

# Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountainside

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TWO SECTION

## New Year's labor action stokes stalled negotiations

### Deputy mayor criticizes factions, calls unions a 'de facto monopoly'

By Joe Lugara  
Staff Writer

With about 30 firefighters and police officers standing ominously at the back of the courtroom, the Springfield Township Committee gathered on New Year's Day for its 208th annual reorganization meeting.

Committeeman Sy Mullman was nominated as the township's mayor for 2001 by fellow Committeeman Gregory Clarke. After Mullman's unanimous approval, Clarke himself was nominated for the role of deputy mayor by Committeeman Steven Goldstein. Mullman and Clarke replaced Clara Hareluk and Goldstein, Springfield's 2000 mayor and deputy mayor, respectively.

Clarke and Committeeman Roy Hirschfeld, both re-elected in November, were sworn in by Township Clerk Kathleen Wisniewski. Bruce Bergen was reinstated as township attorney.

Dissatisfied with the state of their labor negotiations, members of the Policemen's Benevolent Association Local 76 and the Firefighters Mutual Benevolent Association Local 57 marched in front of the Municipal Building prior to the meeting. The township's contracts with both organizations expired Dec. 31.

Although the marchers entered the courtroom quietly, their entrance — about 15 minutes after the start of the meeting — generated a good deal of head-turning from the crowd.

Promising to keep his remarks "brief but to the point," Mullman did not touch on the topic of the stalled labor negotiations. He focused instead on a number of other issues, including the township's infrastructure, the increased Chamber of Commerce membership, the construction of the new fire headquarters and the community pool. He reminded residents of the township's intention to move the Police Department's facilities into the current fire headquarters once the new building on Mountain Avenue is completed.

In regard to taxes, Mullman said, "This committee has always made the control of taxes its top priority." He pointed out that no municipal tax increase has occurred over the past three years. Although admitting that "this can't continue forever," Mull-

man added, "We promise to be prudent with any increase it may be necessary to impose."

Mullman complimented Hareluk for the "tremendous amount of energy and enthusiasm" she demonstrated in her role as mayor, a sentiment echoed by each member of the Township Committee during the course of their personal remarks. It was Clarke, however, who stoked the labor fire by reading a prepared statement in which he challenged police and firefighters' claims of "essential unfairness" by providing "a brief analysis of facts."

Clarke reported that eight of the township's 43 police officers were listed as having earned over \$100,000 in 2000, with seven others bringing in more than \$90,000. Of 20 listed firefighters, he claimed that 16 "reported incomes over \$70,000, and six of these were over \$100,000."

The committeeman then reported a first class township patrolmen's starting salary as \$65,500, which he said "does not include about \$10,000 per man for health benefits, a uniform allowance, educational stipends, a 20 percent township contribution for pension and Social Security, and additional costs for disability and life insurance."

Clarke's salary tabulation, based on what he called "the current demands of the PBA," came to a base pay of \$73,700. The salary, he said, "would be true even though there would be no personal performance rating indicating that such a salary was warranted."

Clarke said that such facts do not "constitute grounds of essential unfairness, or a rationale for picketing meetings of the Township Committee." He then criticized the mandatory collective bargaining process, in which the township is bound by the findings of a hearing officer. The process, he said, "has resulted in employee annual raises which have greatly exceeded the Consumer Price Index for many years, forgetting issues such as unlimited sick time, generous vacation allocations, and a total absence of performance accountability."

The system, Clarke concluded, "has created a situation in which the most powerful of unions enjoy a de facto monopoly within local public



Photos By Ruthanne Wagner



service, resulting in rulings that greatly favor the employee bargaining agents." Clarke said that without help

from the state Legislature on the subject of mandatory collective bargaining, the taxpayer "will continue to be

exploited." He called the Township Committee's power, in light of mandatory collective bargaining, "poor."

### Union cry 'cheap shot Clarke'

By Joe Lugara  
Staff Writer

The Springfield Township Committee conducted its annual reorganization meeting Monday afternoon, but with no public comment portion of the meeting available, township police and firefighters listened helplessly as Deputy Mayor Gregory Clarke publicly denounced the salaries of the township's emergency personnel.

"I thought it was a cheap shot," said Firefighter Frank Fiorelli, vice president of Firefighters Mutual Benevolent Association Local 57. "It was a monologue, not a dialogue."

Fiorelli challenged Clarke's reported salaries of \$70,000 and \$100,000. "The fact is, the figures are padded with overtime," he said. "The starting figure is \$26,000. He's saying that the salaries are \$70,000 and \$100,000, and he doesn't say that it's the recall that makes all the overtime."

Springfield Police Sgt. Steven Stockl, president of the Superior Officers' Association Local 76, confirmed the \$26,000 starting salary, while also criticizing the timing of Clarke's observations.

"I believe he was way out of line," Stockl said of Clarke. "He made his comments during a reorganization meeting, knowing we couldn't respond. The overtime figures are created by staffing shortages. The Police Department has five supervisors, when our current schedule requires nine. Of course there'll be overtime."

Stockl said the union's proposed work schedule would have saved the township the cost of overtime "by allowing us to work with less supervisors. We could have worked with six supervisors with our proposal. But they wanted a lot of give-backs from us for that."

Fiorelli called the township's Fire Department "dangerously short-handed," and said the department often goes out on calls with three firefighters rather than the necessary four.

See LACK, Page 2

## Borough's agenda topped by recreation, infrastructure, taxes

By John Celock  
Staff Writer

The Mountainside Borough Council welcomed a new member to the table and placed recreation, infrastructure and a stable tax rate at the top of its 2001 agenda on Tuesday evening.

Bill Lane was sworn in to his first term on the council, replacing Ronald Romak, who retired after 14 years of service. Councilman Thomas Perrotta was sworn in to another term, following his re-election last November. Councilman Paul Mirabelli was elected to succeed Councilman Glenn Mortimer as council president for the next year.

In his annual State of the Borough address, Mayor Robert Vigilanti reviewed his administration's work from the past year and announced his intention to focus on infrastructure in 2001. Last year the borough embarked on the largest capital improvement project in Mountainside history.

"We must move forward and maintain our community, as you maintain your home," Vigilanti said, noting that the community has 29 road projects and 10 storm drainage projects pending.

Members of the Borough Council said they were in support of the mayor's speech and outlined their own goals for the next year.

"I thought it was a good speech. I thought that it covered everything that was done for the residents in the last year," Lane said.

Lane plans to focus his efforts in the next year on infra-

structure improvements and recreational programs. In addition, the new councilman said he would like to follow through on his campaign pledge to keep taxes stable, while expanding municipal services.

In his campaign, Lane said he has noticed more young families moving into the community with an optimistic outlook on the borough's future. Lane, a member of the Newcomers' Club and Our Lady of Lourdes Church, plans to use the influx of young families as a base for his recreational plans.

"I look forward to overseeing the infrastructure project that was started last year. There has been a tremendous increase in recreational services for youth and I want to continue that trend," he said.

Perrotta, who served as council president in 1999, said he plans to focus on recreation, infrastructure, finance and volunteerism in the next year. Lane and Perrotta were running mates on the Republican ticket in the 2000 election.

"Mountainside is changing and becoming younger. That is based on the expansion of our schools. You want to be able to provide the same services we have always had," Perrotta said, noting that he hopes to increase communication between the council and residents.

Perrotta, a volunteer firefighter, hopes to use his enthusiasm for Mountainside to assist with his policy goals for the year. He has lived in the borough for 30 of his 34 years and his wife is a native of the borough.

See POLICE, Page 2



Photo By Barbara Kokkalis

Councilman Bill Lane takes the oath of office from Municipal Judge Bart Barre Tuesday as his wife, Doreen, and children, William and Mackenzie witness the event. Lane was appointed to the Administrative and Executive Committee, the Fire Committee and the Channel 35 Committee at the Mountainside Borough Council's reorganization meeting.

