

Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountainside

SPRINGFIELD, N.J., VOL. 73 NO. 24

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2002

TWO SECTIONS

Budget for Walton School up, Special Services down

By Joshua Zaitz
Staff Writer

At the Springfield Board of Education meeting Monday night, presentations were made for the proposed 2002-03 budget of \$42,706 for Edward V. Walton School and \$1,196,210 for Special Services.

Walton's proposed budget has an increase of slightly more than \$1,000 from this year's budget, while the Special Services' proposed budget shows a decrease of nearly 6 percent from this year.

"The numbers you are hearing are very pre-

liminary," said Superintendent of Schools Walter Mahler. "I will publicly go out on a limb though and tell you that the Walton budget is very bare boned. I can't imagine cutting anything out of the Walton budget."

Walton School Principal Rose Krosche made her school's proposed budget presentation, explaining that Walton has six sections of pre-kindergarten and eight sections of kindergarten.

Krosche broke down this year's budget and compared it with what she is proposing for next year. She spoke about each of the special

programs Walton has to offer, such as art, music, physical education, health, and library, and what their proposed budgets are.

Krosche then went into detail, discussing Walton's pre-K program. "Our pre-K students are well prepared with a variety of skills necessary for success in our kindergarten program," she said. Some of those skills include alphabet recognition and number recognition.

Supervisor of Special Services Leslie Vaccarino made the proposed Special Services budget presentation. The 225 students in the

Springfield School District who are classified as needing special education fall under the branch of Special Services.

"We're approaching 2,000 students in the district," said Mahler. "So to have 225 classified may sound large but that percentage is fairly average in the state of New Jersey."

According to recent statistics, Mahler said, New Jersey is second to Massachusetts in the rate of students who use Special Services.

Vaccarino's department also handles such programs as ESL, home instruction, and speech, and language services.

"This is a proposed budget. What we try to do is work with the staff to build up to the point where we know what it costs to run each of the schools."

Each school in the Springfield's district will be making its proposed budget presentation to the Board of Education. The remaining dates are as follows:

• Feb. 25, James Caldwell School and Thelma L. Sandmeier School presentation at Jonathan Dayton High School.

• March 4, districtwide presentation at Dayton.

Roof blows off Deerfield

By Joan M. Devlin
Staff Writer

An emergency was created by Mother Nature last weekend, when the strong windstorm on Friday blew off a portion of Deerfield School's roof. Luckily, it happened in the middle of the night and no students were in classrooms or on the playground.

The Mountainside Board of Education conducted an emergency meeting Tuesday night to make building repairs to the roof immediately.

"The section of the roof over the second and third grade area classrooms sustained damage. 2,500 square feet actually was lifted up and blew off the building and even cracked a window in the classroom below," board President Richard Kress said.

"The damage took place about 2 or 3 a.m. The Mountainside police contacted us and we came in on Saturday morning and put on a tarp over it temporarily," Kress said the school then was able to contact several roofers. The Board of Education chose ARCON Inc. of Elizabeth and entered into an agreement for the emergency repair in the total amount of \$11,860.

Meanwhile, it was necessary to put another tarp on Sunday. The school's architect, Noel Musial, also was contacted and he was on the roof to take a look at the damage.

Kress recalled that initially, Musial had recommended replacement of the entire roof at Deerfield School, but it was not done due to the cost. "At that time, it probably would have been in the vicinity of \$95,000 to \$100,000, and so we didn't do it," he said.

The roofer also looked at it again, and said he could put on a new section of roof, at the agreed upon cost. He also said he could do it quickly. "The adjuster came and he thinks there may be coverage," Kress said.

Chief School Administrator Gerard Schaller said there also was another emergency. "Emergencies come in twos for us, it seems. There was also a water main crack at the Beechwood School. We need to have that fixed immediately as well," he said. The leak was noted by contractor Ciro Randazzo.

Mind over matter

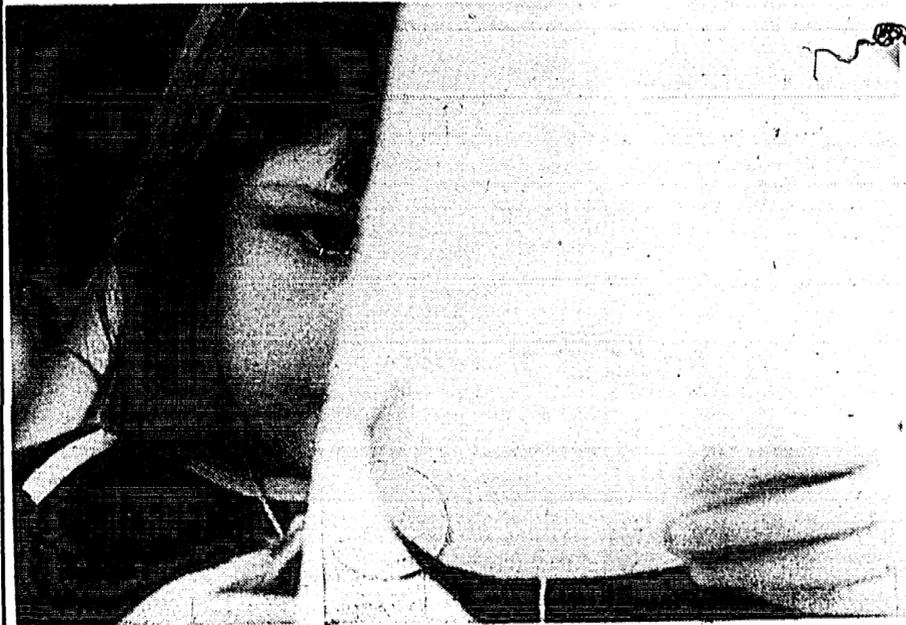


Photo By Jeff Grant

Amanda Fischer, 6, concentrates closely as she cuts out a heart for 'Love Lions,' a project each kindergarten class at Deerfield School in Mountainside recently took part in. The exercises help build motor skills and teach students how to follow directions while having fun.

Churches offer Ash Wednesday services

By Joan M. Devlin
Staff Writer

For Christians everywhere, the solemn Lenten season begins Wednesday with Ash Wednesday, and area churches are observing the holy day in varying ways.

This day is called Ash Wednesday because in the early church, ashes were a sign of repentance and humility, and parishioners received ashes on their foreheads to mark the beginning of the 40-day period of fasting and prayer leading up to Easter Sunday, the day of Resurrection of Jesus Christ. In Roman Catholic churches, the practice is still observed in special services, and many Protestant churches also have re-adopted the distribution of ashes as well, to those who wish to have them.

Springfield

• The First Presbyterian Church, 37 Church Mall, will have a unique Ash Wednesday event, at 7:30 p.m. Pastor

Daniel Russell said, "We will nail our burdens to a cross in the church, writing them on a sheet of paper. Then we will burn them into the ashes, using those ashes for anointing later in the service. All are welcome."

• The Springfield Emanuel United Methodist Church, 40 Church Mall, beginning Ash Wednesday, will offer a lunch of sandwiches and beverages at 12:30 p.m. each Wednesday during Lent. There will be devotional jazz piano and prayers, called "Jazz, Jesus, Lunch, Lent."

On Ash Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., there will be a traditional service, preceded by a soup and bread meal at 6:30 p.m. Ashes are available for those who wish them.

• Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 639 Mountain Ave., will offer the Ash Wednesday service at 7:30 p.m. at the sanctuary. Holy Communion will be offered.

• St. James Roman Catholic

Church, 45 S. Springfield Ave., offers Masses beginning at 7, 8 and 11 a.m., with a 7:30 p.m. Mass. Ashes will be distributed within each of these Masses. This year, as something special, there also will be a Women's Morning of Reflection from 8:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. with child care available. In addition, there is a Service Of The Word at 3:30 p.m. with ashes distributed at this service.

Mountainside

• Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church, 300 Central Ave., will be distributing ashes during the 7 and 8 a.m. Masses on Ash Wednesday. There also will be two services, 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., when ashes also will be distributed.

• The Community Presbyterian Church, 1459 Deer Path, will host an 8 p.m. service for Ash Wednesday, entitled "A Service for Wholeness." Holy Communion will be offered.

Dayton students take part in state contest

By Joshua Zaitz
Staff Writer

Tomorrow, 19 sophomores from Jonathan Dayton High School will represent Springfield's congressional district in the "We the People: The Citizens and the Constitution" state finals, at the State House in Trenton.

"We're excited to be part of it," said Supervisor of Social Studies Barry Bachheimer. "This is the first time that Dayton has been in a competition like this."

The competition is part of a statewide contest. Each congressional district in New Jersey will be represented in the state finals. The winner there will go on to represent New Jersey at the national finals in Washington, D.C. in May.

There are 13 congressional districts in the state, however, only nine will be participating in tomorrow's competition.

"Some districts just didn't get an entry," said Bachheimer. "There was a glitch for some of the schools or a travel problem or something like that. So we're competing against eight other schools."

Dayton had two history classes compete in the Jan. 10 congressional hearing.

At the hearing, students argued current issues based on constitutional research. Six people from the community participated as judges and asked questions from six different topics. They ranged from philosophical and historical foundations of the American political system to how the values and principles embodied in the Constitution shaped American institutions and practices.

