



22nd District News Stender Encourages Residents to Support Community Theaters

by Assemblywoman Linda Stender
Fanwood

SCOTCH PLAINS — Assemblywoman Linda Stender of Fanwood (D-22) is urging residents to take advantage of the state's talented performing artists and pick up a 2005 Professional Theatre Calendar.

"New Jersey is home to some of the most talented artists in the nation," said Assemblywoman Stender. "I encourage all residents to pick up a theatre calendar and take advantage of the wonderful productions performed in New Jersey."

Professional Theatre Calendars, produced by the New Jersey Theatre

Alliance, are free of charge and can be ordered by calling the office of Assemblywoman Linda Stender at (908) 668-1900. Anyone interested can also pick up a calendar at the Assemblywoman's office located at 1801 East Second Street in Scotch Plains.

The New Jersey Theatre Alliance is an association of professional, not-for-profit theatres in New Jersey. For additional information about the New Jersey Theatre Alliance, please visit their Website at www.njtheatrealliance.org.

School 'Give Me Five' Plan To Aid Tsunami Victims

By BETSEY BURGDORF
Specially Written for The Leader and The Times

WESTFIELD — Roosevelt Intermediate School in Westfield has joined the crusade to help those affected by the tsunami that devastated parts of Southeast Asia on December 26.

They have launched a fundraiser called "Give Me Five," referring to the minimum dollar amount suggested for donation. The students hope to raise \$5,000 by urging everyone in the Roosevelt community to contribute.

Victims of the unforeseen disaster have virtually no way of picking up the pieces of their destroyed lives without others coming to their aid. Entire villages were leveled and food and clean drinking water are non-existent. At present, the death toll is calculated at around 150,000 people, with that number increasing daily as more and more victims continue to wash ashore.

Unless clean drinking water, food and medicine can be made readily available, the threat of disease is imminent.

Matthew Block, Student Council Advisor and eighth grade history teacher at Roosevelt, along with Principal Stewart Carey and members of the Student Council, came up with the fundraising idea upon returning to school on January 3.

According to Mr. Block, the students were very concerned about the victims and were eager to help in the relief effort.

"It is nice to see the kids caring about kids that live so far away. I think it is excellent that they are showing this kind of initiative," Mr. Block commented.

The Student Council and the Yearbook Club both met and voted to donate \$500 each to the effort. Each student who makes a donation will have his or

her hand traced on the bulletin board located in the main lobby of the school showing their support for the victims.

Only days into the effort, the board is already filling up. The fundraiser was slated to begin on Monday, but student donations began coming in last Thursday.

Dr. Robert Petix, Principal of Westfield High School, stated that similar efforts are being seen throughout the high school. The Asian Awareness Club began collecting for the victims last week during lunch period. Donation boxes also are located in the main office of the school.

"Right now, our efforts include a short range collection and a long-range plan to raise funds," Dr. Petix said, referring to events that are being planned for the near future. One such event will be a student/faculty basketball game, with all proceeds going to the tsunami victims.

Other schools in the area have also begun to discuss how their student bodies will aid in the relief efforts. Those interested in making a donation can stop by the main office at either the high school or intermediate school.

For additional information, please call Roosevelt Intermediate School at (908) 789-4560 or Westfield High School at (908) 789-4500.



Lash Green



LOCAL THERAPISTS ON BOARD...The New Jersey Association of Women Therapists recently announced its Board of Directors for 2005. Pictured, left to right, are: front row; Sharon McCobin of New Providence, Helen Lindsay of Westfield, Lynn Kramer of Summit and Brenda Forte of Morristown; back row; Janet Kessler of Summit, Regina Benson of West Caldwell, Sue Hirner of Summit, Amy Mahoney and Barbara Stumm-Gray, both of Westfield, and Mary Lou Daley of Chatham. Not pictured are Susan Orshan, Debbie Frank, Jennifer Johnson, Maureen Kritzer-Lange and Lenore Lerner.

Port Authority Names Chabrier Development Dir.

NEW YORK -- The Port Authority has named Wil Chabrier of Westfield to be the agency's new Director of its Office of Regional and Economic Development.

"Wil's 11 years of outstanding service and his thorough understanding of regional transportation and economic development issues make him the perfect choice for this position," said Michael Francois, the Port Authority's Chief of Real Estate & Economic Development. "He will be responsible for the Port Authority's economic development initiatives, helping the organization to expand upon its mission to strengthen the economic competitiveness of the New York/New Jersey region."

