

Springfield Leader

WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

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TWO SECTIONS — 50 CENTS

Mobile computers aid local police

By David Brown
Managing Editor

The tools of the police officer's trade are etched in the minds of young and old alike: the badge, the side arm, the night stick, the patrol car. The Springfield police, however, have instituted an additional crime-fighting tool; in a sense, a new partner: the mobile computer terminal.

Springfield is a participant in Union County's system of mobile computers designed to give law enforcement personnel instant access to crime information networks. The county is the first in the state to institute such a program.

The computer systems, installed in marked and unmarked patrol units, allow law enforcement personnel to check whether a car is stolen, if a person is wanted or has outstanding violations, or even to call up an individual's driving record.

"The beauty of the terminal is that you don't have to rely on the dispatcher," Officer William Wrisley said. "It really gets hectic in these running the computer and taking calls at the same time. The mobile terminal enables everyone to do a little bit more," said Wrisley, who has worked the desk himself.

According to Sgt. Lawrence Lazlo, an investigator with the data-processing information unit of the Prosecutor's Office, the system works in many ways like a police radio. The mobile unit transmits a signal to a receiver located somewhere in the Watchung Mountains.

"From there the signal is sent to a computer center located in the Prosecutor's Office in Elizabeth and then to the state computer in Trenton," Lazlo said.

"We are able to access state as well as national information networks," the investigator said. "The departments that have one of these systems literally get a hookup to networks across the country within seconds. It's an added piece of protection, since it helps an officer to become fully aware of who he or she is dealing with."

To check state records, the computer ties into the State Crime Information Center, or SCIC. To check national records, the computer is linked to the Federal Bureau of Investigation-run National Crime Information Center, or NCIC.

"Mobile units can also perform car-to-car transmissions on the screen, allowing them the ability to talk silently to each other," he said. "A Springfield car can talk to units in Westfield, Clark, Plainfield, Winfield, and Elizabeth, among others."

Thirteen agencies are now linked to the system; he said, including Cranford, Clark, Elizabeth, Hillside, Berkeley Heights, Scotch Plains, Westfield, Union, Springfield, Roselle, Plainfield, Winfield, and the Union County Prosecutor's Office.

The terminal can be managed with one hand, allowing a single officer to use it, Lazlo said. The screen is placed near the top of the dashboard to keep the officer's gaze and attention within



Officer David Hartong demonstrates the operation of the new portable computer terminal in his assigned car, No. 67.

range of the suspect, he said. However, the investigator said that the Prosecutor's Office does not recommend that a single officer operate the terminal while driving.

"Some departments have two men in the car," Lazlo said. "It was built with a tilting-swivel head so that it can be adjusted to accommodate a second police officer in the car. We took pains to make sure that the terminal doesn't interfere with a second passenger."

The idea for the mobile computer system is not new, the sergeant said, adding that police departments in California have been using a similar system for approximately 15 years.

"However, Union County is the first county in the state to begin moving toward a countywide net," he said.

The system became operational on July 11, he said. "We are continuing to enhance the software, but the system is fully operational," Lazlo said.

"I am waiting for a more definitive response on the pros and cons of the system from the various police departments."

"I think it's a great tool," said Wrisley. "It's quite simple and anyone familiar with the computer at headquarters can use it."

The mobile computer units were built by Digicom, a division of Electrocom Automation Inc. of California, at a cost of approximately \$3,600 each, he said. The entire system was funded by the Prosecutor's Office, Lazlo said, so the taxpayers were not funding the project.

"The county provided the software and half the cost of one terminal. Each additional terminal will have to be purchased by the town," he said.

Training was also offered free of charge to all the departments, although after initial training, each department is responsible for their own training, the sergeant said.

make some staffing adjustments, but our current workforce is sufficient to handle the contract," he said. Fisher expects to assign a portion of its staff to Kuwait for an indefinite period to supervise the installation of the equipment and to oversee its application.

Private industry in America is working in cooperation with the U.S. government toward securing a share of the business associated in the reconstruction of Kuwait.

Flooding problem nears conclusion

Committee to meet with water company

By David Brown
Managing Editor

Dry land might actually be in sight for the small group of embattled Springfield residents who have been bailing water from their basements around-the-clock for months.

Residents of Alvin Terrace, and Marion and Warner avenues in Springfield may soon see some relief from their battle against a rising water table caused by the closing of several of Elizabethtown Water Co.'s wells.

The Springfield Township Committee received the results of a study prepared by the township engineer, and members say they have arranged to meet with Elizabethtown Water Co. officials in the hopes of arriving at a solution to the flooding problem caused by a disruption of the long-established water table that once sat below the homes.

According to Committee member Jeffrey Katz, officials at Elizabethtown Water have agreed to assist in solving the problem. "They are more than willing to discuss roles and responsibilities with us," said Katz, who was part of a committee formed to address the problem. "We expect to meet with representatives of the company within 10 to 15 days." Katz said a copy of the study was given to Elizabethtown officials for their review.

"We're moving ahead on this," said Committee member Philip Kurios, who was part of the committee formed to study the flooding problem. "I believe the engineer has come up with some good proposals. These people are certainly experiencing distress, and we're hoping to solve the problem quickly," he said.

The township's consultant engineer, Robert Kirkpatrick, issued a report listing several possible remedies to the problem. One would be to reactivate the abandoned wells and pump the water into the Rahway River, thereby alleviating the pressure and lowering the water table to acceptable levels. A second proposal suggests the installation of curbing and storm drains along the three

streets. The report has raised the hopes of some of the beleaguered residents.

"The Township Committee seems like it really is trying to solve the problem," said Marilyn Garlan, who, with her husband Dan, has been battling the water that invaded their basement when the Elizabethtown Water Co. closed several wells, causing the water table to rise significantly. "We're up to two sump pumps now," said Garlan, who estimated they were pumping about 5,000 gallons per day from their basement.

The Garlans had to build up their basement floor 8 inches. "We were lucky," Marilyn said. "Our basement ceiling was high enough that we could raise the floor."

The Garlan's neighbors, located at the end of the three dead-end streets, weren't so lucky. They're still bailing gallons from a water table that was, until recently, kept at bay for more than 50 years by the Elizabethtown wells, which were closed after it was discovered they were contaminated.

A frustrated combination of blame seems to have been heaped upon the township and water company over the years, both of which say they are will-

'Elizabethtown Water Co. is more than willing to discuss roles and responsibilities with us.'

— Jeffrey Katz
Township Committee

ing to discuss the issue and bring the soggy and costly problem to a conclusion.

"We're certainly hoping a solution to the problem is found," said Elizabethtown Water Co. spokesperson Donna Yukob, adding, however, that a meeting between the Westfield-based company and the Springfield Township Committee had not yet been scheduled.

The affected residents, who stated their in the *Springfield Leader's* May 16 issue, reiterated their belief that the water company has a responsibility to conclude the matter. "The water company won't even talk to us," Garlan said, "but I think they should be addressing the problem." Albert Martin of Alvin Terrace said, "The people feel that as a public utility, the water company should be obligated to the people."

Elizabethtown Water has repeatedly denied it has such an obligation to the public, most recently in a story that was released to the media.

The long-since-departed leaders of the Springfield Township Committee that allowed development on the distorted water table were also criticized. "I don't think the township officials at that time or even the water company officials could have predicted when, or even if, those wells would be shut down," Katz said. "But we are hoping to meet with Elizabethtown officials in order to resolve this situation amicably."

It has not been determined who will pay the costs of any of the proposed solutions outlined in Kirkpatrick's report. Preliminary costs have been projected at about \$64,000, with electricity and maintenance costs slightly less than that on a yearly basis.

"Based on the completion of preliminary studies, I expect this committee will move forward in bringing this problem to a successful conclusion," said Mayor Marc Marshall.

Katz, however, noted that tax assessment forms had been forwarded to the affected residents in the event talks with the company do not yield results.

"If, because of the flooding, the values of these properties decrease, they may in fact be assessed at that lower value for tax purposes," Katz said, concluding that if it becomes the case, the town will experience a decrease in revenue and will officially engage in the battle to find a solution.

Kuwait awards local contractor \$14 million job

By David Brown
Managing Editor

Just as advanced technology played a primary role in the devastation of Kuwait and Iraq during the Persian Gulf War, it will again play a primary role in the reconstruction of the small country, whose government has awarded Springfield-based Fisher Scientific a multi-million dollar contract toward this end.

The manufacturer and distributor of laboratory products has signed a

\$14.1 million contract with the Kuwaiti government to supply equipment to the country's Public Authority for Applied Education and Training.

According to Neil Esposito, executive vice president for marketing, the 89-year-old company will supply "several thousand scientific instruments, appliances, chemicals and modular steel furniture such as safety fume hoods and research-type work-

benches, to PAAET. Esposito said PAAET is charged with developing the technical labor force of young Kuwaitis to "make the country self-sufficient in fields ranging from petroleum testing and nursing to the repair of air conditioners and automobiles."

"Fisher installed scientific facilities in Abu-Dabi and Saudi Arabia just before the war began," he said. "Due to the size of this contract, we had to

National Night Out set for Tuesday

By David Brown
Managing Editor

Joining the stream of mass movements attempting to save or promote various aspects of life considered endangered, such as the environment and civil rights, is another national campaign to save what was once considered commonplace in suburban America: the safe neighborhood.

