



# The Chronicle

Since 1862

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Saturday, January 8, 2005

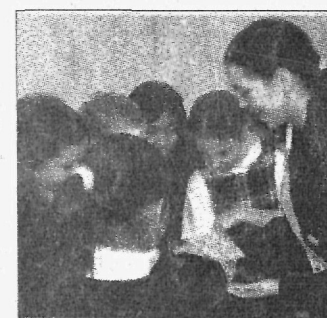
50 cents

## INSIDE



### Wrestlers shine in county meet

Bound Brook High's Jesse Harrington won the Somerset County Tournament's 140-pound title. He was one of four Crusaders to win titles. For holiday tournament highlights, see Page B1.



### Edison teen wins U.S. title

Edison resident Samantha Hahn, the recently named National American Miss Teen 2005, shows her crown to fifth-grade girls at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison. See story on Page A5.



### A big gift for the needy

David DiBartolo, vice president of operations for Applebee's, and Ed Doherty, a franchisee for Applebee's in New Jersey and Long Island, present a \$225,000 check to 1st Sgt. Martin Hanse Jr. of the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Foundation. For more details, see Page A2.

## REMINDER

### Election set on Tuesday

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The South Plainfield Historical Society holds its annual election of officers at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave.

Membership is required to vote for officers. Fee is \$10 for an individual member, \$15 per family, \$50 per institution, \$75 for a life member and \$100 for a corporate sponsor.

A program on the Lehigh Valley Railroad and the former South Plainfield railroad station follows the election.

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## Residents respond to disaster

*Asian tsunami responsible for widespread death, destruction*

EDISON — Several township-based companies have pledged financial donations for disaster relief efforts throughout the Southern Asia regions most affected by Sunday's tsunami.

Issac Heller, chairman of Heller Industries, is making a combined \$50,000 donation to the American Red Cross and

BAPS Care International. Federal Business Centers, Ryan Automotive, Wick Enterprises, Catena Automotive Group and JFK Hospital are also making sizable corporate and employee contributions to the organizations.

"A natural disaster of this proportion has been cataclysmic in

India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and other southern Asian countries. Our community, as was the case after the 2001 earthquake in Gujarat region of India, is showing its concern for people who are suffering in the aftermath," said Mayor George A. Spadaro. "I want to thank Heller Industries for their generous

donation to this effort and all the other Edison businesses for their donations to help these organizations," Spadaro added.

The American Red Cross, through its affiliation with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent, and BAPS Care International are currently providing assistance needs to the

victims.

Businesses and residents interested in making donations can direct them to the American Red Cross by calling (800) HELP NOW or online at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org). Donations to the BAPS Care International

Continued on page A2

## Tenant severely injured in blaze

BOUND BROOK — One man was critically injured and a woman was hurt jumping from a second-floor window when a fire ripped through 216 Talmage Ave. Tuesday, Dec. 28.

Ermino Petti Jr., 31, was found on the back porch of the home wrapped in a blanket and suffering from burns and smoke inhalation. After having his condition evaluated at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville, Petti was flown to St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston where he remained in critical condition Tuesday.

Amy Einstein, 25, the second-floor tenant, jumped out of the window when the heat and smoke entered her apartment. She was being treated at Somerset Medical Center.

The two apartments at 216 Talmage Ave. were uninhabitable after the fire. The apartments at 214 Talmage sustained minor smoke damage.

Somerset County Prosecutor Wayne J. Forrest said the fire apparently began in or on Petti's bed in the first-floor apartment.

Forrest said Petti left the burning room and went to his father's apartment at 214 Talmage to get a fire extinguisher. He then returned and unsuccessfully tried to



GEORGE PACCIOLLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The exterior stonework bears the stains of a fire that critically injured one man Dec. 28. Another tenant was hospitalized after she jumped from the second-floor window of the Bound Brook building.

put out the blaze.

The exact cause and sequence of events have not been determined because Petti cannot be interviewed due to his medical condition.

The blaze was put out by the Bound Brook Fire Department.

