

# The Leader

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Thursday, December 29, 2005

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### January meetings for mayor/council

**CARLSTADT** — The Carlstadt Mayor and Council will meet on Sunday, Jan. 1 at 11:30 a.m., in the borough hall caucus room in closed session to discuss personnel.

The caucus meeting of the mayor and council will be held on Friday, Jan. 6 at 7 p.m., in the borough hall caucus room.

### Free Rabies Clinic set in E. Rutherford

**EAST RUTHERFORD** — The Borough of East Rutherford will hold its free Rabies Clinic for dogs and cats on Tuesday, Jan. 24, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at the Grove Street Firehouse.

Any resident who has a dog not already licensed with the borough for 2006 will be required to do so at the clinic. Licensing fees are \$8.45 for spayed/neutered dogs and \$11.45 for non-spayed/non-neutered dogs.

### Kids are invited to RPL's 'Book Bingo'

**RUTHERFORD** — Children 6 years or older are invited to attend the Rutherford Public Library Children's Department's monthly "Book Bingo." The next program will be held on Thursday, Jan. 19 from 3:45 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Instead of using numbers to play, titles of books are used; children registering must be able to read simple words. There will be prizes for the winners. Visit the children's department to sign up or register by phone, 201-939-8600, ext. 6.

### AC trips for Senior Harmony Club

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — The Senior Harmony Club of North Arlington will sponsor trips to Atlantic City on Tuesday, Jan. 10, to the Taj Mahal; and on Tuesday, Feb. 7, the trip will be to Trump Marina. Cost of trips is \$18.

Call Florence at 201-991-3173 for reservations.

See Page 4 for more community news ...

## Sheepish grin



Photo by Bill Allen-NUSA

Claudia Zagrewski, a 3-year-old Rutherford resident, her 8-year-old brother, Michael, and her mom, Justina, spend a moment in the manger scene outside of Saint Mary's Church in Rutherford, prior to attending a Christmas Eve service there. See Page 3 for more photos.

## Local students take on global issues



Photo, Scott Hughes, WRHS

**Raising awareness** — Wood-Ridge High School students from Scott Hughes' Sociology of Technology class and the W.I.S.H. Club participated in an educational symposium sponsored by the AIDS Outreach Program of Hackensack University Medical Center. The program, Youth World AIDS Day: Stop AIDS, Keep the Promise, was held at the Hasbrouck Heights Mall. Physicians, scientists and nurses from the hospital spoke to the students about HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness. Topics discussed included: "AIDS: The Global Enemy," "AIDS: Master of Disguises" and "AIDS: A Pediatrician's Journey." Students also heard first-hand the story of a brave woman living with AIDS as she described her journey through the illness. The seminar concluded with a question-and-answer period. Pictured from left to right: Holly Lisa, Shannon O'Reilly, Jessica Kofrowski, Kaitlyn Bradley, Laura Veltri, Emily Dugan and Lisa McGrath. The club is currently hosting a book drive for the children of northern Uganda.

By Sandra Spino  
REPORTER

**WOOD-RIDGE** — Wood-Ridge High School students are tackling global problems and becoming local activists on the world stage through the World Issues Stop Here (W.I.S.H.) club.

Under the guidance of WRHS teacher and coordinator Scott Hughes, the club is kicking off the new year with a book drive aimed at helping the children of northern Uganda. The book drive runs through the first half of January.

The purpose of the donated books is to help children read in a nation where education has been disrupted by war. The books will also give a momentary peace of mind to

the children, said Hughes. Books should be appropriate for children ages 5 to 12 and may be in new or good-used condition. Their content should not contain any acts of violence.

Hughes said that most students had no idea of what was going on in northern Uganda prior to the drive. The drive is conducted in coordination with the Memory Project in Wisconsin, where W.I.S.H. will send the collected books to be packaged and shipped off.

In northern Uganda, where English is the national language, as many as 40,000 village children flock miles to cities every night to escape the dangers of civil war, according to Hughes. After sleeping on streets or in shelters, the children walk back to their villages for school and work each

morning. Hughes explained that some of these children have to walk 40 miles every day just to sleep in a safe place.

Hughes said he heard about the northern Uganda program through the National Education Association, which suggested that English teachers ask their students to write books for the children. Hughes' class wrote about 25 books, which they will bind up and ship off. Hughes said he then suggested the idea of collecting books in order to amass a bigger supply.

The idea for the club started last year, when two WRHS students imagined a school organization that would address worldwide issues. In

Please see **STUDENTS** on Page 7

## ER against reducing the drug-free zone

By Carol Romeo  
SENIOR REPORTER

**EAST RUTHERFORD** — The borough council is one of the first municipalities in the South Bergen area to formally pass a resolution in opposition to the recent recommendation of the New Jersey Commission to Review Criminal Sentencing to shrink the drug-free school zones to 200 feet from the current 1,000 feet.

"It seems that our state legislature is more concerned about the drug dealers than our children," said Mayor James Cassella as he introduced the resolution to the governing body. "We believe that keeping drug dealers away from children is a paramount governmental concern and New Jersey drug-free zones are an important tool in the law enforcement arsenal to keep drug dealers away from children."

Upon the unanimous passing of the resolution, the East Rutherford governing body announced that it will share this resolution with the East Rutherford Public Schools and Becton Regional High School, as well as governing bodies and school boards throughout our area.

"As council liaison to the police department, we believe that all suburban councils and boards of education should adopt this or a similar resolution," said Councilman Joel Brizzi. "It just doesn't make sense to alter legislation that is working in our state."

East Rutherford Deputy Police Chief Larry Minda also announced his support at the meeting for the resolution. Cassella said that he also spoke with Sen. Paul Sarlo (D-36), who also gave his verbal sup-

port to keep the zones at 1,000 feet.

A copy of the East Rutherford resolution was forwarded to the 36th District Legislators, as well as the governor's office.

The bill, sponsored by Assemblyman Peter J. Barnes, (D-Middlesex) and Assemblywoman Mary T. Previte (D-Camden), passed out of the Law and Public Safety Committee Dec. 5. It now heads to the full assembly. To become law, it has to pass both houses before the lame-duck session ends Jan. 10, otherwise, it will have to be rein-

*"It just doesn't make sense to alter legislation that is working in our state."*

— Councilman Joel Brizzi

## Bon Jovi shirt solicitors fined

By Jeff Fucci  
SENIOR REPORTER

**EAST RUTHERFORD** — Police vow to continue an aggressive campaign against solicitors on the highways surrounding the Meadowlands Sports Complex.

After the Bon Jovi concert at Continental Airlines Arena on Dec. 19, officers gave summonses to Roger Wellington, 20, of the Bronx, N.Y., and Deayer Rushing, 38, of Brooklyn, N.Y., for selling contraband T-shirts along Route 3 East.

According to reports, the two men were making their sales in the middle of moving traffic.

Police confiscated seven shirts from the men and gave each a blanket summons.

A few minutes later, 31-year-old Burrell Dickinson of the Bronx was caught selling shirts in the middle lane of Route 120 North.

Burrell insisted he was kidding himself of the last of his

stock, and he too was given a summons.

According to East Rutherford Police Deputy Chief Larry Minda, police are most concerned with the potential accidents solicitors can cause on already-congested roadways.

"It's a significant problem because cars stop short in lanes of the highway," said Minda. "The solicitors are a danger to both themselves and motorists. You can imagine how quickly someone could get killed."

A borough statute allows for ticketing of anyone buying or selling along the highway, with maximum fines set at \$100 for each offense.

Minda said the statute includes the sale of football, basketball and hockey tickets, which sellers often attempt to disguise with large signs that read, "I need tickets."

"It doesn't matter what they're selling, we have to get them out of there," Minda said.

## The Leader

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"It looks like they're gonna release him." — That was the statement by Lyndhurst Police Chief James O'Connor at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 27, several hours after an LPD car and a white Toyota Camry veered across Valley Brook Avenue and into a fire hydrant and telephone pole, respectively. O'Connor said LPD Officer Anthony Alexander pulled onto the westbound lane of Valley Brook Avenue and activated the lights and sirens of his patrol car in response to an emergency call. The driver of the Toyota looked like he would make a right turn, but instead went for a left onto Livingston Avenue, O'Connor explained. It was at that point the two cars became entangled and went across the road. A third vehicle, an oncom-

ing Pontiac Grand Am, was also hit. Roadmasters Towing was not allowed to remove the damaged vehicles until police could conduct a full investigation. PSE&G responded to the scene to repair the cracked utility pole. The driver of the Toyota refused medical attention, O'Connor said. Alexander was the only victim of the accident to be escorted from the scene by ambulance. He was at Hackensack University Medical Center for treatment for a possible concussion and later cleared. O'Connor said police would determine whether or not charges would be filed at the conclusion of the investigation.

- Jeff Fuca

Photo by Jeff Fuca

## Police files ...

### Armed robbery

**WOOD-RIDGE** — A Passaic Street warehouse employee reported Dec. 23 at 4:54 p.m. that as he was leaving work, two men in a Nissan Altima came out of the car, pointed a gun at him, and asked for money. Det. Wolfohn and Detective Sgt. Korin responded to the scene and said the suspects got away with \$7,000 in cash and a cell-phone. The suspects were described as wearing blue jeans and hooded sweatshirts.

### Attempted theft

**RUTHERFORD** — Someone reportedly tried to break into the snack machine at Sammartino Hall at Felician College Dec. 21 but was unsuccessful.

### Animal complaint

**EAST RUTHERFORD** — A Union Street resident reported a "vicious" tan-and-black dog running around the neighborhood Dec. 20. The owner was reportedly unable to get the dog back into the house, and told police that it was their responsibility to catch it. According to reports, an officer employed a tactical driving maneuver to corner the dog. TYCO responded to take custody, and the owner was given a summons.

### Assault by auto

**LYNDHURST** — Complaints are pending against a Lyndhurst resident who reportedly refused to stop after an accident on the Nutley side of the Kingsland Avenue Bridge Dec. 21 at 6 p.m. According to reports, two cars were involved in an accident and one driver chased the other trying to get her to stop. When the driver did pull over, the 66-year-old Nutley resident got out of her car on Kingsland Avenue in Lyndhurst to discuss the accident, but she was reportedly struck by the other driver, who apparently decided to drive away. The victim got flung onto that car's roof and then subsequently dropped to the ground when the car drove away. Lyndhurst Police said they have information on the driver and are awaiting statements. The victim was treated at a local hospital and kept overnight for injuries, police said.

### Burglary

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — A vacant Birchwood Drive home was reportedly broken into Dec. 19 by unknown suspects who left behind a keg of beer, blankets and other debris. The suspects broke in through a rear window and left several holes in the walls. Police said they may have been local juveniles looking for a place to party.

**LYNDHURST** — A Post Avenue resident reported Dec. 19 at 5:30 p.m. that his home was broken into sometime during the day. According to reports, the house was ransacked and the dresser drawers rummaged through. Reported missing were a computer and two clocks. BCI processed the scene for fingerprints and other evidence.

**LYNDHURST** — A Ridge Road resident reported Dec. 20 at 8:30 p.m. that his home was broken into sometime during the day. According to

reports, entry was gained by forcing open the front door. Reported missing were an X-Box and 40 games valued at \$180. BCI processed the scene for fingerprints and other evidence.

### CDS

**LYNDHURST** — Frank Carvalho, 18, of Kearny; Michael Calabrese, 18, of Lyndhurst; and a 17-year-old from Lyndhurst were arrested Dec. 23 at 11:35 p.m. for possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. According to reports, they were driving in the area of Ridge Road and Valley Brook Avenue when they were pulled over for swerving across the yellow lines. They were released on summonses.

**WOOD-RIDGE** — Steven Ranne, 45, of Garfield, was arrested for possession of CDS and drug paraphernalia and having an open \$2,047 warrant. He was released with a court date.

**WOOD-RIDGE** — Jeffrey Russo, 39, of Hackensack, was arrested Dec. 26 at 11:19 p.m. for DWI, CDS possession, possession of drug paraphernalia and failure to inspect his vehicle. He was released on summonses.

**WOOD-RIDGE** — Kevin Nolan, 35, of Garfield, was arrested Dec. 26 at 5:19 p.m. for CDS possession and possession of a switchblade. He was also charged with failure to stop, driving without a front license plate and driving with inoperable brake lights. Bail was set at \$25,000 and he was transported to the Bergen County Jail.

### Criminal mischief

**EAST RUTHERFORD** — A Paterson Avenue resident reported a group of juveniles throwing snow and ice around her home Dec. 16. Police advised the group to leave the area.

**EAST RUTHERFORD** — A Herrick Street resident reported unknown suspects setting off fireworks in the road Dec. 21. The suspects were gone upon the arrival of police.

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — A Pershing Place resident reported the right rear tire of her car slashed Dec. 15. The car was parked outside of the victim's home. The victim stated that her tires had been slashed before, but that she had no problems with her neighbors.

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — A Riverview Avenue resident reported that someone cut a string of Christmas lights in front of his home Dec. 18.

**LYNDHURST** — A Garfield resident reported Dec. 24 at 10:44 p.m. that someone threw a rock through the front windshield of his 1996 Toyota while it was parked on Cleveland Avenue.

### DWI

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — On Dec. 18, Ismael Aviles, 56, of Jersey City, was pulled over on the Belleville Pike for having illegally tinted windows. According to reports, police detected a strong odor of alcohol on his breath and he failed several sobriety tests. Aviles was arrested, processed and given summonses. He was later released to a responsible party.

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — Police pulled over Catherine Dalessio, 40, of Newark, Dec. 18 after she reportedly swerved over the double yellow

lines that divide the Belleville Pike and struck a curb at a high rate of speed. Dalessio was determined to be intoxicated. She was arrested, processed, given summonses and later released to a responsible party.

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — On Dec. 18, police pulled over Samuel Perez, 33, of Belleville, after he reportedly made a wide right turn onto River Road that forced a patrol vehicle to take evasive maneuvers. Perez was determined to be intoxicated. He was arrested, processed, given summonses and later released to a responsible party.

**LYNDHURST** — Czeslaw Indycki, 45, of Hunter, N.Y., was arrested Dec. 19 at 9:30 p.m. in the area of Rutherford Avenue and Lafayette Place for DWI, refusal to take a breathalyzer and driving without insurance. He was released on summonses and transferred to St. Mary's Hospital after he complained of head pain from an old injury.

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — On Dec. 20, police pulled over Michael Jackson, 50, of Kearny, at the intersection of Schuyler Avenue and the Belleville Pike after he allegedly swerved, straddled the center of the road and struck a curb. Jackson was determined to be intoxicated. He was arrested, processed and later released with summonses, which included driving an uninsured and unregistered motor vehicle, as well as driving under the influence of alcohol.

**LYNDHURST** — Veronica Bachman, 18, of Rutherford, was arrested Dec. 22 at 1:40 a.m. for DWI on Ridge Road. She was also charged with careless driving, refusing to provide a driver's license and underage consumption of alcohol. She was released on summonses.

**LYNDHURST** — Laiggi Ordonez, 23, of Lodi, was arrested Dec. 24 at 2 a.m. for DWI in the area of Ridge Road and Milton Court. He was also charged with speeding. He was released on summonses.

### Fire

**EAST RUTHERFORD** — BJ's reported an electrical malfunction Dec. 17, which ERFD traced to an overloaded outlet.

### Harassment

**EAST RUTHERFORD** — A Hackensack Street resident said that an intoxicated man grabbed her by the wrist while she was doing laundry Dec. 18. The man reportedly told police he had a few drinks, but was OK. He was advised to be more careful around his neighbors. The victim did not press charges.

### Hazard

**EAST RUTHERFORD** — A Route 5 motorist reported hitting a piece of plywood on the Hackensack River Bridge Dec. 17. The motorist reportedly sustained heavy damage to the front end of his 2002 Honda.

**EAST RUTHERFORD** — A motorist driving on Union Avenue reported that a train came by without the warning lights flashing or bells chiming at the crossing Dec. 18. NJ Transit was notified.

Rutherford police reported that a 1986 Peterbuilt truck traveling across the Berry's Creek Bridge spilled diesel fuel Dec. 20. Hazmat and the DEP were notified, and the 5-gallon spill was cleaned.

### Suspicious person

**RUTHERFORD** — A woman reported on Dec. 21 at 11:51 a.m. that a white man wearing a jacket and no shirt underneath was staring at her.

**RUTHERFORD** — Police received a call Dec. 21 that a man was running around on Vanderburgh Avenue wearing no shirt and no shoes. He was returned to his home.

**RUTHERFORD** — A Hollister Avenue resident reported Dec. 21 that a white male was walking around carrying a shovel. It turned out that he worked for a survey company.

**RUTHERFORD** — A Feronia Way resident reported Dec. 22 at 2:50 p.m. that she heard her doorbell ring and then heard footsteps on the first floor. According to reports, there was no one suspicious in the house when police arrived.

### Theft

**EAST RUTHERFORD** — A Staples customer reported that someone stole a \$3,145.53 check from the copy machine when he stepped away from it for a moment to shop. The victim notified his bank to stop payment on the check.

**EAST RUTHERFORD** — On Dec. 21, unknown suspects reportedly stole a sky blue baby bag from the cart of a BJ's shopper. The victim's bag contained a navy blue wallet with a New York driver's license, Citibank debit card, JCPenny credit card and various other credit cards and forms of identification inside.

**LYNDHURST** — An employee working on Wall Street reported Dec. 21 that someone stole \$600 in cash from his wallet that he left in his desk drawer.

**LYNDHURST** — An employee working on Clay Avenue reported Dec. 21 that someone stole a credit card from his wallet and used it at the local 7-eleven. Police reported that they are in the process of reviewing the store's digital security system.

### Theft from vehicle

**RUTHERFORD** — The owner of a 1999 Ford reported Dec. 20 that someone stole his front passenger tire while his car was parked at a Route 17 office building between 1 p.m. and 5:50 p.m.

**LYNDHURST** — The owner of a 2003 Toyota parked by Classic Athletic Club on Chubb Avenue reported that his car was broken into Dec. 23 at 2 p.m. Reported missing were a credit card and \$300 cash.

### Theft of vehicle

**CARLSTADT** — A trailer loaded with tires was reported stolen from a Moonachie Avenue business Dec. 22.

### Warrant arrest

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — Police responded to Robert Castle's Fairview Avenue home on a report of a smoke condition Dec. 20 and ended up arresting the 51-year-old borough resident for an outstanding warrant for \$1,000. Castle was processed and released after posting 10 percent bail. The NAFD determined the smoke condition

did not exist.

— Cindy Capitani  
— Jeff Fuca

All police blotter items are obtained from local police

departments. All persons are presumed innocent until proven otherwise.