To this end, neighborhoods in Springfield and throughout New Jersey have been invited to join the rest of the country in the eighth annual National Night Out.

Sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, and co-sponsored by some 8,100 local affiliates across the continental United States and its territories, Canada and U.S. military bases around the world, the program is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness.

Although the township has not yet become formally involved in the nationwide event, Springfield law enforcement and municipal officials said they are hoping residents participate. "We have seen time and time again that the easiest way to deal with and reduce crime

is for residents to know their neighbors and to be aware of their neighborhoods," Mayor Marc Marshall said. "Obviously it is impossible to have police everywhere at once. People should not be embarrassed to call the police if they see something strange, and we are encouraged by the Night Out program. We hope it will get the people out and involved."

From 8 to 10 p.m. on Tuesday, residents in neighborhoods in Springfield are asked to lock their doors, turn on their outside lights and spend an evening outside with their neighbors in a show of solidarity in discouraging crime.

National Project Coordinator Matt Peskin said, "National Night Out is designed in part to call the nation's attention to the importance of police/community partnerships and neighborhood unity in our fight for a safer America."

According to the state's 1990 Uniform Crime Report, which summarizes criminal activity and trends in municipalities, Springfield's crime rate increased slightly from 1989 to 1990.

The theme for Night Out '91 is "Give Neighborhood Crime and Drugs a Going Away Party."

Assault suspect arrested

A 65-year-old Springfield resident was arrested and charged with sexually assaulting an 8-year-old, according to a statement released by Springfield Police Chief William E. Chisholm.

Alexander Draghici, of Troy Drive, Springfield, was arrested July 24 after a complaint was filed by the victim and a subsequent investigation by police. Draghici allegedly sexually assaulted the juvenile at the township swimming pool.

According to the statement, Draghici was arraigned before Municipal Court Judge Leonard Zucker, who set his bail at \$50,000. Draghici, who was apparently unable to post the bail at that time, was transported to the

Union County Jail in Elizabeth.

Officials say Draghici allegedly loosened the top of the girl's one-piece bathing suit, exposing a view of the girl, before patting the child's buttocks. Pool manager Bill Shaw said the incident was not witnessed by any of the pool's staff, but was reported to police immediately upon receipt of a complaint by the child's parent.

Assistant County Prosecutor Maureen O'Brien said due to its nature, the case would be handled by the county. The charge, second degree sexual assault, is an indictable offense.

According to O'Brien, if convicted, Draghici faces five to 10 years in state prison.

Census sketches town

By David Brown
Managing Editor

The typical Springfielder is white, about 35 years old, and lives in a privately owned home valued at about \$215,500 with 1.32 other people, according to a recently released census report.

Issued by the Union County Economic Development Corporation, the Union County 1990 Census Information describes in detail, housing and population characteristics of the county's municipalities based on data collected in the 1990 census campaign.

According to the report, which is considered "very reliable though not perfect," of Springfield's population of 13,420, more than half are female. The largest percentage of residents are between 25 and 44 years old, with the senior citizens making up about 24 percent of the population.

Of the 5,781 "occupied housing units" in the township, 70 percent are owned by the occupant. Of the 1,646 renters paying cash rent, most pay approximately \$700 per month.

By comparison, the median value of a house in Union County is \$180,000, while about 80 percent of

the renters in the county pay between \$250 and \$749 cash per month.

Seniors over 65 years of age make up about 15 percent of the county's population, in which females outnumber males by about 20 percent.

According to the Union County Economic Development Corporation, a not-for-profit organization designed to assist business development in the county, the census report was given to municipal officials and selected county agencies in order to help assist them in various aspects of operating their respective governments.

"We thought this report would be helpful in areas like emergency response, and the police department's traffic division," said a spokesperson for the UCEDC. "It helps in the overall planning."

Census figures, taken every 10 years, primarily affect redistricting, or the redrawing of the political map, and state and federal funding for municipalities. The census report is also used by private industry for marketing purposes.

According to the UCEDC, the figures will be officially adopted, in full, in 1993.

What's Inside

- People in the news..... Page 2
- Student update..... Page 3
- Summer safety tips..... Page 4
- 60 percent plan..... Page 5
- Editorial..... Page 6
- On the Record..... Page 7



Fran McGuire of Roselle will make her jazz club debut Sunday after a 24-year sabbatical. See story on Page B3 of the entertainment section.

Woman killed in crash, Mother listed critical

By David Brown
Managing Editor

A woman was killed and her mother critically injured when their car crashed into a tree this week in Springfield.

Police said 49-year-old Linda Ferone of Springfield was killed when her car struck the base of a tree while traveling southeast on South Springfield Avenue near Glenview Terrace at about 1:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Police said the vehicle was apparently stationary, before it suddenly accelerated, crashing into the tree. No other cars were involved in the wreck.

According to police, the pair was removed from the wreck after rescue workers cut open the door of the vehi-

cle, and first aid was administered by paramedics.

Ferone was taken to Overlook Hospital in Summit, where she was pronounced dead at 2:10 p.m. Her mother, 79-year-old Mae Libes, was taken to Newark's University Hospital, where she was listed Wednesday morning in critical condition at the hospital's trauma center.

According to police, no cause was determined in the accident, which is still under investigation. "We're still looking for witnesses to the accident," Officer David Hartong said. "We're hoping to speak to the passenger."

Hartong said the road was closed for about an hour and a half, as Springfield firefighters and first aid workers attended to the scene.

people in the news

Calderone joins Overlook

Overlook Hospital recently announced the appointment of Joseph P. Calderone Jr., specializing in ophthalmology, to its medical staff. Calderone received his medical degree from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Newark, and completed his residency at New York Medical College, N.Y. He interned at the Albany Medical Center, N.Y. Calderone, who has a practice in Cranford, is a member of the Greenwood chapter of the Knights of Columbus and resides in Mountainside with his wife, Heidi.



Joseph P. Calderone

Watter tours in chorale

Hillary Watter of Hastings, Neb., formerly of Springfield, is performing with the National Chorale of New York touring throughout New Jersey, New York and Connecticut.

Watter, an assistant professor of voice at Hastings College, is a graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park. She received a master's of music degree from the Eastman School of Music and the doctorate of musical arts in vocal performance from the University of Kansas. In addition, she has done post-graduate work at the American Institute for Musical Studies in Graz, Austria. She has performed with the St. Joseph Symphony, the Lawrence Symphony and the Bronx Choral Society, and has appeared at Popesco Summerfare in Purchase, N.Y. Watter has presented solo recitals in New Jersey, Maryland, New York, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska.

Brooks in Mary Poppins

Young and old alike are promised a delightful treat when the Westfield Workshop for the Arts presents the musical "Mary Poppins" today and Friday at Westfield High School, 530 Dorlan Road, Westfield. Matinee performances begin at 1 p.m. and evening performances begin at 8 p.m. on both days.

Obituary policy

Obituary notices submitted by local funeral homes or families must be in writing. This newspaper cannot accept obituaries by telephone. Obituary notices must be typed and include a telephone number where writer may be reached 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For additional information, call 686-7700.



Robert Hanson, center, president of Angostura International Ltd. and longtime resident of Mountainside, and Steve Cassarino — ham it up in Angostura's new headquarters in Cranford. Angostura reported record earnings this month, which they attributed, in part, to the successful promotion of their low sodium sauces.

Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. During the course, students received training which qualified them as light-arms infantrymen and as indirect fire crewmen in a rifle or mortar squad. Instruction included weapons qualifications, tactics, patrolling, land mine warfare, field and combat operations.

Junior Musical is one of more than 100 courses offered at the Westfield Workshop for the Arts, a five-week summer enrichment program for children and adults that encompasses the visual, performing, literary and communication arts. Junior Musical has been meeting for five periods a day since the workshop began July 1. The class is open to students entering grades six to nine. Tickets for "Mary Poppins" are \$5 for adults and \$4 for children and seniors. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance at Edison Intermediate School, 800 Rahway Ave., Westfield, weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information, call (908) 322-5065.

Lynch completes training

Pvt. Matthew Lynch has completed training at the Army Infantry School,



Springfield Community Pool manager Bill Shaw, center, presents Las Vegas Night winner Harry P. Pappas with first prize, while Recreation Committee chairman Jeffrey Katz looks on.

community Pool's recent Las Vegas Night was awarded to resident and Township Committee candidate Harry P. Pappas. Pappas topped the list of winners with \$6,900 in play money at the end of the night. Second prize went to Danford Drucks of Marlon Avenue. Third prize went to Richard Paris of

Deerfield daycare opens registration. Deerfield School opened registration for a full daycare program for youngsters, ages 2 1/2 to 5. The program, which is administered by a full-time staff, will run from 7:30 a.m. to 6

p.m., following the school calendar. Now in its fourth year, the program offers a wide variety of indoor and outdoor activities, including crafts and field trips. Daily projects provided in a classroom setting, and parent participation is encouraged. Interested parties may obtain more information by calling Julie or Lucy at Deerfield School at 232-8828.

Springfield Leader

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Pappas a winner
First prize in the Springfield Community Pool's recent Las Vegas Night was awarded to resident and Township Committee candidate Harry P. Pappas.

