

# Clifton INSIDER

The Leader In Local News



Volume VI Number 3

“OUR COMMUNITY. . . YOUR STORIES”

Friday February 12, 2010

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February 26, 2010

## Clifton Recreation Department Annual Installation Dinner

*Recognizes Award Recipients*



The City of Clifton Recreation Department held their Annual Installation Dinner on January 28, 2010 at the Valley Regency in Clifton. The dinner is an annual get-together of Recreation Department

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## Prom Fashion Show to Benefit Project Graduation



Kevin Lyons, Ray Cramer and Robert Klingler are just a few of the more than 30 CHS students who will take part in the fashion show.

Clifton High School-Parent, Teacher, Student Association will once again present a Tricky Tray / Prom Fashion Show. The event will take place on March 10, 2010 at The Venetian on River Road in Garfield.

The Tricky Tray / Prom Fashion Show is held to raise funds to be used to fund "Project Graduation", a drug and alcohol free, safe, all night celebration for Clifton High School Graduates.

The highpoint of the Tricky Tray / Prom Fashion Show is the models. Clifton High School senior class members will be modeling the latest Prom Fashions from Deluxe Formal Wear and La Faye Angelica Fashions both located on Main Avenue in Clifton. The DJs for the evening will also be Clifton High School Seniors. The Hair styles, make up, and the bouquets and boutonnieres will all be donated by Clifton businesses. As has been the case in the past, this evening, a Clifton High School tradition, is

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## New Jersey Science and Engineering Festival Comes to Clifton

*Event Scheduled for  
October 23 and 24*



Board of Education Commissioner Michael Patchell is the founder and Executive Director of the New Jersey Applied Science and Technology Council, a nonprofit organization, that will be staging the New Jersey Science and Engineering Festival. The New Jersey Event is the New Jersey Satellite based event of the USA Science and Engineering Festival in Washington DC. Many believe that the USA needs to get more young people interested in science and technology, choosing technical careers, becoming assets to industry, and developing new industries if we are to continue to function and grow as a viable country. It appears that the general population is less interested in

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# AROUND TOWN COMMUNITY CALENDAR...

We want to help your events to be successful - If you belong to a group or community organization, send us your information and news. We will include them in the Around Town Community Calendar. Send your event information VIA E-MAIL TO: [info@cliftoninsider.com](mailto:info@cliftoninsider.com). Please note, all submissions must include the name of the sponsoring organization, the date, time, and location of the event and a person to contact for more information regarding the event!

## ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL GUILD

Meets the first Monday of the month in the cafeteria conference room in the hospital at 12 noon. Upcoming Events: The Guild sponsors trips to Atlantic City the third Monday of each month. The dates are: February 15, March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21, July 19, August 16, September 20, October 18, November 15, December 13. For information call Ellie at 973-778-6928.

## CLIFTON SENIORS ASSOCIATION

Clifton Seniors Association will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, February 16th at the Boys and Girls Club Clifton. A Valentine Day celebration will be held with three prizes given out for the best dressed in red. Refreshments will be served from 11:15 to 12:45 and business meeting begins at 1:00 pm.

Upcomming events: March 10th Camp Hope St Patrick Day celebration, Bus leaves Masonic Temple at 9:00 am. Contact Stephanie or Stan at 973-478-8268 for further information.

March 23rd Hunterdon Hills Playhouse lunch and a performance of a musical : "The Great American Songbook" contact Karl for information at 973-472-9167

## CALLING ALL SEWING ENTHUSIASTS

The Clifton Clippers of the North Jersey Chapter of the American Sewing Guild meets the 2nd Saturday of every month at the Senior Barn located at the Clifton Municipal Complex, Van Houten and Clifton Avenues. 10:30 am until 12:30 pm. We encourage anyone with a love of sewing to attend our meetings. For questions or directions,

contact Michele at 973-546-2913.

## CLIFTON TOASTMASTERS

Clifton Toastmasters, part of Toastmasters International, a nonprofit public speaking and leadership group, meets the 2nd, 4th and 5th Tuesday of every month, 7:00PM, Clifton Library, 292 Piaget Ave. Guests free. Call 973-420-4148 to register or email [cliflontostmasters@verizon.net](mailto:cliflontostmasters@verizon.net) for more information.

Meeting dates in the first 4 months of 2010 \* February 23 \* March 9, 23 & 30 \* April 13 & 27

## MT CARMEL LEISURE CLUB

The St. Joseph's Feast will be held on Friday, March 19, 2010 at the Brownstone in Paterson. The cost is \$45 per person. On Thursday, April 15, 2010, we will have a trip to Sight and Sound in PA to see "Joseph". The cost is \$116.50 per person which includes the bus, the show, and dinner at Shady Maple Restaurant. For all trips please call Jennie @ 973-696-7169

## ST. PAUL'S LEISURE CLUB

St. Paul's Leisure Club meets the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. in the church hall. Anyone 55+ is welcome to join, including non-parishioners who are also welcome to participate in all scheduled events. Atlantic City bus trips are made the third Tuesday of the month. Bus leaves St. Paul's at 10 a.m.

Upcoming events: Feb. 23-Hunterdon Hills Playhouse (lunch & show); Mar. 11-St. Patrick's Day Luncheon at The Mountainside Inn. For further information call Jo at (973) 546-7690.

## P.T.S.A. MEETINGS

P.T.S.A. meetings held the first Monday of the month, at 7:30

pm will begin to alternate between the Main building and the Annex.

Please check the High School calendar at [www.clifton.k12.nj.us/calendar/chs/chs.htm](http://www.clifton.k12.nj.us/calendar/chs/chs.htm) for all upcoming events

## BERGEN COUNTY 4-H KNITTING/CROCHETING CLUB

Lead, learn and grow with 4-H! Our new Knitting/Crocheting Club is about to begin! It will be held at the Glen Rock library the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month at 5:30 pm. February meeting will be on Monday, February 15th. For additional information, contact Brigitt Heger at 201-857-2764 or [plehouillier@gmail.com](mailto:plehouillier@gmail.com). If you have knitting/crocheting materials you would like to donate, please contact Monique Bliss at 201-336-6785 or e-mail: [bergencounty4h@aol.com](mailto:bergencounty4h@aol.com). Get involved now and make the "best better"!

## CLIFTON SENIOR SPRING BINGO

Sunday, April 18th from 1:30 to 3:30 at the Senior Center on Dog Pound Road in Clifton. There will be a \$2 admission fee. Coffee and Cake will be served. Please call 973-470-2234 to make a reservation.

## PARKINSON'S DISEASE SUPPORT GROUP

Parkinson's disease support group will meet Thursday, February 18 at Preakness Healthcare Center.

The support group will meet 12 noon, in the new main dining room in Building 3, 305 Oldham Road, Wayne.

Shirley Force and Sheila Devries of Passaic County Senior Services and Nimfa Cabatingan, Admissions Director of Preakness

Healthcare Center, will be the guest speakers.

Lunch will be served. Please R.S.V.P. to 973-904-3979.

The building is handicapped accessible. Mike Patterson of Clifton will be the facilitator at the meeting, assisted by Kris Lundquist, ANP.

This meeting is open to those with Parkinson's disease as well as caregivers and family members.

The aim of the meetings is to help those affected by Parkinson's disease to share experiences and give support to each other.

## GARFIELD AARP2470 NEWS

Dates to remember:

A.C. bus trip every third Thursday ... see Helen

March 9th meeting: We'll pick a Leprechaun, there will be Shamrock and Easter cookies and a Sing-a-Long with the Choral Group.

April 13th meeting: Our annual Ice Cream Social will be given and served by the Mayor and Council.

May 11th meeting: a Mother of the Year will be chosen and honored plus a Sing-a-Long.

June 8th meeting: We'll select a Father of the Year.

For membership information call Rosemarie Aloia at 973-340-4808

## "The Garfield YMCA Idol"

The Garfield YMCA is holding their second annual "The Garfield YMCA Idol" talent show on Saturday, April 4, 2009 from 6-10PM with the rehearsal on Friday, April 3, 2009 from 6-9 PM at the Garfield Recreational Center on Midland Ave. We are looking for all talents! Last year was great, let's do it again! You can grab a talent application at your child's school or the

Garfield YMCA. All applications must be in no later than February 27, 2009.

