HMOs and other carriers routinely make.

On Oct. 2, the full Senate voted 38-0 in favor of the right-to-sue bill, which is now before the General Assembly.

If the bill becomes law, New Jersey will join a select group of states, including Texas, California and Georgia, which have similar laws that empower their citizens as patients and policyholders.

The road to victory, though, may have obstacles. The managed care industry and its allies will argue that passage will trigger a flood of frivolous lawsuits, which will drive up health insurance costs. They will also contend that the practice of ordering unnecessary tests and treatments to avoid malpractice will drive up the cost of care.

Such scenarios are in fact highly unlikely. Under our bill, suing is neither easy nor automatic. A suit cannot be commenced until other avenues have been exhausted, including going through an insurer's channels and, if that is unsuccessful, appealing to a state review board.

Further, Texas has had such a law since Gov. Bush signed it in 1996 and there has been no appreciable effect on premiums.

HMOs may oppose this bill, but according to the Kaiser Family Foundation, more than 40 percent of employers polled across the nation support a basic right to sue.

And, here in New Jersey our healthcare legislative package, including this bill, enjoys the widespread support of doctors and provider groups such as the Medical Society of New Jersey.

If passed, our right-to-sue law could invigorate our healthcare marketplace. It would promote HMO accountability. It would enhance access to health care. It would help restore consumer confidence.

Most of all, it would help place our healthcare system back where it belongs — in the hands of patients and their providers.

Clearly, this bill is an idea whose time has come in our Garden State.

A resident of Scotch Plains, Republican State Senate President Donald T. DiFrancesco represents the 22nd Legislative District, which includes Mountainside.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### What an amazing election year

To the Editor:

We are living in amazing times. In this year alone, in New Jersey we saw the purchase of a U.S. Senate seat. We saw a resident of Illinois, Arkansas and Washington, D.C., take the New York Senate seat. And now in Florida we see the continuing effort to steal an election.

The euphemism for manufacturing some votes is recounting the vote and that old standby — fairness — all brought to you courtesy of the Democratic National Committee.

Frank Marchese  
Mountainside

### Thanks for the generous donations

To the Editor:

The American Red Cross Tri-County Chapter wishes to thank the generous members of our community who made food donations enabling us to distribute Thanksgiving food baskets to needy families in our area. Their contributions assisted us in providing Thanksgiving dinners for 117 local families. We feel so fortunate to have been able to match up wonderful and giving people with area residents who needed this assistance to greatly.

Our chapter offers social services throughout the year to people in need of food referrals, crisis counseling, utility and rental assistance, budgeting classes and drug and alcohol counseling. Without the support of concerned people we would be unable to carry out our mission statement, which is to provide relief to victims of disasters and to help people prevent, prepare for and respond to personal and community emergencies.

If people would like to help out needy families during the Christmas/Hanukkah/Kwanza holiday time, we will be accepting donations of new, unwrapped toys until Dec. 19 for distribution to those in our area.

Once again, thank you to those special and generous Thanksgiving food donors.

Trish Mulligan, executive director  
American Red Cross Tri-County Chapter

### A time to reflect on our children

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County, we would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a healthy and happy holiday season.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County is proud to be a vital part of the

fabric and richness of Union County. Every day, we provide programs and services that significantly enhance children's lives and enable youth to develop skills to become employable; to build knowledge to engage in positive behaviors and safe health practices, and to become responsible citizens.

Our primary focus is to provide programs and services to the youth of Union County. We meet the needs of these youth by providing programs which can demonstrate significant, positive and lasting outcomes. We are committed to the long-term development of every child who comes through our doors by providing guidance and support. Every child will experience a series of rich relationships with adults and peers. We provide programs that are meaningful and delivered at high-quality standards.

This is a time of year to reflect on our children. Boys and girls need our support, love and guidance. They are the future... and we must ensure that future for them!

Russell Triolo, chief executive officer  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Union County

### The color of Christmas

To the Editor:

As the holiday season begins and the new year approaches, I reflect on the current year and make mental note as to what The Salvation Army has accomplished and what remains to be done.

We, as The Salvation Army, have made many strides this year. We opened new corps community centers to meet the challenging needs of today's world. We expanded our social service programs to better serve the needs of the community. A new pilot program was also launched through our Emergency Disaster Services unit to aid the flood victims of Broun Brook. This new program was a success and we are very proud to have helped rebuild the homes of more than 20 families devastated by Tropical Storm Floyd last year.

I also see incredible need, the type of need that never seems to be totally erased. I see people who are homeless with nowhere to turn. I see seniors, alone and afraid. I see children from broken homes in need of love. I see so many problems yet to be solved.

My wish this holiday season is to keep the color of Christmas alive throughout the year. You see, the color of Christmas is bright red and green to most people but, to the eyes of the needy, it is only shades of gray. We, at The Salvation Army, would like to make this a brighter holiday season for New Jersey families. A brighter Christmas might simply be a hot meal, a warm coat, a small toy or a teddy bear for a child or even a warm bed.

Lt. Col. Norman E. Wood, state commander  
New Jersey Division, The Salvation Army  
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**NEWS CLIPS**

**Recycling days changed**

Springfield recycling pickups in December are scheduled for today and Dec. 21. Collections for bulky waste and metal are scheduled for Dec. 28 and Dec. 29, respectively.

**Y registration Monday**

It's time to register for classes for preschoolers and youth at the Springfield YMCA. General registration begins Monday at 7 a.m. The winter season runs Jan. 2 through Feb. 25.

The winter class lineup includes the following:

- Preschool readiness and enrichment classes "Mad About Monday," "Wild About Wednesday" and "Friday Fun" offer youngsters fun while preparing them for preschool. Each class will take place from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

- "Games & Good Times," for ages 3 to 4, offers organized games while learning important social skills on Mondays from 1:15 to 2 p.m.

- Parent and child classes, include:
  - "Toddler Tots" for walking to ages 2 to 4 on Tuesdays from 10:15 to 11 a.m.

- "Art Works" for ages 1 to 4 on Thursdays from 10:15 to 11 a.m.

- Preschool and Youth Sports classes teach basic sports skills as well as teamwork, cooperation and sportsmanship. Classes for ages 4 to 6 include:

- "Street Devils Hockey," a New Jersey Devils sponsored program on Saturdays from 9:15 to 10 a.m. and T-Ball on Saturdays from 10:15 to 11 a.m.

- Classes for Grades 1 and 2 include: "Street Devils Hockey" on Tuesdays from 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

- In addition, the Y offers "Mad Science" on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to noon, and "Mad Science 2" on Saturdays from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. for grades kindergarten through six. This class is a hands-on program focusing on fun, educational science activities.

Already a YMCA member? Then YMCA family members priority registration begins Monday at 7 a.m. Youth and general members registration begins on Tuesday at 7 a.m.

For progressive swim classes at the Summit YMCA for ages 6 months and up, family member priority registration begins on Monday and general registration begins on Wednesday. For information call the Summit YMCA at 273-3330.

For more information about membership or classes stop by the Springfield YMCA, 100 S. Springfield Ave., at the Chisholm Community Center or call (973) 467-0838.

**Training course offered**

The Westfield/Mountainside Chapter of the American Red Cross will conduct a babysitter's training course for youth ages 11 to 15 at the Chapter House on Dec. 27 and 28 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The course is ideal for current and future babysitters. It teaches them the best way to keep the children in their care safe. Areas covered include: making good and responsible decisions, supervising children, age appropriate activities, keeping everyone safe inside and outside, handling emergencies, performing basic care, such as diapering, feeding, infant care, and a lot more.

The cost for the course is \$35 per student. Participation is limited and registration closes one week prior to the class.

Interested individuals can call (908) 232-7090 or stop by the Chapter House, 321 Elm St., Westfield.

**Art exhibit now at CSH**

Children's Specialized Hospital of Mountainside is hosting an art exhibition in three hallways during the months of December and January.

The New Jersey Photography Forum will mount its sixth annual juried exhibit in two hallways. One hallway will feature the centuries old craft of paper cutting presented by the Guild of American Papercutters.

The paper cutting exhibition represents the personal vision of 61 contemporary paper cutters, some professional crafters and others amateurs. The centuries old art is believed to have originated in China during the 4th or 5th century. Cuttings were not originally intended to be viewed as pieces of art. Rather, they decorated the borders of documents, were used as tokens of love, or took the form of house blessings.

Photographs were chosen from the submissions of several hundred photographers. Recurring themes include nature, environment, architecture, heritage and culture.

The forum was started in 1995 by Nancy J. Ori of Berkeley Heights and Michael Croem of Summit, curators of the show. The forum provides an opportunity for amateurs, professionals and photo educators to meet and discuss their work, share expertise, advance skills and learn about exhibit

opportunities. The forum has become the largest group of fine art photographs in the state.

The exhibition is open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily, at Children's Specialized Hospital, 150 New Providence Road, Mountainside. Visitors are requested to enter the hospital through the ambulance entry.

**IRS volunteers needed**

The Internal Revenue Service office in Springfield is seeking volunteers for its Volunteer Income Tax Assistance and Tax Counseling for the Elderly programs. The IRS is looking for volunteers to take part in VITA and TCE throughout New Jersey.

During the tax-filing season, VITA and TCE volunteers, in community locations all through the state, help fill out tax returns for older taxpayers, people with disabilities, non-English speaking and other people who cannot afford professional assistance. Some of the volunteer groups even offer free electronic tax filing. The IRS provides VITA and TCE volunteers with free instruction and all the materials needed to prepare basic income tax returns such as Forms 1040EZ, 1040A and 1040. Training is generally conducted during January at convenient locations.

Although an accounting background is helpful, it is not required.

Volunteers are also needed to help in other aspects of the VITA and TCE programs such as organizing sites, instructing classes, reviewing returns prepared at the sites and publicity. If you have a skill and would like to help, VITA and TCE can find a way to involve you in the program. Local civic and fraternal organizations, educational institutions, churches and social groups can also sponsor VITA and TCE programs. Tax assistance generally is provided at schools, churches, malls, libraries and other convenient neighborhood locations.

**We're asking**

**Do you still have faith in voting procedures?**



Talia Zuberman

"I think the voting here was okay, but not in Florida."



Lauren Brahm

"No Bush's brother is down there in Florida. It doesn't seem like it's fair."



Dr. Phyllis Saperstein

"It's not my fault that Florida's made out of idiots."