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student update

Maher a Pace grad

Mountainside resident Douglas E. Maher was among the students who graduated from Pace University during the spring.

Two make list

Mountainside residents Wendy A. Mortensen and James J. Keller were named to the Dean's List at Fairfield University for the spring semester.

Three graduate

Mountainside residents Suzanne L. Crane and Sean P. Crowley were among the 381 students at Muhlenberg College who received degrees during the school's 143rd commencement exercises.

Vo-Tech grads

Certificates of course completion were awarded to 300 students, including members of the evening division, when graduation ceremonies were held at the Union County Vocational-Technical Schools June 14.

Burdge earns degree

Suzanne Michelle Burdge received a bachelor of science degree from the College of Arts and Humanities from the University of Bridgeport in Bridgeport, Conn. Her major was fashion merchandising. She has also been inducted into Phi Kappa Phi honor society and was on the Dean's List all four years. She spent her junior spring semester attending the London College of Fashion in London.

Two hail from Boston

Mountainside residents Stacy M. Feinstein and Brian E. Targum were among the 4,683 students who received degrees from Boston University during commencement exercises May 12.

Law degree earned

Barbara J. Pettit, the daughter of John and Sylvia Pettit of Mountainside, was among the 226 law students who were awarded degrees from Western New England College School of Law at the commencement ceremony May 18 at the Springfield Symphony Hall.

Hollister makes Grinnell dean's list

Anne B. Hollister, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hollister of Mountainside and a graduate of Jonathan Dayton Regional High School in Springfield, has been named to the Dean's List at Grinnell College.

NJIT lists grads

New Jersey Institute of Technology bestowed 721 degrees during its annual commencement ceremony May 23 at the Garden State Arts Center in Hoboken.

Fin' N Feather

239 MORRIS AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, N.J. (Serving the area for over 39 years)

Marion S. Mogielnicki Attorney at Law

Member: Family Law Section, New Jersey State Bar Association, Union County Bar Association

Good news for people with cataracts

If you have cataracts, you are well aware of the BAD NEWS...glare problems and blurred vision. HERE'S THE GOOD NEWS: The cataracts can now be removed by a skilled surgeon with 22 years of experience at NO OUT-OF-POCKET COST TO YOU!

Marvin G. Frank, M.D., F.A.C.S. 900 Stuyvesant Avenue Union, New Jersey (908) 687-0330

FDU lists grads

Fairleigh Dickinson University's Florham-Medison campus announced the names of its May undergraduate and graduate candidates for degrees.

Carchman graduates

Fred M. Carchman, son of Miriam and Maurer Carchman of Springfield, graduated cum laude from the University of Connecticut in Storrs, Conn., with a bachelor of science degree in accounting.

Castelo is on list

Students recently received academic honors for the spring semester at Franklin & Marshall College.

Rutgers lists grads

Rutgers University has released the names of students who earned degrees during commencement exercises recently.

Stevens has scholarship

Greg Stevens of Springfield received the Scholarship Award in grade six and the Principal's Prize at The Pingry School, Short Hills campus.

Two make Dean's List

Joshua Brinen and Sandra Kell of Springfield have been named to the Dean's List for the spring semester at Bucknell University.

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OPINION PAGE

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WHAT IS IT? WHERE IS IT? — The sign pictured in last week's photo feature can be found outside the Springfield First Aid Squad headquarters. If you know of a site or landmark that would make an interesting photo feature, let us know. If we use the idea for publication, we'll give you credit for it in the Springfield Leader.

No forced giving

No man is an island, or so the saying goes, and some people want to prove that point by requiring people to reach out and "touch" one another out of a sense of community.

A bill was recently introduced by state Sen. Richard Codey that would make community service a requirement for high school graduation, building on the premise that each individual is a part of the broader society and should, therefore, give back to that society. High-schoolers would be required to perform 10 hours of after-school volunteer service per year during their time in high school in order to earn their sheepskins.

The bill has some very good intentions. It hopes to teach our young people to care for those less fortunate and encourages altruistic giving and dedication to society and their fellow humans.

These are noble goals and fine sentiments to be encouraged in our youths. Without caring for one another, humans never would have overcome their barbarism and civilization would not have reached the level it has.

And the bill would lessen the amount of time that so many teen-agers waste by watching television or pursuing other unproductive, selfish, mindless activities.

But it presents a number of problems. While it would be good for the individuals and nice for society to involve teen-agers and young adults in more socially-useful pursuits than "television hour," how far can the state go in mandating extracurricular activities for teen-agers?

What's next? Everybody has to join a scout troop because scouting does good work? Everybody has to join an athletic team to stay in shape? Community service creates a sense of volunteerism, and therefore makes this bill a paradox.

There are plenty of young people out there who are already very involved in our schools and communities. We should not make demands on the time of high schoolers who already may have to juggle their schedules-to-fit-in soccer-practice or homework, not to mention a social life or other extracurricular interests they may want to pursue in their hours away from school.

Requiring teen-agers to perform volunteer work could lead to their exploitation by those who are only too happy to let them take on the grunt work of serving the community.

It is not the place of government to enter into the lives of teen-agers, or anyone, to the extent that it tells them that they must sacrifice their talents and free time caring for others.

This is the United States and in the United States we believe in allowing people to choose how they want to live their lives. People can choose the religion they want to follow, or they can choose not to adhere to any religion. They can choose to be involved in their communities, or they can choose to be hermits.

It may not sound like a very civic-minded argument, but we Americans have the right to be selfish, to be self-centered, and to decide for ourselves, if, when, how, and for whom we are going to make our sacrifices. It's part of the liberty this country cherishes.

Community service is wonderful and should be encouraged, but you just can't mandate the issue, not in America.

Call the editors

Ever want to talk about something you think should be in the paper? Know something that might make a good story? Do you know someone who might be the subject of an interesting feature? Do you know of a sports story we don't?

If the answer to any or all of the above is yes, call the editors at 686-7700.

General or spot news: David Brown, managing editor.
Sports news: Jim Parachini, sports editor.
Problems: Tom Canavan, editor.

Budget hocus pocus endangers fiscal future

Ever since Gov. Jim Florio proposed his controversial carpooling \$2.8 billion tax package, he's had very few friends in his favor. Inheriting a massive \$1 billion budgetary deficit from the "Houdini" of budget politics, Tom Kean, Florio addressed the budget in a glib fashion early on in 1990.

I will never forget what he said then how many times the governor told me and countless other journalists how New Jersey would be fiscally better off than other states because he made the tough budget decisions.

The governor actually predicted that while voters stewed over last year's budget, Wall Street would respond favorably. Specifically, bond houses like Standard and Poor's and Moody's would continue to give New Jersey its "AAA" bond rating. This highly-coveted status has allowed the state to borrow money, often for much-needed capital projects, at a cheaper rate because the lender believes the borrower is a good risk. It's not so easy to come up with that, it affects everybody's pocketbook.

The governor's argument at that time was credible and he never missed the opportunity to tell anyone who might listen that New Jersey was one of only seven states with an "AAA" bond rating. It was by far the biggest feather in the embattled-governor's cap.

Since then, something happened on the road to Wall Street. After ignoring several serious warnings from Standard and Poor's to stop monkeying around with this year's budget, the governor, along with the Democratic Legislature, enacted a 1992 budget that cost us our prized bond rating.

Specifically, Standard and Poor's was concerned with the exotic, quick-fix, one-shot gimmicks used to close the \$1.5 billion gap. Instead of biting the bullet and making the really tough budget decisions, including the possibility of raising taxes again or reducing back some goodies, they opted for a highly-questionable \$400 million sale of road to the New Jersey Turnpike, the accelerated collection of utility taxes and other funding expedients.

Employed to match income with spending, and the issuance by New Jersey of tax and revenue anticipation notes for the first time in the state's history.

Simply put, it was a lot of budgetary "hocus pocus."

Wall Streeters also weren't thrilled that bigger-than-ever rebates were given to rate taxpayers at a time when the state treasury was clearly in no position to do so. In fact, when Republican State Sen. Henry McNamara courageously raised the possibility of delaying the rebates until the state could afford it, he was roundly ridiculed by the governor and his pandering legislative colleagues from both sides. The senator has been heard from since.

The biggest problem with the way Florio and the Democratic Legislature chose to "balance" this budget was that they did it with about \$1 billion in one-time revenue sources that will be unavailable next year. Actions which

Standard and Poor's believes will "create greater difficulty in 1993 and future deficits."

The logic of the Florio administration is that the state's economy will miraculously turn around and a new stream of revenues will be found for next year. This, in spite of the fact that few, if any, respected economists predict such a turnaround.

According to economics professor William Freund, who served on the governor's Economic Policy Council under four New Jersey governors, "What they (Florio and the Democrats) did was politically expedient, but not economically sound or smart, and they know it in Trenton."

The governor says the AAA downgrading "is like going from being an 'A+' student to being an 'A' student. While it's disappointing that one of Wall Street's houses has taken this step, investment bankers tell us the immediate impact on New Jersey's bonds is negligible."

One must wonder why last year the governor said the bond rating was so crucial to retain, but by this year, it's a big deal, some sort of luxury we can live without. A little consistency is in order.