Anyone with information

about the fire is asked to contact either the Bound Brook Police Department at (732) 356-0800, the Somerset County Prosecutor's Office Arson Task Force at (908) 575-3300 or the Somerset County Crime Stoppers TIPS Line at (888) 577-TIPS (8477). All calls will be kept confidential.

## Ambitious '05 is projected for South Plainfield

By LIBBY BARSKY  
Correspondent

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — Phase One of the reconstruction of Hamilton Boulevard to Easton Boulevard, the installation of curbs and sidewalks on Maple Avenue and the start of construction for the new library are among the projects Mayor Daniel Gallagher expects the borough to undertake this year.

He outlined his vision for the borough during Sunday's reorganization meeting. Three council members also took the oath of office for three-year terms at the meeting.

Dennis Cerami was sworn into his fourth term and voted in as council president. Charles Butrico was sworn in for his second term and Kathleen Thomas will start her first elected term on the Borough Council. Last year, Thomas was appointed to take over James Vokral's seat when he left to take a position in Middlesex County government.

"Over 80 property acquisitions were required to allow the reconstruction of Hamilton Boulevard to proceed, including acquiring the store/apartment building at New Market and Hamilton Boulevard (for a turning lane) and the two-family home next to Michael Anthony's restaurant on Hamilton Boulevard. In addition Department of Transportation approval was needed for the traffic signals that will be installed at St. Nicholas Avenue and Ryan Street," Gallagher said.

The reconstruction will also include decorative lights and

pavers installed from St. Nicholas to the overpass at New Market Avenue. In addition to Hamilton Boulevard, one more lane will be added to Durham Avenue from the Route 287 exit to Hamilton Boulevard at Valley Bank. A dedicated turning lane and a new traffic signal will be installed at the Quick Check onto Helen Street.

"When this project is completed this summer Durham Avenue will be four lanes, which will significantly help traffic flow," said Gallagher.

Gallagher thanked state Sen. Barbara Buono, and Assemblymen Patrick Diegnan and Peter Barnes for helping to secure state grants of \$140,000 for the decorative lights and \$170,000 for the improvements to Durham Avenue. Another state grant of \$200,000 will be used to install curbs and sidewalks on Maple Avenue.

Gallagher also thanked the freeholders for \$1 million in open space preservation grants that was used to purchase six acres to enlarge Putnam Park and \$595,000 that will be used to put in restroom facilities and tennis courts at Putnam Park, new locker facilities at the PAL building and improvements to the kitchen and a room divider in the auditorium at the Senior Center.

In addition, "We will be applying for county and state funds to acquire properties along New Market Avenue from the former bus lot to Elsie Avenue so this area can be preserved for passive open space use and stormwater detention," Gallagher said.

## 2-month probe ends with arrest

BOUND BROOK — A two-month-long drug investigation and a tip generated in an unrelated borough arrest resulted in the arrest of an alleged cocaine dealer Dec. 29.

George A. Kellam Jr., 31, of Pickering Place, Franklin, was arrested on multiple drug and gun charges. A vehicle and \$14,538 were also seized.

The Somerset County Prosecutor's Office Organized Crime and Narcotics Task Force learned that Kellam would be in Bound Brook and staked out the neighborhood around Lamonte School.

When they spotted Kellam, they identified themselves and ordered Kellam to show them his hands. Officers said he failed to do so. He was then instructed to get out of his 2000 Dodge Intrepid and instead lunged toward the passenger side of the vehicle, the officers said.

Detectives removed him from the vehicle and arrested him on an obstruction charge.

A search following the arrest yielded 26 plastic bags containing a total of 1 ounce of cocaine and \$538.

The Somerset County Sheriff's Department K-9 Unit responded and its drug-sniffing dog reacted positively to the presence of narcotics inside the

vehicle.

After a search warrant was obtained, the detectives found another 26 bags of cocaine, a 9mm Smith & Wesson Sigma handgun, two bottles of drug cutting agents and \$14,000.

The estimated street value of the seized cocaine is about \$4,100. Detectives seized the cocaine, gun, money and Kellam's vehicle.

