

Frank chat  
Rep. Bob Franks targets  
his goals as member of  
new majority, Page B1.



Happy  
New Year

Ringling in  
Local singer entertains  
as part of New Year's  
celebration, Page B4.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY  
JENNIFER SARRACINO  
FOR THE SPRINGFIELD  
LEADER

# Springfield Leader

VOL. 88 NO. 12—FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1994—5\* SPRINGFIELD, N.J., Home of Jennifer Sarracino TWO SECTIONS

## City Highlights

### Offices closed

In anticipation of the New Year's Day holidays, we'd like to alert our readers to changes in our publication dates and deadlines for the next edition.

- Our offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 2, and reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 3. During that week, this newspaper will be published on Friday, Jan. 6.
- The deadlines for the Jan. 6 edition are as follows:
  - Lifestyle, including church and club news, etc. — Tuesday, Jan. 3, noon.
  - Letters to the editor — Tuesday, Jan. 3, noon.
  - What's Going On — Wednesday, Jan. 4, 3:30 p.m.
  - Display ads — Tuesday, Jan. 3, noon for Section B and 5 p.m. for Section A.
  - Sports news — Tuesday, Jan. 3, 9 a.m.
  - General news — Tuesday, Jan. 3, 5 p.m.
  - Classified advertising — Wednesday, Jan. 4, 3 p.m.
  - Legal advertising — Wednesday, Jan. 4, noon.

We will resume our normal Thursday publication schedule beginning with the Jan. 12 edition.

We wish our readers a safe and happy holiday season.

### County reorganizes

The reorganization meeting of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders will be held on Monday at 4 p.m. in the courtroom of Judge Edward W. Beglin Jr. at the county courthouse in Elizabeth.

The Union County Regional High School District Board of Education will hold a regular meeting on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Instructional Media Center in Arthur L. Johnson Regional High School on Westfield Avenue in Clark.

On Wednesday, Jan. 4 at 7 p.m. there will be a special meeting of the Union County Regional Board of Education in the administrative conference room of the Board of Education offices at Jonathan Dayton Regional High School on Mountain Avenue in Springfield.

At this meeting, the board will interview candidates for the Springfield seat that was vacated this month when Margaret Thoug resigned.

### Board to meet

The Springfield Board of Education will meet in conference on Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. in the Gaudinier School. The board will hold its regular meeting on Jan. 23.

The board's search for a new assistant superintendent will continue through January. The school government will conduct interviews of semi-finalist candidates; the board members will visit each candidate's home district and check references.

Springfield's Board of Education also announced a graduate course titled "Inquiry Thinking," which will be offered Monday evenings beginning Jan. 9 at the Gaudinier School.

The three credit course teaches ways to analyze and improve thinking and learning patterns. The class will be taught by Pamela Gray, lead staff developer for Springfield Public Schools.

For more information, call Gray at 376-1025 or go to the administrative wing in the back of the Gaudinier School on South Springfield Avenue on Monday, Jan. 9 at 5 p.m.

## Political fights, regional district revolution ring in new year

By Ray Lehmann  
Correspondent

As 1994 draws to a close, simple human nature would suggest that, along with looking forward to the times ahead, one would take at least one passing glance at the events of the year that has passed. To that end, the Springfield Leader invites all its readers to take a look back at the year that was.

January  
Republican Township Committeemen Jeffrey Katz and Harry Pappas were complaining loudly about politically motivated appointments and Union County prepared itself for a controversial hunt in the Watching Reservation. Sound familiar? In truth, 1994 began in Springfield much as

1995 will — under a cloud of politics.  
• Christina Rose Apicella, daughter of Reiner Avenue residents Cynthia and Giovanni Apicella, was born Jan. 4 at 7 a.m. in Summit's Overlook Hospital to become Springfield's first child of 1994.  
• Anlist accusations of nepotism and political posturing, Springfield Democratic Party Chairman Bruce Bergen was appointed township attorney by a 3-2 margin during the township's reorganization meeting Jan. 2, with Katz and Pappas casting the dissenting votes. Steven Firsichbaum was appointed Municipal Court judge by the same margin. Katz and Pappas disputed the qualifications of both candidates.  
• The only qualifications the Demo-

crats could cite for Firsichbaum was the fact that he lost two elections and they owed him something," Pappas said at the time.  
• Veteran Democratic Committeewoman Marcia Forman was appointed mayor and Jo Ann Holmes was appointed deputy mayor.  
• In other reorganization matters, Katz made news by refusing his appointment as liaison to the Department of Public Affairs, citing his feeling that the department's condition was a "shambles" and that he would not accept blame for someone else's mess.  
• The "someone else" that he referred to was Committeewoman Jo Ann Holmes, who had served as liaison the year before. Holmes defended

herself and the department by calling Katz's decision "invasive" and saying that the department was in better shape than when she had inherited it — from Katz — in 1993.  
• Katz later accepted the position and apologized for attacking Holmes. He expressed confusion, however, at why the Democrats would appoint him to a major post and questioned political motivations.  
• In response to the agreement, Forman said, "I think we are learning to trust trust each other. I'm very optimistic about the future."  
• The Union County Regional District finally gave in to political pressure and agreed to cooperate with the inquiry suggested by member districts Springfield, Mountainside, Kent-

worth and Berkeley Heights into the possibility of dissolving the district. The board unanimously passed a resolution to cooperate with the Delaware and Touché study on deregionalization. Board President Burton Zimner called the effort to fight the proposed deregionalization "somewhat childish" and said that action needed to be taken.  
• All the hard work and studying, paid off for Township Treasurer Marc Sedlak. After passing her state certification exam with an impressive 94.5 score, Sedlak was promoted to chief financial officer for Springfield. The promotion meant a \$2,000 raise for Sedlak, a resident for 24 years.  
• The county's first sanctioned deer hunt was held on Jan. 12. See POLITICS, Page 2



Animal rights activists protest the hunting of deer in the Watching Reservation. Scores of hunters selected in a lottery system killed more than 80 deer, most of them female, in an effort to reduce the deer population last winter.

## Summer brings activism, crime

By Ray Lehmann  
Correspondent

July  
• The Colonial Association, which represents the citizens of the north end of Springfield, particularly those in the Short Hills Avenue, Tower Drive, Lewis Drive, and Balmoral Avenue areas, reorganized itself at the month's opening to help fight a foe they saw coming.  
• The group elected Augie Franzoni president and its first new officer of business was to begin its monitoring of the planned renovations to the old Saks Fifth Avenue property. The property was sold to the Stop & Shop department, and it had already been made public that the group planned to convert the property into a "super" supermarket.