## School district's long-range facilities plan rings in at \$6.8 million

By Joe Lugara and  
Kirsten Matthew

By a unanimous vote Tuesday, the Mountainside Board of Education approved by resolution its \$6,867,000 five-year long-range facilities plan.

By Wednesday morning, Chief School Administrator Gerard Schaller and Business Administrator Florence Shukis were already on their way to Trenton to hand deliver the finalized plan to the state Department of Education. A 90-day reprieve from the state allowed New Jersey's school districts to submit portions of their facilities plans after the Dec. 15 deadline.

According to Board President Patricia Taeschler, the nearly \$7-million project will cover the scope of work and engineering and architectural fees associated with the district's plans to reopen Beechwood School and make improvements to Deerfield School. She said the district remains hopeful that it will

receive up to 40 percent — or \$2,746,800 — from the state by Feb. 20, the board's cut-off date to begin organizing a March public referendum.

"By February we have to know how much they'll make available to us, so we can write our referendum," Schaller said. "But they know we're sincere."

A 40-percent state contribution would mean the issuance of a \$4,120,200 bond for the schools' rehabilitation and expansion.

"The problem is that we don't know what we'll get from the state," Taeschler said. "It could be up to 40 percent, but looking at what other districts have gotten, it's a little bit less."

Architect John Kelemen, who appeared with the board when it presented the district's expansion project to the borough's Planning Board in November, said at the time that the expansion plans "follow the formula of the state as much as possible" in regard to what he called "facility efficiency standards" — meaning

a reasonable ratio of students to floor space.

In an attempt to cut costs, the board made several changes to the plan Tuesday. Deerfield School's Moppet Room will be used as a general music room, and will see its walls retained. The school's cooking room will receive renovation work, while the sewing room, according to Schaller, will remain "as is." The Deerfield/Beechwood project will allow for the reinstatement of the district's Life Skills program, which was suspended last year due to lack of space and the resignation of its instructor.

"We stressed to the state that we do have an overcrowding problem and that we have lost school programs," Taeschler said.

"The school board is anxious to proceed with the school capital project as quickly as possible."

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Left, Jamison Stagaard, 16, prepares to catch some air on a mogul while snowboarding at Briant Park in Springfield Tuesday afternoon as, below, brother and sister Geoffrey and Sandra Ng throw snowballs at each other. Saturday's snowstorm left the area blanketed in more than a foot of snow.

Photos By Jeff Grant



**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

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

**Sunday**

• Trailside Nature and Science Center, 452 New Providence Road, Mountainside, hosts a winter walk along the western loop of the reservation at 2 p.m. After meeting at Trailside and car pooling to the parking lot at Seeley's Pond, participants can hike an old carriage road, cross the Blue Brook and view the old Drake farm from a boardwalk on the tour.

Donations will be accepted and participants should bring binoculars to look for resident and migrant birds. If weather is bad, a slide show of winter birds will be shown.

**Monday**

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

**Tuesday**

• The Mountainside Board of Education meets for a regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the media center at Deerfield School, 302 Central Ave.

• The Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., hosts a book discussion on Bill McKibben's "End of Nature" at 7:30 p.m. To reserve a copy of the book or for more information, call (973) 376-4930, ext. 28.

**Wednesday**

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

**Upcoming events**

**Jan. 11**

• The Berkeley Heights Board of Education will meet for an executive session at 7 p.m. followed by a conference meeting at 8 p.m. in the Clausen Administration Complex, Berkeley Heights.

**Jan. 15**

• The Springfield Clergy Association will host a Martin Luther King Day march and vigil. Marchers will meet at the main entrance of Jonathan Dayton High School at 6:57 p.m. and march to the vestibule at the Springfield Municipal Building, 100 Mountain Ave., for shared prayers and songs.

• The Springfield Environmental Commission will meet for a regular monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Annex Building, 20 N. Trivett Ave.

**Jan. 26**

• The Springfield Recreation Department will sponsor a trip to see Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" on Ice at the Continental Airlines Arena. The bus departs at 6 p.m. from the Chisholm Community Center. Tickets are \$32 per person and can be purchased at the Sarah Bailey Civic Center, 30 Church Mall, through Monday. For information, call (973) 912-2227.

**Ongoing**

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

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

• The fall and winter season at the Springfield Teen Center runs Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Fridays from 7 to 10 p.m. for Springfield residents or students between the ages of 12 and 17 years old.

IDs are required for admittance. Stop by the Teen Center on the second floor of the Chisholm Community Center, 100 S. Springfield Ave., to obtain a membership form.

**Lack of Fire Department manpower blamed on Committee's history**

(Continued from Page 1)

He blamed the lack of manpower on the failure of the Township Committee to hire appropriately. Fiorelli said township firefighters sacrificed 5-percent longevity out of their last contract to provide for new hires, and

received "nothing" in the way of manpower.

Fiorelli pointed out that starting salaries have actually been reduced by \$600 since 1988, and that the size of the department has not increased.

"You need a certain amount of peo-

ple at a house fire, no matter what size town the house is in," Fiorelli said. He stressed that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration requires a "two in/two out" policy for such fires. "For every two firefighters you have inside, you have to have two outside," Fiorelli explained. "How do you do that with three guys? And one is the pump operator." The firefighter said Springfield is constantly calling for mutual aid from other towns to pro-

vide station coverage.

Another issue — one not addressed by Clarke last week — concerns the 24-hour shift requested by the firefighters. A 24-hour shift would require firefighters to work for 24 hours, followed by 72 hours off. The schedule, Fiorelli said, is not nearly as exhausting as the current arrangement, in which firefighters work two 10-hour days, followed by a day off and two 14-hour nights.

"I'm supposed to be available for recall," Fiorelli said. "Sometimes I have to respond in the middle of the night, which breaks up my sleep. What happens to me the next day, if I had two recalls or more the night before when I was supposed to be sleeping?"

"There are no more hours involved in the 24-hour shift, no less," Fiorelli said. "But it's healthier, because you're not dragging."

**Police issues also eyed**

(Continued from Page 1)

"I love the town and the reason that I am a councilman is that I love the town," Perrotta said.

Councilman Keith Turner has placed recreation and police issues at the top of his agenda for the next year. He would like to continue to expand the number of programs offered by the Recreation Department and the Police Department's defibrillator program.

"I will look at state and federal grants for police. I will see to it that every police vehicle on the road has a defibrillator. I would also like to put defibrillators in the schools and in Borough Hall," he said, noting that since the program was established last

year several lives have been saved as a result.

Outside of recreation, infrastructure and a stable tax rate, council members have placed several other items on the panel's 2001 agenda. These include the historic preservation brick program and the expansion of Channel 35. The council has formed a Channel 35 Committee with Mirabelli as chairman to study uses for the cable station.

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# Mountainside astronomer's memory to live on through screened glasses

## Founder of Solar Skreen honored during the latest solar eclipse

By Walter Elliott  
Staff Writer

Tributes to Mountainside resident Roger W. Tuthill went beyond those formally scheduled in Cranford and Fanwood Dec. 29. Friends and relatives said that Tuthill's memory was honored during the Christmas solar eclipse and will continue to be on eclipses to come.

Amateur Astronomers Inc. member Joel Strasbe handed fellow Maggie Walker, of Hillside, a small drum at the William Sperry Observatory in Cranford on Christmas Day. Strasbe, of Clark, directed Walker to look at the sun through the aluminized mylar sheet covering one of the drum's ends. "The mylar screen will allow you to directly look at the eclipse without injuring your eyes," said Strasbe. "It was invented by one of our members, who died a few days ago."

Tuthill died of heart failure while at the Tenacre Foundation, of Princeton, Dec. 15. Colleagues and family members at the observatory and Fanwood's Memorial Funeral Home recalled how his electrical engineering background was put to use before and after World War II.

"Roger worked on the Manhattan Project, finding a way to weld aluminium to form a sealed uranium canister without using flux," said fellow General

Electric colleague Michael Nigro. "When we worked together for GE, he found a way to continuously weld rails up and down hills; the company put us on tour around the country with his machine."