Tickets are \$5.00 when purchased in advance and \$6.00 at the door. All tickets can be purchased at the YMCA front desk. There will be a bake sale and a 50/50 raffle. All money raised will be donated to our Strong Kids Campaign.

## MODELL'S TEAM MONTH

The Home & School Association of Garfield High School is sponsoring a Modell's Team Month from February 19 - March 18, 2010.

The coupons will give the purchaser 10% off of their purchase. Modell's will donate a percentage of the sales with the coupons back to the Home & School Association.

The coupons can be used at any Modell's location. If you forget your coupon, tell the register person you are supporting GARFIELD HIGH SCHOOL to get the discount. Coupons can be picked up at Garfield High School.

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Ricky Bagolie

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## Congressman Pascrell Reacts to Campaign Finance Reform Proposal Unveiled by U.S. Senator Schumer

*Pascrell vows to fight to keep foreign influence out of American elections*

U.S. Rep. Bill Pascrell, Jr. (D-NJ-8) today released the following statement in response to the campaign finance reform proposal unveiled by U.S. Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY) and U.S. Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD-8). Pascrell is the author of H.R. 4522, the Prohibiting Foreign Influence in American Elections Act, which has 40 bipartisan cosponsors and invokes a zero-tolerance standard for foreign corporations making political contributions in American elections.

The proposal presented today

allows corporations with 20 percent foreign ownership to make political contributions.

"The Congress must respond to the flawed Supreme Court decision and make sure American elections are decided by Americans, not multinational corporations. I am pleased that the bicameral proposal includes provisions prohibiting political contributions from foreign companies and their subsidiaries," said Pascrell, a member of the House Ways and Means Committee. "This is the start of the legislative process. I will continue to work with my colleagues so that a complete prohibition of political contribu-

tions from foreign sources becomes the law of the land in the strongest form of legislation possible."

For 100 years, corporations and unions have been prohibited from purchasing political advertisements in the final days of a campaign. Last month, the U.S. Supreme Court reversed that prohibition with a 5-4 decision in the Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission case. One of the most egregious effects of this ruling is the creation of a loophole that will allow foreign individuals and countries to spend money on American campaigns by laundering it through corporations they control.

## Open for Business

by Nicholas J. Veliky

Governor Chris Christie's approach is just fine. In spite of what you read in local dailies. Tough times call for tough measures and that's exactly what the governor is doing. When we hear of budget shortfalls into the tens and hundreds of millions and the words painful and suffering being uttered by our elected officials, anyone with even the slightest level of intelligence can surmise there will be some unpopular and difficult decisions handed down. No one wants to hear it but we all must realize there is no popularity contest to be won if the job is to be done right. We need to support the governor and at least give him the first 100 days as a "honeymoon" before the press begins to second guess and criticize his actions.

The great Passaic County deer hunt debacle has come to a close for now. First they didn't notify neighbors, now it has been reported that the deer that were culled from the herd (that's a nice way of saying killed or slaughtered) have not been accurately accounted for, so no one really knows how many deer have been taken. And you thought Bambi was the only deer story that could bring a tear to your eye. Who knows, if this keeps up maybe we will have Passaic County deer on the endangered species list before long.

In a memo dated January 11, 2010, Clifton Police Chief Robert Ferreri announced to Clifton City Manager Albert Greco his intention to retire come March First, now a mere two weeks away. The Chief stated that the time was right to make his departure. Word has it that his decision coincides with a change in personnel law that is coming down the pipe which will drastically reduce the amount of accumulated sick time that can be paid out at retirement. In any case the Chief is leaving and the question remains who will take the reigns as top cop in the city of Clifton? The decision to appoint a new Chief lies solely on the shoulders of our City Manager. We understand that he has begun the interview process and will make his decision soon.

It would seem that Clifton's Zoning Officer, Daniel Howell was correct in his determination that the application to convert a home in the Rosemawr section of the city to a Temple should go before the City's Zoning Board of Adjustment. After a lengthy legal challenge Superior Court Judge Garry Rothstadt ruled that the application needs to go before the Clifton Zoning Board of Adjustment. Why would the applicant not want to go before the board in the first place? The plans call for a sanctuary, all purpose room, classrooms and a "food warming area". What exactly is a food warming area? Is this something unique to a temple or is this just another way of saying kitchen? Admitting there is a kitchen in the building would lead one to believe that this facility will be used for social gatherings as well as religious services. Aaah Ha! That's why they didn't want to go before the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

The basis for government in the City of Clifton and an individual's right to speak at public forums are found in freedoms established over 200 years ago. When the idea of allowing the public to speak and limit their time at the podium was first envisioned, there was need for a device to make sure the time allotted to each individual was equal. So a sophisticated device (for its time) was purchased and has been in use ever since. The device, a kitchen timer used commonly to make sure hard boiled eggs were hard and soft boiled eggs were soft and the occasional cake didn't stay in the oven for too long just doesn't cut it anymore when local residents approach looking for their five minutes on the floor. The timer currently in use gives arbitrary allotments of time to speakers addressing the governing body. Just like the timer that

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"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievance."  
- The First Amendment to the U. S. Constitution

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**Clifton INSIDER**

# BUSINESS PULSE

THE PULSE OF NORTH JERSEY BUSINESS

## Clifton Savings Bank Announces Third Quarter Results

Clifton Savings Bancorp, Inc. (Nasdaq Global Select Market: CSBK) (the "Company"), the holding company of Clifton Savings Bank (the "Bank"), announced the results of its operations for the three and nine months ended December 31, 2009. Net income was \$1.98 million for the three months ended December 31, 2009, an increase of \$437,000, or



28.3%, as compared to \$1.55 million for the three months ended Dec. 31, 08.

### Highlights

**Net Interest Income:** Net interest income increased \$995,000, or 20.4%, for the three months ended December 31, 2009, to \$5.87 million as compared to \$4.88 million for three months ended December 31, 2008.

**Earnings:** Both basic and diluted earnings per common share were \$0.08 for the three months ended December 31, 2009, an increase of \$0.02, or 33.3%, as compared to \$0.06 for the three months ended December 31, 2008.

**Dividends:** Cash dividends paid per common share were \$0.05 for both the three months ended December 31, 2009 and 2008.

**Deposits:** Deposits increased \$108.6 million, or 17.1%, from \$633.6 million at March 31, 2009 to \$742.2 million at December 31, 2009.

**Net Loans:** Net loans increased \$15.1 million, or 3.2%, to \$483.6 million at December 31, 2009.

**Non-Performing Loans:** Non-performing loans increased from \$444,000 at December 30, 2008 to \$1.9 million at December 31, 2009, on our entire loan portfolio of \$483.6 million. The percentage of non-performing loans to total loans

has been consistently low, even though it rose from 0.10% at December 31, 2008 to 0.39% at December 31, 2009.

### Chairman's Comments

John A. Celentano, Jr., the Company's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, stated, "We were very pleased with our performance for the quarter ended December 31, 2009, our most profitable since converting from a mutual to a public institution in 2004. It reflects that our common sense approach to banking continues to provide very positive results. For the nine months ended December 31, 2009, our assets increased 10.5% to \$1.06 billion, deposits increased 17.2% to \$742.2 million and loans increased 3.2% to \$483.6 million. On total assets of \$1.06 billion our non performing loans on December 31, 2009 were \$1.9 million, or just 0.18% of our total assets.

"We shun investing in opportunities that are 'too good to be true' and we keep all the loans we originate. "Our quality loans and careful monitoring of our expenses resulted in increases of 7.7% in our net interest margin, 28.2% in our net income and 33.3% in our

basic and diluted earnings per share for the quarter ended December 31, 2009." The Company is the holding company of the Bank, a federally chartered savings bank headquartered in Clifton, New Jersey. The Bank operates a total of 11 full-service banking offices in northeast New Jersey. The Company's majority stockholder is Clifton MHC, a federally chartered mutual holding company.