• "If they give special preference to Stop & Shop, that'll be the end of the neighborhood. It will be another Morris Avenue," Franzoni said.  
• Massive storms, including a brief tornado touchdown, ravaged the township July 26. Areas along the Union Township border, particularly Henlock Road, were hit the hardest. The property at 37 Henlock even had the misfortune of having a massive oak tree come crashing through the roof.  
• August  
• Route 22 became a scene of terror this month as a new phrase entered into the local lexicon — the "grab-and-drag."  
• No, it's not some new computer mouse application. Grab-and-drag became an unusually frequent type of crime in which a perpetrator would drive up to a victim — usually a

female carrying a handbag — reach out to grab the victim's possessions, and then speed off onto the highway, often "drugging" the victim's body along. In two instances — both at Barnes and Noble on Route 22 — the victim was an elderly woman who was actually hit by the oncoming vehicle before being robbed.  
• "Grab-and-drag is a crime that is happening all over, in any city that has the same kind of shopping areas," Capt. James Hietala said. "People are warned to be careful. Keep your pockets secure."  
• On Aug. 12, Springfield lost one of its finest with the passing of Harold Liebeskind — for 35 years, the captain of the Springfield Auxiliary Police. He had also been employed as the tax assessor for Maplewood.

"Harold was the type of guy who would do anything for anyone and didn't want anything in return," said See SUMMER, Page 2

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## Fall: Dems control committee

By Ray Lehmann  
Correspondent

October  
• A Newark man who was employed as a caddy at the Balmoral Golf Club picketed the course in early October, claiming that he had been discriminated against in his firing because he was black.  
• Al Cowins, the caddy in question, paraded around Shamrock Road with signs that read "Caddies have rights, whites." Cowins was fired for allegedly asking an NBA referee who was going to give another caddy a bigger tip than he gave Cowins. The referee reportedly complained to Balmoral management, who promptly dismissed Cowins.  
• Cowins, however, felt he was in the right and that he would have received different treatment had he been white. "I didn't want to lose my job. I have a 5-year-old son to look after," Cowins said. "But I've got to stand up for what I believe in, for me and my son."  
• The week of Oct. 24-31 proved to be historic for Springfield. For the

first time ever, the township took part in "National Red Ribbon Week." The event is celebrated in municipalities throughout the country as a means to promote substance abuse awareness and commemorate the death of Drug Enforcement Administration Officer Kiki Cannonera, who was killed by Mexican drug lords in 1985.  
• The township was overcome by a wave of red as school, business, religious, residential, and township leaders all came together to present a series of programs with anti-drug messages.  
• A mid pouring rain and howling winds, members of the Springfield Bicentennial Committee saw the final fruits of their yearlong efforts culminated on Oct. 23, as the township turned out with umbrellas in hand to watch the planting of the Springfield Time Capsule.  
• Items for the capsule were donated by a variety of civic, religious, service and social organizations and also included specific items of some historical merit that were chosen by

members of the Time Capsule committee.  
• November  
• Bucking the national trend that had Republicans riding high in polls, the 1994 Township Committee election campaign was finally wrapped up by the election of the Democratic ticket of Greg Clarke and Roy Hirschfeld. Hirschfeld was the top vote-getter overall — with 2,660 total votes — and was also the top vote-getter in seven of the 14 election districts.  
• The victories gave the Democrats a 5-0 majority on the committee and also put an end to Katz's nine-year run on the committee.  
• As November rolled on, one of the most important issues in the township turned out to be the proposed affordable housing plan. Township Planner Bob Michaels put together the plan along with the county-appointed "master" David Kinsey.  
• A public hearing was held Nov. 1, but did not answer all of the questions of audience members. A second hearing was held Nov. 14. See DEMS, Page 2

## Ballgame spawns lawsuit; high school's budget axed

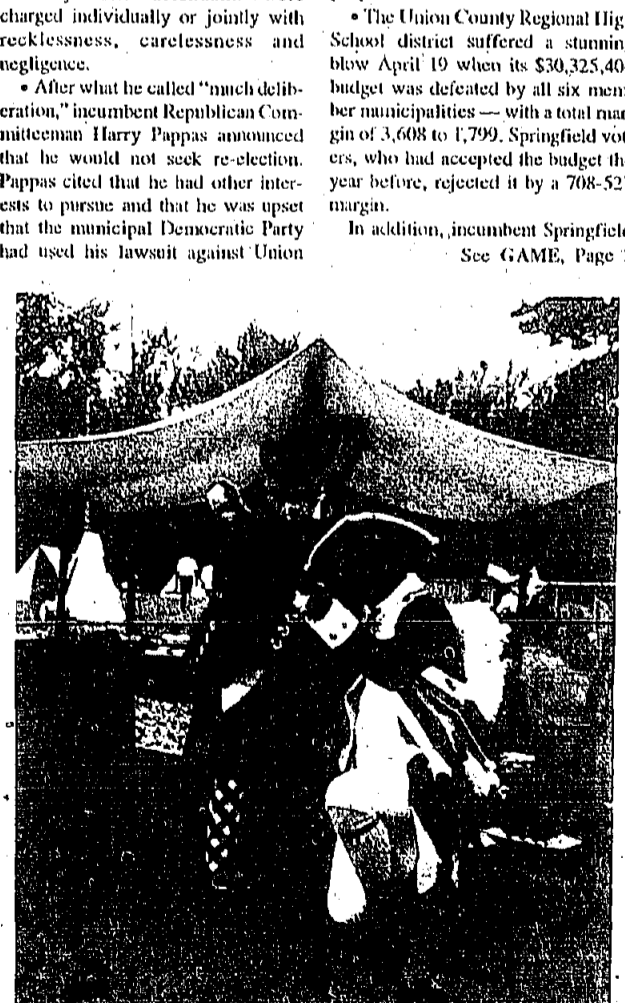
By Ray Lehmann  
Correspondent

April  
• Harry Cogan, a 15-year umpire for Springfield who was denied coverage under the municipality's insurance plan, hired a lawyer to defend him in a lawsuit filed against both the township and Cogan by a player who was injured in a softball game.  
• Cogan said at the time that he was told by members of the municipality that he would not have to be worried about being named in the lawsuit because he was a township employee. That advice, however, proved faulty when it was revealed that he did not meet Selective Insurance's definition of an employee and would therefore not receive coverage under the township's plan.  
• At the urging of the committee, Selective reviewed Cogan's status, but offered only to defend him in court, not to pay any damages in the case of a negative judgment.

County as a negative campaign tool. Pappas said at the time that now that he was no longer seeking reelection, there were certain issues he could pursue without fear of being perceived as political. He mentioned that he would continue an effort to obtain several acres of land in the Houdaille Quarry he said the township was promised in a 1989 agreement with Union County.  
• Municipal pool fees increased 10 percent for the 1994 season, it was announced April 12. In addition, it was announced that free membership would no longer be given to township employees.  
• On April 14, Democrats Roy Hirschfeld and Greg Clarke and Republicans Joseph Cappa and Jeffrey Katz officially filed as candidates for Township Committee.