Tuthill was awarded 10 patents while with GE before moving to Airco, of Union and New Providence. It was during Tuthill's Airco era that a telescope look at the moon began his passion for astronomy.

"Roger became a member in early 1960 and was club president in 1964-66," said AAI member Alan Witgall. "He came in at a time where AAI needed a regular home. Roger was involved with the fund-raising end of the effort."

Tuthill and his AAI members received land from Union County College, a tract which came from the Sperry family of S&H Green Stamp fame. Witgall, Strasbe and other members can point to telescopes, lenses and related components around the observatory which Tuthill built. Tuthill would be seen toting a telescope on a portable trailer from as close as Watchung Reservation to as far as the annual Stellafane astronomers convention in Vermont.

"One year, he brought up a chicken coop to Stellafane and named it 'Tut's Hotel,'" said Wayne Zuhl, of the Springfield, Vt., Telescope Makers. "That was before a private company bought the site and tore it down. Roger found more land for Stellafane to continue, which is why the telescope makers are

dedicating one of his telescopes there in his memory."

Tuthill and AAI launched the first solar eclipse expedition in the summer of 1973. It was at that tour, held at Akjoujt, Mauritania, that he became inspired with mylar film.

"Roger was with 230 to 260 tour members about 300 miles in from the Atlantic coast, in tents made out of aluminized mylar," said friend George Kuchinsky. "While the tents were noisy when they rippled in the constant wind, he looked up and saw the sun through the material."

Tuthill, Kuchinsky recalled, cut his tent into strips and handed them out to expedition members. Those strips became the basis of Solar Skreen. Tuthill left Airco to form Solar Skreen maker Roger W. Tuthill Inc. in 1974.

The Mountainside-based astronomy parts business continues under the leadership of his second wife, Nancy. The company's namesake kept arranging eclipse tours around the world until his brief but fatal illness kept him from the Christmas Day event. Both Nancy Tuthill and Nigro said they spent Christmas going outside to look at the eclipse every few minutes — through Roger Tuthill's screened glasses.

"Without aluminized mylar screens, the sun's rays would blind a gazer's optic nerve in seconds," said Witgall. "That is why I believe that Roger Tuthill has done more than any other single individual to prevent blindness around the world."

# Springfield Board of Education says no to Declaration recitation legislation

By Joe Lugara  
Staff Writer

The Springfield Board of Education has fallen in line with a number of other school districts in its opposition to a partial recitation of the Declaration of Independence by its students.

A proposed legislation sponsored by state Sen. Gerald Cardinale, R-Bergen, would require students to recite a 55-word passage from the document each morning in home-room. The recitation would necessitate the institution of a comprehensive Declaration curriculum, at the expense of each school district. Last month, the township's Board of Education passed a resolution opposing the proposed legislation.

According to Mike Yaple, spokesman for the New Jersey School Boards Association, the bill will be poised for a vote by the full state Assembly sometime between Jan. 18 and Jan. 6, 2002, when the current legislative session ends. It has already been passed by the Senate Budget and

Appropriations Committee. If passed by the full assembly, the bill will then move on to the governor's desk. Donald T. DiFrancesco of the 22nd Legislative District, who will be serving as acting governor during that time, will then give the bill either his approval or veto.

The passage in question, from the document's second paragraph, reads: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness — That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed."

Cardinale has been quoted previously as having said that New Jersey school children know more "Scooby Doo" history than American history. He has claimed to have studied the curriculum of the state's public schools, and has proclaimed a dimin-

ished emphasis on the study of American history. Cardinale has stressed the importance of not only incorporating the recitation, but also launching a comprehensive curriculum to accompany it.

"There's more to this bill than just requiring a 55-word recitation," Yaple said. "It also requires the districts to create an age-appropriate curriculum

providing the meaning and importance of the Declaration." Yaple said that such a curriculum would not be fully funded, and that only \$10,000 would be available statewide to provide the necessary lessons.

Yaple said he did not know what an age-appropriate curriculum — a curriculum covering students in all grades — would ultimately cost, pointing out

that Cardinale's legislation did not offer a cost guideline. He also stressed the notion that passing the bill would take away from each district's ability to personally tailor its curriculum to its students.

"It takes away from a local school board's ability to decide what curriculum works best for their kids," Yaple

said. "These are decisions that should be made by the community and not by Trenton."

"No one's disputing the importance of the Declaration of Independence," Yaple concluded. "But it's being studied in the schools now. It was studied when I was in school, and to my knowledge, it's always been studied."

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### Yee attends annual Muslim event at Pentagon

Chaplain James Yee of the U.S. Army recently participated in the Pentagon's fourth annual Iftar, Breaking of the Fast, program in Washington, D.C. This event, conducted annually for Muslim military personnel and their families, took place Dec. 8 in the Pentagon's Executive Dining Hall.

Yee, the Army's most recently appointed Muslim chaplain, was selected to open the program by reciting from the Glorious Koran, Islam's holy book. Reciting in the classical Arabic language, Yee read the verses regarding fasting and Ramadaan, Islam's holy month of fasting.

Yee, a graduate of Jonathan Dayton Regional High School and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, studied the Arabic language and the traditional Islamic sciences in Damascus, Syria, earning a seminary degree.

His parents, Joseph and Fong Yee, are residents of Springfield.

### Herzlinger earns honor

Michael Herzlinger, a certified public accountant from Springfield, was recently named an honorary member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Herzlinger formerly was the managing partner of Starr, Kaplan, Schuhalter, and Herzlinger Certified Public Accountants, 110 Hillside Ave., Springfield. Herzlinger serves as vice-chairperson of the Board of Adjustment in Springfield. He was formerly a member and chairman of the Rent Leveling Board. He is an active member of the financial services department of Temple Sha'arey Shalom and has served as its treasurer.

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# COMMUNITY FORUM

## EDITORIALS

### Input needed

Now that Superintendent of Schools Gary Friedland has made his resignation final, the Board of Education must renew its search for a new chief school administrator.

We encourage the board do so with vigor and determination.

The search was delayed back in June after Friedland agreed to remain with the district beyond his contract's scheduled June 2001 termination date. While the superintendent's latest intention to resign becomes effective Sept. 1, his accrued vacation time could result in a July 1 departure — just six months from now.

The board first recruited help from the New Jersey School Boards Association a year ago when it brought in Senior Field Representative Carole Larsen to assist with the search. This month, Larsen will return to resume the project.

The process will be intense. Staff members and members of the community will have questions. Board members will need to consider what criteria they think is important and what they are looking for in the ideal candidate. Public forums will have to be conducted to discuss the issue, and legal constraints will abound when it comes to handling the interviews.

Still the board must persevere. Moreover, the position is one that requires the attention of the entire community.

The community needs someone who is familiar with the issues of Springfield and the educational concerns of the state and nation. The district must select the candidate who is willing to go to the greatest length to ensure Springfield's students receive a high quality and progressive education.

On the other hand, the search could become too restrictive if the board sets its sights too high or makes its criteria too tight.

Hopefully, some of the candidates the board had its eye on in the spring are still ready and willing to interview for the job. Names of candidates do not become public, but remain confidential until the finalists pay a visit to the district.

Public involvement will play a significant role in the Board of Education's success in searching for Friedland's replacement. Parents and teachers need to attend upcoming board meetings to provide their input.

### A 2001 wish list

The end of the year is a good time to reflect on the events of 2000 in Springfield and Mountainside and prepare a wish list for 2001:

- Springfield voters should support a revived bond referendum for the rehabilitation of the district's athletic facilities, even though they rejected the \$3.4-million proposal that was on the ballot last month.
- The Springfield Township Committee and the township's police and firefighters should make a concerted effort to conduct harmonious contract negotiations.
- The Mountainside Borough Council's meetings will last long enough to make it worth the taxpayers' money to turn on the lights and the heat.
- The Mountainside Board of Education's bond referendum for the district's proposed expansion will be approved by borough voters in March.
- The Springfield Environmental Commission's plans to establish a historic district in the Black's Lane/Church Mall area of the township will be realized.
- A jitney bus will be received by the Borough of Mountainside from the county for \$1 per year.
- The next season at the Springfield Municipal Pool will begin without any hitches.
- The downtown beautification and parking plans for Springfield will proceed, with appropriate funding sought from grants and business owners.
- The Township Committee's implementation plan for improvements within the Springfield Police Department will stay on its time line.
- The borough's \$6-million infrastructure project to repair aging roads, sanitary sewers and storm sewers will not result in a tax hike for Mountainside residents.
- Crime rates will decrease across the board in the township and borough.
- The financially floundering Springfield Volunteer First Aid Squad will receive enough private funding to remain operational in 2001.
- Springfield's Farmer's Market will reopen for business for a second year.