Heard, I'm not sure Florio is right. Going from "AAA" to "AA+" will probably cost only between \$450,000 to \$2 million more to borrow money this fiscal year. But what is not simply "negligible" is the political damage it does to the governor, the Democrats and to the fiscal health of the state. That's real. This is a big embarrassment, no matter how the Democrats choose to describe it.

Of course, the governor will say, "Look around you. Things are a lot

worse in Connecticut, New York or Massachusetts." Again, he's technically right. But Florio has helped enable for the past 18 months about the value of the "AAA" bond rating as something that made our state special, different from our struggling neighbors. It was a reason for businesses to locate and invest their bucks here. And yes, a reason for people to be impressed by our political leaders for making tough fiscal decisions to maintain the "AAA" status.

Look, I don't envy Jim Florio. No sane person would. The fiscal choices he's had to make. No matter what he does, he's going to make a lot of people angry because sacrificing is the order of the day when balancing budgets in the face of diminishing revenues.

As for the gleeful Republicans, they'll just continue to grandstand and posture, offering no realistic budget alternatives while spending their time, thinking of catchy one-liners to attack the governor and the Democrats in preparation for this fall's legislative elections.

Last year, Jim Florio stood up to the political heat and did what was necessary to preserve the state's fiscal integrity. But I guess Florio figured, "Enough of this doing the right thing. There are elections to win and debts to be put off until tomorrow."

But tomorrow will be here soon enough and the bill will come due. Only then, the pain will be worse than anyone imagined.

Steve Adubato Jr. is a political analyst for WJWR-TV, a former state legislator and an instructor of public administration and mass media at Rutgers University.

letters to the editor

Significant step in preserving state

To the Editor:

The adoption of the New Jersey Development and Redevelopment Plan on July 12 by the State Planning Commission is a significant step in preserving New Jersey's future.

While the final version of the state plan is some months away, the current phase represents an important milestone.

After years of tolerating intrusive development and voicing anxious questions about the future, the people of New Jersey now have a planning instrument with clear guidelines for the viability of every municipality.

The plan recognizes the interests and relationships among neighboring communities and counties. It considers and offers remedies for transportation and traffic, the environment, housing, health concerns, open space and recreation areas, and many other general and specific factors.

It encourages growth where there are roads, bridges, sewers and other infrastructure to handle development efficiently. The plan appears for investment by the public and private sectors.

From the outset, the plan recognizes the diversity of the state's character. Its objectives distinguish among metropolitan, suburban, fringe, rural and environmentally sensitive areas.

Not born overnight, this plan was conceived and spearheaded by far-sighted individuals concerned about the immediate and future quality of life in our state.

We are certainly proud of State Planning Commission Chairman James Gilbert, a leader in the movement toward realization of a state master plan. He was motivated by a strong belief that poor planning was vitiating New Jersey. Mr. Gilbert was a member of a local planning board and an officer and president of the New Jersey Federation of Planning Officials — volunteer positions for the cause of better planning.

The State Planning Commission, although supported by Governors Florio and Kean, and implemented through action by the Legislature, has not had an easy time reaching this present stage.

Public hearings and commission work sessions revealed deep divisions about the outcome. Skeptics, opponents and special-interest groups had a field day. Some of this is evident in the commission's 228-page report, "Statement of Agreements, Disagreements and Consensus," a result of the municipal and county cross-acceptance input to the interim plan.

The report notes disagreements that continue unresolved. But, in far more instances, a resolution of issues is acknowledged.

While the state plan in any form may not please everyone, the commission has demonstrated remarkable understanding and compassion for varying viewpoints.

Every citizen, certainly elected officials, professional planners, developers and, most importantly, planning and zoning board members, should become familiar with the aspects of the plan.

The state plan and its objectives should not be ignored or callously regarded. It has much to offer.

The state plan is a living, breathing document that, with nurturing and support, will strategically guide communities toward excellence for generations.

Its arrival is most welcome. It's long overdue to the final adoption and implementation for the success of our state and every New Jersey community.

Joseph E. Doyle
President
New Jersey Federation of Planning Officials

A desire to encourage diversity

To the Editor:

In recent testimony before a subcommittee of the House Government Operations Committee, Secretary of Education Lamar Alexander questioned whether the Middle States Association, which accredits colleges and universities, should "dictate to institutions (on matters of) race, ethnicity, gender or age."

In fact, Middle States does no such thing. While our accreditation standards have now become the subject of some debate, when we look beyond the rhetoric, we usually find that we are in complete agreement with most of our critics on most of the issues.

Our standards for accreditation, as they relate to diversity, simply reflect a desire to encourage diversity in a manner each institution deems reasonable. We do not require numerical quotas, affirmative action or any other race-based remedies.

We consider diversity only in the context of an institution's sponsorship, history, goals and mission. No one would suggest, for example, that special purpose schools, such as historically black colleges, women's colleges or religious seminaries, be required to alter composition of their student bodies. These standards were adopted unanimously by our member institutions in the belief that diversity is an important component of the educational process.

In his testimony, Alexander pointed out that in America, "we celebrate our differences. They give us resources, creativity, energy, strength, but what makes our nation finally work is a spirit of tolerance and mutual respect for our differences."

Our position exactly.

Leon M. Goldstein, Chair
Commission on High Education
Middle States Association

on the record with C. Louis Bassano

In an effort to familiarize voters with the candidates running for election in the new 21st District, we intend to conduct and reproduce interviews with each of the six candidates running for state Senate and Assembly. This is the fourth of six interviews. Managing Editors David Brown and Alec Schwartz conducted this interview with Senate candidate C. Louis Bassano.

Question: "What are your three top issues if you were to be re-elected to the Senate in November?"

Answer: "I think the main objective that the legislators will attempt to deal with first is the Quality Education Act. If you were to look at this administration, the people of New Jersey were extremely angry over the \$2.6 or \$2.8 billion tax increase that the governor levied against the citizens of our state. Because of the Quality Education Act, people now perceive that this administration is incompetent. The fact that the Democrats had to change the bill a second time through amendments points out that there is a need for substantial change in the bill itself.

The Democratic majority in both houses are pointing with pride to how they're keeping down property taxes. What they fail to mention is that when you look at the QEA and the amount of state aid that is going to be taken from

thing they are doing is giving other time to the community. You want to make sure you have an ethics law in place that is equitable, and whether we do or not will be determined only by time. I think we will review it at some point, but I don't think it is a major priority."

Question: "What is another priority of yours?"

Answer: "I think another priority is taking a good honest look at the governor's tax package that was enacted. Already you have seen the repeal of two taxes. The heavy truck tax, which was enacted last year, virtually shut down the trucking industry in the state. The state, like most of the nation, is in a recession, and there is no doubt in my mind that New Jersey is suffering more through this recession because of this tax increase. The one thing that I remember as a kid is when John Kennedy took office, he was faced with a recession and the first thing he did was cut taxes. He put money back into the hands of the people to move the economy along. And when Ronald Reagan became president, he did the exact same thing. So what we did is just the opposite of what should have been done during a recessionary period. When you raise taxes, you take money out of the hands of people and that throws you further into a recessionary period. I think the Republican majority, which I hope will be attained, will look at some of those taxes and will try to pare them back, and will try to make some additional changes to the two repeals which have taken place. Hopefully, they will be able to move New Jersey's economy along a little more quickly than most of the Northeast."

Question: "Do you think we have to cut the size of government while cutting taxes?"

Answer: "I think there is a definite need to complete the audit that the governor has promised. Only if you get a genuine audit, and have an ongoing audit where you get efficiency in government will you be able to intelligently cut programs. Recent Star Ledger articles point out how you can save over \$1 billion and obviously we are not doing that. Government is extremely inefficient.

"One of the issues that I will be working on and which will be a priority to me is the constitutional amendment which would allow us to have a recessionary period government. What this would do is put us in the 7 to 8.5 percent growth area per year and allow just for that much growth. If you look at how much state government has grown in the past years, it has grown in leaps and bounds. As I said to you earlier, when I first went to Trenton, the budget was \$1.7 billion; today, it is pushing \$15 billion. Government cannot continue to grow at that pace. What we are getting is: tax the people, the extra money is there, new programs go into effect, suddenly there is not enough money again because the programs are out-pacied the income. tax the people again. So you get this up-and-down type of movement. And you can't have that. It is never going to work unless you face reality, and the reality is you have to control the growth of state government. The constitutional amendment that I am proposing would allow for an escape valve in the event that there is a particular problem, by allowing us to go beyond the constitutional cap. If two-thirds of the Legislature have voted to go beyond the constitutional cap, but it would lock us into a cap that we can work with and should be able to live with. And I think that is important to the taxpayers of this state."



most of the suburban districts in the next three to five years, the property taxes are going to go right through the ceiling. That's an issue the Republicans will have to address if they become the majority party in both houses. No issue needs more attention in my opinion than QEA. I think you are going to find, no matter who you speak to, that this is what they are going to be talking about."

Question: "Specifically, what do you propose to do?"