Florence Klarfeld

"I still have faith, yes. It's taking a long time, but in the long run the voters will get what they want. The best man will win."

**SCHOOL LUNCHES**

The following is the school lunch menu for the Springfield School District for December:

- Florence M. Gaudiner Middle School**  
 Today: Meatballs, hero roll, potato puffs, pineapple, milk.  
 Friday: Fried chicken, dinner roll, sweet potato, fruit juice, milk.  
 Monday: Rib-B-Que on a bun, green beans, peach cup, milk.  
 Tuesday: Meatball sandwich on a steak roll, French fries, pears, milk.  
 Wednesday: Fish sticks on bun, carrot coins, mixed fruit, milk.  
 Dec. 14: Spaghetti with meatsauce and bread, kernel corn, cinnamon apple-sauce, milk.  
 Dec. 15: Nacho taco with cheese and salsa, mixed fruit, fruit juice, milk.  
 Dec. 18: Cheese steak hero roll, tater tots, chilled fruit.  
 Dec. 19: Chicken patty on bun, peas, orange-pineapple juice.  
 Dec. 20: Macaroni and cheese, whole wheat bread, green beans, sliced peaches, milk.  
 Dec. 21: Roast turkey with gravy, dinner rolls, mashed potato, pears, milk.

Dec. 22: Twin tacos, lettuce and tomato, pineapple, milk.  
 Dec. 25 to Dec. 29: Christmas vacation, school closed.

**Elementary schools**

- Today: Cheeseburger on bun, potato round, chilled fruit, milk.  
 Friday: French bread pizza, tossed salad, pineapple, milk.  
 Monday: Rib-B-Que on bun, baked beans, applesauce, milk.  
 Tuesday: Chicken nuggets, 1/2 slice pizza, carrots, fruit, milk.  
 Wednesday: Fish sticks on bun, grape juice, pineapple, milk.  
 Dec. 14: Spaghetti with meatsauce and bread, green beans, chilled pears, milk.  
 Dec. 15: Pizza, tossed salad, peaches, milk.  
 Dec. 18: Cheese steak on bun, potato rounds, pineapple, milk.  
 Dec. 19: Chicken patty on bun, mixed vegetables, peaches, milk.  
 Dec. 20: Macaroni and cheese, dinner roll, green beans, mixed fruit, milk.  
 Dec. 21: Hamburger on bun, buttered corn, fresh fruit, milk.  
 Dec. 22: Pizza, carrot/celery stick, fruit juice, milk.  
 Dec. 25 to 29: Christmas vacation, school closed.

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# Interweave focuses on wholistic living

By Joan M. Devlin  
Staff Writer

Editor's note: This is the 15th part in a series about the various religions and houses of worship in Summit.

Hundreds of people in Summit and surrounding areas have been coming to classes offered at Calvary Episcopal Church to learn about Interweave and the wholistic living it teaches. "What exactly is Interweave?" Its founder, the Rev. Robert C. Morris, is an Episcopal priest on the staff at the famed church on the corner of Woodland Avenue at DeForest, and he first explained what Interweave is not. "It is not a church or religion per se, but it is an inter-religious community learning center which teaches skills for wholistic living."

"The word itself symbolizes the combination of mind, body and spirit — a wholeness for each person. The classes are designed to teach skills that do three things: strengthen wellness, deepen spirituality and promote the common good."

"Wholistic living means a whole new picture of the world that has arrived today in the areas of science, theology, psychology and health," said the minister. "Very simply, it has to do with basing your decisions that we are interconnected beings who live in an interconnected world," he continued, "and that means that the mind, body and spirit cannot be separated because they affect each other."

Morris founded the Interweave program in 1980 in order to help others, as he had come through per-

*'It is somewhat controversial, but it works.'*

— Rev. Robert C. Morris, founder Interweave

sonal adversity and it had healed him. "I saw for myself that the mind/body medium and holistic health and the core teachings of religion and psychology were all pointing in the same direction."

"I had just struggled through my own personal health journey with depression, which went on for years, and found healing in this combination of spiritual practice of mind/body medicine."

This took the minister closer to his Episcopalian faith, not further away. "In fact, for me, it confirmed that the deepest truths in my own faith are parallel to the deep truths in these other disciplines," he said.

Interweave classes transcend all religions, and he said that not only Christians and Jews are interested but also those who have not espoused any particular faith. The classes show how deeply held feelings affect the body. "My body chemistry affects my feelings, and even my life philosophy and beliefs have a very practical affect on my health and well-being," said the clergyman.

"At the core of all the different relationships, there are some basic prin-

ciples and practices that are very simple: the wisdom of these practices is once again being confirmed in today's modern world," said Morris. He gave as examples the importance of love, both in terms of personal intimacy and decency to other people, as having an important affect on health. Morris cites the work of Dr. Dean Ornish, a famed heart specialist, who wrote a book about the subject called "Love and Survival" which speaks to the effect of loving relationships on the health of the heart. Other examples would be the landmark television series by Bill Moyers on "Health and the Mind" where he showed the relationships of emotions, thought and spirituality on a person's life.

There are two steps taught at the Interweave sessions to reach better mind/body wellness. They are meditation and a focus on therapeutic touch. The latter, Morris explained, is a medical therapy actually used in hospitals, where a practitioner — it could be a nurse — actually touches the body in various areas to awaken its health energies. "It is somewhat controversial, but it works," said the minister.

All of the teaching ties in with the universal belief that the body is the temple of the spirit. To the minister, these teachings equate with his own ministry and he sees no conflict because, as he puts it, "I feel that we are dealing with the common elements in all the world's relationships. I think the differences between the faiths are important and need to be respected, but there are certain things that are just part of the common

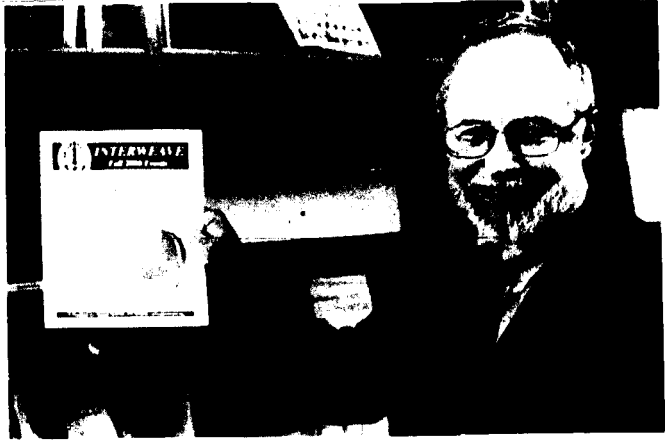


Photo By Barbara Kivakis

As the founder of an inter-religious community learning center which teaches skills for wholistic living, the Rev. Robert C. Morris struggled through his own health issues before he found healing in the spiritual practice of mind/body medicine.

health and spiritual wisdom from all over the world, in all other cultures."

Interweave works toward the common good Morris says it is very important at this point in society, to cultivate and appreciate the things we all have in common rather than emphasizing the differences. "In fact it makes us all aware of how to live with the differences."

Meditation and prayer, Morris said, "Meditation is a way of getting yourself calm, still and receptive, to get yourself connected. Prayer is an active way of attempting to connect with God, they do not conflict and can be used together."

Interweave is incorporated and is non-profit. There are 75 to 100 events per year, which could be a lecture, a weekend retreat, or several classes on

a topic. "We have a 40-plus network of instructors of many persuasions: social workers, medical doctors, clergy, and so on. There is an ongoing membership of about 450 people who support Interweave in every way," said Morris. Cost is nominal. (Cost membership is \$40 a year.)

For information call (973) 763-8311.

# Five Kent Place School students named distinguished scholars; 41 are named AP Scholars

Five Kent Place School seniors were recently named Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars for the 2000-01 academic year. Sharing the honors were Chapin Giordano of Summit, Margaret Loftus of Madison, Rachel Rosenthal of West Orange, Lori Schneider of Basking Ridge and Jessica West of Westfield.

The Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars Program recognizes outstanding academic achievement and is awarded to seniors who place in the top 10 percent of their class and have a minimum SAT score of 1260. Distinguished Scholars are offered an annual award of \$1,000 without regard to financial need to attend a New Jersey College or University for up to four years of undergraduate study. The award is administered by the Garden State Scholarship Program.

"We are proud to have five of our seniors recognized for their scholarship and outstanding academic performance. It's an honor for the students and for the school, and it speaks to the challenging academics that prepare them for success beyond Kent Place," said Eileen Core, director of the Upper School.

Kent Place School 2000 graduates Jeanne Kilatis, Caroline Renault and Christine Ryan, all of Summit, were recently named AP Scholars with Distinction while seniors and Summit residents Marley Rodriguez and Paloma Yankakis were named AP Scholars.

Head of School Susan Bosland recently announced that 15 seniors and 26 members of the class of 2000 have been named AP Scholars by the College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college-level Advanced Placement examinations.

Only about 13 percent of the more than 700,000 students who took AP Examinations in May performed at a sufficiently high level to merit such recognition. Eighteen students were named AP Scholar with Distinction, granted to students who receive an average grade of at least 4.5 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams on full-year courses.

Six were named AP Scholar with Honors, granted to students who receive an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams on full-year courses.

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### Health Dept. sponsors pneumonia vaccine program today

The Westfield Regional Health Department will sponsor a pneumonia vaccination program today at 6 p.m. at the Westfield Municipal Building, 425 E. Broad St., Westfield. This program will be open exclusively to residents of Fairwood, Garwood, Mountainside, Springfield and Westfield. No exceptions will be made.

The pneumonia vaccine will be available to those individuals that have not been vaccinated for pneumonia within the past 10 years. The inoculations are specifically geared to the senior population 65 years old and older, and those individuals with chronic illnesses. Anyone interested

in obtaining the pneumonia vaccine must pre-register in person, without exception, at the Health Department. In addition, there will be a limited amount of flu vaccine available. As a result, the Board of Health reserves the right to restrict distribution to only those individuals 65 old or older, or individuals with chronic illnesses. Any individual who meets these criteria must pre-register in person for the flu vaccination, without exception, at the Westfield Health Department.

Annual flu vaccination is recommended for persons who are at increased risk of lower respiratory

tract infections, due to pre-existing conditions such as:

- Acquired or congenital heart disease
- Chronic kidney disease, chronic anemia or diabetes
- Any chronic disorder or conditions affecting respiratory function
- Conditions or therapy, which would lower an individual's resistance to infection
- Senior citizens, 65 years old or older, who are at increased risk of medical problems as a result of flu infection

Medicare/Medicaid cards must be presented at the time of registration.

