





### news clips

#### Local blood drives set

The Westfield/Mountainside Chapter of the American Red Cross in cooperation with New Jersey Blood Services will have a blood drive Sunday at the Presbyterian Church on Mountain Avenue, Westfield, from 3 to 6 p.m. Anyone who lives or works in Westfield and Mountainside can replace units of blood at no charge.

The Springfield community will also conduct a blood drive in conjunction with the North Jersey Blood Center today at the First Presbyterian Church Parish House, located at 37 Church Hill in Springfield, from 1 to 8 p.m. Groups participating in this drive include Springfield municipal employees, various churches, Springfield Education Association and Joint PTA, and all synagogues. The drive marks the third decade that members of the community have united to help maintain an adequate blood supply. Residents in good health are urged to make a lifesaving contribution.

Participants must be between the ages of 17 and 76 to donate blood. Seventeen-year-olds must have the consent of a parent.

The North Jersey Blood Center collects and distributes more than 70,000 pints of blood each year, and serves more than 40 hospitals in northern and central New Jersey. "Blood donations are constantly needed throughout the year," said Andrew Skrzyski, director of donor services for the Blood Center.

#### Mountainside Woman's Club offers scholarship

College Women's Club of Mountainside is offering its annual scholarship award for the 1993-94 school year.

Applicants must be female, attending college or graduate school, a borough resident or in the immediate family of a member of the College Women's Club of Mountainside.

Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic achievement and financial need. Applications and further information are available from Pat Connelly, Scholarship Chairwoman, 232-1695.

#### Lifeguard course slated

A Lifeguard Training course will be offered by the Summit Area Chapter of the American Red Cross on Thursday evenings through May 18, from 6 to 8:30, at the Summit YWCA, 79 Maple St.

Candidates must be at least 15 years old, with excellent swimming skills, and current certification in one of the following: Standard First Aid (four hours First Aid + four hours CPR); Advanced First Aid &

#### Emergency Care; Emergency Medical Technician

All classes are held at the Chapter House, located at 321 Elm St., Westfield, 07090.

For additional information, call the Red Cross office Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at (908) 232-7050. The instructor is Dena Malach.

#### Tax advice available

Free income tax assistance is available for taxpayers through the tax aid program of the American Association of Retired Persons.

Volunteer counselors, trained in cooperation with the IRS, are operating counseling desks at the Springfield Library, 66 Mountain Ave., from 9 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays through April 13.

The service is designed to help taxpayers understand tax forms and become familiar with special benefits available to them. Assistance also will be available in completing the state income tax form and the Homestead Rebate form.

Taxpayers desiring to utilize this service should call the Springfield Library for an appointment at (201) 376-4930. They should bring a copy of their previous year's federal and state tax returns with their 1992 income report forms.

A tax assistance program is also being sponsored by the Mountainside chapter of AARP, in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service and the state of New Jersey. The program is available to all area senior citizens through April 14.

The Mountainside Library will be the site for preparation of federal and state tax returns each Wednesday from 1 to 5 p.m.

Call 233-0115 for an appointment and bring last year's tax returns.

#### Red Cross schedules first aid/CPR instruction

The Westfield/Mountainside Chapter of the American Red Cross will offer courses in Standard First Aid and Community CPR on the following dates:

March classes: Standard First Aid, March 13 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Standard First Aid, March 25 from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Community CPR class, March 16 and 23 from 6:30 to 10 p.m.

#### Honoring a colleague

Murray Nathanson of Springfield, left, a past commander of the New Jersey War Veterans, presented a plaque to retiring chairman of the Governor's Veterans' Council Stanley Wides, Wides served in his capacity as chairman for 15 years and is the executive director of the New Jersey War Veterans.



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#### Newcomers set meeting

On March 17, the Mountainside Newcomers Club "Mommy and Me" committee will host a morning at Chuck E. Cheese on Route 22 East in Union at 11 a.m. All interested should contact Sue Boyle for further information at (908) 654-6931.

#### March fund-raiser begins

As the Westfield/Mountainside Chapter of the American Red Cross begins its 76th year for the March Campaign, residents are urged to keep in mind how their donations have helped many people through the years. The past year has been a difficult year for every Red Cross Chapter with assistance given to victims of Hurricanes Andrew and Iniki. Never before has the Red Cross faced such a challenge. The New Jersey Coastal Storm, in December, affected many local residents who have families and friends in the disaster areas of the state. The Red Cross has responded throughout all areas with the necessary assistance.

#### Conference to address adolescent head injuries

Children's Specialized Hospital will present a professional conference, "Specialized Approach to Adolescent Head Injuries," on April 21.

The daylong symposium, another in the hospital's educational series, will be held at Children's Specialized Hospital, New Providence Road, Mountainside, beginning at 8 a.m.

The symposium is directed to all medical professionals who work with the head injured adolescent, including physicians, nurses, psychologists, speech therapists, teachers, etc.

Speakers are: Jack Fletcher, University of Texas Medical School; Thomas Ryan, University of Virginia School of Medicine; Gregory O'Shanick, Medical College of Virginia; and from Children's Specialized Hospital, Nancy Como-Lesko, Claire Duffner, Michael Driscoll, Suzanne Loftus, David Malachuk and Krishan Yalamanchi.

Children's Specialized Hospital is accredited by the Medical Society of New Jersey to grant 5.5 hours of Category 1 credit for this activity.

For more information, registration and fees, contact S. Lillie Conroy, director of education, Children's Specialized Hospital, (908) 333-3720, Ext. 232.

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## Florio, Ruotolo urge opposition to NRA

Gov. Jim Florio appealed to residents to disregard the "propaganda" released by the National Rifle Association in its attempt to persuade the Legislature to override the veto on its assault weapons ban.