Kellam was charged with two counts of second-degree possession of cocaine with intent to distribute, two counts of third-degree possession of cocaine with intent to distribute within 1,000 feet of a school, third-degree unlawful possession of a handgun, second-degree possession of a handgun while possessing a controlled dangerous substance with intent to distribute, second-degree possession of a handgun while possessing a controlled dangerous substance with intent to distribute within 1,000 feet of a school, fourth-degree obstructing governmental operations and disorderly persons possession of narcotic paraphernalia.

Bail was set at \$100,000 cash only by state Superior Court Judge Frank W. Gasiorowski. Kellam was taken to the Somerset County Jail in default of bail.

**George A. Kellam Jr., 31, of Pickering Place, Franklin, was arrested on multiple drug and gun charges. A vehicle and \$14,538 were also seized.**

## Community policing

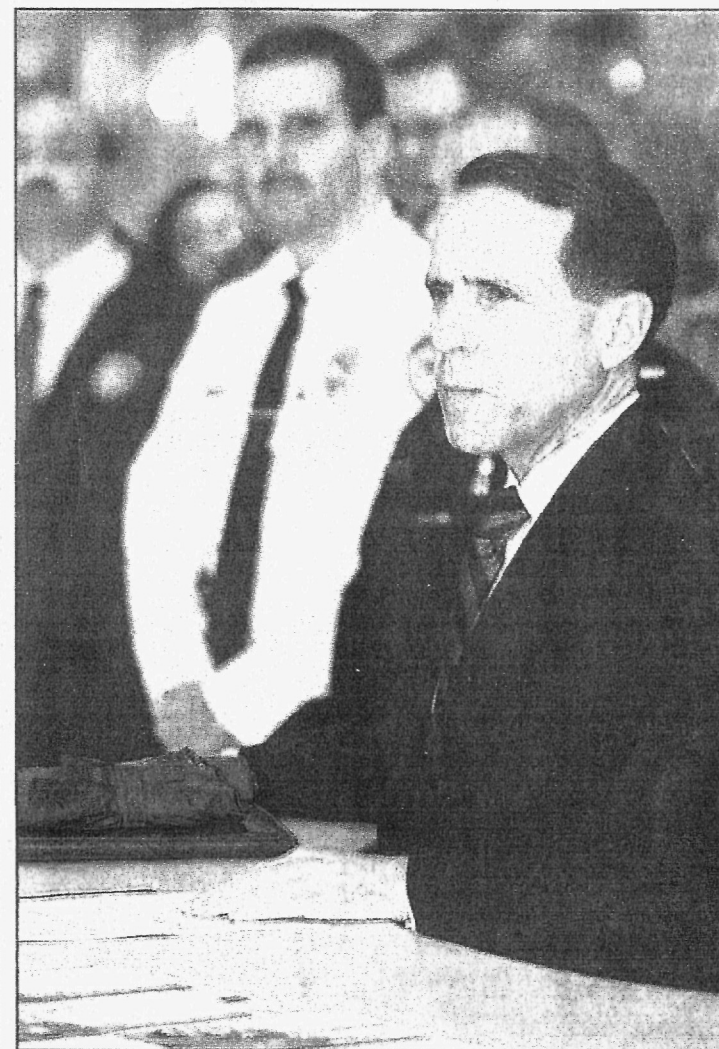


PHOTO BY LARRY MURPHY

Somerset County Wayne J. Forrest helps Bound Brook usher in a new era of community policing at the rededication Monday of the borough's police substation in the ShopRite on West Union Avenue. The police initiative recognizes that without the input and support of the community, law enforcement is ineffective. The department will be making every effort to improve communication with borough residents.

## Codey signs bill in Edison

By LIBBY BARSKY  
Correspondent

EDISON — Acting Gov. Richard E. Codey was in the township Dec. 30 to sign into law a bill that requires prosecutors and judges to obtain the driving records of offenders before they are sentenced.

The driving record will reveal whether the offender has had previous arrests for crimes such as drunken driving, driving with a revoked license, refusing a breath test or leaving the scene of an accident.

Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan said he drafted the bill because he was moved by the death of Michael Partipilo by an allegedly drunken driver with four citations.

When Philip Gonzalez's van crashed into the Toyota SUV driven by Partipilo, 17, of Piscataway, on March 12, 2004 Gonzalez was charged with drunken driving. Partipilo died two days later.

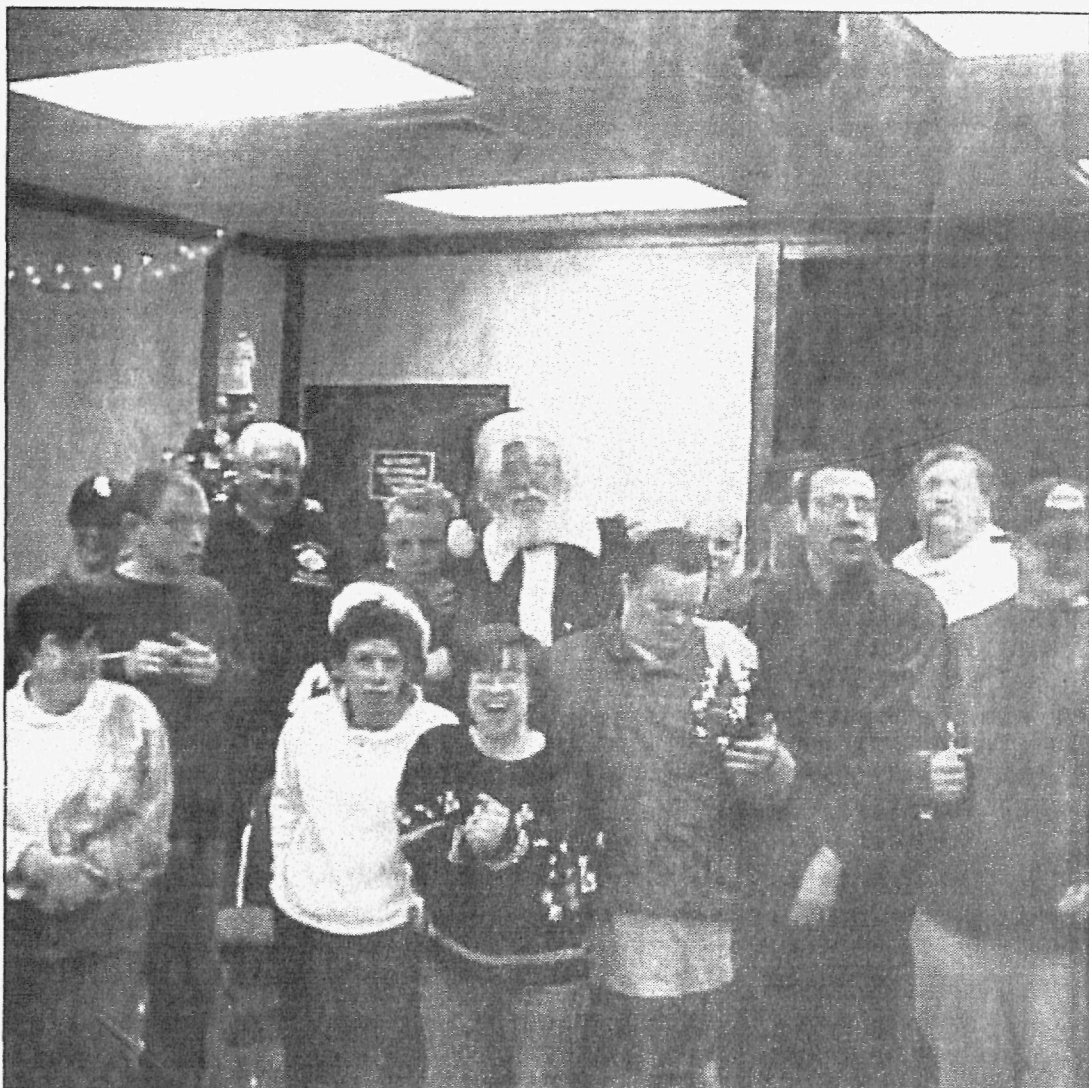
In April 1999, Gonzalez was charged with drunken driving in Metuchen. When Gonzalez pleaded guilty in that incident, he reported that it was his second arrest for drunken driving and his license was revoked for six months.