### Gaining an appreciation

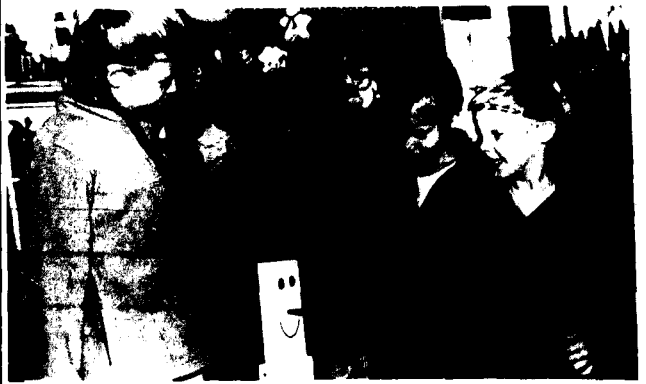
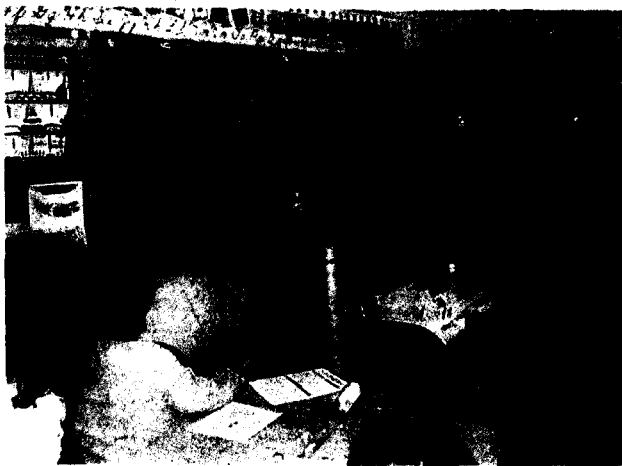


Photo By Barbara Kokkalis

Mountainside siblings, from left, Anna, 9, Jonah, 7, and Jensen Butler, 4, admire a decorative snowman Sunday at the Holiday Nature Boutique at Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside. The event, sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, featured handmade crafts and gift items and holiday refreshments.

### Smoke out



New Jersey peer to peer educators Taylor Sabinsky and Ryan Russkoff conduct a tobacco prevention lesson for Karen Hagen's fourth grade class at James Caldwell School in Springfield. The lesson coincided with Great American Smoke Out Day Nov. 20.

### Singers sought for ensemble at Emanuel United Methodist

The Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church seeks interested men, women and teens who wish to be a part of a special Christmas Singers ensemble. The group will sing several

pieces in a variety of styles during the church's Christmas Eve service Dec. 24 at 7:30 p.m. Worship will include lessons and carols as well as the Christmas Singers music.

If you wish to raise your voice in praise this Christmas, call the SEUMC office at (973) 376-1695, or Music Minister Ginny Johnson directly at (908) 810-1548.

### EVENTS

#### Hanukkah story tonight

Area residents and their children can get into the holiday mood early with an evening of Hanukkah fun tonight from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave.

Using props, costume pieces and homemade scenery, Laurie Harday of Youth Stages and the audience will act out a story about everyone's favorite Hanukkah treat. All participants need to bring in their imagination.

The program is intended for children in kindergarten through third grade. The performance is free, but pre-registration is required.

Call (973) 376-4930 or stop by the library to reserve a spot.

#### Open house Sunday

The Springfield Historical Society will host its annual Christmas open house Sunday between 3 and 5 p.m.

The open house will feature tours of the historic Cannon Ball House, which will be decorated in the colonial style for the Christmas holiday observance. The house, built circa 1741, will not feature a Christmas tree in the event, which was a decoration first seen in Victorian times, but the formal rooms, including the parlor and dining room, will bear festive greenery and decorations featuring fruits and nuts.

Tours of the house, one of four buildings in Springfield spared by the British during their retreat after the Battle of Springfield in June, 1783, will be offered. In its long history, the house has been a colonial tavern stop, a farmhouse, a private home, a boarding house and a tearoom.

The historic Cannon Ball House is located at 126 Morris Ave., Springfield. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call (973) 376-4784.

#### Santa's workshop set

The First Presbyterian Church of Springfield will host a Santa's Workshop tomorrow from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Parish House Auditorium, 37 Church Mall.

Children between the ages of 5 and 13 years old are welcome to participate in the event, where they get to be busy little elves by making gifts for family, friends and teachers.

Parents are asked to call the church office at (973) 379-4320, since a limited number of children can be put on the workshop list.

There is a \$5 charge per child for this Yuletide activity. Refreshments will be served.

Parents are asked to leave the children at the door so that the magic and wonder of this night can be experienced by both the gift maker and the gift recipient.

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# Water, boiler incidents handled

**Springfield**  
The fire Department sent a pumper to the scene of a house fire in Summit Saturday. A call for an odor at a Janet Lane residence and a motor vehicle accident were also handled.

A number of incidents, including both a lock-out and a water condition at the Volunteer First Aid Squad building on North Tavert Avenue, a boiler problem at a Denham Road residence, a medical service call and a gas odor at Morris and Millburn avenues kept the department busy Friday.

• Firefighters responded to an Ashwood Road residence on a report of a problem with a microwave oven Nov. 30. An activated carbon monoxide detector, a motor vehicle accident on Route 22 West and two medical service calls were also answered.

• The department responded to a Faden Road business at 8:34 a.m. for a medical service call Nov. 29. A car fire sent firefighters out to Route 22 West during the 5 p.m. rush hour.

• Calls for an activated fire alarm at a Morris Avenue business and an electrical problem at an Avon Road residence were handled by firefighters Nov. 27.

## FIRE BLOTTER

• Sparks from a utility pole sent firefighters to Kew Drive at 1:56 p.m. Nov. 26. No injuries or damage was reported.

**Mountainside**  
A broken steam pipe triggered a fire alarm at Children's Specialized Hospital Sunday. There were no injuries.

• Firefighters responded to an assisted living facility on Route 22 East on a report of a fire Friday. An investigation revealed no fire.

• A smoke detector at a Poplar Avenue residence was touched off by the smoldering of new sheet rock Nov. 28.

• Firefighters responded to Route 22 at the Mountain Avenue D-Tan for a three-car accident Nov. 28. Firefighters cleared the roadway of glass and the contract in several key areas, including tuition reimbursement and salary.

"I think we're making good progress toward resolving our open issues," Friedland said recently. "The teachers and the board have been working hard — there's been a positive push to come to an agreement."

Hopelity we can put the job actions and other things that have impeded us to the side, so we can resolve our open issues."

Friedland has said before that the district would like to see a multi-year contract, although he admitted that such contracts are hard to put together. "There's a lot more to compromise on between what you'd like to have and what you need to have," he said.

Burkhardt admitted that the current negotiations is "one of the longest. The board was stuck on one issue, and the inclusion has helped with that. Now we're taking in other areas."

The continued negotiations have resulted in some frustration on the part of the district's parents, particularly in regard to the cancellation of Back to School Night. The district was finally able to make good on the loss of Back to School Night through the opening of the schools during American Education Week, and the subsequent Back to School Day late last month, in which parents had the chance to visit their children's schools, talk with teachers, and observe the educational programs offered by the district.

# Four nabbed by roving patrols

**Mountainside**  
The borough's roving patrols nabbed four suspected drunk drivers on Route 22 earlier this week.

Springfield resident Carlos Sotoperez, 39 and Chiffon resident Julio Ortiz, 46, were both arrested Friday. Ortiz was found to be driving while intoxicated after a motor vehicle accident, police said, while Sotoperez was stopped for driving erratically.

Borough resident Keith Briggs, 23, was arrested on Route 22 West at Glen Road Saturday and charged with driving while intoxicated. He was also discovered to have been involved in a hit-and-run accident, according to authorities. Briggs was reported to

## POLICE BLOTTER

have assaulted borough officers during his arrest.

Gerardo Segura-Cheneros, 49, of Plainfield, was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated near the Mountainside/Scotch Plains border Monday.

**Springfield**  
Railway resident Mario Correa, 27, was arrested at the Division of Motor Vehicles for attempting to acquire a driver's license with a fraudulent passport Nov. 30. Correa admitted to police he had purchased the passport in New York City for \$200. He was charged with falsifying records and

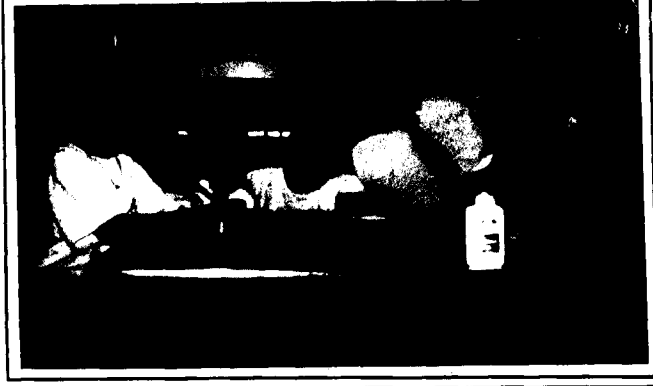
fraud, relating to public records.  
• The attempted break-in of a Colonial Terrace address resulted in broken glass in a back window and a cut screen Nov. 29. No items were reported stolen.

• A number of items, including an electric car polisher, a garbage can and various tools were reported stolen from a Meisel Avenue residence Nov. 25. An employee of Bally's Total Fitness on Route 22 East reported the theft of their car radio, a compact disc player, a number of CDs, a leather jacket and a bank envelope containing \$320 cash.

• A Plainfield resident parked at CompUSA on Route 22 East reported the theft of their car radio, a CD player and 20 assorted CDs Nov. 24.



**DISCOVERING TOGETHER** — Eighth-graders, above, from left, Brian Tavis, Steven Ring and Alex Waight, of St. James The Apostle School in Springfield perform an experiment to determine if the consistency of lava affects the rate at which it flows. The students recently studied volcanoes and the various types of lava. Below, kindergartners, from left, Ryan Matthews, Anthony Trusso and Danny Taneli put the finishing touches on their paper butterflies, symbolizing the featured letter of the week.