*"I support the right of free speech. Although I usually try to hold out for a hefty honorarium."*

—Jeff MacNelly  
editorial cartoonist  
1997



**WORLD HOLIDAYS** — Singing and dancing about the holidays around the world last month during a Walton School PTA-sponsored program are, from left, Kevin Hernandez, Deborah Liaw, Kaelin Stoll, Jered Clayton and Stephanie Bleiwise. The children learned stories and songs about Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa.

## System generates distrust between factions

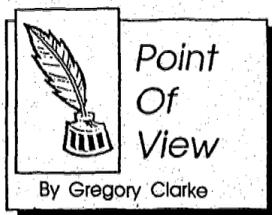
**Editor's note:** The following remarks were delivered by Springfield Deputy Mayor Gregory Clarke at the Township Committee's annual reorganization meeting Monday.

As a result of recent employee unrest concerning contract negotiations surfacing in a demonstration including all five unions and some outsiders, I decided to do a brief analysis of facts pertaining to the situation which would warrant aggressive feelings of essential unfairness. A few observations:

First, of the 43 listed police officers, 38 earned incomes reportable to the IRS for the year 2000 over \$70,000 resulting from their status as sworn police officers. Of the remaining five, three were rookies and one retired in August. Eight were listed as earning over \$100,000, with seven more over \$90,000.

Second, of the 20 listed firefighters, 16 reported incomes over \$70,000, and six of these were over \$100,000.

Third, a first class patrolman currently starts at \$65,500 base pay. This does not include about \$10,000 per man for health benefits, a uniform allowance, educational stipends, a 20



percent township contribution for pension and Social Security and additional costs for disability and life insurance.

Fourth, if the current demands of the PBA were granted in terms of a 4-percent increase each year for three years, this first class patrolman would then start at \$73,700 base pay at the end of the three-year period. This would be true even though there would be no personal performance rating indicating that such a salary was warranted.

Mindful of the above, which to me does not constitute grounds of essential unfairness, or a rationale for picketing meetings of the Township Committee, we must also acknowledge the system which generates such animosity and distrust between the township

administration and the bargaining entities.

Under the law, the local municipal government is required to enter into mandatory collective bargaining. The operant word here is "mandatory." The township must enter into and be bound by the findings of a highly-paid hearing officer.

This system has resulted in employee annual raises which have greatly exceeded the CPI for many years, forgetting issues such as unlimited sick time, generous vacation allocations and a total absence of performance accountability. The system has created a situation in which the most powerful of unions enjoy a de facto monopoly within local public service resulting in rulings that greatly favor the employee bargaining agents.

In the private sector, when labor demands become prohibitive, the employer has two alternatives: he can go out of business or move his operation to a third world economy. A local government does not have these options because local public safety cannot be allowed to go out of business and cannot move out of town.

Hence the quality of monopoly! This problem affects all New Jersey municipalities, and the answers lie only at the state or higher level. Until the state Legislature finds the will and political courage to address the unfairness to the taxpayer centered in mandatory collective bargaining within a situation of monopoly, the taxpayer, who for the most part does not enjoy either similar benefits or equivalent power, will continue to be exploited. Since local property taxes are primarily driven by personnel-related costs, the pendulum of power must be returned to the representatives of the local taxpayers.

In the meantime, I would ask that local citizens become aware of the facts and issues concerning mandatory collective bargaining, and support the poor powers of the Township Committee, perhaps even with its prayers, as we struggle to provide for their just interests.

**A Democrat, Deputy Mayor Gregory Clarke was re-elected in November to serve his third term on the Springfield Township Committee.**

## Let's make Springfield the best place to live

**Editor's note:** The following remarks were delivered by Sy Mullman at the Township Committee's annual reorganization meeting on Monday.

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone and wish you all a happy and healthy New Year.

I'd like to congratulate Roy and Greg on their victory in November's election, and I look forward to working with this entire committee for years to come. It certainly is rewarding to know that a large majority of voters in this township appreciate our hard work and reward us with their vote of confidence. We promise to continue to achieve our objective to make Springfield the best place to work and live.

I would like to acknowledge and commend Clara Harelik for the outstanding job she performed this past year as mayor. Clara showed great leadership and had a tremendous

### From The Mayor's Desk

By Sy Mullman

amount of energy and enthusiasm.

As always, I'd like to keep my comments brief but to the point. This committee has always made the control of our taxes its top priority. For the past three years, there has not been an increase in the municipal portion of our tax bill. Although this can't continue forever, we promise to be prudent with any increase it may be necessary to impose.

As seen this past weekend, our road department worked around the clock until every street was plowed. We all tip our hats to the Department of Public Works for a job well done.

Springfield is over 200 years old, and our infrastructure is fragile.

Although no one sees what's going on underground, one of our most important goals is to replace all broken down and worn out pipelines.

Three years ago, I reported that we were negotiating to buy a piece of property to build a new firehouse. Today, Schaible Oil's property has been purchased, and we expect to start building in the spring.

The vacated space in City Hall will be used to enlarge and upgrade the facilities of our Police Department.

Four years ago, a Chamber of Commerce was organized with about 20 members. Today, we have close to 50 members, and our membership is growing. Last month, we received \$10,000 to do a study to improve our downtown. One meeting has taken place, and a second is scheduled for Jan. 31. As I have said many times in the past, I don't want the businesses in our town to just exist. I want them to flourish.

We must continue to protect our neighborhoods as we have done in the past. The Saks property has been in the courts for six years and CVS's application for a Mountain Avenue location was defeated by the Planning Board.

Lastly, we are all very concerned with our town pool. A great deal of money has been spent repairing and renovating this wonderful facility.

Now, we must increase membership and make it thrive.

Two years ago, I started the slogan, "Take Pride In Springfield." I think you can tell I continue to be proud of the projects this committee has started and the projects we continue to work on to make Springfield the best place for all of us.

**A Democrat, Sy Mullman is the mayor of Springfield.**

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Thankful for year-long contributors

To the Editor:

On Dec. 1, the Governor Livingston Ice Hockey Boosters Association conducted a gift basket raffle to raise money toward the enormous budget our team is challenged with. This event would simply not have been possible if not for the generosity of the many local merchants who donated the prizes.

Please note, events like ours are not unique and our local merchants are year-long contributors to our local schools, scouts and other community clubs.

Linda Condrillo  
Governor Livingston Hockey Boosters Association

displaying bad table manners as the trolls — to be representative of the Christmas holiday.

I'm sure that Ms. Rosolino, the presenter, is professional in what she does. However, this book was certainly a poor choice to use as a celebration of the Christmas holiday.

The play and its active roles should have been reviewed more carefully by the responsible library staff. It would then have been clear that a more appropriate selection, in keeping with the spirit of Christmas, could have been chosen.

Theresa DeSantis  
Springfield

### Play not representative of holiday

To the Editor:

On Dec. 7, the *Echo Leader* ran an announcement describing the interactive Christmas play for kindergarten through third grade which was to be held at the Springfield Public Library on the evening of Dec. 14.

My curiosity was piqued by the idea that "bad table manners" were to be a role in this "Christmas play." Subsequently, I checked with the library and found this folktale rather obscure as the library had to borrow a copy of same from another library.

I would hardly call the chosen folktale or the active role for the children —

### Our political horizon looks ominous

To the Editor:

Does it surprise anyone to see how viciously the Democrats are reacting to a Bush victory?