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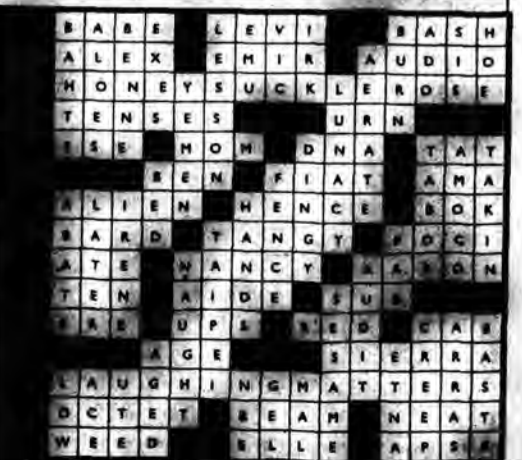
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Photos by Bill Allen - NJSA

(above) The end of Advent, the beginning of Christmas — With giant wreaths adorning the walls and candles at the ends of the pews, a packed house prepares to worship on Christmas Eve at Saint Mary's Church in Rutherford.

(left) Altar servers lead the way — Getting ready for the start of one of four Christmas Eve services at Saint Mary's Church in Rutherford were (front from left) Liz Tierney, Anthony Gallo and Katie Driscoll and (back from left) Andrew Fenwick, Joe Tierney and Liz Driscoll.

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# LFD seeks updated equipment

By Tony Atrino  
 SENIOR REPORTER

**LYNDHURST** — The fire department hopes to purchase more than \$1 million in equipment to replace a 20-year-old ladder truck and a multi-purpose fire-rescue truck.

Replacing the equipment would help the township keep up with growth — namely, several projects slated for development through EnCap.

Fire Official Mike Antonicelli told the Lyndhurst Board of Commissioners during a special meeting on Dec. 20 that Assemblyman Fred Scalera (D-36) and State Sen. Paul Sarlo (D-36) had advised the department of a \$100,000 grant to help pay for a new multi-purpose vehicle, which is estimated to cost \$225,000. The balance of the money would be paid for through the sale of the old truck, officials

said. The new truck is equipped with a command center and assists the dive team in water recovery operations.

Meanwhile, Antonicelli said EnCap has made "a generous contribution" toward the \$800,000 cost of replacing an aerial or ladder truck that has been in service with the Lyndhurst Fire Department since 1985.

EnCap plans to cap landfills in Lyndhurst and North Arlington and erect several golf courses, along with housing and retail developments.

Fire officials said the new 100-foot ladder truck would reach some of the township's tallest buildings, including the 10-story structure at 9 Polito Ave. and most — if not all — of the new structures planned for construction in the next decade.

Officials said the old ladder truck has developed mechanical problems and become

somewhat unreliable with age. They hoped to auction the vehicle off to a smaller fire department with a smaller area to cover.

In other business, the board of commissioners introduced an ordinance that would impose growth share regulations consistent with the state's Council on Affordable Housing on all residential and non-residential developments within the town. The measure would enforce compliance with COAH rules, including requirements that affordable units be built for low- and moderate-income families in residential neighborhoods.

The board also set a public hearing date of Jan. 10 to amend zoning ordinances to establish special regulations for wireless communications towers and antennas. The regulations are needed because across the country, cellular phone companies have attempted to place their

equipment in residential neighborhoods and have succeeded where no local law exists to prohibit their installation.

# Felician College announces musical auditions

**LODI** — Kathy Renna, executive director of Applause Performing Arts Center, a non-profit, educational organization, will hold auditions and registration for "The Wizard of Oz" and "A Chorus Line" on Tuesdays, Jan. 3 and 10, at Felician College, 262 Passaic St. in Lodi.

Three- to 17-year-olds may audition and register for "The Wizard of Oz" from 4 p.m. to 6

p.m. Teens, college kids and adults may audition and register for "A Chorus Line" from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

"The Wizard of Oz" will be held at Felician College in the John J. Breslin Theater on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, April 1, 2 and 3. "A Chorus Line" will be presented later in April and early May.

These shows are perfect for school trips, girl/boy scouts,

recreation centers and special events.

Different casts will be selected from the Felician College location and Applause's second location at 324 Fairview Ave. in Fairview. Further information will be handed out on Jan. 3.

For more information, call Kathy Renna at 201-313-5513 or 201-362-4948.



Photo by Jeff Fucci

'Is your house on fire, Clark?' — 'No, Aunt Bethany, those are Christmas lights.' — National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation. A steady line of cars gathered on East Rutherford's Willow Wood Court Christmas Eve to take a good look at a home covered from rooftop to foundation in bright lights. The holiday landmark, with an animatronic talking Santa, wishing well, 8-foot-tall snowman and army of inflatable decorations, has become a holiday destination for residents across the South Bergen County area. It's rumored that the owners made not only Santa's, but PSE&G's good list this year. To see for yourself, turn down Paterson Avenue onto Willow Street, then make a left onto Willow Wood Court.

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# QPHS to compete against Fort Lee

## Academic quiz show airs Jan. 7 and Jan. 8



CHALLENGE

Photo, Epoch 5 Public Relations

A team of four contestants and one alternate from Queen of Peace High School will challenge Fort Lee High School in the first round of the premiere season of the New Jersey Challenge on Saturday, Jan. 7. The competition, moderated by News 12 New Jersey Anchor Tom Layson, will be shown exclusively on News 12 New Jersey at 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., with encores airing the very next night, Jan. 8 at 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Queen of Peace High School is among 32 New Jersey high schools chosen at random from a field of 64 applicants to compete in the premiere season of The New Jersey Challenge, an academic quiz show designed to test students' knowledge of math, science, literature, news and history.

Queen of Peace High School's New Jersey Challenge team pose with Tom Layson, host of the New Jersey Challenge. Pictured, from left to right, are Jennifer DeCotis; team captain David Miller; host Tom Layson; Kristen Billy; Deanna DeBlasi; and team alternate Damien Gallegos. The team's academic advisor is Estelle Bryk.

# NA Library offers Story Time programs

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — Registration has begun for North Arlington Public Library's free Story Times for children ages 2-1/2, 3 and 4. The programs include storytelling with picture books, puppets, songs and crafts. Activities are designed to enhance children's listening, socialization and fine motor skills and to foster a love of books and reading that will last a lifetime.

Two-and-a-half-year-olds will meet on Tuesdays from Jan. 24 to March 7, with the exception of Feb. 21. Sessions begin at 10:15 a.m. and end at 10:45 a.m. Children must be 2-1/2 at the time of the first session, and parents or caregivers must remain with their children at all times. Arrangements should be made for older and younger siblings, as they will not be permitted to attend.

Three- and 4-year-olds will meet on Mondays from Jan. 23 to March 13, with the exception of Feb. 20, President's Day. Sessions begin at 10:15 a.m. and end at 11 a.m. The library urges parents and caregivers to sign up for a library card in advance of Story Hour.

Advanced registration is required. To register for either program, visit the library or call Michelle Michaud, children's librarian, at 201-955-5636. The North Arlington Public Library is located at 210 Ridge Road. The library is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Initial library cards are free to all residents of the borough.

# Rutherford HS to hold Band Day on Jan. 10

**RUTHERFORD** — The Rutherford Department of Fine, Practical and Performing Arts will sponsor Band Day on Tuesday, Jan. 10. All students taking instrumental lessons in grades 7 and 8 will be participating, along with the Rutherford High School Concert Band.

The purpose of the day is to foster a district-wide awareness of the instrumental music program, improve performance technique and provide encouragement for all of the young musicians to continue their study and performance of music.

Students will report directly to Rutherford High School at 8:05 a.m. on Jan. 10, and will spend the day rehearsing for a combined concert to be held on that evening at 7:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

Nine clinics will be run by local professional educators/performers, including three Rutherford High School alumni. Following lunch, students will hear a concert performed by a brass quintet. They will also have several rehearsal times during the course of the day until 3 p.m., returning at 6:30 p.m. for the evening concert, which is open to the public.

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# Community briefs ...

**LYNDHURST** — The Lyndhurst Elks will host an opportunity to ring in the new year "Mardi Gras Style" on Saturday, Dec. 31.

The event will be held from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. and will include open bar, salad and pasta bar, filet mignon dinner, coffee and dessert, with DJ music by Hot Fred on the Mix. A continental breakfast will be served at 1 a.m.

Donation is \$60. For tickets, contact the Elks at 201-507-1505. Dave at 201-893-3207 or Janet at 201-600-5399.

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — The American Legionnaires of the Alexander P. Stover Post 37 will get a quick start in the new year with their attendance at a business meeting on Monday, Jan. 2, in the VFW Hall at 222 River Road in North Arlington.

Commander Albert Riccio will lead the session at 8 p.m. after the officers caucus at 7 p.m. He will render a digest of planning of events. He is inviting eligibles to join in assisting and maintaining/advancing benefits for veterans and their families.

**CARLSTADT** — The next meeting of the Carlstadt Women's Club will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 3 at 7:30 p.m., at the Carlstadt Civic Center.

Speaker Patricia Speake will discuss divorce and mediation. Participants are asked to bring tuna fish for the food bank.

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — The Ladies Auxiliary of the Calo-Sass Post 4697 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars will gather for business on Wednesday, Jan. 4, in the chambers at 222 River Road, North Arlington.

President Ann Nowicki will lead a discussion on the planning for 2006 at 3 p.m. Eligibles wishing to join may contact her for more information at 201-997-1149.

**CARLSTADT** — Carlstadt Little League will hold its final election meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 4 at 7 p.m., at the Carlstadt Clubhouse on Ninth Street.

**CARLSTADT** — The Carlstadt Senior Friendship Club meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 1:30 p.m. at the Civic Center.

Reservations for the trip on Feb. 23 to Hunterdon Hills will be accepted at the Jan. 4 meeting. New members are welcome. Refreshments are served, followed by bingo games.

**RUTHERFORD** — The next meeting of the Rutherford Multicultural Festival Committee will be held on Thursday, Jan. 5, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., at borough hall. The committee is still looking for music from Poland, Italy, Country Music (Dixieland) and Caribbean Music; contact Luis Nunez at Lnunez@trimworldinc.com or Bea Goldberg at 201-370-5787.

The winners of "The New Lincoln Park" oil painting were Irene and Angelo Biviano of Rutherford. The committee collected \$410, which will be donated to Lincoln Park.

**CARLSTADT** — The Ladies Auxiliary of Vic's Hoofers will hold its first meeting of the new year on Thursday, Jan. 5 at 7:30 p.m., at the Civic Center. The game, "Scattergories" will be played. This ladies' social club welcomes new members. Call 201-935-2541 for information.

**RUTHERFORD** — The Fairleigh Early Birds Toastmasters Club of Rutherford recently held its annual Holiday Breakfast at

the Marriott Courtyard. Meetings will resume on Saturday, Jan. 7, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., in the Rutherford Public Library auditorium. Guests are welcome.

The club provides ways to develop communication and leadership skills, which in turn fosters self-confidence and personal growth. Visit www.feb-tm.org or contact Stanley at 973-546-1832 for information.

**EAST RUTHERFORD** — St. Francis of Assisi Knights of Columbus Council 4524 will sponsor a bus trip to Caesar's Palace, Atlantic City, on Saturday, Jan. 21. The bus will leave from St. Joseph's Church, Hoboken Road, East Rutherford, at 9 a.m. and will return at 8 p.m.

Price is \$25 per ticket with a \$17 coin return. For tickets and information, call Tom Moriarty at 201-935-1561 or Jim Kenny at 201-939-5134.

**LYNDHURST** — The Lyndhurst Department of Parks and Recreation announced that there will be a trip to Showboat Casino in Atlantic City on Thursday, Jan. 26. This trip is open to any township resident 21 years of age and older.

Tickets are \$17 per person, with a coin return of \$19 and \$5 coupon off the buffet or usable at the Mansion Cafe or House of Blues, and will go on sale on Tuesday, Jan. 3, starting at 9 a.m., at the parks department. There will be one bus. Call 201-804-2482.

**CARLSTADT** — The Carlstadt Senior Club meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 1 p.m.

New officers installed at the recent Christmas party are Viola Mayer, president; Eugene Mayer, first vice president; Frieda Newsbaum, second vice president; Mary Moyses, recording secretary; and Nancy Parise, treasurer.

# Events, meeting planned for ER Senior Citizens

**EAST RUTHERFORD** — The East Rutherford Senior Citizens, Inc. will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 10 at 1 p.m., at the Senior/Civic Center. New members are welcome. Refreshments and bingo follow the business meeting.

Beginner line dancing is offered on Fridays from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.; exercise classes are held on Mondays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Upcoming events planned are the New Year's Eve party on Saturday, Dec. 31 at 7:30 p.m.; and a trip to Caesar's casino in Atlantic City on Monday, Jan. 16. Call 201-933-3153.

# Lyndhurst Elks sponsor AC trip

**LYNDHURST** — Lyndhurst Elks will sponsor a bus ride to the Taj Mahal in Atlantic City on Sunday, Jan. 29. Cost is \$25, with \$18 cash return. The bus will leave at 9 a.m., returning approximately 7:30 p.m.

For tickets, contact Ann Manzari at 201-861-4427 or the Elks Lodge at 201-507-1505.

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Photo, NANS  
Sen. John Vitaro from North Arlington Middle School — Sen. Paul Sarlo recently spoke to the eighth grade students at the North Arlington Middle School. His message to the students was to point out the importance of learning history in school. He addressed how the government works in New Jersey and also how he is involved in local government in Wood-Ridge, where he grew up as a student and athlete. Sarlo answered many questions and was an enlightening speaker to have at the school. He also stressed the right to vote in America as an important component that every citizen should exercise.

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# Rutherford ends year with awards



Photos by Jeff Fucci

Recreation U-14 Girls Traveling Soccer Team members were recognized as the 2005 Northern County Premiere Division Champions.

By Jeff Fucci  
SENIOR REPORTER

**RUTHERFORD** — The final council meeting of the year on Dec. 20 was highlighted by a series of presentations to ordinary residents for their extraordinary accomplishments.

Before a packed house, the mayor and council stepped forward to thank Anne McCormack, a Rutherford Public Library Trustee who resigned this month, for 12 years of service.

"I am very happy so many young people are here to witness this. I know many of you here use the library," Mayor Bernadette P. McPherson said. "It's because of the dedication of volunteers that you have the books and research tools you need."

Next up were the Rutherford Junior Football PeeWee team, a group of 5- and 6-year-olds coached by Ken Meister, Manny Medina, Jim Mignone and John McAndrew. The team recently completed an undefeated season with a 13-6 win against Wood-Ridge, becoming All Stars Tournament Champions.

After proud parents corralled the young players together for photos, the Rutherford Junior Football Senior players and head coach Mike Paskas were congratulated on earning the titles of Southern Division and Super Bowl Champs. The undefeated seventh and eighth grade players' season ended with a 27-4 victory against Wood-Ridge.

Their cheerleaders, under the direction of Renee Cerchione, were honored next, while the team stuck around to show their appreciation.

The final sports presentation was to the Northern Division champs, the Recreation U-14 Girls Traveling Soccer Team, which Council President George Fecanin said had a special place in his heart since his daughter was a player.

"I also want to thank all the parents on the team, because they helped to make the season fun while we were on the road," Fecanin said before distributing the awards to the girls.

Last came the graduation of new members of the Community Emergency Response Team, who received certificates from Office of



Rutherford Public Library Trustee Anne McCormack recently announced her resignation and was recognized for 12 years of service.



The Rutherford Junior Football Cheerleaders were congratulated for cheering the team to victory.



The Rutherford Junior Football Team was congratulated on earning the titles of Southern Division and Super Bowl Champs. Shown are Jason Caballero, left, and Peter Filas.

Emergency Management Coordinator and Police Chief Steven Nienstedt and Deputy Coordinator Matt Ziemkiewicz.

The new members spent a minimum of 24 hours attending classes on fire suppression, disaster medical operations, terrorism awareness and light search and rescue.

"In the event of an emergency, they wouldn't replace public safety, but if the resources of the borough were stressed, they would be prepared to help," Ziemkiewicz

said, explaining how the graduates learned how to take care of themselves, their families and their neighbors.

Each member received a gear belt, goggles, flashlight and green vests for identification in the event of a crisis.

On hand for the graduation ceremony were Sandra Gentile, James Baker and Karen Baker, three of the nine graduates of the fall program. Ziemkiewicz said a total of 30 Rutherford residents have now become CERT members.



The Rutherford Junior Football PeeWees were recognized for their undefeated season.

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# Free parking extension on hold

By Jeff Fucci  
SENIOR REPORTER

**RUTHERFORD** — A resident's request sparked a debate about the borough's parking policies at the Dec. 20 borough council meeting.

The resident had asked earlier in the day that red bags remain on the meters along Park Avenue, its adjacent roadways and the Kip Center Parking Garage until Jan. 7, the date of Eastern Orthodox Christmas.

In response to an annual letter from the Rutherford Downtown Partnership, the borough bagged the meters from Nov. 30 to Dec. 27 to allow two free hours of parking to shoppers and restaurant patrons.

Councilman-elect Joseph Sommer said acquiescing to the resident's request could set a precedent, and Council President George Fecanin expressed concern that the extra week of free parking would equal a loss in revenue.

Borough Attorney Anne Marie Rizzuto advised the council to weigh the loss.

"Assuming the bags are for the purpose of encouraging shopping for those who are extending their holiday, then you are realizing a loss of revenue to encourage shopping," Rizzuto said.

Councilman Bruce Bartlett said a more formal request should have been made.

"The issue in my estimation is a last-minute request from someone who walks in the door," Bartlett said, adding that church officials should have been involved since the argument was made on religious grounds.



Photo by Jeff Fucci

Two-hour free parking in Rutherford ends on Dec. 27, despite a resident's request that the borough extend it until Jan. 7.

The council decided to leave the free parking as it was, and to re-evaluate its duration for the 2006 holiday season after looking over at the amount of revenue the parking meters actually generate.

According to Police Chief

Steven Nienstedt, officers have been strictly enforcing the two-hour parking by chalking tires. Police Captain George Egbert said mostly merchants were being ticketed for abusing the privilege.

Mayor Bernadette

McPherson said the larger issue would also be reviewed in 2006.

"We will be having discussions with merchants as to how to get them to stop parking in front of stores," she said.