The six judges were Joe Calimano, a retired East Brunswick High School teacher, who represented New Jersey in the National Competition from 1987 to 1998; Supervisor of Educational Programs for Springfield Pamela Gray; environmental lobbyist Deborah Herr; Union County Freeholder Chester Holmes; Township Administrator Richard Sheola, and an alum of the competition, Naseer Siddique.

The hearing tomorrow will be conducted the same way that the Jan. 10 hearing was done.

"The ante is up a little bit on this one," said Bachheimer. "Instead of

competing against their peers at this school, they're now competing against the best of the other schools; the other districts."

The eight other high schools that are competing include Arts High School in Newark, Bayonne High School, East Brunswick High School, Montclair High School, St. Joseph's of the Palisades High School in West New York, Steinert High School in Hamilton, Wallkill Valley Regional High School in Hamburg, and West Windsor-Plainsboro High School.

"Most of the students that are going to be down there from other schools are seniors," said Bachheimer. "We're only sophomores so these kids have two years less education than a lot of the students who are going to be there."

Bachheimer explained that the Dayton students are very focused on tomorrow's competition. "All along they've been getting ready," he said. "They've been reworking their speeches, they've been doing research, they've been reading through documents like the Constitution and the Bill of Rights."

The judges for this competition will be a combination of politicians, political scientists, educators, legislative aides, and other people in public life.

"They're looking for more brevity and condensing of ideas," said Bachheimer. "I'm hoping that, number one, the students have learned to edit and how to make improvements on something that was pretty good already and secondly, how do you do when there's more pressure; in terms of public speaking and getting your ideas across."

The students who will be participating are Danielle Schwartz, Teddy Chelis, Alyssa Mason, Andrea Handeli, Lisa Listowski, Keith Dworkin, Hana Nahmias, Drew Krumholz, Jayme Sablosky, Matt Traum, Lisa Cypcar, Allison Sharpe, Renu Shah, Amanda Garlen, Steven Luxenberg, Larry Fish, Marc Cicchino, Erica Rosenbaum, Ginny Schwartzberg and Margaret Mysliwiec.

"They're going to be a little more nervous especially in the environment and what's at stake," said Bachheimer. "In life you get a lot of stressful situations, so I'm hoping they learn to deal with these stressful situations and do well."

A woman's wish becomes reality

By Joshua Zaitz
Staff Writer

Elisa Sanaman never liked to think of herself as a volunteer. "When you go to visit a friend, do you say you went to volunteer to visit your friend?"

For a number of years she was involved in helping young people who were living in nursing homes. "You think of the elderly as living in nursing homes but these were people ranging from their 20s to 50s and so on," said Sanaman.

While there, Sanaman met a young man who had been in a diving accident and was living in the nursing home ever since. "He asked me 'How am I ever going to get out of here?'"

The young man's question roamed around in Sanaman's head. "How was he going to get out of there?"

Sanaman thought that maybe there could be something done at the next level, community organization. She thought about building housing for the disabled. She founded a small nonprofit organization called NJ Connect.

The mission of NJ Connect is to, "help people with disabilities live independently. It's a broad mission and this being our first project

— the mission of this project was to build affordable, accessible housing for people with disabilities and low income," said Sanaman, who is the founder and director of the organization.

Their first project is the Freeman Apartments, located on Hillside Avenue in Springfield. The apartments are barrier-free. The doorways are wider to accommodate wheelchairs, the counters are low, the outlets are higher, there are several phone connections, and bathrooms have wheelchair access with roll-in showers and more space so wheelchairs can maneuver.

The building has a total of 14 units, with 12 one-bedrooms and two two-bedrooms. Thirteen of the units are already occupied.

"What happens is, if there's a vacancy you would get on a waiting list, you would call the management agency," said Sanaman. "You would fill out some applications with information as to your income because you have to be income eligible and you have to be physically disabled."

The building, however, is not for people who need assisted living help. "We do have a superintendent there

who takes care of the building but he does not take care of the people," said Sanaman.

Freeman Apartments is for people who need barrier-free apartments. "For instance, if you were blind, you'd be disabled, but you wouldn't take priority over someone who was in a wheelchair," said Sanaman.

NJ Connect was incorporated in 1994 and approved for funding in 1996.

"There will be people with a range of disabilities, some more disabled than others, which means that some people will use more of the accessibility features than others," said Sanaman.

This is the only site that NJ Connect has built so far. "We want to see this one up and running because we're a grassroots organization," said Sanaman. "This is our first project and we're tending it the way you would tend your first born — with great care and attention."

The name of Freeman Apartments was designated in memory of Sanaman's father, Samuel D. Freeman, who died in 1996. "It also has the meaning of free man," said Sanaman. "It's a double meaning because people had been living in institutions and now they're free."

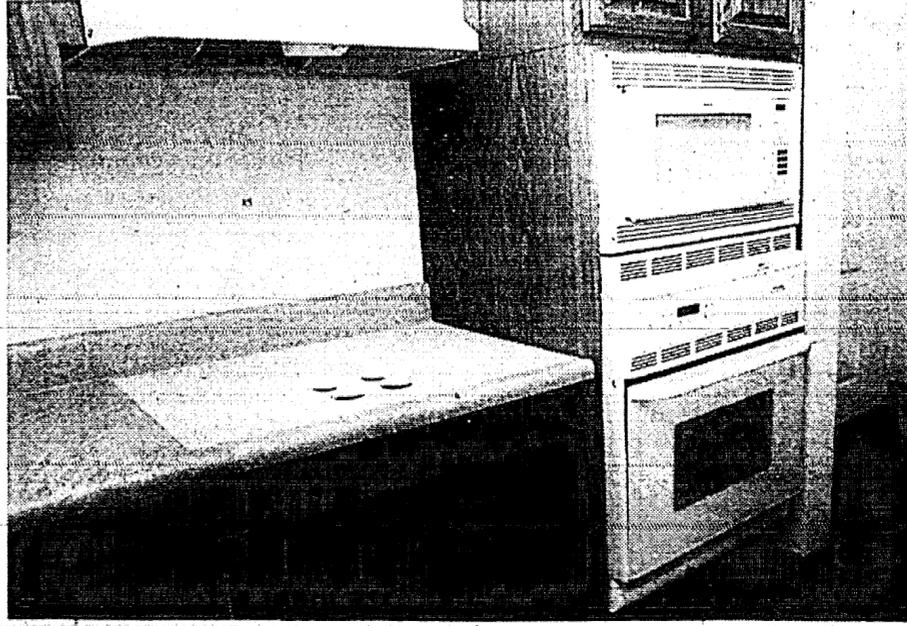


Photo By Jeff Grant

Each of the rooms in the new Freeman Apartments complex on Hillside Avenue in Springfield feature lower counters and appliances for wheelchair-bound tenants. The facility was built out of one woman's efforts to help the disabled live independently.

Welcome to the ECHO LEADER

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To place a classified ad: The Echo Leader has a large, well read classified advertising section.

To place a public notice: Public notices are notices which are required by state law to be printed in local weekly or daily newspapers.

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District to decide upgrade

By Joshua Zaitz Staff Writer The Springfield School System is evaluating whether or not a network computer server known as ClassLink will be more cost effective to use or if it would make more sense to buy new computers to replace the old ones.

With ClassLink, old computers that are slow and don't even have a CD-ROM drive, can still be used as a way to access all the software that will be placed on the network.

These are things that school system administrators are looking into. "There's a lot a math to be done and to see whether or not in the end it is profitable," said Tattoli.

Each ClassLink server can support 50 computers. District-wide the Springfield School System has just over 500 computers, so at least 10 servers would be needed.

The servers are costly, explained Tattoli, so maybe ClassLink will be tried on an interim basis to see how the older computers just on some of the buildings would work.

There are several advantages for both students and parents if Springfield does decide to use ClassLink. "From home, any student that has a computer will be able to access software that is on the network," said Assistant Superintendent of Schools Judy Zimmerman.

"The students would log-on via the Internet. Each student would be given a user name and password so that they can access their folders.

"The students won't have to finish the work in school," said Zimmerman. "They can go home, bring up their folders, open it from their own computer, and continue whatever they were working on."

If the student does not have a computer at home, the school system is looking into obtaining additional computers that they can loan out, or the student could go to the Springfield Free Public Library and use one of the computers there.

"It will help eliminate some problems that recently happened at the library where the Springfield Public Library does not allow students to come in with their own disks, pop it in the computer and use it," they're afraid of viruses," said Zimmerman.

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NEW EXPANDED STUDIO YOGA NEW PROGRAM STARTS MARCH 11 Hathha & Ashtanga YOGA (all levels) Meditation Back, breathing & rejuvenative classes Yoga for kids (6 to 10) OPEN HOUSE DAYS Monday Feb. 25 from 4 to 7 PM - Monday March 4 from 4 to 7 PM - Saturday March 9 from 1 to 4 PM - Monday March 11 from 4 to 7 PM

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.

The Foothill Club of Mountaintide conducts a luncheon noon at B.G. Fields, 560 Springfield Ave., Westfield. Guests are always welcome. For reservations, call 908-232-3626.

The Mother Goose Group promotes enjoyment of language through nursery rhymes, simple stories, songs, and activities for toddlers ages 1 1/2 to 3 years old and their parent or caregiver. The program will be conducted 10:30 to 10:50 a.m. at the Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave. No advance registration. For information, call 973-376-4930, Ext. 232.