The Bush win is a result of the "rule of law," as the courts have adjudicated. There is no reason for anyone to claim the election was "stolen" as the sore-losing Dems claim. All America has won.

An Al Gore presidency would be a disaster and President-elect Bush will at least forestall what is ominously on our political horizon.

Joseph Chieppa  
Mountainside

## SPEAK OUT

**Concerned about an issue facing the governing body or Board of Education in your town? Is your street in disrepair? Our readers can use our Infosource hot line to speak out about any issue whether it is a question, comment, suggestion or opinion. That way, by telling us, you can tell everyone in town.**

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**OBITUARIES**

**Barbara Fried**

Barbara Fried, 65, of Springfield, formerly of Union, died Dec. 23 in St. Michael's Medical Center, Newark. Born in Yonkers, N.Y., Mrs. Fried lived in Union before moving to Springfield 26 years ago. She was a school teacher in Yonkers for many years. Mrs. Fried was co-president of the Jewish Women International, formerly B'nai B'rith Women of Springfield. She was active with Hadassah, Springfield, and with Kidney Research of New Jersey. Surviving are her husband, Herbert; two daughters, Nancy Frischi and Ellen; a son, Robert; two brothers, Howard and Albert Goldner, and four grandchildren.

**Anthony F. Ferrara**

Anthony F. Ferrara, 57, of Springfield died Dec. 24 at home. Mr. Ferrara was born in Newark. He was a mailer for 30 years with the *Star-Ledger* in Montville. Earlier, Mr. Ferrara was employed by the *Morris-town Daily Record*. He was a member of the Teamsters Union 1100 of Piscataway. Surviving are his wife, Angela; five sons, Anthony, Christopher and Stephen Ferrara, and Anthony and Frank Dasti; two daughters, Marissa Dasti and Michele Dubois; his mother, Theresa Ferrara, and a sister, Ann Mulvaney.

**Esther Tabakin**

Esther Tabakin, 88, of West Orange, formerly of Hillside and Springfield, died Dec. 27 in the Daughters of Israel Geriatric Care Center, West Orange. Born in Newark, Mrs. Tabakin lived in Hillside and Springfield before moving to West Orange seven years ago. She worked for Goldie Tools, Hillside, for many years before retiring. Surviving are two sons, Gary Schuckman and Dr. Robert Schuckman; nine grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

**Dr. Jerome Morrow**

Dr. Jerome Samuel Morrow of Westfield, formerly of Mountainside, head of medical affairs for Ciba-Geigy Inc., Summit, died Dec. 24 at home. Born in Brooklyn, Dr. Morrow lived in Mountainside before moving

to Westfield 22 years ago. He developed the transdermal delivery system for medication. Dr. Morrow retired eight years ago. He was a graduate of New York University, New York City. Dr. Morrow served in the Army during the Korean War. He was a member of the American Board of Rheumatology, the Masonic Lodge in Westfield and the Shriners Temple in Livingston. Surviving are his wife, Phyllis, and a daughter, Lisa.

**Sylvia Petitti**

Sylvia Petitti, 73, of Mountainside died Dec. 27 in Overlook Hospital, Summit. Born in Belleville, Mrs. Petitti lived in Newark before moving to Mountainside in 1954. She was a founding parishioner of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Mountainside, where she was a member of the Rosary Altar Society. Mrs. Petitti was a

member of Colonia Country Club and the Mountainside Neighboring Painting Club. Surviving are her husband, John; three daughters, Marilyn Stevenson, Carol McDonald and Barbara; two sons, Richard and Michael; a brother, Leo Annunziato, and 10 grandchildren.

**Adele Finkel**

Adele Finkel, 90, of Tinton Falls, formerly of Springfield, died Dec. 26 in the Jersey Shore Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Eatontown. Born in East Orange, Mrs. Finkel lived in Springfield and Lakewood before moving to Tinton Falls a year-and-a-half ago. She wrote a short story about the well-known Newark restaurant, "The Tavern." The story was published in the *Star Ledger* and in a book on the history of Newark. Mrs. Finkel was active in the YMHA in Livingston. She also taught a crea-

tive writing class at Leisure Village in Lakewood. Surviving are a son, Dr. Jerry Finkel; a daughter, Joyce Regan; a sister, Gertrude Tumarkin; four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

**Walter E. Borowicz**

Walter E. Borowicz, 75, of Maplewood, formerly of Springfield, died Dec. 27 in St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston. Born in Dickson City, Pa., Mr. Borowicz lived in Springfield before moving to Maplewood 44 years ago. He was a brewer with Anheuser Busch, Newark, where he worked from 1951 through 1988, when he retired. Mr. Borowicz was a member of Teamsters Union Local 102 in Newark. He served in the Navy during World War II. Surviving are his wife, Stasia; a daughter, Monica Kubilus; two sons, Walter J. and Paul A.; three brothers,

Alex, Frank and Stanley; a sister, Sophie Stoudt, and two grandchildren.

**George W. Hull Jr.**

George W. Hull Jr., 82, of Springfield died Dec. 27 in Union Hospital. Born in Newark, Mr. Hull lived in Irvington before moving to Springfield two years ago. He was an engineer in the superconductivity department of Bell Labs, Murray Hill, for 37 years and retired in 1990. Mr. Hull was an Army radio operator during World War II. Surviving are two sons, Scott W. Hull and Robert G. Lynch; two daughters, Karolyn Papatrefon and Marilyn Gribler; a sister, Helen H. Doerer, and four grandchildren.

**Sylvia Bonner**

Sylvia Bonner, 86, of Ocean, formerly of Hillside and Springfield, died Dec. 28 in Monmouth Medical Center.

Born in Old Forge, Pa., Mrs. Bonner lived in Hillside and Springfield before moving to Ocean in 1972. She was a hairdresser at B. Altman and Co., Short Hills, for 14 years and retired in 1976. Surviving are four sisters, Loretta Martin, Genevieve Mackin, Matilda Swincki and Albina Titus. Surviving are three daughters, Phyllis Lantz, Rita Sklar and Sharyn Model; eight grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

**Mary H. Moriarty**

Mary H. Moriarty, 79, of Westfield, formerly of Springfield, died Dec. 30 in the Westfield home of her daughter, Joanne Romer. Born in Manhattan, Mrs. Moriarty lived in Springfield before moving to Westfield seven years ago. Surviving are four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

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# We're asking What's your New Year's resolution?



Dolores Vieira

"I just hope my family's healthy."



Ed Corey

"I don't have one. As we get older, we stop making them."



Frederick Mackey

"I'm not really into them. I try to do what I should all year long."



Mary Ellen Volkert

"I'm very causal about them. If one occurs, okay. But it's a fleeting thought."

## WORSHIP CALENDAR

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**EVANGEL BAPTIST CHURCH** - "CHRIST OUR HOPE AND PEACE." - 242 Shunpike Rd., Springfield. Rev. Frederick Mackey, Sr. Pastor. Sundays: 9:30 AM Bible School for all ages - Nursery through Seniors: 10:30 AM Worship Service and Nursery care - 5:30-7:00 PM AWANA Club Program for Children ages 4-11: 6:00 PM Evening Service & Nursery care. Wednesdays: 7:15 PM Prayer, Praise and Bible Study; Junior/Senior High Ministry. Active Youth Ministry; Wide-Range Music Program; Super Seniors 3rd Thursday at 11 AM followed by lunch. Ample Parking. Chair Lift provided with assistance. All are invited and welcomed to participate in worship with us. For further information contact church office (973) 379-4351.

