



THEODORA RAVAGO/Herald News

Mike Kenny of Montclair plays piano and sings popular songs every week for the lunchtime diners at Toni's Kitchen, a soup kitchen at St. Luke's Church.

## He's got them feeling all right

### Piano man helps make Montclair soup kitchen a welcoming, warm community

By JEAN STEVENS  
Herald News

**MONTCLAIR** — Some regulars at Toni's Kitchen call him "Broadway Kenny," but something about Mike Kenny's charming crooked smile, retro black glasses and salt-and-pepper flattop evokes another performer.

"He's a Montclair Billy Joel," said David Boykins, 45, of Newark, nodding toward the small piano where Kenny, 55, ran his fingers over the keys in the basement soup kitchen of St.

Luke's Church. Kenny turned to Boykins and six other men seated around a table, eating guacamole and toasted bagels.

"What do you want?" Kenny called. "Beatles!" several men chorused.

"Beatles?" he said, flipping through a song book. "Oh, there's a lot of Beatles in here." Kenny began pounding the keys, his khaki leather loafers pulsing the pedals, singing "Shake It Up Baby, Now" with an impressive exuberance and all from memory, his song book open to the wrong page.

#### INSIDE

Looking for a soup kitchen? Try these. D6

"That's our dude right there," said one of the men, Chase Mobley, 45, of East Orange, nodding to Kenny. "We look forward to him coming."

Kenny performs nearly every Thursday at the soup kitchen, one of a handful in Northern New Jersey, where about 50 people come for a free lunch each Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Kitchen volunteers prepare coffee, vegetables and dip, a meal with whatever the church has stocked in its large pantry each day (usually a variation of chicken or hamburger, a starch and a vegetable) and dessert, said cook Laura Feire.

Kenny, however, never eats at the kitchen. And he usually prefers to perform behind-the-scenes, he said. He's a composer who writes theme songs and scores for commercials — he co-wrote the music for a Doritos spot last year. But in December, he decided he wanted

Please see **KITCHEN SINGER**, D6

**"Sometimes you need company a little bit, and I think that's why a lot of people come here."**

JOYCE NANKERUIS,  
Belleville

#### PERSONAL SAFETY

## Beware the perils of summer

By DESONTA HOLDER  
McClatchy News Service

Cleaning up? Try not to spook your brown recluse spider.

Going camping? Be on the lookout for snakes.

Going to the beach? Beware the Portuguese man-of-war.

You know to supervise kids around water, wear DEET to keep mosquitoes

away, and never leave anyone in a parked car.

But how about snake bites, bee stings, jellyfish encounters and other summertime emergencies? You can prevent such calamities with a bit of advance knowledge.

Take a water scooter.

"One rides in front of the other and the front (guy) falls off and the second guy hits him," says Dr. Carl Spengler, medical director of the emergency department at Hialeah Hospital in Hialeah, Fla. "It crushes ribs, it collapses lungs, it breaks arms."

The solution: Ski side by side or alone. "That's the worst summer injury I've seen," Spengler said. "I've seen poison ivy, snake bites, but the easily prevented one, the worst, that's the Jet Ski."

As the temperature rises and outdoor activities beckon, here are some more tips

for a safe summer.

#### SNAKES

Don't panic if a snake bites you. Try to determine whether it's poisonous because anti-venom can cause anaphylactic shock, a potentially fatal allergic reaction. Many poisonous snakes in America — water moccasins, rattlesnakes, copperheads — have vertical pupils. Nonpoisonous snakes usually have round pupils.

An exception is the coral snake, which has round pupils and broad bands colored red, yellow and black. Remember: If red touches yellow, it can kill a fellow.

If you have a club and can kill a snake that bites you, kill it, Spengler advises, "but

Please see **SUMMER DANGERS**, D6

### Sun's UV rays pose health risk

By DESONTA HOLDER  
McClatchy News Service

Are you wearing sunscreen? If not, those pesky UV rays will damage your skin.

Here's how, according to Dr. Flor A. Mayoral, a dermatologist and part-time instructor at the University of Miami's Miller School of Medicine:

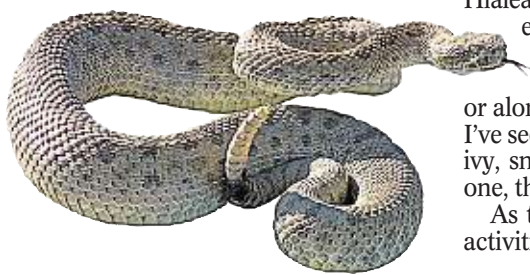
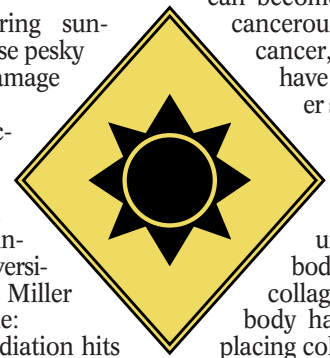
■ When UV radiation hits the top layer of skin it damages cells, and the cells have to replace

themselves.

■ If you do this over time, cells can become altered and precancerous. You can get skin cancer, especially if you have light skin, but darker skin is not immune.

■ UV radiation penetrates the skin and damages the collagen underneath. The body has to replace the collagen. As we age, the body has a hard time replacing collagen. Under a mi-

Please see **SUN**, D6



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