Katz, an incumbent, was a former two-term mayor. Cappa was selected to run for the second year in a row, having previously lost to Committeeman Herb Slato.  
• Clarke, a former school board president, said he was happy to be running and anxious to begin the campaign. Hirschfeld, the chairman of the Springfield Environmental Commission and a representative to the Revenue Sharing Commission, spoke of "bringing government back to the people."  
• The Union County Regional High School district suffered a stunning blow April 19 when its \$20,325,406 budget was defeated by all six member municipalities — with a total margin of 3,608 to 1,799. Springfield voters, who had accepted the budget the year before, rejected it by a 708-527 margin.  
• In addition, incumbent Springfield See GAME, Page 2

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A soldier of the Continental Army takes instruction on musketry from an officer of Fraser's Artillery Regiment. The Township of Springfield celebrated its bicentennial with a re-enactment of the Battle of Springfield, among many other festivities.

12-30-94

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How to reach us: Our office are located at 1291 Stayvost Avenue, Union, N.J. 07083. We are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every weekday.

Voice Mail: Our main phone number, 908-686-7700 is equipped with a voice mail system to buffer our regular business hours.

To subscribe: The Leader is mailed to the homes of subscribers for delivery every Thursday.

News Items: News releases of general interest must be in our office by Friday at noon to be considered for publication the following week.

Letters to the editor: The Leader provides an open forum for opinions and welcomes letters to the editor.

To place a display ad: Display advertising for placement in the general news section of the Leader must be in our office by Monday at 5 p.m.

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

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

Facsimile Transmission: The Leader is equipped to accept your ads, releases, etc. by FAX.

Postmaster Please Note: The SPRINGFIELD LEADER (USPS 512-720) is published weekly by Worral Community Newspapers, Inc.

Politics, school revolt start year

(Continued from Page 1) A \$52,000 community development grant to rehabilitate the downtown area came under fire by residents who charged that proper notification was never given to business and property owners.

February Record-breaking snowfalls nearly incapacitated the township — and much of the Northeast — throughout the month.

March Incumbent Springfield Board of Education members Robert Fish, Ruth Brinen, and Jacquelyn Shanes announced their plans to run unopposed in the April 14 election.

Game lawsuit starts spring (Continued from Page 1) representative Theresa L. Casali ran unopposed and received 1,038 votes.

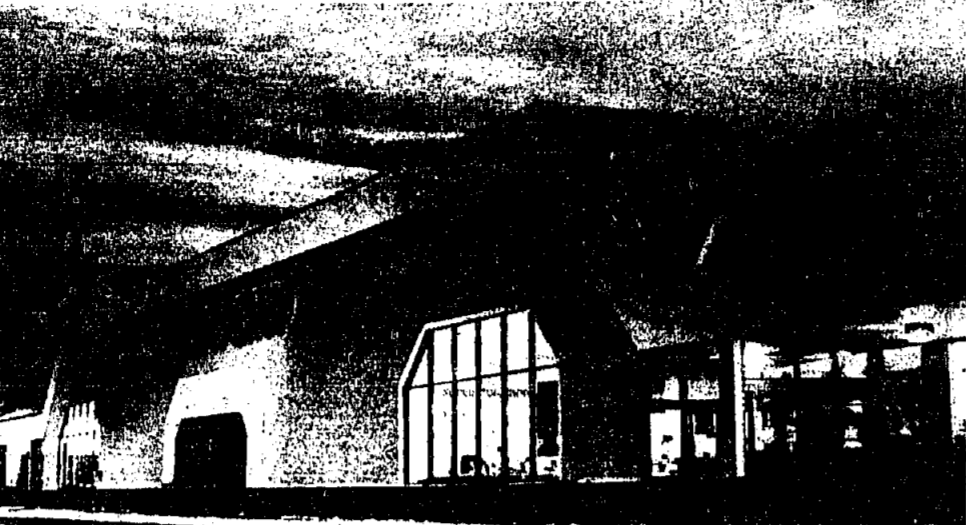
May The average homeowner in Springfield was asked to pay an additional \$260 in property taxes as the Township Committee voted to adopt a \$15 million budget.

The budget was approved 4-0, with Committee member Harry Pappas abstaining. The township committee members cited massive cutbacks in state aid.

The weekend of May 14-15 proved to be one of the most important in the history of the township, as Springfield celebrated its Bicentennial.

Democrats gain control in fall (Continued from Page 1) scheduled for Nov. 30, had to be cancelled and rescheduled for December when so many residents showed up that the gathering broke fire codes.

December The year ended much as it had begun, with citizens picking up garbage concerned about a sharpshooter hunt in the Watchung Reservation.



The Stop & Shop corporation purchased the Saks Fifth Avenue location in July with plans to build this shopping complex. Citing their fear of falling property values and the commercialization of their neighborhood, The Colonial Association vowed to fight the company.

Summer brings activism, crime wave

(Continued from Page 1) Liz Frizzen, captain of the Springfield First Aid Squad, "He was a person who just gave and gave and gave."

September By the house's previous owners, He implemented the property's present caretakers — Mountaineer resident Jeff Eckert and Springfield resident Jeff Briggs — to address the problem.

October The township committee introduced and unanimously passed an ordinance that restricts parking and towing of vehicles over 4 tons on Keeler and Salter streets.

November The township committee approved a resolution to state Springfield's opposition to a proposed light rail system that would run along the old Parkway Valley Railroad line.

Advertisement for 'RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH SOMEONE NEW!' featuring a woman in a festive hat and the text 'TRY CONNECTIONS Meet Singles Who Want To Meet You!'.

Gridiron winners



The awards ceremony for Springfield's Minutemen football players sparked with the gleam from dozens of trophies donated by the local Policemen's Benevolent Association.

Gaudineer Middle posts honors

High Honor Roll Grade 5: Lauren Belliveau, Lindsey Butler, Tabatha Falkin, Deanne Florindi, Alexander K. Garten, Jessica Goldblatt, Evagelina Gullas, Verditi Halimi-Cohen, Jennifer Lewis, Monica Schwartz, Colby A. Tias, Pamela Tramm, Jared Weisman and Kevin Zhu.

Regional report contradicts findings of rival plan

By Jay Hochberg Managing Editor A new study, commissioned by the Union County Regional High School District, contradicts the findings of a rival plan that recommends the dissolution of the current school system.

But, Mayer adds, to focus on dissolution is to see a narrow angle. "We examined not only what's feasible, but what is best for the kids."

Advertisement for Calderone School of Music, featuring a photo of a student at a computer and text: 'Proving it is never too early to start learning on computers, Jeffrey Cochran and Anna Forman from Mr. Guineo's class at the Walton School study mathematics with Milliken software on their Apple computer.'

Advertisement for 'The Heritage Home' and 'A Unique Adult Residence', offering permanent and temporary care with amenities like a swimming pool and golf course.

