



Ms. Cheryl Ann Wagner and Justin M. Gerrity

## Ms. Cheryl Ann Wagner To Wed Justin M. Gerrity

Mr. and Mrs. Chris W. Wagner of Scotch Plains have announced the engagement of their daughter, Ms. Cheryl Ann Wagner of Scotch Plains, to Justin M. Gerrity of Point Pleasant. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Gerrity, also of Point Pleasant.

A 2001 graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, the bride-to-be received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Long Island University.

### 'Empty Nesters' Group Seeks Couples to Join

WESTFIELD AREA - Couples who are newly or nearly "empty-nesters" are being sought to form a social group in the Westfield area.

Participants will have an opportunity to meet other couples for a variety of casual social activities, such as dining at local restaurants, movies or live theater or potluck dinners and an evening of board games. Interested persons are asked to call Nancy at (908) 233-5967 for information on the first "get-acquainted" date.

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of Science degree in Marketing. She is employed as a flight attendant for Continental Airlines.

Her fiancé graduated from Littlestown High School in May 1999. He currently is an Airman First Class in the United States Air Force and is a nuclear, biological and chemical expert. Mr. Bigham will be deployed for the second time to Iraq in April.

The couple will be wed in April at the Grand Summit Hotel in Summit.

### Gildea's Welcome Son, James Michael

James and Monica Gildea of Westfield have announced the birth of their son, James Michael Gildea, on Monday, January 23, at 6:45 p.m. at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

James weighed 7 pounds and 11 ounces and measured 21 3/4 inches in length at birth. He joins his sister, Ryleigh Elizabeth, who will be three years old on May 29, 2006.

The baby's maternal grandparents are Mike and Mary Ceklosky of Westfield. James and Gerri Gildea, also of Westfield, are his paternal grandparents.

## Mr. Kleiman to Discuss Role During Conference on Aging

WESTFIELD - Allan Kleiman, head of the Reference Department at the Westfield Memorial Library, will give a talk on "Civic Engagement: A Citizen's Role in Government" at the First Wednesday Luncheon of the Westfield Historical Society. The luncheon will be held at noon on March 1 at B.G. Fields Restaurant, located at 560 Springfield Avenue in Westfield.

Mr. Kleiman will discuss his experiences at the White House Conference on Aging that took place in Washington, D.C. from December 11 to 15. He attended the conference as chairman of the American Library Association's White House Conference on Aging Task Force.

Mr. Kleiman was one of four librarians in the country chosen to attend the conference, along with 1,200 other delegates who also were selected to vote on 50 resolutions that will impact federal legislation affecting senior citizens over the next decade.

He will speak about the many issues that were discussed on aging and are of primary concern to senior citizens nationwide. Mr. Kleiman, who has worked with seniors for over 30 years, will explain why he felt it was important for him to attend the conference and why he believes both the government and the

### Nominees Are Sought For Optimist Award

WESTFIELD - The Optimist Club of Westfield, a local service organization, is seeking nominations from the public for its annual Friend of Youth Award. Nominations are due by Tuesday, February 28.

Each year, the club honors a member of the community who has shown particular devotion to nurturing the healthy growth of young people with special recognition and a cash award.

Members of the club review nominations and present the award to a person who has given selflessly in an effort to guide and develop Westfield youth into mature and responsible young adults.

A letter soliciting nominations has been circulated to various social, educational and religious organizations in the community. Members of the public wishing to submit nominations are asked to send a letter including a capsule biography of their nominee and listing the various accomplishments qualifying that person for the award.

Nomination letters should be sent to: Gina Benkendorf, Project Director, 1055 Boulevard East, Apt. E-8, Weehawken, N.J. 07086 or e-mailed to Gina.Benkendorf@agedwards.com. The winning nominee will be honored at the Optimist Club's Wednesday, April 5 meeting.

public now realize how important a role libraries today play in the lives of seniors.

A telephone committee of the society will contact regular attendees of the luncheon to verify their reservations. Space permitting, others may attend the luncheon as well. Interested persons are asked to call (908) 233-2930 by noon on Monday, February 27.

### Mothers to Hear Talk On Literacy Skills

FANWOOD - The Union County Chapter of Mothers & More will host Sandy Stanton and Dr. Francie Matthews at its Wednesday, March 1 meeting at 8 p.m. at the Fanwood Recreation Center, located in Forest Road Park in Fanwood.