### JEWISH-CONSERVATIVE

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

### JEWISH - REFORM

**TEMPLE SHALOM** 78 S. Springfield Avenue, Springfield, (201) 379-5387. Joshua Goldstein, Rabbi; Amy Daniels, Cantor/Education Director; Nina Greenman, Pre-School Director; Murray Bell, President. Temple Shalom is a Reform congregation affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC). Shabbat worship, enhanced by volunteer choir, begins on Friday evenings at 8:30 PM,

with monthly Family Services at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning Torah study class begins at 9:15 AM followed by worship at 10:30 AM. Religious school classes meet on Saturday mornings for grades K-3; on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for 4-7; and Tuesday evenings for post-bar/bat mitzvah students. Pre-school classes are available for children ages 2 1/2 through 4. The Temple has the support of an active Sisterhood, Brotherhood, and Youth Group. A wide range of programs include Adult Education, Social Action, Interfaith Outreach, Singles and Seniors. For more information, call the Temple office, (201) 379-5387.

### LUTHERAN

**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH** 639 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, 07081, 201-379-4525, Fax 201-379-8887. Joel R. Yoss, Pastor. Our Sunday Worship Service takes place at 10 a.m. at JONATHAN DAYTON REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, Mountain Ave., Springfield. For information about our midweek children, teen, and adult programs, contact the Church Office Monday through Thursday, 8:30-4:00 p.m.

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL**, 229 Cowperthwaite Pl., Westfield, Rev. Paul E. Kritsch, Pastor. (908) 232-1517. Beginning Sunday, July 6, Summer Worship Times are as follows: Sunday Worship Services, 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning Nursery available. Wednesday Evening Worship Service, 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion is celebrated at all worship services. The church and all rooms are handicapped accessible.

### METHODIST

The **SPRINGFIELD EMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**, located at 40 Church Mall in Springfield, NJ invites ALL people of all ages and backgrounds to join us in their spiritual journey. Sunday Worship Service starts at 10:30 A.M. with childcare available for babies and toddlers. Christian Education opportunities for children begin during the Worship Service with a special time for children led by the Pastor before

they depart for classes. Service of Prayer and Healing held the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30 P.M. Please call and ask about our Adult Christian Education, Young Adult Ministries, Bible Studies, Small Group Ministries, Prayer Chain, Music Ministry and other opportunities to serve. If you have any questions, interest in opportunities to serve others, or have prayer requests, please call the Rev. Jeff Markay at the Church Office: 973-376-1695.

### THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF

Summit is located in the heart of town on the corner of Kent Place Boulevard and DeForest 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. Come worship with us and find out how you too can have a "good week". Call the church office or Pastor Lee Weaver for more information at 908 277-1700.

### 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, Mountainside, 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: Singles, Married Couples, Women, Men. We welcome everyone who is someone to come and worship with us.

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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** 210 Morris Ave. at Church Mall, Springfield, 379-4320. Sunday School Classes for all ages 9:00 a.m., Sunday morning Worship Service 10:15 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 Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m.; Choir - every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. in the Chapel. The Rev. Daniel J. Russell, Jr., Pastor.

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

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

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

**NOTE:** All copy changes must be made in writing and received by Worrall Community Newspapers No Later than 12:00 Noon, Fridays prior to the week's publication. Please address changes to: U/W Grace M. Worrall Community Newspapers 1291 Stuyvesant Avenue P.O. Box 3109 Union, N.J. 07083

## Borough cops arrest four

### POLICE BLOTTER

**Mountainside**  
• Jose Duran-Morales, 26, of Somerville, was stopped by borough police on Route 22 West for a license plate violation Dec. 29. Further investigation revealed Morales to be an unlicensed driver. He was held on \$225 bail and given a court date of Jan. 18. Robert Huff Jr., 35, of Newark, was arrested by borough officers at Penn Station in Newark for having outstanding warrants out of Mountainside. He was held on \$665 bail.  
• East Orange resident James Finney, 40, was arrested by borough

officers at the East Orange Police Department Dec. 28 for an active warrant out of Mountainside in the amount of \$963. North Bergen resident Khaled Saadeh, 35, was arrested on Route 22 East at the Lawrence Avenue U-turn for having a suspended driver's license. Saadeh's vehicle was reported by police as having been traveling at a speed of 70 miles an hour. He was released on \$250 bail.

## Oven, dishwasher summon Fire Dept.

### FIRE BLOTTER

**Springfield**  
• In their final call of 2000, township firefighters responded to a Beverly Road residence at 8:50 p.m. New Year's Eve on a report of a grill fire. Firefighters shut off the grill's gas supply. One call for an activated alarm at an Archbridge Lane residence was also answered.  
• An oven fire, reported to have been caused by burning food, sent firefighters to a Redwood Road residence at 9:31 p.m. Saturday. According to a Fire Department report, the fire did not spread beyond the oven. The residence was then ventilated. One medical service call was answered.  
• Three medical service calls and one activated fire alarm were reported Dec. 29.  
• The department responded to

Union Fire Headquarters on a request from Mutual Aid Dec. 28.  
• A dumpster fire sent firefighters to a Stone Hill Road apartment complex Dec. 27. There was one call for a water flow alarm at a Maple Avenue apartment complex and six medical service calls.  
• An activated fire alarm and two medical service calls were handled Dec. 26.  
• Christmas Day saw one medical service call and one call reporting a dishwasher problem at an Irwin Street residence.

### Mountainside

• One call for an activated fire alarm was answered by the borough's Fire Department Dec. 20.

## Mayor seeks to fill board vacancies

Mountainside Mayor Robert Viglianti has announced that he is seeking borough residents who are interested in filling one of several volunteer board vacancies.

At Tuesday's reorganization meeting, the mayor announced that he is seeking appointees to fill vacancies on the Board of Health, the Shade Tree Commission, the Local Assistance Board, the Historic Preservation Committee and the Local Ethics Board.

Interested residents are encouraged to contact either Viglianti or the Borough Council member who serves as liaison to the particular board. Residents can contact either the mayor or a council member through Borough Clerk Judy Osty's office in Borough Hall. The number is (908) 232-2400.

The council liaisons are the following members: Councilman Keith Turner, Local Assistance Board and Local Ethics Board; Councilman Werner Schon, Board of Health, Shade Tree Commission and Local Ethics Board; and Councilman Glenn Mortimer, Historic Preservation Committee.

The mayor urged that Mountainside residents who are interested in serving in one of these volunteer positions should contact Osty's office as soon as possible.

To place a classified ad call 973-763-9411 by 3 p.m. Tuesday.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
ESTATE OF: ALOIS GOERTZ, Deceased Pursuant to the order of James S. LaCorte, Surrogate of the County of Union, made on the 28th 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 subscriber under oath or affirmation their claims and demands against the estate of

### PUBLIC NOTICE

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.  
Johanna E. Goertz  
Berkowitz, Lichstein, Kuritsky, Glasulio & Gross Attorneys  
443 Northfield Ave.  
West Orange, NJ 07052  
U2963 ECL Jan. 5, 2001 (\$8.25)

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Editor: J.R. Parachini  
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# SPORTS

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

## LOCAL SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

### Mountainside YBL registration here

Mountainside Youth Baseball registration will be held on the following dates:

- Saturday, Jan. 6 from 9 a.m. to noon.
- Monday, Jan. 8 from 7-9 p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 11 from 7-9 p.m.

Children registering after the above dates will be placed on a team if space is available.

Registration will be held at Deerfield School in Mountainside. Children ages 6-14 as of Aug. 1, 2001 are eligible to sign up.

Youngsters registering for the first time need to bring with them a copy of their birth certificate. Registration fees are as follows: \$85 first child, \$65 each additional child in a family, \$35 for T-Ball and \$25 for introductory to baseball.

All parents of children who participate are required to volunteer four (4) hours of time during the season. More information may be obtained by calling Sandy Burdge at 908-232-4373.

### Summit YMCA seeks players

The Summit YMCA Youth Basketball League is looking for players.

Spaces are still available for boys and girls in grades 1-4 to compete in the winter league.

League dates are Sundays Jan. 7 to March 4. Practice and games will be played in the Y's new Hubbard gym, located at 67 Maple Street in Summit.

Youth basketball is an instructional league where children learn basic skills, build confidence, participate in games and have fun.

Parent volunteers are the coaches. The cost is \$72, plus a YMCA Youth or Family membership.