Advertisement for 'Calderone School of Music' with text: 'Certified Teachers / Established 1975. Piano, Organ, Accordion, Keyboard, Voice, Woodwinds, Brass, Guitar, Drum, Strings, Harp and Lessons for the Learning Disabled.'

Advertisement for 'It's your right' with a large graphic of a person and text: 'Under New Jersey's Open Public Meetings Act, you have a right to advance notice of all meetings of public bodies.'

Advertisement for 'Dorin Amater' clothing store, featuring a photo of a woman and text: 'Wonderful Special Occasion Clothing and Spectacular Sportswear all with expert service. Gigantic Clearance Sale Starts Mon., Jan. 2.'

Advertisement for 'TAKE THE DRIVE OUT OF YOUR RIDE' at Foxwoods Resort Casino, offering a '\$100 Bonus Value Package' for a weekend stay.

Large advertisement for 'KIDTING AROUND CHILDRENSWEAR' featuring a cartoon character and text: 'Bring in the New Year with SAVINGS All Holiday Merchandise 40% Off Our Already Discounted Prices.'

PictureTel perfect



Springfield's very own Shari Wildman is the new market support manager for the PictureTel Corp. Her duties include directing the technical support for global videoconferencing systems. Wildman, a graduate business fellow, earned her MBA in marketing from Fairleigh Dickinson University and has since gone on to distinguish herself in telecommunications.

Sparks fly at meeting

In a meeting identified with emotion and 110-hour politicking, the Springfield Township Committee set the Bruce Bergen controversy Tuesday night. In a 3-2 vote the committee established financial disclosure requirements for the township attorney and municipal party chairman. Because Township Attorney Bruce Bergen had until last Thursday chaired the Springfield Democratic Party, the law had come to be known as the Bergen ordinance.

The ordinance aims at expanding the campaign contribution reporting requirements so that contributions of less than \$200 must be itemized. The Bergen ordinance elicited debate for more than an hour, including a speech by Bergen denouncing the ordinance during the public portion of the meeting. (See text of Bergen's speech, Page 4.)

Bergen targeted Committeewoman Jo Ann Holmes, saying her vote in favor of the ordinance was vindictive and was the action of a "brat." "One of the things I could have done if I wanted to be vindictive was not vote for you for township attorney," said Holmes, who earlier this year cast one of the three votes that recalled Bergen at that post.

When asked Wednesday whether he regretted his choice of words regarding Holmes, Bergen said, "I guess I do. I honestly believe her support of the ordinance is based in anger," he added. "I was not feeling out to anger."

Forman also criticized the retroactive nature of the ordinance. "Were Mr. Bergen township attorney and municipal party chairman for 10 minutes, under this ordinance, every contributor would have to have had his name revealed. I think that is going too far."

Committeewoman Jeffrey Katz, telephoning from his vacation site in Florida, and Committeewoman Harry Pappas cast the concerning votes with Holmes. Committeewoman Herbert Sloe and Forman voted no.

In other township business, the committee voted 3-2 to establish a panel to study the feasibility of creating a Springfield Board of Health and break away from the Summit Regional Health District.

Sloe and Forman voted no, while Pappas, Katz and Holmes voted yes. Sloe said the Board of Health was better suited to study the issue than was the public, and he said he saw no purpose in establishing the committee since their work wouldn't be an exhaustive effort.

Forman said it was a duplicating ordinance and objected to having township Solicitor Cynthia Woszek on the committee. Forman said Woszek can't be an impartial investigator since she has come out in favor of an independent department.

There would be nothing lost by examining the situation, Holmes said. "I say investigate it. It is just another point of view. Let's take a look and see what we find."

Bergen resigns as municipal chairman

By Jeffrey C. Turbitt Staff Writer

Township Attorney Bruce Bergen resigned as Springfield Democratic Party chairman last Friday. Bergen, the subject of an ordinance designed to expand reporting requirements for campaign contributions for persons holding the positions of township attorney and municipal party chairman, said he resigned to better protect contributors who will be affected by the recently adopted ordinance.

"People gave donations to the Democratic Party and now the rules are being changed. I resigned because it gives me a better chance to protect those people. Why should the Democratic Party be forced to reveal this information after the fact?"

"I'm not upset. It was his personal decision," Mayor Marcia Forman said of Bergen's resignation. "The party will function. What's more important is the principle behind the ordinance."

Township Attorney Bruce Bergen, who resigned last Friday as chairman of the Springfield Democratic Party, addressed the Township Committee at its meeting Tuesday night.

Obviously it is unusual for the township attorney to speak on a pending ordinance, but I believe, under the circumstances, that I have no choice in this case. The ordinance in question is clearly political in nature and is aimed directly at me. This ordinance is nothing more than an attempt by Jeff Katz and Harry Pappas to make further problems for myself, the enemy, if you will.

It serves no public purpose and it does no public good. If they were concerned about this issue truly, this issue would have been introduced in January, February, March, April — some time prior to the last minute, which gives myself or any other citizen of the Township of Springfield the opportunity to object to this ordinance no time to do so.

For those of you who are unfamiliar, the ordinance provides that I must comply with the rules therein by Dec. 30, which is Friday of this week. That leaves little if any time for any kind of challenge to this ordinance. I would suggest that the fact that this was brought up in this manner clearly indicates the political purpose of this ordinance.

This ordinance was introduced by Harry Pappas, who was rejected by his own party to run for a second term, and Jeff Katz, who in the most-recent election came in dead last. Clearly this is nothing more than a political ploy to take one more swipe at the other side.

Thank you very much.



Bruce Bergen

Committeewoman Jo Ann Holmes said Bergen's resignation came 12 months too late.

Bergen, whose role as both township attorney and party chairman has created a melange of criticism from Committeewoman Jeffrey Katz and Harry Pappas, said the resignation should in no way be construed as an admission of any wrongdoing.

"It's unfortunate that he didn't take the time to assess the entire situation 12 months ago, rather than waiting until his position came to the point where it was a hard to effective government," Pappas said of the resignation.

In a letter dated Dec. 23 to Union County Clerk Walter Halpin, Bergen wrote: "Please note that pending selection of my replacement, pursuant to the bylaws for the Springfield Democratic Municipal Committee, all correspondence concerning same should be directed to 1st Vice Chair Gertrude Spiegel at P.O. Box 73, Springfield, NJ 07081."

Bergen: Ordinance is political in nature

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Thank you very much.

What Harry and Jeff don't mention is that the Republican Party chairman is on the Planning Board. The same board that is hearing applications by Dartmouth Estates and related businesses owned by the same party. Harry and Jeff don't seem to be concerned about that, but are only concerned about myself.

In years past Harry Pappas supported Jay Kloud for township attorney. Harry Pappas and Jay Kloud have been business partners. Harry Pappas and Jay Kloud and Bill Ruocco, who is the Republican chairman and who has been on the Planning Board, have gotten together and formed a Union County Republican Club. But Harry doesn't think anything about that. Leonard Zucker sent out his attorney office letterhead a campaign piece for the Republicans some years ago and was a few weeks later appointed the judge.

