



VIETNAM MEMORIAL...Groundbreaking begins for the memorial in Elizabeth to honor the 29 servicemen from Elizabeth who were killed in action in the Vietnam War. Herb Worthington, Past President of the local Vietnam Veterans organization, looks on as Freholder Al Mirabella speaks. Donations for the memorial can be sent to Elizabeth Vietnam Memorial Fund, c/o Vietnam Veterans of America Eastern N.J. Chapter 779, P.O. Box 2465, Elizabeth, N.J. 07207.

Red Cross Assists Victims Of Hurricane Katrina

COUNTY - The Tri-County Chapter of the American Red Cross is offering help to those people displaced by Hurricane Katrina. As some of them make their way to New Jersey, local Red Cross volunteers are offering comfort and compassion to these southerners who have lost their homes and livelihoods. Assistance is being provided in the form of cash grants, temporary housing, food, clothing and emotional support.

The American Red Cross also is helping family members seeking news about their loved ones and evacuees wishing to inform loved ones of their location. A "Family Links Registry" has been established at www.redcross.org. Concerned family members can register the names of their loved ones and view the list of those already posted.

Due to the extent of the damage and the number of people displaced, friends and family members are urged to consult the list daily, as it will be updated continuously. Individuals may visit the "Family Links Registry" via www.redcross.org or by calling 1-877-LOVED-1S to register.

The Red Cross is urging the public to help by volunteering and making financial contributions to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. The organization may be contacted online by visiting www.redcross.org and clicking on DONATE NOW or by calling 1-800-HELP NOW.

Checks may be mailed to the Tri-County Chapter, 332 West Front Street, Plainfield, N.J. 07060 or the American Red Cross National Office, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, D.C. 20013.



CARING KIDS...Children in Lynn Billman's Westfield Day Care kindergarten class, along with the day care center staff, donated toiletries, school supplies, books and toys for families that were evicted from their homes due to Hurricane Katrina and are resettling in Perth Amboy. The youngsters were asked to bring in some of their favorite toys to share with other children who have lost so much. Lorraine Keys, a teacher at the day care center, drove the donations down to Perth Amboy to be delivered to the families.

Counselor to Speak on Kids Using Alcohol or Drugs

WESTFIELD - On Tuesday, September 27, the Family Support Organization (FSO) of Union County will present a program from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for parents and caregivers concerned that a young person may be abusing drugs or alcohol.

Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor Rich DeMott, a respected "therapist in recovery" with over 20 years of sobriety, will address the challenges of both the person who is using and those who care about him or her. The program will take place at FSO's office at 137 Elmer Street in Westfield.

Mr. DeMott helps clients with "dual diagnoses," meaning those affected

by both addictions and mental health issues, working in one-to-one therapy or groups. He currently maintains a private practice in Westfield.

The public is invited to this program, part of the fall series of events offered by the FSO of Union County. The FSO is contracted by the New Jersey Department of Human Services to offer support, education and advocacy to parents and caregivers of children with special mental health needs.

To reserve a spot, be placed on the mailing list for future events or for more information, please call Kathy, Vickie or Gail at (908) 789-7625 during business hours. There is no charge to attend this event.

Halfway to St. Pat's Event Set Tomorrow

AREA - The Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee will host its third annual Halfway to Saint Patrick's Day celebration tomorrow, Friday, September 23, at the Union Knights of Columbus Chapter No. 4504, located at 1034 Jeanette Avenue in the Township of Union. The event will be held from 8 p.m. until midnight.

Live musical entertainment will be provided by Dr. Cheeko's Island Sound. Tickets are \$20 per person. For more details, please call Gene Sully at (908) 413-7620, Debbie Capasso at (908) 413-5253 or Karen Cunningham at (908) 241-7710.

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