Answer: "Well, for one thing, the QEA took the teacher pension and annuity fund and took the employer's portion of the Social Security tax and will be forcing local municipalities to pay both of those items. Since 1955, the state has picked up the cost of both of those items. Putting that amount of money on the backs of the local school districts, which will pass it through to the local property taxpayer, will drastically hurt property taxes by driving property taxes up. In addition, the governor's Quality Education program takes state aid away from any of the suburban districts in addition to teacher's pension and annuity, in addition to the Social Security tax. Actually, it takes state aid away and in doing so state aid has to be made up somewhere. And again it's going to be through the local property taxes. When a community is scheduled to receive \$7 million this year and five years down the road, according to the formula, it only gets to be getting \$2 million, that difference has to be made up somewhere, and that is going to be in the property taxes."

Question: "Either way the money is being collected from taxes one place or another — state income or local property. So does it really matter?"

Answer: "I think when you're looking at a \$2.8 billion increase in state taxes, the money is going to be there to continue to pay for this type of program. Don't consider myself to be a real old-timer down in Trenton. A lot of people have been there a lot longer than I have, and yet, the first budget I worked on was only \$1.7 billion. This tax increase was \$1.1 billion more than the whole total budget. So that kind of gives you some idea as to just how drastic this increase was that was pushed through by the Democratic majority. And maybe that's a good reason for looking at a Republican majority and bringing some checks and balances back into this system, which we seem to have gotten away from."

Question: "Are you looking to repeal the QEA?"

Answer: "I think either we're going to repeal QEA or drastically amend QEA. One of the things that this administration did is, it did not take the time to allow the court to render its decision on the formula for funding education. It acted before the court even rendered its decision. The court's decision, when it finally came down, said that there is a need for about a half a billion dollars more in new aid to education. It should be geared to 30 districts, not changing education in any of the other districts, and it can be passed in over a four- to five-year period. This administration jumped headlong into this issue and just didn't take the time to wait for the courts to act and react to the court's decision. That's unfortunate, because the emphasis should be on the 30 special-needs districts and leave the other good districts alone. But that's not what we're doing with QEA. And that's another reason I don't think we should repeal it. I would like someone make a statement like that, I think, is a disgrace that he would move a bill without first understanding its ramifications and the content of the legislation that he's moving."

Question: "What are your thoughts about the ethics law?"

Answer: "I don't know that the ethics law that we passed is a good law or not. It's kind of like the tax. What you are going to have to do is see how it affects local municipalities. There's an outcry from local municipalities that it may be too restrictive. If that is the case, obviously, we are going to have to look at it and make some changes and some amendments. The one thing you don't want to do is discourage the person who wants to volunteer their time to a local board, but refuses because they are covered under this ethics law. And to the only

and there are other groups the same way. So there are issues that should be brought to the public. You should be able to circumvent the legislative process when the Legislature is lax in its duty."

Question: "Do you see yourself as a trustee or a spokesman for your constituents?"

Answer: "Well, I think that it's a combination of things. As a legislator, I think you are a representative. And as a representative, you normally have more information on a particular subject than the public. You try to represent your constituents and their views. One thing I have done is send out a questionnaire with 22-25 questions. We are fortunate enough to get 3.5 to 4 percent return on those questions. I take that questionnaire as to how I am going to vote on those issues when they come before me. When the answers come from the public, I have a member of my staff tally that poll. And out of 23, 24, 25 questions, two questions I will answer differently than the public wants me to vote. So I feel I am pretty close to representing their wishes on major issues, but I do recognize that I am a representative, a voice for them. There are times you have to lead."

Question: "What is your stance on abortion?"

Answer: "I have been basically a right-to-life person. It is an issue that I find completely frustrating because if you are not 100 percent with both sides, they want to beat up on you. I think the issue should be brought to a head in the state, by presenting a constitutional amendment which would outlaw abortion entirely. Let the public decide. If they public vote the amendment down, that's the end of the issue — we become a right-to-choice state — but let the public be heard on the issue, and the issue becomes a dead issue. This is where I am coming from."

Question: "Have you focused on any environmental legislation?"

Answer: "My concern for the environment has been mostly marine environment. I am a fisherman. I consider myself to be a sportsman. I have legislation that has been pending for quite a while now to establish an ocean sanctuary in our state. I am a member of the Littoral Society, which is down Sandy Hook. They are people who are very involved with the environment of the ocean. I have not done any great deal of work on clear air or anything of that type, but the ocean environment is something that is near and dear to my heart and for that reason, I will continue to work on that type of legislation."

Question: "Why have you sponsored a bill to legalize state-sponsored sports betting?"

Answer: "I put a bill in to legalize sports betting in the state of New Jersey. I think the Legislature made a mistake when the original casino legislation was enacted by not allowing for sports betting. I think it was just an oversight, in my opinion. I want to point out that on two occasions while in the Assembly, I voted against it. I did not think that casinos in New Jersey were good and I'm still not convinced, but they're there. It's an industry where 40,000 people are employed. Senior citizens depend on revenue for various programs from the profits that are derived from casino gambling. It is extremely frustrating for seniors, who in most cases can't get drugs because they make too much money, and not by many dollars. If you are making \$15,000 or \$16,000 a year, you are allowed low prescription drugs. If you are making \$18,000 or \$19,000, you are not going to be allowed. So most of the people I represent are not going to be allowed in that program.

"Allowing sports betting and using the proceeds from that to make prescription drugs available to more seniors is certainly one of the things we are going to look at. To use the revenues to directly lower the property tax for seniors is another thing we are going to look at. The argument that you don't want to legalize sports betting gets a slap right in the face when you look at FBI statistics and they tell you conservatively there is \$40 billion of illegal gambling taking place throughout the 50 states on sporting events. It's an industry that's out there already. It's not something I'm creating. Let's make it legal and derive some proceeds from it. Anyone who argues against sports betting is arguing for prohibition. It is the same type of concept. If I had my way, I would not want to see any gaming on sporting events. But the fact that it is happening already, New Jersey should take advantage of it and utilize the casinos as one area to allow it and to help the tracks in New Jersey. Allow the people to bet on sporting events at the tracks."

Question: "What are your views on initiative and referendum at the state level?"

Answer: "I voted for initiative and referendum. To me it is nothing more than giving the voters of this state more of a say in their government. I have absolutely no objection to that. I believe the people of New Jersey are intelligent enough to recognize a good question if it is on the ballot and will vote down a poor question if it is placed before them. I think initiative and referendum is power to the people. I see nothing wrong with allowing the people more say in the government."

Question: "Do you have concerns that we will have another California situation?"

Answer: "I think you can enact a type of initiative and referendum which is not going to make it possible to put every question on the ballot that easily. It is going to require some work to put a question on the ballot. If you do that, the public will not allow some cockamamie ideas to be put on ballot for vote."

Question: "Are there any items which you think would be particularly suited for I&R?"

Answer: "I have been working on legislation to have seatbelts placed in schoolbuses since I was a freshman in the Assembly in 1972. At the time, I had a son that had just started kindergarten. That youngster today is a civil engineer, having gone through MIT and Columbia University. Maybe I can get that bill enacted for my grandchildren, but I am convinced that if initiative and referendum were available, this bill would have been law. Right now they are helpless

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MONTHLY SPECIALS

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ALL DINNERS INCLUDE: CUP OF HOMEMADE SOUP, FRESH SALAD, ENTREE, DESSERT & COFFEE (Dessert - Your Choice of Ice Cream, Hot Fudge or Rice Pudding). SEVEN DOLLAR MENU RESTAURANT OPEN 11:30 TO 10 P.M. MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY.

- BROILED TENDER LOIN SIRLOIN STEAK with Potato and Vegetable \$11.95
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On August 4, 1991 Mrs. Prince's Stand will close. Four generations of Princes have been farming at this location for 81 years. We wish to thank all of our customers on behalf of all of the Princes for your loyal patronage throughout the years. It has been a pleasure serving you and hope to see you soon at a new location. We will miss you all!

Mrs. Prince & Donna

obituaries

Michael Pettesch

Michael Pettesch, 85, of Springfield, died July 22 in his home. Born in Yugoslavia, he lived in Elizabeth before moving to Springfield 13 years ago.

Ida L. Brown

Ida L. Brown, 79, of Kenilworth died July 20 in Union Hospital. Born in Roselle, she lived in Elizabeth before moving to Kenilworth 50 years ago.

Robert W. Cox Jr.

Robert W. Cox Jr., 34, of Kenilworth died July 23 in St. Elizabeth Hospital, Elizabeth. Born in Elizabeth, he lived in Kenilworth for many years.

Elinore Steinmetz

Elinore Steinmetz, 70, of Roselle, formerly the clerk of the borough's municipal court, died Saturday in her home.

Elizabeth Grabarz

Elizabeth Grabarz, 81, of Toms River, formerly of Springfield, died Saturday in the Jersey Shore Medical Center, Neptune.

Jennie Schroppe

Jennie Schroppe, 88, of Kenilworth died Friday in her home. Born in Newark, she lived in Kenilworth since 1936.

Richard Wasky

Richard Wasky, 60, of Kenilworth, who had been a member of the Kenilworth Board of Education, died Saturday.

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Public Notice

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF CONDITION (Including Domestic and Foreign Subsidiaries) OF THE NATIONAL COMMUNITY BANK OF NEW JERSEY

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Natalie A. Commerato

Natalie A. Commerato, 82, of Roselle Park died July 23 in Union Hospital. Mr. Commerato had been a machinist with the Phelps Dodge Co.