# Lending helping hands



Members of Brownie Troop 294 lend a hand by helping to clean up behind Deerfield School on Mountainside's Clean Community Day in the fall. Doing their part are, from left, Marissa Haggart, Alyssa DeAngelis, Francesca Najdzin, Scotland Preston, Sarah Dickert, Lauren Wagner and Stephanie Scofield.

# AT THE LIBRARY

## Christmas play Dec. 14

Have your children ever wanted to have had table manners and have it be okay? Kids are invited to act like trolls, prepare a Christmas feast, and eat it as only nasty trolls can as part of an interactive Christmas play.

Jean Paul Rosolino, an artist-educator from Youth Stages, will ask for help from the audience to bring "The Cat on the Dovrefell," a Christmas folktale, to life on Dec. 14 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Springfield Public Library.

## 'Cosmopolis' presented

The program is intended for children in kindergarten through third grade. The performance is free, but pre-registration is required. Call (973)376-4930 or stop by the Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., Springfield, to reserve your spot. The performance is made possible by the Friends of the Springfield Free Public Library.

The Springfield Free Public

Library, 66 Mountain Ave., continues its Luncheon Video series with Episode 5 of "New York." This last episode, "Cosmopolis," will be presented Tuesday at noon.

Nearly a century and a half of capitalist growth and demographic and physical transformation comes to a climax during the Roaring Twenties.

Participants should bring a brown bag lunch to the performance. Coffee and cookies will be provided.

For information call (973) 376-4930.

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## Tapestry Accents

Surround yourself with indisputable style and timeless design as you enter Tapestry Accents of Summit. This specialty shop stays true to its name with its vast selection of intriguing tapestry wall hangings and lavishly decorated pillows. Proprietor Deborah Cattano has a keen eye for style, elegance, and beauty, and it is evident in her discerning choices of home accessories and fine gifts. The clientele are drawn here by the ever-changing selection and become loyal customers because of the courteous service and attention to their individual needs.

Accessorizing and personalizing your home are easily accomplished at Tapestry Accents. "Tapestry wall hangings are rich in history and are works of art," explains Ms. Cattano. "Whether they are of medieval or more contemporary design, tapestries bring that feeling of warmth and comfort into the home that is so sought after in today's hectic world." Their exquisite decorative pillow collection is unsurpassed in quality, quantity, and style. "Pillows bring a personalized touch to any room and are a savvy way to redecorate without changing the furniture," comments accessory specialist D./Cattano. Elegantly trimmed table runners, hand painted accent furniture, imported tassels, drapery tiebacks, lamps, mirrors, framed prints, and interesting objects of art round out the selection of home accessories.

During the holidays Tapestry Accents is a "must-see." This shop is magically transformed into a glittering winter wonderland. Nestled in the branches of a dazzling 10 foot tree are the extraordinary Polynaise and Waterford glass ornaments — two lines highly sought after by collectors and admirers alike. Possible Dreams Santas, also collectibles, are well represented. Holiday decor, table runners, stockings, tree skirts, ornaments, and Christmas pillows range in style from the opulent to the whimsical. There is also a large assortment of extra large tree skirts for those increasingly popular extra tall trees. The holiday windows, designed by Mr. Cattano, have won numerous awards and are ever-changing visual delights. Visit Tapestry Accents often as this shop redecorates with new goodies on a frequent basis.

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## Meisel Park remains sore spot for some

(Continued from Page 1)  
ings at various locations throughout the district in which they explained the details of the project. The meetings were announced through the mailing of about 7,000 postcards to township residents.

Among the areas scheduled for work include the field at the Florence M. Gaudrener Middle School. Falkin has said the field suffers from an upgrade, which will be removed. The walkway will be repositioned, drainage will be improved, and new bleachers and a new backstop will be installed.

Grading and drainage will also be performed on the two baseball fields located between the Helina I. Sandmeyer School and the Edward V. Walton School. A walkway between the fields will be rerouted to allow for the construction of a soccer field. Falkin has said that the field will be available for use by the community's recreation leagues.

"Community" is a word Falkin and Friedland have used several times in regard to the project. The tennis courts in front of Dayton, Falkin pointed out, which are the only illuminated courts in the township, are frequently used by township residents after sunset. The creation of another tennis court in front of Dayton will not only provide an extra court for public use, but will enable the high school's tennis team to run its matches properly, with five matches, rather than four, running simultaneously.

The sore spot for both township taxpayers and the Springfield Township Committee has involved the Meisel Park portion of the project. According to Friedland, the district has been engaged in an "interesting" agreement with the county in regard to the park. Dated Oct. 8, 1963, the

contractual agreement was created between the county and what was then the Union County Regional High School District, and gives the board "permission to use the football field, track, and field house in conjunction with the athletic and physical education programs of the Board." It also places responsibility for the upkeep of the grounds on the regional district. The agreement expired, officially, in 1983.

"We've asked the county to commit funds to the fields, knowing that we have an agreement, and that we use the fields most of the time," Friedland has said. The county has promised \$325,000 for work on the track portion of Meisel, although the board originally asked for \$700,000.

Meisel's track, which is over 40 years old, is uneven and badly in need of restoration. The district plans to expand the track from four to six lanes and to install a state-of-the-art surface. Friedland has called the track "a disgrace."

Work also is planned for a javelin and shot put area, "so Dayton can have its first home track meet in about 10 years," Falkin said. Right now, Dayton's track team holds all its meets at its competitor's facilities. The district is also looking to illuminate the field, in order to extend its hours of operation for the community as well as the school district. A new field house, a repositioning of the park's two baseball fields and strategies for coping with the continued problem of goose feces are also planned.

The Township Committee has expressed its frustration with having been left out of the Meisel negotiations, particularly since the township relies on Meisel for its annual "Take Pride in Springfield" celebration in July.

## District on fast track toward referendum

(Continued from Page 1)

Classrooms would be added, space for computers would be allotted for the building's media center, and a separate "storytelling area" would also be constructed. An existing courtyard would be turned into a new gym.

In order to acquire money pledged by the state, Kelemen stressed the importance of meeting "facility efficiency standards." According to the architect, a reasonable ratio of students to floor space has to exist. "You can't have too few students in too big a space and too many students for too small a space," he pointed out. "We

tried to follow the formula of the state as much as possible."

As for what would happen if the referendum fails, Kelemen said, "We'd have to come back with another plan, and scale down. We'd have to alter the five-year facility plan."

Schaller said plainly that young down the referendum would "endanger the programs at Deerfield Life Skills would still be out, and the cafeteria would have to be used for even more classes."

However, if the March referendum passes, the district would expect to begin construction by either the end of the summer or the fall.

## See you soon, Santa



Six-year-old Jonathan Schmedel of Mountainside has a chat with Santa Saturday afternoon at Mountainside's community tree lighting ceremony. Residents gathered outside Borough Hall for a look at the tree, the singing of carols and a visit by jolly old St. Nicholas.

Photo By Milton Mills

## Funds may no longer offset municipalities' share in RVSA

(Continued from Page 1)  
chamber bar screen and electric drives.

Other revenues in the 2001 budget include using \$2 million of surplus, \$953,000 in operating income and \$428,000 listed as "other revenues." The RVSA surplus was approximately \$2.9 million as of Dec. 31, 1999.

In the 2001 budget message, "budgeted operating expenses for the year 2001 are 6.6 percent higher than the previous year, of which 4.1 percent relates to the cost of services."

The new \$1.75-million, 3,500-square-foot laboratory facility, said Finance Chairman Charles Lombardo, Garwood's representative, "will ensure compliance with regulatory requirements and the other project upgrades will improve operating efficiencies."

RVSA has its costs and has to maintain a certain level budget to operate the plant, Jardim said, but some municipalities are going to get hurt. "As I understand it, significant capital investments are needed to really lower operating costs. Until RVSA does, we'll see more increases."

The RVSA is required to compile a five-year capital plan to the state for planning purposes, as part of its budget process, Materna said. The five-year plan calls for major upgrades at the facility and has an

estimated cost of \$71.5 million for initiatives planned between 2002 and 2006, however, the board determines the capital budget in each individual year when it approves the budget.

State mandates could require major expansion at the authority, Materna said, causing increases in its 40-million-gallon-per-day capacity, in addition to major rehabilitation on three digesters.

The most expensive year of the plan is 2002, which calls for \$26 million in capital improvements, with \$12.5 million to go toward cogeneration so the authority can generate its own energy rather than rely on utilities. Another \$7.5 million in 2003 would complete that project.

The bulk of the five-year plan comes from the comprehensive strategic plan, estimated to be \$37.5 million, with the largest allocations for it in 2004, \$9.8 million, and 2005, \$14.9 million.

"We're facing a reality in capital programs," said Commissioner Allen Chen, Westfield's representative and last year's chairman. He estimated that the RVSA has applied surplus reserves of nearly \$10 million during the last decade to offset increases to municipalities. "We're facing the fact that we're down to very little."

Rahway Mayor James Kennedy said there are changes coming for

authorities, with sewage bills that ultimately will be separated from tax bills. He can remember when Rahway was annually paying more than \$2 million to the authority in the early 1990s until it was proven that a problem existed and a settlement was reached with Clark.

In 1996, Clark Mayor Robert Ellenport led a meeting of mayors to reduce the total assessment to towns from \$8.2 million to \$7.9 million. In addition, there was an agreement reached that mayors of RVSA municipalities would receive notice of budget proceedings prior to the spending plan's approval. Ellenport said he never received any notice this year.

Established nearly 80 years ago, the Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority, an autonomous body, treats wastewater from local municipalities of Clark, Cranford, Garwood, Kenilworth, Mountainside, Rahway, Roselle Park, Scotch Plains, Springfield, Westfield and Woodbridge. Each town appoints a representative to serve on the Board of Commissioners, which manages the authority.

The treatment facility serves more than 300,000 residents and 3,500 industrial and commercial customers.

To place a classified ad call 1-800-564-8911 by 3 p.m. Tuesday.

## Bottle tax pays for overtime

(Continued from Page 1)  
very first week, and four streets last week, all of which occurred on Route 22, according to police reports.

Drivers hauling from Springfield, Plainfield, Clinton and the borough itself have been arrested and charged. In the case of a Saturday incident involving Mountainside resident Keith Higgins, a police report revealed that the suspect had been involved with a hit and run motor vehicle accident, as well as assault on a borough police officer and damage to one of the Police Department's vehicles.

The strictly to traffic violating, the bulk of the township's drinking and driving incidents occur on Route 22, although further stressed that the entire municipality will be covered. Aggressive drivers included "The zero tolerance."

