

Investigate Frogs and Toads At Trailside Nature Center

MOUNTAINSIDE – The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders will offer evenings of nature investigations this spring at the Trailside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside. One program is "Frogs by Flashlight," which is offered twice this spring, on May 16 and June 6 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Families with children age six and older are invited to join a Trailside park naturalist to view a brief slide presentation focusing on a special group of amphibians: frogs.

Those attending will learn about these elusive creatures that breathe through their skin and sing at night. The public will discover how to identify local frogs and toads by sight and sound, and will then carpool to a nearby wetland to search for them

using headlamps, flashlights and nets.

Due to the popularity of this program, space is limited. Pre-registration is required. The fee for this program is \$6 per person for residents of Union County and \$7 per person for non-county participants. Those attending are encouraged to wear shoes that can get wet and muddy and bring a flashlight. This program is held rain or shine.

For additional information about "Frogs by Flashlight" or for a complete listing of spring programs at Trailside, call (908) 789-3670 or visit ucnj.org/trailside. Trailside Nature and Science Center is located at 452 New Providence Road in Mountainside and is a service of the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.



SUSAN M. DOUGHERTY FOR THE WESTFIELD LEADER AND THE TIMES
SQUELCHING THOSE RUMORS...Linda Correll as Claire Ganz, Westfield's Ellen Dooley as an inebriated Chris Gorman and Westfield resident Stan Kaplan as psychologist Ernie Cusack gather in the posh living room of New York socialites for a rollicking good time in Neil Simon's comedy/farce *Rumors* at the Westfield Community Players' Theater. While sold-out this coming weekend, the show will run on Friday and Saturday, May 18 and 19, at 8 p.m. Call the box office at (908) 232-1221 for further details. Note that all non-member tickets must be pre-paid to secure a reservation, and WCP member tickets will not be honored for benefit performances.

SPF HS Jazz Bands Take Home Top Awards at Finals

SCOTCH PLAINS – For the second year in a row, Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School (SPFHS) sent two Jazz Ensembles to the state finals, held this year at Willingboro High School.

In what is a very rare opportunity for one high school, this year proved to be especially sweet for both the Moonglowers and SPF Jazz, or "Spiffy Jazz" as they are affectionately known. It is the first time in recent memory that one high school had two jazz bands finish in the top four at the state competition, and SPFHS is proud to acknowledge this wonderful honor.

The Moonglowers Jazz ensemble took home the top prize in the IAJE (International Association of Jazz

Educators) New Jersey State competition for Division 2 on Friday, April 27, at Willingboro High School. Additional awards were presented to the Moonglowers for the following: Two Best Section Awards – Saxophones and Rhythm Section. Top soloist awards went to Colleen Curran for vibes and Alex Russo for piano. Spiffy Jazz placed fourth by a slim margin behind Shawnee High School. Second place was awarded to Steiner High School.

The Moonglowers took their show on the road this week, performing for family and friends at The Crossroads jazz club in Garwood on April 28, and at Carnegie Hall on May 1, where they played along with the SPFHS Select Choir and Wind Ensemble. They will compete at the "Festivals of Music" in Ocean City, Maryland on Friday and Saturday, May 4 and 5.

Vinnie Turturiello is the director of the Moonglowers while Durand Thomas is the director of Spiffy Jazz.

Palmer Museum Accepts Applications

SPRINGFIELD – The Donald B. Palmer Museum of the Springfield Free Public Library is accepting applications for artists who wish to exhibit their work in 2008-2009.

Applicants should submit a current resume, 10 slides, prints or computer files representative of their work and a stamped self-addressed envelope no later than June 4.

Due to increased use of the space for programming, no sculpture will be exhibited in the future unless the pieces can be hung on the wall or displayed on wall-mounted shelves. Limited pedestal space is available. The Museum Committee will review applications in June.

The 36-by-50-foot Palmer Museum was opened at its current site in 1975. The Library Board of Trustees started the Palmer Collection in 1939 when it appropriated \$25 to Springfield resident Donald Palmer to purchase pictures of Springfield.

Applications should be mailed to the Donald B. Palmer Museum of the Springfield Free Public Library, 66 Mountain Avenue, Springfield, N.J., 07081.

Summit Symphony Presents Concert

SUMMIT – The Summit Symphony will present a concert on Saturday, May 12, at 8 p.m., at Summit High School on Kent Place Boulevard.

The orchestra, under the direction of James Sadewhite, will perform the Overture to the opera "Die Meistersinger von Nurnberg" by Wagner, Symphony in d minor by Franck and the Oboe Concerto by Richard Strauss. A pre-concert lecture, given by Maestro Sadewhite, will begin at 7:15 p.m. in the auditorium.

The featured soloist for this concert will be oboist Gerard Reuter. A recipient of the prestigious Pro Musicis International Award, oboist Mr. Reuter has enjoyed a solo career touring the United States, Europe, India and Africa.

Admission for this concert is free.

The Diamonds Author Three Business Books

WESTFIELD — Harriet Diamond and Linda Eve Diamond, formerly of Diamond Associates Training and Consulting in Westfield, have left the local business to transform their management, communication and personal development knowledge into business books. In the last three years, the two have written three business books together:

"Teambuilding That Gets Results" (Sourcebooks, 2007) is a strategy and solution-packed new book for business owners and managers. The Diamond team drew from their experience and collected exercises from several innovative trainers.

"Executive Writing: American Style" (Apocryphile Press, 2007) is a business writing style and grammar guide for foreign-born professionals. The book guides readers through creating documents in the same style participants have been guided through creating documents in Diamond Associates' writing

courses.

"Perfect Phrases for Motivating and Rewarding Employees" (McGraw-Hill, 2005) is a book of phrases and mindsets to help managers and business owners find the right phrase for every business situation.

Additionally, Linda recently released her book of poetry, titled "The Human Experience," and has begun to give poetry readings.

Harriet established her Westfield business in 1985 and moved throughout town as it grew, from a spare bedroom, to an office above the Rialto, to a suite of offices on Quimby Street, to larger offices on North Avenue, a suite neighbor of *The Westfield Leader*.

The two now work together remotely, as Harriet has moved to Atlantic City and Linda to Dania, Fla.

The public can learn more about the authors and their books at HarrietDiamond.net and LindaEveDiamond.com.

ART in Summit Show, Sale Returns to Summit May 20

SUMMIT – The Visual Arts Center of New Jersey (VACNJ) will present ART in Summit on Sunday, May 20, in downtown Summit. The show and sale will run from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., rain or shine.

This fine-art event offers a wide array of artwork that will be available for sale from exhibiting artists, in addition to children's art activities. Free and open to the public, ART in Summit attracts families, art lovers, collectors and browsers from all over the state.

Artists and collectors from New Jersey and beyond anticipate ART as a dynamic community event that appeals to all ages. More than 120 artists will exhibit a broad range of media that includes painting, drawing, glass blowing, engraving, photography, mixed-

media, pottery, sculpture, jewelry, knitting, wood carving and mosaics.

Judges will award a "Best in Show" and three honorable mention cash prizes on the day of the show.

Teaching artists will run free children's art activities. Children will have the opportunity to create their own masterpiece for parents to take home and display.

The free event will take place along Union Place and Beechwood Road. Ample free parking is available for both artists and attendees in nearby parking lots.

For more information about the event, sponsorship opportunities or to participate as an artist, contact Patty Tsai, development coordinator, at (908) 273-9121, ext. 27, or psai@artcenternj.org.

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