

ies to curb speeders  
would give police the jurisdiction to  
properties. **A14**

**Charity car event planned for Mine Hill**  
The Muscular Dystrophy Association stands to benefit from the  
charity race in Roxbury, scheduled for Sept. 23. **A15**

**Home sweet home**  
Alcott Manor in Mendham offers self-sufficient seniors a quality  
place to stay in their golden years. **A15**

Our Towns / **A14**  
Obituaries / **A20**

9, 2001

WWW.DAILYRECORD.COM

DAILY RECORD, MORRIS COUNTY

## Kilimanjaro is next challenge



Artie Elefant, front, works out with Julius Wilson, a fellow member of the Achilles Track Club.

Nearly blind man, 56, from Rockaway Twp. to climb African peak

**BY JANE HAVSY**  
DAILY RECORD

NEW YORK — Artie Elefant has never climbed a mountain. He's never been interested in hiking. In fact, Elefant only tried on his first pair of hiking boots last week. But in less than a month,

Elefant will be trekking up Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. It's a daunting first effort, particularly at 56 years of age. And beyond the temperamental weather and high altitude is a factor that will make things even more difficult for Elefant. Elefant is nearly blind. He lost his sight to retinitis pigmentosa, a rare disease in which the light-sensitive retina of the eye slowly degenerates.



Artie Elefant

A resident of White Meadow Lake for 27 years, Elefant is well known in Morris County. He co-founded the Morris County Striders, one of the area's largest running clubs. He, his wife Susan, and their children, Matthew and Debbie — both graduates of Morris Hills High School —

have participated in numerous races throughout the state both as runners and course-side volunteers. Elefant ran the New York City Marathon in 1979 and 1981 and joked that in honor of his 20th anniversary, "instead of doing a marathon, I'm climbing a mountain." He will hike Kilimanjaro with the Achilles Track Club, an international nonprofit that encourages people with all kinds of dis-

abilities to exercise alongside the general public. Achilles has 10,000 members in 126 chapters spread across 36 countries. "This is totally different from anything I've done," said Hoboken resident Eddie Montanez, who ran the New York City Marathon in 1992. "The different exercises, the preparation, even the gear is going to be new." **SEE CLIMB / A18**

## Historic N.J. needs a boost



## Home heating needs tackled in summer

Hispanic Affairs office gets a jump on winter by advising residents

**BY MICHAEL DAIGLE**  
DAILY RECORD

**Guidelines**  
Annual income guidelines for eligibility for the home weatherization program offered by the Morris County Organiza-

# rties

ught it would  
along."

e Library Board

ia Pappas, a former  
u pair who now  
residents with au  
i au pair agency, had  
up seeking clients.  
ls have the best rela-  
They come back to  
amilies, she said.  
titude of activities,  
with cool, gentle  
id a bright evening  
for a fine day.  
great," said Reggie  
of Piscataway.

## ian performs orris County

[S TWP. — The  
Kreskin's final per-  
at the Morris Muse-  
ford Theatre is at 2  
/   
celebrated magician  
-reader was born in  
:  
eater is at 6 Nor-  
ights Road.  
3) 971-3700 for ticket  
ty.

## Climb

CONTINUED FROM / A13

The "Mount Kili Team" includes a deaf asthmatic actress, a cancer survivor who has had an arm amputated, and five blind people ranging in age from 19 to Elefant at 56. They have been working out since April, hills on Tuesdays and circuit training with Fabian St. Rose at a New York Sports Club in midtown on Thursdays.

St. Rose has already climbed Kilimanjaro, and will be one of 18 able-bodied guides accompanying the Achilles athletes.

St. Rose led a mini-workout at the ExtraVertical Climbing Center in midtown Manhattan Tuesday.

"I wish I were still living back in Morris County," said Elefant, who moved to Manhattan in 1998, when he was no longer able to drive.

"I wish I had those hills today."

Guides from Park East, a travel company specializing in African tours, will assist the group on its trek up the Rongai Route to Kilimanjaro's summit, 19,433 feet above sea level. They will follow a series of switchbacks as they hike up

the mountainside.

"It's not technical at all, in regard to ropes hanging and people swinging," said Elefant. "It's a long, steady hill that never ends."

While in Tanzania, the Achilles athletes will visit a school for blind children. They will donate a computer equipped with JAWS software, Braille books, and school supplies as part of Park East's "Bring a Book Foundation." They are also planning to explore several national parks.

The ambitious adventure originally was inspired by blind South African athlete Geoff Hilton-Butler, who climbed Mount Kilimanjaro himself last summer.

"It wasn't even a big thing at the time," said Ivonne Mosquera, a Stanford graduate with electric blue fingernail polish and six-pack abs who has been blind since she was a toddler.

"I didn't think it'd be serious, but two weeks later they were saying, 'Let's get it together,' and I said, 'I guess I'm going. No turning back now.' It's definitely taken on a life of its own."

*Jane Havsy can be reached at (973) 428-6682 or [jhavsy@morristo.gannett.com](mailto:jhavsy@morristo.gannett.com).*

**"I guess I'm going. No turning back now. It's definitely taken on a life of its own."**

— Ivonne Mosquera

## heating

CONTINUED FROM / A13

ar the state had about  
on in home heating  
aid human services  
nt spokesman Andy

helped 80 families last year, paying for an average of \$2,065 in repairs.

The program will pay up to \$4,000 to replace a furnace, she said.

Covered repairs include weather stripping, insulation and repair or replacement of

price was \$142.7, down only 16 cents from January, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

### Price increase

On the New York Mercantile Exchange futures wholesale market a gallon of heating oil