An artist's opening for Tomm Scaler's exhibit "Attack of the Valentines" takes place from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Donald B. Palmer Museum of the Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave. For information, call 973-376-4930.

Our Lady of Lourdes, 300 Central Ave., Mountaintide, celebrates the second anniversary of the church's Perpetual Adoration Chapel, 9:30 a.m. A brunch will follow, all are welcome. For information, call 908-232-1162.

The St. James Pack 73 Cub Scouts hosts its 46th annual Blue and Gold Gala at Florence M. Gaudin Middle School, South Springfield Avenue, Springfield. Scout Families who would like to register can call Committee Chairperson Katie Bentancur at 973-258-1613.

The Springfield Newcomers Club announce their first meeting, 7 to 9 p.m. in a private home. The club welcomes any resident of Springfield who wishes to help plan or participate in social and community events for other members of the township.

To get involved, call Simone Miller at 908-608-0679 for directions and information or email at cjmiller200@home.com.

The Springfield YMCA, 100 S. Springfield Ave., conducts registration for its upcoming Spring 1 session classes at 7 a.m. for family members. The Spring 1 session will run from March 4 to April 28. The YMCA offers a full range of preschool, youth, and teen classes. For more information, call 973-467-0838.

The Mountaintide Borough Council meets for a workshop session in the Council Chambers at Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 West, 8 p.m.

The Mountaintide Board of Education meets at 8 p.m. in the Deerfield School Media Center, 302 Central Ave. and School Drive.

The Springfield Board of Health meets 7 p.m. in the Springfield Annex Building, 20 N. Trivett Ave.

The Springfield Garden Club meets at 7:15 p.m. in the Presbyterian Parish House, 37 Church Mall, Springfield. Mary Kent, president of the Plainfield Garden Club, will talk about the Shakespeare Garden in Plainfield. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome. For information, call 973-376-3436.

The Mountaintide Planning Board will meet in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 1385 Route 22 West, 8 p.m.

To celebrate President's Day, the Historic Cannon Ball House, c. 1740, will have on display a letter written by George Washington from Springfield in 1780 shortly before the famous Battle of June 23. The house is located on 126 Morris Ave., adjacent to its free. For information, call 973-376-4784.

Trained volunteers will be available to help taxpayers with their layoffs. The magazine also said that 97 percent of Edward Jones employees praise the management's honesty.

Edward Jones Managing Partner John Bachman said that to be on the list of the "100 Best Companies to Work For" is an extraordinary honor, but to be at the top of the list is beyond anything the firm could have imagined.

"One of the keys to being an attractive workplace is the fact that everyone is organized around a single customer and a single mission," said Bachman.

"We know our responsibility is to serve the serious long-term individual investor, and in order to do that effectively, we have to align all of our resources so that we are focusing on a team effort and doing everything we can to support that relationship between our investment representative and the customer."

More than any other national survey of companies, the Fortune 100 Best ranking is employee-driven, with two-thirds of the scoring based upon how randomly-selected employees respond to an anonymous survey designed to measure the quality of workplace culture.

Springfield FD raises \$20,000 for NYC fund

By Joshua Zaitz Staff Writer They call each other brother. Their kinship wasn't formed because they listened to the same bedtime stories read by Mommy or ate the same homemade apple pie baked by Grandma.

They're firefighters and the Springfield Fire Department recognizes all firefighters as brothers. So when their New York City sisters-in-law were widowed and their nieces and nephews were left as orphans after the tragic events of Sept. 11, Springfield firefighters raised money to help their family out.

"We had a banner made and we stayed at four different intersections around town," said firefighter Carlo Palumbo. "What the banner said was, 'Springfield Fire Department Fund Drive For FDNY: Help Us Help Our Brothers.'"

Springfield firefighters hung the banners and signs with that saying on busy intersections around town so that people would see them. The fund-raiser took place on Oct. 20. Firefighters were stationed at the intersections of Mountain and Henshaw Avenues, Morris and Maple Avenues, Morris and Meisel Avenues, and the one-way part of Morris Avenue by Scooty's Steakhouse. They stood with firemen's boots that said "For FDNY" on it, collecting money from people driving by.

"We accept cash, money is nice," said Cavallo. "We get very good support from Mountaintide, Berkeley Heights and area businesses. Cash donations or donations of goods and services are always welcome."

The Project Graduation Committee runs several fundraisers to help raise money for the event. March 1 they are hosting a spaghetti dinner. "Event types of things like the spaghetti dinner, while they don't bring in a lot of dollars, they give us good publicity," said Cavallo.

The committee also does a clothing drive twice a year at the Berkeley Heights Community Center. "People bring us their used clothes, linens, boots, stuffed animals, things like that and have a service that pays us ten cents a pound," said Cavallo.

"Believe it or not, it brings in a couple of thousand dollars each year. You wouldn't think that we could do that but the type of communities we're dealing with, thank goodness, they are discarding year in and year out."

The applicant probed 279 employees of choice that evaluated trust in management, pride in work and the company, and camaraderie.

fund over a period of years," he said. According to state Department of Insurance regulations, after six or seven years those dividends are able to roll back to the municipality.

In our case we chose to take those dividends and apply them to this year's premium," said Sheola. "It was about a \$12,000 savings."

Springfield is looking to do the same thing in future years. In previous years, the township has decided to take the cash in instead of applying it to the premium.

In other news, the Township Committee approved an ordinance that will clarify the office of recycling coordinator.

"What we are attempting to do here is move the recycling coordinator to the Department of Public Works and to thereby allow several people to occupy the position, recognizing that there are different skills required for that job," said Committeeman Gregory Clarke.

Committeewoman Clara Harelik commended the people behind Springfield's recycling program. "You're able to put out your bottles,



To help their brothers and sisters in New York City, Springfield Firefighters Jimmy Beyer, left, and Michael Mastroeni hand a \$20,000 check to David Ferrero of the Staten Island Fire Department. The money will go towards the Springfield Fire Department Fund Drive for the NYC Fire Department.

they were stationed at, Engine Company 162, Ladder Company 82, sent their personnel to the World Trade Center.

"We just know that if anything like this happened in our area I'm sure New York would come together," said Palumbo. "It's just part of the tradition of the fire service to help one another. We're all interconnected as brother firemen."

On Jan. 11 Springfield firefighters returned to that same Staten Island Firehouse and donated their \$20,000 check to them.

"We called them up and said that this is what we did. Since they were so good to us we did the boot drive, and we just wanted to thank them for taking care of us when we were there, making sure we were okay," said Palumbo. "We made a presentation to them to give to the widows and children's fund."

Principal Benjamin Jones. "It's a great thing for the kids because it provides them with a safe, alcohol-free and drug-free environment and it gives all night long."

Facilities will be available for swimming, racquetball, basketball, and volleyball. "There's other entertainment aside from the athletics because not all students are interested in that," said Cavallo.

Additional activities will include a disc jockey, temporary tattoo artist, caricaturist, and game room. "They have a lot of activities planned for the kids," said Jones. "A lot of it is kept sort of secret so it's a surprise when they get there."

Cavallo did allude to some of the activities, though. "We usually have something silly like a handwriting analysis or a fortune teller," said Cavallo. "Some people take that the wrong way but it's really just in fun. We have a disc jockey with us all night if anyone's interested in dancing or singing."

"He may be new but he's a very sharp guy and he's very personable," said Goldstein. "He's a very easy guy to like. His guy is very outgoing. He's very receptive. He'll meet with any group that says, 'We want to talk to you.' He will go."

They talk about the new CVS pharmacy coming in and how there seems to be a CVS on every corner now. "A couple years ago there was an article in the 'New York Times,' said Bergen. "Essentially the major pharmacies are attempting to have one store in each zip code because it gives them an advantage when negotiating with the HMOs."

They talk about fundraisers. "The Democrats have several fundraisers every year. They vary from year to year depending on the mood we're in," said Forman. "We often have a brunch in the spring."

This year's fundraiser is still in the discussion stages. It will probably be some time in April, perhaps at the Essex House in West Orange.

Governor Livingston kicks off fund-raiser for Project Graduation

By Joshua Zaitz Staff Writer Starting this month, Governor Livingston High School is kicking off its fundraising activities for the 14th annual Project Graduation.

Each year, the communities of Mountaintide and Berkeley Heights join together to raise over \$15,000 to provide an all-night, drug- and alcohol-free event for the entire senior class on the night of graduation.

"It's a yearlong undertaking," said Project Graduation Committee Treasurer Linda Cavallo. "We kick off in February but fund-raising and event planning really go on all yearlong basis."

Contributions from local businesses and senior class parents are the major source of funding for the event. Donations of money and gifts of goods and services are also sought. Prizes such as gift certificates, phone cards, disposable cameras, and other going-to-college items are also given out during the evening.

Township gets award from liability insurance carrier

By Joshua Zaitz Staff Writer At the Springfield Township Committee meeting Tuesday night, Mayor Steven Goldstein announced that the township was honored with an award from Statewide Insurance Fund, the township's liability carrier.

"We received the loss control award for 2001," said Goldstein. Township Administrator Richard Sheola explained why Springfield won the award.

"One of the advantages of belonging to an insurance fund is that when you pay your premium, like you do with any insurance policy, and the premiums exceed the losses that are incurred, the balance stays with the fund over a period of years," he said.