Nathan Fischbach

Nathan Fischbach, 86, of Springfield died July 19 in St. Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston. Born in Austria, he lived in New York City, Elizabeth and Newark before moving to Springfield.

Vincent R. Zelonis

Vincent R. Zelonis, 41, of Roselle Park died July 25 in his home. Born in Newark, he lived in Patin for 35 years before moving to Roselle Park last year.

Loretta A. Smith

Loretta A. Smith, 77, of Brick, formerly of Union, died July 18 in her home. Born in Newark, she moved to Union 27 years ago.

Joseph C. Feruce

Joseph C. Feruce of Union died July 19 in his home. Born in Philadelphia, Pa., he lived in Colonia for 23 years before moving to Union 12 years ago.

Mary June Winn

Mary June Winn, 62, of Montgomery, Ala., formerly of Union, died June 24 in Birmingham, Ala. Hospital. Born in Summit, Mrs. Winn lived in Union before moving to Alabama 13 years ago.

Ursula L. Juban

Ursula L. Juban, 70, of Union died July 23 in Hospital Center in Orange. Born in Germany, she lived in Newark before moving to Union 27 years ago.

Vincent Cerreto

Vincent Cerreto of Union died July 23 in Union Hospital. Born in Newark, he moved to Union 27 years ago.

Pauline Dragan

Pauline Dragan, 88, of Roselle died July 25 in Rahway Hospital. Born in Jersey City, she lived in Linden before moving to Roselle 35 years ago.

Death Notices

Edward R. Juban, 80, of Roselle, died July 23, 1991, beloved wife of the late Joseph Juban. Funeral service will be held at the St. Michael's Church, Union, Interment St. Gertrude's Cemetery.

John Uzzolino

John Uzzolino, 82, of Union died July 22 in St. James Hospital, Newark. Born in Newark, he lived in Union for 40 years.

Francis W. Vogler

Francis W. Vogler, 66, of Roselle died July 21 in University Hospital, Newark. Born in Newark, he moved to Roselle 20 years ago.

C.W. Gutekunst

Christopher W. Gutekunst, 78, of Union died July 24 in Morristown Memorial Hospital. Born in Newark, he lived in Union for 26 years.

Mary Donaldson

Mary Donaldson, 91, of Union died July 24 in the Manor Care Nursing Center, Mountaineer. Born in New Jersey, she lived in Maplewood for 40 years before moving to Union 24 years ago.

Lyle Sigmon

Lyle Sigmon, 39, of Scotch Plains, formerly of Union, died July 17 from injuries sustained in a boating accident in Amba in the Doctor Horacio E. Ochsler Hospital, Orange.

Daubes mark 50th year

Mr. and Mrs. William Daube of Union celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary July 7. A party was held May 18 in their honor given by their daughters, Carol Johnson of Cranford and Gail Rybinski of Rahway at the Galloping Hill Inn, Union.

Golden year observed

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kisselman of Union celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary July 14. A dinner party was held June 15 at L'Affaire Restaurant, Mountaineer, by their daughter and son-in-law, Betty and Neil Bjorkstrom of Greenbrook.

Caruso-Riordan wedding

Debbie Caruso, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Caruso of Kenilworth, was married May 19 to Michael J. Riordan, son of Mrs. Camella Riordan of Summit and the late John Riordan. The Rev. Edward Oehling officiated at the ceremony in St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Church, Kenilworth.

clubs in the news

The Union Chapter of Hadassah, Northern New Jersey Region, has announced events for the 1991-1992 season. The first fund-raising event will be a trip to Atlantic City's Bally's Park Place.

happy birthday

Patrick Lombardo, Steven, son of Frank and Valerie Lombardo of Kenilworth, celebrated his fourth birthday on July 14. Joining in the celebration were his brothers, Kevin and Kelly; his sister, Catherine; his grandparents; Walter and Emily Pilot of Kenilworth; his aunt and godmother, Jeanette Azala of North Brunswick.

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Photo By Barbara Kakhala

Swimmers Chris Johanssen and Laura DiCosmo, pictured here with Springfield's 9-12-year-old girls medley relay team, joined teammate Chris Stracey at last weekend's New Jersey Long Course Junior Olympics at Princeton University. From left are Johanssen, Andrea Zawerczuk, DiCosmo and Barbara Maul.

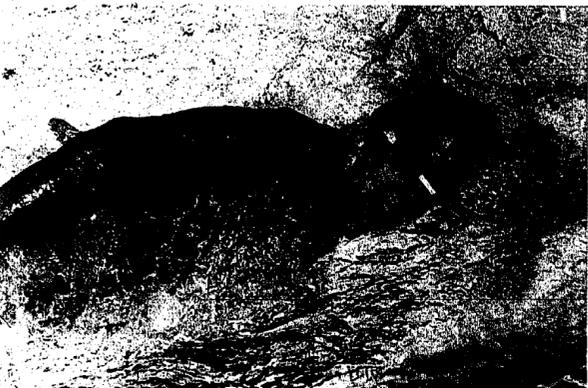
3 Springfield swimmers excel at Junior Olympics

Stracey, Johanssen, DiCosmo splash competition

Three top Springfield swimmers traveled to Princeton University this past weekend to participate in the New Jersey Long Course Junior Olympics. Once there, Chris Stracey, Chris Johanssen and Laura DiCosmo met tough competition from the more than 735 swimmers representing 41 teams drawn from all over the state. Individual stroke events were held in both the 50-meter and the 100-meter length, though summer league swimming only includes the shorter of these two distances. Thus, the three swimmers faced many events for which they have not been training since last winter. Facing the top swimmers in the state, the girls generally fared much better than they were seeded in the meet. Johanssen, swimming as an 11-12-year-old, was seeded 31st in her first event, the 50-meter backstroke, but managed to finish 18th in a field of 57 swimmers. In the 50-meter breaststroke, she finished 31st in a field of 57 with a time of 42.95 seconds. On Saturday, Johanssen finished 30th in a field of 45 in the 100-meter breaststroke and on Sunday, placed 21st in a field of 44 in the 100-meter backstroke. Also on Sunday, Johanssen came in 29th in a field of 49 in the 50-meter butterfly. On Saturday, DiCosmo was seeded 71st in the 50-meter freestyle, but pulled out a surprising 32nd-place finish in a field of 78 swimmers. DiCosmo bettered her 68th seed in the 100-meter freestyle event on Sunday with a time of 1:20.63. Stracey fared particularly tough competition after her early July birthday moved her out of her summer league 11-12-year-old age group and into the 13-14-year-old group. Not to be daunted, however, Stracey fared well in her first outing in the older age group. On Friday, she finished 54th in a field of 63 swimmers in the 200-meter individual medley, a new event for her. Stracey has had record-breaking performances in the 100-meter individual medley for the Springfield swimming team in the North Jersey Summer Swim League. She holds the team's record in that event. Returning to a more familiar event on Saturday, Stracey placed 52nd in a field of 75 swimmers in the 50-meter freestyle. On Sunday, Stracey placed 35th in a field of 41 in the 100-meter breaststroke.

Garden State Games hockey contests now in full swing

Preliminary-round Garden State Games ice hockey contests began this week, Monday, Tuesday and yesterday, and will continue today and Monday and Tuesday of next week. Medal-round games are scheduled for Wednesday, the gold medal game, and Thursday, Aug. 8, the bronze medal contest. This year the Garden State Games ice hockey competition is happy to welcome the support of the New Jersey Devils Fan Club. Club members helped out during the registration of players prior to the tryout sessions. The club will also provide financial and logistical support during the games themselves. The Devils Fan Club has over 1,650 members and they are actively supporting youth hockey in New Jersey through this and other efforts. The Summit YWCA is offering a Lifeguard Certification Training Course beginning tomorrow and running through Friday, Aug. 16 at the YW, 79 Maple St. in Summit. Taught by certified trainers from the American Red Cross, the course will run from 12:30 until 4 p.m. each day, excluding weekends. Participants must hold valid Standard First Aid and CPR certification to be certified as lifeguards. For additional information and to register by phone with a major credit card, call the YWCA at 908-273-4242. The front desk is staffed Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and weekends from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



File photo

Springfield swimmer Chris Stracey, who turned 13 last month, faced tough competition in the 13-14-year-old age group at the New Jersey Long Course Olympics held last weekend at Princeton University. She competed in individual medley, freestyle and breaststroke events.

UCC men's soccer kicks off Sept. 17

The Union County College men's soccer team will play 12 contests in 1991 in the Garden State Athletic Conference, one of the nation's strongest soccer leagues, according to a 1991 schedule announced by UCC athletic director Fred Perry. Under head coach Ted Thamey, the Owls will play 17 matches overall, hoping to qualify for the Region 19, National Junior College Athletic Association Tournament on Nov. 6, 9 and 10. Union will open its season at home against Bucks, Pa., Community College on Sept. 17 at 3:30 p.m. at Nonahogan Park. The Owls will meet six Garden State Conference foes at home: Middlesex County College on Sept. 25 at 3:30, Ocean County College on Sept. 28 at noon, Sussex Community College on Oct. 12 at noon, Bergen Community College on Oct. 23 at 4:00, County College of Morris on Oct. 30 at 3:00 and Burlington County College on Nov. 2 at noon. All home matches will take place at Nonahogan Park.