More information may be obtained by calling sports director Lori Zuchowski at 908-273-3330.

### Hot Stove Dinner set for Jan. 17

The 65th Annual Hot Stove League Baseball Dinner, sponsored by the Union County Baseball Association, in cooperation with the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation, will be held Wednesday, Jan. 17 at 6:30 p.m. at L'Affaire Restaurant, 1099 Route 22 East, Mountainside.

At the dinner, awards will be presented to local athletes who have distinguished themselves during the year and seven individuals will be inducted into the Union County Baseball Hall of Fame.

The inductees include the late Howard S. Anderson of Summit, Tom Dooley of Cranford, Randy Guerra of Linden, Ray Matlosz of Elizabeth, Leo J. Spirito of Elizabeth, Mike Szabo of Union and Raymond Thompson of Roselle Park.

According to James Iozzi, dinner chairman, the awards for Most Outstanding Male and Female Athlete of Union County, which will be presented that evening, will be announced soon, along with the name of the special guest speaker.

Proceeds from the dinner help fund the Union County Youth Baseball League for youngsters ages 8-15.

Started in 1945 with just eight teams, the league now encompasses 16 teams in three divisions.

Tickets for the dinner are \$30 and can be purchased from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Union County Department of Parks and Recreation, County Administration Building in Elizabeth.

Call 908-527-4910.

### Baseball league seeks teams

The Garden State Baseball Weekend Wood Bat League is seeking serious teams, players and coaches for its 2001 spring and summer leagues. The league includes an A-plus schedule of competitive games and tournament play. The league also includes: standings on the internet, an All-Star Game, professional stadium play and divisions set by ability.

The age breakdowns are:  
 Ages 10, 11, 12: grade school  
 Ages 13, 14: middle school  
 Ages 15, 16: junior varsity  
 Ages 17, 18: varsity  
 Ages 19-24: college unlimited  
 Call 732-750-5506.

## Dayton girls' basketball captures Panther Pride MVP Aizenberg sparks Bulldogs

By Jeff Wolfrum  
 Staff Writer

ROSELLE PARK — All in one half. That was the damage done by MVP Esther Aizenberg in the championship game of the Panther Pride Tournament last Friday night in the T. Ralph Williams Gymnasium as the Dayton Bulldogs defeated the Roselle Rams 57-43 in holiday tournament girls' basketball play.

Mountain Valley Conference-Valley Division member Dayton, which defeated Johnson 45-32 in its first-round game, ended up beating two Mountain Division foes to win the holiday tournament.

Entering the game early in first period, the junior guard netted 22 points, including four three-pointers, to help her squad to a 28-22 halftime lead. Dayton remained in front the entire second half.

With three minutes gone by and her team trailing by four at 6-2, Aizenberg entered the contest and immediately made her presence felt. She made her first basket and was fouled on the play, missing the ensuing free throw.

After Roselle's Brittany McCao made both ends of a 1-and-1 to make the score 11-7 in favor of the Rams, Aizenberg had a hot hand as she drained two three-pointers from the right wing and then went to the opposite side of the court and made another with just two seconds left in the first quarter to give Dayton a 16-11 lead.

Aizenberg picked up where she left off to open the second, nailing a "trex" from the left wing to make it 19-11. But Roselle would battle back and get it to one at 19-18, when Porchia Brown followed a Shameeca Kenner shot.

Aizenberg stepped up again, striking on short jumpers, the last a five-foot bank shot off an assist from forward Margaret Mysliwec to give Dayton a 28-22 halftime advantage.

"I was ready to play and had a lot of energy," Aizenberg said. "I pumped myself all day for this game."

In tightening up on Aizenberg and keeping double coverage on her at times, the Rams left the middle open and the Bulldogs took advantage of this, grabbing many offensive rebounds.

Dayton extended its lead to nine on a five-foot turnaround jumper from guard Linda Agostinelli to make it 34-25.

After a nifty one-handed scoop put-in by the Rams' Lori Custis made it 38-29, Bulldog forward Lyndsey Brahm closed out the third period on a putback as the buzzer went off, giving Dayton a 40-29 cushion.

Brahm would make it 46-33 early in the fourth quarter when she drilled a 15-footer from the top of the key.

But with 2:09 left to play, the Bulldogs got a scare when Aizenberg and Ram guard Luci Custis collided. Custis got up, but Aizenberg didn't and had to be taken off the court with help.

"I landed on my left knee, but nothing popped or tore," Aizenberg said. "It was a bruise and I'll be OK."

With the game in check, Dayton put the ball into the hands of freshman point guard Sara Steinman. Fouled numerous times toward the end of the contest, Steinman made eight free throws and finished with 10 points.

"We wanted to pack it in and force them to shoot from the outside," Dayton head coach Dave Rennie said. "We also wanted to box them out and not give them second-chance opportunities."

"On offense, we wanted to be patient and move the ball around," Rennie said. "We looked for the best shot."

In finally winning the tournament after three years of being in the consolation game, Aizenberg felt it was well-deserved.

"We worked hard the past three years and this is just overwhelming," Aizenberg said.

Dayton began the week 2-1 in Valley Division play, victories coming against North Plainfield 49-45 at home and at Bound Brook and a loss at home coming to New Providence 50-44.

Last year Dayton lost to Westfield 42-23 in the first round and then defeated Roselle 42-25 in the consolation game. Agostinelli had seven points against Westfield, while Aizenberg poured in 14 against Roselle.

## Oak Knoll basketball works hard to get positive results

### Royals began the week with 3-1 record

By Jeff Wolfrum  
 Staff Writer

"Work together as a team and you will get positive results," is the credo that Oak Knoll High School girls' basketball coach Tom Elliot has for his team.

Oak Knoll opened the season at 3-1, with two wins coming at the expense of Mountain Valley Conference-Valley Division foes New Providence and Roselle Park.

The Royals then were beaten in the first round of the County Seater Tournament by Palisades High School, Pa. before bombing Morris County rival Boonton 65-27 in the consolation game.

Katie Cummings scored 16 points, while Kate Abramson chipped in with 12 to pace Oak Knoll.

Elliot, who has been at the helm for 13 seasons, had a 15-9 record last year.

"The girls are giving a lot of effort and have a positive attitude," Elliot said.

Leading the way for Oak Knoll is Cummings, a sophomore point guard.

"She can score and dish the ball off," Elliot said. "She makes everything go."

Joining her will be seniors Laura Demoreuille (guard) and Katherine Ellinwood (forward). Juniors include forwards Monica Garguilo and Abramson and guard Tracey George. Sophomores include Katherine Sweeney (forward) and Laura Sumes (guard).

Freshmen on the team include guards Colleen O'Keefe and Christina Cording.

"We have a quick and talented team, but we lack in height," Elliot said.

## Summit boys', GL girls' capture tourneys

The Summit High School boys' basketball and Governor Livingston girls' squad captured holiday tournaments that took place last week.

Both teams improve to 4-1 by winning two contests. Summit's boys' squad defeated host Chatham 56-51 in the championship game of the Suburban Classic. Summit downed New Providence 54-45 in its first-round game.

Standout senior point guard Ryan Carey poured in a team-high 14 points to pace the Hilltoppers in their championship-game victory over Chatham.

Also scoring for Summit was Dugan with 13 points, Freeman and Jones with 10 and Sprinzen with nine. The Hilltoppers outscored Chatham 19-6 in the third quarter to take a 46-37 lead.

GL's girls' team defeated Rahway 51-38 in the championship game of the New Providence Tournament after downing Whippany Park 49-46 in the first round.

GL began the week with a four-game winning streak after opening the season with a loss at Mountain Valley Conference-Mountain Division rival Immaculata.

Jen Calabrese and Maya Monroe scored 13 points each for the Highlanders, while Calabrese also had seven assists against Whippany Park. Calabrese poured in a team-high 21 points in the championship-game victory against Rahway, while Monroe had 11 points and Kerri Moore seven.