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Dems have monthly meetings

By Joshua Zaitz Staff Writer They nibble on Girl Scout cookies and talk about what's been going on around town. This is the Springfield Democratic Party's monthly meeting. This is how it is.

"We're very informal in terms of membership," said Democratic Chairperson Marcia Forman. "If you're a Democrat you can come but most people have not known until recently that we have regular meetings and I decided that it was time to publicize them."

They meet the fourth Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m. at the Sarah Bailey Civic Center, 30 Church Mall. There are no membership dues. Democrats can just come, grab a seat and cookie, and talk.

"What we do is get people up to date on what's going on because that's one way of keeping the membership informed," said Forman. "It's important to get the opinions that we have on various issues. I think it's very important to keep the membership involved."

Township Attorney Bruce Bergen is there. He tells the members the latest ordinances and resolutions that the Township Committee has approved; he focuses on the Jan. 22 meeting. "The snow ordinance is something we've been working on for a long time," he said. "It does a couple of things. It forbids people from piling snow up around fire hydrants."

Mayor Steven Goldstein is in attendance. He asks everyone what's going on. They talk about taxes. "I will very rarely now blame politicians for taxes going up because if you don't do anything, they still go up," said Goldstein. "You've got municipal workers who are, guaranteed raises. We're now going to get hit with an assessment from the Sewage Authority for four or five percent. Everybody wants an increase."

They talk about Meisel Field about the school system's new superintendent. "He may be new but he's a very sharp guy and he's very personable," said Goldstein. "He's a very easy guy to like. His guy is very outgoing. He's very receptive. He'll meet with any group that says, 'We want to talk to you.' He will go."

They talk about the new CVS pharmacy coming in and how there seems to be a CVS on every corner now. "A couple years ago there was an article in the 'New York Times,' said Bergen. "Essentially the major pharmacies are attempting to have one store in each zip code because it gives them an advantage when negotiating with the HMOs."

They talk about fundraisers. "The Democrats have several fundraisers every year. They vary from year to year depending on the mood we're in," said Forman. "We often have a brunch in the spring."

This year's fundraiser is still in the discussion stages. It will probably be some time in April, perhaps at the Essex House in West Orange.

If the Shoe Fits... A large advertisement for shoe fitting services. It features a black and white image of a foot being measured by a device. Text includes "If the Shoe Fits..." and "Valentine's Day Special Pamper your loved one with our Dermaprison Facial regularly \$110. with this ad \$75."

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NEW EXPANDED STUDIO YOGA NEW PROGRAM STARTS MARCH 11 Hathha & Ashtanga YOGA (all levels) Meditation Back, breathing & rejuvenative classes Yoga for kids (6 to 10) OPEN HOUSE DAYS Monday Feb. 25 from 4 to 7 PM - Monday March 4 from 4 to 7 PM - Saturday March 9 from 1 to 4 PM - Monday March 11 from 4 to 7 PM

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Our Children Are Our Future & At NorCrown We Believe In Building A Strong Future For Our Community. NORCROWN BANK realizes the importance of teaching our children about finances and budgeting at an early age. Monte Ehrenkrantz, Vice President-Branch Coordinator of NORCROWN BANK, is just one of the many NorCrown executives only too happy to give his time to our school children, ensuring a solid future for our children and our community.

Fish & Chips dinner serves up fun for all

On Feb. 20, Our Lady of Lourdes Rosary Altar Society will host their Annual Fish & Chips Dinner catered by The Thistle Restaurant of Kearny. The dinner will be conducted on the O.L.L. auditorium, 300 Central Ave., Mountainside. Take-out will be available 5 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., and sit down dinners will be served 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Coffee, juice and delicious homemade desserts are included in the meal price, which is \$10 per adult and \$5 per child under 12. Children will have a choice of fish or chicken nuggets. Tickets will be sold after all Masses on Saturday and Sunday and Feb. 16-17, call Joan Bieszcak 908-232-7322 or Marge Dabrowski at 908-232-2512. Tickets will not be sold at the door on the evening of the dinner. B.Y.O.B.

What'll it be?



The new cafeteria kitchen at Summit High School recently celebrated its grand opening with an upgraded menu for students and teachers. Here are cafeteria employees Lori Cordray preparing sandwiches, and Barbara Castelli, who is cutting celery in the newly modernized food chopper. The new kitchen is part of the major capital improvement project underway at the school.

SJCC offers open house and activities

The Summit Jewish Community Center Religious School invites pre-schoolers to participate in its Jewish Adventure Series. Children 4 years old to pre-K will experience an enriching, appropriate program to learn about Jewish holidays and the Religious School.

Activities will consist of music, arts and crafts, dance, cooking and creative fun. Upcoming events include: Purim Costume Party, Sunday; Passover Celebration, March 17; and Israel's Birthday, April 21. All sessions will take place from 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the SJCC, 67 Kent Place Blvd. Pre-registration is required.

The cost is \$12 per session, per child for members; \$18 for non-members. For more information, call Stacey David at 908-273-2800. The Summit Jewish Community Center Religious School will conduct an open house for families with children entering kindergarten in the fall of 2002 on Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The religious school offers programs from pre-K through grade 10. The curriculum, which encourages spoken Hebrew in the classroom, traces the traditions, values, and pride of the Jewish heritage as well as the skills needed to lead a Jewish life.

The synagogue's rabbi, William Horn, will be present to answer questions. Temple members as well as non-members are invited to attend. The SJCC is a member of the Conservative movement. RSVP to Stacey David, education director, at 908-273-2800 or e-mail at Stacey@babvelle.com.

Church group offers pancake breakfast

The Sixty-Something group from St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 587 Springfield Ave., plans to host a Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast on Shrove Tuesday, this Tuesday, at 9 a.m. Everyone is welcome. There will be a freewill offering. To make a reservation, call the church office at 908-918-2507.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is accessible to the handicapped. Anyone interested in learning more about St. John's also can log on to the Web site at www.stjohnsummit.org.

'Character Matters' with Holy Cross event

'Character Matters — Go Make A Difference' is the topic for the winter/spring semester at Kids' Koinonia. This after-school program for children Pre-K through Grade 5 is a ministry of Holy Cross Lutheran Church. While the new facilities are being built on Mountain Avenue, Kids' Koinonia is meeting at Evangelical Baptist Church on Shunpike Road, Springfield.

Children meet every other Tuesday from 4 — 6 p.m. for games, small group discussion, music, and pizza dinner. The winter/spring semester runs from February — May, ending with a concert and free family carnival.

Under the leadership of Joy Wagenblast, Holy Cross' Children's Minister, and Donna Hydock, director of Holy Cross' Christian Nursery School & Kindergarten, the program serves nearly 100 children from about a dozen surrounding towns.

RELIGION

Church celebrates Chapel anniversary

Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 300 Central Ave., Mountainside, will celebrate the second anniversary of our Perpetual Adoration Chapel. On Sunday, the 9:30 a.m. Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop John Joseph Myers in Honor of this occasion and the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. A brunch will follow.

Heroism wins with Beth Ahm program

When Heroism Triumphs Over Evil is a special program open to the public at Temple Beth Ahm, 60 Temple Drive, Springfield, Feb. 25, 6:30 p.m. with a Maariv.

At 6:40 p.m., there will be a Costume Parade in the Sanctuary. For preschool through Kitah Bet, second grade of the Religious School. Every child gets a prize followed by Megillah Reading in the Sanctuary.

This event will be followed by a Purim Shpiel play. An original TBA production featuring The Never To Be Ready For Prime Time Temple Beth Ahm Players.

A Purim Puppet Show is next. This puppet show will take place in the Ballroom. It is geared towards our younger children. Note: One parent/guardian must accompany each child.

Best costume judging: During the Megillah Reading, undercover judges will circulate to pick best costume winners in the following categories: third to seventh grade, teens, adults, seniors and best family theme costume. Prizes will be awarded after the Purim Shpiel. Winners must be present to receive their prize. For more information, call 973-376-0539.

Judaism course will offer fresh insights

Want to expand your understanding of Judaism, learn how Jews live and what Jews believe? Whether you are a Jew by birth, part of an interfaith couple or interested in converting to Judaism, 'Introduction to Judaism' will provide a strong foundation on the fundamentals of Judaism.

The 16-session course will be conducted Saturday afternoons at Temple Sha'arey Shalom, 78 S. Springfield Ave., beginning Feb. 23 and continuing through June 15, meeting once a week from 2 to 4 p.m. It is open to temple members and non-members. A single registration fee includes tuition and one set of books and materials for an individual or couple.

Classes deal with topics such as the Jewish calendar, the Sabbath and Jewish holidays, customs and rituals. For more information, call Regional Outreach Director Vicky Farhi at 201-722-9090, Ext. 210.

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Why do smart kids fail?
If your child has struggled with schoolwork this year, take action now to make his or her grades better. Huntington Learning Center can help. Our certified teachers can pinpoint your child's strengths and weaknesses and tailor a program of instruction to meet his or her needs. Just a few hours a week can improve your child's skills, confidence, and motivation. Call Huntington today. Your child can learn.
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Over 60 million Americans have some form of heart disease, ranging from high blood pressure to stroke. On February 16, Overlook Hospital will offer a day of screenings and education. And help keep you from becoming a statistic. All events will take place from 7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the hospital. It's all free. For more information or to register, call 1-800-AHS-9580 or visit www.AtlanticHealth.org.