Overtime for the officers is paid for by a grant from the state, specifically designed to target drunk driving. Known as the Bottle Tax grant, it provides for a percentage from every bottle of alcohol sold in the township to go directly to the Police Department, primarily for the enforcement of drunk driving laws.

In addition to the Bottle Tax, the state assesses violators \$99 for drunk driving offenses. The penalty is applied toward holiday enforcement.

"Hopefully we'll be able to send the message out, and keep the public safe," Turner said.

## Settlement in sight on Monday

(Continued from Page 1)

effect the contract in several key areas, including tuition reimbursement and salary.

"I think we're making good progress toward resolving our open issues," Friedland said recently. "The teachers and the board have been working hard — there's been a positive push to come to an agreement. Hopefully we can put the job actions and other things that have impeded us to the side, so we can resolve our open issues."

Friedland has said before that the district would like to see a multi-year contract, although he admitted that such contracts are hard to put together.

Burkhardt admitted that the current negotiation is "one of the longest. The board was stuck on one issue, and the mediator has helped with that. Now we're talking in other areas."

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# Clan Currie to pump out haunting music of Scottish history and culture

By Joan M. Devlin  
Staff Writer

It has long been said among Scots that bagpipe music either curls your hair in annoyance or stirs your heart with love and pride. There is no middle ground.

It would seem from the ticket sales of Clan Currie's "Pipes of Christmas" show that most people in Summit love the haunting music. According to concert organizer, Robert Currie of Summit, the show was all sold out weeks before the event, which is set for 8 p.m. Dec. 16 at Central Presbyterian Church. This is the second year Summit has hosted the performance, and the reception was just as enthusiastic last year when it was held at Calvary Episcopal Church.

Currie is Commander of Clan Currie and knows his Scottish history and his highland music. Therefore, the concert will feature the finest Scottish and Irish musicians and pipers that he can obtain. As in past concerts, Pipe Major Kevin R. Blandford, a major

recording artist, will lead the Highland Bagpipers and Scottish Small Pipes through traditional Christmas music in two acts.

Also performing will be Irish piper Brian Heffernan, fiddle champion Paul Woodseth, currently concert master in the orchestra of "The Music Man" and organist Jeff Rickard from California, and the Solid Brass Ensemble from Chatham. A special added attraction this year is the Hudson and District Pipe Band from Jersey City.

The Clan Currie Society is a non-profit organization promoting awareness and understanding of Scottish history and culture, founded in 1992, by Robert Currie, who recently had the honor of serving as special representative to Gov. Christine Whitman at a recent performance of Royal Regiments at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, where the Black Watch performed.

Famous in ancient highland battles, the Black Watch is the most famous of highland bands, formed in 1739

*During the first World War, the kilt-clad marchers were called 'The Ladies From Hell' by their enemies because of their fearless skill in hand-to-hand combat. But the pipers in the front lines carried no guns; their job was always to keep the troops going with the eerie, inspiring music.*

This regiment has fought in many of Britain's major battles, from Waterloo to the Somme and El Alamein. In fact, during the first World War, the kilt-clad marchers were called "The Ladies From Hell" by their enemies because of their fearless skill in hand-to-hand combat. But the pipers in the front lines carried no guns, their job was always to keep the troops going with the eerie, inspiring music. Both the North and the South, in this country's own Civil War, also had pipers in the front lines of battle.

The Black Watch is closely con-

nected with the Royal Family, and the Queen Mother is the current Colonel in Chief of the Regiment, appointed in 1937.

Although he does not play the pipes himself, Currie is the organizer, the official presenter, of all the Celtic concerts. He is also Scottish representative and former two-term chairman of the governor's Ethnic Advisory Council. Besides representing the governor at the concert series, Currie has served as director of Piping and Drumming at the Bonnie Brae Scottish Games in Morris County.

American born, Currie's Gaelic family name was originally MacMuirich, pronounced MacVurich from the Gaelic of Ardan in the Lewis Hebrides. The clan is one of the earliest constituted clans of the Scottish Highlands, and the Hebridean name of Currie is the corrupt English form of the MacMuirich, an ancient and distinguished name in Scotland's early history. The clan was especially noted for learning, and specialists in the heroic literature and genealogy of the ancient Gaelic world. This is a skill that Robert Currie is carrying on through song and stories today.

For an American to be named Clan Commander is rare indeed, and he was granted this honor in 1992 in recognition of his efforts in creating the educational and cultural Clan Currie Society.

Currie is also on the Board of Directors of the Save Tully Island Foundation. He and his wife, Suzanne, daughter Clare and stepdaughter Hillary, have lived in Summit for

more than 20 years.

"My family is wonderfully supportive of my research and work with the Clan Currie Society; I wouldn't be able to accomplish so much without their enthusiasm," said Currie. He added, "I am very grateful also to the Central Presbyterian Church for coming forward to host this year's event. We have sold 600 tickets — the maximum amount of people who can fill their sanctuary."

Besides working in a full-time executive position for the JM Huber Corp. of Edison, Currie has more recently presented five sold-out Scottish and Irish concerts under the auspices of the Clan Currie Society.

Last year, Currie was named one of the outstanding ethnic leaders of New Jersey at the annual New Jersey Heritage Festival Ball. He is also a 1997 recipient of the Governor's Advocates Award for his efforts in promoting the State's "Many Faces/One Family" diversity initiative.



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DECEMBER 17TH AT 10:30AM

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**Get Ready for Christmas...** Sunday • Dec. 17 • 10am  
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**Christmas Eve Celebration** Sunday • December 24  
4:00pm FAMILY WORSHIP  
7:00pm CANDLELIGHT SERVICE  
Childcare provided at both services

Experience the real meaning of Christmas together!


While we are building on our site, all Sunday services are at 10am (except Dec. 24th) at Jonathan Dayton High School Auditorium, 101 Mountain Ave., Springfield

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DECEMBER 24TH  
4PM CHILDREN'S LITURGY  
9:30 PM CHRISTMAS CAROLS  
10:00PM DIVINE LITURGY OF CHRISTMAS

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
10:00AM DIVINE LITURGY



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<b>CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE</b> CONFESIONS Saturday, December 16th - 4:15 PM	<b>NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE</b> NEW YEAR'S EVE Sunday, December 31st 5:30 PM
<b>COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE</b> Wednesday, December 20th - 7:30 PM	Prayer Vigil for the Passage to the Year 2001 11:00 PM Followed by Mass at Midnight 12:00 Midnight
<b>CHRISTMAS MASSES</b> CHRISTMAS EVE Sunday, December 24th Mass of Midnight 12:00 Midnight	<b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> Monday, January 1, 2001 Octave of Christmas Mary, Mother of God Mass 11:00 AM
<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> Monday, December 25th 9:30 AM and 12:00 NOON	

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2000



**Celebrate the Joy of Christmas**

**The Orchestra and Choral of St. Peter by the Sea**

Conducted by the Rev. Alphonse Stephenson  
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**SAINT TERESA OF AVILA CHURCH**  
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Christmas Mass Schedule  
Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th  
4:00 pm Church  
4:00 pm Memorial Hall  
6:30 pm Church  
10:00 pm Carols sung by Choir  
10:30 pm Mass in Church

Christmas Day, Monday, December 25th  
7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:00 noon, 1:15 pm Spanish  
(No 9:30 am or 5:00 pm Mass on Christmas Day)

Sunday, December 31st (Feast of the Holy Family)  
Regular Sunday schedule **NO 5:00 pm MASS**

Monday, January 1st  
10:30 am & 12:00 pm

Confession Schedule  
Monday, December 11th 7:30 pm  
Deanery Penance Service  
Little Flower, Berkeley Heights  
Monday, December 18th - 7-8 pm Saint Teresa Church  
Saturday, December 23rd 12-1:30 pm Saint Teresa Church



NEWS CLIPS

Jersey Cares coat drive

In an effort to help keep the area's underserved citizens warm this winter, a local congregation in Summit is partnering with Jersey Cares during the Jersey Cares annual coat drive — a two-month long initiative that is expected to collect more than 10,000 winter coats within the state.

As part of the Jersey Cares fifth annual coat drive, gently-used winter coats will be collected from members of Congregation B'nai Jeshurun in Summit through Dec. 31. The coats will then be distributed to men, women and children at more than 100 community agencies across the region, including many local food banks,

church groups, hospitals and community shelters.

Throughout December, anyone may donate coats at most area Blockbuster Video stores and LaSalle's Sewing, Entertainment, Theaters. In addition, coats can be donated through Dec. 15 at the Hoboken and Journal Square PATH stations, as well as at the Jan. 13 New Jersey Devils game at the Continental Airlines Arena.

UPS is especially involved in the drive. Coats will be collected at several of UPS' workplaces. UPS employees will volunteer their time to pick up a large majority of the donated coats from collection sites across the state and deliver them to the Community Foodbank in Hillside. From the Com-

munity Foodbank, the coats will be sorted and distributed to local community organizations across New Jersey.

To find out more about volunteering through Jersey Cares or have questions on the drive, call (973) 644-4952, e-mail Jersey Cares at info@jerseycares.org, or visit www.jerseycares.org.

Students host tree sale

To benefit their activities fund, students from Oratory Preparatory School in Summit are conducting their major fund-raising event of the year.

The annual tree sale will include Frazer Fir Christmas trees, averaging

in height from 6 to 9 feet, and priced from \$44 to \$66. Double faced balsam wreaths are sold in four sizes, from 12 inches to 24 inches, and cost between \$8 and \$18. Pine roping is available at \$1.50 per yard.

Orders will be taken by Oratory students or can be placed with tree sale coordinator Walter Curny by calling 973-1084. A \$5 deposit equal to half the total amount of purchase is required.

The trees may be picked up in front of Oratory's Newman Hall, 14 Bedford Road, directly off Morris Avenue, today between 2 and 6 p.m., or Saturday between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The proceeds from this sale are used to defray the cost of student activities such as the prom and semi-

formal. They also help to fund Spirit Month activities and a student council gift to the school.

FD shares expertise

Fire Prevention Week is observed for one week every October. The job of fire prevention, however, goes on year-round. A fire prevented is more valuable than one extinguished. The Summit Fire Department believes this task is important enough that they would like to share their expertise on this field with the public.

Members of the department are available for fire prevention talks to school, church, civic or business groups. For years, Summit's school children have enjoyed seeing fire apparatus and the firefighters come to their school, but prevention doesn't

stop there. Fire prevention is every one's lifelong job. There are several videos dealing with the subjects of fires and fire prevention available for public use.

