

Obituaries

Lorraine Douglas, 83, Former Marine; Girl Scout Leader, Church Member

Lorraine Scott Douglas of Spring, Tex., a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, died on Monday, December 11, at the age of 83.

Born and raised in Michigan, Lorraine attended Michigan State University before joining the United States Marine Corps in 1944. She served in the Marines until the end of World War II.

Lorraine moved to Westfield after the war, where she married William Douglas. In 1953, she and her family moved to Fanwood, where she was a Girl Scout Leader and a long-time member of the First United Methodist Church of Westfield. She also

worked for a number of years at Sears. Lorraine and her husband moved to Spring, Tex. in 1978, where she was an active member of the Spring Woods United Methodist Church. In addition, she served as president of the Lexington Woods North Homeowners Association.

She is survived by her husband of 55 years, William; three children, Nancy Munnings, Carol Douglas and Scott Douglas and his wife, Trina; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held in Westfield in April. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to a charity of one's choice.

December 28, 2006

Ellen Troeller, 50, Broker/Realtor; Enjoyed Helping Other People

Ellen Mary Troeller, 50, a lifelong resident of Westfield, passed on Friday, December 22, at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

Ellen Troeller was a broker/realtor for ReMax Properties Unlimited in Westfield for many years. She was on the board of directors of the Greater Union County Association of Realtors from 2001 until resigning in August of 2005. She was secretary in 2004 and president-elect in 2005.

She enjoyed helping friends and family, fitness and travel, and was involved with the Children's Miracle Network and the Westfield Area YMCA.

Ellen Troeller is survived by her parents, Edwin and Gloria Troeller



Ellen Troeller

of San Diego, Calif.; her brothers and sisters, Barry, Christopher, Terrence, Lauralynn and Donna, and her nieces and nephews, Christian, Russell, Sara, John, James and Samantha.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to the American Lung Association.

Visitation will take place today, Thursday, December 28, from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the Higgins and Bonner Echo Lake Funeral Home, 582 Springfield

Avenue in Westfield. The Funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, December 29, at St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church, 1600 Rahway Avenue in Westfield.

December 28, 2006

William T. Brown, 84, Navy Veteran; CPA Was Active at Holy Trinity

William T. Brown, 84, of Ringoes died on Wednesday, September 6, at the Hunterdon Care Center in Flemington.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., he moved to Westfield in 1957 and to Ringoes in 1999.

Mr. Brown was a Certified Public Accountant with Price Waterhouse, Inc. in New York City for 35 years before retiring in 1982.

A United States Navy veteran of World War II, he served as a lieutenant in the South Pacific.

He graduated from New York University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting.

Mr. Brown was a long-time member of the Holy Name Society at the Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield.

His wife, Helen Brown, predeceased him in 1997.

Surviving are two sons, Ken of Portland, Ore. and Roger of Ringoes; a daughter, Kathy, of Alexandria, Va., and a granddaughter.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Monday, September 11, at the Holy Trinity Church. Interment took place at Fairview Cemetery in Westfield.

Arrangements were by the Dooley Colonial Home, 556 Westfield Av-

Robert Waugh, 85

Robert "Bob" Waugh, 85, of Scotch Plains, husband of Dorothy Waugh, died on Thursday, December 21, 2006, in Westfield.

Private cremation was held under the direction of the McCrisky Home For Funerals of South Plainfield. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

December 28, 2006



7th Congressional District News President Bush Signed the Caregiver Bill at White House

Representative Mike Ferguson

WASHINGTON - President George W. Bush on Thursday signed the bill into law written by Rep. Mike Ferguson, (R-7th, Union County) to help family caregivers who provide daily care to loved ones with disabilities or chronic conditions. Congress approved the bill two weeks ago.

Rep. Ferguson's "Lifespan Respite Care Act," which won unanimous House and Senate approval earlier this month, authorizes \$289 million during the next five years for states to train volunteers and provide respite services to an estimated 50 million families, including 900,000 New Jersey residents, caring at home for adults and children with special needs.

