

# Echo LEADER

Serving Springfield and Mountainide

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2003

SPRINGFIELD, N.J., VOL. 74 NO. 21

TWO SECTION!

## Rising enrollment keeps stealing space

By Joshua Zaitz  
Staff Writer

On Jan. 28 Springfield voters are being asked to approve a nearly \$19 million spending plan with a local share of close to \$15 million funded by taxpayers to solve the school district's overcrowding problem. School officials have explained numerous times that the district is in desperate need of expansion as classrooms are already overcrowded and enrollment is projected to increase.

The enrollment keeps increasing, said Michael Antolino, principal of Thelma L. Sandmeier School. "I mean it's time — it's passed time to do something."

If the school expansion referendum is approved by voters, homeowners will pay approximately \$165 per year for 20 years for the average home in Springfield assessed at roughly \$160,000.

The state is providing Springfield's school system with \$3,918,980, roughly 21 percent of the total \$18,918,888 expansion project.

The last referendum voters knew it was needed — improvements for the fields and everything — but it wasn't going to directly impact as many lives or education, so it was a little bit harder to get everyone's arms around it," said Superintendent of

Schools Walter Mahler mentioning the township's last referendum, a \$3.4-million project which was rejected by voters back in December 2000, a project that would have corrected problems to the grading and drainage of a number of fields belonging to the Board of Education.

If approved, the school expansion will result in pre-K through second-graders attending Edward A. Walton School, third through fifth graders attending both Sandmeier and James Cardinal School, and sixth through eighth graders remaining at Florence M. Gaudinier Middle School.

"This is like a real family," said Mahler, talking about the Walton community. "The kids come in here and the parents are in here all the time. When you develop that sort of relationship, you want to keep them together."

To have an early childhood facility that goes from pre-K to second grade would be ideal, said Antolino. "That is what a model program is. Those teachers can all work together that would be nice that would be a very good facility."

New construction at Walton will consist of nine kindergarten classrooms with bathrooms, eight second-grade classrooms, two pre-school special education classrooms with bath-



Librarian Susan Baldassano teaches her class in the cramped quarters of the library at Thelma L. Sandmeier School in Springfield. Planned renovations at the school include converting this room into a music room and building a bigger library in another location.

Photos by Joseph Scortino

rooms, a special education classroom, a gifted and talented classroom, three small instruction areas, an art room, a multi-purpose room, and an occupational and physical therapy room. Toilets, stairwells, an elevator, storage and mechanical facilities will all

be constructed according to state code.

In order to accommodate all of the new classrooms, a second floor will be constructed over certain areas of Walton.

Renovations will also be completed at Walton, including the conversion of two classrooms to create a library, the conversion of a multi-purpose room to create a kitchen, music room, stage, lobby, conference room, toilets, and storage; the renovation of the existing CST guidance room and principal's office to a nursing station; the conversion of the present substandard library to a faculty room; and the conversion of the present nursing station to a guidance/CST office.

Due to the lack of size and wooden walls, Springfield had to obtain special permission from the state to be able to use the current library room at Walton as a library.

"You're not supposed to have students in a room with this kind of a set-up," but the county office came and inspected it and we have the two exits, a separate control for the heat, they checked the lighting," said Mahler. "They said that since we have a plan to address these substandard areas, they'll let us use it. Normally it's only supposed to be for two years, this is the third year we're using it."

Other plans at Walton will include the doubling of the available parking spaces, the addressing of the drainage problem, replacing the existing roof, upgrading the building's electrical service, replacing the corridor windows, the installation of a

playground for first and second grade, and the replacement of an existing boiler.

"The kids won't have to worry about buses coming and going and the parking lot back there will be closer to the field that is in between Sandmeier and Walton," said Mahler, explaining what the parking situation would be like behind Walton if the referendum passes. "People who are using the fields on weekends — recreation — they can park back there and carry their equipment and be that much closer to where the soccer or baseball is being on."

A gate will be constructed in the middle of the new multi-purpose room, allowing everything but the multi-purpose room to be closed off in case the community wants to host functions in the room once the school is closed for the day. "You can still have all of your activities at night for the community without having the whole school open," said Mahler.

The courtyard in the middle of the Walton facility will be enclosed, allowing the students to play freely during recess periods.

One of the district's goals is to keep class size to under 20 students in the pre-school and kindergarten programs.

"In this particular building, I want to keep it as small as possible," Mahler said. "These kids need so much individual attention."

Construction at Sandmeier will include storage areas for music and special education materials, a

## Unrev budget revealed

By Joan M. Devlin  
Staff Writer

At Tuesday night's Mountainide Board of Education meeting, in addition to the regular agenda, budget worksheets for the school year 2003-2004 were passed out to all in attendance, which included about 20 parents and a few teachers.

"These are purely speculative," explained Chief School Administrator Gerard Schaller. "But the purpose of sharing these preliminary worksheets with the parents is to take you along with us in our process."

He said further that for those who were not at the last meeting, he was trying to show the public how it is broken down and to have them included in the process. Some of the board members seemed uncomfortable with this. Board member Frank Geiger objected, he said. "These numbers are not final and may all change. The sheets are pure speculation only."

Sitting at the front of the Board President Robert Krebs, Sally Ricciocci, vice president, said, "We want the support of the community and we know you understand this is a draft. We need to work on this and we need you all to be up there as advocates for the school and I agree with Dr. Schaller that this is the way of having the community work with us."

As anticipated, almost all budget items showed an increase over last year, but not a dramatic one. Teacher salaries, an increase and not speculation, the numbers consisted of new hires, including aides and substitutes. Board members requested that the township pay for these numbers, how

and Schaller promised that the township would pay for these items, but separately for all grades were supplies. All teachers receive \$850 toward supplies, some use more and some use less, but new computers and printers have been added, which increased that list. Overall, four new teachers have been added and this means that just one computer replacement was listed at \$1,000, but this, too, was speculative.

The purpose of letting the public share in the budget process from the Board of Education's perspective was to make everything more open, after all the objections about this matter last year. At the public participation part, no number asked when the final new budget will be finished.

Schaller answered, "By the end of February, if not sooner. In March, there will be a public hearing and in April, the actual vote."



The staging area behind Sandmeier's gym is being used for occupational and physical therapy, instrumental music and band. With gym taking place simultaneously on the other side of the stage curtain, teaching children can be a distracting ordeal. Here, Physical Therapist Melissa Guarnizo instructs a student.

## Baby is a bundle of joy for lucky family

By Joshua Zaitz  
Staff Writer

Little Louis Monaco calls his new-born baby sister, Nicole. He's born not bad for a 3-year-old trying to pronounce the name of Springfield's First Baby of 2003, Nicole Jean Monaco.

"The only thing I worry about is how you do the grocery shopping with two kids," said Christine Monaco, Nicole and Louis' mother. "But I'm sure it will all click. If people can do it with four or five kids, I can do it with two."

Nicole was born on Jan. 2 at 1:27 p.m. in Overlook Hospital in Summit. She is named after her maternal grandmother, Jean.

Lou Monaco, the children's father, describes being a dad for the second time as exciting and overwhelming. He said he's trying to figure out management in regard to family life.

"It's definitely different already with a girl," he said. "I definitely see differences between my son and my daughter."

One of the main differences is that Nicole sleeps throughout the night. She's a good baby, Christine said. "She's sleeping through the night."

Christine found out that she was pregnant last April. A few months later, she told Little Louis that a new baby would be coming, after he noticed that mommy was getting a little heavy.

"He said, 'Mommy, you're belly's getting fat,'" Christine said. "I said, 'Well, guess what — we're having another baby.'"

Little Louis helped pick out an outfit and blanket for Nicole to have when she came home from Overlook. Christine said her son was excited when she went to the hospital to have Nicole, but he was also a little overwhelmed because there were so many other people there visiting.

"The first day when he was allowed to come to the hospital, my wife was sitting in the bed with the baby," Lou said. "I think he was kind of like, 'Why are you here? Why are you in this bed? And who is that you're holding?' But after that, that first night, we had him sit on the bed with my wife and the baby. He started getting used to things."

By the next day, his son was saying how much he loved his sister.

"He's taken a tremendous brotherly attitude for her already," Lou said. "Always being by her side, always giving her a kiss goodnight."

Christine agrees, saying that Little Louis has taken on the role of big brother very well.

"He wants to help feed her," Christine said. "He says he'll get the bibs for her. He says, 'She's my sister, I love her.' Hopefully, knock on wood, it stays that way. He's really excited."

Christine and Lou have been married for a little less than eight years.



Christine Monaco of Springfield is beaming with joy shortly after the birth of her second child, Nicole Jean Monaco, born Jan. 2 at Overlook Hospital. Louis Monaco, 3, helped pick out a blanket and an outfit for his new baby sister when she came home from the hospital. The family has the first baby born in Springfield in 2003.

They have been Springfield residents for a little over a year, purchasing their home in December 2001. Nicole and Little Louis are the first two grandchildren on both Christine

and Lou's sides of the family. "She's been sleeping through the night, she's been eating," Nicole said of Springfield's First Baby of 2003. "She's just a sweet, calm baby."

## Township approves firehouse changes

By Joshua Zaitz  
Staff Writer

In order to make changes to Springfield's new firehouse while it is still under construction, the Township Committee approved change orders of slightly over \$73,000, 7.8 percent of the cost of the \$3.5-million firehouse project.

At present, 17 items have been submitted to the township that would result in changes to the firehouse. A change order is a change to the original contract amount of the construction of the building.

"When you're looking at a job of this size, there are going to be things that are missing," said Township Administrator Richard Sheola. Sheola reminded the Township Committee that when the project originally went out to bid, the numbers the township received came in substantially under what the architect said it would cost to build the firehouse.