Firefighters are also available to speak to individual residents or neighborhood groups. The department can assist with smoke detector placement, home fire safety and plans for escape in the event of a fire.

Anyone having a question or a request for a fire safety presentation may call the department at 277-1033 or visit the Fire Headquarters located at 396 Broad St. Visitors are always welcome.

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WORSHIP CALENDAR

BAPTIST

EVANGEL BAPTIST CHURCH - CHRIST OF THE ANTI PLACET - 242 Shunpike Rd., Springfield, N.J. Frederick Mackey, Sr., Pastor. Sundays 9:30 AM Bible School for all ages. Nursery through Seniors. 10:30 AM Worship Service and children's church. 5:30-7:00 PM A/WANA Club Program for Children ages 4-11. 6:00 PM Evening Service & Nursery. Wednesdays 7:15 PM Prayer Praise and High Music. Youth Ministry. Wide-Ranger Music Program. Super Seniors Sat. Thursdays 11 AM. Followed by lunch. Ample Parking. Our staff provided with assistance. All are invited and welcomed to participate in our worship with us. For further information contact church office (973) 379-4261.

JEWISH-CONSERVATIVE

TEMPLE BETH AYM 60 Temple Drive, Springfield 973-376-0539 Mark Malachuk, Rabbi; Richard Nadel, Cantor. Dr. Scott D. Zimmerman, President. Beth Aym is an egalitarian, Conservative temple, with programming for all ages. Weekly services Mon-Fri 7:00 AM Sun. Thurs. 7:45 PM Shabbat (Friday) 6:00 PM & 8:30 PM Shabbat day 9:30 AM & sunset, Sundays, 8:30 AM Festival & Holiday morning 9:00 AM. Family and children services are conducted regularly. Our Religious School (third-seventh grades) meets on Sunday and Tuesday. There are formal classes for both High School and pre-Religious School aged children. The synagogue also sponsors a Pre-School Women's League, Men's Club, youth groups for sixth through twelfth grades, and a busy Adult Education program. For more information, please contact our office during office hours.

JEWISH - REFORM

TEMPLE SHARAYE SHALOM 78 N. Springfield Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081 973-5387. Joshua Goldstein, Rabbi; Amy Danesh, Cantor/Education Director; Nina Greenman, Pre-School Director; Murray President. Temple Sharaye Shalom is a Reform congregation affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UJA). Shabbat worship, enhanced by volunteer choir, begins on Friday evenings at 8:30 PM.

METHODIST

THE SPRINGFIELD EMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, located at 40 Church Hill in Springfield, NJ invites ALL people of all ages and backgrounds to join us in our worship services. Sunday Worship Service starts at 10:30 AM, with childcare available for babies and toddlers. Christian Education is available for children beginning during the worship Service with a special time for children led by the Pastor before

LUTHERAN

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH 69 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, 07081, 201-379-4525. Fax: 201-379-8887. Joel R. Ross, Pastor. Our Sunday Worship Service takes place at 10 AM at JONATHAN DAYTON RECREATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, Mountain Ave., Springfield. For information about our newborn children, teen, and adult programs, contact the Church Office Monday through Thursday, 8:30-4:00 PM.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOLS, 229 Corporation Dr., Westfield, N.J. Pastor William K. Foster, 908-332-1541. Beginning Sunday, July 6, Summer Worship Times are as follows: Sunday Worship Services, 8:30 and 10:00 AM, Sunday morning Nursery available. Wednesday Evening Worship Service, 7:30 PM. UJA Communion is celebrated at all worship services. The church and all services are handicapped accessible.

PRESBYTERIAN

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 210 Morris Ave. at Church Mall, Springfield, 379-4220. Sunday School classes for all ages 9:00 a.m. Sunday morning Worship Service at 10:30 a.m. July and August 9:30 a.m., with nursery facilities and care provided. Opportunities for personal growth through worship, Christian education, Choir, church activities and fellowship. Communion first Sunday of each month. Ladies' Benevolent Society - 1st Wednesday of each month at 11:00 a.m.; Ladies' Evening Group - 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.; Kaffeeklatsch - 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.; Choir - every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. at the Chapel. The Rev. Daniel J. Russell, Jr., Pastor.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

of Summit is located in the heart of town on the corner of Kent Place Boulevard and Delaware Avenue. Church School and Bible Study is held at 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m., the emphasis of which is to always have a "good week" because of Paul's reminder to us in his letter to the Romans "that ALL things work together for good for those who love God and are called according to his purpose." The sermons are uplifting, Biblically sound and guaranteed to keep you awake. The music and weekly children's message are memorable. All are welcome to hear the Good News of God's love and salvation through Jesus Christ. Our church also offers nursery care, after worship refreshments and fellowship, and many lively programs for everyone. Please worship with us and find out how you too can have a "good week." Call the church office or Pastor at 973-377-1000 for more information at 908-277-1200.

PENTECOSTAL- NON-DENOMINATIONAL

VISIONS OF GOD FAMILY WORSHIP - RAISING PEOPLE OF POWER FOR THE 21ST CENTURY. 242 Shunpike Road, Springfield (located at Evangel Baptist Church Office located at 1132 Spruce Drive, Mountaintop, Phone: 908-928-0212. Pastors: Paul & Sharon Dean. Worship Service - Sunday at 2:00 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study - Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Ministries include: Single Married Couples, Women, Men. We welcome everyone who is someone to come and worship with us.

Congregation B'nai Jeshurun

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DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN them: "The USA After the Election" Friday evening, December 8th at 8:00 p.m.

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**OBITUARIES**

**Robert Applebaugh**

Robert G. Applebaugh, 65, of Arlington, Va., formerly of Springfield, died Nov. 28 at home. A military funeral will be held Dec. 19 in Arlington Cemetery in Virginia.

Born in Elizabeth, Mr. Applebaugh lived in Springfield and Arlington for the last 13 years. He joined the Air Force in 1955 and was commissioned as a distinguished graduate from the aviation cadet program in 1956. Mr. Applebaugh was an instructor pilot, a fighter pilot and held several engineering positions, including one with the National Security Agency and was a test and evaluation officer at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida. He flew more than 300 combat missions in Vietnam and was awarded two Distinguished Flying Crosses, 16 Air medals, a Vietnam Gallantry Cross and numerous Department of Defense and Air Force non-combat decorations.

During the 1970s, Mr. Applebaugh was a project manager for operational test and evaluation of the Air Force, A-10 aircraft and many of its weapon systems. He retired from the Air Force in 1977 with the rank of lieutenant colonel. Mr. Applebaugh then joined the staff of Princeton University's Plasma Physics Laboratory. There, he was a project administrator and worked on developing several systems for heating plasmas in fusion energy and thermal nuclear reactors. Mr. Applebaugh left Princeton in 1984.

He then worked at the Defense Intelligence Agency as a senior intelligence officer under the secretary of defense at the Pentagon before retiring in 1996. Mr. Applebaugh graduated from Colorado University, where he received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and received a master's in engineering administration from George Washington University, Washington, D.C. He was a member of three national engineering honor societies. Mr. Applebaugh coached youth baseball teams and was an associate member of three

professional radio associations. Surviving are his wife, Rebecca; four sons, Steven, John, Robert and Richard; two daughters, Jeanne Gordon and Meredith Maves; a stepson, Marty Howard; a stepdaughter, Lisa Carter; a brother and 14 grandchildren.

**Andrew R. Kovatch**

Andrew R. Kovatch, 79, of Lakewood, formerly of Linden and Mountaintide, died Nov. 26 in Paul Kimball Medical Center, Lakewood.

Born in Fords, Mr. Kovatch lived in Linden and Mountaintide before moving to the Four Seasons Community in Lakewood five years ago. He was a vice president of the Motor Machine Co., Edison, where he worked for 46 years and retired in 1985. Mr. Kovatch served in the Navy during World War II. He was a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union of New Jersey and was a former member of the Suburban Golf Club, Union.

Surviving are his wife, Mary; a son, Richard A.; three daughters, Joyce M. Albers-Schonberg, JoAnn Kuser and Andrea M. Correlia; his mother, Emma Kovatch; a brother, Robert; a sister, Lillian Jenkins; and seven grandchildren.

**Lorraine P. Scriba**

Lorraine P. Scriba, 83, of Springfield, formerly of Mountaintide, died Nov. 27 in Overlook Hospital, Summit.

Born in Springfield, Mrs. Scriba lived in Mountaintide, Warren Township and Keyport before moving back to Springfield 20 years ago.

Surviving are a son, Erich P., and two grandchildren.

**Richard Nochenson**

Richard A. Nochenson, 47, of Pequannock, formerly of Springfield, died Dec. 1 at home.

Born in Irvington, Mr. Nochenson lived in Springfield and Maplewood before moving to Pequannock 15 years ago. He was a yard foreman at Morris Industries, Pompton Plains.

Surviving are his parents, Muriel and Alvin Nochenson; a sister, Don E. Boren; and a brother, Robert M.

**Obituary policy**

Obituary notices submitted by local funeral homes or families must be in writing. This newspaper cannot accept obituaries by telephone. Obituary notices must be typed and include a telephone number where writer may be reached 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**New frontiers**



Thelma L. Sandmeier, School librarian Susan Baldassano shows second-graders, from left, Jacqueline Gallant, Eric Kerstein, Arman Avasia and Beverly Chiu how to use the new computer system that was presented to the school by the PTA this year. Each computer system is wired and loaded with software that accepts information from digital cameras.