### Dayton boys' triumph, while Summit girls' split two

Dayton's boys' basketball team defeated Rahway 54-30 in the first round of last week's J.P. Stevens Tournament in Edison.

The Bulldogs' third consecutive victory marked the second consecutive year that Dayton downed Rahway in holi-

day tournament play. Last year Dayton defeated Rahway 49-45 in the championship game of the Rahway Tournament.

Dayton took a 3-1 record and three-game winning streak into last Friday's scheduled J.P. Stevens Tournament championship game against Union Catholic. The Vikings advanced after beating edging J.P. Stevens 37-36 in their first-round encounter.

On the defensive side, they will implore a man-to-man style with a 1-3-1 zone thrown in once in a while.

That will be needed when facing tough conference rivals such as North Plainfield, Dayton and New Providence.

In winning a key conference game against New Providence, the coach feels that will go a long way in helping them capture the conference crown.

"We won it a couple of years straight, then lost it last year," Elliot said. "This year we want to get it back."

In the Union County Tournament, the coach knows there are quality teams and just wants to make a good showing and play well.

In the states, he feels that some squads will also be tough, but likes his chances better.

"I think we could reach the semifinals or even the championship," Elliot said. "That would be very nice."

With a philosophy of having fun, the coach wants his players to have a good experience and remember their achievements.

In having a solid, but young junior varsity squad, the coach expects big things in the future for them.

"We have some players who will eventually help out on the varsity level," Elliot said. "We're still teaching them how to play."

In summing up his club for the rest of the season, the coach feels that his team will give a great effort and will come away with a winning record.

Summit defeated St. Joseph of Montvale 7-2 Tuesday as Starker set the school record for points in a career with 110. His fifth assist of the game put him one point past the 109 that Steve Schroeder accomplished from 1991-1995.

Keith Schroeder and Oliver scored two goals each to go along with Starker's five assists.

Summit improved to 5-2-2, while St. Joe's fell to 3-5-1.

Summit was scheduled to face Morris Knolls yesterday at Warinanco and tomorrow is scheduled to skate against Morristown-Bear at Twin Oaks at 1 p.m.

After facing Montclair Tuesday night at Warinanco at 8:30, Summit is scheduled to compete against St. Joe's again on Saturday, Jan. 13 at 5 p.m. at Sport-O-Rama in Monsey, N.Y.

Upcoming Jan. 6 Morristown-Bear at Twin Oaks, 1:00

Summit defeated Bishop Loughlin of New York 59-43 before falling to Randolph 56-28.

In the win against Bishop Loughlin, Lauren Ertz paced the Hilltoppers with 14 points.

### High School Basketball

Dayton received balanced scoring in its win against Rahway as Jeff Stapfer scored 18, Matt Paz poured in 17 and Carmine Santarella netted 14.

Summit's girls' team began the week with a 3-2 record after splitting two games in the RAMS Roundball Festival at Randolph.

Summit defeated Dayton 59-43 before falling to Randolph 56-28.

In the win against Bishop Loughlin, Lauren Ertz paced the Hilltoppers with 14 points.

## Gov. Livingston reaches PP final

### Highlanders fall to Johnson

By Jeff Wolfrum  
 Staff Writer

ROSELLE PARK — "We didn't do a good job with the ball all night, but we got by at times," is how Governor Livingston High School boys' basketball coach Steve Petruzelli felt after his team fell to Johnson 63-49 in the championship of the Panther Pride Tournament held last Friday night at T. Ralph Williams Gymnasium.

After Mountainside resident and guard Jason Gionta dropped in a layup off a no-look pass from senior center Andrew Whitney to cut the lead to one at 37-36, it sparked the Highlanders as they took the lead entering the fourth period at 40-39.

### High School Boys' Basketball

Then, as the final period began, the Achilles heel of the Highlanders made his presence felt again as tournament MVP Shawn Griffin came up with consecutive steals to help the Crusaders regain the lead at 43-40. Johnson remained ahead for good until the final whistle.

Trailing 13-10 and with three minutes left in the first period, guard Dan Bussiccolo nailed consecutive three-point shots from opposite corners to give the Highlanders their first lead at 16-13. Whitney would close out the period on a follow of sophomore Doug Caruso's shot to make it 18-15 GL.

But as the second period opened, the Highlanders again where plagued by bad ball-handling as Johnson's Nick Biglasco and Matt Poskay both came up with steals to give the Crusaders the lead again at 19-18.

The defensive lapse was also evident as Johnson forward Dan Kovolisky scored an easy layup underneath from an inbounds pass, as nobody was there to cover him.

After falling behind 29-20 with less than three minutes left before half-time, the Highlanders rallied back behind a three-point play from Caruso. He drove into the paint and knocked in a nice scoop shot and was fouled on the play. After a defensive stop, it was Caruso again this time on a 10-footer from the right wing, cutting Johnson's lead to 29-25.

Another defensive lapse cost GL as Biglasco was left open at the top of the key, where he drained a "trex" to take the teams into the half with Johnson ahead 32-25.

"Being consistent has been a great difficulty for us," Petruzelli said. The Highlanders came out to start the second half and caught fire, enabling them to once again tie the score.

After Crusader senior guard James Molloy knocked in a putback of center Dave Corby's shot to make the score 34-25, GL answered with a nine-point run.

Bussiccolo zapped a three-pointer from the top of the key and then Mike Mangol dropped in a layup off a Whitney assist to make it 34-30. Whitney would hit a five-foot bank shot, then come up with a rebound on the other end leading to a Caruso turnaround jumper as the game became tied at 34-34.

"We have not stepped up to the physicalness of the game yet," Petruzelli said.

Johnson's win over GL snapped a two-game Highlander winning streak. Johnson also defeated GL 56-53 in overtime in Clark back on Dec. 21 in Mountain Valley Conference-Mountain Division play.

GL began the week at 2-3 overall and 1-2 in MVC-Mountain Division play.

Bussiccolo scored 11 points and Caruso and Whitney 10 in a season-opening 64-46 conference loss at home to Immaculata.

Caruso scored 14, and Bussiccolo and Whitney eight in the first loss to Johnson.

Caruso netted 14, Whitney 12 and Gionta 11 in GL's 57-36 win over Glen Ridge in the first round of the Panther Pride Tournament.

GL reserve guard Matt O'Holla also hails from Mountainside.

## Summit's Starker sets team ice hockey record

The Summit High School ice hockey team entered Tuesday's scheduled game against St. Joseph's of Montvale at Warinanco Rink in Roselle with a 4-2-2 record after coming back to tie Toms River North 3-3 at Wind- ing River Dec. 28.

Craig Oliver's goal with just 35 seconds remaining forged the 3-3 tie. Matt Starker scored Summit's first two goals on power play opportunities.

Freshman defenseman Rob Schroeder, the only 9th grader on Summit's varsity squad, took a shot from the point and then Oliver proceeded to get a stick on the rebound in front of the net and put it past the TRN goalie.

Toms River North moved to 5-1-1 with the tie. The South Jersey school held a 17-4 shot advantage in the first period before Summit came back to outshoot TRN 16-3 in the third stanza.

Summit goaltender Richard James had an outstanding game, coming up with 29 saves and keeping the Hilltoppers in the contest when they were down 3-0.

Summit defeated St. Joseph of Montvale 7-2 Tuesday as Starker set the school record for points in a career with 110. His fifth assist of the game put him one point past the 109 that Steve Schroeder accomplished from 1991-1995.

Keith Schroeder and Oliver scored two goals each to go along with Starker's five assists.

Summit improved to 5-2-2, while St. Joe's fell to 3-5-1.

Summit was scheduled to face Morris Knolls yesterday at Warinanco and tomorrow is scheduled to skate against Morristown-Bear at Twin Oaks at 1 p.m.

After facing Montclair Tuesday night at Warinanco at 8:30, Summit is scheduled to compete against St. Joe's again on Saturday, Jan. 13 at 5 p.m. at Sport-O-Rama in Monsey, N.Y.

Upcoming Jan. 6 Morristown-Bear at Twin Oaks, 1:00

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