President Bush signed the bill into law during an Oval Office ceremony attended by Mr. Ferguson; Eric Joice, executive director of the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey and the head of the New Jersey Lifespan Respite Coalition, and Jill Kagen, executive director of the National Respite Coalition, which represents more than 70 national advocacy groups for the chronically ill, disabled and the aging.

Respite care gives primary caregivers the ability to find temporary relief from caregiving - time to prepare meals, run errands or simply to take a break.

Rep. Ferguson praised Mr. Joice and Ms. Kagen for their long-time support of his legislation.

"Without the strong backing of Eric, Jill and countless patient advocacy groups, this legislation would just be another good idea - but because of them, this legislation is now law of the land," Mr. Ferguson said after the White House ceremony. "This important law not only recognizes the selfless sacrifices made by millions of family caregivers, but also sends them an important message - help is on the way."

The law will help coordinate various respite care programs, and states can apply to the federal Department of Health and Human Services for grants to establish respite care programs that will directly benefit family caregivers. The law authorizes federal funding, and Congress must approve annual appropriations for the program.

Rep. Ferguson said he gained first-hand experience with respite care when his father, Tom, cared for his mother, Roberta, during her six-year battle with multiple myeloma. Roberta Ferguson died in 2003.

Rep. Ferguson said he and his siblings and other relatives were able to give his father a respite from caregiving but that other families do not enjoy a similar family support structure to enable the primary family

Charles Stein, 92

Charles W.C. Stein, 92, died on Saturday, December 23, at Fellowship Village in Basking Ridge.

Born in Philadelphia, Pa., he had lived in Westfield for 60 years before moving to Basking Ridge four years ago.

Mr. Stein had been employed as a research chemist with GAF Corporation in Linden for many years, retiring several years ago.

He also was the organist at the All Saints' Episcopal Church in Scotch Plains for many years.

He was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, obtaining a Doctoral degree in Chemistry.

Surviving is his wife, Elizabeth Stein.

Graveside services will be held at 11:30 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, December 29, at Lawnview Cemetery in Abington, Pa.

Arrangements are by the Gray Funeral Home, 318 East Broad Street in Westfield.

A memorial service is being planned.

Memorial donations may be made to the All Saints' Episcopal Church, 559 Park Avenue, Scotch Plains, N.J. 07076.

December 28, 2006

caregiver to take a break.

Mr. Joice's coalition represents a statewide group of New Jersey advocacy organizations that provide respite service for the disabled, chronically ill and the aging. Nearly 100 national, state and local advocacy groups endorsed Rep. Ferguson's bill as it moved through Congress, including the AARP, Alzheimer's Association, Epilepsy Foundation, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Paralyzed Veterans of America, The Arc of the United States and United Cerebral Palsy.

"For years, family advocacy groups across the country have been pushing for this important law to deliver relief to millions of family caregivers," Mr. Joice said. "Congressman Ferguson's steadfast efforts and persistence is a huge win for family caregivers, and his own personal family experience helped him push this bill over the finish line, and we cannot thank him enough for making this a reality."

Rep. Ferguson said the law may save taxpayers money because studies have shown that respite care can delay or in some cases avoid more expensive long-term care solutions such as those provided by nursing homes.

Karen Pinter of Hillsborough said she uses a portion of respite care funding to help pay for a tutor for her autistic 10-year-old daughter, Jessica.

"For family caregivers, taking care of our loved ones is truly rewarding, but also challenging," Mrs. Pinter said. "But what we really need is just a break, so we can recharge our batteries, take care of ourselves and ultimately be better caregivers to our loved ones. Congressman Ferguson understands that, and that's why he fought so hard for this and now."

The law received bipartisan support in Congress, with Rep. Jim Langevin (D-R.I.) supporting the House version and Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.), the chief sponsor in the U.S. Senate.