Jo Ann Holmes knows I have nothing to hide. Yet she says I must do this for the good of the town. She knows full well that this is nothing more than a political bid attempting to get even for wrongs that she sees. She is acting in a vindictive fashion, not for the good of the town.

Mr. Pappas raises the question of whether I can properly bill the town for my legal opinion on this very ordinance. I see nothing wrong with doing that, it is my job to give this Township Committee my opinion on all legal matters that come before it.

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Thank you very much.

Professional Directory

Chiropractors ADVERTISE YOUR PROFESSION FOR ONLY \$20.00 PER WEEK CALL 1-800-564-8911

Tax Time advertisement with form and details: Advertise Your Tax Service Every Week In The Tax Time Directory. Essex County - \$23.00 per week (minimum 4 weeks) Union County - \$18.00 per week (minimum 4 weeks) Both Counties - \$36.00 per week (minimum 4 weeks)

FIRST BABY OF 1995 CONTEST. If you are expecting around the first of the year, you and your newborn are eligible to win prizes from participating merchants in the First Baby of 1995 Contest...

PROGRESS 1995 COMING JAN. 26. It's an annual business outlook section published by Worrall Community Newspapers, containing editorial features about the twenty-three communities in Essex & Union Counties that Worrall serves

JACOBSON'S PRE-INVENTORY SALE. COUPON \$25 SERTA OFF TWIN-SET. COUPON \$50 SERTA OFF FULL-SET. COUPON \$100 SERTA OFF QUEEN-SET. SERTA PERFECT SLEEPER. THERAPEDIC RESTONIC. SUPER SAVER 10 YEAR GUARANTEE. GOLDEN MEMORIES 10 YEAR GUARANTEE. MEDI COIL CREST 15 YEAR GUARANTEE. FREE FRAME • FREE DELIVERY • FREE REMOVAL. ALL STOCK MUST BE SOLD BEFORE INVENTORY. SAVE 50% ON N.J. STATE SALES TAX 3%. JACOBSON'S DISTRIBUTING COMPANY. 725 RAHWAY AVENUE, ELIZABETH • 354-8533





# SPORTS

## Holiday tournaments wind down before 1995 is to commence

Most of the basketball tournaments, completed last night and the rest of the wrestling tournaments will wrap up today.

Union, Hillside and St. Mary's on the boys' side and Elizabeth and Roselle Park on the girls' side were area high school basketball teams that took undefeated records into this week's holiday tournament action.

**BOYS' BASKETBALL.**  
St. Patrick's and Elizabeth reached the final of the City of Palm Classic in Fort Myers, Fla., losing to St. Augustine of New Orleans 76-55 in last Thursday's final.

**WRESTLING.**  
Union: The Farmers took a 2-0 record into Friday's season-opener. Dayton fell at Governor Livingston 60-48 and at home to New Providence 53-29 last Thursday.

**Girls' Basketball**  
Brother Anthony Memorial Tournament at Good Counsel, Newark Monday, Dec. 26  
Elizabeth 62, Elizabeth 35  
Millburn Tournament Tuesday, Dec. 27  
Orange vs. Union  
New Providence Classic Tuesday, Dec. 27  
Gov. Livingston vs. Hillside Wednesday, Dec. 28

**Wrestling**  
Blue Devil Classic at Westfield Thursday, Dec. 29  
Roselle Park among eight-school field  
Mustang Invitational at Iselin Kennedy Wednesday, Dec. 28  
Dayton among seven-school field  
Parsippany Tournament Thursday, Dec. 29  
Union among eight-school field  
Woodbridge Classic Friday, Dec. 30  
Elizabeth among nine-school field

**Wrestling**  
Blue Devil Classic at Westfield Thursday, Dec. 29  
Roselle Park among eight-school field  
Mustang Invitational at Iselin Kennedy Wednesday, Dec. 28  
Dayton among seven-school field  
Parsippany Tournament Thursday, Dec. 29  
Union among eight-school field  
Woodbridge Classic Friday, Dec. 30  
Elizabeth among nine-school field

## Best conference players recognized

- MVC Girls' Tennis**  
First Team: First Singles: Stephanie Janar, Governor Livingston; Second Singles: Felicia Tartarullo, Governor Livingston; Third Singles: Jen Gagliardi, Governor Livingston.
- Honorable Mention:** First Singles: Kim Hall, Immaculate; Second Singles: Mirjana Banic, Johnson Summit; Third Singles: Janice Kaczorek, Immaculate; Janice Gallagher, Johnson Summit.

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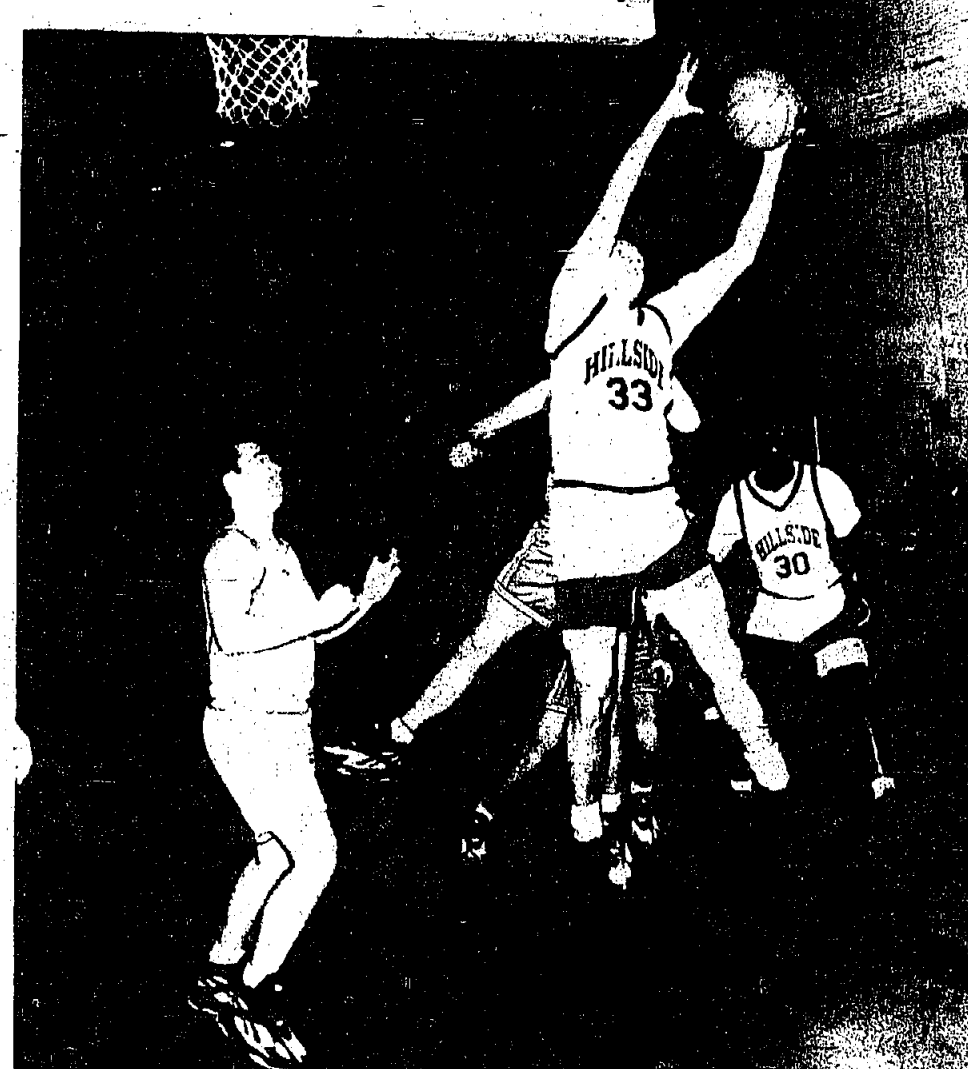
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908-686-7700