This release contains "forward-looking statements" which may describe future plans and strategies, including our expectations of future financial results. Management's ability to predict results or the effect of future plans or strategies is inherently uncertain. Factors that could affect our actual results include market interest rate trends, the general regional and national economic climate, our ability to control costs and expenses, actions by our competitors and federal and state regulation. As we have no control over these factors, they should be considered in evaluating any forward-looking statements and undue reliance should not be placed on such statements.

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## Spencer Savings Bank Announces Board of Directors Election Results

### Bank Stands Strong Despite Economic Downturn

Spencer Savings Bank, SLA members today re-elected two directors and elected one new director to serve on the institution's Board of Directors. At the annual meeting, board members José B. Guerrero and John S. Sturges were both re-elected to serve three-year terms, beginning on January 22, 2010. Anthony S. Cicatiello was elected as Spencer's newest board member for a



Board of Directors (L to R): Anthony S. Cicatiello, Barry C. Minkin, John S. Sturges, José B. Guerrero, Peter Hayes, Nicholas Lorusso and Albert D. Chamberlain

term of one year. "We are elated to have Anthony S. Cicatiello on board as our newest member and are confident that he will bring much to the table in terms of his impressive

background and unique skill set," said José B. Guerrero, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer. "This board collectively forms a very strong team

# Letters to the Editor

## It's Become a Matter of What We're Able to do

To The Editor:

Would we all like to pay good teachers a good salary? You bet! Can we all afford that right now? No. It's not a matter of what we would like too or even what we need to do. It's become a matter of what we're able to do. Clifton families are suffering and we're just not able to pay our teachers or anyone else in the district any more in the foreseeable future.

Teachers are professionals. So, just like any other professional, their responsibility goes beyond just a 40 hour work week. If it's necessary to put in extra hours they do. If it's necessary to take work home, they do. If it's necessary to develop their professional skills, they do. It makes no difference whether you work in the public or private sector; if you're a professional, this is what's expected. But, teachers do work in the public sector and they're union members as well. They're afforded benefits just not available to the rest of us. These benefits are worth money.

They can achieve tenure, a guaranteed job for life. This is unheard of in the private sector and that's worth money. They

get free health insurance with dental and prescription that's the envy of anyone in the private sector who typically has to contribute up 25% of their plan's cost if they're even covered at all. This is worth money as well. Yes, there're deductibles and co-pays but they're a wash with private sector plans.

Almost half of our teachers earn more than \$80 thousand a year. The average Clifton taxpayer earns \$50 thousand. Teachers get paid extra for extra-curricular activities, anywhere from around \$700 to \$16 thousand. If they do bus duty, that's an extra \$24 an hour, the hourly rate of a \$50 thousand a year job. Chaperones get paid \$32 an hour. They're afforded longevity, from 3% to 6% extra for just being their. Their year consists of only 10 months. If they teach summer school, that's an extra, \$35 an hour. And, there's even more. By union contract our highest paid - well over \$125 thousand a year - and most valued teachers aren't teaching math; they aren't teaching science; they aren't teaching humanities; they're teaching phys ed and

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driving. You can check out the union contract for yourself. When you do, you'll notice in its almost 50 pages there are page after page defining the union's rights and privileges while our kids are only mentioned once, just once. Something's very wrong here. And, yes, this is a union, not a teacher or kids, contract. So, you can be against the union, against the contract and still be for our teachers and for our kids.

Frederick C Rembis  
Clifton, NJ

## Not Happy With Commissioners

To The Editor:

I am the parent of a 14 year old girl who attends Clifton High School. As most parents of teenage children know, it is a difficult task to keep teenagers in line. They always have the answers to everything and nothing is ever their fault, it is always the teacher's fault, another student's fault, the principal's fault, and so on. I give the teachers in our school district at all levels, but especially at the high school level a lot of credit for what they have to deal with on a daily basis. In my opinion, teachers deserve

a lot for having to deal with so many children on a daily basis. But the one thing I feel that teachers deserve the most is respect. Teachers deserve respect from their students; teachers deserve respect from the parents of their students and teachers deserve respect from the Commissioners sitting on this Board.

Mr. Paitchell, I ask you, what kind of example are you setting for our students by lashing out at and speaking to the teachers the way you did at the last board meeting? How can we teach our children, the students in this district, to respect their teachers when a public figure, a commissioner of our Board of Education, is speaking to the teachers in the manner which you spoke to them at the last meeting?

I am sure that every teacher in this district is well aware of the hard economic times every one is facing. They did not need you to yell at them and be as disrespectful as you were.

I would also like to add that while flipping through the January edition of a local magazine, I had to do a double take when I saw the picture that was taken at the ribbon cutting ceremony at the new high school annex back in October. Mr. Graupe, you have some nerve posing for that picture when you opposed the building of the High School Annex all along. I guess it's ok for you to put that all aside though to get your moment in the spotlight by having your picture in the paper in front of this brand new state of the art school.

Don't fool yourself. I, along with all the other parents who sat through endless hours of Board of Adjustment meetings, remember your stance on the building of the High School Annex on Brighton Road. It was you and the Zoning Board of Adjustment that wasted the taxpayers money, not the Board of Education. You say you are for the children, yet I cannot recall one thing that you have done since you have been on this board that was for the children.

I, along with my family, friends and neighbors, will be keeping a watchful eye on who certain members of this board are supporting in the upcoming election. Our children need commissioners on this Board of Education that can set examples by being good role models, not Commissioners that are disrespectful, controversial and hypocritical.

AnnMarie Genneken  
Clifton

## Passaic Valley Water Commission Charges Are Out of Control

Letter to the Editor:

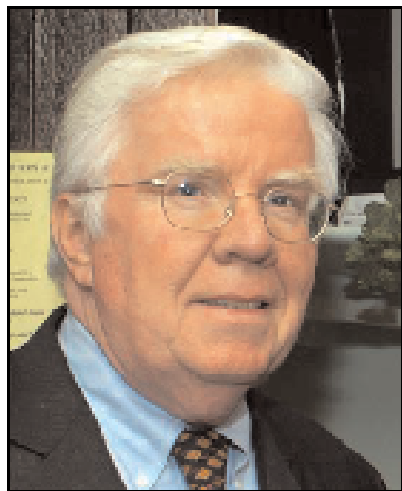
Recently, a Clifton senior citizen called me to tell me about their Passaic Valley Water Commission bill and ask what we could do about these outrageous charges. For example, this Clifton senior citizen (who lives alone) had a water bill of \$56.53 for the billing period of Oct 14, 2009 to January 8, 2010. (The bill consists of two service charges and two usage charges since the billing period overlapped into 2010 and there was a price increase.) This bill consists of two service charges in the amount of \$45.06 and \$4.15 for a total of \$49.21. The usage portion of the bill was \$6.70 and \$0.62 for a total of \$7.32. The service fee of \$49.21 was 87% of the bill. The service fee is based on the meter size of the pipe which brings the water into your home. In this case the meter size of the pipe was 5/8 inch. Imagine even if this person didn't use one drop of water, the bill still would have been \$49.21.

In my case, my water bill for this same period was \$184.57. My service fees were \$112.66 and \$10.38 for a total of \$123.04. The usage portion of my bill was \$5.20 and \$56.33 for a total of \$61.53. In my home, the meter size of the pipe is 1 inch. So, even if I didn't use one drop of water, my bill still would have been \$123.04. My service fee is was more than two and 1/2 times greater than a home with a 5/8 inch pipe.

Here are some other interesting facts that I have uncovered about these service fees. According to Passaic Valley Water Commission, the service fees (as I have mentioned) depend on the meter size of the pipe your home has to bring the water into your house. There are three different size pipes in most residential homes: 5/8 inch; 3/4 inch, or 1 inch. The price increase for the service fees in 2010 are based on the size of the pipe. If you have a 5/8 inch pipe your service fee increased 4% to \$51.02 per quarter from \$49.05 per quarter in 2009 (in 2008 your service fee was \$46.55 per quarter) - so from 2008 to 2010 your service fee increased 9.6%. If you have a 3/4 inch pipe your service fee for 2010 rose 6.3% to \$76.52 per quarter from \$72.00 in 2009 (in 2008 your service fee was \$65.82 -so from 2008 to 2010 your service fee

**Letters to The Editor Policy:** Submission of Letters to Clifton Insider Letters to the Editor does not guarantee publication. Letters may be edited. Letters submitted may be published in print or in electronic format. The opinions and views expressed in the letters to the editor are not necessarily those shared by the Clifton Insider.