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1030 Raritan Road  
Tues: Dec. 19 3:00pm

**Plainfield Genesis Elder Care Network**  
1400 Woodland Avenue  
Thurs: Dec. 14 2:00pm

**Rahway Wendy's**  
90 St. Georges Avenue  
Tues: Dec. 12 2:00pm

**Scotch Plains McDonald's**  
1967 Route 22 West  
Wed: Dec. 13 10:00am

**Westfield Genesis Elder Care Network**  
1515 Lamberts Mill Road  
Thurs: Dec. 7 2:00pm  
Thurs: Dec. 21 2:00pm

**Kenilworth Kenilworth Diner**  
614 Boulevard  
Wed: Dec. 20 9:30am

**Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center**  
Park & Randolph Avenues  
Muhlenberg Room  
Mon: Dec. 18 10:00am

**Roselle Wendy's**  
210 West First Avenue  
Mon: Dec. 18 2:00pm

**Union Emily's Portuguese Diner**  
962 Snyvesant Avenue  
Wed: Dec. 20 1:00pm

**Westfield Restaurant**  
309 North Avenue East  
Thurs: Dec. 7 10:00am  
Thurs: Dec. 21 10:00am

**Linden Delaire Convalescent Center**  
400 West Stimpson Avenue  
Mon: Dec. 11 10:00am

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF HEARING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD, N.J.**  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed with the Board of Adjustment of the Township of Springfield by Springfield Associates, Inc. for preliminary and final site plan approval and for variances to use the property for storage of files and motor vehicles auxiliary to business and for the use of the property for a parking lot. The Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on the application at 8:00 p.m. on December 19, 2000, at the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, N.J. and when the hearing is held in person or by agent or attorney, and present any objections which may be made to the granting of this application. All papers pertaining to the application shall be on file in the office of the Administrative Officer of the Board of Adjustment of the Township of Springfield located in the Municipal Building, 20 N. Trent Street, Springfield, N.J. 07081.  
ATTEST: J. BOYCE, Esq.  
8 Mountain Avenue, Box 583  
Springfield, N.J. 07081  
Attorney for Applicant  
U2726 ECL Dec. 7, 2000 (513,83)

**TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE PLANNING BOARD**  
Take notice that the following decision was made at the regular meeting of the Planning Board held on Wednesday, October 4, 2000.  
Application # 3-2000-9  
Applicant: Pinnacle Communities  
Site Location: Wilson Road and Sturpike Road  
Block 3701 Lots 26 & 27  
For: Preliminary Site Plan and a Variance for construction of 96 units  
Wise  
Said application is on file in the Office of the Secretary of the Planning Board, Annex Building, Township of Springfield, New Jersey and is available for public inspection.  
Secretary  
Robert C. Kibben  
U2702 ECL Dec. 7, 2000 (59,79)

**TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD, ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**  
TAKE NOTICE that on the 19th day of December, at 8:00 o'clock p.m., a hearing will be held before the Zoning Board of Adjustment at the Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, N.J. on application #2000-20 regarding the appeal of application #2000-19, 39 acres for a warehouse or warehouse or other use so as to permit construction of a side yard structure on the premises located at 4 Shiloh Ct. and designated Block 2602, Lot 14 on the Township of Springfield Tax Map.  
The application, plans and survey are on file in the Annex Building, 20 North Trent Street and available for inspection between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday (excluding holidays). Any interested party may appear at said hearing and participate therein in accordance with the rules of the Zoning Board of Adjustment.  
Ivyn Strause  
(610,251)

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**ESTATE OF CHARLES LOCKHART, Deceased.**  
Pursuant to the order of James S. LeCor, Surrogate of the County of Union, made on the 1st day of DECEMBER, A.D. 2000, upon the application of the undersigned, as Executor of the estate of said deceased, notice is hereby given to the creditors of said deceased to exhibit to the undersigned under oath or affirmation their claims and demands against the estate of said deceased within six months from the date of said order, or they will be forever barred from prosecuting or recovering the same against the subscriber.  
Rodger K. Herzigal and  
Erna E. Eden  
Executors  
Rodger K. Herzigal Attorney  
374 Millburn Ave.  
Millburn, NJ 07041  
U2707 ECL Dec. 7, 2000 (58,75)

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
**ESTATE OF LOUISA B. O'FARRELL, Deceased.**  
Pursuant to the order of James S. LeCor, Surrogate of the County of Union, made on the 1st day of DECEMBER, A.D. 2000, upon the application of the undersigned, as Executor of the estate of said deceased, notice is hereby given to the creditors of said deceased to exhibit to the undersigned under oath or affirmation their claims and demands against the estate of said deceased within six months from the date of said order, or they will be forever barred from prosecuting or recovering the same against the subscriber.  
Rodger K. Herzigal Attorney  
374 Millburn Ave.  
Millburn, NJ 07041  
U2708 ECL Dec. 7, 2000 (58,25)

\*Paid endorsement. Anyone entitled to Medicare Part A and enrolled in Part B may apply. Once enrolled, members must continue to pay Part B and Part A premiums (if applicable). Medicare-Choice coverage is provided through health maintenance organizations (HMOs), some of which are federally qualified, in approved service areas. Except for urgent or emergency care, network providers must be used. Benefits, premiums and copayments will change on January 1, 2001. Please contact Aetna U.S. Healthcare for details. ©2000 Aetna U.S. Healthcare® Inc.

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 Maplewood (Tuesdays): 973-762-0303

# SPORTS

Union Fax: 908-686-4169  
 Orange Fax: 973-674-2038  
 Maplewood Fax: 973-763-2557

## THIS IS H.S. FOOTBALL

By JR Parachini  
 Sports Editor

Elizabeth has become the New York Yankees of North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4.

First, it took the Minutemen eight years to win another playoff game and those same eight years to win another sectional championship in 1997.

Now, Elizabeth has won three of the last four sectional titles and has many talented players returning next year, including junior running backs Ibrahim Halsey and Ismail Abdunafi.

Halsey and Abdunafi rushed for touchdowns to help lift Elizabeth past Montclair 13-7 in last Saturday's 27th annual North 2, Group 4 championship game at Elizabeth's Williams Field.

After Randolph won its miracle championship during its first season in Group 4 in 1990, Union continued its dominance in the section by winning consecutive crowns in 1991, 1992 and 1993 to give it the lead in the section with 10 titles.

But since winning its last championship in 1993, Union is 2-6 in the state playoffs and has only reached the title game once since.

In contrast, since going 0-5 in its first five playoff games in the 1990s, Elizabeth is now 9-1 in the playoffs since winning again in 1997 and has won six straight.

Elizabeth won back-to-back sectional playoff titles for the second time (1988-1989 was the first time) and became the first team in the section to win back-to-back crowns since Union in 1991-1993. The Minutemen have now won six playoff titles (1981, 1988, 1989, 1997, 1999, 2000) and are catching up to Union.

The only other teams in the section to have won multiple playoff titles are Montclair with three and Westfield with two. Schools with one title in the section include Morristown (1974, the first), Barringer (1975), West Essex (1980), Randolph (1990), Morris Knolls (1995) and Roxbury (1998).

In North Jersey, Section 2 this year, the champions were spread out as far as they could be. Elizabeth (11-1) captured a second straight Group 4 title for Union County. Warren Hills (11-1) won its first-ever crown for Warren County. Pequannock (11-1) won again in Morris County, while Cedar Grove (11-1) won for the first time since 1983, representing Essex County.

Union County had 12 state champions in the 1990s of which Elizabeth won two. The Minutemen are this decade's first state champion from Union County.

As many as eight area teams qualified for the state playoffs this year, a goal each team sets way back in the dog days of August. Those teams included Elizabeth, Linden and Union in Group 4; Hillside, Roselle and Summit in Group 2; and Roselle Park and Brearley in Group 1.

Linden and Hillside won their first playoff games since 1985 and both just missed making their first appearance in a sectional final in 15 years as both lost close semifinal contests.

After losing its first two games of the season, Brearley rebounded nicely to finish 4-4 at the cutoff date and qualify for the first time since 1997. The Bears were guided this year by first-year coach and alum Dave Curtin.

Summit qualified for the first time in five years and finished 5-5 this year after a 1-9 finish in 1999 and 2-8 in 1998.

This is H.S. Football will return Thursday, Aug. 30, 2001.

God Bless.

## WEEK TWELVE PLAYOFF North 2, Group 4 final at Elizabeth's Williams Field Elizabeth 13, Montclair 7

Last Week: 1-0  
 Season: 80-24 (769)

## FINAL 2000 TERRIFIC THIRTEEN

1. Elizabeth (11-1)
2. Hillside (9-2)
3. Linden (7-4)
4. Union (6-4)
5. Roselle Park (6-4)
6. Summit (5-5)
7. Brearley (4-6)
8. Roselle (4-6)
9. Rahway (4-6)
10. Johnson (5-5)
11. Gov. Livingston (4-6)
12. Cranford (2-8)
13. Dayton (0-10)

## Berger leads Bulldogs



The Dayton High School ice hockey team, sparked by the play of sophomore Brett Berger who was named the team's Rookie of the Year last season, is scheduled to skate against Rumson tomorrow night at 7:15 at the Bridgewater Sports Arena in Bridgewater.

## An opportunity for H.S. football players Get to meet with schools

The Frank LaBarca Memorial College Day on Sunday at Johnson High School in Clark is a real opportunity for high school football players to get a chance to play at the college level.

Johnson head coach Bob Taylor, who has been with the program since its inception 19 years ago, is a great proponent of the event.

### LaBarca Memorial College Day

"Division 1 caliber athletes are already identified in the recruiting process," Taylor said. "LaBarca Day provides the players who have not been recruited an opportunity to connect with a school that might have a real need for them at the Division I-AA, 2, 3 and prep school levels.

College Day is open to football players from all New Jersey high schools and attendance usually surpasses 400.

As a result of LaBarca, through the years hundreds of players have connected with colleges, where they earned degrees and developed lifelong friendships.

From noon to 3:30 p.m., more than 50 college and prep school coaching staffs will be available to talk to high school players, their parents and coaches about the football prospects and educational opportunities at their respective school.

SAT improvement representatives will also be available to discuss financial aid and provide other helpful information pertaining to the often confusing transition between high school and college.

## Summit hockey team will perform in Cron Tourney

Union County's 18th annual George T. Cron High School Hockey Tournament is scheduled to commence Monday.

Summit is one of the teams involved, along with other local squads Cranford and Johnson.

On Monday it will be Cranford taking on Mendham at 6 p.m. at the Warinanco Skating Center in Roselle.

To follow at 8:30 it will be Summit skating against Old Bridge. In last year's tournament, Summit reached the championship game against eventual winner St. Joseph's of Metuchen.

First-round action will continue Tuesday at 6 p.m. when Johnson takes on defending champ St. Joe's. At 8:30 it will be Morris Knolls against Westfield.

The second round of the tournament will begin next Thursday and continue on Dec. 18.

The semifinals are scheduled for Dec. 19 and the final for Dec. 20. There will be two games each night of the tournament, contests scheduled for 6 p.m. and 8:30.

Spectator admission will be \$2 for adults and \$1 for youths 17 and under. More information may be obtained by calling the Warinanco Skating Center at 908-298-7850.