The Dayton Regional High School boys' basketball team, shown here in action against Roselle last year, took a 1-2 record into Tuesday's Roselle Park Tournament game vs. Scotch Plains.

## Soccer program starts in Jan.

Soccer Skills and Drills, Inc., a year-round soccer tutoring program which attracts students from all over New Jersey, is now enrolling students for its winter season classes which begin the week of Jan. 30. Classes are held in the Westfield-Scotch Plains area.

## Top area players are honored

- Girls' Tennis**  
SECOND SINGLES:  
Kara Daly, Kent Place (UCL) and 11-4-1 in the regular season.  
THIRD SINGLES:  
Missy Mendel, Oak Knoll; Mendel won the UCT championship by going 4-0 in the event and had an overall record of 9-2-1.

**Honorable Mention**  
Leigh Van Dusen, Summit  
Katie Fitzpatrick, Union  
Heik Naskke, Johnson Summit  
Second Singles:  
Mirjana Banic, Johnson Summit  
Jilliana Shalkowsky, Summit  
Sharon Kukal, Linden  
Gabby Amos, Roselle Park  
Third Singles:  
Kelly Kottler, Union  
Nicole Targio, Roselle Park  
Lauren Bianco, Linden  
Janice Gallagher, Johnson Summit  
First Doubles:  
Jackie Britt, Mary Kay Dunning of Summit  
Jennifer Targo, Cheryl Defrancesco of Roselle Park  
Aurita Rigoswski, Dale Podolaj of Linden  
Second Doubles:  
Heather Pastuszek, Janice Bowsz of Roselle Park  
Santali Yarragadda, Christine Scamprigo of Kent Place  
Liz Friske, Kristen Hamilton of Summit

**Best-Team**  
First Singles:  
Sabine Kullman, Kent Place  
Second Singles:  
Patricia Andrade, Oak Knoll  
Third Singles:  
Linsley Weischenk, Kent Place  
First Doubles:  
Caitie Wright, Tara Kollman of Kent Place

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# UNION COUNTY NEWS

From The Editor's Notebook By Tom Canavan Editor in Chief

## A 'new reality' set in Congress Franks promises to put people first under new majority

By Tom Canavan Editor in Chief  
When Rep. Bob Franks goes to Washington this week to prepare for the 104th session of Congress, the Republican representative from Union County will find himself among the first Republican-controlled Congress in 40 years.

Franks visited the office of Worrall Community Newspapers just before the Christmas break to talk about his role on the transition team, and promised that a Republican majority at the federal level will mean positive results for Union County, as well as the rest of the nation.

I received a check this month from New Jersey Manufacturers, my auto insurance company, because the business ended the year with a surplus and was willing to share some of its financial fruits with its policy holders.

By standing this check, New Jersey Manufacturers was telling its policy holders that it enjoyed a good year and was returning some of its surplus to those who have supported its position of sparing the good drivers of New Jersey from the burden of high risk driver pools underwritten by the government.

Each year, when the Joint Meeting realizes a surplus, it returns a percentage of the funds to its member communities. For example, in Union County in 1993, Hillside received \$93,852.00, Roselle Park received \$49,052.30, Summit received \$161,291.99 and Union Township received \$477,592.64.

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When I received the check because I know there are three House office buildings, where all 435 House members have a suite of offices, on the Hill, where our legislative staffs operate out of and where our constituents visit us when they're in Washington.

In the process of inventorying all these properties, I asked the architect of the Capitol if there were any buildings in addition to these huge five buildings that I already knew of, and he indicated yes. There were no other large, privately owned structures where the House was leasing a great deal of space.

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Rep. Bob Franks, R-7, is preparing for his role as a member of the first Republican-controlled Congress in 40 years.

international trade opportunities is through that port. If that port doesn't allow for cargo to move easily in and out, and that business will find another port and jobs will be brought to those ports and it will be taken away from New Jersey.

There are a couple others. There are railroad stations and rail links that have to be improved upon to move easily, conveniently and safely move people, but equally to meet our requirements under the Clean Air Act.

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T.C.: Why should taxpayers support a balanced budget amendment?  
B.F.: I think the more compelling issue is why has the Congress failed to balance its budget for the last 30 years.

T.C.: What is your role in the transition of power from Democratic to Republican at the Congressional level?  
B.F.: About a week after the election, I was called by Speaker-elect Newt Gingrich and asked if I would be willing to serve as one of 10 members on the House transition team.

T.C.: What does that mean?  
B.F.: That was my first question. What he wanted to know was what properties are under the control of the House of Representatives.

T.C.: What is the role of the Speaker-elect?  
B.F.: The Speaker-elect has to be prepared to be there until 3 p.m. because we've got these nine reformers and we're not going to go home from opening day until they are all passed.

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### COUNTY NEWS

## County, Defense Department join forces to aid businesses

Union County and the U.S. Department of Defense recently signed an agreement for a countywide program that provides technical aid to businesses in bidding for federal, state and local government contracts.

"This program, the Procurement Technical Assistance Program, is a greater opportunity for county businesses to secure government contracts through education, technical assistance and advocacy," said Union County Freeholder Chairman Frank Lehr. "Matching funds of \$103,000 will be provided by the Department of Defense to the county, which is subcontracting the program to the Union County Economic Development Corporation."

Business people have been notorious for avoiding the involvement of the red tape of government contracts, and surveys show that less than 20 percent of businesses in the Union County area have ever pursued or been awarded a government contract.

Federal, state and local governments together comprise a multi-billion dollar market for every kind of service or product available, according to Union County Manager Ann Baran.

"This represents a multi-million dollar potential for increased sales and production for Union County businesses. It also represents an increase in jobs and tax revenues for the county," said Baran.