Florio came to Union County Monday and was joined at a press conference by several law enforcement officials from the county who said they support the governor's ban on assault weapons because criminals have access to firearms that are more powerful than those used by police officers.

The press conference came three weeks after the Assembly voted to override the governor's veto and one week before the Senate is expected to vote on the veto, which is scheduled for Monday.

The press conference was held in the gun vault in the Union County Prosecutor's Office, a room which at one time belonged to the Detective Bureau but because of the increasing number of seized weapons, became a vault to store the caches. Florio was joined by Union County Prosecutor Andrew Ruotolo, Elizabeth Police Director Mary Rabadeau, Union County Police Chiefs Association President Barry Henderson of the Rahway Police Department and Westfield Police Chief Anthony J. Scott, president of the New Jersey Police Chiefs Association.

Referring to members of the Senate, Florio said, "They face an intimidating political power of an awesome dimension." That power is the NRA, he said, and the organization has been spreading rumors to make it seem like the ban is targeting law-abiding citizens.

Florio related a story about a visit to East Orange last year which he called one of the most "traumatic" experiences of his term. There, he said, he stood by a woman whose 16-year-old child was shot and killed by a "T-22." "This is a piece of junk. No sportsman or hunter would have any use for it," he said. "To those who say we need to roll back on this strong gun to make them more accessible, go talk to this mother."

Florio said governors across the nation are "green with envy" because of the stiff assault weapons law in New Jersey. He said he exercised his responsibility when he vetoed the repeal, but "saw a further assault on

## Educators seeking top instructors in districts

The Mountainside and Springfield boards of education will be participating in the Governor's Teachers Recognition Program.

The program calls for the selection of an outstanding teacher from each school in both districts.

Each teacher so recognized will receive a certificate of commendation from the governor at a special Convention on Education to be held in the spring.

A panel representing teachers, parents, administrators, board members and other Mountainside and Springfield citizens will select the outstanding teacher from nominations submitted to this panel.

Nominating letters must be returned to the respective superintendent's offices by March 22.

Contact Mountainside Superintendent Leonard J. Baccaro, or Springfield Superintendent Gary Fritschel, with any questions at 232-3232 and 376-1025 respectively.

Gov. Jim Florio and Union County Prosecutor Andrew Ruotolo examine a cache of seized firearms following a press conference in Elizabeth Monday.

Ruotolo recalled an incident in Linden last year in which a police officer was shot during a jewelry store hold-up. During that incident, he said, police confiscated assault weapons, and if those weapons had been used, the officer would not have survived the bullets.

"The false and misleading rhetoric must be addressed," added Fred DeVesa, the first assistant attorney general, referring to the NRA. "The NRA is intensifying its efforts to mislead citizens" as the Senate considers the override, he said. "The NRA is financing TV and radio propaganda attacking the integrity of law enforcement and to scare the public." His central message, he charged, is that police are too busy harassing law-abiding citizens because of the ban "that they don't have time to catch criminals."

DeVesa said more than 150 people have been charged with assault weapons violations since the law went into effect, and most had criminal records. "I defy the NRA to find one inmate whose only offense was to acquire an assault weapon prior to May 1991," he said.

DeVesa said the only group to benefit from the override is the gun lobby. "They would like nothing better than to see a continuation of the arms race," he said.

## Children's Specialized gains JCAHO approval

Children's Specialized Hospital has been Accredited with Commendation by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health-Care Organizations.

This is the highest level of accreditation awarded by the Joint Commission, which is the nation's oldest and largest accrediting body.

According to the most recently published report by the Joint Commission, covering the period of January 1991 to August 1992, only 150 of 5.6 percent of the hospitals surveyed received Accreditation with Commendation.

"We are extremely pleased to have achieved this designation," commented Richard B. Ahlfeld, president of Children's Specialized. "Our staff goes the extra mile on a day-to-day basis to provide the best possible health care for our patients, and receiving Accreditation with Commendation is evidence of that practice."



Springfield Police Lt. Andrew Calabrese, second from right, receives a plaque for 20 years as liaison to the Springfield Auxiliary Police. From left, Auxiliary Police Chief Harold Liebkind, Emergency Management Deputy Coordinator Scott Seidel and Coordinator John Cottage.

## Springfield Auxiliary recognizes Calabrese

At its annual awards dinner, the Springfield Auxiliary Police presented a plaque to Springfield Police Lt. Andrew Calabrese for 20 years as liaison officer to the Auxiliary Police.

Emergency Management Coordinator John Cottage, in making the presentation, commended Calabrese for his hard work and dedication to Springfield's volunteer police unit. "Lt. Calabrese has been a major contributor to the unit's success for the past 20 years," said Cottage. "He has been a team player, an advisor and friend with all members respect and admire."

#### Mountainside Echo

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## Civic Calendar

The Civic Calendar is prepared by the Springfield Leader and Mountainside Echo. To avoid conflicts in scheduling local events, please post dates, times and places as early as possible and send to P.O. Box 3109, Union, 07083, or call (908) 686-7080.

Tuesday  
The Springfield Township Committee meets at 4 p.m. at the municipal building to discuss the municipal budget.

Thursday  
The Union County Regional Board of Education meets at 8 p.m. at Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School on Westfield Avenue in Clark.

The Mountainside Borough Council meets at 8 p.m. at the municipal building.

Recycling schedule  
The Union County Utilities Authority will pick-up recyclables in Springfield tomorrow.

Residents are requested to set out their recyclable materials by 7:30 a.m. the day they are scheduled for collection. Questions or problems with recycling may be directed to the Recycling Hotline, (908) 862-0101.

Upcoming events  
The Springfield Board of Education will hold its annual budget hearing March 23 at 7:30 p.m. at F.M. Gaudin School on S. Springfield Avenue.

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