## Summit baseball registration being held

The Summit Junior Baseball League is now registering players for the 2001 baseball season.

Any Summit boy or girl in grades Kindergarten through 8 interested in playing baseball in the spring should complete and return the application form along with the appropriate fee.

Application forms have already been sent by mail to all children registered for SJBB last season.

Application forms will also be distributed at each Summit elementary school for distribution to grades K-2 and may be downloaded off the SJBB web site, www.summitjbb.org, under the Administration section.

Fees are \$60 per player for grades K-3 and \$125 per player for grades 4-8.

The registration cutoff date is Feb. 1.

A late fee of \$25 per player will be charged for registrations received after that date.

If more than two family members register, the fee for only the two oldest children is due.

Scholarships may be available upon request.

The season is scheduled to commence on April 7 and run to June 17.

More information may be obtained by calling 908-273-6529.

## Dayton ice hockey

Dec. 8 Rumson, 7:15  
 Dec. 10 at GL, 4:15, BSA  
 Dec. 12 at East Side, 4:00  
 Ironbound  
 Dec. 15 Fair Lawn, 7:15  
 Dec. 17 at Mahwah, 12:10  
 Ice House

## Summit out to achieve more Hilltoppers know who to beat

By Jeff Wolfram  
 Staff Writer

"A successful team beats with one heart," that's the motto that the Summit High School girls' basketball squad uses to explain the success they have had.

Coming off a strong 21-4 campaign a year ago and losing to Mendham once again in the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 2 final, the Hilltoppers feel they have the talent and the potential to go back for a chance to finally win it.

"We've been there in the past, but we must make a conscious decision to do it again," head coach Dana Farnella said. "It's their opportunity to shine."

Farnella, in her sixth season at the helm, has compiled a record that is well over .500. She guided Summit to its first-ever Union County Tournament championship in 1999.

### High School Girls' Basketball

"We have a lot of athletic ability; we just need to harness it and make it work as a team," Farnella said.

In losing two starters from last season to graduation and another to concentrating on her school work this winter, the Hilltoppers will have a much different look.

The varsity will consist of one senior, three juniors and the rest being sophomores.

Looked upon to lead the group will be senior Laan Price, a hard worker who will see action at the three or two spot.

"We need her to be the leader and take the role of being the only senior and become vocal," Farnella said.

Lauren Fritz is one of the two returning juniors, a player that is very focused and one that works extremely hard.

"She's had some back pain and that might have shaken her confidence in shooting, but she is very versatile and will see a lot of time in a variety of positions," Farnella said.

The other junior is Liz Sheridan, a point guard that needs to take control and not shy away when called to lead the team.

Nikka Amigoni is also a junior that the coach feels has a positive influence on the club.

"She gives a great effort and has the right attitude in practice," Farnella said. "She will learn the game better as the season goes along."

The coach feels that the key to the season is sophomore Karen Kahn, a stand-out soccer player who started last year as a freshman.

"She's tough and strong and being more vocal helps in her building success on offense," Farnella said.

Ashley Hollins is the team's top rebounder, but needs to develop a shot and some move.

Sophomores who will see limited action include Sasha Orenczak, Gelia Carey and Shante Cofield.

"They all have tremendous potential, but need to work hard to tap into it," Farnella said.

Working out with the varsity is freshman Rachel Taback, a five-foot guard that plays with a lot of hustle and love for the game.

"She lacks height, but pushes everyone in practice because she has a lot of heart," Farnella said.

In addition to opening at Dover on Dec. 15, the Hilltoppers will face still Iron Hills Conference-Hills Division competition from Mendham on Dec. 19 in Mendham and at home against Morris Hills on Dec. 22.

Summit will also play in the Randolph Holiday Tournament on Dec. 28-30. Its first-round opponent will be Bishop Loughlin of Staten Island.

Farnella feels that team goals may be achieved by everyone giving effort on and off the court.

"I know they can do it, now it's up to them to know that they can," Farnella said.

## Five seniors to spark Bulldogs Dayton primed for success

By Jeff Wolfram  
 Staff Writer

With five seniors leading the way, the Dayton High School girls' basketball team has a lot of expectations coming into this season.

Coming off a .500 record of 11-11, the Bulldogs are primed for a big improvement and a winning year.

"I've been here since most of them where freshmen and had a vision that they were going to be good," head coach Dave Rennie said. "It's happened and we're excited about it."

Rennie, who's entering his fourth season at the helm after being the head coach at Union, has compiled a record of 18-45 over that span.

### High School Girls' Basketball

Joining Rennie on the bench will be assistants Steve Griffith and Dave Campbell, the latter also being the junior varsity coach.

"They've been very supportive in drills, practice and in motivating the players," Rennie said.

In losing only one player to graduation from last season, the Bulldogs are rich in experience.

With ten players on the roster, Dayton is led by its five seniors. They are Sara Abraham, Tara Lisowski, Christina Tomasino — all forwards — and guards Linda Agostinelli and Dana Rutkowski. The one junior is Esther Aizenberg, a guard; and the sophomore is Iyeha Gordon, a center. Three freshmen that the coach says will play significant minutes are forwards Lindsay Brahm and Margaret Mysiwicz, along with point guard Sara Steinman.

With six players on the JV level with the potential to move up later in the season, the Bulldogs should be in good shape for years to come.

In running a flex offense, the Bulldogs will play a man-to-man defensive style to go along with a fullcourt press that will play to the strength of the team in creating turnovers and easy baskets due to speed.

Because of a lack of height, Dayton will play aggressively and is willing to take risks.

"We have an open line of communication to the players and want them to have a comfort zone in there play," Rennie said.

The coach also feels that improvement can be made in taking the open shot and coming up with turnovers with and without the ball.

With no set goals for the club, the coach just wants to see improvement and knows that individual awards will be reached with hard work and dedication.

The Bulldogs are scheduled to open their season on Dec. 15 at home against Mountain Valley Conference-Valley Division rival North Plainfield.

On Dec. 19 they will travel to Bound Brook and then return home for a game against New Providence on Dec. 21.

Dayton will also play in the Roselle Park Holiday Tournament on Dec. 27-28. The Bulldogs will play Johnson in the first round and then face either Roselle Park or Roselle in the second.

Later on in the season, key conference games will come against the likes of Roselle Park, Brearley and Oak Knoll.

"The players know what we expect, now it's up to them to take it to the next level," Rennie said.

**A reminder**



Planting red tulip bulbs outside the Summit Middle School in observance of Red Ribbon Week earlier this fall are seventh-graders, from left, Carolyn Plaza, Vanessa Gonzalez, Adam Newton and Sebastian Zuniga. When the flowers bloom in the spring, students will be reminded of the pledges they made to refrain from drug and alcohol use.

**Messiah sing Tuesday at Central Presbyterian**

Summit Chorale's annual free Community Messiah Sing, conducted by Garyth Nair, music director and conductor of Summit Chorale, and Noel Werner, minister of music at Central Presbyterian Church, Summit, will take place Tuesday at 8 p.m. Sponsored jointly by the Chorale

and Central Presbyterian, the event will take place at the church, 70 Maple St. Organ accompaniment will be performed by Richard Frey, minister of music at Ridgewood's United Methodist Church.

The audience becomes the chorus in this reading of the Christmas portion of Handel's popular oratorio. Singers may bring their own scores, or borrow them for a deposit of \$2. Listeners are also welcome.

In the event of snow, the sing will take place Wednesday at 8 p.m. For information, call (973) 762-8486.

**Fire Department urges caution in chimney care**

As the heating season kicks in, residents need to be aware of the potential fire hazards of unclean or unsafe chimneys. The Summit Fire Department and Code Administration Division recommend annual cleaning and examination of masonry chimneys serving fireplaces. A chimney lined with deposits can catch fire or have its draft impeded to prevent proper exhaust of combustion by-products.

The city also advises property owners of the less-than-temperous contractors preying on residents' fire safety concerns to generate work, namely the sale of chimney liners.

Most chimneys will ultimately require repairs or a new liner. This specialized work requires custom sizing based on the configuration of the dwelling. Moreover, the work requires a city permit prior to the construction and final inspection. The Construction Office recommends, as with all home improvement work, that residents solicit and contact local references for this work.

Currently a license is not required; however, professional trade associations such as the Chimney Sweeps Guild provide some professional standards for their members. Lastly, all

home improvement work of this value requires a written home improvement contract under state regulation.

Avoid embarrassment and costly repairs — do not authorize replacement chimney-liner work without a construction permit. This way, it will be verified for use and sizing, inspected for compliance and a permanent record of the contractor will remain on file. Residents with questions should call the Construction Office at 273-6408.

Sell that "junk" with a classified ad. Call 1-800-564-8911.

**Book lecture Monday at Summit Library**

The next session of the Summit Free Public Library's book lecture/discussion series will take place Monday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Ernest S. Hickok meeting room at the library, 75 Main St.

Local resident and author Jon Platt will discuss two non-fiction books with a connected theme — humanity's struggle to predict and survive violent weather.

Sebastian Junger's "The Perfect Storm" recounts the fate of a sword fishing boat caught in the grip of a killer storm on the North Atlantic. With the steady inevitability of a Greek tragedy, he sets the scene as he introduces his characters: commercial fishermen risking their lives for the big catch, a adult on a tully sailboat, Coast Guard rescuers, anxious spectators on shore and the storm itself.

"Isaac's Storm" is set nearly a century earlier, in 1900, when the sciences of weather prediction was in its infancy. The author describes the massive hurricane that devastated Galveston, Tex., that year, leaving hundreds dead.

The program will be conducted in the Ernest S. Hickok Meeting Room. It is free and open to the public. No pre-registration is required.

For directions, or for more information, call the library at 273-0350.

**Wedding, engagement policy**

Couples are encouraged to send their engagement and wedding announcements to the lifestyle editor. Announcements should be typed, doubled spaced or legibly hand written and no longer than one page. All announcements should have a daytime phone number for verification or if questions arise.

Information requested for engagements are parents' names, high school name and town, college (name, town and degree, name of employer and town where located, job title and the date of marriage).

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<p><b>Brand New 2000 Oldsmobile INTRIGUE GLS</b></p> <p>BUY FOR ONLY <b>\$22,790</b></p> <p>YOU SAVE <b>\$530</b></p>		<p><b>Brand New 2000 Cadillac ESCALADE</b></p> <p>BUY FOR ONLY <b>\$38,790</b></p> <p>YOU SAVE <b>\$8135</b></p>

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