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Phone 973 777-4332  
Fax 973 772-0108  
**Thomas J. Bizub, Mgr.**  
NJ lic No 2732

**More Letters Page 13**

## Festival Comes to Clifton

Continued from page 1

science than ever before, and they have a minimal understanding of technology. A Science Festival, similar to those staged throughout Europe and Asia, is a great way to get people of all ages excited to experience a wide range of state of the art science and it's practical application. The goal of the festival is to revitalize and re-invigorate our country by doing this, and make the USA more competitive in the Global Economy.

This is NOT a classic "Science Fair" that is geared towards highly technical research projects that would bore most people. It is a totally FREE TO THE PUBLIC event, and is designed to be EXCITING, FUN, INSPIRATIONAL, and edu-

cational, to be enjoyed by the masses and people of all ages - including students of



## New Jersey Science and Engineering Festival

all grades, from elementary school through college and graduate programs! There will be, in addition to the very interesting exhibits and lectures, contests, musical performances, theater, art, film, and other events in celebration of Science and Technology, which will make this a spectacular

event, not to be missed!

The New Jersey Festival will be held in Clifton High School and the surrounding athletic fields on October 23 and 24, 2010. The New

Jersey Event will run concurrent with the USA Festival on the National Mall in Washington DC. A portion of Essex County Airport will be the site of Aerospace and Aircraft Exhibits. Plans are to have a free shuttle bus running between Clifton High and the Airport.

Patchell stated that he chose Clifton because of his attachment to the communi-

ty, and the great facility in Clifton High School, and the hospitality of the great City of Clifton. Clifton is also a perfect location due to it's proximity to all major roads and NYC.

Many of New Jersey's Nobel Laureates, leading scientists, industrial and education leaders, and possibly an Astronaut, who are anticipated to attend, should make this a phenomenal event that is sure to receive much national coverage and put Clifton on the map. Exhibitors from major Industries - including

biotech, life science, high technology, robotics, electronics, automation, aeronautics, defense, etc. are expected, as well as representation and exhibits from several Universities, Museums, Institutes, Government Agencies, Science Centers, and Professional Societies are expected. Thousands of visitors are expected to attend. This event will be funded totally by corporate and private donations, and many volunteers will be needed.

*Tired of the same old news?  
Read the Insider Newspapers*



**C.A.S.A.**

**Clifton Against Substance Abuse Foundation  
2nd Annual Saint Patrick's Dinner  
Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner**

Monday, March 15, 2010

7:00 P.M.

Church of the Assumption  
35 Orange Avenue  
Clifton, NJ

**MENU**

Corned Beef & Cabbage  
Red Bliss Potatoes & Carrots  
Tossed Garden Salad  
Roast Pork Loin  
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Beverages & Dessert

**DONATION \$40.00**

**FOR TICKETS CALL 973-278-5356**

### Clifton's Code for a Better Quality of Life

Code Enforcement Chapter #383

Snow and Ice, Removal of: All residents shall remove snow and ice from sidewalks within 12 hours after a snowfall.

### Carla Perino Awarded Child Care Professional Credentials Clifton Resident Receives National CDA Certification

Carla Perino, daughter of Gary and Debra Perino of Clifton, has successfully completed and has been awarded Childhood Development Associate (CDA) Credentials from the Council for Professional Recognition in Washington, DC. CDA credentials represent the highest professional credentials for a child care teacher/provider.

Candidates for CDA Credentials must complete 480 hours working in a state-licensed child care setting; complete 120 hours of formal child care education; are observed by a state representative in child care teaching settings, and must

complete oral and written examinations. Only after successfully completing all national standards are candidates awarded professional CDA Credentials.

Ms. Perino is a 2009 graduate of Passaic County Technical Institute (PCTI) in Wayne and currently attends Bergen Community College. She performed the majority of her 480 volunteer training hours at the Boys and Girls Club of Clifton.

49 states, including New Jersey, have incorporated CDA Credentials into their childcare center licensing regulations.

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## Court Approves St. Mary's Plan of Reorganization Sets Stage for Exit From Chapter 11

St. Mary's Hospital announces that its Plan of Reorganization was confirmed today by the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey. The Honorable Morris Stern presided.

"St. Mary's emerges from Chapter 11 stronger and better than before," said Michael J. Sniffen, F.A.C.H.E., St. Mary's President and CEO. "After less than one year, we emerge revitalized, improved and re-committed to serving the community

and the physicians that have so loyally supported us through this difficult process."

St. Mary's is the first hospital to emerge from Chapter 11 bankruptcy in New Jersey. Since 2007, five hospitals have filed for bankruptcy, four of which have either closed or sold their assets in bankruptcy. St. Mary's successful Chapter 11 restructuring is an example to all financially struggling hospitals in New Jersey and beyond that it is possible to file for bankrupt-

cy, reorganize and emerge from bankruptcy.

Virginia Treacy, R.N., Executive Director of JNESO District 1, reacted to the news with great enthusiasm saying, "This is a wonderful development for the Hospital and its union employees, as well as for the community at large. In particular, Mr. Sniffen's willingness to offer us a true partnership has helped strengthen our commitment to work together toward a positive future for St. Mary's Hospital."

"This was a truly collaborative effort that could not have been achieved without the strong leadership of the hospital's administration, together with the dedication



of the physicians, nurses, and staff who serve the community, as well as the unwavering support of the Sisters of Charity," said Robert K. Malone of Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP, lawyers for St. Mary's in connection with its successful reorganization efforts. "The reorganization should also serve as a model

for other hospitals who may unfortunately have to undergo reorganization. The creditor support shown by all, including the state of New Jersey, the unions and the hospital's vendors made this happen."

"Hospitals across the state have struggled with a long list of financial pressures continued on page 10

## Spencer Savings Bank Board of Directors

Continued from page 4

and we will see to it that Spencer continues to be one of New Jersey's strongest community banks for years to come." Guerrero went on to say, "We continue to stand strong in the face of today's challenging economic climate, because our principles never change. We are, have been, and always will be, fully committed to our customers, in doing what's right for them, and in operating the bank with the highest level of integrity and prudence possible."

Anthony S. Cicatiello is chairman of CN Communications International, Inc., a public relations and marketing communications firm. For three decades, Anthony Cicatiello has brought diverse experience to the complex intersection of business, government and media. He has counseled numerous Fortune 500 companies, institutions of higher education, municipalities, regional utilities, and non-profit organizations, among others. He works with clients to address the needs of targeted constituencies amidst vigorous policy debates, increasing accountability and changing priorities.

José B. Guerrero has been with Spencer Savings Bank for over twenty years. He is currently the Chairman of the Board and has been serving as President and Chief Executive Officer of

Spencer Savings Bank since January 1995. He joined the Spencer Board in 1991.

John S. Sturges has served as Director of Spencer Savings Bank since 2007. He was President of Siebrand-Wilton Associates, Inc. as well as the Managing Principal of its Benefits and Compensation Design Group. He is an active member of the Human Resource Planning Society, Society for Human Resource Management, World at Work and the International Foundation of Employee Benefits Plans.

About Spencer Savings Bank: Spencer Savings Bank, headquartered in Elmwood Park, NJ, is a community bank serving its local communities with integrity and pride for nearly 70 years. The Bank serves local consumers and businesses by offering a full line of personal and business banking accounts, operating 18 branches throughout northern New Jersey and providing electronic banking convenience via call center, Internet, and a network of ATMs. Spencer Savings Bank has over \$1.9 billion in total assets.

For more information on Spencer Savings Bank, please contact Joe Wolff at the CBK Group at (201) 556-9404 or visit the company web site at [www.spencersavings.com](http://www.spencersavings.com).