"Normally any project you're usually looking at 5 percent in addition to the contract. You got a \$3.5-million contract, you're probably looking at \$175,000 in extras, which would be an accepted figure," said Michael Rembert, the clerk in charge of the firehouse project, who supervises all aspects of the construction process.

Silcoo Inc. of Elizabeth was contracted by the township in January 2002 to build the firehouse, at a cost of \$3,522,177.

The most costly item on the change order list is the installation of a fire

alarm system, costing approximately \$23,000.

Originally, the firehouse was designed to only have a sprinkler system. Later, a decision was made that since residents would often be in the building and firefighters would be sleeping in the building's dormitory, that an alarm system should be added.

Other items on adjustments that will be made to the firehouse include a change of the sanitary sewer line from four inches to six inches, the replacement of two beams, reworking of door frames to accommodate the electronic locking system, the installation of a decontamination shower, a window location, the installation of additional electrical outlets and additional concrete curbing and sidewalks.

"When we did this job, we did not have the access to the railroad property next door to us and as such we have had to do the sidewalk and curb in front of it," said Sheola.

Township Committeeman Sy Mullman said that the township has been preparing the plans for the new firehouse for years and he doesn't understand how so many things could have been left out.

"The building was being prepared for 'how long,'" Mullman said. "Months and months and months. We had professionals in and everything was going on and just to have a million add-ons. I don't like it."

Sheola said that if these individual



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Classes are held in trailers

Continued from Page 1. art and a media center with an office, conference room and ballrooms. Renovations at the school will include the conversion of the present library into a music room, the conversion of the present special education room into an art room and an expansion of the teacher's work room...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar is prepared by the Echo Leader to inform residents of various community activities and government meetings. To give you convenience, we have included the dates, times, and locations of these events. For more information, call 908-233-0015.

For free ad advice call 908-686-7700

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Officials debate benefits of Springfield's preschool program

The total cost for the preschool program when figuring in teacher salaries, supplies and heating comes to approximately \$240,000. If that number is spread over an annual school budget of roughly \$25-million, the local share taxpayer may would be affected negligibly. If the preschool program was eliminated, it would mean a 10 percent increase in the tax rate...

Malher said that cutting the program would actually have a negative effect as property value would most likely decrease because couples with preschool aged children would look to move into towns elsewhere, towns where a public preschool program is offered.

Shanes said that by cutting the program, Springfield would be taking a step backwards educationally. She said that by cutting the program, Springfield would be taking a step backwards educationally.

Borough firefighters respond to report of wire burning tree

On Jan. 6 at 11:51 a.m., Mountainside firefighters responded to a report of a primary 15-foot tall electrical wire burning a pine tree on Wood Valley Road. Firefighters confirmed that the wire was burning and that the tree was in danger of catching fire.

On Jan. 6 at 12:36 p.m., they responded to a report of a fire alarm at a Scotch Plains Fire Headquarters. At 12:46 p.m., they responded to a report of a fire alarm at a Scotch Plains Fire Headquarters.

On Jan. 6 at 10:52 a.m., Springfield firefighters responded to a report of a fire alarm at a Scotch Plains Fire Headquarters.

Officers respond to attempted vehicle theft on Rt. 22

On Sunday at 6:49 p.m., Mountainside police officers responded to a report of an attempted vehicle theft on Rt. 22. The suspect was seen running away from the vehicle.

On Jan. 8 at 10:59 a.m., Springfield police officers responded to a report of an attempted vehicle theft on Rt. 22. The suspect was seen running away from the vehicle.

On Jan. 8 at 1:45 p.m., Springfield police officers responded to a report of an attempted vehicle theft on Rt. 22. The suspect was seen running away from the vehicle.

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**Richard M. Ardizzone**

Richard M. Ardizzone, 57, of Summit died Dec. 20 at home. He was born in New York City and lived in New York City before moving to Summit many years ago. He worked in automotive sales and marketing for H&A Industries Inc., East Island, before retiring. He was a member of the Holy Family Parish in Summit and a member of the Holy Family of the Holy Spirit Parish in Summit. He is survived by his wife, Rose, and two children, Robert and Elizabeth.

**Edward A. Fushetti**

Edward A. Fushetti, 88, of Herkese, Pa., formerly of Summit, died Dec. 10 at home. He was born in Summit and lived in Herkese, Pa., for many years. He was a member of the Holy Family of the Holy Spirit Parish in Summit. He is survived by his wife, Rose, and two children, Robert and Elizabeth.

**Francis Gerity**

Francis Gerity, 87, of Summit, died Dec. 10 at home. He was born in Summit and lived in Summit for many years. He was a member of the Holy Family of the Holy Spirit Parish in Summit. He is survived by his wife, Rose, and two children, Robert and Elizabeth.

**Alexander J. Gentile**

Alexander J. Gentile, 77, of Summit, died Jan. 7 in Overlook Hospital. He was born in Summit and lived in Summit for many years. He was a member of the Holy Family of the Holy Spirit Parish in Summit. He is survived by his wife, Rose, and two children, Robert and Elizabeth.

**Grace T. Nelson**

Grace T. Nelson, 95, of Lakewood, formerly of Summit, died Dec. 20 in the Harteau Health Center. She was born in Summit and lived in Lakewood for many years. She was a member of the Holy Family of the Holy Spirit Parish in Summit. She is survived by her husband, Fred, and two children, Robert and Elizabeth.

**Ada Osmulski**

Ada Osmulski, 83, of Chantilly, formerly of Summit, died Jan. 1 in the Commonwealth Center. She was born in Summit and lived in Chantilly for many years. She was a member of the Holy Family of the Holy Spirit Parish in Summit. She is survived by her husband, Fred, and two children, Robert and Elizabeth.

**Rose Petrenko**

Rose Petrenko, 95, of Freehold Township, formerly of Summit, died Jan. 1 in Freehold Township. She was born in Summit and lived in Freehold Township for many years. She was a member of the Holy Family of the Holy Spirit Parish in Summit. She is survived by her husband, Fred, and two children, Robert and Elizabeth.

**ATTENCIÓN PARA LAS PERSONAS INCAPACITADAS**

Las personas que no puedan asistir a las urnas debido a una incapacidad física permanente o temporal, pueden pedir una solicitud para votar en ausencia, llamando a la oficina del Secretario del Condado (County Clerk) al teléfono 908-527-4996. Puede comunicarse con la oficina de la Junta Electoral para obtener más información acerca de los lugares asignados para votar e información sobre la ayuda a los votantes que decidan asistir a las urnas el día de las elecciones. El número de teléfono es el 908-527-4121.

**De acuerdo a las disposiciones de la Ley de 1984 sobre el Acceso a la Votación para los Ancianos y las Personas Incapacitadas, se ha conectado una Línea Telefónica para Sordos (TDD) en la División Electoral del Departamento de Estado, Trenton, NJ. Todas las personas que deseen usar este servicio para obtener información general pueden hacerlo llamando al 1-800-292-0039.**

**ATTENTION VOTERS TOWNSHIP OF UNION ASSISTANCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

Persons unable to vote at the polling place due to permanent or temporary physical disability may request an absentee ballot application by telephoning the office of the County Clerk at 908-527-4996. The office of the Board of Elections may be contacted for information regarding polling place assignments and assistance to voters who choose to vote at the polling place on election day. The telephone number is 908-527-4121.

**Pursuant to the provisions of the "Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act of 1984" a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) is maintained at the Election Division, Department of State, Trenton, NJ. Persons wishing to utilize this service to obtain general voter information, may do so by dialing 1-800-292-0039.**

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**WORSHIP CALENDAR**

**BAPTIST**  
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**ROMAN CATHOLIC**  
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
10:00 AM

**JEWISH REFORM**  
9:00 AM

**EPISCOPAL**  
10:00 AM

**JEWISH CONSERVATIVE**  
9:00 AM

**PENTECOSTAL NON-DENOMINATIONAL**  
10:00 AM

**LUTHERAN**  
10:00 AM

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST**  
10:00 AM

**RUSSIAN ORTHODOX**  
10:00 AM

**PRISBYTERIAN**  
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**JEWISH ORTHODOX**  
9:00 AM

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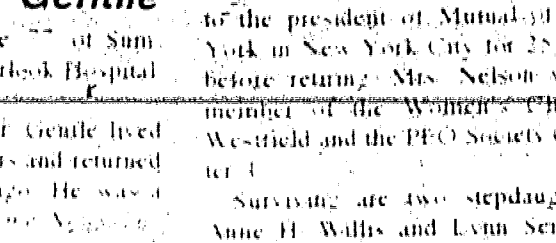
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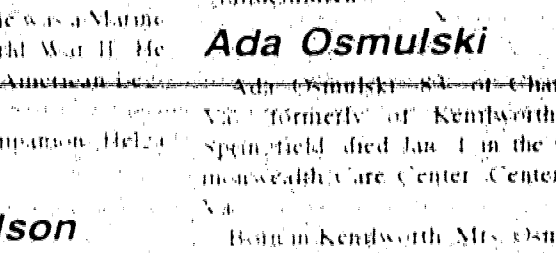
**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST**  
10:00 AM

**Playing better of late**



The Summit High School ice hockey team has been playing better of late, sporting a 4-8 record as of Tuesday. Sparked by the play of Alex Tint (No. 12) and Rob Schroeder (No. 2) above and Max Tcheyan (No. 22) below, the Hilltoppers defeated Millburn 4-0 and Bernards 2-1 last week for their first two-game winning streak of the season.

**Big bounce-back game for Bulldogs after first setback**



Roselle Park on Jan. 3 Zavoiski had 22 points, five rebounds and six assists, while Margaret Myszewicz had 13 points, Brahm 10 and Listowski six.