Overlook Hospital
ATLANTIC HEALTH SYSTEM
99 Beauséjour Avenue
Summit, NJ

Events Schedule
• February 16, 2002
7:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. - Screening Session #1 (Limit 50 people)
9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. - Lecture by William Tansley III, MD, "Cardiovascular Breakthroughs Leading to the 21st Century"
9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. - Lecture by Mark Krell, MD, "Women and Heart Disease"
10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. - Lecture by Christopher Magovern, MD, "Cardiac Surgery in the Year 2002"
11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. - Panel Discussion (Questions and Answers) with William Tansley III, MD, Mark Krell, MD, Christopher Magovern, MD, Roberto Roberts, MD, and Edwin Blumberg, MD
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Screening Session #2 (Limit 50 people)
• Screenings include cholesterol, diabetes, blood pressure, carotid bruit, therapeutic touch massage and body fat analysis.
• See displays by Atlantic's EMS, Dietary, Pharmacy, Critical Care Unit, Emergency Room, Cardiac Rehabilitation and the Atlantic Transport Team.
• Tour additional displays by Mended Hearts, Liberty Science Center, Summit Connection, SAGE, HomeCare America and American Heart Association.
• Enjoy free refreshments, raffles and parking in designated hospital lot.



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\$247
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TAPPAN
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\$197
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Whirlpool
14 Ft. Frost Free Refrigerator
\$297
Offer good thru 2/9/02 #ET14

SHARP
Over Range Microwave & Hood (Almond)
\$197
Offer good thru 2/9/02 #R1462

Whirlpool
Super Capacity Washer
\$297
Offer good thru 2/9/02 #LSR5132

GE
Gas Dryer
\$297
Offer good thru 2/9/02 #DBR333

Steinbock
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\$97
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COUNTY NEWS



Marilyn Ryan

Ryan selected to be parade's grand marshal

The 2002 Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee recently selected Marilyn Ryan as Grand Marshal for this year's parade, which will be March 16 at 1 p.m. in Union Center.

During Ryan's entire adult life she has demonstrated the true spirit of Irish people through her selflessness, generosity and caring. After earning her bachelor's degree in education from Seton Hall University, she embarked on a 20-year career as a teacher in the parochial school systems in both Elizabeth and Linden. She returned to school and became a licensed practical nurse and worked in the Railway Hospital Pediatrics Unit for the next 12 years, touching countless lives with her compassion and spiritual guidance.

In 1985, she assumed the position of pastoral associate at St. Helen's parish in Westfield. She later became the director of the Helping Hands and Hearts program, which is designed to meet the spiritual, financial and material needs of families in inner cities.

A selfless person who gets great satisfaction from helping others, Ryan also serves on the advisory boards of Sister Pat's Camp for Kids with Cancer and St. Joseph's Social Center in Elizabeth. She finds time to oversee the Holy Trinity Food Pantry while volunteering time at Sister Jacinta's Soup Kitchen. Her daily dedication to helping others is clearly evident throughout all of Union County and beyond.

"Marilyn has dedicated her entire life to those in need." Parade Chairman James Dougherty. "She truly embodies the Hebrew Motto of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity. She is a most wonderful choice for Grand Marshal."

Annex office open late

The Union County Clerk's Westfield Annex, 300 North Ave. East, will be open two nights a week for the added convenience of residents who need its services: Effective Tuesday, the annex is now open from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

The annex provides ABC identification cards, county identification cards, passports, photography services, swearing-in of Notary Public, and clerk certificates.

The office has been busier than ever in recent months, as security concerns have increased among local businesses, airlines and government offices. Since the tragic events on Sept. 11, the clerk's office has had a 100 percent jump in requests for photo identification cards over last year's figures.

The County Clerk's Westfield Annex can be reached at 908-654-9839. The main office in Elizabeth can be reached at 908-527-4966.

County budget hearings

The Board of Chosen Freeholders continues departmental budget hearings this month.

• Feb. 19: Department of Human Services, 6 p.m.; Administrative Services, 7 p.m., and Prosecutor's Office, 8 p.m.

• Feb. 26: Sheriff's Department, 6 p.m.; Rutgers Cooperative Extension, 6:30 p.m.; County Counsel, 7 p.m.; Runnells Specialized Hospital, 7:30 p.m.

Hearings are conducted in the freeholder meeting on the sixth floor of the Administration Building, 10 Elizabethtown Plaza, Elizabeth.

'Freeholders Forum'

Union County government's annual reorganization ceremony will be held Jan. 7, is the subject of the latest 'Freeholders Forum' television show sponsored by the Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Recently re-elected Freeholders Mary Ruelolo, Daniel Sullivan and Lewis Mingo Jr. were sworn in to new three-year terms. Sheriff Ralph Froeh-

lich — the longest-serving county sheriff in New Jersey history — took the oath for his ninth three-year term. The freholder board elected Mingo as chairman and Ruelolo as vice chairman.

In each 30-minute program, freeholders and guests discuss new events and issues affecting the lives of Union County residents. "Freeholders Forum" is brought to viewers by the Board of Chosen Freeholders and is made possible through the facilities and technical direction of Union County College.

Entitled "2002 Reorganization Ceremony," the show will be aired through Feb. 16, according to the following schedule:

- Union County — except Elizabeth and Plainfield: Channel 57, Mondays, 6:30 p.m.
• Berkeley Heights, New Providence, Springfield, Summit: Channel 36, Tuesdays, 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.; Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. and noon; Fridays, 5 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.
• Elizabeth: Channel 70, Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.
• Linden, Roselle, Roselle Park, Winfield: Channel 36, daily, 10 p.m.
• Plainfield: Channel 74, Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m.
• Scotch Plains: Channel 34, 6:30 p.m.
• Scotch Plains: Channel 34, call 908-232-2400, Ext. 243 for more information.
• Westfield, Scotch Plains, Fanwood and Mountainside: Channel 36, Fridays, 2 to 7 p.m.
Anyone wanting more information or to comment about "Freeholders Forum" can call the Office of Public Information at 908-436-2072.

Blood drives scheduled

The Blood Center of New Jersey has scheduled the following blood drives in the area:
• Friday, 3 to 7 p.m., Union Hospital, 1000 Gallipolis Hill Road, Union.
• Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Temple Shalom, 815 W. 7th St., Plainfield.
For more information, call 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

K-9 officers recognized

Union County Sheriff Ralph Froehlich and the Board of Chosen Freeholders recently paid tribute to the officers of the K-9 Unit for their service and dedication in New York City after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Froehlich joined in the presentation, which was held during the Sheriff's Office's annual awards ceremony.



Everything you need...and then some.

"Two hours after the attacks on the World Trade Center, our officers were on the scene, helping to coordinate emergency response operations. On a day of tragedy for our entire nation, our officers responded with unselfish dedication and an unwavering devotion to duty. Words cannot express the pride I feel for our staff," Froehlich said.

The K-9 unit includes Sgts. John Gillespie and Ronald Malcolm; Sheriff's Officers Christopher Aversa, Brian Howarth, Brian Way, and Robert Woelpper; and canine officers Champ, Johnnie, Lando and Udo.

Guild sale planned today

The Volunteer Guild of Runnells Specialized Hospital of Union County sponsors a sale by the employees of the facility today from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the multipurpose room, 40 Watching Way, Berkeley Heights.

On sale will be baked goods, gift baskets for Valentine's Day and jewelry.

A part of every sale goes back to the Volunteer Guild to improve the quality of life of the residents and patients, by providing prizes for the bingo games and funding performances by a variety of musicians, singers and artists at the hospital.

The Volunteer Guild and the Office of Volunteer Services of Runnells Specialized Hospital of Union County are interested in recruiting volunteers.

Flexible hours and a variety of opportunities exist with resident contact, as well as performing other tasks. For information, call the Office of Volunteer Services at 908-771-5847.

To schedule a tour of the facility or to file an application, call the hospital's Admissions Office at 908-771-5901. There are no residency requirements for admission.

Runnells Specialized Hospital of Union County now offers Respite Care, a way for caregivers to take that postponed vacation, attend that wedding, or just spend a weekend relaxing. Physicians and registered nurses are on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Meals, snacks, activities and basic cable TV are included.

The minimum stay offered is three nights, and there is no maximum stay. Call the Admissions Office at 908-771-5901 for more information.

UCLSA bus trip Feb. 17

On Feb. 17, UCLSA, the association for legal professionals, formerly known as Union County Legal Secre-

taries Association, will sponsor a bus trip to the Taj Mahal Casino in Atlantic City. The bus will depart from the Union County Administration Building in Elizabeth at 8:30 a.m. and return at approximately 7 p.m. There will be an additional pick up at the Cheesequake Service Area on the Garden State Parkway. The cost is \$21, with a \$12 return from the casino on arrival.

For information or reservations, call Helen Goworek at 908-289-7356 or 908-527-4506 or Susie Mack at 908-322-2333.

The proceeds from this fund-raiser will benefit UCLSA's annual scholarship program and legal education fund. Each year, UCLSA awards a scholarship to a Union County resident who is pursuing a law-related career. In addition, UCLSA sponsors monthly legal education seminars for its members and guests.

The hotel boasts a large, air lobby area and beautifully decorated ballrooms. About 200 business people attend the card exchange each year.

All businesses in Union County are invited to attend the evening to make new business contacts while having some fun and refreshments.