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Happy Birthday
If you would like everyone to join in the celebration at your child's birthday, just clip out the coupon below and send us your child's photo along with the information requested and we will print it as near the big day as possible. Photos must be received two weeks prior to publication. Enclose a 2 x 3" or larger photo (black & white is best, but we'll take color shots), with your child's name on the back. Relatives or their parents must put return address on the back of the picture. Fill out the following form, clip and mail to:
BIRTHDAY PARTY
WORRALL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS INC.
1291 Stuyvesant Avenue
P.O. Box 9109
Union, N.J. 07083
If you have any questions, please call 686-7700

son/daughter of _____
(first and last names)
Daytime telephone number _____
Joining in the celebration are _____ (sisters/brothers) of _____ (grandparents names) and _____ (city) of _____
Be sure to enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for the return of your child's photo.

DOOR SALE!
FREE INSTALLATION
DIRECT FROM FACTORY
DRAFT FREE MAGNETIC SEAL CUSTOM COLORS CUSTOM SIZES
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Roselle songbird will make her jazz club debut



Fran McGuire

By Bea Smith
Lifestyle Editor
When Fran McGuire of Roselle, composer and lyricist, makes her jazz club debut Sunday at the Angry Squire on Seventh Avenue in Manhattan, her husband, Jack, and four of their five children will be in the audience sharing a sacred secret with mom. Her debut will mark her return after a 28-year sabbatical this year. She had appeared last year in cabaret performances at Upstairs At Green Street, Darny's Skylight Room, the Village Gate and Don't Tell Mama, all in New York City. But prior to this year, McGuire had decided not to appear professionally while her five children were growing up. "Back in those days," she said, "it just wasn't right for a young wife to appear in any night club. "The irony of it," she grinned wick- edly, is that "I met my husband, Jack, in a bar in Philadelphia, my home-

town. He was a bartender and my uncle introduced us. "I was always singing," McGuire recalled. "I was in a couple of musicals in high school, and when I was graduated, I started taking lessons from Art Singer, a well-known coach in Philadelphia. He wrote 'At the Hop.' Actually, I did demo work on recordings, and as a teen-ager I sang with a local band. I played in local nightclubs. After I got a job at Western Union and started singing telegraph songs over the phone, I ran into a saxophone player I knew from school. He came in to send a telegram. So, I took a singing course at the New School of Social Research in Greenwich Village, and I took two performance classes to work up enough courage to get up before an audience again. Oh," she exclaimed, "I also lost 42 pounds. McGuire actually started "professionally again in February of last year at the Village Gate, weekly as part of their showcase. My four children who live in the area come to see all my shows and they bring their friends. And Jack," she said proudly, "is my biggest fan. "Strangely enough," McGuire said, "my children's friends even come when my children don't come. I'm building up a cult following with their friends. And my friends from Millburn always come to see my shows." She works practically every night of the week. And shouldn't she be

sleeping and resting during the day-time? No way. "I work 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day for a general contracting firm in New York City called OD&P Inc. I do everything there because I'm an office manager. I get up at 5:30 and commute to get there by 8 a.m. And one night a week, I practice with Barry Levitt, my musical director. He's a South Orange resident. He also will play the piano when I make my jazz debut on Sunday. The rest of my time is taken up by research. I manage to get to the Lincoln Center Library for the Performing Arts and I get my material there. And," she mused, "I was a million of self-help books for creative visual arts whenever I can," to gain confidence in appearing before live audiences. McGuire said that "getting up in front of an audience has been the hardest part of my life. It is the biggest thing. But the music means so much to me," she explained, "it's such an important part of my life... and my personality. You know, when you get up there, the more relaxed you are on stage, the more relaxed your audience is. And you make them feel good. It's like giving everybody a big hug and kisses... the way I used to give my kids when they were good to me." "Because," she smiled, "I know it's all been worthwhile."

Jewish heritage is celebrated

The Israeli Festival of Union, in conjunction with the recreation department of the township of Union, will be sponsoring its annual "Jewish Music Under the Stars" program today, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in Frisberger Park, located behind the municipal building, 1976 Morris Ave., Union. Music will be provided by the Richard Ellis Orchestra of Clifton, featuring Richard Rand and Ellis Berger. This event is free and open to the Jewish community. Participants are requested to bring lawn chairs or blankets. In case of rain, call 908-687-4124 for the indoor location. For other information, call the Israeli Festival of Union at 908-687-4124. The Richard Ellis Orchestra is well-known for performing at bar and bat mitzvahs, weddings and throughout the New Jersey/New York metropolitan area. Ellis Berger, the percussionist, has appeared throughout the country with such performers as Yoel Sharabi and Paul Zim. The Richard

Call the editors

Ever want to talk about something you think should be in the paper? Know something that might make a good story? Do you know someone who might be the subject of an interesting feature? Do you know of a sports story we don't?

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Lisa Batitto, Editor
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RESTAURANT GUIDE

IN THE SPOTLIGHT
CORTINA
An extensive selection of the very finest Italian dishes, served in a romantic, Old World setting. Your attentive hosts, Frank and Janice Romanelli. Ample parking front and back.
By Debbi Agins
I was just telling a friend the other day that I was looking for a good Italian restaurant. The opportunity presented itself in timely fashion when I was asked to try Cortina Restaurant. Cortina is a special restaurant; a place where Old World charm and New York sophistication come together in a unique and inviting manner. The restaurant conveniently has two entrances, with ample parking near the front entrance after 5 p.m. and a large parking lot at the rear. The selection at Cortina is quite impressive. There is a full page listing appetizers alone, including three different types of soup (\$1.95-\$3.95) and a Caesar salad for two (\$7.95). Since all entrees include a tossed green salad, we ordered appetizers. Mine was the Punghe Ripioni Ai Granchi (\$3.75), large mushrooms stuffed with crabmeat and topped with a creamy bagnaio sauce — delicious and filling. My companion chose the Antipasto Gambieri e Vongole (\$3.75), shrimp in a light sauce and stuffed clams. I tasted both and found them to be equally as good as my mushrooms, particularly the shrimp. By the time our entrees arrived, I was slightly more proficient in Italian. I had chosen the Gamberi Portofino (\$14.95), which, as promised, was shrimp baked in butter, garlic and herbs. There were a number of large, tender shrimp and the sauce was divine. My companion chose one of the specials, Gnocchi, which was topped with a choice of marinara sauce or a meat sauce. He was quite pleased with the blend of beef and veal in the meat sauce. Other entrees included Chicken Parmigiana (\$13.25), Veal Marsala (\$14.75), and a large selection of pasta dishes. Though quite full after our plates were cleared, I willingly allowed myself to be coaxed into dessert. My companion, showing great restraint, ordered the fresh honeydew melon. I, on the other hand, could not resist the lure of the Homemade Chocolate Mousse Torte (\$3.75) and was glad I gave in. I consider myself a chocolate mousse connoisseur, and Cortina's was definitely one of the best. Other desserts include Homemade Cannoli (\$3.25), Homemade Cheesecake (\$3.75), and the Cortina Grand Mariner Souffle (\$3.50). Be sure to try either the espresso or cappuccino along with your dessert. Before leaving, the Romanellis thanked us for coming, and I assured them we would return soon. We walked out full and content, and the best part is that I can now tell my friend that I found great Italian food at Cortina Restaurant.
CORTINA — 28 W. North Ave., Cranford. Closed Mondays. Open for lunch Tuesday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Dinner Tuesday-Friday, 5 p.m.-10 p.m. Saturday 5 p.m.-11 p.m.; Sunday 4 p.m.-9 p.m. Appropriate dress requested. All major credit cards accepted.

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Behind-the-scenes action often rivals on-screen happenings

As threatened last week, I am back with my second column about the entertainment business.

A taste of Hollywood

By Larry Haber

Most people think the glamour, gossip and scandal of the business comes from the actors in front of the camera — wrong! The people who run the studios and spend the money are as brilliant, goofy and sexy as anybody, except maybe Madonna and Laine, that you could see hearing their hips heave up and down.

What, you may ask, was the criteria for throwing all this money at Mr. Weintraub and associates? Mr. Weintraub was a Hollywood personality and had produced some movies and promoted music groups, and made a nice impression, although I am not sure any impression is worth that kind of money. More importantly, he is a man of money. More importantly, he is a man of money.

few deals and there were big fees for Wall Street house attached to those deals. Hopefully, not too many widows and orphans invested their grocery money.

If you are a big boy throwing big bucks around you figure to win some and lose some and take your lumps. Right? Wrong. When the circus parade comes over who cleans up after the phantoms? The lawyers. There is a classic action salt filed a few months back by a group of investors in WEG alleging bad faith and asking \$75 million in damages.

of attorneys have gainful employment. The next drama features the richest man in America who wanted to help a friend save his company from being swallowed up by a raider.