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Prayer to The Blessed Virgin

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN: (Never known to fail)

Oh most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine splendor of heaven. Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the Sea, help me show me herein, you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3X). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for the things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. The person must say this prayer three consecutive days. After three days, the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted. J.R.

December 28, 2006

County Art Exhibit 'Celebrates Excellence'

WESTFIELD - The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders will sponsor an exhibit of paintings, drawings, photographs and mixed media artwork from the Merck 2006 Union County Juried Art Show at the Union County Administration Building, Elizabethtown Plaza at Rahway Avenue, in Elizabeth through Friday, January 12. Many local artists, including several from Westfield, have work featured at the show.

The Freeholders Gallery is located on the sixth floor of the administration building, and the art exhibit is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

The exhibit, entitled "Celebrating Excellence," presents 20 selected works from artists living or working in Union County who participated recently in the eighth annual juried show at the Arts Guild of Rahway.

The juried show is a partnership project of the Arts Guild of Rahway, a non-profit, multidisciplinary center for the arts, and the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

Artists whose work is on display in the Freeholders Gallery include Jane Thompson George of Summit, Joe Lugara of Union, Alex Mambach of Cranford, Janice Metzger of

Westfield, Michael Metzger of Westfield, Gina Minichino of Westfield, Lester Murphy of Rahway, Stephanie Natiello of Elizabeth, Martha Ross of Westfield, Marcel Truppa of Rahway and Eileen Willoughby of Westfield.

The photographers whose work is on display include Ruth Brown of Edison, Martin Deutsch of Springfield, Andrea Ewald of Westfield, Sheila Lenga of Union, Coleen Marks of Kendall Park, Nancy Ori of Berkeley Heights, Shari Seltzer of Westfield, Fausto Sevilla of Elizabeth and Sue Zwick of Summit.

The jurors for this year's exhibit were Ben Goldman, executive director of City Without Walls Gallery in Newark; Roger Tucker, artist/photographer and art educator, from West Orange, and Beth Venn, senior curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Newark Museum.

The Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs coordinates the Freeholders Gallery. For further information about this exhibit and other programs and services related to the arts and Union County history, contact the office at 633 Pearl Street, Elizabeth N.J. 07022; call (908) 558-2550 or e-mail culturalinfo@ucnj.org.

Diverse WF Singer Began With Choral Art Society

WESTFIELD - Mark Bleeke, tenor, grew up in Westfield, where music formed a part of his everyday life and where he began singing in church choirs under the direction of his mother, Evelyn.

Later, he sang with The Choral Art Society for years under her direction. In fact, some of Mr. Bleeke's first opportunities as a soloist were with The Choral Art Society, under the direction of his mother.

Now, he sings a diverse repertoire from Early Music to Baroque, Classical, Pop and Contemporary around the United States and in Europe, and enjoys improvising on the piano, composing and arranging music.

In opera, he is renowned for his interpretation of Mozart roles such as Tamino in *The Magic Flute*, Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni* and Ferrando in *Così Fan Tutte*. In Oratorio, he is a

sought-after Evangelist in the Bach *Passions* and sings with many of the great symphony orchestras such as the San Francisco Symphony, (Michael Tilson Thomas); the Los Angeles Philharmonic, (Zubin Mehta), the New York Philharmonic, (Kurt Masur), and The Ravenna Festival, (Riccardo Muti).

This season, Mr. Bleeke will sing the arias from Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, with Orchester Wiener Akademie, on a tour to Mexico City, Los Angeles, Savannah, New York, Budapest, Vienna, Lyon, Madrid, Baden-Baden and Munich.

In contemporary music, he has worked closely with many composers including John Harbison, Gian Carlo Menotti, John Corigliano, Paul Winter and Dave Brubeck. He last performed with the Choral Art Society in Handel's *Jephtha* in 1996.

Madrigal Singers Offer Jan. 7 Christmas Concert

WESTFIELD - The Madrigal Singers, directed by Elaine Fiorino, will offer a "second chance at Christmas" in a concert to be presented at the First United Methodist Church, One East Broad Street in Westfield, at 4 p.m. on Sunday, January 7, the first Sunday of Epiphany, which honors the coming of the three wise men.