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\*Sandler O'Neill & Partners, LP analysis ranked Clifton Savings Bancorp, Inc. (parent company of Clifton Savings Bank) in the top 30 out of over 500 publicly traded banks and thrifts in the nation with a market cap of less than \$2 billion based on growth, profitability, credit quality, and capital strength.

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The accompanying photos show a line-up of cars, clean and road-salt free getting some finishing touches from the Lexington Auto Club crew.

**CALLING ALL STAMP, COVER, AND POSTCARD COLLECTORS!!**

The Clifton Stamp Society, Inc. announces our regular meeting schedule for the months of January through June 2010. Our Society meets at the Community Recreation Center, 1232 Main Avenue, Clifton in the basement, (Meeting Room 3). Our meeting hours are between 6:30PM and 8:30PM on the following days:

March 1st, March 15th And March 29th

April 5th and April 20th

May 3rd and May 17th

June 7th and June 21st

For directions to the Recreation center or further information, please call the Clifton Recreation Department at 973-470-5956 between 8:30AM and 4:00PM Monday through Friday or visit us online at [www.cliftonnj.org/stamp](http://www.cliftonnj.org/stamp).

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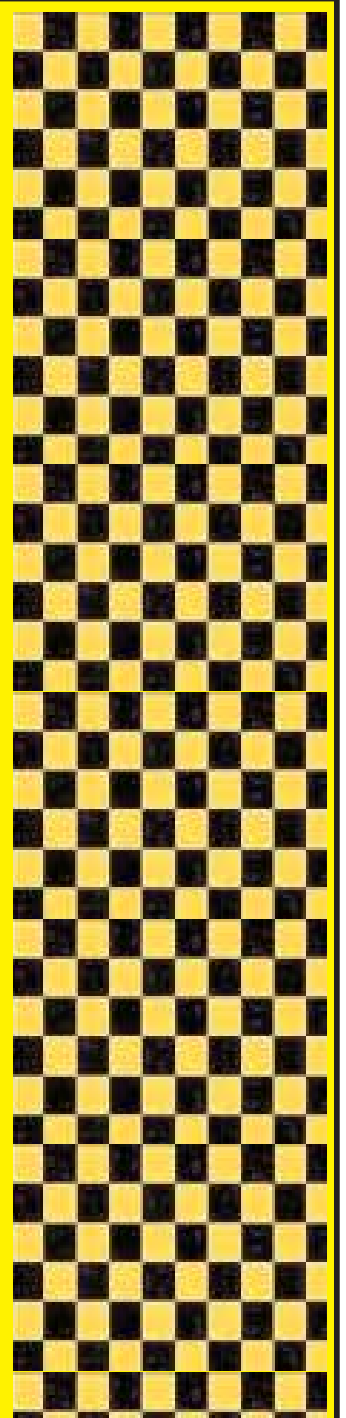
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ImmediCenter. Dr. Susan Palmer, a Board Certified family physician with 20 years of experience with Dr. Michael Basista, founded Montclair Cosmetic Surgery, an affordable, non-

invasive Esthetic Medical Practice. Dr. Palmer trained at the Kansas City University of Medicine. A member of the American Association of Aesthetic Medicine and Surgery, she was certified in Cosmetic and Aesthetic Medicine in Beverly Hills, to administer Botox®, Detmal fillers, Chemical Peels, and Mesotherapy. Dr. Palmer was trained by Palomar Technologies, in the use of IPL for photo-rejuvenation, to remove pigmented and vascular lesions, and for hair removal. She has been certified by Allergan to prescribe and distribute Latisse®, a new product that enhances eyelash growth. Montclair Cosmetic Surgery's goal is to restore your youthful appearance, and help you to look your best. such as Botox® Injections, Chemical Peels, IPL, Juvaderm® at affordable rates and their latest procedure Latisse®. They are available for consultations with Dr. Palmer, just give

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them a call and their friendly staff will be there to assist you. Call (973) 680-8300 to make an appointment. Make this the perfect Valentine's Day gift for the woman in your life, to make

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## St. Mary's to Exit From Chapter 11

Continued from page 7

and policy burdens," said NJHA President and CEO Betsy Ryan. "How encouraging it is to see one of our hospitals emerge from these many challenges and continue to serve their community with the healthcare services we all depend on. That's especially true for this community, where as many as three hospitals once stood in the not-so-recent past. We congratulate St. Mary's on its perseverance in caring for the people of Passaic."

"Having stabilized our financial situation, thanks to the team's extraordinary

efforts, we anticipate fiscal growth in 2010 and look forward to reestablishing St. Mary's as a vital community resource," said William T. Cusick, St. Mary's Chief Financial Officer.

Mr. Sniffen added, "We have already laid the groundwork for the Hospital's renewal by opening a new ER Fast Track, acquiring new technology for our cardiology and oncology programs, and expanding other key services. This will be a banner year for St. Mary's Hospital and the community it so proudly serves."

## Patriotic PCTI Students Rewarded With Scholarships

"Does America still have heroes?" That's the question Passaic County Technical Institute students were asked to answer for the Voice of Democracy (VOD) Scholarship Program, an audio-essay contest that rewards student insight with academic sponsorship. It was designed to give 10th, 11th, and 12th grade high school students the opportunity to voice their opinions on a patriotic theme.

Students were required to prepare a three to five minute audio-tape which is judged based on delivery, originality, and content. These recordings were used to preserve the anonymity of

students, that way the judges would be able to render an unbiased decision and concentrate on the messages of the speeches. The winners included students from Passaic County Technical Institute: First Place- Analis Rivera, Second Place- Minerva Nunez, Third Place- Stephanie Robles, Fourth Place- Deysi Rodriguez and Fifth Place- Jackeline Rodriguez. They were joined by the VOD Chairman, Mr. Clarence "Red" Mosley, and veterans: Post Commander Lee Juchniewicz, Post Junior Vice Commander Joe Nevatinski, Post Trustee Vince Palumbo, Quartmaster Warren Dartell and Tony Galletti along with

## ATTENTION SENIORS:

Are you 60 or older and looking for an opportunity to learn how to stay healthy, meet new people and contribute to the health of other seniors?

Passaic County Council is looking for participants for a six-lesson educational program for seniors in Passaic County, which will cover:

1. Learn about aging process and how to make healthy lifestyle choices
2. Celebrate this exciting stage of life and all the benefits that come with it
3. Discuss risk factors and behaviors you should avoid to stay healthy
4. Examine how alcohol, prescription medications and over-the-counter medications affect seniors differently and how you can avoid problems.

The program uses an interactive educational approach to help older adults celebrate healthy aging, make positive lifestyle choices and avoid the types of substance abuse that occur most often later in life. WISE covers a wide range of topics including nutrition and exercise, medication use, stress management, grief and loss, depression, alcoholism and prescription drug abuse. The curriculum is structured to take place once per week over a six-week period. Lessons are designed to be fun and engaging, while providing seniors with an opportunity to learn how to stay healthy, avoid substance abuse problems and meet new people who live in their community.

PLACE: The Center for Senior Citizens (Barn C-5), Dog Pound Road - Behind Clifton City Hall

TIME: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. with light refreshments served after each session

COST: \$0.00

DATES: Thursday, March 4, 11, 18 & 25 - Thursday, April 1 & 8, 2010

For more information and to register, please call Fr. Alan Savitt at the Passaic County Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Prevention, Inc., 973-473-3366, ext. 105. JOIN US FOR THIS FUN PROGRAM, AND BRING A FRIEND!



Mr. William Betar, PCTI Director of Student Personnel Services. The program at PCTI was coordinated by Social Studies Instructor Cathy Pagano.

The Voice of Democracy Contest is held annually and begins at a local level; it is

later followed by district, department, and national levels.