# Habitat for Humanity awards fundraising efforts



Photo by Jeff Fucci

Pictured, left to right, are Rutherford Junior Woman's Club Co-Presidents Elizabeth Gilmore and Lara Licata, William Carlos Williams Center Treasurer Evelyn Spath-Mercado, Bergen County Executive Dennis McNerney, Rutherford resident Kimberly Birdsall, Bergen County Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Lisa Hartley, Rutherford Mayor Bernadette McPherson, William Carlos Williams Center President Dr. Joseph DeFazio and Rutherford Downtown Partnership Manager Robin Reenstra-Bryant. Hartley came to the Williams Center the morning of Dec. 15 to present Birdsall with a certificate honoring her as an Ambassador of Goodwill for organizing a campaign to build a home for a Gulf Region family.

By Jeff Fucci  
SENIOR REPORTER

**RUTHERFORD** — "It's volunteers like her. That's how we build decent and affordable homes," said Bergen County Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Lisa Hartley before presenting resident Kimberly Birdsall with a certificate of her organization's gratitude on Dec. 15.

Birdsall — moved by the ongoing struggle of Hurricane Katrina survivors — organized a borough-wide fundraising effort stretching across the month of December in hopes of raising \$75,000 to construct a home for a family rebuilding

in the Gulf Coast region. Hartley said the family, in turn, would contribute "sweat-equity," helping to assemble the home from pre-fabricated pieces sent their way.

Birdsall's campaign, which was sponsored by the Junior Woman's Club, included a "Pizza Kick-off" of local pizzerias donating a portion of their profits and activities in borough public and private schools.

"It was great for the kids to see that problems don't resolve themselves automatically," Birdsall said.

A "Dinner and Movie Week" followed, with participating restaurants including Jim Dandy's, The Risotto

House, Trattoria Corrado, Café Café and Blimpie also donating a portion of their profits. The William Carlos Williams Center contributed a portion of ticket sales.

Mayor Bernadette McPherson applauded Birdsall's efforts and lent the full support of the governing body. "It really has been a community effort, and people and groups have really reached out," said Birdsall, who reasoned mathematically that \$4 from each of Rutherford's 18,000 residents would see the home built.

Birdsall said the drive did not reach its goal, but would combine with other similar efforts in the area in order to

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Continued from **STUDENTS** on Page 1

November, W.I.S.H. was officially formed, with 55 students expressing interest at the first meeting.

"We have some clubs here that tackle local and state issues," Hughes said. "These kids want to do something globally."

Earlier this month, W.I.S.H. members participated in a symposium at Hackensack University Medical Center for World AIDS Day. They also handed out stickers and posted flyers around the high school.

Upcoming on the W.I.S.H. agenda is a week-long lunch

for a school in Kenya. The club is also looking to donate money to the Heifer Project in 2006 in order to help provide resources for people living in needy countries.

"Part of the goals for the club is to find some sustainable, renewable resources for people," Hughes said. "In the spring, we are looking to buy an animal or two."

Heifer International helps to organize gifts for people who are living hungry in nations around the world. These gifts include such animals as heifers for milk, chicks for eggs and llamas for fleece.

"You can even purchase trees for a village," Hughes said. "It's something people will be able to reuse for years to come."

More information on Heifer International can be found at [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org).

Members of the community wishing to donate books can bring them to Scott Hughes in Wood-Ridge High School or drop them in the box in the school's cafeteria. For more information, contact Hughes at WRHS, 201-930-0289, or via e-mail at [shughes@wood-ridgeschools.org](mailto:shughes@wood-ridgeschools.org).

# BRHS students of the months honored

By Carol Romeo  
SENIOR REPORTER

## EAST RUTHERFORD —

Each month, Becton Regional High School crowns a deserving senior with the honor to reign as Student of the Month. The Leader salutes Becton's finest that have captured this title from September through December 2005. Those students respectively are Mary Badlissi, Dawn Haider, Michael Woyce and Estaphanie Betances.

Student of the Month candidates are chosen by Becton's students and faculty. Students are evaluated for their outstanding academic achievements; involvement in school activities, sports and clubs; and service to the community.

September's Student of the Month, Mary Badlissi, is currently ranked at the top of the senior class and is a High Honor Roll student. She has been a member of the Key Club and the Bible Club and is also involved in the Math League.

"Mary is an outstanding school citizen who is held in high esteem by both the faculty and her peers," said Board President John Ondrof, who presented Badlissi with a special award from the Becton board. "In the classroom, she has always exerted herself to take the most demanding subjects that our school has to offer. This year alone, she is taking five Advanced Placement (AP) courses."

As a junior, Badlissi was a member of the National Honor Society and French Honor Society. In addition, she was an assistant editor of "Images," Becton's art and literary magazine and contributed to the yearbook.



Photo by Jeff Fucci

Becton Regional High School Student of the Month recipients from September through December assemble for a photo. Pictured, left to right, are Mary Badlissi (September), Estaphanie Betances (December), Michael Woyce (November) and Dawn Haider (October). Each month, Becton crowns a deserving senior with the honor to reign as Student of the Month. Candidates are chosen by Becton's students and faculty. Students are evaluated for their outstanding academic achievements; involvement in school activities, sports and clubs; and service to the community.

Dawn Haider, October's Student of the Month at Becton, is president of the student council, vice president of the National Honor Society and key member of the debate team. Haider was also recently honored as the North Jersey Scholar of the Week in The Bergen Record.

"Dawn is a young lady of excellent character who possesses an excellent values system," said Marc Caprio, Becton guidance counselor. "She is aware of the social issues in the world around her and has been involved in numerous volunteer projects. Dawn is most proud of her work with 'Service for Peace' and our school's Key Club."

At the present time, Haider is ranked third in the senior class. "It's a student like Dawn that makes your profession rewarding," Caprio contin-

ued. "I know she will contribute tremendously to the academic excellence of the classes she chooses, as well as the activities that create a meaningful student culture on campus."

Michael Woyce, November's Student of the Month, was recommended by Becton guidance counselor Jonna Calvanico. "Michael is one of our top outstanding students this year," Calvanico said. "He is a bright, genuine, ambitious young man who always behaves like a true young gentleman."

Woyce is currently ranked eighth in his class. He is a member of the National Honors Society and last year, he was one of only two students who scored a five on the U.S. History AP exam.

Woyce is an active member of Becton's band, debate team

and track team. In addition, he has played an integral role in Becton's cross country team, winning three consecutive league titles. "As busy as Michael is with school work and extra curricular activities, he still finds time to work part time and to volunteer time to raise money for sick children," Calvanico added.

Estaphanie Betances, December's Student of the Month at Becton, is currently ranked fourth in the senior class and is a key member of Becton's debate team and school newspaper.

"I have full confidence that Estaphanie will excel in college," said Caprio, who nominated her for this honor. "She is a quality person who will be an asset to any institution looking for a determined and dependable individual who is motivated to succeed."



Photo by Ann Marie McCarthy

Old Faithful, which is one of about 200 active geysers found in the Yellowstone National Park. Find out more in "Around the World with Ann Marie" on Page B4.

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## NA Library spotlights phonics

**NORTH ARLINGTON —** Parents eager to help their children with reading skills have a new ally: the North Arlington Public Library. The library has created a special collection of materials centered on phonics — the concept that the sounds we say correspond to letters of the alphabet. These new resources are available in the "easy reading" section of the library's children's room.

The collection includes a host of material in a variety of formats, including books, visual aids and DVDs, to cater to children's differing learning styles and interests. The Phonics Fun Reading Program from Scholastic, featuring Clifford the Big Red Dog — a perennial child favorite — includes sets of 12 books that focus on different letter sounds. A letter to parents gives tips on how to best use the books with their children. Flip Flap Phonics, from Innovative Kids, features a story book underneath a row of letters children can flip to create words themselves.

Among the DVDs available are "Learn to Read With Phonics," which features songs, stories and finger games in three volumes: "Letters and Words"; "Soundable Words and Long and Short Vowels," and "Sight

Words, Reading and Counting." Each DVD is progressively more challenging as the child moves through the programs. Also available is Rock 'N Learn Phonics, which works with a DVD player or a computer with a DVD drive, highlighting 12 stories that range from simple to more complex.

For teachers, and parents who may want to supplement their children's school instruction, the library has also purchased resources geared towards adults. These include "Phonics Games Kids Can't Resist!" by Michelle K. Ramsey, with 25 phonics games children can play; Primary Phonics Skills: Hands-on Activities to Practice Reading Skills by Lillian Lieberman, and Phonics They Use: Words for Reading and Writing by Patricia M. Cunningham.

All phonics resources may be borrowed for home use with a valid library card; initial library cards are free to all residents of the borough. The North Arlington Public Library is located at 210 Ridge Road and is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Photo by Jeff Fucci

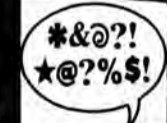
**Home for good —** "A few things are the same, and a few things are different. But like Dorothy said, there's no place like home," said Carlstadt Police Lt. Frank Smith, who returned to the department on Dec. 13 after serving with the U.S. Army for over a year in Iraq. While on his tour in Iraq, Smith said he asked a local artist to paint a drawing he made that showed the Iraqi and American flags, as well as the Carlstadt Police Shield, fused together. He brought the painting home as a present to the department, and hopes to see it hang across from the desk in headquarters. Smith was promoted from sergeant to lieutenant on June 16 with the help of NBC camera crews who set up a satellite feed from Iraq to Carlstadt Borough Hall.

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# ERBOE considers adding a special needs Pre-K

By Susan Moeller  
REPORTER

**EAST RUTHERFORD** — The East Rutherford Board of Education covered a broad range of topics at their public work session on Dec. 15.

Among other things, they discussed the district's new Web site and possible modifications to the structure of special education.

Superintendent of Schools Gayle Strauss reported an increase in the number of East Rutherford children with an autism diagnosis. She told the board that she wanted them to

be aware of the increase in East Rutherford children dealing with this developmental disability and the ramifications for the district. Strauss also noted that it may be a better financial choice for the borough to begin its own pre-kindergarten (Pre-K) class for children with autism.

To provide in-district Pre-K services for children with autism, the district would need to hire a full-time teacher and a full-time aide. Appropriate classroom space would also need to be designated. In an e-mail interview after the meeting, Strauss stated that the district would

break even financially if three children with autism were kept in the district.

East Rutherford is not alone in facing an increase in children with autism. The Centers for Disease Control indicates that more American children than ever are being diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder. The Autism Society of America calls autism the nation's fastest growing developmental disability and estimates the growth in diagnosis as 10 to 17 percent per year.

Strauss also reported that the district will face rising tuition increases in their special education budget. She said that she wanted to give the board advance notice of the anticipated cost increases so that they could begin thinking about modifications to the budget.

State lawmakers have restricted the amount of money that any district can hold in surplus. The law, S1701, limits surplus amounts to 2 percent of the total budget. Strauss said that the district's limited reserves have been depleted. She also said that she anticipates that mandated special education costs will exceed the available surplus. Strauss said that the

result will be cuts in non-mandated programs. She added that the board has not yet determined what areas of the budget will be reduced.

Strauss encouraged board members to check out the district's new Web site, www.erboe.net. She was especially complimentary of some of the teacher's individual Web sites.

After the meeting, Strauss pointed to several Web site benefits for parents and students.

"Parents can get current information," such as "emergency closings, notices that

are sent home, school newsletters and board briefs."

Students can benefit from reviewing current assignments online. Strauss also noted that textbooks purchased during the last two years can be accessed online, eliminating the need for students to lug heavy books home.

Strauss pointed out a cost-saving feature of the Web site. She said that once parent e-mail addresses are available, newsletters, notices and other correspondence can be sent electronically with a corresponding reduction in copying and paper costs.

# State park expands following junkyard turnover

By Jeff Fucci  
SENIOR REPORTER

**RIVER EDGE** — The Department of Environmental Protection and Bergen County announced their purchase of Bergenfield Auto Parts on Dec. 21, along with plans to add the former junkyard to the Historic New Bridge Landing State Park.

According to Wood-Ridge Council President and Bergen County Historical Society Trustee Catherine Cassidy, the annex will provide visibility and access to the rest of the park, which includes a number of historical homes and stretches across River Edge, New Milford, Teaneck and Hackensack.

Earlier this month, the state purchased 1.3 acres of the property for \$821,873 to build a visitor's center. Bergen County purchased the remaining .3 acres for \$250,000 to widen a nearby road.

Hackensack Riverkeeper Bill Sheehan said he envisioned the completed park as a major ecotourism destination.

"So many years this area has been discounted, with people thinking we live in the shadow of New York City," Sheehan said. "This is the most significant historical spot on the Hackensack River. It was right here that the Revolutionary War could have been won or lost."

The park is named for a "new bridge" built to link New Jersey and Manhattan in 1744. The bridge later became part of George Washington's retreat route in 1766.

The junkyard, a small piece of the park's total 30 acres, has a history of its own.

According to DEP Commissioner Bradley Campbell, its recent years were "less encouraging." Campbell blamed a lack of state funding and the former owners' unwillingness to clean and sell the property for the nearly two decades it took the state to acquire it.

But Fair Lawn resident Rose Lehr, who inherited the property when her husband Leonard died in 2002, said he had wanted to sell for years to a number of potential buyers.

"We had offers for an animal hospital, a bank, even from the Ford Motor Company, who wanted to clean it up," Lehr said. "We were told we were not allowed to sell to anyone but the state.



Photos by Jeff Fucci  
(Above) Revolutionary War reenactors were on hand with local and state politicians at a Dec. 21 press conference announcing the addition of the former Bergenfield Auto Parts property to Historic New Bridge Landing State Park in River Edge. (Left) Bergen County Executive Dennis McNerney and DEP Commissioner Bradley Campbell were among the speakers.

They had zoned the property as conservation, with everything else around us commercial. We didn't want to make any trouble."

Lehr said rising legal fees had left her no choice but to sell. As part of the settlement, \$500,000 of the sale price will go back into cleaning the property; \$250,000 will go to taxes.

Lehr said her husband had

bought the business upon his return from World War II, envisioning it as a retirement nest egg. She said most customers came, ironically, from Manhattan when they couldn't afford to buy new cars or new replacement parts for their old ones.

"Everyone always said we gave them a fair shake," Lehr said.

# Auditors give WRBOE a thumbs up

By Susan Moeller  
REPORTER

**WOOD-RIDGE** — Wood-Ridge Board of Education President Robert Talamini asked if the "pennies added up," and the auditor assured him that they did, as he issued the district a clean bill of financial health earlier this month.

The auditor, Steven Wielkotz, said that the district had a handful of findings in their management report. He added that the findings were "not material," and nothing to worry about. He went on to thank the business administrator and the superintendent for their help in compiling the audit.

One of the findings was a deficit of \$17,097 in the Debt Service Fund line item. The recommendation from the auditor was simply that the

"deficit be funded in the 2006-2007 budget."

Wielkotz pointed out that the district had done well with the rate on some of their bonds. After the meeting, Business Administrator Michael Leary explained that because of the favorable rates, the district would save "several hundred thousand dollars" in interest over the life of those bonds.

Wielkotz also indicated that the district would need to return \$465,000 in excess surplus to the taxpayers after the 2006-2007 budget is finalized. State Law S1701 mandates that districts return surplus amounts greater than 2 percent of the total budget.

Leary confirmed that in Wood-Ridge, the district is allowed to keep \$220,000 in surplus. He went on to point out that school district budgets were finalized before fuel costs began their sharp ascent,

and he added that the "surplus is so low that it is not going to help us deal with this crisis."

He also said that his district is facing increases in their special education budget as new students enter the system. Leary said that the district would need to make cuts in other areas in order to provide the level of services mandated by the state for these services.

Leary said that the state budget policy creates a competition between special education and regular education. Leary added that the competition should not exist.

After the meeting, Leary also described how the excess surplus is returned to taxpayers. Leary said that when the 2006-2007 budget for the school district is finalized in the spring, \$465,000 would be deducted from the proposed increase. Taxpayers will not be asked to fund that amount.

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# Scuttlebutt's Pub ... the rumors are true!



Photo by Bill Allen-NUSA

If you've heard anything good about Scuttlebutt's Pub at 400 Centre St. in Nutley... it's all true.

While the word 'Scuttlebutt' is a traditional nautical term for a rumor, the restaurant itself is the antithesis of that. As a pub, it doesn't get much more down-to-earth and folksy than Scuttlebutt's, which the owners describe as a traditional neighborhood drinking hole.

As a restaurant, however, Scuttlebutt's is much, much more. Sure, you can get some routine goes-well-with-beer type food, such as Buffalo wings, huge burgers and chicken wings and chili. However, if you stopped there, you'd be missing much of the best that Scuttlebutt's has to offer. Head chef Michael Fitzsimons and his staff have created a menu that would be worthy of the finest fancy-pants-type trattoria or bistro.

We sampled, (front from left) steak pie (a hearty beef-stew mixture baked into a pastry shell), cajun salmon on a bed of chorizo rice, with Creole sauce and (middle from left) not-too-hot, not-too-mild, but just right Buffalo wings, wonderfully tender grilled hanger steak with garlic mashed

potatoes, grilled corn and blue cheese/sweet onion sauce and mahi-mahi, with five spices on coconut rice and mango and peanut sauces and, for dessert, back left, a homemade chocolate mousse (with sugar cookie "antlers") and back right, NY-style cheesecake with sliced strawberries.

A Rutherford native and a member of the Queen of Peace High Class of 1985, Fitzsimons is the grandson of the founders of the legendary Tierney's Pub in Montclair. After studying at the NY Restaurant School and then studying and working in Europe, he returned to the U.S. and, until he and his family took over Scuttlebutt's a few years ago, Fitzsimons was the head chef at Rock Spring Country Club.

Drawing on those experiences and with several extended family members working as his staff, he has successfully fashioned an establishment where the giant sirlain burgers are as good as crispy duck salad with apples, walnuts, blue cheese and ginger vinaigrette.

"The best thing about working here, from my point of view, is that everyone here is either a family member or

has become like family," says hostess/assistant Sharon Fitzsimons, a member of the Rutherford High Class of 1980 and Michael's older sister.

"I think my favorite thing is that, while we've kept the traditional menu, I'm free to design anything I want as specials. I just come in and say to myself, 'What am I in the mood to cook today? And then, I do it,' laughs Michael.

Scuttlebutt's, where most dishes are well under \$20, features several special nights, including pasta night on Monday, 15-cent wings on Tuesday and prime rib (in three sizes) on Wednesday. The pub also boasts a hearty happy hour at the bar 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. on weekday afternoons, with 75-cent mugs, \$1.50 pints and half-price appetizers.

Scuttlebutt's, which also has \$10-and-under lunch specials on weekdays, is open seven days a week and can be reached at 973-661-2026.

— Bill Allen

# From Turkey to Hollywood, NA actor keeps good company



Photo, David Brown

North Arlington resident David Brown can be seen in a number of feature films, including "The Producers" and the upcoming "Inside Man."