The Union County Economic Development Corp. has a computerized system that matches specific government contracts with the products and services of their clients, according to Maureen Tinen, the corporation's president.

"We also provide technical assistance with bid preparation and post-award contract administration," Tinen said. "We hope to increase the number of clients served by this program. Formerly, the program was successfully managed by the Elizabeth Development Company, with matching dollars from the city of Elizabeth."

Products and services sold to the government vary from cleaning supplies and services to computer and high technology electronics. "You name it, the government buys it," said Col. Thomas Quigley, commander of the Defense Contract Management Operations in Springfield, who represented the Department of Defense in the agreement signing.

For further information about the program, call James O'Grady at the Union County Economic Development Corp., at (908) 327-1166.

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Union County Freeholder Chairman Frank Lehr, seated right, signs an agreement for the Procurement Technical Assistance Program with Department of Defense representative Thomas J. Quigley. Looking on is Deputy County Manager and Public Safety Director Harold Gibson, seated left; and standing from left, Union County Economic Development Corporation President Maureen Tinen; Procurement Program Director James O'Grady; Sylvia Leggions, Defense Department Deputy for Small Business, and Benjamin Artis, Small Business Specialist in the Defense Department.

changed in Union County that you started when you first were elected?"

B.F.: I would like to see that some of the ideas we pursued relative to job creation have begun to bear fruit, and that we are going to be becoming, over the next decade, a more attractive location for people to invest in and create jobs in. That is what I'd like to see happening in Union County. It's more high-wage, high-quality jobs. Because New Jersey and Union Township can make a difference. Collectively, adding \$77 million for new prison construction in New Jersey is a very important step. How can you sentence violent, repeat offenders to long prison terms if you literally have no place to put them. So you have to have an adequate supply of jail space.

T.C.: How do you feel about term limits?

B.F.: Great idea. The only way to get rid of some of the institutional abuses in Congress is to limit the amount of time that any individual member can serve. Some people say it's not democratic. I want to be able to elect my representative for 100 years if they're doing a good job.

T.C.: What if the person is doing a good job?

B.F.: I think it's totally naive to assume there isn't someone equally as good waiting to take that person's place. This notion that one and only one specific person can adequately represent the interests of his neighbors is ill-founded. Moreover, the unfortunate reality is that the longer somebody stays in Washington, the cozier a relationship seemingly is developed between that member of Congress and the special interests who have the resources to put their agenda before every committee in the House and Senate, and lobby for their narrow interests, sometimes, I would argue, at the expense of the broader public interests. You need to put a reasonable time limitation on how long people can serve. You need to infuse new people with new ideas into that process on a regular basis. That benefit outweighs any potentially negative consequences.

T.C.: By the end of your tenure in Congress, would you like to see leadership this year as mayor, can't be best about any financial success. One would think she would try to retain any potential revenue for the township that it could get. Or perhaps that's why Hillside's financial situation is the way it is.

The attempted coup was averted during Joint Meeting's monthly session on Dec. 15. In January, a committee is expected to be formed to study the reappointments and contract of Executive Director Michael Brinker and report back to the full Joint Meeting in February.

Hopefully, if things go well on Jan. 1 in Roselle Park, Kinloch no longer will be serving as the representative to Joint Meeting and the township's councilman Bob Milica will. Unfortunately, Low will be returning as Hillside's representative.

out of their ivory towers in Washington. We got some good input, but in order not to fall prey to something that too commonly occurs in Washington, we took our show on the road.

We went to Trenton, Boston, Cleveland and Detroit and asked real life manufacturers who are struggling to make it out in the real world what could the government do, or what obstacles could the government remove to make their life easier, their business more viable and create an opportunity for them to grow their business by hiring more workers. We came up with 40 recommendations that were issued late this summer. Legislation has been prepared to implement those recommendations and we'll be introducing that legislation on Jan. 4.

Forty members signed up on our task force, even though it was run by two freshmen. It was very bipartisan because it's a bipartisan coalition. We have a bunch of Republicans, a bunch of Democrats, and some of the senior veteran members who participated in the task force are among some of the more powerful members of Congress, so we think we have a lot of stakeholders in these recommendations. Hopefully, we'll be able to move some of those recommendations during the first year of the 104th Congress.

This issue of creating jobs probably is as important to us, if not more so, than any other. I guess it's a close one with cutting spending. And that's where the vast bulk of my time has gone as well. As a member of the Budget Committee, I come home every weekend doing my dinner hours and my town hall meetings, and people are constantly telling me, "Stop wasting money. Get rid of the waste and the abuse." People tell me, "We have to make tough decisions in order to make our budget work at home. We've had to postpone that vacation, we've had to hold on to that car another year, we're sending one of our kids to college in New Jersey because it's cheaper and that's the only reason. We have made adjust-

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Charlotte De Filippo Township Clerk

Ralph N. Miltoor Finance Commissioner  
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**Salute to Local Business & Industry**

**Speedy Car Wash outshines the rest**

It's located in an industrial area on Lehigh Avenue — not exactly the kind of place you might expect to find a car wash, but somehow the Speedy Car Wash has managed to do quite nicely over the past 20 years.

"The thing that's been interesting is that there's no other commerce on the street," said owner Gene Rooney, "but there are people who go far out of their way to come to us."

According to Rooney, who has operated the business for the past 20 years, the customer receives the best possible service at a reasonable price.

During winter months, Speedy Car Wash completely removes road salt from vehicles.

At Speedy Car Wash, an exterior wash goes for about \$2 less than the average car wash, a competitive price in a business where customers can be charged \$7 simply for an exterior wash, not to mention amenities such as hot wax.

Rooney, though, at his totally "bashless" operation, provides more than just a lower price, while providing personalized service in what can be a very impersonal, high volume business.

In addition, the Speedy Car Wash offers free, self-service mat washing equipment, something many other car washes dispense only for an extra charge. Speedy also offers coin-operated, self-service vacuum cleaners.

Rooney always keeps his equipment up to date, replacing washing equipment as part of an ongoing commitment to giving the best wash for the money.

"There's no equipment in the world that will do an absolutely perfect wash," he explained, adding, however, that a little extra effort can produce a superior service.

At Speedy Car Wash, Rooney's employees take time to wash off excess dirt from every vehicle before it even enters the conveyor — and the workers must greet each customer courteously because it is their job to do so.

When the car wash is not operating, Rooney is still busy keeping all equipment in working order.

"We've really done a lot of maintenance on our equipment," he said. "I think that our assemblage of equipment is superior to most other car washes in the area."

During winter months, Speedy Car Wash is open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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No Scratches or Swirls  
Glossing Whitewalls,  
51 Lehigh Ave., Union

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

She sings in opera and concerts, performs in dramas, and teaches

By Ben Smith
Lifestyle Editor
Versatile, talented and inspiring, Laura Christianse of Union will offer her exceptionally lovely soprano voice to a concert on New Year's Eve for the Village Tenants of Vose Avenue in South Orange.