**St. James wins**

The St. James of Springfield CYO basketball team (grades 7 and 8) rolled to impressive victories last week over Clark (60-52) and over St. Bart's of Scotch Plains (41-22).

**Dayton splashes Linden in co-ed competition**

The Dayton High School swimming team did well to defeat Linden last Friday in co-ed competition. Dayton won the 200 medley relay in 2:23.81 behind Katie Horng, Nicole Greten, Raquel Domarasky and J. Karl. Dayton finished second behind Linden Cottage, Nick Paolino, Matt Sgrillo and Thomas Milano.

**Summit girls' track team excels at Princeton Relays**

The Summit High School girls' track and field team excelled at Sunday's 8th NJSAVIA Indoor Track and Field Relay Championships in Princeton. In Group 1 competition, Summit placed tied for first with Hanover Park with 16 points. Haddonfield won with 32 and Queens of Peace was second with 30 points.

**Dayton skaters continue success**

The Dayton High School ice hockey team continues to excel this season, beginning the week with a 5-1 record and five game regular season winning streak. Dayton was scheduled to skate against Pequannock Tuesday at USA Rink in Lakewood. The Bulldogs are scheduled to compete against Ramsey Saturday night at Sport-A-Rama in Morristown.

**Minutemen JV win**

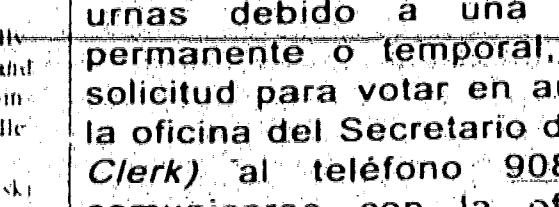
The Springfield Minutemen junior varsity basketball team defeated Plover Park 57-47 in its season opener earlier this month. Amato 10, poured in a team high 21 points, while Joe Police netted 13 and Zach Floyd Jr. netted six points each, while Matt Natta scored two.

**Editor: JR Parachini**

Can be reached in Maplewood at 973-763-0700

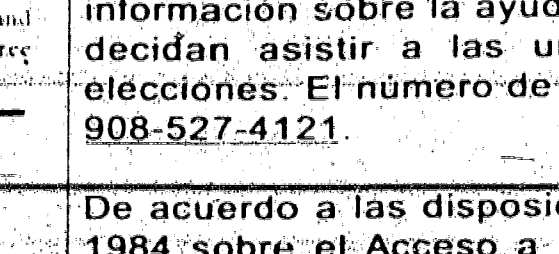
**SPORTS**

**Playing better of late**



The Summit High School ice hockey team has been playing better of late, sporting a 4-8 record as of Tuesday. Sparked by the play of Alex Tint (No. 12) and Rob Schroeder (No. 2) above and Max Tcheyan (No. 22) below, the Hilltoppers defeated Millburn 4-0 and Bernards 2-1 last week for their first two-game winning streak of the season.

**Big bounce-back game for Bulldogs after first setback**



Roselle Park on Jan. 3 Zavoiski had 22 points, five rebounds and six assists, while Margaret Myszewicz had 13 points, Brahm 10 and Listowski six.

**St. James wins**

The St. James of Springfield CYO basketball team (grades 7 and 8) rolled to impressive victories last week over Clark (60-52) and over St. Bart's of Scotch Plains (41-22).

**Dayton splashes Linden in co-ed competition**

The Dayton High School swimming team did well to defeat Linden last Friday in co-ed competition. Dayton won the 200 medley relay in 2:23.81 behind Katie Horng, Nicole Greten, Raquel Domarasky and J. Karl. Dayton finished second behind Linden Cottage, Nick Paolino, Matt Sgrillo and Thomas Milano.

**Summit girls' track team excels at Princeton Relays**

The Summit High School girls' track and field team excelled at Sunday's 8th NJSAVIA Indoor Track and Field Relay Championships in Princeton. In Group 1 competition, Summit placed tied for first with Hanover Park with 16 points. Haddonfield won with 32 and Queens of Peace was second with 30 points.

**Dayton skaters continue success**

The Dayton High School ice hockey team continues to excel this season, beginning the week with a 5-1 record and five game regular season winning streak. Dayton was scheduled to skate against Pequannock Tuesday at USA Rink in Lakewood. The Bulldogs are scheduled to compete against Ramsey Saturday night at Sport-A-Rama in Morristown.

**Minutemen JV win**

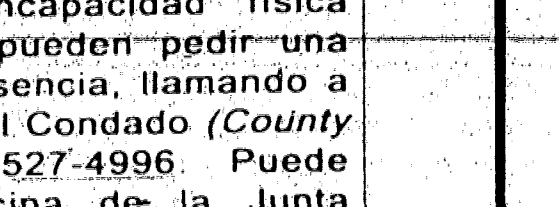
The Springfield Minutemen junior varsity basketball team defeated Plover Park 57-47 in its season opener earlier this month. Amato 10, poured in a team high 21 points, while Joe Police netted 13 and Zach Floyd Jr. netted six points each, while Matt Natta scored two.

**Editor: JR Parachini**

Can be reached in Maplewood at 973-763-0700

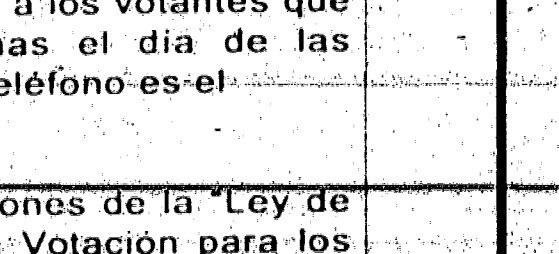
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**BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY**

A grid of advertisements for various services including air conditioning, electrical work, flooring, moving, and landscaping. Advertisers include ZAVOCKI PAVING CO., INC., KREDER ELECTRIC, INC., SALEM FLOORS, and others.

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COUNTY NEWS

Community blood drives
The Blood Center of New Jersey will sponsor the following blood drives...

Prosecutor promotes 18
Union County Prosecutor Theodore J. Romankov announced the promotion of 18 members of the Investigative Section...

UCLSA meets Jan. 28
UCLSA, the association for legal professionals, will meet Jan. 28 at the University Center at Roselle Park...

Open house Tuesday
The Division of Economic Development and Continuing Education will host an open house...

Wanted: tax volunteers
Special opportunities for men and women volunteers to give free help to low- and moderate-income residents...

Massage therapy course
Anyone interested in becoming a massage therapist can begin training at Union County College...

Red Cross offers course
The American Red Cross Union County Chapter will hold an introductory course...

Union County On-line
E-MAIL IT QUICK & EASY
www.localsource.com

Disaster course for community groups
The American Red Cross Union County Chapter will offer a disaster course...

Information on volunteer opportunities
The American Red Cross Union County Chapter will offer information on volunteer opportunities...

Information regarding attending the orientation of scheduled courses
For more information regarding attending the orientation of scheduled courses, call Vicki Webb...

Following a social gathering at 6 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. a representative from the Northeast Spine & Wellness Center...

The Northeast Spine & Wellness Center is a multidisciplinary facility in Clark that specializes in Chiropractic and Physical Therapy.

All legal professionals, secretaries and other support staff employed anywhere in the legal field are invited to practice corporate practice...

The association offers educational opportunities to legal professionals and members are eligible to receive nationwide discounts on products and services from the national affiliate...

On the same evening, Union County Community College will provide a presentation on its program beginning at 6:30 p.m. on the Cranford campus...

For information on membership and UCLSA Vice President Christine...

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS TO ATTEND TOP BOARDING HIGH SCHOOLS
Currently in 7th Grade
"8" or Better Average
 Essex, Union, Hudson, Passaic or Middlesex Counties

FOR MORE INFORMATION
(973) 824-1195 • 824-1196
www.wrightfoundation.org
WRIGHT@AOL.COM

NJAWBO free seminar
The New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners, Women's Business Center will offer its two-hour seminar...

The Women's Business Center is partially funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Women's Business Ownership and Minority Enterprise Development...

For registration and information, call the Women's Business Center at 908-276-1332.

For more information call the Blood Center of New Jersey at 908-652-2603 Ext. 147.

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Parade fund-raiser Feb. 1
The Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee will sponsor a parade fund-raiser Feb. 1 at the Knight of Columbus Council 4504 Jeanette Avenue...

The St. Columella and the Union County Police and Fire Pipes and Drums will also perform...

For more information call Kathy Noonan Rotondo at 908-352-1477 or Kevin Dowling at 732-594-1763.

All proceeds will go to help fund the expenses of the Parade which will be March 15 on Morris Avenue in Union...

For more information call Union County AARP Tax Aide Sal Conforti at 908-351-9050 or Jim Walsh 908-276-1332.

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Fund-raiser for annual awards night
The 2003 Entertainment Books, with hundreds of discount coupons for restaurants, travel and sports events in the Union County area, are being sold by Union County Vocational-Technical School students to raise funds for their annual awards night...

Entertainment books are available for all areas of New Jersey and can be ordered for all areas of the County. Each book provides discounts of as much as 50 percent on time and casual dining, movie admissions, concerts, sports events, family activities, utilities, hotels, rental cars, merchandise and local services.

Money raised through the sale of the books will be used to help fund the awards night for graduating seniors at the annual awards night in June.

To purchase a book or to obtain more information on the 2003 Entertainment Book, call Heinz Ricken, the awards committee chairman at 908-859-8288. Ext. 311, or purchase one at the Main Office of the Vocational Technical High School, West Hall, 1750 Raritan Road.

Admission is \$5 and includes coffee, tea and cake. The Shannon Breeze Band will provide the music. The St. Columella and the Union County Police and Fire Pipes and Drums will also perform...