By Jeff Fucci  
SENIOR REPORTER

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — Resident David Brown has been in his share of big budget films, but his 15 minutes of fame came from an unlikely source: a Turkish soda commercial.

The local actor became the unofficial spokesman for Turka Cola, a domestic competitor with Pepsi, after playing what he called an "American Texan New York cowboy" who offers to buy Chevy Chase a drink.

"I said, 'It's on me pal,' in Turkish, and the expression became a nickname. They asked me to come back to do a series of commercials," Brown said. "I couldn't go anywhere I wanted to go. I had bodyguards and hundreds of people following me around. Now I know what it feels like for these Hollywood stars."

Brown, who retired from various jobs in public and private law enforcement in 1997 to pursue his dream of performance, has gotten a taste of Hollywood on his home soil as well.

He joins Lyndhurst residents Jim Tooley and Jimmy Smagula this week for a song and dance number in movie remake of "The Producers." He will also join Denzel Washington in the upcoming Spike Lee film "Inside Man" and Vin Diesel in "Find Me Guilty."

In the first movie, Brown plays Officer Carnow, a cop from an outside precinct who dialogues with Washington's character while bringing in witnesses.

Brown said the experience

was enjoyable, but remained humble about working with the big name star.

"People will always tell me to stop calling them Mr., but I do try to keep to that respectability," Brown said. "They've paid their dues, and that's where I want to be."

In "Find Me Guilty," Brown plays a U.S. Marshall assigned to escort Diesel's character back and forth to court.

"We had a couple of comical moments in the back of that police car," Brown said, adding that Diesel was "a terrific guy to spend the day working with. At the end of the day, I go back to North Arlington and he goes back to California, but we're still doing the same job."

Back in the borough, Brown will be available for autographs and laughs at Uva's, where he will be hosting a weekly comedy show each Wednesday starting up again on Jan. 11.

Brown said the show's Dec. 21 debut boasted an audience ranging from 18-year-olds to seniors, from families to singles, all looking for "a little entertainment and nightlife."

His past projects have also included television roles on "Saturday Night Live," "Oz," "Third Watch" and "The Sopranos," where his weapons training was utilized. He has driven a golf cart around Times Square for Pro Flight Golf Balls and been surrounded by "seven or eight voluptuous women" doing character photo shoots for Stuff magazine.

"I always end up being a wise guy or the regular guy," Brown said, "but everyone seems to remember me, no matter how small the part."

# 'Geisha' is not the most famous in the land

By Jeff Fucci  
MOVIE CRITIC

"Memoirs of a Geisha" has already gotten its fair share of bashing. The literary critics want more detail, and the movie crowd takes issue with its Japanese story being told by a mostly Chinese cast.

The remaining argument: the self-important film about powerful women who dance, pour sake, wave fans, never marry but most certainly are not prostitutes, doesn't half live up to its marketing.

It's no secret that most moviegoers with Y-chromosomes will only see it under duress, even after half a year of trailers tried to sell "Geisha" as the next "The Last Samurai." Don't laugh, the Hans Zimmer score is in background of those trailers, which just about use up all the sexuality and violence the film has to offer.

Year 2005's "Samurai," similarly a history channel lesson on the forgotten East, had

action, honorable characters and a plot that acknowledged the most important reason the movie existed in the first place: the bludgeoning persistence of the West that began to erode Japan's way of life at the turn of the century. It also had Tom Cruise at its center, exploring, taking an interest and taking the audience along with him.

In "Geisha," the same effect is desired, but lost in thick accents, a careless mixture of native and translated dialogue, and annoying abstracts that make will make you feel inferior to the people who decide which films should get Oscar nominations.

"Geisha" wants to tell the story of one poor girl, Chiyo, who uses her cunning and her goodness to rise through the ranks of the geisha house and become Sayuri (Ziyi Zhang). But there's no outside world to contextualize the importance of all of it. Where are the other women, the ones who aren't on posters and entertaining dignitaries? Where is



Photo, Sony Pictures

Ziyi Zhang does an unimpressive dance in "Memoirs of a Geisha."

World War II? In the film, the war ravishes the country in 10 minutes, throws in cliché military personnel, and then retreats back to the love story of Sayuri and the Chairman (Ken Watanabe, absolutely the only good part).

The movie avoids the real presence and conflict that it wants everyone to believe its worth, instead focusing on Sayuri's repressed love, her

lost friends and family, her silence and her tears.

She's not the only unhappy one.

# Grammy Award winner Sanborn and acclaimed trumpeter Botti to perform at bergenPAC

**ENGLEWOOD** — David Sanborn, renowned and revered the world over as one of the greatest saxophone players of all time, and Chris Botti, gifted instrumentalist and talented composer, will perform on Jan. 7 at 8 p.m., at Englewood's Bergen Performing Arts Center (bergenPAC).

David Sanborn is an artist whose music has inspired countless other musicians while creating an amazing body of work that spans all musical genres. A naturally gifted performer, Sanborn has been largely responsible for defining the saxophone's

modern sound while influencing a generation.

Since the release of his first solo album in 1995, trumpeter Chris Botti has created a series of recordings that have earned him both critical acclaim and mainstream appreciation. Botti's latest album, "To Love Again," a collection of pop jazz standards from the acclaimed trumpeter and nine superstar guest vocalists, is a worthy successor to Botti's last RIAA gold-certified album, "When I Fall In Love."

For information, visit [www.davidsanborn.com](http://www.davidsanborn.com); for tickets, call 201-227-1030 or visit [www.bergenpac.org](http://www.bergenpac.org).



Photo, bergenPAC

Grammy Award winner David Sanborn and acclaimed trumpeter Chris Botti will perform at bergenPAC in Englewood.

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# WR girls off to 3-0 start under new head coach

By W. L. Bill Allen Jr.  
SPECIAL TO THE LEADER

WOOD-RIDGE — As far as credentials go, they don't get much better than these.

In 13 seasons as the head girls basketball coach at tiny Bogota High School, John Sterling compiled a 269-70 record (that's close to an average of 21-5 each year), with a stretch of 10 straight league championships, four state section titles and one trip to the State Group I final.

Now, after two years off (during which time he served as the director of the Bergen County Tournament), Sterling is working to bring that same level of success to the Wood-Ridge Lady Blue Devils program.

Despite its near legendary success, the Bogota girls hoops program never boasted big numbers. In fact, in one league and state section championship season, Sterling was working with just seven girls. That's seven total, not just on the varsity, but in the whole program, ninth-through 12th-grade.

Similarly, at Wood-Ridge, Sterling will have to work his magic with quality and not quantity, as there are fewer than 15 girls in the entire WR hoops program.

"Over the years at Bogota, I had a great group of girls who wanted to learn, who wanted to work very hard, both during the season and in the off-season in order to achieve the team's goals on the court," recounts the veteran mentor.

"I left because that changed. At the end, there was a different group and we just weren't on the same page as far as work ethic goes and, if you're not on the same page as your players in that respect, it's



Photo by Bill Allen-NJ Sport/Action

**Dynamite Devils** — Celebrating the Lady Blue Devils' sparkling 3-0 start are Wood-Ridge High girls basketball team captains Melissa Muniz, left, and Liz Osley, right, both of whom are senior starters, along with first year WRHS head coach John Sterling. In his last head hoops coaching stint, Sterling guided the Bogota Lady Bucs to 10 league championships in his 13 campaigns at that club's controls.

just not going to work out. "Now, at Wood-Ridge, I have a small group of girls, about 13, in the program who have made a commitment to work hard, a group that wants to learn, and I'm going to do my best to help this group have some success."

Over the past three seasons, the Lady Blue Devils have posted records of 2-21, 7-15 and 11-12, and the program has not earned a state playoffs berth in several years.

Three games into the current campaign, however, the locals sported a sparkling 3-0 record and are almost halfway to winning the number of games (apx. eight) needed to clinch a spot in the state playoffs.

The Lady Devils kicked off their first Sterling season by humbling Hasbrouck Heights, 51-37, on Friday, Dec. 16, prior to leveling Lyndhurst, 36-27, on Tuesday, Dec. 20, and way-laying Wallington, 43-39, last Thursday, Dec. 22.

Captaining the club are the program's only seniors: Liz Osley, a 5'6" guard, and Melissa Muniz, a 5'7" power forward.

Rounding out the varsity roster are 5'4" junior guard Lindsay Dowling, 5'7" junior small forward Danielle McMullin, 5'11" junior center Jessica Kotowski, 5'7" junior forward Erin McMullin, 5'2" sophomore guard Lauren Keim, 5'6" junior backcourter Caryn Peck and 5'9" junior

center Brianna Hoehle.

"I don't want us to get ahead ourselves; the early season schedule was very kind to us, and we haven't faced any of the tougher teams in the league yet, like Secaucus, Becton or Saint Mary's. So, while this 3-0 start is nice, it may be somewhat deceiving," emphasized Sterling in his very Pete Carril-like way.

Sterling's squad was scheduled to face perennial patsy Fort Lee in the first round of the Lyndhurst Tournament on Tuesday night, Dec. 27. While results of that clash were not available at press time, the Lyndhurst tourney was slated to continue with the consolation game and semifinals yesterday, Wednesday, Dec. 28, and then conclude with the third place tussle and the title tilt at 6 and 7:30 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 30.

The new year will then see the Lady Blue Devils traveling to take on Harrison at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3, prior to hosting Becton at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 6.

NJSportAction@aol.com

# South Bergen Sports Roundup

By James Dombrowski  
SPORTS COLUMNIST

Congratulations go out to five South Bergen seniors for being selected to the All-State Football Team. Representing St. Mary's and gaining Third Team Honors as a Receiver is Don Lee.

Queen of Peace placed four students on the All-State Team led by Joe Torchia, who made Second Team Tight End. Darius Bagan made Second Team Linebacker, and the little giant Joe Muraglia was selected to the Second Team Secondary. John Palumbo was picked as a Third Team Offensive Lineman.

The Queen of Peace Bowling team is on a roll, pinning Rutherford and River Dell 13-2. John Flanagan rolled the high game with a 236 and had a 434 series. James Haggerty of QP rolled a 219. Shannon Maurer of the Griffins bowled a 233. Maurer had a 444 series.

In BCSL National/Olympic Bowling competition, Becton blanked Ridgely 5-0, and Lyndhurst shut out Bogota 5-0. Kristopher Tokarski of the 'Cats bowled a 215. Sean Flynn of the Bears rolled a 201.

In South Bergen wrestling action, Lyndhurst continues to rebuild as they combine with North Arlington as a joint team. In a duel meet with Kearny, the Bears won three matches led by Mike Burke winning a decision over Vinny Idomrello 6-3 at 119 pounds. At the 145-weight class, Mark Basile pinned John Miranda in 1:06 and Joe Varro (171 pounds) earned a hard-fought 2-1 decision over Brian McCurrie.

The Bears/Vikings' wrestling schedule isn't easy, as they met up with 5-0 Passaic Tech and came away with three solid wins led by Eric Basile (125 pounds) pinning Adrian Marciano in 2:18. At 140 pounds, Mark Rivera won a decision over Erik Gillis 7-1 and Mark Basile (145) beat Oscar Giron 8-5.

The St. Mary's Gaels (5-0) are buzzing through the competition, whipping Leonia 42-27 and crushing Frisch 73-4.

Hasbrouck Heights/Wood-Ridge has begun the season 2-

0, downing Bergen Tech 63-15 and Pope John 60-15.

The Wood-Ridge Boys and Girls Basketball teams are both 3-0 and gaining more confidence with each win. The Blue Devils' boys team romped over Wallington 70-52, and the girls team edged Wallington 43-39.

The Boy Devils used nine players in the win, showing a balanced attack and a good bench. Tony Taborda had a monster game, scoring 27 points. Taborda made four three-pointers. Justin Romero added 16 points. Dave Hughes, Dave Stolis, Tony Solano and Chris Muniz combined for 26 points.

The Lady Devils held off a fourth-quarter Panther surge to secure a 43-39 win. Wood-Ridge took a 21-13 lead into half-time. The Devils got a marvelous performance from Jessica Kotowski, who scored 22 points.

Preseason predictions had the Queen of Peace Boys Basketball team challenging for a League Title, but after three games, the Griffins are looking for their first win. The Griffins are lacking in consistency, and opponents are pressing the Griffins. Queen of Peace was on the verge of a big win over Westwood (3-0) taking a 45-31 lead into the fourth quarter.

Westwood turned up the defense, and the Griffins managed only six fourth-quarter points in a 52-51 loss.

John Palumbo led the Griffins with 15 points, but QP played only seven players, showing a lack of depth on the bench.

The North Arlington Boy Vikings (3-0) are turning some heads in the BCSL National Division. The Vikings disposed of Lyndhurst 58-49 to drop the Bears to 0-3. NA was led by Krystian Morowski's 24 points. Eric Miller added 13, and Ryan Fasano had 7 in the win.

The Lady Vikings (3-1) handed the Lady Bears (2-1) their first loss in a 59-42 local showdown. Katie Mallack of the Vikings scored 27 points to lead all scorers. Lending a hand in the Vikings victory was Marisa Brown, adding 10 points, and Fran Jaume had 9.

North Arlington took a 41-

20 lead into half-time. The Bears were paced by Megan Barooty's 12 and Nicole Guirland's 11 points.

The New Jersey Devils are playing .500 hockey and find themselves in 10th place in the Eastern Conference as the 2005 calendar year comes to a close.

New Jersey, a perennial playoff contender, hasn't adjusted well to the new rule changes, causing their former Stanley Cup Champion coach Larry Robinson to endure undue stress.

The Devils, who are hoping to gain momentum over the next few seasons before moving into a new Arena in Newark, are mired in a losing streak that caused Robinson to resign. New Jersey's anemic offense hit rock bottom in a 1-0 loss to the Atlanta Thrashers. The Devils had eight power play tries in the game and came up empty.

Taking over the coaching duties is team CEO/President and General Manager Lou Lamoriello, who has helped guide the Devils to three Stanley Cups.

Lamoriello is hoping to find a replacement as soon as possible, but will not make any rash judgements in picking a new coach. After the Devils shut-out, Lamoriello commented that he liked the effort, yet had no answers to why his team is in a scoring drought. "I am not worried about our confidence," echoed Lamoriello.

New Jersey is sending four players to the Winter Olympics in Italy.

Representing the United States will be Brian Rafalski, Brian Gionta and Scott Gomez.

Martin Brodeur will represent Canada.

Swedish National Team Coach Bengt-Ake Gustafsson answered a few questions about the new rule changes, and his opinion was that many of the new rules were turning the game of hockey into a basketball style of play. "The new rules also favor the European players, and I wouldn't be surprised to see more older players making a comeback," noted Bengt.

Dombrowski5@hotmail.com

# Registration for NA Girls Softball

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — The North Arlington Girls Softball League will hold registration on Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 11 and 12, from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., in the North Arlington High School cafeteria. Fees will be 60 for the first child and \$50 for any additional siblings. There will be a late fee of \$15 after Jan. 12.

Tuesday January  
7-9PM

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JAN. 17-22

Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum

JAN. 24-29

Continental Airlines Arena

JAN 17 7:30 PM	JAN 18 7:30 PM	JAN 19 10:30 AM 7:30 PM	JAN 20 10:30 AM 7:30 PM	JAN 21 11:00 AM 3:00 PM 7:00 PM	JAN 22 11:00 AM 3:00 PM 7:00 PM	JAN 24 7:30 PM	JAN 25 7:30 PM	JAN 26 10:30 AM 7:30 PM	JAN 27 10:30 AM 7:30 PM	JAN 28 10:30 AM 3:00 PM 7:30 PM	JAN 29 10:30 AM 3:00 PM 7:30 PM
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Winter Dining 2005

See the Dining Review on Page 10

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<p><b>RUTHERFORD</b> \$529,500</p> <p>4BR Colonial w/ 2.5 bths, 1 newer bath, new kitchen, high ceiling finished basement on a large lot. Call for more info. AD237</p>	<p><b>RUTHERFORD NEW CONSTRUCTION</b> \$899,000</p> <p>2 Single Family homes to be built. Close colors, all large rooms, MBR, bath, hardwood floors, approx. 300 sq ft plus basement. Plans available in our office. Call for information.</p>	<p><b>CLIFTON TOWNHOUSE</b> \$445,000</p> <p>Beautiful, large, 2 story, BR's &amp; 2.5 Bths Townhouse w/ all the amenities. 2 car attached garage. Family rm w/W/D, large BR &amp; pantry, storage, fireplace, &amp; hobby. AD234</p>	<p><b>LYNDHURST BRAND NEW TOWNHOME</b> \$529,900</p> <p>Luxury Towhee w/ 2BR, 2.5 bths, living rm w/ fireplace, Dining Area, MEIK, w/ stainless steel appls, Jacuzzi, BPW fl, AC, 1 car garage &amp; much more. AD233</p>																																												
<p><b>LODI 2 FAMILY</b> \$489,000</p> <p>4BR, 2 full baths 2 family in great location. Potential for more. Good income. 1BR Apt. in 1st floor. 3BR Apt. in 2nd floor w/ BR's in the 3rd floor. AD225</p>	<p><b>RUTHERFORD</b> \$665,000</p> <p>Large 4BR, 3.5 Bths Center Hall Colonial w/ walk-out, in-law apartment in the basement, large open porch, &amp; 1 car detached garage. Can also be used as a 2-family. AD211</p>	<p><b>RUTHERFORD</b> \$499,000</p> <p>Four bedroom, 2.5 bath Colonial with hardwood floors, patio, large yard, driveway, &amp; 4 sun room. Move in condition. AD221</p>	<p><b>CLIFTON</b> \$415,000</p> <p>Newer construction 3BR, 1.5 Bths Side Hall Colonial on a very private large wooded large lot w/ swimming rm, fireplace, &amp; extra large MBR/CIA &amp; Vac. AD219</p>	<p><b>LYNDHURST</b> \$459,000</p> <p>3 BR Colonial w/ hardwood fl, chestnut trim, large closets, sun porch, eat in kitchen, new sliding windows, &amp; garage. AD223</p>	<p><b>RENTAL CORNER</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>BRK Apt w/ 1.5 BR duplex</td> <td>\$2,750</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR New Conv w/ 1.5 BR duplex</td> <td>\$2,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 1/2 BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$2,100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$1,900</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex</td> <td>\$1,700</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$1,600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$1,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$1,400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$1,300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$1,200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$1,100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$1,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$900</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$800</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$700</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage</td> <td>\$100</td> </tr> </table>	BRK Apt w/ 1.5 BR duplex	\$2,750	2BR New Conv w/ 1.5 BR duplex	\$2,500	1 1/2 BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$2,100	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$1,900	2BR duplex	\$1,700	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$1,600	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$1,500	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$1,400	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$1,300	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$1,200	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$1,100	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$1,000	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$900	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$800	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$700	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$600	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$500	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$400	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$300	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$200	2BR duplex w/ 1 car garage	\$100
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# RE/MAX Metropolitan Homes takes part in the 'Festival of Trees'



Photo, RE/MAX

Pictured, left to right: Nancy Lastra, Pat Wester, Roxanne Donohue, Jim Farrell, Diana Bulger, Janice Kachel, Julia Dogistanli, Mary Ann McMillan; front, Barbara Manser and Debbie Balchan

**RUTHERFORD** — RE/MAX Metropolitan Home Professionals of Rutherford once again took part in the "Kip Center's annual Festival of Trees and Wreaths," joining other local businesses. The RE/MAX Metropolitan team created a "Peace on Earth" tree. All decorated trees and wreaths were raffled off to help support the various programs offered by the senior

center. Lastra and her team of sales professionals believe in strong community participation, as well as involvement in charitable events. "It is very important for us to be involved in community fundraisers, such as this one," Lastra said of the event. "Making positive contributions to a fast-growing community is imperative. If we can help to make even a small dif-

ference, then we have succeeded." For more information about the firm's fund-raising activities, visit its Web site at [www.rutherford.remaxnj.com](http://www.rutherford.remaxnj.com) or stop by the office at 54 Ames Ave., Rutherford, or call 201-728-9400.