Admission is \$15 for chamber members and \$20 for non-chamber members.

As part of tax services Omni also will assist with such questions as:
• What types of investments are best inside my IRA (or 401(k) plans)?
• How can I replace my income in case of disability or death?
• How I can secure long-term care health insurance for my parents or me?

I just sold my home — can you suggest an investment of the proceeds?
• Can I do better than the bank CD rates without taking on undue risk?

If you are tired of stumbling over tax forms in an effort to prepare them yourself, or waiting on long lines to have your tax prepared, or going to a place that is open for only four months and closed for the remaining eight months, or getting embarrassed over your private tax information discussed in an open room with a bunch of strangers listening in, Omni Planning Group invites you to win your trust and confidence.

Omni offers \$10 off coupons in your newspapers, Super Coupe Envelope or at the Dunkin' Donuts counter on Westfield Avenue in Roselle Park. This certificate is only redeemable at Omni Planning Group for income tax services.

For more information, call 908-298-6884.

Your abilities can earn extra income. Advertise them with a classified ad by calling 1-800-564-8911.

Tax planning firm expands

In an effort to provide the services that residents have requested, Omni Planning Group has expanded and established a new tax, accounting and financial planning firm in Roselle Park. Omni Planning Group LLC is located at 47 W. Westfield Ave., in the same lot as the Dunkin' Donuts, across from STS Auto Center and McDonald's.

Omni Planning Group's Tax Division offers year-round income tax services. With more than a decade of experience in the tax and financial services industry, the firm is well versed on all of the new tax laws. As a full service electronic tax filing provider, they are equipped to offer computerized tax preparation, 24-hour fast refunds, electronic filing, direct deposit of refunds into your checking or savings account and much more. Taxes are processed quickly, accurately and with the privacy of a closed-door office. The flat rate fee schedule starts at \$35 and do not charge by tax forms or W-2s.

West explains that "Kettles and Chains" provides a glimpse at the influences behind today's African-American community. Throughout the book are true accounts of slavery and the transition periods which followed slavery as provided through personal stories handed down through the generations. The recipes included in "Kettles and Chains" originated under the adverse conditions and many periods of hardship that African-American people encountered as they moved from slavery to freedom.

The recipes have been primarily passed on by word of mouth, through generations, just as other legacies have shaped the cuisine of various countries and regions.

West also includes in the cookbook a section on her personal favorites — sweet potato pie, chicken with dressing, string beans, mustard greens and, of course, her recipe for her famous biscuits, the West family buttermilk biscuits.

To order a copy of the cookbook, send a check or money order for \$26.98, made out to Annie M. West, P.O. Box 2628, Elizabeth, 07207. Be sure to include your name, address, town, state, zip code and phone number so the book can be sent.

West concludes the book with a section on healthy eating. The illustrations in the book were drawn by renowned artist Robert Hall, who specializes in black country art that celebrates the struggle of African-Americans in their daily lives.

The introduction of the book explains the genesis of southern cuisine in America. West states, "Slavery changed the foodways of the American south through the great survival skills of the slaves, the available food choices and the use of African-American cooks. The cuisine in the south of today evolved from slavery and is imbued with African heritage transported by the slaves. The cooks and other slaves who performed domestic chores were referred to as 'house slaves.' These enslaved Africans were very instrumental in shaping the culinary art of the American south. Traditional dishes were made with new zest and spiciness... many dishes were made out of necessity and demand. These slave cooks made a lasting impression upon the white citi-

zens and, thus, the cuisine of the southern United States was born." "Kettles and Chains" took many years of research that required the collection of information from a variety of sources including historical experts, plantations, libraries and other individuals involved in Annie West's upbringing in southeastern North Carolina.

"These are the legacies of which African-Americans should rightly be proud," West said.

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Election date brochure

A pamphlet outlining important 2002 election dates, candidate petition filing due dates, absentee ballot deadlines, and campaign finance report deadlines is now available at public libraries, the Union County Clerk's office and municipal clerk offices throughout the country. The pamphlet also includes a detachable absentee ballot application.

The pamphlet lists the key election dates and other information essential for prospective candidates for elective office. With the absentee ballot application, registered voters who are unable to make it to the polls on any Election Day can receive election ballots at their homes.

The pamphlet is available at the County Clerk's main office at the Union County Courthouse in Elizabeth, the annex at 300 North Ave. East, Westfield, local libraries, and municipal buildings throughout Union County.

The County Clerk's office can be reached at 908-527-4966.

For more information, call 908-709-7518.

Admission is \$15 for chamber members and \$20 for non-chamber members.

As part of tax services Omni also will assist with such questions as:
• What types of investments are best inside my IRA (or 401(k) plans)?
• How can I replace my income in case of disability or death?
• How I can secure long-term care health insurance for my parents or me?

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• Can I do better than the bank CD rates without taking on undue risk?

If you are tired of stumbling over tax forms in an effort to prepare them yourself, or waiting on long lines to have your tax prepared, or going to a place that is open for only four months and closed for the remaining eight months, or getting embarrassed over your private tax information discussed in an open room with a bunch of strangers listening in, Omni Planning Group invites you to win your trust and confidence.

Omni offers \$10 off coupons in your newspapers, Super Coupe Envelope or at the Dunkin' Donuts counter on Westfield Avenue in Roselle Park. This certificate is only redeemable at Omni Planning Group for income tax services.

For more information, call 908-298-6884.

Your abilities can earn extra income. Advertise them with a classified ad by calling 1-800-564-8911.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

UCC alum's book provides glimpse of African-American community

When Union County College alumna Annie West entered her final year at Rutgers University, she never expected that she was going to write a book.

As a result of the work done for her oral presentation in the course, "African Presence in American Culture," with Ivan Van Serlima, she was encouraged to write a cookbook, titled "Kettles and Chains: An Insightful Look at the Origins of Southern Cuisine." Limited research has been done in the field of this cuisine and for her final presentation, West cooked and prepared the entire meal for the class and explained the historical significance behind each dish as it related to African culture.

West explains that "Kettles and Chains" provides a glimpse at the influences behind today's African-American community. Throughout the book are true accounts of slavery and the transition periods which followed slavery as provided through personal stories handed down through the generations. The recipes included in "Kettles and Chains" originated under the adverse conditions and many periods of hardship that African-American people encountered as they moved from slavery to freedom.

The recipes have been primarily passed on by word of mouth, through generations, just as other legacies have shaped the cuisine of various countries and regions.

West also includes in the cookbook a section on her personal favorites — sweet potato pie, chicken with dressing, string beans, mustard greens and, of course, her recipe for her famous biscuits, the West family buttermilk biscuits.

To order a copy of the cookbook, send a check or money order for \$26.98, made out to Annie M. West, P.O. Box 2628, Elizabeth, 07207. Be sure to include your name, address, town, state, zip code and phone number so the book can be sent.

West concludes the book with a section on healthy eating. The illustrations in the book were drawn by renowned artist Robert Hall, who specializes in black country art that celebrates the struggle of African-Americans in their daily lives.

The introduction of the book explains the genesis of southern cuisine in America. West states, "Slavery changed the foodways of the American south through the great survival skills of the slaves, the available food choices and the use of African-American cooks. The cuisine in the south of today evolved from slavery and is imbued with African heritage transported by the slaves. The cooks and other slaves who performed domestic chores were referred to as 'house slaves.' These enslaved Africans were very instrumental in shaping the culinary art of the American south. Traditional dishes were made with new zest and spiciness... many dishes were made out of necessity and demand. These slave cooks made a lasting impression upon the white citi-

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Arts Guild photography exhibit keeps its 'Eyes on the Land'

The Arts Guild of Rahway will present "Eyes On The Land" — an exhibit of landscape photography by Marvin Cline, Chip Forelli, Mark Obenzinger and Nancy Ori — from Feb. 17 to March 15.

There will be a reception with the artists Feb. 17 from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission is free. This exhibit has been curated by Berkeley Heights photographer Nancy J. Ori who has become a distinct presence and a regularly exhibited artist in New Jersey and around the country. Ori is also respected internationally for more than 25 years as an industrial photographer and video producer.

Photographing in the west coast tradition of her longtime mentor, Ansel Adams, Ori expresses her own interpretation of landscape and architecture. Her photographs reveal a love of light, shadow and form in natural and man-made settings.

New York photographer Mark Obenzinger sees himself as part of a small

group who examine the beauty and power of the land's ability to inspire and amaze. He utilizes black-and-white negatives and silver gelatin prints to emphasize form and light. His monochromatic approach allows him to bring out the drama he finds in landscape and natural forms.

Warren artist Marvin Cline received a B.S. degree in physics with a minor in mathematics from San Diego State University, where he also took as many computer courses as he could. While he has worked in the computer field ever since, Cline says that, "without realizing it, I was also preparing myself for the photography of the 21st century." What began some years ago as an effort to improve his basic photographic skills became a journey of exploration of his artistic vision through that medium. Much of Cline's recent work has included abstract images taken with strong shapes, lines and color. In approaching this show, he found that many of his images of the natural landscape contained strong structural elements. He says, "As you view these images, it is not vital

that you immediately discern the actual nature of the subject... they are vehicles I use to arrive at an artistic endpoint that may or may not bear any resemblance to the original material."