**Pick Up Your Copy of the Clifton Insider at: Allwood Library**

## HONOR A CLIFTON VETERAN

**A GREAT GIFT IDEA!!!** Purchase a flag and become part of what could be the largest display of American Flags in the Country. Simply fill out the form below and mail it in with a check for \$100 and proof of the Clifton veteran's service. The purchase includes a durable flag pole with a 3' x 5' 100% nylon embroidered flag, a protective sleeve, a name plate, and a ground socket. The veteran's name, branch of service, and the donor's name will be placed in our registry book located in City Hall. Flags will be displayed on the City Hall grounds on Memorial Day, Flag Day, July 4th, Labor Day, and Patriot's Day for everyone to see. If you would like to be a volunteer and assist in putting up and taking down the flags on the dates listed you may contact the Clifton Recreation Department by e-mail at [cliftonrec@cliftonnj.org](mailto:cliftonrec@cliftonnj.org) or call John Biegel, Jr. at (973) 519-0858.



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## Prom Fashion Show

Continued from page 1

sure to be an exciting and fun filled night.

The Tricky Tray portion of the evening will consist of high end baskets with a value between \$50.00 and \$200.00. There will also be

a 50/50.

All the proceeds that night will help benefit CHS-PTSA Project Graduation, this is the lock in which takes place on the night of Graduation. It is a sponsored event to

keep our students drug and alcohol free on the night of their graduation. On June 22, the students will meet at the school at 9:30pm and caravan to an unknown venue for an all night party with their classmates for one last time. Some of the evening happenings besides non-stop food till 4am will be dancing, swimming, rides, volleyball, basketball, gasoline go carts, and a hypnotist show. The aim is to keep our Senior Class of 2010 Safe and having fun! For Prom Show information call Maryann Cornett

at 973-779-5678 and for Tricky Tray info call 973-777-9466. This is our major fundraiser for Project Graduation, please support this night!

**Pick Up Your Copy of the Clifton Insider at:**  
The Famous Mid Town Grill on Main Avenue

## C.A.S.A. Supports the Super Bowl Event Family Day



Joe Burak of the Cupo Insurance Agency and CASA Foundation treasurer presents a check to Bob Foster of the Clifton Boys and Girls Club of Clifton. The donation from CASA will assist in the funding of the club's annual Super Bowl Family Day" a drug, alcohol and gambling free Super Bowl event.

## Mayor's Book Club Creates a Highly Literate Community



Mayor Anzaldi announced a collaborative effort with the HealthCare Institute of New Jersey (HINJ), also in partnership with Reach Out and Read New Jersey (ROR), to provide books to young children through the Mayor's Book Club that will promote reading skills and habits that begin at an early age.

Mayor Anzaldi was one of seven Mayors in the State of New Jersey to be selected by the National League of Cities, Institute for Youth, Education and Families to host a Mayor's Book Club. The mission is to create a highly literate community that embraces learning as a lifelong lifestyle that can improve the quality of life for all residents of Clifton. Stakeholders in this project include the Mayor's, the Municipal Council, the City Manager, Clifton Public Library, Clifton Arts Center, Clifton Public Schools, Boys' and Girls' Club, Head Start Programs, Bruno Associates, Inc., and local community members who have an interest in the literacy of young children.

## "I'm home."

This simple statement could mean the world to a child, especially a foster child who has been moved from place to place. Saying it would be as good for him as hearing it would be for you. Become a KidsPeace foster parent and give a home to an older child.



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We respect our clients' privacy. The model represented in this publication is for illustrative purposes only and in no way represents an individual. KidsPeace © 2009 KidsPeace.

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## Top 10 TIPS for pet owners for healthy safe winters:

1. Never leave your dog or cat alone in a car during cold weather. A car can act as a refrigerator in the winter, holding in the cold and causing harm to the animal.

2. Puppies do not tolerate the cold as well as adult dogs, and may be difficult to house-break during the winter. If your puppy appears to be sensitive to the

weather, you may opt to paper-train him inside/or use the indoor POTTY products. If your dog is sensitive to the cold due to age, illness or breed type, take him outdoors only to relieve himself.

3. If your dog spends a lot of time in outdoor activities? Increase his supply of food, particularly protein, to keep him—and his fur—in tip-top shape.

4. Antifreeze is a lethal poison for dogs and cats. Be sure to thoroughly clean up any spills from your vehicle,

and consider using products that contain propylene glycol rather than ethylene glycol.

5. Animals need a warm place to sleep, off the floor and away from all drafts.



6. If possible, keep your cat inside. Outdoors, felines can freeze, become lost or be stolen, injured or killed. Cats who are allowed to stray are exposed to infectious diseases, including rabies, from other cats, dogs and wildlife.

7. Outdoor cats sometimes sleep under the hoods of cars. When the motor is started, the cat can be injured or killed by the fan belt. If there are outdoor cats in your area, bang loudly on the car hood before starting the engine to give the cat a

chance to escape.

8. Never let your dog off the leash on snow or ice, especially during a snow-storm—dogs can lose their scent and easily become lost. Statistics show that more dogs are lost during the winter than during any other season, so make sure yours always wears ID tags.

9. Wipe off your dog's legs and stomach when he comes in out of the sleet, snow or ice. He can ingest salt, antifreeze or other potentially dangerous chemicals while licking

his paws, and his paw pads may also bleed from snow or encrusted ice.

10. Never shave your dog down to the skin in winter, as a longer coat will provide more warmth. When you bathe your dog in the colder months, be sure to completely dry him before taking him out for a walk. Own a short-haired breed? Get them a coat or sweater with a high collar or turtle-neck with coverage from the base of the tail to the belly.



## Relay For Life Kicks Off Teams Now Forming for American Cancer Society Annual Community Event



More than 200 local residents gathered on January 31, 2010 at PNY NEW JERSEY NETS facility to hear about the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life event coming to Clifton on June 12-13, 2010. The Relay For Life kick-off was the start to the American Cancer Society's season-long effort in creating a world with less cancer and more birthdays by helping people stay well, by helping people get well, by finding cures and by fighting back. Guests were greeted by Michael Rossi and Melissa DeMolli of Clifton's Relay For Life Co-Chairmen. Those who attended learned how their participation in the nationwide movement benefits lifesaving American Cancer Society research, programs and services. Relay For Life is a unique volunteer-driven, community event that allows participants from all walks of life to join together in the fight against cancer. Relay For

Life is an overnight celebration where individuals and teams camp out and take turns walking or running around a track "relay" style. At nightfall, participants light hundreds of luminaria candles around the track in a touching ceremony honoring cancer survivors as well as paying tribute to those lost to the disease. The American Cancer Society's Relay For Life in Clifton will be held at Clifton Stadium, Day Street and Piaget Avenue on Saturday June 12-13, 2010. To find out how to form a Relay For Life team in Clifton, visit the website [www.relayforlife.org/cliftonnj](http://www.relayforlife.org/cliftonnj). To locate a team or start a team in another city, visit [www.relayforlife.org](http://www.relayforlife.org). To learn more about the American Cancer Society or to get help, call 1 800 227-2345 or visit the website at [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

### TEXAS HOLD 'EM NIGHT

Sponsored by  
Knights of Columbus

St. Philip the Apostle Council # 11671

**PREPAID BY FEB 12<sup>TH</sup> LATEST!!!!!!!**  
**Visa Gift Cards as prizes in lieu of cash**



**When:** Saturday February 27, 2010 sign ins begin 6PM  
First hand dealt PROMPTLY @ 7PM  
**Where:** St. Philips Auditorium Valley Rd. Clifton NJ  
**Donation:** \$50 by Feb 12th.... LATE registration \$75 AFTER Feb 12th  
Up to Feb 19<sup>th</sup>....NO WALK INS!!!!  
**Bonus:** If preregistered by Feb 12th, rebuy ticket available for ½ price

#### RULES:

- 1) Each player starts with 5,000 chips, blinds start at 100/200 and go up at 20 minute intervals all night.
- 2) Rebuy for ANOTHER 5,000 chips for \$50 is available **once** per player, AFTER the player has lost his original chips.
- 3) Random seating chips selected by each player as they enter check in.
- 4) If you enter after first hand dealt, blinds may be deducted from your 5,000 chips, but player will be allowed to play.
- 5) **Tournament will award LAST 5 players that reach final table**

#### CONTACTS:

Jack Jaeger 973 985 0761  
OR  
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### Pre-Easter Bazaar

St. Mary Protectress, Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 81 Washington Ave., Clifton will host a pre-Easter bazaar on Sunday, March 14, 2010 from 1:00pm to 4:30pm. Ukrainian items, including traditional embroidery and eggs (pysanky), will be available for sale, and the church kitchen will be open for pierogie lunch.