For more information call Kathy Noonan Rotondo at 908-352-1477 or Kevin Dowling at 732-594-1763.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

New 'Blue' is something to sing about

By Bill VanSant, Associate Editor
On the Boards
Forged something old and broken and made it new for something new and blue.

It's a time when the Broadway show is being away from new works in favor of revival after revival. Paper Mill: The State Theater of New Jersey has gone out on a limb and delivered an unexpected production.

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On the Boards
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Tillie Clark. She invests a resonance into her performance that beautifully underscores her devotion to her son and grandsons as well as her love-hate relationship with Peggy.

Chris Butler and Felicia Wilson ably balance the comedy and the drama of the piece as Samuel Clark III and LaTonya Dinkins, the "common" girl who unexpectedly turns the family upside down. Their hysterical antics in Act I are as richly textured as their handling of the more serious material in Act II.

Jovan Fox is not so successful in the dual roles of Young Reuben Clark and Baby Blue, delivering his dialogue as stilted line readings rather than responses to what's occurring around him.

However, at the center of this ensemble cast is a singularly brilliant performance by Jacques C. Smith as Reuben Clark. It's important to note that not unlike "The Who's Tommy," Smith serves as the physical embodiment of his character's inner thoughts in Act I while Reuben is still 12 years old, and trades places with Fox in Act II when the action moves forward 15 years. Stepping in and out of the onstage reality, Smith's performance is seamless and thoughtful, effective, serving as our emotional guide through the minefield of family matters. His final speech summons unexpected tears and serves to unify the entire experience.

Although not a musical, "Blue" makes wonderful use of songs to further the plot, and McElroy's beautiful interpretations of Hendrix's compositions — "Blue" is a singularly rare event, a daring original piece expert in an effective and expert manner. Let Broadway dig out the chestnuts. Paper Mill is charting new territory.

For information, see the "Theater" section of the Stepping Out calendar on Page B8.



As jazz singer Blue Williams, Michael McElroy takes Leslie Uggams' Peggy Clark into her fantasy world. The New Jersey premiere of "Blue" is on stage at Paper Mill: The State Theater of New Jersey through Feb. 9.

NJPAC to present Fred Ho, ensemble

The New Jersey Performing Arts Center will present "Voice of the Dragon: Once Upon a Time in Chinese America," a dazzling multicultural work by Fred Ho and the Afro-Asian Music Ensemble at NJPAC Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Victoria Theater.

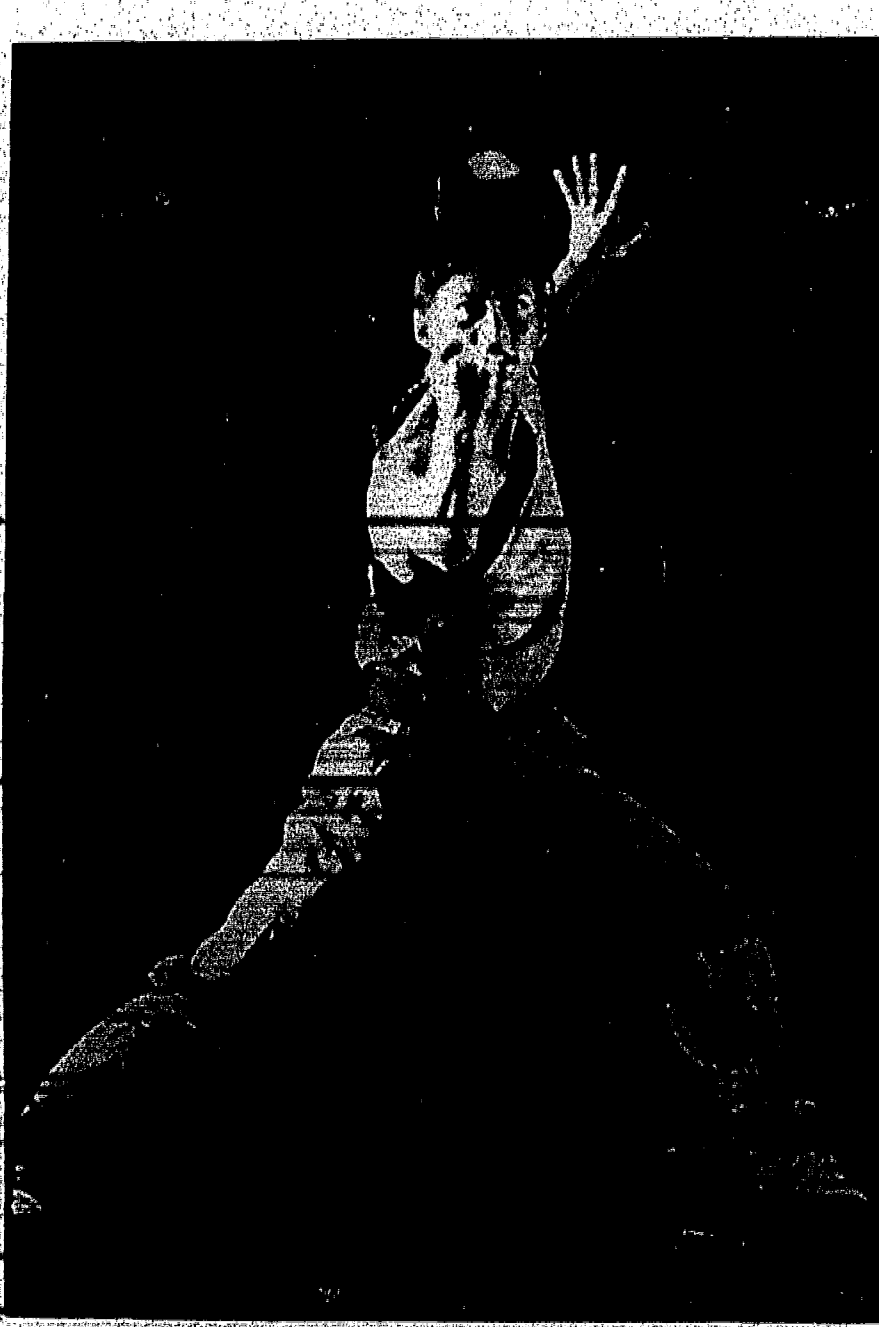
Tickets are \$40 and may be purchased by telephone at 855-466-5222, at the NJPAC Box Office at Center Stage in downtown Newark, or by visiting the NJPAC website at www.njpac.org. The performance is part of the World Festival of Art Alternatives, sponsored in part by American Express, and made possible through the generosity of Allen and Joan Hildner and the Bulmer Family Foundation, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the Ford Foundation and the Wallace Foundation. Directed and choreographed by Fred Ho.

To create "Voice of the Dragon: Once Upon a Time in Chinese America," the Chinese-American composer, jazz musician, fiercely political activist and writer Fred Ho has blended a 13th-century Chinese folk tale with American jazz, bringing in elements of pop culture, Chinese opera and ancient martial arts. "The Chicago Tribune" hailed this visionary work for its blend of "operatic grandeur, the streamlined punch of jazz and hints of Chinese mythology and scales." In "The New York Times," Jennifer Dunning wrote that Ho had "explored one of the best dance scores to be heard in these parts of recent times."

For more than 20 years, Fred Ho has been forging a unique multicultural musical sound that blends African-American music and the musical influences of Asia and the Pacific Rim with his own activist political beliefs. He is a prodigious composer, having written more than half a dozen operas, music-theater epics, cutting-edge performance works, martial arts ballets and oratorios. Writing in Down Beat, Larry Burbanck said, "Fred Ho's style is a genre unto itself, a pioneering fusion of free jazz and traditional Chinese music that manages to combine frugality and delicacy with such natural ease that it sounds positively organic."

It was the most recent of his melodic works, "Voice of the Dragon," a commission for the Brooklyn Academy of Music 2001 Next Wave Festival, that placed Ho at the heart of an emerging downtown Newark, the sixth largest performing arts center in the United States. Home of the Grammy Award-winning New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, NJPAC has been widely cited as a catalyst in the revitalization of New Jersey's largest city, attracting more than 2.7 million visitors, including more than 500,000 children, in its first 10 years.

Programming has been made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts and by funds from the National Endowment for the Arts.



A member of the Afro-Asian Music Ensemble strikes a strong and dramatic pose during a presentation by the company.

Doo wop returns to UCAC this Saturday

Richard Sadler's "Doo Wop Reunion" returns to the Union County Arts Center in Rahway Saturday at 8 p.m. with "Doo Wop Reunion III" featuring Charlie Thomas, Drifters, The Orleans, and Larry Chance and The Fats.

Charlie Thomas, a Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee, was the voice of the group. Drifters' group before he fired his famous group. The Orleans and Larry Chance and The Fats.

"Doo Wop Reunion III" is Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$28, \$25 and \$20 (group discounts are also available). Tickets may be purchased by phone at (908) 326-1100, Master Card, Discover or American Express, or in person at Ticket Central at 1001 Irving Street, Rahway, N.J. For more information, call the Union County Arts Center at 732-249-8226 or visit www.ucac.org. Download an order form.

The Union County Arts Center is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to presenting the best in the performing arts and is located in the recently restored Rahway Theater, a 1928 masterpiece and silent film house in downtown Rahway. The Arts Center is a handicap accessible, major support for the Arts Center and its programs comes from the city of Rahway, Merck & Co., the Union County Board of Chosen Pioneers, Comcast Digital Cable, the Rahway School District, and the Rahway City Records. Other funding has been made possible by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Department of State.