In 1986, Sumner Redstone, arguably the smartest and toughest theater circuit owner in the country, made a bid to acquire controlling interest in Orion Pictures. Orion is a mini-major, meaning it is one very big stock removed from being considered a major studio such as Paramount, Universal or Disney. The usual difference is lack of equity and sometimes lack of talent. Now the guiding spirit and founder of Orion is Arthur Krim, who turned a shell of a company, Filmways, into the present day Orion. Mr. Krim has had many successful years in the film business, and I have been told by people who know him that he is an extremely intelligent man. Extremely intelligent people know when they are outgunned and Mr. Krim knew he could not mount a successful defense against Mr. Redstone's thrusts. In searching around for a white knight, Mr. Krim went to

his dear friend, John Kluge. Mr. Kluge, no slouch in his own right, owns most of Metromedia, Inc. and is said by *Forbes* magazine to have a personal net worth in excess of \$5 billion. Kluge is placed on Orion's board of directors and proceeds to buy out Kluge for dinner, although he might have a different answer for the next friend who asks a favor.

Next week I will talk about the biggest debacle of all, but before I sign off let's have a little contest to those of you who have stayed awake through this article can win some prizes. The first 15 people who can name the five biggest box office hits of all time will get a pair of tickets to my favorite theater, the New Park Cinema, in Roselle Park. To five really bright people who can name the five pictures in order, highest box office gross to lowest, not only do you get the tickets but you also get a current movie poster. Call the theater at 908-241-2603. See you at the movies. A taste of Hollywood is a weekly column by Larry Haber.

a \$50 million bank payment the end of August. People with direct contacts to the Kluge organization have told this reporter that Kluge does not want to put any more money into Orion. Even if Orion goes under, Kluge can still get a good dinner, although he might have a different answer for the next friend who asks a favor.

Next week I will talk about the biggest debacle of all, but before I sign off let's have a little contest to those of you who have stayed awake through this article can win some prizes. The first 15 people who can name the five biggest box office hits of all time will get a pair of tickets to my favorite theater, the New Park Cinema, in Roselle Park. To five really bright people who can name the five pictures in order, highest box office gross to lowest, not only do you get the tickets but you also get a current movie poster. Call the theater at 908-241-2603. See you at the movies. A taste of Hollywood is a weekly column by Larry Haber.

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CHILD CARE: Warm, caring person to provide transportation and care to 2 boys ages 10 and 12. Monday-Friday afternoons, 2:00pm, starting August 1st. Must have own car. Call 908-234-5678.

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CHILD CARE: Housekeeping. Care for 2 children, ages 5 and 4. Non-smoker, driver, references. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Call 908-234-5678.

DRIVERS NEEDED: Part time, for rapid car wash. No experience. No advertising. Potential \$1000 per month. Call 908-234-5678.

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horoscope

For week of Aug. 4-Aug. 10: ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Good time to get rid of a lemon. Your cupid's mentality is not always reciprocal. Deal in specifics, facts.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Personal relationships brighten up your world. Notice is given that a desirable one is interested.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Reclaiming friend thinks you bubble on. Pull off a remarkable internet quotient that brings dullards a great deal of pleasure.

CAPRICORN (Jan. 22 to Jan. 19) You explore various career areas. Strong views of emotional force leaves you concerned about love interest's real intentions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Reading, writing, arithmetic are your forte. You're just as soon ignore. Real interest is toward opposite sex and social playground.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Electronic devices and New Age concepts keep you thinking about what might be in a very short time. Rejuvenation of self truly begins.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Edited by Trude Michel Jaffe. ACROSS: 1. Rush, 5. In a way, 6. Midsouth, 10. - vault, 14. Main artery, 15. Evaluate, 16. Beasts of burden, 17. Did a mailroom, 18. Job, 19. Bob follower, 20. Dozes, 21. Phil's relative, 22. Notice, 23. Greek letters, 24. Amusingly outlandish, 27. Actor Walter, 28. Evening, 29. Roma, 30. Miscellaneous mixture, 31. Scatter, 32. Scams, 33. "I'm a lovely day," 34. Embodiment, 42. Roman, 43. Roman, 44. Town near Padua, 45. Bill herb of the Bible, 46. Rejoiced, 49. Kind of energy, 51. The fleet, 52. Computer insert, 53. Carrier letters, 54. Destined, 60. King Athaliah, for one, 61. Government agency, 63. Citric, 64. Text analyzer, 65. Synthetic fiber, 66. Elephants as a group, 67. Acorn, 68. Poppers, DOWN: 1. Wasteful, 2. Baiting bunch, 3. Gaelic, 4. Major's suffix.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE: ACROSS: 1. Rush, 5. In a way, 6. Midsouth, 10. - vault, 14. Main artery, 15. Evaluate, 16. Beasts of burden, 17. Did a mailroom, 18. Job, 19. Bob follower, 20. Dozes, 21. Phil's relative, 22. Notice, 23. Greek letters, 24. Amusingly outlandish, 27. Actor Walter, 28. Evening, 29. Roma, 30. Miscellaneous mixture, 31. Scatter, 32. Scams, 33. "I'm a lovely day," 34. Embodiment, 42. Roman, 43. Roman, 44. Town near Padua, 45. Bill herb of the Bible, 46. Rejoiced, 49. Kind of energy, 51. The fleet, 52. Computer insert, 53. Carrier letters, 54. Destined, 60. King Athaliah, for one, 61. Government agency, 63. Citric, 64. Text analyzer, 65. Synthetic fiber, 66. Elephants as a group, 67. Acorn, 68. Poppers, DOWN: 1. Wasteful, 2. Baiting bunch, 3. Gaelic, 4. Major's suffix.

Pia Zadora to perform. Pia Zadora will bring Montclair State's 1991 TheaterFest to a close when she takes to the stage for six performances, running through Aug. 10. The performer will be accompanied by the 22-piece Vincent Falcone Orchestra. Opening for Zadora will be Emmy Award-winning comedian Philip Wallford.

Zadora, now in her early 30s, began her career at the age of six, when she was selected by Burgess Meredith to appear with Tallulah Bankhead in the Broadway play "Mildred Purvis." Describing herself as a "Broadway Baby," she went on to perform in 10 Broadway plays, including "Fiddler on the Roof," "The Sound of Music," "Annie" and "Dames at Sea."

In 1984, Zadora journeyed to London to record the album "Pia and Phil," featuring the London Philharmonic Orchestra under conductor/arranger Robert Farnon. Zadora also collaborated with Farnon for her 1985 album, "I Am What I Am," and another album, with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, slated for a fall release.

Zadora's six performances will take place in the air-conditioned Memorial Auditorium at 8 p.m. from Tuesday through Aug. 9 and at 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 10. Tickets are \$20 (\$22 for Friday and Saturday). For further ticket information, contact the TheaterFest Box Office on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 893-5112.

Program offers quality health insurance

Meeting the need for affordable health insurance is the goal of a new program which involves many Essex and Union County physicians in the Saint Barnabas area of influence. Physicians members of the Saint Barnabas-Metrowest IPA group are involved with the new program called USLife Care.

A spokesperson said, "We're acutely aware of the growing concern that health insurance may become too expensive, or worse, not available to many workers and their families. It is reassuring that some insurance companies have taken innovative steps to work with physicians to create affordable medical costs and help bring valuable new insurance programs to the small business community. Preventive care is covered. The spokesperson said, "Preventive care may lead to detecting a life-threatening condition which can be successfully treated. It's another important way to avoid serious illness and reduce healthcare costs."

The St. Barnabas-Metrowest IPA is an organization of area physicians representing all specialties. It is one of more than 10 such groups in the northern part of the state participating in USLife Care.

lower medical costs and help bring valuable new insurance programs to the small business community. Preventive care is covered. The spokesperson said, "Preventive care may lead to detecting a life-threatening condition which can be successfully treated. It's another important way to avoid serious illness and reduce healthcare costs."

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Romantic comedy takes stage

Take a quartet of young performers, add them to two stories full of love and comedy, and mix well in two acts of solid musical comedy and you have the recipe for a summer evening of entertainment. The production is "Romance, Romance," the Broadway musical being presented by Summerfun Theater, Inc., Tuesday through Aug. 10 at the Weiss Arts Center in Montclair.

The final presentation of Summerfun's expanded 20th anniversary season "Romance, Romance" is a finale full of love and laughter. Tickets are \$14 standard on weekdays, \$17 standard on Friday and Saturday.

to their surprise that fidelity is more exciting than seduction. Equity actor Tim Herman and Jennifer Westfeldt are the old world lovers who discover that sophistication isn't everything, while Janet Sales and Jeremy Zucker are featured as the couple's romantic reflections.

The show will be Tuesday through Aug. 10 at 8 p.m. A matinee is scheduled for 2 p.m. today. For ticket reservations and further information, call the box office Mondays through Saturdays at 256-0576.

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The show will be Tuesday through Aug. 10 at 8 p.m. A matinee is scheduled for 2 p.m. today. For ticket reservations and further information, call the box office Mondays through Saturdays at 256-0576.

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Dr. John Milano and Dr. Vera Khrakovsky

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What's Going On?

FLEA MARKET. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY. August 10th and 11th. EVENT: Flea Market and Cake Sale. PLACE: St. Michael's Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church, 277 Oliver Street, Newark, New Jersey (Church Grounds). TIME: Saturday, 11am-5pm; Sunday, 12 noon to 5pm. ORGANIZATION: St. Michael's Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church.

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