*From all of us at RE/MAX Metropolitan Homes, we wish you and your family a Joyous Holiday Season and a Healthy New Year.*

# Carlos Alex Jesus inducted into Who's Who Professional Registry

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — The Manchester Who's Who Registry of Executives and Professionals recognizes Carlos Alex Jesus, owner and broker of Exit Golden Realty Group, located at 142 Ridge Road in North Arlington, for his professional accomplishments. His induction into the Registry acknowledges his success and professional achievements. Manchester Who's Who is committed to providing professional networking services and recognizing the achievements of executives and professionals worldwide. Jesus has an impressive background in real estate. It is his experience and expertise in managing daily activities

and training realtors that enhances the professional services provided by the company. He works diligently to maintain its outstanding reputation. As a leader who has been very successful in his field for nine years, Jesus attributes his personal and professional achievements to his dedication, honesty and commitment to keeping his word. He became involved in his profession after buying his own home. The Realtor he worked with was very inefficient, and he realized his potential to become a better Realtor. His career evolved to the point that he was able to start his own real estate business.

In addition to Jesus's professional accomplishments, he has had taken business courses overseas for three years and he holds the following certifications: (ABR) Accredited Buyer Representative, (CRS) Certified Residential Specialist, (GRI) Graduate Realtor Institute, e-PRO: Certification for Internet Professionalism.

Jesus is affiliated with the National Association of Realtors, the New Jersey Association of Realtors, the Certified Residential Specialist Council and the Graduate Realtor Institution. He can be reached at 201-997-4425.

# Construction training offered at BCTS

**HACKENSACK** — The demand for workers with carpentry, plumbing, electrical and HVAC skills continues to expand. To assist industry in filling their high number of job openings, Bergen County Technical Schools opened a state-of-the-art Construction Trades Training Center in Hackensack and has expanded opportunities by adding a new carpentry career training program. The full-time, adult education

programs prepare adults for entry into high-skill/high-wage employment. Graduates of the full-time career programs typically start between \$10 and \$13 per hour; and according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average annual wage in Bergen and Passaic counties is \$63,440 for electricians, \$59,220 for plumbers and \$51,860 for carpenters. Adults who are interested in

learning more about construction trades/careers preparation are encouraged to attend an Open House on Monday, Jan. 9 at 6 p.m., in the Adult Education Building (located next to Boston Market) at 200 Hackensack Ave. in Hackensack.

BCTS is a non-profit educational institution. Financial aid is available for those who qualify. Call 201-343-6000, ext. 2288 or 2047, for more information.

## Tickets on sale for Tricky Tray

**LYNDHURST** — Sacred Heart Home-School Association will hold its annual Tricky Tray on Friday, Jan. 20, at the Sacred Heart Social Center, 655 Valley Brook Ave., Lyndhurst. Doors open at 6 p.m.; raffles begin approximately 8:15 p.m. The kitchen will be open.

Tickets are \$7 each and can be obtained by calling the school office at 201-939-4277 between 7:30 a.m. and 2:45 p.m., or call Patty at 201-933-0783 or Rosemary at 201-460-4988. No one under age 18 will be admitted. Ticket deadline is Jan. 11. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

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 Offer Good thru Jan 31, 2006  
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**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**  
 From our Family to Yours



**138 BEELY AVE, KEARNY** - Just like new! All renovated 2 Fam with 3 levels of living space, ample parking, shed and above ground pool. Impressive entrance hall, hardwood floors throughout, central forced air heat AC. Arlington Section, Roosevelt school. Total 5 bed & 4 Baths.

**48 COLUMBIA AVE, NEWARK** - 2 Fam Home in great condition. Finished attic. Siding and windows just installed, low taxes and a low price, plus collecting \$2,150.00 rent a month. Do the math! It is a fantastic deal with positive cash flow from day one. Want more information? Call us today! Asking \$248,777

**227-229 W. PROSPECT AVE., NEWARK** - 4 story all brick building with 14 units. (3) 2 bed apart, (2) 2 bed apart & (2) 1 bed apart. Laundry room coin operated in building and 10 separate garages. Located in one of the most desirable streets in North Newark. Just a mile to Newark Penn Station. 4.5 miles to the Airport and 10 miles from NYC. Annual Gross Income: \$128,360.50 Expenses: Insurance \$6,800, Heat & Hot Water \$12,800, Repairs \$5,300, Super \$3,900. Do the math. It's a tremendous DEAL with great possibilities. Call us today for more details!

**34A CRESTWY ST, KEARNY** - 2Fam Government home for sale by closed bid. HUD Owned Case #052-514691. New Kitchen w/ ceramic tiles. Hardwood floors. Separate utilities.

**287 SYLVAH AVE., RUTHERFORD** - 2 Family. Perfect home for a perfect start in an excellent neighborhood location. New hardwood floors, basement, large deck, detached garage, driveway, central AC, just some of the features you will enjoy in this cozy home. Call us today, go see it today! \$488,000.

**180 BALWIN PLACE, BELLEVILLE** - Enjoy a great 2 fam home in a very quiet and family oriented neighborhood. Enjoy garage for 2 cars with auto opening, fence in backyard, gorgeous wood floors, wood burning fireplace, formal dining room, finish basement with full bath, separate utilities, collect rent and more. Contact us with any question or to schedule a showing.

**NEWARK GROWTH** - 2 Fam home in hot shape. Owners apartment is 94-level. Great location offers an incredible low price \$288,888. Have \$10,000 give us a call! See virtual tour at [www.EXITGOLDEN.com](http://www.EXITGOLDEN.com).

**81 BRIDGE AVE., BELLEVILLE** - 1 bedroom Condominium offered at just \$188,888. A 2 bedroom condo also offered at \$228,888. The low monthly fee includes heat and hot water. Off street parking.

**38 EATON PLACE, EAST BRUNNEN** - BEAUTIFUL 2 FAMILY HOME A MUST SEE! Invest or get a property with positive cash flow from day one! Or live here and pay less than rent for your mortgage! Call us Today! Asking ONLY \$238,888

**RENTALS**  
**FOR RENT**  
**STORE FRONT - BLOOMFIELD AVE, BLOOMFIELD** - Perfect for Deli or Restaurant. All equipment included. No need to buy business just pay your monthly rent of \$1,600.  
**2 BR APT - N ARLINGTON** - 2 Fam Home, Large rooms, Hardwood flrs, gorgeous kitchen. Call now, let's go see it! \$1,100/month.

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**Lyndhurst Office**  
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 43 Years of Excellence

<p><b>Lyndhurst</b>                  Unique home! Private 2 family situated at the end of a long driveway. Newer rear deck, LG enclosed porch, oversized garage &amp; more. 1st fl unit has 2 Bdrms, Modern EJK w/granite counters &amp; newer CT Bath. 2nd fl unit has LG Kit/LR combo, Bdrn &amp; CT Bath. Full unfinished basement &amp; More!</p> <p><b>\$479,900</b></p>	<p><b>North Arlington</b>                  Lovely 2 Family w/ Garage, recently remodeled. Newer windows, roof, electric, plumbing &amp; more. 1st fl unit has Liv Rm, Din Rm, 1 1/2 Bdrms, Modern Eat-in kitchen &amp; Bath. 2nd fl unit has Liv Rm, Modern Eat-in Kitchen, Bdrn &amp; Bath. Full Attic &amp; Full Finished basement w/ Family Rm &amp; Bath.</p> <p><b>\$489,000</b></p>	<p><b>North Arlington</b>                  Great Brick front 2 Family w/2 Car Garage completely remodeled throughout. Finished basement w/separate entrance perfect for low income approx \$46,500/yr. Annual expenses approx \$12,000. Home features driveway, 2 car carport &amp; full basement. All units are 2 Bdrms &amp; 2nd fl. Large yard on Terrific Street!</p> <p><b>\$569,000</b></p>	<p><b>North Arlington</b>                  Completely Renovated 2 Family. New baths, new kitchen, central ac on 1st fl. Corner lot w/2 Car Garage. Steps to NY train. 1st fl unit: 3 Bdrms, Liv Rm, MEJK, CT Bath. 2nd fl unit: 1 Bdrn, Liv Rm, EJK, CT Bath. Full unfinished basement.</p> <p><b>\$475,000</b></p>	
<p><b>North Arlington</b>                  2 Family on corner lot w/ large driveway. 1st fl: Liv Rm, Eat-in Kitchen, 1 Bdrn &amp; bath. 2nd fl: Liv Rm, Eat-in Kitchen, 2 Bdrms, bath &amp; Storage. Newer siding, windows, sheetrock, fencing, kitchen &amp; bath.</p> <p><b>\$419,900</b></p>	<p><b>Rutherford</b>                  Almost like new! Totally renovated w/new addition. 4 Bdrms, 2 1/2 Baths w/1 Car Garage, Living Rm, Dining Rm, New Kitchen, Great Rm w/Fireplace, Full basement. New roof, siding, windows, floors, electric, heat, plumbing, Central A/C, Central VAC and much more!</p> <p><b>\$499,900</b></p>	<p><b>Nulley</b>                  4 Bedroom Cape features, Living Rm, Modern Eat-in Kitchen, Office/Den, Full Finished Basement. Great fenced in yard w/16x32 inground pool, patio &amp; Outdoor fire pit.</p> <p><b>\$399,900</b></p>	<p><b>East Rutherford</b>                  4 Family w/all individual entrances. Total income approx \$46,500/yr. Annual expenses approx \$12,000. Home features driveway, 2 car carport &amp; full basement. All units are 2 Bdrms.</p> <p><b>\$719,000</b></p>	<p><b>Rutherford</b>                  Great Investment! 3 Family w/2 Car Garage. Great location close to everything. 1 updated windows, siding, roof &amp; electric all less than 1 yr old. 2 units w/ 2 Bdrms, Liv Rm, Din Rm, eat-in kitchen, bath &amp; enclosed porch. 1 unit w/ 1 Bdrn, Liv Rm, Din Rm, Pwr 2nd Bdrn LG; Mod eat-in kitchen, mod bath. Full unfinished basement.</p> <p><b>\$429,000</b></p>

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year**

**Agent of the Month November 2005**  
 Carol Hughes

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# How accessibility features can serve homeowners of all ages and abilities

**RUTHERFORD** — We all need a helping hand from time to time, but prefer to remain as independent as possible. Accessible features in a home are a way of lending ourselves a hand, and staying in our own house for much longer than we otherwise might.

"As more members of the baby boom generation — which comprises the largest segment of America's population — reach retirement age, many of them show a preference for "aging in place" in their own homes rather than moving to traditional elderly communities and facilities. This trend has created more interest than ever in the designing and retrofitting of homes for maximum ease of use. Heightened awareness of the needs of disabled people of all ages, and increased legislative attention to their rights, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), have also helped drive a trend which can benefit all homebuyers," stated ERA Justin Realty Broker Ron Darby.

What has come to be called "Universal Design" is a set of standards for making every house a welcoming home for inhabitants of all ability levels. These include placing light switches and thermostats low enough, and electrical outlets high enough, for anyone to reach; outfitting hallways with railings and showers with grab bars and stools; replacing doorknobs with levers; offering ramps as well as stairs, and doorways that can accommodate wheelchairs; and minimizing falling risks through secure, low-pile carpeting. Though there was a time when accessibility was considered an obstacle to resale value and desirability, attitudes — and demographics — have changed, and Universal Design is now considered a resale advantage. This potential extra salability can be achieved through minimal effort and expense. For instance, in many cases a room can be made wheelchair-accessible simply by changing the direction of a swinging door.

Darby continued, "The simplicity of such measures — and their popularity with potential



Photo, ERA Justin Realty

ERA Justin Realty Broker Ron Darby has served the real estate industry for 38 years as agent, manager and broker. During his career, he has listed, sold and serviced thousands of area residents in their individual real estate needs.

homebuyers — makes it equally desirable to build a new home with these considerations in mind, or to retrofit an existing home with them. No one has to feel they've turned their home into a medical facility; you can avoid this with some smart and simple methods that enhance convenience and are common sense for all homeowners, while maintaining the more intangible comforts of home, like independence and familiar communities.

"In addition to the convenience offered by making these types of upgrades to a home, there are government loan programs that can help subsidize accessibility modifications. Talk to a local real estate professional about accessible-home options in any area where you may be interested in buying; he or she can also find out about financing opportunities and other ways to keep your path to satisfying and secure homeownership a clear one."

ERA Justin Realty, a leading area Realtor serving Bergen, Passaic, Hudson and Essex counties, is part of the international global real estate network which was recently named the recipient of the 2005 J.D. Power and Associates Award for "Highest Overall Satisfaction For First Time Home Sellers Among National

Full Service Real Estate Firms." ERA Real Estate is the only national full-service real estate company to be the recipient of a 2005 J.D. Power and Associates Award.

This marks the second year in a row ERA Real Estate has received an award from this prestigious organization. Last year, the company was the recipient of the 2004 J.D. Power and Associates Award for "Highest Overall Satisfaction For First Time Home Buyers Among National Full Service Real Estate Firms."

The J.D. Power and Associates 2005 Home Buyer/Seller Satisfaction Study is based on responses from 4,834 home buyers and sellers surveyed in May and June 2005. The study was conducted for Candant Corporation by J.D. Power and Associates.

Darby concluded, "To learn more about ERA Justin Realty, our staff, our sales professionals and our award-recognized programs and services we provide, call our ERA Justin Realty full service real estate consultants who can be reached at either of our two Rutherford offices at 118 Jackson Ave. and 57 Park Ave., by phone 201-939-7500, 201-438-0588 or 201-438-SOLD. Also view 1000s of homes at our Web site at www.ERAJustin.com."

# Perrette graduates with law degree

Monica Perrette recently graduated from Seton Hall University, School of Law in Newark. She passed both the New Jersey and the New York State Bar examinations which were given in July and will officially be inducted as an attorney in both states before the year's end.

Perrette is currently serving as a Judicial Clerk in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Appellate Division in Hackensack. In September 2006, she will join the Law Offices of Lowenstein Sandler, PC in Roseland.

Monica Perrette is the daughter of Janice and John Perrette (formerly of Lyndhurst, now of North Arlington). She is a 1998 graduate of Lyndhurst High School and a 2002 graduate of Fordham University, Bronx, N.Y.



Photo, C. Ruvere  
Monica Perrette

# Bergen Commercial Bank helps brighten holiday season for Wood-Ridge residents

**WOOD-RIDGE** — In continuing with its annual holiday tradition, Bergen Commercial Bank once again presented ten \$10 ShopRite gift certificates, for a total of \$100, to Susan Frattarelli, welfare director at the Borough of Wood-Ridge. These gift certificates will be distributed to the needy families throughout the community of Wood-Ridge.

This represents the tenth consecutive year in which Bergen Commercial Bank has

made this holiday donation in Wood-Ridge. "It's a pleasure being associated with an organization that truly cares about the community," said Philip Garry III, branch manager of the Wood-Ridge office. Similar donations were made by all Bergen Commercial Bank offices.

Bergen Commercial Bank is a member of Greater Community Bancorp. Greater Community Bancorp is a financial holding company

headquartered in Totowa. The company operates 15 full-service branches in the northern New Jersey counties of Bergen, Passaic and Morris through its subsidiaries, Greater Community Bank, Bergen Commercial Bank and Rock Community Bank. Subsidiaries provide traditional commercial and retail banking services to small businesses and consumers.



Photo, Elks 1505

A fun time was had by all — Lyndhurst Elks Lodge No. 1505 recently held its annual Christmas Party for the Handicapped Children hosted by Steve Robinson, chairman and Joe Dobrowski, co-chairman. A turkey dinner was served by various members of the lodge. Santa also stopped by with toys, which were distributed with the help of members' children Ashley Johnson, Melissa and Thomas McAndrew, member Debbie Woods, along with Ann Doris Manzari, Exalted Ruler.

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Over the years we have learned that every real estate transaction is unique! We strive for total customer satisfaction and our Premier Service® approach helps us deliver it time after time. A warm thank you to those who have done business with us. If we can ever help you in any way, please give us a call.

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**LYNDHURST**  
HUGE, GORGEOUS COLONIAL. Completely remodeled & expanded. Ultra-modern 4 Bedroom (Master is king size w/cathedral ceiling & deck), 3 full baths (Main bath has spa size hot tub), designer kitchen w/ highend appliances, family room, great finished basement w/ 1.5 bath, c/a, c/vac., in-ground pool & so much more! Must see!  
**\$649,900**  
OR Owner will convert to two family. Call for more details.