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ACHIEVE YOUR PERSONAL BEST. 908-789-3337. PERSONAL TRAINING CENTER. PERSONAL BEST. 100 Center Street, Garwood, New Jersey 07027. TRAIN RIGHT, EAT RIGHT, FEEL GREAT. GOLF FITNESS PERSONAL TRAINING. MARTIAL ARTS NUTRITION & WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAMS. OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2003 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Meet Our Personal Trainers. Try Our Classes. Our trainers will be available from 11:00 AM till 3:00 PM to discuss your fitness goals and explain how we can help you achieve them. Try One Of Our Exercise Classes: PILATES MAT @ 11:30 AM & 2:00 PM. BELLY DANCING @ 10:30 AM & 1:30 PM. STRENGTH TRAINING @ 9:30, NOON PLUS SIZE DANCE, STRETCH AND TONE @ 12:00 PM & 2:30 PM. KUNG-FU FOR KIDS AGES 5-12 @ 10:00 AM. TEENS & YOUNG ATHLETE'S STRENGTH TRAINING @ 11:00 AM. BRUCE LEE'S MARTIAL ARTS, SELF DEFENSE, JEET KUNE DO @ 1:00 PM. \*Free Planet Smoothie Samples\*

INFOSOURCE. FREE INFORMATION BY TELEPHONE • 24 HOURS A DAY. 908-686-9898. IT'S AS EASY AS... 1. Call 908-686-9898 from your touch-tone phone. 2. Press the 4 digit code for the information you want to hear. 3. Hear Unlimited Selections Per Call. Infosource is a 24 hour voice information service where callers get free information from the selections shown by calling (908) 686-9898. Calls are FREE if within your local calling area. Out of area calls will be billed as long distance by your telephone company. Infosource is a property of Worral Community Newspapers. Questions or comments about Infosource? ENTER SELECTION #8025. FOR INFORMATION ON ADVERTISING AND SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES CALL 908-686-7700. BOOK REVIEWS EXTENSION 3305. LOTTERY EXTENSION 1890. RELIGION EXTENSION 3180. ENTERTAINMENT EXTENSION 3190. MOVIE REVIEWS EXTENSION 3200. SOAPS/TV DRAMAS EXTENSION 3270. FINANCIAL HOTLINE EXTENSION 1250. MUSIC CHARTS EXTENSION 3550. SPORTS EXTENSION 3000. HOROSCOPES EXTENSION 3620. NEWS HEADLINES EXTENSION 1600. TELEVISION EXTENSION 3300. THE INTERNET EXTENSION 6200. NUTRITION EXTENSION 5165. TIME & TEMP EXTENSION 1000. KIDS STUFF EXTENSION 3350. RECIPES EXTENSION 5290. WEATHER EXTENSION 1790.



CROSSWORD puzzle with 'ACROSS' and 'IMPROVEMENT' sections. Includes clues like '1 He's boorish' and '5 Blackthorn'.

What's Going On?

Flea Market and Auction listings for Saturday, Sunday, and Friday. Includes details for 'Big Inland Flea Market' and 'Tracy Trax Auction'.

HOROSCOPE

Jan. 20-26 ARIES: March 21 April 19. Friends play an important role. EMOS: March 21 April 19. Friends play an important role. LEO: July 23 Aug. 22. This week signals the beginning of a new intense emotional cycle.

REUNIONS

Hillside High School Alumni Association of Florida will conduct its reunion Feb. 16 in Boynton Beach. Union High School Class of 1983, 20th reunion, 2003.

Sands, Livingston, Hyrcelak are soloists in 'St. John Passion'

The Choral Art Society of New Jersey, Inc. will perform J.S. Bach's "St. John Passion" Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield, located on Mountain Avenue at East Broad Street.



James S. Little Musical Director

James S. Little, musical director of the Society, will conduct the evening's performance. Soloists include tenor Steven Sands in the role of the Evangelist, soprano Ellen Goff, and bass Steven Hyrcelak.

Bass Dale Livingston, in the role of Jesus, has been active as a concert soloist, recitalist and opera singer since he made his recital debut at New York's Carnegie Recital Hall in 1972.

Oratorio Society of New York and has also appeared as soprano soloist with the American Symphony Orchestra at Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center. She has also performed with the Metropolitan Opera House.

Newsletter 'connects' residents, arts

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has announced the publication of the second edition of Cultural Connections, the new county-wide cultural newsletter.

Breathless A Men's Club. 876 Main Street, Hoboken. (201) 374-3029. Offers 2 big screen TVs, over 20 TVs with ESPN Sports Zone, etc.

Lookers 30 DANCERS DAILY. 2 FREE BUFFETS: 4 TO 6PM & MIDNIGHT. \$2 SHOT SPECIALS EVERY HOUR.

POPEYES FREE 2pc. Chicken Dinner. 2319 Rt 22, Center Island, Union. 908-688-8141.

Exhibit at UCC 'Reports' on consumerism

Union County College through Feb. 20, "Consumer Reports" a group exhibition created by Margaret Murphy will be on display at Union County College's Jonathan Gallery.

Bill Van Sant, Editor

Organizations submitting releases to the entertainment section can mail copy to 1281 Stuyvesant Ave. P.O. Box 3109, Union, New Jersey 07083.

Community Dining Guide

Chestnut Chateau Seafood & Steakhouse. Now introducing New Italian Dishes. Monday & Tuesday Buy 1 Lunch or Dinner Entree Get 2nd at 1/2 OFF.

Los Faroles RESTAURANT. Spanish & International Cuisine. Banquet Facilities. 624 Westfield Ave. Elizabeth. 908-289-9289.

Elizabeth IHOP has something for everyone. The International House of Pancakes is distinctive in two ways - its unmistakable blue roof and the quality of the food.

VILLAGGIOS PIZZERIA-RESTAURANT. Now Open 7 Days a Week. MON-THURS. 11-10 FRI-SAT. 11-11 SUN. 12-3.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF PANCAKES. 465 N. Broad St., Elizabeth. KIDS EAT FREE Monday through Friday.

molly Maguire's IRISH PUB & RESTAURANT. Complete Dinners Starting at \$8.95. 649 CHESTNUT ST. UNION. (908) 964-8696.

BROADWAY DINER. The World's Best Pancakes. Complete Dinners Starting at \$8.95.

Souffle Ultimate French Dining. Rated "Excellent" by Zagat Survey 2000. 625 North Michigan Ave., Kean Hotel. 908-687-2266.

Bridal Show Coupon. \$2.00 OFF Good on the following New Jersey Shows. Sun Jan 12 11AM Hilton Hotel.

\$\$\$ CASH NOW !! WHY WAIT ? Immediate \$\$. Structured Settlements, Notes, Accident Cases, Insurance Payments... CALL NOW! J. G. Wentworth (800) 794-7310

ATTENTION Low-Carb Diabetics! We Carry ALL Your LOW-CARB & SUGAR-FREE Products. BREADS - MUFFINS - CANDY - PIZZA.

COUNTRY FOLK ART CRAFT SHOW. JAN. 24-25-26. EDISON NEW JERSEY. Convention & Exposition Center. SHOW HOURS: Friday 3 pm - 9 pm.

ATTENTION Diabetics! We Carry ALL Your LOW-CARB & SUGAR-FREE Products. BREADS - MUFFINS - CANDY - PIZZA. 10% OFF Anything In Store.

Disney ON ICE. 100 YEARS OF MAGIC. JAN. 21-26. Ticket Prices: \$30 - \$25 - \$20 - \$15. 1015 Stuyvesant Ave., Union. 908-964-0540.

Country Folk Art Show. JAN. 24-25-26. EDISON NEW JERSEY. Convention & Exposition Center. SHOW HOURS: Friday 3 pm - 9 pm.

Roussau's Meno. SPECIAL LUNCH ONLY \$6.00. Lunch Special Starting at 11:30. CHICKEN - PORK - GOAT - BEEF.

Christina's RISTORANTE ITALIANO. 625 North Michigan Ave., Kean Hotel. 908-687-2266.



# Leisure Lifestyles The Cook's Nook

## Enticing variations on cocoa help warm winter's chill with taste

The American Dairy Association and Dairy Council Inc. are offering to ease the January chill by sharing a collection of exciting hot chocolate recipes for good winter days.

One of the best tips when preparing hot chocolate comes from Bonnie Laub Dix, registered dietitian and author of three cooking books. "When making hot chocolate from store-bought cocoa mixes use milk instead of water. Not only will it taste richer and creamier, but milk offers more of the dairy calcium, as well as eight other essential vitamins and minerals."

**Traditional Hot Chocolate**  
Yield: 2 servings  
1/2 cup cocoa powder  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 cup heavy cream  
1/2 cup milk  
1/2 cup whipped cream  
1/2 tsp cinnamon

**Mocha Hot Chocolate**  
Yield: 2 servings  
1/2 cup cocoa powder  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 cup heavy cream  
1/2 cup milk  
1/2 cup whipped cream  
1/2 tsp cinnamon  
1/2 tsp vanilla extract

**Nutty Hot Chocolate**  
Yield: 1 serving  
1/2 cup cocoa powder  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 cup heavy cream  
1/2 cup milk  
1/2 cup whipped cream  
1/2 tsp cinnamon  
1/2 tsp vanilla extract  
1/2 cup nuts

**Spiced Hot Chocolate**  
Yield: 2 servings  
1/2 cup cocoa powder  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 cup heavy cream  
1/2 cup milk  
1/2 cup whipped cream  
1/2 tsp cinnamon  
1/2 tsp vanilla extract  
1/2 tsp nutmeg  
1/2 tsp ginger

**Ross' photos on display at CVA**

New Jersey artist Anne Ross' photography is on display at the Cranford Valley Art Association. Ross' work features a heightened perspective of nature. She creates images that reflect her imagination, with natural and artificial elements of the landscape. Ross' work is a blend of nature and art. She uses a variety of techniques, including digital manipulation, to create her unique style. Her work is on display at the Cranford Valley Art Association, 1776 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076. For more information, call 908-889-8288.