Laura Christianse

"This time I will be accompanied by jazz pianist Armen Dzorzhich, who also is a composer, arranger, educator and author," she explained in a melodic voice during a recent visit to this office.

"I have to entertain the senior citizens," Christianse said. "It's a real joy for me. It also is very rewarding and exciting to get back on the stage and perform for a live audience. It was really wonderful to get in front of the cameras and lights, but it's more exciting to share with an audience — to be able to sing to the people — and watch their faces."

County art grants given to organizations

Forty art groups and presenters of art programs will receive a total of \$68,430 from the Union County Arts Grants Program 1994-95.

Union County Festival of the Arts recently at the Union County Arts Center, Rahway.

Among the Union County arts grants recipients for 1994-1995 are: Clark Public Library, \$630, presenting outdoor concerts for the benefit of Union County artists and residents; Rahway Valley "Jersey Aires", \$1,600, providing training for members and increase outreach of the group; Elizabeth Community Access Unlimited, \$1,000, presenting a project in visual arts for and by developmentally disabled persons; Elizabeth Public Library, \$1,000, presenting a cultural series for adults and children; Jewish Family Service Agency of Central New Jersey, 1,000, presenting a concert featuring performer Michael

Burzyn, New Jersey Geriatric Center, \$2,300, presenting "Traveling Theater," a touring musical play by nursing home residents; Procyon Inc., \$1,800, presenting the "Young Life Theater Group"; Ringling Arts Project for youth, and the YWCA of Eastern Union County, \$2,300, presenting visual arts workshops culminating in a community celebration of the arts on New Year's Eve; Summit Symphony Orchestra, \$1,200, providing a series of free concerts for the community focusing on American Composers; Summit YWCA, \$1,200, producing a Community Dance Program Master Class Series and a showcase of New Jersey choreographers; and Unitarian Church of Summit, \$2,000, presenting a chamber music series.

Miele takes pride in taking videos

By Ben Smith
Lifestyle Editor
Ray Miele of Springfield, president of the Audio and Video Productions, Division of Quality Productions Co. of Union, has been a familiar face around the Union and Springfield areas for a long time.

NJSO concerts planned with a pianist in debut

Artistic Director and Conductor Zdenek Macal will lead the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, featuring pianist Daniel Belyayev making his NJSO debut Jan. 19, 1995 at 8:30 p.m. at the Crescent Theater, Trenton, and Jan. 20 at 8 p.m. at the State Theater, New Brunswick.

100th birth year cited of William Grant Still

The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of African-American composer William Grant Still, Jan. 22 at 5 p.m. as part of its Classical Traditions series, a program of the Outreach and Community Relations Committee.

Mostly Music concert on Jan. 7-8

Two masterpieces of the quintet literature will be featured at Mostly Music's concerts on Jan. 7 and 8: Schoenberg's "Verklarte Nacht" and Brahms' Quintet in G major. Co-hosts Ann Kavafian and Carter Brey will be joined by two members of the Emerson Quartet, Philip Setzer, violin, and Lawrence Dutton, viola, along with Steven Trenchon, viola, and Antonio Lysy, cello.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Photo exhibition scheduled in Watchung

The Watchung Arts Center is becoming highly regarded as the place to view fine photography, it was announced. There's the annual Garden State International Salon each May, plus a Heinz Otto exhibit, as only one recent example. Now a quarter of leading edge photographers share the Upper Gallery during January.

Reviewer Mitchell Seidel has selected five out-standing practitioners of photographic excellence for "Circle's Choice," a month-long exhibit at the Watchung Arts Center. The exhibit will be open from Jan. 4 through 28, with gallery hours 1 to 4 every day except Sunday.

Lokuta of Union and Victor Macarol of Passaic. Each brings a different slant to lenswork, offering a variety of outlooks within the same artistic discipline.

Lokuta's still video images are about the "fast-paced electronic and technological age in which we live. The mood is often dark, uncertain, even hostile, often resulting in a gritty image. The work is compelling though, enough to get this Kean College professor and solo exhibitor as distant as Yugoslavia and group exhibits throughout the East Coast and

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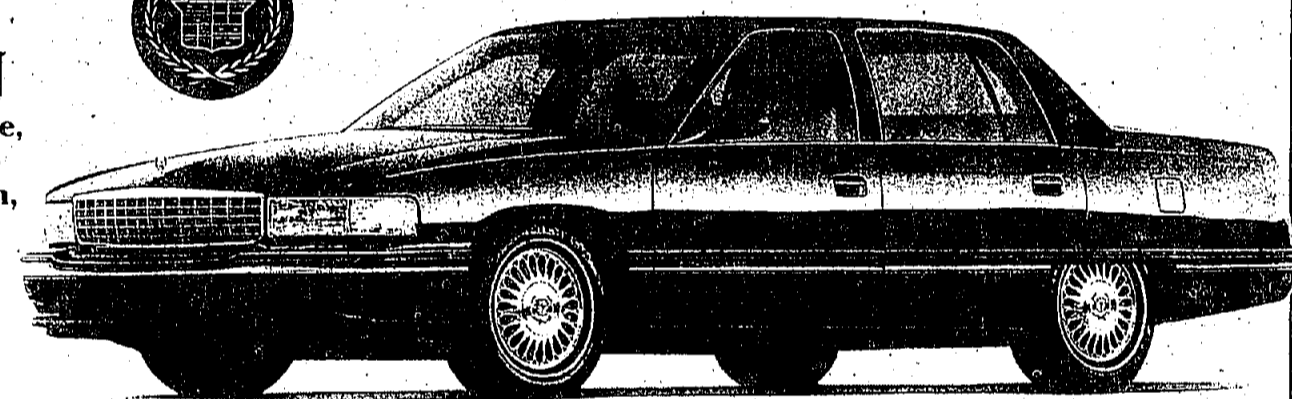


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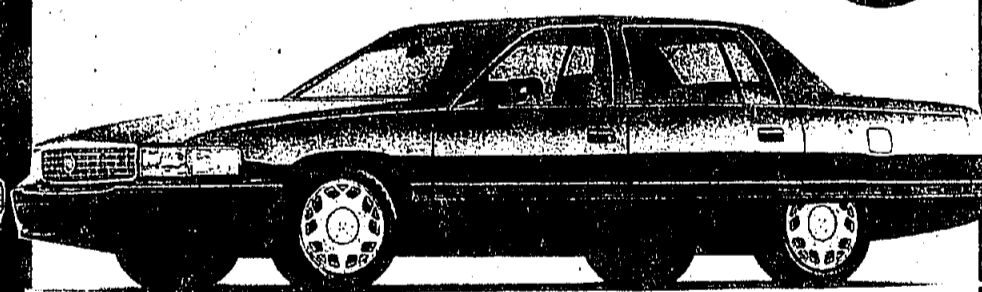
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