New York City artist Chip Forelli crafts beautiful, enigmatic black-and-white landscape prints where man's mysterious presence frequently hovers. Forelli photographs for prestigious advertising and corporate clients as well as leading publications. Numerous New York galleries showcase his work which is in many private and corporate collections. Originally trained as an architect, Forelli was drawn to photography because it demands "a fine balance between creative sensibility and skill in craft."

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



Boy Scouts of America: Traditional Values and Standards

Background

Ever since the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) was founded on February 8, 1910, the adult volunteer members of the BSA have been bringing Scouting's character-building program to American boys. One of the largest youth-serving organizations in America, the BSA has more than 110 million alumni. It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law. Additionally, those values expressed in the Scout Oath may also be found in the Tiger Cub promise, the Cub Scout Promise, and Venturing Oath.

Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law

- A Scout is
 - Trustworthy
 - Loyal
 - Helpful
 - Friendly
 - Courteous
 - Kind
- Obedient
- Cheerful
- Thrifty
- Brave
- Clean
- Reverent



The Boy Scouts of America is dedicated to preparing young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

Scouting's record of inclusion is impressive by any standard. However, we do ask all of our members to do their best to live the Scout Oath and Law. Today, young people and adults from every ethnic, religious, and economic background in suburbs, on farms, and in cities know and respect each other as they participate in our program.

BSA at a Glance

Purpose

The purpose of the Boy Scouts of America - incorporated on February 8, 1910, and chartered by Congress in 1916 - is to provide an educational program for boys and young adults to build character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and to develop personal fitness.

Chartered Organizations

Community-based organizations receive national charters to use the Scouting program as a part of their own youth work. These groups, which have goals compatible with those of the BSA, include religious, educational, civic, fraternal, business, and labor organizations; governmental bodies; corporations; professional associations; and citizens' groups.

Program

Tiger Cubs is a family - and home-centered program that encourages the ethical decision-making skills for first-grade (or 7 year old) boys. These boys participate in the program with their adult partners. The program emphasizes shared leadership, learning about the community, and family understanding.

Cub Scouts is a family - and home-centered program that develops ethical decision-making skills for boys in the second through fifth grade (or who are 8, 9, and 10 years old). Activities emphasize character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness.

Webeles Scouts is a family - and home-centered program that develops ethical decision-making skills for fourth and fifth grade (or 10-year old) boys. Webeles scouts participate in more advanced activities that begin to prepare them to become Boy Scouts.

Boy Scouting, A program for boys 11 through 17 designed to achieve the aims of Scouting through a vigorous outdoor program and peer group leadership with the counsel of an adult Scoutmaster. (Boys also may become Boy Scouts if they have earned the Arrow of Light Award or have completed the fifth grade).

Varsity Scouting, An active, exciting program for young men 14 through 17 built around five program fields of emphasis: Advancement, high adventure, personal development, service, and special programs and events.

Venturing, A program for young men and women who are 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) through 20 years of age to provide positive experiences through exciting and meaningful activities that help youth pursue their special interest, grow, develop leadership skills, and become good citizens.

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908-688-0826

**WORRALL COMMUNITY
NEWSPAPERS**
1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union
908-688-7700

Museum Guide

The Museum Guide is compiled by Worrall Community Newspapers. It is a list of museums and historical sites in Union County and the surrounding area. To add to the list, send the relevant information to Arts and Entertainment Editor Bill VanSant at Worrall Community Newspapers, 1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union, 07083.

Little-Lord Farmhouse, Museum and Farmstead, 31 Horseshoe Road, Berkeley Heights. Open 2 to 4 p.m. the third Sunday of each month from April through December or by appointment. Call (908) 464-0961.

Dr. William Robinson Plantation Museum, 593 Madison Hill Road, Clark. Open 1 to 4 p.m. the

first Sunday of each month from April through December. Call (732) 381-3081.

Crane-Rhollips House Museum, 124 Union Ave. North, Cranford. Open 2 to 4 p.m. Sundays from September through June, or by appointment. Call (908) 276-0082.

Belcher-Ogden Mansion, 1046 E. Jersey St. Elizabeth. By appointment only. Call (908) 351-2500.

Boxwood Hall, 1073 E. Jersey St. Elizabeth. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call (908) 648-4540.

Woodruff House/Easton Store Museum, 111 Conant St., Hillside. Open 2 to 4 p.m. the third

Sunday of each month from April through December. Call (908) 352-9270.

Deacon Andrew Hatfield House, Constitution Plaza, opposite the Mountaintide Library, Mountaintide. Open 1 to 3 p.m. the third Sunday of the month from March to May and September to October; closed June to August and November to February.

Trailside Nature and Science Center, 400 New Providence Road, Mountaintide. Open 1 to 5 p.m. daily. Call (908) 789-3670.

The Saltbox Museum, 1350 Springfield Ave., New Providence. Open 1 to 3 p.m. the first and third Sundays of the month, and 10 a.m. to noon on each Thursday of the month.

Drake House Museum, 602 W. Front St., Plainfield. Open 2 to 4 p.m. Sundays September to June. Call (908) 755-5831.

Merchants and Drrovers Tavern, 1632 St. Georges Ave., Rahway. Open Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the first and third Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Tuesdays by appointment. Call (732) 381-0441 or visit www.merchantsanddrovers.org.

Abraham Clark House, 101 W. Ninth Ave. at Chestnut Street, Roselle. By appointment only. Call (908) 486-1783.

Roselle Park Museum, 9 W.

Grant Ave. at Chestnut Street, Roselle Park. Open Mondays from 7 to 9 p.m. and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call (908) 245-1776.

Osborn Cannonball House, 1840 Front St., Scotch Plains. Open 2 to 4 p.m. the first Sunday of the month. Call (908) 233-9165.

The Cannonball House, 126 Morris Ave., Springfield. By appointment only. Call (973) 379-2634.

Donald B. Palmer Museum of the Springfield Public Library, 66 Mountain Ave., Springfield. Open 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays; 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays. Call (973) 376-4930.

Benjamin Carter House, 90 Butler Parkway, Summit. Open 9:30 a.m. to noon Tuesdays; 1:30 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays; 2 to 4 p.m. the first Sunday of the month; and by appointment. Call (908) 277-1747.

Reeves-Reed Arboretum, 165 Hobart Ave., Summit. Grounds are open daily from dawn to dusk; office is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Call (908) 273-8787.

Caldwell Parsonage, 909 Caldwell Ave., Union. Open 2 to 4 p.m. the third Sunday of the month or by appointment. Closed December and January. Call (908) 687-8129.

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P.O. Box 158
Maplewood, NJ 07040

Phone: 800-564-8911 Fax: 973-763-2557

Offices where ads can be placed in person:
UNION COUNTY
1291 Stuyvesant Ave., Union
ESSEX COUNTY
463 Valley Street, Maplewood
170 Scotland Road, Orange
266 Liberty Street, Bloomfield

NEWSPAPERS

UNION COUNTY
Union Leader • Echo Leader
The Eagle (Grantford/Clark) • The Leader
Spectator Leader • Gazette Leader
Railway Progress • Summit Observer

ESSEX COUNTY
News-Record of Maplewood & South Orange
West Orange Chronicle • East Orange Record
Orange Transcript • The Glen Ridge Paper
Nulley Journal • Belleville Post
The Irving Herald • Vailsburg Reporter
The Independent • Fallisburg Herald

RATES

CLASSIFIED RATES
20 words or less.....\$20.00 per insertion
Additional 10 words.....\$6.00 per insertion
Display Rates.....\$25.50 per column inch
Contract Rates Available
Blind Box Number.....\$20.00 per insertion

BEST BUY

CLASSIFIED COMBINATION RATES
Ad appears in all 18 newspapers
20 words or less.....\$30.00 per insertion
Additional 10 words.....\$10.00 per insertion
Display Rates.....\$47.50 per column inch
Contract Rates Available

DEADLINES

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

ADJUSTMENTS

Adjustments: We make every effort to avoid mistakes in our classified advertisements. Please check your ad the first day it runs! We cannot be responsible beyond the first insertion. Should an error occur please notify the classified department. Worrall Community Newspapers, Inc. shall not be liable for errors or omissions in costs of actual space occupied by item in original or omission occurred. We can not be held liable for failure, for cause, to insert an ad. Worrall Community Newspapers, Inc. reserves the right to reject, revise or reclassify any advertisement at any time.

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All classified ads require prepayment.
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E-Mail your ad to us at ads@localsource.com OR Fax: your ad to us at (973) 763-2557

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GARAGE SALES

30 words \$31.00 or \$45.00 combo
Garage Sale signs, price stickers, balloons, helpful hints, inventory sheet and Rain Insurance.

ECONOMY CLASS

20 words \$8.00 or \$12.00 combo items for sale under \$200.00 One item per ad price must appear.

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20 words - 10 weeks \$39.00 or \$59.00 combo no copy changes

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Exciting new position open transportation
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SPECIALIZING IN NURSING AIDES, Domestic,
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Days 9-5pm 12 Prospect Ave. Dundun
973-278-8290

EXPERIENCED HOME Health Aide seeks
live-in/out or weekend position to care for
elderly, sickly or companion Call
973-275-6222

HOUSEKEEPER WITH good experience and
references is looking for work in Essex
or Union County areas. Please call
973-332-5009

LADY SEEKING position to clean your home
Bids/Beaks available, weekdays and weekends.
Excellent references, great transportation.
Please call Cheryl 973-751-5636

LICENSED NURSING assistant seeking full
time, night or weekends. Excellent references.
Transportation 973-701-0878

RELIABLE LADY will clean houses, apartments,
Midwest. Good references, good transportation,
3 years experience. Call
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\$1500 A MONTH Part Time -\$4500
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Total Company needs Supervisors and
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888-684-8148 Anytime/any

Property Management Office,
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Has Immediate Opening for
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Must be proficient in AP Functions
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other areas.