Ross' work is a blend of nature and art. She uses a variety of techniques, including digital manipulation, to create her unique style. Her work is on display at the Cranford Valley Art Association, 1776 Raritan Road, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076. For more information, call 908-889-8288.

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Combine cocoa and sugar, and set aside. Dissolve the cornstarch in the water, and add to the cocoa mix. Mix until smooth and thoroughly blended. Heat this mixture, while stirring with a whisk. Gradually add the milk while stirring. Simmer for about 10 minutes, still stirring. Cocoa will be thick and smooth when ready.

**Chocolate Vodka Sazerac**  
Yield: 1 serving  
1/2 cup cocoa powder  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 cup heavy cream  
1/2 cup milk  
1/2 cup vodka  
1/2 tsp cinnamon  
1/2 tsp vanilla extract

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Yield: 1 serving  
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1/2 cup vodka  
1/2 tsp cinnamon  
1/2 tsp vanilla extract



Technically not a hot cocoa, the Nighttime Nilla Steamer is equally rich and tasty and makes for a perfect bedtime drink.

**Nighttime Nilla Steamer**  
Yield: 1 serving  
1/2 cup cocoa powder  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 cup heavy cream  
1/2 cup milk  
1/2 tsp vanilla extract  
1/2 tsp nutmeg

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1/2 cup milk  
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1/2 tsp nutmeg

**Decadent Hot Chocolate**  
Yield: 2 servings  
1/2 cup cocoa powder  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 cup heavy cream  
1/2 cup milk  
1/2 cup whipped cream  
1/2 tsp cinnamon  
1/2 tsp vanilla extract

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## Pushcart is ready with new show

Pushcart Players, the Verona-based professional theater company for young audiences, has announced the opening of its critically acclaimed musical "Three Cheers for America," available to schools and local theaters throughout the tri-state area from February through December 2003.

"Three Cheers for America" is a spirited salute to 20th-century America in song, dance and story, designed to illustrate the struggles and achievements of past generations in preserving the freedoms we enjoy in the United States today. It takes a loving look at a small group of immigrants who came to this country in 1903 seeking freedom, opportunity, and a better life for themselves, children and their children's children. Prevailing themes throughout the play are the immigrant experience, ethnic diversity and affirmation of the promise of democracy. Freedom and opportunity for all. Designed for young audiences from kindergarten through eighth grade, "Three Cheers" is filled with color and motion and is served up in a highly entertaining format, bringing "a little bit of Broadway" into the school setting.

Pushcart is now in its 28th season of producing theater for young viewers. All productions fulfill many Core Curriculum Content Standards in the arts and social studies and are accompanied by comprehensive study guides for classroom teachers. Discussion assessment sessions with the cast following performances are a part of the Pushcart "package." Representatives of schools or theaters interested in this or other Pushcart programs should call Pushcart at 973-857-1115 or write to Pushcart, 197 Bloomfield Ave., Verona, NJ 07044. Information about Pushcart is also available by visiting www.pushcart-players.org.

Pushcart Players perform a scene from "Three Cheers for America," a musical play that celebrates the immigrant experiences in 20th-century America. From left are Matthew Deiss, Andrew Quinn, George Hannah, Tricia Burr.

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## NJ Ballet School to begin class

New Jersey School of Ballet is taking registrations now for winter-spring classes in all levels of ballet, jazz and tap. In addition, many teachers are current performers of dance, or who just want to shape up for spring and summer.

Getting there is easy. New Jersey School of Ballet offers classes in three convenient locations: Livingston, Somerville and Morristown. All have free off-street parking and nearby public transportation.

The school, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in September 2003, has classes for all ages, and a matchless reputation for making sure each student, at whatever level, gets the most out of his or her dance experience.

"New Jersey School of Ballet is proud of its many students who have graduated to professional careers with major dance companies," says director Carolyn Clark. "However, we firmly believe that dance is for everyone. Dance classes help children develop coordination and confidence, and they're a great way for adults to stay supple, strong and in shape."

The school's outstanding faculty includes stellar names from the international world of dance. Sasha Gritshov and Luba Gulyaeva danced with the legendary Kirov Ballet. Eleanor D'Amico, George Tomaj and Carolyn Clark all performed with American Ballet Theatre. In addition, many teachers are current performers of dance, or who just want to shape up for spring and summer.

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## St. John's begins open houses next week

St. John the Apostle School in Clark Island, a Middle-States Accredited school, offers three different Pre-K programs.

The school offers a two-day afternoon program for students who will be 3 years old by Oct. 1. There are two different 4-year-old programs, a five-day morning and a three-day afternoon program for students 4 years old by Oct. 1.

The open houses for these programs are Tuesdays from 10:45 to 11:30 a.m. for parents interested in the 4-year-old program, Jan. 23 from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. for the 3-year-old program, and Feb. 20 from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. for the 4-year-old program.

The open houses for these programs are Tuesdays from 10:45 to 11:30 a.m. for parents interested in the 4-year-old program, Jan. 23 from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. for the 3-year-old program, and Feb. 20 from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. for the 4-year-old program.

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ART SHOWS

WORLDS: the works of Jane Thompson George, will be on exhibit through today at the Main Art Gallery at Union Public Library.

Gallery hours are Mondays to Thursdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Les Maratini Art Gallery is located at Union Public Library 1986 Morris Ave. in Englewood Park Union. For information call 908-851-5456.

IMAGES OF LIGHT: works by Louis Nazafama will be on exhibit through Jan. 30 at the Swan Galleries in Plainfield.

Gallery hours are Tuesdays to Fridays 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Swan Galleries is located at 703 Watchung Ave. Plainfield. For information call 908-756-1707.

PAINTER SABINA UNGEHEUER and photographer Pavel Dvůřák will have their work on exhibit through Jan. 31 at the Skulski Art Gallery at the Polish Cultural Foundation in Clark.

Gallery hours are Tuesdays to Fridays 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Polish Cultural Foundation is located at 777 Broadway Clark. For information call 732-382-7197.

SEARCHING FOR IDENTITY: photographic works by Rosebelly, photographer and artist, will be on exhibit through Feb. 7 at the Gallery of the Arts Guild of Rahway.

Gallery hours are Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Gallery of the Arts Guild is located at 107 Irving St. Rahway. For information call 732-381-7551 or send e-mail to: ArtsGuild16@earthlink.net.

CONSUMER REPORTS will have an exhibit through Feb. 28 at the Tommaso Gallery at the Somerset Mall at Union County College. An opening reception will take place Friday from 7 to 9 p.m.

Gallery hours are Mondays through Thursdays and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. UACAC is located at 1033 Springfield Ave. Cranford. For information call 908-759-7145.

QUILTS AND FABRIC ART will be on exhibit at the Diversity Art Gallery in Clark Sunday through Feb. 23.

Gallery hours are Sundays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Diversity Art Gallery is located at the Union County Baptist Church, 4 Valley Road, Clark. For information call 908-752-1475.

PHOTOGRAPHER ALICE JOHNSON will exhibit her works and poetry at the Wisner House at Reeves Road, Atlantic. An opening reception will take place 28 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Exhibit hours: Mondays to Fridays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Reeves Road is located at 1615 Reeves Road, Atlantic. For information call 908-737-4375.

AUDITIONS

CELEBRATION 'SINGERS' and The Children's Chorus of Cranford will open auditions through Feb. 23 at the Cranford United Methodist Church, Walnut and Lincoln avenues, Cranford.

Open auditions are held on Wednesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Cranford United Methodist Church, Walnut and Lincoln avenues, Cranford.

AUTHOR SANDRA KYNES will appear at Barnes and Noble of Springfield Jan. 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the book "The Gentleman's Club". Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information call 973-376-8544.

AUTHOR LINCOLN CHILD will appear at Barnes and Noble of Springfield Jan. 28 at 7:30 p.m. to read from his new novel "Jupiter". Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information call 973-376-8544.

AUTHOR ROB TRUCKS will appear at the Town Book Store of Westfield Feb. 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the book "The Last Days of Pompeii". The Town Book Store is located at 250 E. Broad St. Westfield. For information call 908-737-4678.

'Ella' and 'Louie' will appear at UCAC

Golden Age towers of Newark will present the first of two films in the new series of films, "Ella" and "Louie". The films are the first in a series of films that will be shown at the UCAC. The films are the first in a series of films that will be shown at the UCAC. The films are the first in a series of films that will be shown at the UCAC.

Stepping Out

CONCERTS

COFFEE WITH A CONSCIENCE: Concert Series of Westfield and Springfield will present musical performers each month through June at two locations in Union County.

Feb. 15, Eric Schwartz, Westfield; March 15, Dan Crisp, Springfield; April 15, Amy Carol Webb, Westfield; May 17, Kevin Brady, Springfield; June 17, Graciously, Westfield.

THE LORD OF THE RINGS: READING GROUP meets the first Wednesday of the month at Barnes and Noble in Clark. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information call 732-574-1818.

EDISON ARTS SOCIETY WRITERS' CIRCLE: led by Cheryl Racine, meets the second and fourth Monday of the month at Barnes and Noble in Springfield. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information call 973-376-8544.

CLASSICS BOOK CLUB meets the second Tuesday of the month at Barnes and Noble in Springfield. Barnes and Noble is located at 240 Route 22 West, Springfield. For information call 973-376-8544.

SEARCHING FOR IDENTITY: photographic works by Rosebelly, photographer and artist, will be on exhibit through Feb. 7 at the Gallery of the Arts Guild of Rahway.

GALLERY HOURS: are Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Gallery of the Arts Guild is located at 107 Irving St. Rahway. For information call 732-381-7551 or send e-mail to: ArtsGuild16@earthlink.net.