**LYNDHURST**  
Well maintained two family, 4 over 4. Features modern kitchen and baths, separate utilities, new roof, deck, two car garage and more! Walking distance to train!  
**\$225,000**

**NORTH ARLINGTON**  
Features 3 room and 5 room apt. Part finished basements with summer kitchen and bath. Two car garage. Walk to Ridge Road.  
**\$439,900**

"Warm Wishes to all our valued friends and customers for a healthy, happy, and peaceful New Year" from the entire staff at Savino Real Estate

**LYNDHURST** Modern 3 rooms, ref., a/c, and parking. Short walk to train & bus. .... \$750+util.  
**LYNDHURST** Ultra modern 2.5 room studio includes refrigerator, A/C, and can walk to bus and train. .... \$795+util.  
**LYNDHURST** Spacious three rooms in small building. Coin operated laundry. Heat and hot water included. Near NY bus. .... \$373  
**LYNDHURST** Spacious three rooms on first floor. Modern kitchen & bath. Includes heat, hot water, and gas. Walk to NY bus! .... \$900  
**LYNDHURST-GARDEN APARTMENT!** 1st floor, one bedroom unit, refrigerator, laundry, and parking. .... \$900+util.  
**LYNDHURST** Like renting a house? 3 BR apt. on 1st floor of 2 family plus full fin. basement washer-dryer kitchen, bath, & family room. Driveway, yard, laundry hook-up, etc. and ref. Heat and hot water included. .... \$1500+util.  
**LYNDHURST** Newly remodeled two bedroom with off street parking. .... \$950+util.  
**LYNDHURST** Newly remodeled 2 BR apt. on 1st floor! Hardwood floors, laundry, basement storage, a/c, & parking. Steps to NY train, bus, & Shop Rite. .... \$1500+util.  
**LYNDHURST** Like renting a house? 3 BR apt. on 1st floor of 2 family plus full fin. basement washer-dryer kitchen, bath, & family room. Driveway, yard, laundry hook-up, etc. and ref. Heat and hot water included. .... \$2000  
**NORTH ARLINGTON** Spacious 3 rooms on 2nd floor. Hardwood floors, coin operated laundry, and quiet street. .... \$825+util.  
**NORTH ARLINGTON** Lovely 2 br apartment with laundry hook-ups and off street parking. .... \$900+util.  
**RUTHERFORD** 1st floor. Modern one bedroom apartment. Refrigerator included, laundry, and storage. Walk to NY bus. .... \$850+util.  
**CARLSTADT** Beautiful, newly remodeled 5 room apartment. 2nd floor. great view of NY. Steps to Hackensack street, stores, and transportation! .... \$1300+util.

**LYNDHURST**  
Well established salon, Centrally located. Turn key operation. Features hair, nail, and tanning services. Employees may stay. Good lease!  
**\$39,900**

# OPINION

## EDITORIAL

### New drug-free zoning laws should be examined closely

Drug dealers setting up shop in any of the six communities covered by *The Leader* are probably in a school zone. The 1987 "Drug Free School Zone Law" was intended to keep dealers 1,000 feet from schools and imposed harsh penalties for those in violation. The law was later expanded to include a 500-foot zone around public parks, public housing and other public buildings. The result was that entire municipalities became drug-free zones, offering no special protection or distinction for schools or parks.

Dealers caught in those zones face mandatory sentencing up to five years plus additional fines. The real question, however, is has the law kept dealers out of the zones?

The answer is no, according to a 100-page report issued by the New Jersey Commission to Review Criminal Sentencing. All it's done is create jails clogged with young minorities who didn't even realize they were in a zone to begin with.

Hence the bill hanging in the Assembly to reduce the zone from 1,000 feet to 200 feet.

Proponents of the bill — which is not expected to pass both houses before the lame duck session ends Jan. 10 and will have to be reintroduced — say shrinking the zone is better for everyone. The intent of the law is to keep dealers away from schools. However, if dealers are in a zone and they can't even see a school, they're unintentionally breaking a law and hanging around exactly where parents, educators and law enforcement don't want them. The commission said the current zones overlap and end up not being a

deterrent.

Under the proposed bill, the zones would be smaller, making the schools and public areas better protected. The bill also calls for increasing the sentencing to 10 years from the current five-year maximum.

East Rutherford is against the bill, and even though it's barely on the table, they've already passed a local resolution. ER officials said they feel that reducing the zone will expose more children to drug dealers. They said they see holes in the commission's research and point out that in many counties — both urban and suburban — drug arrests are up and overall crime is down. ER Mayor James Cassella said he is sending a copy of his resolution to other South Bergen County mayors asking for their support.

So far the bill doesn't have bipartisan support, with some saying the issue should be left to the individual municipalities. It's likely the bill will have to be reintroduced when the new session convenes after Jan. 10.

No one is sympathetic to drug dealers, however, the spirit of the original law should be taken into consideration before denouncing the revision. The smaller zone is more likely to keep dealers away from schools and parks, which is what everyone wants. The large zones just make entire towns drug-free zones, which in effect doesn't give the schools or parks any extra protection.

The new law should be considered closely — especially given the harsher penalties — before being dismissed.

### Yellowstone National Park: a natural wonderland

Yellowstone National Park is located in the northern corner of Wyoming and overlaps into Montana and Idaho. The park is about two-thirds as large as Connecticut, occupying 3,471.5 square miles. It became the first U.S. national park and wildlife preserve in 1872. About two million visitors from all over the world tour what is known as a wonderland.

I stayed at the Old Faithful Lodge for three nights. There is no television in the rooms, but to my amazement, I did not miss it. It takes about two to three days to tour the 150 miles of park. Comfortable boots or sneakers are a must, and I suggest a flashlight for walking around the grounds at night. There are a few restaurants and a cafeteria for meals. At the end of the day, everyone is pleasantly exhausted.

One morning, everyone in our group awoke at 5 a.m. and went on a safari. Armed with cameras, we went looking for bear, as we had heard there was one spotted in the area. We never encountered a bear, but we saw many buffalo, a herd of female deer, mountain sheep and a huge male elk called a bull weighing about 200 pounds.



As we continued on our safari, we were lucky to see a bald eagle sitting high in a dead tree. This was the first wild bald eagle I had ever seen, and I could hardly contain my excitement as it called out, spread its wings and flew overhead.

We were driving beside a wide stream when a mother moose with two babies appeared and began to forage the stream. The dawn's early light and the mist coming off the water created a mystical sight that left me in a state of awe. Mother Nature certainly provided a show with a magnificent cast.

This, of course, was just the first act of many spectacular performances to come.

Our next surprise was Old Faithful, which is one of about 200 active geysers found in the park and is

the most famous because it is regular in its activity. First discovered in 1870, it shoots 200 degrees of steaming water about 129 to 170 feet into the air and sends up about 10,000 gallons of water in about four minutes.

Hot springs range in temperature from 116 degrees to a boiling 212 degrees. Escaping gas makes the springs boil and bubble. These springs can be dangerous, and people have met with bad accidents because they didn't know what they were dealing with. Caution should be used when touring, and signs should be heeded.

Yellowstone Lake is the most beautiful body of water in the park. It boasts 150 square miles, is 300 feet deep and 7,731 feet above sea level.

As we continued our

journey, we were started by the beauty of Yellowstone Canyon, which is 24 miles long and 1,200 feet deep in some places. Spectacular water falls cascade into the canyon, and this is a great place to take photos.

The many wonders of the park include boiling mud pools and boiling clay pots of different colors called the Paint Pot. It's interesting to see caves with jets of steam shooting from inside. One such cave is called Dragon's Breath because it makes a dreadful sound when it erupts.

There are many activities to do in the park such as hiking, rafting, swimming, fishing and horseback riding. If you experience shortness of breath, relax because you probably are not having a coronary. You may merely be feeling the effects of being about 8,000 feet high, and with exertion, you may feel uncomfortable. Check it out, but about 20 percent of the population suffers from this problem. In extreme cases, medication can be taken.

I highly recommend Yellowstone National Park when you are planning a vacation. You will be on a visual high because it is truly one of the world's natural wonderlands.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### SINCERE THANKS TO EVERYONE

To the Editor:

I wish to express my sincere thanks to everyone who gave a Mass card to my mom, Agnes Melillo. I am very grateful for all your prayers and sympathy at this difficult time. Thank you again.

Barbara Ruvera  
Lyndhurst

### AN INCREDIBLE, MAGICAL NIGHT

To the Editor:

We recently had our first annual Putting the Pieces Together Autism Support Group Christmas Party on Sunday, Dec. 11, at the Knights of Columbus in North Arlington. The Knights of Columbus opened their room and their hearts to us, so we would like to thank their members and board members for their generosity and kindness. As if that wasn't enough, they would not let us leave without donating the hall again for next year's party and offering it for our first Breakfast with the Easter Bunny in March — they are truly amazing.

We would also like to thank the following businesses for their food donations: in Lyndhurst: San Carlo, JoJo's, LaCibeles, Stop & Shop, Turano's, Mazur's Bakery, Lyndhurst Pastry Shop; Nutley: Café St. Honres and Dunkin Donuts, Washington Avenue; Kearny: Joe's Pizza, Class Act Catering and Brother's Bakery; and in North Arlington: LaVenere, Arlington Pizza, Roma, Bella Rosa, EuroLounge Café, Foodtown, Sanbornes Deli and Dunkin Donuts on Ridge Road.

Thank you for giving our children a Christmas they will never forget. Santa was there by the Christmas tree letting us take pictures and handing out gifts to all the children, and the magic and true meaning of Christmas was truly there. There truly is a Santa!

On behalf of Putting the Pieces Together Autism Support Group and our children, we would like to thank you all for your generosity and for giving us a reason to believe again. I would also like to thank the *Leader Newspapers* for always letting our voices be heard. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Deborah Wertalik and Tara Banuls  
Putting the Pieces Together Autism Support Group

### A MARINE'S REQUEST: STOP AND THINK OF OUR HEROES WHO SACRIFICED THEMSELVES FOR US

To the Editor:

The following poem was written by a U.S. Marine stationed in Okinawa, Japan, and submitted to the *Leader Newspapers* for publication.

#### Christmas Poem

'Twas the night before Christmas, he lived all alone, in a one-bedroom house made of plaster and stone.

I had come down the chimney with presents to give, and to see just who in this home did live.

I looked all about, a strange sight I did see, no tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.

No stocking by the mantle, just boots filled with sand, on the wall hung pictures of far distant lands.

With medals and badges, awards of all kinds, a sober thought came through my mind.

For this house was different, it was dark and dreary, I found the home of a soldier, once I could see clearly.

The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone, curled up on the floor in this one-bedroom home.

The face was so gentle, the room in such disorder, not how I pictured a United States soldier.

Was this the hero of whom I'd just read? Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed?

I realized the families that I saw this night, owed their lives to these soldiers who were willing to fight.

Soon 'round the world, the children would play, and grown-ups would celebrate a bright Christmas Day.

They all enjoyed freedom, each month of the year, because of the soldiers, like the one lying here.

I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone, on a cold Christmas Eve in a land far from home.

The very thought brought a tear to my eye, I dropped to my knees and started to cry.

The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice, "Santa, don't cry, this life is my choice."

"I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more, My life is my God, my country, my corps."

The soldier rolled over and drifted to sleep, I couldn't control it, I continued to weep.

I kept watch for hours, so silent and still, and we both shivered from the cold night's chill.

I didn't want to leave on that cold, dark night, this guardian of honor so willing to fight.

Then the soldier rolled over, with a voice soft and pure, whispered, "Carry on Santa, it's Christmas Day, all is secure."

One look at my watch, and I knew he was right, "Merry Christmas, my friend, and to all a good night."

Submitted by Josephine Croll  
Lyndhurst

### START THE YEAR OFF WITH A BLOOD DONATION

To the Editor:

In recent years, New Jersey has had to "import" over 50,000 units of whole blood annually because our population does not donate enough blood to cover the needs of New Jersey hospitals. Our state faces an immediate shortage for select blood types, and this will likely be the case for the coming winter as inclement weather — snowstorms — could force the cancellation of scheduled blood drives.

In working to recruit current blood donors to donate more, we need to build a new generation of blood donors for the ultimate goal of all New Jersey-based blood services is to create a self-sufficient and self-sustaining blood supply for New Jersey. January is National Volunteer Blood Donor Month and a great time to start the new year off right with

Please see Page B6 for more Letters to the Editor

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# Sevillena and Benveniste are engaged

**LYNDHURST** — Lesley Anne Sevillena of Lyndhurst, daughter of Onofre and Lydia Sevillena, and Adam John Benveniste of the Bronx, N.Y., son of Mark and Constance Benveniste, have announced their engagement.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Lyndhurst High School and holds a Master of Physical Therapy from the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia. She is currently employed as a licensed physical therapist at the SportsCare Institute, Inc. She is studying to become a certified strength and conditioning specialist. She plans to pursue her doctorate degree in physical therapy.

The groom-to-be is a graduate of the State University of New York at Buffalo with a double major in English and psychology. He earned his JD (juris doctor) from the City of New York Law School. He also holds a Master in Secondary Education from the City College of New York. He is currently employed as a 10th grade English teacher at Harry S. Truman High School in the Bronx, where he also coaches varsity baseball. He plans to



Lesley Anne Sevillena and Adam John Benveniste

pursue an administrative teaching license in the near future. The couple are planning a June 2007 wedding.



Photo, Troop 543

**Big thanks to the Kip Center for a fun time** — Rutherford Brownie Troop 543 recently spent a day at the Kip Center for a game of bingo and lunch with the senior citizens. From left to right, starting at the top: Peggy Martin, Steffani Thomas, Delizia Esca, Yasmine Paulino, Ariella Apollito, Catherine Kelly, Samantha Ross, Emily Tsiolas, Sara LaFaso, Lucia Bajo and Shamron Koumi.

## Cattafi family welcomes Jack Matthew

**RUTHERFORD** — With great excitement, Emma Joe Cattafi announces the birth of her baby brother, Jack Matthew.

Jack was born on Nov. 15, 2005, at 1:17 a.m., in St. Barnabas Hospital, Livingston. He weighed 6 pounds, 3 ounces, and measured 18-1/4 inches long.

Proud parents are Gavle and Matthew Cattafi of Rutherford.

Proud grandparents are Maureen and Jack Heraut of North Arlington and Judy Cattafi of North Arlington.

Jack and Emma are blessed to have a great-grandmother, Eleanor McConogly, who is 91 years old.



Jack Matthew Cattafi

## Hughes family announces birth of son

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — Tracey and Scott Hughes of North Arlington announce the birth of their son, Declan Scott Hughes on Oct. 25, 2005, at 10:55 a.m., at Hackensack University Medical Center.

He weighed 8 pounds, 13 ounces and was 20 inches long. He joins a brother, Aidan, who will be 3 in February.

Tracey is an English teacher at North Arlington High School. Scott is the Coordinator of Technology Services for the Wood-Ridge School District. Both mother and father are 1988 graduates of Queen of Peace High School and reside in North Arlington.

Maternal grandparents are Alan and Kristen Hopper of North Arlington. Paternal grandparents are Joann Hughes of North Arlington and Joseph Hughes of Toms River. Scott's sister, Judith McDonald and her son, Sean, are the child's godparents.



Declan Scott Hughes

## DiSanza is new director at Carlstadt Library

**CARLSTADT** — The William E. Dermody Public Library, 420 Hackensack St., Carlstadt, has announced the appointment of Mary DiSanza as its new director effective Jan. 3.

DiSanza comes from the River Edge Public Library, where she has been head of

reference and technical services since 1994. When the Bergen County Cooperative Library System upgraded to the Unicorn system last December, DiSanza was the primary trainer for the River Edge Library staff and is knowledgeable in all the facets of the new system.

With a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Southern Connecticut State University and a Master's degree of library science from Rutgers University, DiSanza is a welcome addition to the Carlstadt Library staff.

## Roosevelt School announces honors

**LYNDHURST** — Roosevelt School, Lyndhurst, has announced its honor students for the first marking period of the 2005-06 school year.

### HIGH HONORS:

**Grade 4** — Yagiz Balkay, Ryan Bastos, Christopher Brady, Nicolette Carrion, Amelia Combs-Fina, Gianna De Luca, Patrick Dennehy, Cassandra Franchino, Tiana Grehanov, Michelle Hackett, Jonathan Hoff, Kara Mackin, Julianne Monaco, Shana Motichka, Amanda Nowak, Emily Papamarkos, Marc Pardo, Jacob Ramos, Daniel Rasczyk, Valeriano Rubino, Massimo Sarracino.

**Grade 5** — Erica Connolly, Gianna DiPisa, Giselle Francis, Grace Anne Gigante, Ahmad Hassan, James Hooper, Dominik Lalik, John McDermott, Theresa Regetz, Casey Zdanek.

**Grade 6** — Benedict Aquino, Nicole Baratta, Mikayla Berlingeri, Karliann Blumenfeld, Alison Fearon, Thiago Fernandes, Emily Ann Jewell, Kenneth Ludizaca, John Missaggia, Kathrina

Morozewicz, Nina Motichka, Ravi Shah, Lauren Vendola, Alexandra Zhukov;

**Grade 7** — Felisha Camacho, Jessica Carroll, Melissa Francis, Philip Gencarelli, Heba Hassan, Krista Jinks, Stacy Martinez, Kamila Mikos, Pedro Morejon, Jenna Pollio, Gabriel Ruggiero, Mian Seo, Michael Werrell;

**Grade 8** — Christopher Monaco and Darren Pardo.

### HONORS:

**Grade 4** — Nicholas Antiorio, Matthew Burgos, Jasmine Catala, Lorraine DeMendoza, Tiana Douglas, Chloe Ennis, Brittany Ferreira, Andrew Gajewski, Issam Hatahet, Jacqueline Hild, Dina Ingenito, Nicolette Jimenez, Jessica Kabbash, Brooke Laverty, Anthony Lourenzo, Frank Mezzina, Stephanie Perez, Nicholas Rossano, Vladislav Saburov and Matthew Wohlrab.

**Grade 5** — Paul Bui, Joseph Calabrese, Vincent Fikes, Patrick Ginart, Max Hart, Visar Haxhaj, Lisa Marie Missaggia, Adam Pena, Dylan

Petro, Kyle Pollio, Kevin Ratz, Nicholas Silva, Robert Syme, Christopher Ziomek;

**Grade 6** — Alyssa Bursae, Marc Carrier, Rana Cheikhali, Jennifer Cuartas, Eduardo Falconi, Thomas Hayes, Marianne Lim, Alyssa McCarthy, Brianna Montalvo, Paige Montillo, Kristen Raimo, Jessica Rizzo, Daisy Sac, Jacqueline Shin, Ashley Sloan, Camila Sosa, Kevin Suter, Amanda Torpey, Alexa Rae Urgola;

**Grade 7** — Sean Daly, Peter DeLuca, Hannah Flusk, Stephanie Gabriele, James Gangi, Jocelyn Garcia, Rachel Guzzo, Tringa Haxhaj, Samantha Holland, Sade King, Christopher Motichka, Steven Pena, Erik Quesada, Jake Rosas;

**Grade 8** — Gabriella Armetta, Kathleen Carey, Michael DeVenio, Jaclyn Espiritu, Akash Gandhi, Christopher Hoff, Vincent Kearns, Dominick Lanzellotti, Taylor Metcalf, Vanessa Perri, Kimberly Ribeiro, Kelly Rogers and Ashley Rosa.

## Military training for AF Airman Cicero

**LYNDHURST** — Air Force Airman Anthony J. Cicero has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Cicero is the son of Anthony and Theresa Cicero of Lyndhurst.