Mr. Chabrier's most recent position was General Manager of Business and Job Opportunity, assisting small, minority-owned, and women-owned companies in acquiring contracts with the agency, and providing small business development programs and information on contracting opportunities. During his career with the agency, Mr. Chabrier has also held the positions of Business Manager of Waterfront Development and Executive Assistant to the Chief of Planning and External Affairs.

Mr. Chabrier is an active community leader who serves on the board of

the United Way of Essex and West Hudson. He also serves on the Williams College Alumni Society Executive Committee. He is a graduate of Williams College and attended Yale University School of Management. He resides in Westfield with his wife and four children.

The Port Authority also named Lash Green as General Manager of Business and Job Opportunity. Mr. Green most recently held the position of Manager of Business Utilization in the Business and Job Opportunity unit. While he served in this capacity, more minority and women-owned businesses were contracted to work on Port Authority construction projects than at any other time in the agency's history.

A Harvard graduate, Mr. Green lives in Scotch Plains with his wife and two children.



Wil Chabrier



21st District News
Asm. Jon Bramnick, Westfield

Laser Beam Bill Proposed to Prevent Air Traffic Disruption

TRENTON — Assemblyman Jon Bramnick (R-21) has co-sponsored legislation that would upgrade the crime for knowingly pointing a laser beam at transportation vehicles such as airplanes and helicopters.

Specifically, the bill would make the purposeful pointing of a laser beam at the operator of a vehicle, railroad car, trolley car, subway car, ferry, airplane or other transportation facility, a crime of as high as the second degree, Assemblyman Bramnick said.

The crime would start out as a disorderly persons offense and could be upgraded depending on the extent of the injury or property damage caused by recklessly or knowingly pointing a laser lighting device at the operator of these vehicles.

"Recent events have made clear that this is an increasingly common problem," said Assemblyman Bramnick, a Westfield resident. "If we do not take action to crack down on these incidents now, we will be leaving the door open to the possibility of a far more serious incident with potentially tragic consequences in the near future."

The introduction of the bill comes days after a Parsippany man was questioned for his involvement in pointing a laser light at an aircraft and then at a police helicopter last week in North Jersey.

Similar incidents have taken place recently in Ohio and Utah. These

lasers can distract, if not temporarily blind, pilots and have in nine cases led to aborted landings according to the FAA, Assemblyman Bramnick said.

Assemblyman Bramnick is co-sponsoring the legislation with Assemblyman Francis Bodine of Mount Laurel (R-8), a member of the Assembly Homeland Security & State Preparedness Committee.

Generosity Helps Provide For Needy Union County Families

ELIZABETH — Thanks to generous support from individuals and businesses throughout Union County, more than 250 families received food baskets through "Operation Breadbasket" run by the sheriff's department. Also, the sheriff's "Tree of Hope" initiative provided holiday gifts for more than 100 sick and abused children.

Boxes of food were assembled and delivered in the week before Christmas. The food baskets included turkey, keys and chickens, orange juice, milk, bread, eggnog, butter and more.

"Despite their own difficulties and economic uncertainties, the people of Union County and the business community rallied to help their neighbors in need, as they always have," Sheriff Ralph Froehlich said.

Sheriff Froehlich started "Operation Breadbasket" while an Elizabeth police officer in the 1960s and expanded it countywide after he was elected sheriff in 1977. For nine years, "Tree of Hope" has provided gifts for children with terminal illnesses, who have been victimized by domestic violence, and whose lives have been affected by HIV/AIDS.

"Tree of Hope" accepts contributions of money (tax-deductible), toys and clothing throughout the year. Donations can be sent to: Tree of Hope, P.O. Box 4, Kenilworth, 07033. For more information, please call the Tree of Hope Hotline at (908) 558-2574.

Networking Lunches Offered by Chamber

WESTFIELD — The Westfield Area Chamber of Commerce invites business people to a networking lunch on Thursday, January 20 from 12 to 1:30 p.m. at the Sunrise Assisted Living Center, 240 Springfield Avenue, Westfield.

Through the "8 Minute Meeting" system, attendees meet a group of people in a short period by engaging in focused, targeted one-on-one conversation. Seating is limited, so reservations are requested by January 17. Please call the chamber office for more information at (908) 233-3021.

The James Ward Mansion of Westfield

Corporate Events • Business Meetings
Teambuilding Events • Wine Tasting Events
Private Group Cooking Class Events
Weddings • Engagement Parties
Rehearsal Dinners • Fundraisers

Call Josephine Gallagher, Managing Agent, at 908-389-0014 for additional information and pricing.