They will speak on ways to help a child become a lover of reading and how to detect the early signs of reading delays. This meeting will be open to the public.

Interested persons in the area also will have an opportunity to find out more about the chapter's activities, which include mom-and-tot outings, mom's night out, playgroups, a book club and a craft club, among other offerings.

A national, non-profit organization, Mothers & More champions the value and necessity of all mothers' work to society, paid and unpaid, both within and outside of the home. For more details about this meeting or Mothers & More, please call Stacy at (908) 928-9841 or Marilyn at (908) 568-2633 or access mothersandmore.org.

### JCC to Host Concert, Brunch on March 5

SCOTCH PLAINS - All are invited to attend a concert of classical music on Sunday, March 5, at 11 a.m. at the Jewish Community Center (JCC) of Central New Jersey. A light brunch also will be served.

Classical musicians the Stirling Duo will perform. The Duo is comprised of Joseph Gluck on violin and Mary Babiarz on violin, viola and piano.

The cost of this program is \$12 for JCC members and \$15 for the community at large. Advance registration is required; the deadline to register is Wednesday, March 1.

The JCC is located at 1391 Martine Avenue in Scotch Plains. For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact Nan Statton at (908) 889-8800, extension no. 207, or at nstatton@jccnj.org.

See it all on the Web!  
www.goleader.com



Ryan A. Bigham and Miss Elizabeth S. Cozzolina

## Miss Elizabeth Cozzolina To Marry Ryan Bigham

Robert and Linda Cozzolina of Westfield have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Elizabeth Susan Cozzolina of Westfield, to Ryan Alan Bigham. He is the son of Ronald and Deborah Bigham of Littlestown, Pa.

The bride-elect graduated from Westfield High School in May 1998 and continued her education at Franklin Pierce College in Rindge, N.H., where she received a Bachelor

of Science degree in Marketing. She is employed as a flight attendant for Continental Airlines.

Her fiancé graduated from Littlestown High School in May 1999. He currently is an Airman First Class in the United States Air Force and is a nuclear, biological and chemical expert. Mr. Bigham will be deployed for the second time to Iraq in April.

The couple will be wed in April at the Grand Summit Hotel in Summit.

## College Club Announces Fashion Show Luncheon

SCOTCH PLAINS - The College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains will present its annual fashion show luncheon on Sunday, April 2, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Shackamaxon Country Club in Scotch Plains.

"Spring Fashions from Westfield" will be the theme. In addition to fashions for women, this year's show will include clothing for men, teenagers and children. Male and female models, including adolescents and youngsters, will be featured.

The clothing will come from Westfield stores including The Gap, Banana Republic, Nirvana, The Leader Store, Esprit, Anthology, Blair Delmonico, Anais, Mademoiselle and Jos. A. Bank, among others.

"We are very excited about this year's collection of fashions," said Marie Leppert, co-president of the College Club. "It is great to broaden the show to have fashions for everyone. We know there will be something for everyone."

The fashion show luncheon also will feature a 50/50 drawing, Select-a-Gift, sweepstakes and a silent auction. According to Mrs. Leppert, some of the silent auction items will include a week in Hilton Head, S.C.; two nights at the Manhattan Club in New York City; a five-course Italian

meal and tickets to a Rutgers football game and tailgate party.

The Fanwood-Scotch Plains College Club provides scholarships for young women of high school and college age who reside in the community.

All proceeds from the fashion show luncheon will go directly to the club's Scholarship Fund, with moneys to be awarded to students in May.

Tickets, which cost \$35, may be purchased at the DiFrancesco Realty Office, 265 South Avenue in Fanwood, which may be reached at (908) 889-0200. Individuals also may call Ginger Rachko at (908) 889-4105.

### St. Thomas Church To Hold Craft Sale

AREA - St. Thomas the Apostle Church, located at 1407 St. Georges Avenue in Rahway, will hold a craft and new item sale on Saturday, February 25, from noon to 8 p.m. and Sunday, February 26, from noon to 6 p.m.

The sale will be held during the church's annual Slavonic Festival. Vendor space is still available at \$25 for one day and \$40 for two days. For reservations or more information, please call Maryann Laskowski at (908) 518-0107 or Anna Sausnock at (908) 862-5321.

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