He is a 2001 graduate of Bergen County Academies, Hackensack.



Photo, Air Force Hometown News  
Air Force Airman Anthony J. Cicero

## Next HMMC meeting set for Feb. 6

**LYNDHURST** — The Hackensack Meadowlands Municipal Committee will not hold a meeting on Monday, Jan. 2, due to the holiday.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 6, at its offices located at One DeKorte Park Plaza, Lyndhurst, at 7 p.m.

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**SHIRLEY M. RIPP**

**LYNDHURST** — Shirley M. Ripp (nee Russell), 98, of Newark, formerly of Lyndhurst and Nutley, died on Dec. 19, 2005, at the Christian Healthcare Center in Wyckoff. Born in New York, N.Y., she lived in Nutley and Lyndhurst before moving to Newark many years ago. Mrs. Ripp was a retoucher of photographs and oil paintings for Coda Color Laboratories in Englewood for seven years before retiring in 1989. Previously, she was employed by Ravenson Photographers for 10 years. She was also the secretary of the church board, a former teacher and a substitute for Sunday School at the Christian Missionary Alliance Church, Nutley. She was also a member of the AARP. She is survived by her daughter, Babette Kiesel; her sister, Bernice Giacobbe; her brother, Donald Russell; and one grandchild. Funeral service was held in the S.W. Brown & Son Funeral Home, Nutley.

**MILDRED P. CROWELL**

**LYNDHURST** — Mildred P. Crowell (nee Prillo), 79, of Lyndhurst, died on Dec. 18, 2005, in Hospice of New Jersey Facility, Wayne. Born and raised in Nutley, she was a resident of Lyndhurst since 1954. Mrs. Crowell worked as a bookkeeper for more than 10 years with ADP Company, Clifton, retiring in 1985. She was predeceased by her husband, George E. Crowell in September 2003. She is survived by her four children, Michael Crowell of Lyndhurst, Donna Crowell of Parsippany, Daniel Crowell of Parsippany and Carolyn Crowell of Lyndhurst; her sister, Connie Dispenzieri of Nutley; her five grandchildren, Michael, Melissa, Jamie, Daniel and Jessica; and her great-grandson, Brandon. Funeral Mass was held in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Lyndhurst.

Interment in Holy Cross Cemetery, North Arlington. Arrangements made by Nazare Memorial Home, Lyndhurst.

**GRACE F. POTENZA**

**LYNDHURST** — Grace F. Potenza (nee Galambos), 85, died on Dec. 19, 2005, at her Lyndhurst residence. Born in Kent, Pa., she lived in Garfield before moving to Lyndhurst 38 years ago. Mrs. Potenza was a homemaker. She was a member of the Mount Carmel Rosary Society and the AARP. She is survived by her son, Robert Frank; two sisters, Emma Ivukody and Margaret Soja; one granddaughter and one great-grandson. Funeral service was held in Our Lady of Mount Carmel R.C. Church, Lyndhurst. Interment in St. Nicholas Cemetery, Lodi. Arrangements made by Ippolito-Stellato Funeral Home, Lyndhurst. Memorial donations may be made to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 146 Copeland Ave., Lyndhurst, NJ 07071.

**JOSEPH KEVRA**

**RUTHERFORD** — Dr. Joseph Kevra, Ph.D., 62, died on Dec. 20, 2005, at his Rutherford residence. Born in Jersey City, he lived there before moving to Rutherford 31 years ago. Mr. Kevra was a chemist with Barr Pharmaceutical Company, Paterson, N.Y., for 10 years. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University, and a Master's of Science and Ph.D. from Stevens Institute of Technology. He was a member of the American Chemical Society, was a member of the Society of Luthiers and a luthier craftsman, an accomplished classical guitarist and a world traveler. He is survived by his wife, Dr. Susanna Kevra, Ph.D. (nee

Cataldi) of Rutherford; his sister, Katherine Emerson of Summit; six nieces and nephews; and three great-nieces.

Funeral service was held in Woodbridge Memorial Gardens, Woodbridge. Arrangements made by Ippolito-Stellato Funeral Home, Lyndhurst.

**BETTY VIOLET JANKE**

**CARLSTADT** — Betty Violet Janke (nee Bacon), 81, of Carlstadt, died on Dec. 21, 2005. Born in Dorchester, Mass., she lived in Carlstadt for 50 years. Mrs. Janke was a special education teacher for the Bergen County Technical School in Teterboro for more than 10 years before retiring in 1989.

She was a former member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Wood-Ridge, and a former member of the choir. She was predeceased by her husband, Wesley Curt Janke. She is survived by her sons, Stephen Allan Janke of Carlstadt, Wesley Kurt Janke of Carlstadt and Chris Arthur Janke of Lodi; her daughter, Janice Janke Serafini of Clifton; eight grandchildren, Deborah Brown, Stephen Glazer, Lori Pottsberg, John Janke, Matthew Janke, Jerad Janke, Tiffany Janke and Sharon Perez; 12 great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Mary Spencer and Phelma McElroy, both of Massachusetts. Funeral service was held in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Wood-Ridge. Cremation in East Ridgeland Crematory, Clifton. Arrangements made by Kimak Funeral Home, Carlstadt. Memorial donations may be made to Habitat for Humanity, 121 Habitat St., Americus, GA 31709-3498.

**HARRY A. BEANE**

**NORTH ARLINGTON** — Harry A. "Scotty" Beane, 83, of Wayne, formerly a long-time resident of North Arlington, died on Dec. 13, 2005.

Born in Everett, Mass., he moved to New Jersey as a young man and lived and worked there most of his life. He was retired from the food service industry.

He was predeceased in 1996 by his wife of 49 years, Helen A. Beane (nee Atamanchuk). He is survived by his daughter, Michele Ann Kelley of Florida; and his son, Joel R. Beane of New Jersey.

**LYDIA CARRELLE**

**LYNDHURST** — Lydia Carrelle (nee Jost), 86, of Lyndhurst, died on Dec. 22, 2005, at Hackensack University Medical Center, Hackensack. Born in Jersey City, she lived in Cliffside Park before moving to Lyndhurst 25 years ago. Mrs. Carrelle was an insurance secretary with the Frank Torsello Agency in Cliffside Park for 18 years before retiring in 1975. She was a member of the Friendship Club of Lyndhurst and a charter member of the AARP of Lyndhurst. She is survived by her husband, Alfred Carrelle of Lyndhurst; her daughter, Janet Rosenberg of Delhi, N.Y.; and her son, Nicholas Carrelle of Wood-Ridge. Funeral Mass was held in Sacred Heart R.C. Church, Lyndhurst. Arrangements made by Ippolito-Stellato Funeral Home, Lyndhurst.

**JAMES HART**

**LYNDHURST** — James Hart, 80, of Lyndhurst, died on Dec. 22, 2005, at Lyons VA Hospital.

Born in Newark, he lived in Kearny before moving to Lyndhurst 52 years ago. Mr. Hart was a tanker driver for the Gulf Oil Company, Linden.

He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was a member of Lyndhurst American Legion Post No. 139, the Lyndhurst Yacht Club, the Parade Horse Association of North

Arlington, was a Harley man for 60 years and was awarded the oldest rider award at the Nutley Benefit Run, and a champion stock car driver in the 1950s at Daytona Beach, Fla., and Roosevelt Stadium, Jersey City. He is survived by his wife, Gladys Hart of Lyndhurst; his daughters, Jamie Jasinski and her husband, Richard Sr. of Lyndhurst, and Robyn Hart Freund and her husband, Paul of Morris Plains; his birth daughter, Christine Herbert of Cranford; and five grandchildren, Richard Jasinski Jr., Jonathan Jasinski, Brian Freund, Meredith Herbert and Evan Herbert. Funeral service was held in Ippolito-Stellato Funeral Home, Lyndhurst. Interment in Garden of Memories, Paramus.

**MARIE K. CANTORE**

**LYNDHURST** — Marie K. Cantore (nee Catrambone), 89, of Lyndhurst, died on Dec. 23, 2005, in PBI Regional Medical Center, Passaic. Born in Kearny, she lived in Harrison before moving to Lyndhurst 60 years ago. Mrs. Cantore was a seamstress with Ornstein Fashions in Lyndhurst for 40 years, retiring in 1986. She was a member of ILGWU-Local No. 158. She is survived by many nieces and nephews. Funeral Mass was held in St.

Michael's R.C. Church, Lyndhurst. Entombment in Holy Cross Chapel Mausoleum, North Arlington. Arrangements made by Ippolito-Stellato Funeral Home, Lyndhurst.

**PASQUALE O. SURACI**

**RUTHERFORD** — Pasquale O. Suraci, of Rutherford, died on Dec. 25, 2005.

Mr. Suraci was the owner of Palumbo Cigars in New York City. He was a parishioner of St. Mary R.C. Church, Rutherford, and an honorary life member of the Rutherford BPO Elks.

He was predeceased by his wife, Claire; his daughter, Patricia O'Reilly; his brother, Thomas; and his sister, Flora Santoro. He is survived by his daughter, Flora Durkan; three grandchildren, Matthew Durkan, Claire Rozstozy and Paul O'Reilly; his great-granddaughter, Riley Patricia Rozstozy; and his sister, Viola Iorio. Funeral Mass was held in St. Mary R.C. Church, Rutherford. Interment in Mt. Hebron Cemetery, Montclair. Arrangements made by Collins-Calhoun Funeral Home, Rutherford. Memorial donations may be made to the Lymphoma and Leukemia Society, or to St. Peter's Prep.

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Photo, AL Auxiliary

**A fond farewell** — Members of the Auxiliary to Rutherford American Legion Post 109 bid a fond farewell to Past President Ellen Fallon before her recent move to Tucson, Ariz. Her particular interest for many years was the selection of students from local high schools to the Girls' State program sponsored by the auxiliary. She and her late husband, Joseph, were also active in many local organizations. Left to right: Mrs. Fallon's daughter, Ellen Fallon; Auxiliary Past President Vicki Turton; and Mrs. Fallon.

**RCC invites the public to its ongoing series of talks**

**RUTHERFORD** — The Rutherford Congregational Church (RCC) is continuing its monthly discussion series, open to the public, on issues of discrimination in contemporary society, with the focus on physical, mental and emotional barriers, on Wednesday, Jan. 4 at 7:30 p.m. The series of talks, which are being led by the new RCC pastor, the Rev. Gregory Rupright, is based on the congregation's vote to be an "open and affirming" church. The Rutherford Congregational Church has formally declared that as an open and affirming church, it "welcomes into full participation members and staff of every sexual orientation just as

we extend the same loving welcome to people of every age, race, gender, physical and mental ability, ethnicity and marital and economic status." Upcoming topics are "Confronting Homophobia" on Feb. 1; "The Changing Role of Marriage in Our Church and Society" on March 8; and "Confronting Opulence" on April 5. All sessions will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the library at the church, located at the corner of Union Avenue and Prospect Place. Earlier topics included ageism, racism and gender bias and sexism. For further information on the church, visit the Web site at www.RCCUCC.com.

www.LeaderNewspapers.net

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

a blood donation that will help save lives. Readers can donate blood through New Jersey Blood Services (NJBS). Interested readers and donors can call 1-800-933-BLOOD or go online at www.nybloodcenter.org to locate drives convenient to their homes and workplaces. Donors must be 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health. Healthy donors can actually donate whole blood every 56 days, while citizens age 76 and older can donate if they have a physician's permission. Since 1973, NJBS has been running blood drives in New Jersey. Blood is our only business. To supply blood products to the hospitals we serve, NJBS runs blood drives seven days a week. We also seek companies and organizations that want to hold blood drives in support of their community's health. Interested parties can call 732-220-7184 or 732-220-7096. Help address our state's blood supply shortage — donate today!

Maggie O'Shea  
Executive Director  
New Jersey Blood Services

**THERE NEEDS TO BE A BALANCE BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES**

To the Editor:  
The CEO of Yahoo earned \$109.3 million in salary, stock

options and perks last year. That is enough money to provide full health care coverage for 53,000 uninsured Americans or to provide day care for more than 25,000 working mothers. I'm not suggesting for one moment that the CEOs of America's largest corporations should not be well compensated. If they are successful and if they return value to the shareholders, then compensation should be tied to their performance. But I do think there needs to be some sort of balance in our economy, if we are to sustain the middle class long term, which after all are the consumers that buy the goods, services, products and concepts that provide the profits that allow the companies to pay their CEOs the dollars that they command today. At a time when more and more working men and women are going without health care insurance, more than 47 million Americans are without health care coverage in America today and as more and more unions are being busted by abusive uses of bankruptcy laws and by outsourcing of American jobs. Isn't it time for us to reflect upon the nature of the relationship between employers and employees in our country? Yes, there are owners and there are employees. But make no mistake about the fact that it is the employees of America who produce the goods and services that generate the profits that make the wealthy richer. And if that middle class is further eroded or even destroyed as may well be the case, our nation as a whole is at serious risk and we best take note of that fact.

Chip Gerrity  
New Jersey IBEW  
Highstown

# Kids Fitness program in Rutherford

## Treat yourself to health

**RUTHERFORD** — Personal Touch Fitness, located at 15 Park Ave. in Rutherford, is proud to announce it is now offering one-on-one and group Kids Fitness classes. Personal Touch Fitness provides the school-age child with three essential components of fitness — strength training, flexibility and cardiovascular training. Sessions are available in 30-minute and 60-minute segments.

According to Sheila Dunn, certified fitness trainer, "Childhood obesity is at near epidemic levels in the United States today. If children can learn to like exercise at an early age, we can begin to combat this major problem in our society today. My fitness plan for children is fun, yet effective."

Dunn uses a variety of fitness training techniques, involving balance, coordination, strengthening exercises and cardiovascular exercises. By incorporating fun exercise, "toys" such as the balance

board, the Swiss ball, jumping robe, hula-hoop and more into the workout routine and adding upbeat music and dance moves, the workout is fun, entertaining and never boring for children.

"We offer a variety of balance, strength, flexibility and coordination enhancing exercises to help children build a physical foundation for participation in other sports. We provide the training to help children build confidence in their own physical abilities. This is essential for children to grow into fit and healthy adults," said Dunn.

Dunn is a member of the Aerobics and Fitness Association of America, the American Aerobic Association International and the International Sports Medicine Association. She has been practicing fitness training both in New York City and New Jersey for more than 10 years.

Also available at the Personal Touch Fitness studio are Mommy and Me classes for

infants, toddlers and preschoolers. These are divided into age groups of 6 months-12 months, 12 months-2 years and 2 years-4 years old. Dunn is also offering a "Mom and Baby Get Fit" class. This combines a workout Mom can do with baby as her resistance to provide strength training for Mom and loads of fun for baby/toddlers.

Also offered at the studio are Beginners Yoga classes, Mom and Me Yoga and a Pilates on the Ball class. Classes are kept small and intimate to provide each participant with individual guidance and attention. For more information on both Kids Fitness and other classes, write to Sheila at [ptouchfitness@optonline.net](mailto:ptouchfitness@optonline.net) or call 201-294-5493. You may also visit her Web site at [www.personaltouchfitness.com](http://www.personaltouchfitness.com)

Personal Touch Fitness is a full-service fitness training facility located at the Rutherford Wellness Center, 15 Park Ave., Suite 204.

# Mission to Germany



Photo, Dr. Kalogiannis

Dr. Kirk A. Kalogiannis, DMD, from Lyndhurst, was called to active duty to serve in the medical and dental facility in Friedberg, Germany. Dr. Kalogiannis is a Major in the U.S. Army Reserve. He was activated to serve as a dental surgeon to perform medical necessary treatment to deployable soldiers in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was attached to the 501st Forward Support Battalion of the 1st Brigade 1st Armored Division of the U.S. Army. He spent approximately four weeks performing oral surgery and restoring patients with maxillo-facial prosthesis.

Dr. Kalogiannis first became involved with the Army in 1997 when he was trained by the U.S. Army Institute of Pathology in Aerospace and Forensic Pathology. However, his expertise and training wasn't utilized until Sept. 11, 2001, where he was called to join the dental identification unit whose responsibility it was to identify victims of the Sept. 11 attack at the World Trade Center and American Airlines Flight 587. His outstanding service and unselfish effort was acknowledged with a Citation from the City of New York Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Dr. Kalogiannis is also a Clinical Professor at New York University College of Dentistry and maintains a private practice in Lyndhurst devoted to cosmetic and implant dentistry. He can be reached at 201-507-5000 or visit [www.drkalogiannis.com](http://www.drkalogiannis.com).



Photo, FDU

**Years of service** — Carlstadt resident Josephine Modoski was recognized for 20 years of service to Fairleigh Dickinson University at a luncheon held in Lenell Hall, in the historic Vanderbilt-Twombly Mansion on the College of Florham Campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University, Madison, on Nov. 9. More than 100 employees from FDU's campuses were honored. Modoski is assistant to the vice president for financial affairs on FDU's Metropolitan College Campus, Teaneck. Left to right: Josephine Modoski and President J. Michael Adams.

# VCBC offers strategic planning workshop

**HACKENSACK** — Yogi Berra once said, "You got to be careful if you don't know where you're going, because you might not get there."

Every organization should have a strategic plan that determines who it is and where it is going. Strategic planning is the process by which an organization identifies its resources, develops goals and implements ways to achieve those goals. It is a road map to ensure the organization's success in an ever-changing environment.

In short, strategic planning helps an organization do a better job.

The Volunteer Center of Bergen County is presenting a workshop, "Strategic Planning for Non-Profits," on Tuesday, Jan. 10, from 9 a.m. to noon, at the Volunteer Center's offices at 64 Passaic St. in Hackensack. The fee is \$30 and includes all program materials and continental breakfast.

Janet Sharma, executive director of the Volunteer Center says, "This course is a must for any organization

embarking on the planning process — it's the plan before the plan. Strategic planning updates the mission, vision and goals of the organization and develops a focus on priorities. Moreover, it creates a foundation for monitoring achievements and for fundraising activities."

"Strategic Planning for Non-Profits" will cover the purposes of developing a strategic plan, an overview of three methodologies, time frames, budgets and implementation.

The workshop will be taught by Marian Conway, who has a wide range of experience in the non-profit sector, including consulting and leadership roles. She has led the strategic planning process, chaired a CEO search committee, and is a popular workshop presenter and facilitator of board retreats.

Participants in this workshop will gain the necessary information and skills to:

- Prepare for the self-assessment process in strategic planning;
- Use information from the self assessment to develop

action plans;

- Communicate final mission, vision and plan to staff, board, customers and funders;
- Develop the necessary budget plans.