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CLASSES

NEW JERSEY CENTER FOR VISUAL ARTS: will sponsor a series of classes, seminars and workshops in the coming months. Offerings are Black and White Master Classes, through Feb. 18; The Art of the Clay Memento; Watercolor Memento; Beginning Drawing; and more.

CLASSES: NACAC is located at 68 Elm Ave., Summit. For information call 908-737-9121.

THE HARVEST QUILTERS of Central New Jersey meet the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Coast Community Center, 300 Park Avenue in Scotch Plains. For information call 908-756-1953.

SUMMIT FOLK DANCERS will sponsor social evenings at the Summit Center for Women and Families, 7 Maple St., Summit. Sessions are alternate Fridays from 8 to 10:30 p.m. Dates in early 2003 are Jan. 10, 21 and 28.

Tickets are \$25, \$20 and \$15 (group discounts are also available). Tickets may be purchased by phone with a Visa, MasterCard or Discover American Express, or in person at Ticket Central at 1601 Irving St. in Rahway. For more information, call the Union County Arts Center at 973-499-8226 or visit www.uccac.org.

The Union County Arts Center is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to presenting the best in the performing arts and is located in the restored Rahway Theater, a 1928 vaudeville and silent film house in downtown Rahway. UACAC is handicapped accessible. The Union County Arts Center wishes to thank Google AdSense for their sponsorship of community events.

For the Arts Center and its programs comes from the city of Rahway, Merck and Co., the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Comcast Digital Cable, the Rahway Savings Institution and Liberty Bank. Other funding has been made possible by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State.

THE WESTFIELD STAMP CLUB meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 8 p.m. at the Westfield Municipal Building, East Broad Street, Westfield. For information call 908-733-3645 or send e-mail to: 8605@comcast.net.

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DISCUSSION

THE REV. WILLIAM D. WATLEY will deliver a lecture at Kean University's Commemoration of Rev. Martin Luther King Day Tuesday at 2 p.m. Luncheon is served at 12:30 p.m. in the University Center, 1000 Morris Ave. Union. For information call 908-737-3018.

SENIORS DISCUSSING SCIENCE will meet monthly at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension—300 North Ave. East, Westfield. For information call 908-486-3643 or send e-mail to: science@seniors@aol.com.

JOURNAL WRITING GROUP, led by professional life coach Jim Novak, meets the fourth Thursday of each month at Barnes and Noble in Clark. Barnes and Noble is located at 1180 Raritan Road, Clark. For information call 732-574-1818.

WRITERS' WORKSHOP will meet every other Monday at Barnes and Noble in Springfield, 240 Route 22 West. For information call 973-376-8544.

THE CHORAL ART SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY in Westfield will present Ralph S. "John Passerly" Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church at 1100 Mountain Avenue in East Broad Street. Tickets are \$15. For information call 973-376-8544.

UNION COUNTY ARTS CENTER in Rahway will present "Doog Wop Revisited" featuring Charlie Thomas, Dennis The Ovens, and Larry Chance and The Oasis. Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20 to \$28. UACAC is located at 1601 Irving St. Rahway. For information call 732-499-8226 or visit www.uccac.org.

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# AUTOMOTIVE

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### AUTO FOR SALE

**CADILLAC SEDAN DE VILLE** 1994 4 door, 2000 miles, leather, power windows, \$2,900. Call 973-467-2034.

**FORD TAURUS** 2000 195K miles, sun roof, \$3,900. Call 973-467-2034.

### TRUCKS FOR SALE

**NISSAN ALTIMA** 1997 12K miles, excellent condition. \$4,900. Call 973-467-2034.

**NISSAN MAXIMA SE** 1990 4 door, white, leather, sun roof, 100,000 miles, \$1,500. Call 973-467-2034.

### ADVERTISE

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**ABLE PAYS TOP \$\$\$ IN CASH** for cars, trucks and vans. Also wrecks and parts. Running or not. Free pick up. 7 Days. 1-800-853-9328 908-688-2929

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**Worrall Newspapers**



A special 50th anniversary display will present Corvettes from both 1953 and 2003 at the 2003 New Jersey Auto Show which starts on Saturday in Secaucus.

## Auto Expo 2003 starts on Saturday

The 14th annual New Jersey Auto Show opens on Saturday at the Meadowslands Exposition Center in Secaucus. On display during the six days of the expo will be the new vehicles of the 2003 model year. Special attractions this year will include the Aston Martin DB5 driven by James Bond agent 007 in the movie "GoldenEye" and the Lotus which was featured in the Bond movie "The Spy Who Loved Me". Other attractions are a display featuring Corvettes from both 1953 and 2003 to note the 50th anniversary of the popular American car and the Bobby Labonte NASCAR Pontiac, directed from Daytona. For the children, SpongeBob Squarepants, the Amazing Spiderman and Jimmy Neutron the boy genius, will be present during the Saturday and Sunday shows. Popular stars from major league sports teams are also expected to make appearances and to sign autographs at the 2003 expo.

## Hyundai's Shark a package of power

By Mark Myrland  
Capley News Service

Hyundai has put teeth in its redesigned Tiburon sport coupe and some grills in the design.

For the first time, the 2003 Shark is offered in a potent GT V-6 model with 181-horsepower engine, six-speed manual gearbox and a suspension tuned to support the power without baffling the occupants.

It's a well-tuned package of power with finesse that turns a sporty little car into a street shark. Prices start at \$18,494 and go up to \$19,997, which includes a moon roof and anti-lock brakes.

You can get the design without the horsepower in the basic Tiburon for \$14,494, which comes with a 140-hp, 2.0-liter four-cylinder and five-speed manual, add \$900 for the four-speed automatic with Shifttronic manual mode.

It's a nickel and dime people, it makes them mad," a spokesman says, which is why things like carpeted floor mats, cruise control, air conditioning, fog lights and remote locking are part of the GT package.

Unlike some of these blank canvases, the Tiburon GT is not a blank canvas but primed with 17-inch Michelin Pilot tires and alloy wheels, remote locking, dual exhaust and leather seats. Owners can still load it up with aftermarket tricks, but there are no dealer-installed extras — yet.

And there's substance to the flash.

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**Saturn ION 1**

4 dr. 4 cyl. auto trans. pwr str/brks. AIR, AM/FM stereo, CD, dual air bags, int wip, cloth int. MSRP \$14,145. VIN #2J2124688. Finance pymts based on 72 equal payments of \$208 per month @ 1.9% APR. Tit pymnts \$14,976. Tit cost \$14,976.

**0% Financing**  
Add'l For 60 Months If Qual.

**\$208** Per Mo. 72 Mos.

**\$0 Down**  
No Customer Cash!

**0% Interest**  
Up to 60 Months!

**0% Financing**

**\$0 Down**  
Brand New 2003  
**Saturn L-200**

4 dr. 4 cyl. auto trans. pwr str/brks/windlocks. AIR, AM/FM stereo, CD, cruise, int wip, floor mats, heated mirror, convenience grp. MSRP \$19,295. VIN #VJ464813. 48 two year/50,000 mile lease \$2,000/mo. 15¢ thereafter. \$0 due at lease signing. Tit pymnts \$10,992. Tit cost \$10,992. Purch. opt. at lease end \$9261.80.

**\$229** Per Mo. 60 Mos.

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Prices include all costs to be paid by consumer (registration, tax & license). Not responsible for typographical errors. Lease & financing programs must be approved by primary lending source. Pictures for illustration purposes only. Available if qualified.

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4 cyl auto, pwr str/brks/windlocks/mirrors, air, cruise, defog mirrors, cloth int. A/S tires. MSRP \$19,390. 12 mo pymt \$214. \$1000 due at del. Purch opt at lease end \$16,900. 5000 Factory Rebate & \$2000 Dealer Discount. Price includes \$2000 Factory Rebate & \$2000 Dealer Discount. Lease Price includes \$1500 CCR Rebate.

**\$13,997** buy for  
**\$184** lease for  
per mo 36 mos. \$1184 Due At Lease Inception. MV & Tax

**NEW 2003 CHEVROLET IMPALA 4 DR**

4 cyl auto, pwr str/brks/windlocks/mirrors, air, cruise, defog mirrors, cloth int. A/S tires. MSRP \$21,390. 12 mo pymt \$214. \$1000 due at del. Purch opt at lease end \$16,900. 5000 Factory Rebate & \$2000 Dealer Discount. Price includes \$2000 Factory Rebate & \$2000 Dealer Discount. Lease Price includes \$1500 CCR Rebate.

**\$15,897** buy for  
**\$214** lease for  
per mo 36 mos. \$1214 Due At Lease Inception. MV & Tax

## SAVE ON EVERY NEW 4X4!

**New 2003 Chevrolet BLAZER LS 4X4 4 DR**

4 cyl auto, pwr str/brks/windlocks/mirrors, air, cruise, defog mirrors, cloth int. A/S tires. MSRP \$24,997. 12 mo pymt \$319. \$1000 due at del. Purch opt at lease end \$18,900. 5000 Factory Rebate & \$2000 Dealer Discount. Price includes \$2000 Factory Rebate & \$2000 Dealer Discount. Lease Price includes \$1500 CCR Rebate.

**\$24,587** buy for  
**\$319** lease for  
per mo 36 mos. \$1319 Due At Lease Inception. MV & Tax

**New 2003 Chevrolet TRAILBLAZER LS 4X4 4 DR**

4 cyl auto, pwr str/brks/windlocks/mirrors, air, cruise, defog mirrors, cloth int. A/S tires. MSRP \$25,327. 12 mo pymt \$334. \$1000 due at del. Purch opt at lease end \$19,300. 5000 Factory Rebate & \$2000 Dealer Discount. Price includes \$2000 Factory Rebate & \$2000 Dealer Discount. Lease Price includes \$1500 CCR Rebate.