La Marque Fur Salon

There's No Substitute For Quality

As master craftsmen in the manufacturing fur industry for well over 40 years, we at La Marque Fur Salon would like to call your attention to the truth in fur advertising. Let's get right to the point.

Some stores tend to mislead the consumer by constantly advertising 40% to 80% off. These inflated markdowns usually involve poor grade, mass produced, commercial quality imported garments marked up to unrealistic levels. These furs never actually sold at the higher, inflated prices and the percentage reduction is merely a come-on without factual reality. As an intelligent consumer, do you honestly believe that you can purchase a \$7,995.00 ultra high quality mink coat for a ridiculously low sale price of \$1,995.00? Ask yourself, "What is the actual value of any item that could allow a retailer to legitimately discount that item for up to 80% off and remain in business? The

reality of it all is that no matter how that so called sale item is merchandised, you genuinely get what you pay for.

At La Marque Fur Salon, we intensely value the trust and integrity that our customers have placed in us. We are totally devoted to providing the very finest in fur fashions and related services at genuine savings. Our customers are our greatest asset and your total satisfaction is our most advantageous form of advertising. If you want cheap furs at highly inflated discount pricing, don't come to us. If you want fashion, quality and value for your hard earned dollars, DON'T GO ANYWHERE ELSE.



THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR QUALITY, AND A QUALITY GARMENT WILL NEVER EMBARRASS YOU AFTER A FEW WEARINGS.

900 South Avenue West, Westfield, NJ • 908-232-3423 • Ample Free Parking

PETERSON'S
Wines Unlimited
(908) 232-5341
1120 South Avenue W., Westfield, New Jersey, 07090



Monday - Saturday 9 AM - 9:30 PM Sunday 12 PM - 8 PM

NEW LOOK • BETTER SELECTION • BETTER PRICES

SPECIAL WINTER SALE

4 DAYS ONLY • January 13 to January 16, 2005

Quantities are limited and on first come first serve basis.
(All items have been kept and maintained in a temperature controlled wine room.)

COLLECTABLE WINES	Regular Price	Sale Price
Achaval Ferrer Finca Altamira Malbec 2001	\$89.99	\$70.00
Jaboulet Hermitage La Chapelle 1999	\$125.00	\$100.00
Chateau Pincho Longueville Comtesse de Lalande 2001	\$86.99	\$70.00
Krug Brut N.V.	\$143.99	\$115.00
Taylor Fladgate Vintage 2000 Port	\$100.00	\$80.00
Smith Woodhouse Vintage 1997 Port	\$50.00	\$40.00
Graham's Vintage 2000 Port	\$83.00	\$66.00
Stags Leap S. L. V. Cabernet 1998	\$102.00	\$82.00
Giacosa Falletto Barbaresco 1997	\$132.00	\$105.00
Giacosa Falletto Barbaresco 1998	\$120.00	\$96.00
Giacosa le Rocce Barolo 1998	\$152.00	\$122.00
Chateau Lafite Rothschild 1995	\$275.00	\$220.00
Amizetta Cabernet Savignon	\$60.00	\$48.00
Stags Leap Cask 23 1998	\$170.00	\$136.00
Penfolds RWT Barossa Valley Shiraz 2001	\$89.99	\$72.00
Hartwell Merlot 2000	\$90.00	\$72.00
Chateau La Conseillante Pomerol 1999	\$99.00	\$79.00
Spring Mountain Syrah 1995 / 1996	\$58.00	\$46.00
D'Arenberg The Dead Arm Shiraz 2002	\$75.00	\$60.00
Robert Mondavi Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve 2001	\$125.00	\$100.00
Dolce Late harvest 1998 375ML	\$82.00	\$66.00
Barnett Vineyards Cabernet Sauvignon 1999	\$55.00	\$44.00
Luce 1997	\$75.00	\$60.00
Behrens & Hitchcock Cabernet Sauvignon 2000	\$71.00	\$57.00
Scallette IL Carbonaione 1998	\$65.00	\$52.00
Chateau Milens St. Emilion 1998	\$75.00	\$60.00

And many more . . . Stop by and check out Peterson's New Wine Cellar.

20% Off

any 12 bottles or more of wine

Mix and Match is O.K. Sales Items are excluded. 750 ml Only.

10% Off

any 6 bottles or more of wine

Mix and Match is O.K. Sales Items are excluded. 750 ml Only.

We reserve the right to limit quantities while quantities last. Not responsible for typographical errors. All prices do not include state sales tax.