Additionally, orders for homemade poppy or lekvar rolls (\$8.00/roll) will be accepted on the church answering machine, for pick-up on March 14; a contact name and number must be recorded on 973-546-2473 by March 5. All proceeds to benefit ongoing church repairs.

## More Letters to the Editor

Continued from page 5

increased 16.3%). If you are as lucky as I am to have a 1 inch pipe your service fee for 2010 rose 4% to \$127.54 per quarter from \$122.64 ( in 2008 your service fee was \$100.51 per quarter - so from 2008 to 2010 your service fee rose 26.9%). On top of these outrageous service fees, Passaic Valley Water Commission raised the usage charge 10.1% for all Clifton customers to \$1.52 per CCF of water consumed from \$1.38 per CCF in 2009. Imagine, a 10% increase in water usage fees and between a 4% to 6% increase in service fees. Have you received these kinds of increases in your salary in 2010 from 2009? I know senior citizens haven't! I also know that workers in the private sector haven't seen raises in many years!

These outrageous service fees have troubled me for a long time. I have reached out to both the Passaic Valley Water Commission and to the Clifton Commissioners (Gloria Kolodziej and Tom DeVita). No one can give me an reasonable answer as to why the service fee charges are so varied. No once can tell me why customers with a 1 inch pipe pay a service fee of more than two and 1/2 times greater than customers with a 5/8 pipe.

According to many engineers I know, having a larger size pipe only means that you use more water quickly than those with a smaller size pipe so that the water usage would be greater. What can you do about these outrageous charges? Governor Christie has publicly criticized the Passaic Valley Sewage Comm.'s high salaries, outrageous pension benefits and buyout packages and would be interested in hearing about the outrageous fees charged by Passaic Valley Water Commission. Governor Christie may be reached at (609)292-6000 (ask to speak with one of his aides) or write to the Governor at: Office of the Governor PO Box 08625 Trenton, NJ 08625. You may also reach out to Clifton Commissioners Kolokziej or DeVita through either a phone call (both numbers are listed) or write to each commissioner c/o Passaic Valley Water Commission 1525 Main Ave Clifton, NJ 07101.

Between the outrageous water bills and sewage bills combined with the ever-increasing property taxes, it is no wonder that the number of homes for sale in Clifton is at an all time high and foreclosures are at record numbers. Senior citizens and working families are being driven out of Clifton due to these run-away charges and taxes! The voice of the people must be heard!

Mary Sadrakula  
Clifton, NJ

### Buy American Made

To The Editor:  
I have received a number of catalogues over the last few weeks. In looking through them it is apparent that the word most used is "Imported". It's time to bring all those jobs back to this country. We cannot afford to let jobs go elsewhere. Buy American Made or learn to make it yourself. That will send a message.

Alice J. Dymek  
Clifton, N.J.

### What Voters Have to Say

To The Editor:  
During Obama's recent State of the Union address, he openly expressed his contempt for American voters: "But if anyone from either party has a better approach that will bring down premiums, bring down the deficit, cover the uninsured, strengthen Medicare for seniors and stop insurance company abuses, let me know." Political commentator and TIA Daily editor Robert Tracinski provided a response that's an instant classic for its dead-on skewering of Obama's remark: "Let him know? How do you suppose we ought to let the president know what we think? Perhaps we should all show up at town hall meetings, or hold giant rallies across the nation and on the DC mall. Perhaps pollsters could fan out across the country to ask us our opinions. Perhaps Republicans in Congress could propose alternative legislation. Perhaps we could even hold an election -- let's make it easy for the president and hold it in left-leaning Massachusetts -- that would

serve as a referendum on health care. Of course, we did all of those things, and the president made it abundantly clear that he doesn't give a da\*n what we have to say."  
Mark Kalinowski  
Clifton, NJ

### Sometimes the Solutions to Difficult Problems are Right Under Your Nose

To The Editor:  
It's about time that the congregation of Shomrei Torah finally found a true home. A home that is in compliance with the governing laws. A home in harmony with their neighbors. A home where they can freely build and grow, without challenging the local laws of safety, and appropriateness. Shomrei Torah was forced to move their shul from a private residence in Passaic, to a tenancy in a Passaic Jewish center. Then years ago, they began to seek to establish their next home at another private residence, this time in Clifton. By their own admission, turning this private home into a giant building requires variances, and plan changes, before they can even turn the first shovel of earth. Why is it necessary to keep the congregants waiting, and waiting, for this single, increasingly costly, piece of land? And, after more years of jumping legal hurdles, if they are finally permitted to build this behemoth in the middle of a residential neighborhood, they still must be vigilant to observe the rules for a safe and peaceful coexistence with its residential neighbors. Meanwhile, within a thousand

feet of this controversial location, there are a multitude of properties, which are ready-made for their proposed use. In addition, there are even entire synagogues, and partially completed synagogues that sit unused. There are also existing vacant and available properties that are properly zoned for future use, also within the same walking distance of the proposed shul. Clearly, the leaders of Shomrei Torah owe their congregants and the local residents a shul, not a source of sorrow. Sometimes the solutions to difficult problems are right under your nose, or at least within a thousand feet of it.

Bill Goldberg  
Clifton, NJ

### Are we fed up yet ?

To The Editor:  
How long will these pseudo scientists going to push the Global Warming farce? Now they state the current freezing multiple snow storms are normal and support their findings. That's B.S. I wish someone would research the vast amount of taxpayer dollars that is freely handed out to these fakes. I guarantee the sums are huge. Global warming ,if it exists as they propose , has been going on for millions of years and has nothing to do with mankind. It's a natural cycle that can't be altered by puny mankind. These pseudo scientists are protecting their cash cow just as the almighty Al Gore does. If you take into consideration how much the alarmists in government have pumped into this joke: We might even be able to pay for our deficit. President Obama now wants to pump more of our taxpayer dollars into this lie. When will we say enough is enough?

Norman V. James  
Forked River ,N.J.

## PASSAIC COUNTY COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM & DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION, INC.

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## Recreation Department Annual Dinner

Continued from page 1

Staff, Board of Recreation, Mayor and Council, Organizations and Businesses that the Recreation Department works with throughout the year, as well as seasonal staff or teachers who work with the department's programs. The event consisted of food, gifts, games, presentations, awards and the re-instatement of Board of Recreation Members whose terms are expiring. Among the re-instated and sworn in Board Members were Board of Recreation President Doreen Delancy-Williams, Board of Recreation Vice-President John Pogorelec, and Board Members Anna Torres and Tom Mullin. The evening provides the department with an opportunity to thank those who support their programs, introduce the upcoming year's Recreation Department Motto and acknowledge individuals who have been selected as award recipients for 2009.

The 2010 Motto is "Stay in the Game", which focuses on learning not to give up, give in or quit on the adventures you have in store for the coming year.

There were 6 Recreation Awards presented at the event as each of the guests in attendance had the opportunity to learn of the recipients' many accolades and contributions to the improvement of the recreation and leisure opportunities for the City of Clifton. Staff Woman of the Year went to Amanda Note, the department's dance, movement and cheerleading instructor. Amanda, a compassionate and hardworking instructor, is also an amazing and gifted dancer who began her dancing career at the young age of 3. Amanda was honored for the special way she shares her gifts and talents with the many students who pass through her training.

Staff Man of the Year went to Todd Coldiron. Todd recently joined the Recreation Department as the Archery Instructor. He was honored for the way he has turned the program around in just one short year

to include: doubling the enrollment, beginning an outdoor program, helping the department receive a mini-grant from the USA Archery Association and improving the quality of the class equipment. Todd's love of archery, which began as a youth growing up in Clifton, has provided him an opportunity to pay it forward to the youth of today.