This workshop is part of a series designed specifically for professional volunteer managers in non-profit and governmental agencies. It is highly interactive and hands-on, providing both an enjoyable and meaningful learning experience. It is developed by the Non-Profit Training and Resource Center of the Volunteer Center of Bergen County.

For more information or to register, e-mail [training@bergenvolunteers.org](mailto:training@bergenvolunteers.org), or call Amanda Missev at 201-489-9454, ext. 19.

The mission of the Volunteer Center is to strengthen the community by connecting people with opportunities to serve, operating model volunteer programs, building capacity for effective volunteering, and participating in strategic partnerships that meet community needs.

# Professional training preparation courses in reflexology offered at BCC

**PARAMUS** — Professional training preparation courses for national certification in reflexology will be offered at Bergen Community College, beginning Jan. 13. Upon completion of the following three 45-hour courses — Certificate Program in Reflexology, Advanced Reflexology and Herbolgy, and Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology for the Reflexologist — participants will have fulfilled the necessary requirements to sit for the exam and earn a National Certification in Reflexology.

Interested students can begin taking the preparation courses in the upcoming spring semester and choose from the following two courses.

The Certificate Program in Reflexology is a comprehensive 45-hour course that teaches students the principles of reflexology, a massage technique that promotes healing without chemicals or drugs. The cost of the program is \$495 and begins on Jan. 13

and runs through May 5. Classes meet on Fridays from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

The Advanced Reflexology and Herbolgy Program — a 15-week program that focuses on Western and Eastern pathologies, acupuncture and reflexology — includes the study of major diseases such as cancer, diabetes, arthritis and cardiovascular disorders. The cost is \$530 and begins Jan. 13 and runs through May 5. Classes meet on Fridays from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Bergen Community College's Main Campus, 400 Paramus Road, Paramus.

The Anatomy, Physiology and Pathology for the Reflexologist Program — a 15-week program designed for graduates of Certificate Programs in Reflexology that covers the fundamentals of anatomy, physiology and pathology with specific applications for Reflexologists, will be offered in the Fall 2007 schedule.

The Division of Continuing Education, located in the

Technology Education Center at Bergen Community College, 400 Paramus Road, Paramus, offers children's programs, as well as a wide range of professional development courses, certificate programs, personal enrichment classes and specialized training to business and industry. For more information or to enroll in either program, contact Continuing Education at 201-447-7488 or visit the Web site at <http://www.bergen.edu/continuing>.

# AAA advice on warming up your vehicle

Now that winter has arrived, freezing temperatures are sure to follow. That brings up the heavily debated question — to idle or not to idle? The automobile experts at the AAA New Jersey Automobile Club say no.

"Idling your car to warm it up simply isn't a good idea," said Marty Koonce, an ASE-certified master mechanic and manager of the club's Approved Auto Repair program. "When idling, your engine isn't operating at the best temperature to complete combustion. This results in unburned fuel that leaves a residue on cylinder walls and contaminates engine oil and spark plugs — which is hard on your engine."

AAA recommends driving your car instead of idling to warm it up. "The suspension and wheel bearings don't heat up until you've driven anyway," said Koonce. "Compared with idling, driving a vehicle reduces warm-up time by half. It only takes 30 seconds of idling for a gas-engine vehicle to be ready to drive, so there's no reason to spend more time than that — unless your windows need defrosting."

"In addition to the damage idling can cause to your vehicle, it also negatively impacts the environment.

"When an engine is idle, its catalytic converter, which should strip toxic pollutants from the exhaust, is idle too," added Koonce. "Traffic areas where vehicles are left idling often show significantly higher pollutant levels, both outside and inside buildings."

# Exercise classes for older adults at Area YMCA

The Meadowlands Area YMCA offers classes which are designed specifically to meet the exercise fitness needs of older adults. The one-hour class includes a warm-up, low-impact aerobics, weights, dynabands, and of course, a cool-down and relaxation. The program is all set to music.

A new 12-week winter program is set to begin on Monday, Jan. 9 at 9:30 a.m. Classes will meet in the Lyndhurst Senior Center on Cleveland Avenue. For beginners, a six-week mini-session is starting on Feb. 6 from 10:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

The Meadowlands Area YMCA also offers armchair fitness classes all throughout the South Bergen area.

To register for classes or for more information, call the YMCA office at 201-955-5300.

# LHD to offer free rabies shots

**LYNDHURST** — The Lyndhurst Health Department, under the direction of Mayor Richard DiLascio, will offer free rabies shots for dogs and cats of Lyndhurst residents on Thursdays, Jan. 12 and Jan. 19, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Licenses can be obtained at either of these free clinics at the health department, 253 Suyvesant Ave. Call 201-804-2500 for more information.



Photo, Community Chest

**'Simply Silver'** — Adding ornaments to the Rutherford Community Chest's entry in the 55 Kip Center's 2005 Festival of Trees and Wreaths are Past President Pat Jannicelli and her granddaughter, Megan Jannicelli. As in past years, all decorations were provided by Chest trustees with no public contributions to the Chest Drive used. Trustee Coralee Keiselbach and treasurer Virginia Marass also furnished decorations for the "Simply Silver" theme.

# Medical Directory

To advertise in this section, call 201-310-5161

Retirement

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# Rutherford Lady Bulldogs spank Saint Mary's, 60-35

By W. L. Bill Allen Jr.  
SPECIAL TO THE LEADER

**RUTHERFORD** — In one of the rare meetings between a team from Rutherford High and one from next-door-neighbor Saint Mary's, it was clear who was top dog, as the RHS Lady Bulldogs basketball contingent spanked the Saint school squad, 60-35, in the first round of the Joe Poli Tournament on Monday evening, Dec. 26, at Pascack Valley High School in Hillsdale.

That lop-sided lambasting pushed the RHS into the tourney's semifinals, where they were slated to face the Academy of the Holy Angels yesterday, Wednesday, Dec. 28. The winner of that tussle will face either the winner of yesterday's other semi, either the host team, Pascack Valley, or Montclair High, in the tourney's title tilt at 5:45 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 30, while the Rutherford vs. AHA loser will play in the third place game at 3:45 p.m. tomorrow.

Leading the locals in their lashing of the Lady Gaels were Gia O'Keefe, Jackie Mann, Jessica Porta and Regal Davis.

A senior point guard who always seems to play well at holiday tourney time, O'Keefe totaled 17 points, including a trio of treys, to go along with four assists and three thefts, while Mann, a sophomore cen-

ter, had a double-double, 10 points and 10 caroms corralled to her credit.

Porta, a senior small forward, chipped in nine points and five takeaways, with Davis coming off the bench to add nine points to her team's total.

O'Keefe didn't miss a shot in the first half, as Rutherford fashioned a 10-3 early lead, then held a 31-11 advantage at the break and had still doubled usually powerful Saint Mary's, 54-27, with two minutes to go.

Saint Mary's leading scorer was junior Meghan Whitmann, who netted 13 for the Lady Gaels.

Rutherford, 2-2 after the win, had kicked off its current campaign with a 34-33 loss at the buzzer to Ridgefield Park on Friday, Dec. 16, prior to embering Englewood, 65-34, on Tuesday, Dec. 20, and then falling, 48-34, to perennial power River Dell last Thursday, Dec. 22.

This is the first appearance for RHS in the prestigious and always highly competitive Joe Poli Tournament. In both 2003 and '04, a very young Lady Bulldogs club had won the Passaic Valley Tournament in Little Falls.

"We won the Passaic Valley tourney twice with mostly sophomores and juniors, so we thought we were ready for a step up, for a bigger challenge," explained RHS head coach Nick DeBari.



Photo by Bill Allen-NJ Sport/Action

**Sharp-shootin' senior** — Rutherford's Gia O'Keefe, a senior point guard, sank a trio of trey tries and totaled a team-topping 17 points in the Lady Bulldogs' 60-35 spanking of Saint Mary's in the first round of the Joe Poli Tournament on Monday night, Dec. 26, in Hillsdale.

"Playing in this 'Old-School' style gym, with all its history and in front of big crowds is very cool for me as a coach and is also a great experience for the kids."

Tuesday, Jan. 3, will bring a

7 p.m. home game against Tenally, with a trip to take on crosstown rival Queen of Peace set for 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 6.

NJSportAction@aol.com



Photo by Bill Allen-NJ Sport/Action

**Closin' it out** — Lady Bulldogs sophomore Veronica McGorry puts in a late game layup as she helps Rutherford close out a 60-35 lambasting of the SMHS Lady Gaels in the first round of the Joe Poli Tournament on Monday night, Dec. 26, in Hillsdale.



Photo by Bill Allen-NJ Sport/Action

**Passing fancy** — Vikings junior guard Eric Miller whips a pass around the outstretched arms of Montclair Immaculate senior point guard Lamar Lucas during a big fourth quarter rally by homestanding North Arlington in the opening round of the William Ferguson Tournament on Monday evening, Dec. 26, in NA. Despite outscoring the Lions, 24-14, in that final frame, the locals lost, 72-69, and faced Saint Joseph of the Palisades High in the tourney's consolation contest on Tuesday, Dec. 27. The three point loss to Immaculate was the first setback of the year suffered by the Vikes, who had kicked off their current campaign by walloping Wallington, 66-44, on Dec. 16, prior to waylaying Weehawken, 68-66, in overtime on Tuesday, Dec. 22, and lashing Lyndhurst, 58-49, last Thursday, Dec. 22. NA, which holds a share of first place in the BCSL-National Division standings, will return to conference combat by traveling to take on Secaucus at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3.



Photo by Bill Allen-NJ Sport/Action

**Determined defenders** — North Arlington senior guards Ryan Fasano, left, and Terry Iavarone knock away a pass attempt by Montclair Immaculate senior point guard Lamar Lucas and cause a turnover during a furious fourth frame rally by the homestanding Vikings in the opening round of the William Ferguson Tournament on Monday evening, Dec. 26, in NA. Despite outscoring the Lions, 24-14, in that final frame, the locals lost, 72-69.

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First floor professional office space with central air, conference, powder room, reception area. 2nd & 3rd floor residential apt. Modern Kitchen & mod bath. Separate utility. Office space has separate utilities.

**Extra Wide Lot**

This 3 BR colonial sits on a 75 X 109 lot with a one car garage. Lg LR, DR, Mod Kit, Family room with fireplace. Two full baths. Central Air.

**Excellent Condition**

Tastefully redone this 4 BR Colonial features a lg LR, DA, Huge modern Kitchen. Balcony off Master BR, Full Bath. Full basement. 50 X 173 lot with cedar deck and above ground pool.

**Lots of Original Beauty**

This 4 BR Colonial features LR with FP, Form DR, Kitchen w/breakfast nook. Full bath and 2 half baths. Full basement. All original woodwork. Very convenient to schools and transportation.

**Great Location**

Large 4 BR Colonial, New mod eat-in kitchen, Lg LR with beamed ceiling and Wood burning FP, Form DR, 2 Full baths. Full basement. 67 X 131 lot. One car garage. Call for appointment.





117 Jackson Ave (at the Justin Center) (201) 939-7500 • 57 Park Ave. (201) 438-0588

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OUR REAL ESTATE RESULTS IN WRITING

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RUTHERFORD \$559,000

This 4 BR 1.5 bath home features lg open front porch, dining room w/ fireplace, finished attic, updated electric, new windows, siding & garage roof. AD#-2530105



NORTH ARLINGTON \$399,000

Located on one of the nicest streets in town, this 3 BR home features fireplace with knotty pine mantle, spacious rooms, attached garage and more. Located on park-like corner property with 20 mile view. AD#-2528706



"We want to thank you for your help with the sale of our house. You made us feel very comfortable and at ease. Your suggestions for improving our house before putting it up for sale were really helpful and made a big difference for a quick sale. You concern for details was greatly appreciated and we will always value your friendship." - Kaye & Frank Grasso

"We are truly grateful for having you sell us this home. Words alone cannot express what a lovely, efficient, professional and kind person you are. You always eased our minds during the process. Living in a hotel, you worked arduously up to the closing, in order to get us into our home." - Michael Lynch

"We are exceptionally pleased with your performance regarding our Ridge Road house sale. We feel you went above and beyond the call of duty. Your honesty and integrity is above reproach." - Dr. Murray Elters

"You are a great asset to ERA Justin Realty. In the process of buying our first home, we hit some unexpected obstacles. You stood by us as we continued to solve one obstacle after the other. It was an emotional roller coaster and you stayed for the ride. We cannot thank you enough." - Janice Colon & family



NORTH ARLINGTON \$439,000

This 4 BR 3 bath cape is located in prime residential area. Features hardwoods, finished basement with summer kit, garage, freshly painted. Short walk to NY bus, schools & shopping. AD#-2537749



LYNCHBURST \$440,000

This lovely 3 BR 2 full bath colonial with gleaming hardwood floors, newer siding, new roof, new windows, enclosed front porch with new ceramic tile floor, 2 car garage with new door is located near everything. ERA Warranty included. AD#-2521180



CARLSTADT \$919,900

23 rooms, 10 BRs, 2 kitchens, 2.5 baths, large game room, 2 car garage, 40' heated pool on two 50x100 lots. Many extras. Low taxes. AD#-2519846



WALLINGTON \$389,900

This 2 family consists of 2 BRs (could be 3) on 1st floor and 1 BR upstairs, full basement, 1 car garage, separate heat, electric & gas. Close to shopping, transportation, schools, & park. AD#-2523707



RUTHERFORD \$659,000

This 4 BR 2.5 bath colonial is absolutely beautiful! Features 1st floor family room, fireplace in LR, updated kitchen, great master BR suite w/ spa, Jacuzzi tub & walk-in closet. Beautiful, large yard w/ in-ground pool and so much more. Short walk to bus, schools & shopping. This one must be seen! AD#-2524542



RUTHERFORD \$749,900

This 2 family with 1 BR on 1st floor and 3 BRs in 2nd apt (1 on 2nd floor and 2 on 3rd floor) is located in great area. Exterior just painted. New roof. AD#-2528140



RUTHERFORD \$544,900

Spacious 3 BR townhouse with finished attic. Wonderful river view location. All large rooms, custom kitchen, attached garage, security system, central air and much more. AD#-2528863



RUTHERFORD \$825,000

This true legal 3 family has 2 BRs in each apt. Front & rear staircases. Large bright & sunny rooms with plenty of storage & closets. Located in great area. AD#-2534633



RUTHERFORD \$1,395,000

This 5 BR center hall colonial has 3 full & 2 half baths. Features very large rooms, 3 fireplaces, gourmet kitchen, master BR suite, balcony, central air, 3 car garage & so much more. Situated on over .5 acre lot near everything. AD#-2530491



RUTHERFORD \$250,000

This 1 BR updated condo has NY bus at door and short walk to train. This nice size unit in the Abbington faces the rear, so you do not get street noise. Modern kitchen, coin-op laundry. Call for details. AD#-2530720



RUTHERFORD \$539,000

This lovely 2 family with 2 BRs on each floor is conveniently located. Walk to schools, shopping, transportation. Situated on deep lot with nice backyard. AD#-2534005



EAST RUTHERFORD \$96,000

This well established dell and catering business with lottery & cigarette sales in busy area offers great opportunity. All kitchen & dell equipment included. Call for details. AD#-2533204



RUTHERFORD \$425,000

This updated 2 BR 2 bath unit features brand new kitchen with custom cabinets and granite countertops, hardwood floors under carpets, lots of closet space, garage & more. NY bus at door, short walk to train and Rutherford downtown. AD#-2536304



RUTHERFORD \$595,000

This 4 BR 1.5 bath home features open floor plan. Enclosed porch, 2 car garage, 1st floor family room. Located in great area near schools, bus & shopping. AD#-2536813



WOOD RIDGE \$690,000

This beautiful, large center hall colonial must be seen. Features 4 BRs (1 on 1st floor could be computer rm), 2.5 baths, family room w/ FP, security system, sprinkler system, heated in-ground pool and much more. Professionally landscaped lot. Walk to NY bus. AD#-2533747



RUTHERFORD \$910,000

This new home, with 3 BRs, 2 baths & fam rm in each apartment features top quality upgrades including Granite countertops & stainless steel appliances in kitchens, white oak hardwood floors, security system, central air, separate basements and more. Near NY bus & shopping. AD#-2539010



RUTHERFORD \$285,000

This lovely 2 BR condo features modern kitchen & bath. Located on 2nd floor of elevator building, this is a commuter's delight with NY bus at door & short walk to NY train. Nice size rooms. Call today for details and private appointment!! AD#-200588



RUTHERFORD \$799,900

This beautiful 4BR 2.5 bath colonial has been completely rebuilt on original foundation. Features gourmet kitchen w/ granite counter, maple cab & stainless appliances, hardwood floors, master bath w/Jacuzzi tub & so much more. Near school & NY bus. AD#-2520666



RUTHERFORD \$250,000

This 1 BR unit is conveniently located. Great for commuter. Short walk to bus, train and shopping. Near all major highways. Refinished hardwood floors, new kitchen, freshly painted. AD#-2532034



LYNCHBURST \$539,000

Beautiful, brand new 3 BR townhouse with 2 full and 2 half baths, security system, central air, central vac, 2 car oversized garage, 3 zone heat & cooling, high-end kitchen and so much more. 10 year new home warranty. AD#-2521511



WALLINGTON \$389,000

This updated home with 2 BRs on 1st floor and 1 BR upstairs has been recently updated. Separate utilities with newer furnaces and hot water heaters, aluminum sided driveway. AD#-2521429



RUTHERFORD \$665,000

Everything is new in this 3 BR 2.5 bath expanded ranch. New windows, hardwood floors, built-in, central air, stove, oven, microwave, heat. Freshly painted inside and out. Short walk to NY bus. This one must be seen!! AD#-2535148



RUTHERFORD \$699,000

This brand new duplex, with 4 BRs & 2.5 baths, 1st floor family room, hardwood floors, garage, master suite w/ Jacuzzi tub, central air & more offers approx. 3,000 sq. ft. To be built so you still have time for changes. Other lots also available or can be purchased a 2 family for \$1,400,000. AD#-2539505



LYNCHBURST \$499,900

This bright home with front & rear porches and front porch on 2nd floor has 2 BRs in each apt. 1st floor freshly painted with red-tone bath. 2 car garage. Very convenient to stores & transportation. AD#-2536044



CLIFTON \$399,900

This beautiful Cambridge townhouse with 2 BRs, 2 baths and a loft features fireplace, cathedral ceilings, and more. This gated community includes pool, fitness center and more. Call for details. AD#-2531316



RUTHERFORD \$499,000

This 3 BR 2 bath home was updated 1 year ago. New central air, sheet rock, ceilings, ceiling fans, baths, 1 car garage. Near NY bus. AD#-2536587



ERA logo and contact information