

# Brotherhood Luncheon speaker talks New Jersey youth's future

## Salvation Army, Kearny Optimist Club hosts annual buffet for area civic groups

By Celeste Regal  
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The Annual Brotherhood Luncheon was held at the Salvation Army of Greater Kearny on 443 Chestnut Street Wednesday, Feb. 13. The luncheon is an annual gathering where local service organizations unite in fellowship. The organizations represented included the American Legion, Junior Women's Club of Arlington, Kiwanis Club of Kearny, The Lion's Club, The Optimist Club of West/South Bergen; The Rotary Club of Kearny; Woman's Club of Arlington and the Woman's Club of Arlington EMD.

The Kearny Optimist Club and the Salvation Army hosted the noon celebration.

Kearny High School senior, William Cheung, provided music. He played a variety of compositions

on the piano while guests ate their buffet lunch, served by Optimist Club members in white tux shirts and black ties. Kearny 3rd Ward Councilwoman Carol Jean Doyle is the first female member of the Optimist Club.

Guest speaker, Paul C. Anovick, president of Anovick Associations, LLC, gave a talk entitled, "Brotherhood Now and into the Future."

Anovick grew up on a 35-acre farm in southern New Jersey.

### Shift happens

He made a point of distinguishing how people watch what you do more than what you say. As a visual society we tend to mimic what we see, and miss the words that precede the action, especially young people.

"Change is something that we all have to deal with but we all deal with it in dif-

ferent ways, but either way change is uncomfortable and strange," Anovick said. "We deal with it in our lives, businesses and sometime the impact of change."

He continued by saying that his grandfather was born in 1888. In his lifetime he experienced the major changes of the 20th century. For thousands of years, the horse and buggy reigned as the general mode of transportation, with a top speed of 35 to 40 miles per hour.

"In his lifetime, the automobile showed up, then airplanes and before he passed, we put a man on the moon. So now you want to talk about change in one lifetime, look at what happened to that individual," Anovick said.

In the book "Future Shock" written sociologist and futurologist Alvin Toffler in 1970, Anovick said, "he really nailed it, what we are experiencing now."



Celeste Regal ♦ Observer Staff photo

**Paul C. Anovick speaking at the Annual Brotherhood Luncheon.**

"In a global sense, change is going to accelerate at a speed that we will not be able to assimilate it," he said.

As an example, when the automobile arrived on the scene, people had a decade or so to absorb into the cultural tradition of the population, as we did with the airplane and every other new time saving invention.

But Anovick likens the current rate of change, in a global, social and techno-

logical sense to riding a white water rapid in a small raft with a group of other enthusiasts.

If you're on the Delaware River or its tributary the Lehigh River, you hit sections of white water the river narrows and the river intensifies. But eventually you get down river where it widens and slows down.

"You catch your breath, get your bearings back and you paddle a little slower.

But now in 2008, we're in a continuous white water – there's no chance to catch your breath," he said. "It's only going to get faster, bigger and more monumental."

How this effects the community is that one in four workers have been with their current employer for less than one year, one in two – less than five years. Twenty percent of the residents of New Jersey were not born in the United States, according to a recent New York Times article. Our state has the highest percentage in the nation.

"Where ever America is heading, New Jersey is there first," he said. "Also, we are educating our children today for jobs and technology for jobs that don't even exist. We are preparing them to solve problems that we don't even know what they are

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# Anovick

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today.”

Anovick also mentioned hearing Thomas L. Friedman speak in Seattle, author of “The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century”, a best selling book that analyzes the progress of globalization.

“In his talk he said something that really resonated with me. When we grew up our parents said to us, ‘Finish your plate, the children in China are starving.’ But he tells his children today, ‘Finish your homework, the children in China are starving for your job,’” Anovick said.

He said in 2007 the United States graduated 1.3 million students; India graduated 3.1 million and China

3.3 million. In India, all those students speak English. Predictions say that China will be the number one English speaking country in 10 years.

“I started in broadcasting. From the time radio started in Pittsburgh it took 38 years to reach an audience of 50 million. In the late 1940s when television came along, it took 13 years to reach 50 million,” he said. “When the Internet

came along, it took four years to reach 50 million viewers.”

In 1984, the number of Internet devices in the world was 1,000. By 1992, it was up to 1 million devices. In 2006, there were 600 million Internet devices.

“Ladies and gentlemen, shift happens,” he said. “There were industries that exist today that were not here 10 years ago.” He

mentioned new media, ecommerce, organic agriculture, nanotechnology and Homeland Security to name a few.

Along with the new technologies are new words that have entered into the English language.

“What your organizations can do in the position of leadership for our communities is to raise money for these guys so the boom stops here,” he said. “Make

things happen. As leaders, it is not just what we say but what we do. Live the life and do the things that you want your children to do because they’re watching you.”

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