Guest flutists Jenny Cline and Susan Graham will join the singers on some of the choral pieces and perform *Four Duets on Christmas Carols* by New Jersey composer John Sichel, who sings bass with the group. Judy Sullivan will introduce the musical offerings with readings from the Bible and Shakespeare.

The program, "Sing We Nowell," celebrates the spirit and meaning of Christmas through seven centuries of choral music, from Gregorian chant and Renaissance polyphonic masterpieces to modern arrangements of traditional carols and texts.

A Gregorian chant on "Puer Natus"

will open the concert and introduce a 15th-century setting of the joyful cant, "Nowell: Owt of your slepe your slepe aryse and wake."

Founded in 1948, the Madrigal Singers are dedicated to exploring the *a cappella* traditions that grew out of the musical flowering of the European Renaissance.

Area residents participating in this concert include Judy Sullivan of Scotch Plains; Jenny Cline and Pamela Newell of Westfield; Kirk Robbins of Fanwood; John Sichel, Lynn Sichel and Margaret Thompson of Mountainside.

Admission is by donation at the door. For further information, please call (908) 233-1570.

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UMDNJ Offers Dental Care Free For Children in Feb.

AREA - Parents are encouraged to register their children now for free preventive dental services that will be offered during the annual one-day "Give Kids a Smile" initiative at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey that will take place on Friday, February 2.

UMDNJ has five sites offering the dental services. The Scotch Plains location is UMDNJ-School of Health Related Professions, 1776 Raritan Road. To register, call (908) 889-2460 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The other four sites are: UMDNJ-New Jersey Dental School, 110 Bergen Street in Newark, (973) 972-4710; University Dental Center at Galloway, 4 East Jimmy Leeds Road, Suite 6, Galloway Township, (609) 652-0501; University John H. Cronin Dental Center at Northfield, 235 Dolphin Avenue, Northfield, (609) 645-5814, and University Dental Center at Somerdale Square, 13 Somerdale Square, Somerdale, (856) 566-6969.

Give Kids a Smile, also referred to as the National Children's Access Day, was designed to educate children on the lifelong benefits of proper oral hygiene and health care.

"The American Dental Association recommends that children see a dentist no later than their first birthday, yet only three out of five children have seen a dentist before kindergarten," said Dr. Cecile Feldman, dean of the UMDNJ-New Jersey Dental School.

"By then, statistics from a Healthy People 2000 oral health update indicate more than 50 percent of children between six and eight have tooth decay. As part of our effort to educate the public about the signs and symp-

oms of oral disease and increase the number of people receiving early intervention treatments, we are pleased to offer this essential initiative at New Jersey Dental School."

Dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants and dental students at the school will provide children who are ages 12 and under with dental examinations, teeth cleanings, extractions, and x-rays. Dental hygienists will teach children proper techniques for brushing and flossing their teeth.

Under the direction and coordination of the New Jersey Dental Association, many dental health professionals have volunteered their services to treat more than 7,500 children statewide. Last year, at the UMDNJ-New Jersey Dental School, more than 800 medically disadvantaged children were treated during the one-day Give Kids a Smile initiative.

"We're really proud of our program here in New Jersey," said Dr. Cavan Brunsden, a pediatric dentist and the program's statewide chairman. "We started in 2003 with only six sites and 300 children, and in 2007 we'll see more than 3,500 children at more than 80 sites across the state. Our volunteers put their hearts and souls into seeing that these children get the dental care they need but can't otherwise afford or access."

Funding for the Give Kids a Smile initiative at UMDNJ is provided by a grant from the American Dental Association, Harris Fund. For more information about registration, call Debra Goldsmith, director of the Give Kids a Smile initiative at the UMDNJ-New Jersey Dental School, at (973) 972-4710 or reach her by e-mail at goldsmndh@umdnj.edu.

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