Sponsor of the Year went to Dr. Sean Lager of Gotham City Orthopedics of Clifton, an adult and pediatric sports medicine trauma and general orthopedic center. Dr. Lager brought his practice to Clifton in March of 2009 and immediately sought out opportunities to give back to the community. In just eight months, he sponsored the Clifton Night at the Jackals, the 5K Stampede and was the sole sponsor of the Clifton Recreation Youth Basketball Program.

Recreation Service Award went to Jo Obser for enriching the lives of Clifton residents in many ways for many years. Without her endless hours of volunteering throughout Clifton's many programs, service clubs and events could not have been provided. Her biweekly line dancing classes for senior citizens is the hit of the town and she can be found at most community events always lending a hand in running the events, working behind the scenes or working with the participants. Clifton is very fortunate to have such an amazing resident to help others enjoy their community more.

The Youth Service Award is a newly developed award given by the Clifton Recreation Department. The first recipient was Clifton High School Sophomore, Ashley Brandecker. Ashley has started her fifth year of volunteer service to the Recreation Department. Many hours of servicing the youth, teen and adults of Clifton has made her one of the most valued volunteers in the community. She is hardworking, honest and devoted, which are all qualities that helped her earn this

award.

The most prestigious award, the Friend of Recreation Award, went to the Clifton Board of Education who has been a true Friend of Recreation for many decades. Their friendship is demonstrated not only in the many ways they help the department by providing school facilities for classes, special events, teams, sports leagues and summer camp; the encouragement of securing student volunteers to run our events; professional support from CAST, AVA, Drama, Music, Special Education and Athletic Departments, to name a few; cooperating to work on projects on various park facilities; helping with equipment and supplies, as needed; distribution of publicity of recreation programs; and the encouragement of high school athletic coaches to mentor and train the youth recreation participants; but also in their shared commitment to the health and well being of the citizens of Clifton through the many afterschool, summer and evening recreational, social and educational programs they conduct for the community. They understand the importance that recreation has to individual, family and community growth. The Board of Recreation is an excellent example of a Friend of Recreation.

## Open for Business continued from page 3

grandma use to use, the official city timer has lost its effectiveness and the time has come to replace the city owned relic with a timer that is accurate and easy to use and will give accurate amounts of time to the speak.

The Clifton City Council election is well underway and a diversified group of newcomers are emerging willing to make the leadership of the city their own. Fundraisers ranging from beefsteaks and breakfasts to jazz concerts and gatherings at local bars are rapidly filling the community calendar. We have brothers running as well as a young man who will be running a write in campaign. This race has the prospect of being a very interesting election, offering the voters of Clifton a versatile and diversified field come Election Day. One totally unwanted aspect has also begun to show its ugly head, attacks by the faceless on the internet. Let's make sure we keep the council election above board and off the anonymity of local blogs.

If you are looking for a very different gift for that special someone on Valentine's Day, might we suggest a gift certificate for non-invasive cosmetic beauty treatments available at Montclair Cosmetic Surgery, which is part of the Immedicenter, a local medical institution we have all come to trust with our family care for years. Dr. Susan Palmer offers Botox, Latisse, Juvaderm, and Facial Peels. These are the same services Hollywood and models have known about for years and are now very affordable and available right here in Clifton. Give the Valentine's Day gifts that keep on giving long after the flowers and candy are long gone. Cosmetic beauty treatments, what better way to let them know you care.

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or write a letter to: Clifton Common Sense

1360 Clifton Ave., #249, Clifton, NJ 07012

Deadline for submitting your petition to run is March  
1st before 4:00pm. Election day is April 20, 2010.

Paid for by Clifton Common Sense, 1360 Clifton Ave., #249, Clifton, NJ 07012

## Friends Fur-ever



Adopt a Friend at  
the Clifton  
Animal Shelter



The Clifton Animal Shelter has places hundreds of animals with good adopted homes each year. In order to assist the Clifton Animal Shelter in placing some of the many eligible dogs and cats we are pleased to help by publishing "Friends Furever". We adopted KC, our beagle from the shelter in 1997. KC has brought our family countless hours of fun and excitement, occasionally causing mischief! We would love to hear your adopted animal stories so if you wish to share photos and stories of your pets, please feel free to submit them to the Clifton Insider, our contact information is on page 2.

Hi -- my name is SALLY and I am a WONDERFUL dog! I am well trained and know the commands SIT, DOWN and PAW -- I am also HOUSEBROKEN and appear to be well cared for and in terrific shape! It is a wonder that I have not been claimed by an owner, someone must have spent a lot of time with me to make me do well behaved. I am spayed, up to date on vaccines and microchipped....Won't you come and visit me at the Clifton Animal Shelter M-F 6.30-8pm or Sundays 12 noon - 4 pm? Hope to see you soon! [www.clifton-animalshelter.com](http://www.clifton-animalshelter.com) 973-470-5936



## Change Your Attitude Change Your Life: Who Are Saints?

By Reverend Pawel Szurek  
Host of "Change Your Attitude...Change Your Life"  
Sunday Mornings at 9:00 am on 970 AM

Who are the saints? Are they supportive in our spiritual journey or are they guilty of taking our attention from God? Who needs them and what can they teach a modern woman and man? These are a few of the questions discussed in a recent interview with James Martin, a Jesuit priest who wrote the book, *My Life With the Saints*.

Father Martin is an international best-selling author and Catholic commentator who has appeared on Fox, MSNBC, CNN, and the BBC. He has been dubbed the "Chaplain of the Colbert Report."

Father Martin shared his point of view about the saints and their presence in our lives with Reverend Pawel Szurek, host, *Change Your Attitude...Change Your Life*.

Following are excerpts from the interview with James Martin:

Who are saints?

Saints are our patrons and our companions. They are wonderful images in theology and tradition.

Why are saints venerated? Why do we need saints if we have Jesus and God?

Saints are like our elder brothers and sisters who help us along the way. They don't take the place of the parents. The saints would be the first people that tell you they're not standing in the place of God. God has given us these examples of these wonderful people who help us understand that being a saint means being exactly who you are and that you don't have to be exactly the same as anyone else to be holy.

Tell me something about your book *My Life With the Saints*?

The book is the story of my relationship with my favorite saints. Each chapter talks about how I first encountered the saints, about their lives, and what their lives mean to contemporary believers and even to

doubters and seekers.

Can believing in saints be more an act of superstition rather than faith? For example, the practice of burying a statue of St. Joseph to help sell a home.

If you are dealing with a real connection or desire for St. Joseph to pray for you or to help you and if you ask St. Joseph for his prayers, that's part of faith, that's a very faith filled thing to do. If it helps you to remember a saint by using a statue that's fine. If you just bury a statue and if you think that something magical will happen, then it's superstition.

Are saints exclusively connected to the Catholic Church?

Saints are not just for Catholics. If you look at the apostles, they are saints for every Christian tradition. There is no Christian tradition that doesn't look at Saint Peter and the apostles and the evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Those people are common to all of

the Christian traditions. Sanctity is not the product of just one denomination.

Can saints communicate with us?

I think they communicate with us, maybe not directly, but we can be inspired by them in a sense that their stories can lead us. They can pray for us and in a more poetic way, they communicate with us through their lives. When you read about the life of a saint, in a sense you are communicating with them. Their lives are almost like a song, a song that they sing. Someone once said that the saints are like life actors and their script is the gospel. That's a way of communication.

What can we learn from the saints?

Each saint really reveals something different. Look at someone like blessed John XXIII who was Pope from 1958 to 1963, and take the message that it's wonderful to be a humorous person, you can have a sense of joy.

Saint Therese of Lisieux had a message that it is wonderful to do small things with great love. Saint Peter teaches us that it is ok to make mistakes and that Christ will still love you. Even though these lives are far removed from us, in terms of time and their lifestyle, each of their stories can tell us something

unique about the human condition. God gives us these different examples to help us understand life.

*Reverend Pawel Szurek is the host of Change Your Attitude...Change Your Life, a radio program that airs every Sunday at 9 a.m. on AM 970 The Apple.*

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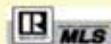
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