CHILD CARE part time in West Orange
Home. 4 days a week, 8:00am-2:30pm.
Experience and driver's license a must.
Call 973-324-9301.

CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE in need of self-
motivated and friendly person to run office.
Received and computer skills preferred.
Part time between the hours of 10am-8pm
Monday through Friday. Call 973-376-7864.

CLERICAL PART TIME (year-round).
Small non-smoking office in voluntary
health agency in Union. Duties include:
phone calls, typing, filing, mailings, internet
use and other support. 14 hours per week.
\$10 hour 908-807-0340. EOE/AA

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Full time, good pay, benefits, etc. Call
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resume 908-233-0304.

AIR CONDITIONING/ Refrigeration
Mechanic. Work on Cascade Systems and
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Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing and
Painting experience a plus. Good pay and
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DATA ENTRY. Process medical claims! No
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30-50 hours per week. Good pay and
benefits. Call 973-762-5700.

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Please call 973-554-3322

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CHILD CARE part time in West Orange
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Call 973-324-9301.

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AUTOMOTIVE

Ford's new Expedition is an unintentional overachiever

By Jerry Garrett
Copley News Service

Ford's redesigned Expedition, like the automaker's new Explorer, is better than it needs to be.

But, does anybody know that? Does the car-buying public? Do the dealers? Does Ford even get it?

When the 2003 Expedition debuts in mid-2002, it will offer features not available elsewhere — regardless of cost.

That's the result of a significant miscalculation by Ford. The Expedition's design team completely overestimated what it would take to stay competitive in the world of full-size sport utility vehicles.

"We had to sign off on the project internally before the new Toyota Sequoia and Chevy Tahoe came out," explains John Krafcik, the chief program engineer. "They were the main competitors we had identified."

"We thought Toyota would benchmark the Land Cruiser. We thought Tahoe would be longer and add a standard third-row seat. But, Toyota surprised us by shooting lower, and the Tahoe was curiously shorter overall than the model it replaced."

"We found ourselves pretty far out ahead of the competition, having set some overly robust packaging projections."

The result is a vehicle that will set class leadership standards, at least until the current product cycle is updated for vehicles like Sequoia and Tahoe.

What will Ford do to exploit this leadership?

Not much, if the precedent set by the new Explorer is any example. Despite a revolutionary new chassis and industry-leading independent rear suspension, Ford did little to ballyhoo the new Explorer's launch — especially when some beating of the drum would have helped drown out negative publicity about the previous Explorer's troubles. OK, so it didn't help that the new Explorer was almost immediately recalled to fix an embarrassing rear hatch failure.

But the major thrust of Ford's launch of the new Expedition seems likely to be directed at the group approach of publicizing all of the

diverse trucks and SUVs that make up the "Ford Outfitters" collection. These are vehicles as dissimilar as the car-based Escape SUV and the almost industrial strength F-series pickups.

At the very foundation of Expedition's uniqueness is its new hydroformed chassis that accommodates a state-of-the-art double-wishbone, independent rear suspension, or IRS. It's an understandably larger, but more robust version of the technology that debuted on the new Explorer. While the Explorer's advantage in this area has been somewhat obscured by carry-over issues surrounding the nameplate, the message is now getting out, it appears.

Sales have picked up in recent months, and recently announced government crash test ratings that gave Explorer "Best in Class" honors were an impressive boost, too.

The decision to adopt an IRS and the patented porthole-in-frame system that facilitates it was the result of a packaging decision that mandated a standard third-row seat in the Explorer.

For Expedition, the new frame and four-wheel independent suspension were givens, going in, that allowed that form to dictate all the functions that followed. Lincoln's next Navigator incorporates the same system; the new Blackwood, oddly, eschewed the same opportunity.

The grand scale of Expedition's palette allowed the IRS system's designer, Manfred Rumpel, a former Porsche Can Am race car specialist, to maximize the system and its components to an extent not possible on the smaller Explorer.

In fact, as an option for Expedition's '04 model year, Rumpel has created a sophisticated full, four-corner air suspension system. Meanwhile, the competition is already in the market with comparatively crude ladder-frame, solid-axle systems that will keep them at a competitive disadvantage for at least the next several years.

Ford engineers took particular delight in showing the media a video of the Sequoia, Tahoe and Expedition each negotiating a washboard pave-

ment section — similar to a winter-abused Michigan road — at 31 mph. The Sequoia's rear end dances around a bit, while the Tahoe is all but uncontrollable. The Expedition, of course, was unflappable. Why was 31 mph chosen as the test speed? "Nobody was willing to drive the Tahoe faster than that," engineer CJ Lammers said impishly.

The hydroform frame design is 70 percent stiffer torsionally than the one it replaces. The IRS features lightweight components that achieve a 110-pound unsprung weight reduction over the old five-link system. Control is also improved by new rack-and-pinion steering, which mothballs the recirculating ball type.

Other standard features include four-wheel disc ABS with hydraulic Brake Assist and the AdvanceTrac electronic traction control. AdvanceTrac helps regulate side-to-side torque distribution quicker than mechanical systems. The 4WD Expedition also offers a 2WD Hi setting that electronically disengages the front-wheel-drive components at the wheel hubs; that eliminates "drive-back" through the half shafts, front drive shafts and differential, and reduces component wear, steering drag, noise and fuel economy losses.

Those are things that buyers of the new Expedition can't see — although they will certainly be able to feel and experience them. From a visual standpoint, the new Expedition is not appreciably changed from the original. A smoother, lower front clip treatment eliminates the steel bumper, and improves the co-efficient of drag from .44 to .41, for reduced wind noise and improved fuel economy.

That is possible, even without changing the current engine offerings — the 4.6-liter and 5.4-liter V-8s — or automatic transmission choices. The interior packaging is where people will sit up — literally — and take notice.

Yes, there is a built-in third row seat, with ample leg room. That is possible because the IRS, like on the Explorer, allowed significant lowering of the load floor.

More impressive than that, however, is the fact the third row seat can be



The new redesigned Expedition is an overachiever worth noting. It sports a revolutionary new chassis and an industry-leading independent rear suspension.

electronically raised, and lowered — flat into the load floor. There's no need to remove the seats to increase cargo room. Also, the second row seats feature a 40/20/40 split configuration.

The middle seat is specifically made for a child safety seat, and it can be moved as much as 11 inches forward — to allow front seat occupants easy access via the front seat pass-through, to tend to a child. All three seating positions are self-latching and easily fold forward, again, flat into the load floor — a la the third-row seat.

Astrological note: Ordering a factory sun/moon/stars roof on the current Expedition meant losing the overhead console, and the rear seat HVAC controls that go with it; plus, the opening was on the smallish side for such a large vehicle — and the glass retracted just two-thirds of the

way, because of clearance problems between the roof and headliner. The new Expedition fixes all that, with more versatile headliner and ergonomic configurations.

Of course, there are many other new touches, but until we are permitted an actual test drive this spring, we think this sampling of the highlights make the point:

The new Expedition is an overachiever worth noting. Worth how much more in the way of bank notes is another question for pricing is still to be announced.

Jerry Garrett is a San Diego-based motor journalist and contributing editor for Car and Driver magazine.

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What the heck is a harmonic balancer?

By Jon Woods and Gary Nugent

Recently we had a listener call into our show asking our advice about a possible broken "harmonic balancer." Since then, I've had a couple people come up to me and ask, "What the heck is a harmonic balancer?" It kind of sounds like a circus act! I can actually envision a performer walking on a high wire with a jew's-harp in his mouth playing "Clementine" or some other country ditty.

Some people call harmonic balancers "torsional dampeners," does that help? OK, OK — harmonic balancers are located on the front of your engine's crankshaft. Many times

the pulley that drives the accessory belts, like the water pump and alternator, is bolted to it. Its purpose is to cancel out "torsional" vibrations created in the crankshaft by the engine's power pulses.

Crankshafts actually twist a small amount every time a cylinder has a power stroke. You can create a similar response by holding one end of a wooden yardstick and twisting the other end. The flexing you see is the same reaction the crankshaft makes — admittedly aggregated a bit. A problem arises when the vibrations occur at a frequency — rhythm — that happens to be the "critical" vibration point of the material the crank is made of.

Do you remember the television ad for "Memorex" audiotapes? Let me refresh your memory — Ella Fitzgerald would sing and hit a real high note and, when she did, a crystal glass would shatter. In other words, Ella's voice was able to find the crystal's "critical" vibration point. When that happens to most materials, they self-destruct.

The harmonic balancer's job is to "cancel out" or disrupt those rhythmic

— harmonic — vibrations. It does this by flexing a heavy metal ring, mounted/vulcanized on rubber every time the crank twists.

Jon Woods and Gary Nugent are certified master mechanics who host an auto talk show on station KSDO in San Diego and can be reached through their Web site at www.signosandiego.com/marketplace/autocenter.

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