**\$25,327** buy for  
**\$334** lease for  
per mo 36 mos. \$2334 Due At Lease Inception. MV & Tax

**New 2003 Chevrolet TAHOE LS 4X4 4 DR**

8 cyl auto, pwr str/brks/windlocks/mirrors, air, cruise, defog mirrors, cloth int. A/S tires. MSRP \$32,267. 12 mo pymt \$455. \$1000 due at del. Purch opt at lease end \$22,045. 5000 Factory Rebate & \$2000 Dealer Discount. Price includes \$2000 Factory Rebate & \$2000 Dealer Discount. Lease Price includes \$1500 CCR Rebate.

**\$32,267** buy for  
**\$455** lease for  
per mo 36 mos. \$2455 Due At Lease Inception. MV & Tax

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<b>2000 CHRYSLER A DR</b> \$497	<b>2000 CHEVROLET LUMINA 4 DR</b> \$5997	<b>2000 FORD TAURUS 4 DR</b> \$7977
<b>2000 CHEVROLET VENTURE VAN 4 DR</b> \$9977	<b>2000 CHEVROLET TRACKER 4X4 4 DR</b> \$9997	<b>2000 CHEVROLET BLAZER LS 4X4 4 DR</b> \$12,977
<b>2000 CHEVROLET TRACKER 4 DR</b> \$12,977	<b>2000 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN 4X4 2 DR</b> \$13,977	<b>2001 CHEVROLET SILVERADO PICKUP</b> \$13,995
<b>2002 CHEVROLET EQUINOX 4X4 4 DR</b> \$14,977	<b>2000 CHEVROLET BLAZER 4X4 2 DR</b> \$14,977	<b>1999 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN 4X4 4 DR</b> \$21,997
<b>1999 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 LS 4X4 V-6 C-BOX</b> \$20,977	<b>2000 FORD DISCOVERY 4X4</b> \$22,997	<b>2002 FORD CREW-CAB 4X4 4 DR</b> \$25,477
<b>2002 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN LS</b> \$32,997		

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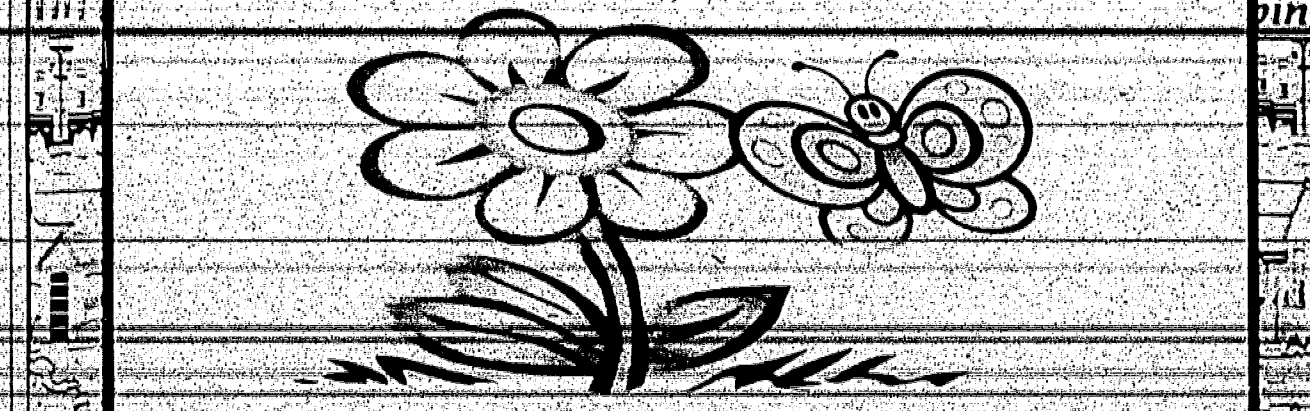
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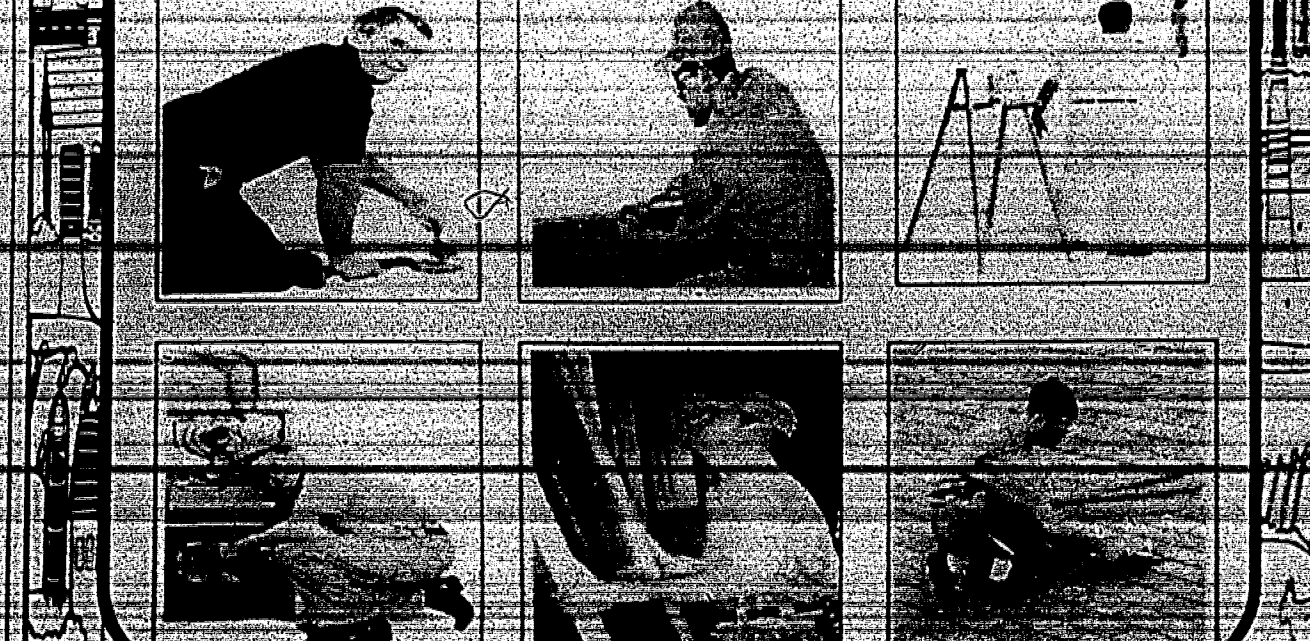
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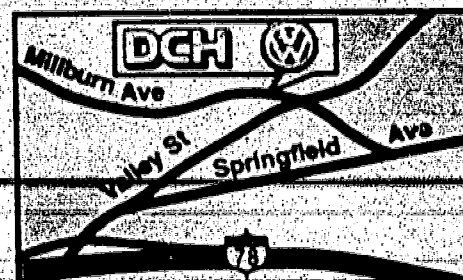


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<p><b>2000 Audi A6 2.7T</b> VIN #YV001027, 6 cyl, 2.7L, DR, 6 cyl, auto, a/c, p/s, ABS, disc, winds, k/s, m/m/s, seats, cd, cruise, sun, roof, leather int, alloy whls, MSRP: \$37,995</p> <p><b>\$495</b> per mo. Lease for 36 mos.</p> <p>\$1945 down pymt + \$495 1st mo. pymt + \$0 security dep. + \$0 bank fee + \$2000 due at signing + tax &amp; NY fees. Total pymt/residual: \$19,305/\$13,612</p>	
<p><b>1999 Audi A6 2.8</b> VIN #XN119520, 6 cyl, auto, a/c, p/s, ABS, disc, winds, k/s, m/m/s, seats, cd, tilt, cruise, sun, roof, leather int, alloy whls, MSRP: \$23,995</p> <p><b>\$399</b> per mo. Lease for 36 mos.</p> <p>\$1201 down pymt + \$399 1st mo. pymt + \$400 security dep. + \$0 bank fee + \$2000 due at signing + tax &amp; NY fees. Total pymt/residual: \$14,364/\$9975</p>	
<p><b>2002 Audi S4 2.7T</b> VIN #2A000270, Blue, 4 DR, 6 cyl, 5 speed, a/c, p/s, ABS, disc, winds, k/s, m/m/s, seats, cd, tilt, cruise, sun, roof, leather int, alloy whls, MSRP: \$37,995</p> <p><b>\$599</b> per mo. Lease for 36 mos.</p> <p>\$1401 down pymt + \$599 1st mo. pymt + \$0 security dep. + \$0 bank fee + \$2000 due at signing + tax &amp; NY fees. Total pymt/residual: \$21,364/\$20,764</p>	
<p><b>2000 Audi A8 4.2L</b> VIN #YV000680, 8 cyl, auto, a/c, p/s, ABS, disc, winds, k/s, m/m/s, seats, cd, tilt, leather int, alloy whls, navigation, MSRP: \$62,000</p> <p><b>\$499</b> per mo. Lease for 36 mos.</p> <p>\$920 down pymt + \$499 1st mo. pymt + \$0 security dep. + \$0 bank fee + \$2000 due at signing + tax &amp; NY fees. Total pymt/residual: \$18,644/\$13,111</p>	
<p><b>1999 Audi A4 2.8 Quattro</b> VIN #XAC22134, 4 DR, 6 cyl, auto, a/c, p/s, ABS, disc, winds, k/s, m/m/s, seats, cd, cruise, sun, roof, leather int, alloy whls, MSRP: \$30,000</p> <p><b>\$319</b> per mo. Lease for 36 mos.</p> <p>\$1681 down pymt + \$319 1st mo. pymt + \$0 security dep. + \$0 bank fee + \$2000 due at signing + tax &amp; NY fees. Total pymt/residual: \$11,484/\$9400</p>	

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FRIDAY 17<sup>TH</sup>  
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