Authorities later learned the incident in Metuchen was not his second, but his fourth offense.

"He (Gonzalez) should have had his driving license suspended for 10 years and not six months."



## Knights host Christmas party



South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council 6203 held its annual Keystone residents Christmas party Dec. 29. More than 70 Keystone residents came for a hot dinner and a visit from Santa who delivered many gifts. The Knight of Columbus members and families cooked and served the residents. Wonder/Hostess donated all of the rolls and desserts and Knight member Ed Kubala stood in for Santa. Co-Organizers for this event were Bill Thomas and Grand Knight Joe Scudato.

## Highland Park wants to be 'greenest' in U.S.

HIGHLAND PARK — The borough is working to become the most "green" municipality in the nation, with the goal of having the highest density of environmentally-friendly buildings deemed "LEED certified."

The LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System is a consensus-based, national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings.

To accomplish its goal, the community is in the midst of many groundbreaking initiatives:

— Borough-owned buildings are being equipped with solar panels, high-efficiency heating, ventilation and cooling

systems and new energy-efficient lighting. The effort, with support from the state Board of Public Utilities and the Clean Energy Council, will save municipal property taxpayers an estimated \$15,000 per year in energy costs.

— Construction is to begin this spring on a LEED-certified environmental center on River Road, built with recyclable materials and designed to preserve energy and water.

— Designs are being submitted for environmental "rain gardens" on Raritan Avenue, the borough's main shopping district. A small number of parking spaces will be replaced with gravel and sand. Rainwater will filter through these gardens and

flow out to the Raritan River. — Highland Park and nearby Rutgers University are launching a plan to jointly purchase environmental products.

— The town is creating a "green" master plan by reviewing all ordinances and land-use policies.

— Highland Park has received commitment from two synagogues and a church to install solar panels. Borough officials are making outreach efforts to the other 10 houses of worship in town.

— Plans are being made to offer a stream of shuttle buses into New Brunswick to reduce the number of cars traveling between the city and the borough.

## Fund-raiser proceeds



David DiBartolo, vice president of operations for Applebee's, and Ed Doherty, a franchisee for Applebee's in New Jersey and Long Island, present a \$225,000 check to 1st Sgt. Martin Hanse Jr. of the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Foundation. The money was raised at 12 local restaurants, including the ones on Centennial Avenue in Piscataway and Route 1 South in Edison, at the sixth annual Breakfast with Santa. All proceeds benefited the Toys for Tots program.

## Residents respond to disaster

Continued from page A1

can be made by calling (732) 744-9734 or (408) 416-7435 and online at [www.bapscore.org](http://www.bapscore.org).

In addition, the United Way of Central Jersey (UWCJ) is accepting monetary donations and has pledged that 100 percent of the money raised will go to the United Way agencies directly helping the victims.

Gloria Aftanski, president of UWCJ, said, "The destruction and loss of life is unfathomable. The United Way of Central Jersey is asking the public to donate money to help prevent further loss of life and to aid the survivors. The living are surrounded by death, they have no food or clean water.

For more information, visit [www.uwcj.org](http://www.uwcj.org).

## 7 Edison policemen are officially promoted in end-of-year ceremony

EDISON — Seven township police officers, who have been acting in their new titles since Aug. 12, were officially promoted Dec. 29.

"The officers being promoted are all outstanding law enforcement professionals who will continue to build on our Police Department's stellar record of protecting the

public," said Mayor George A. Spadaro. "Since they received their new titles and responsibilities on an acting basis, they each have demonstrated their leadership and professionalism. They are a credit to our police force."

Promoted to lieutenant are: Anthony Landolfi, a 21-year veteran of the force, who is

serving as a juvenile division supervisor. He was named a sergeant Jan. 17, 1990.

John Spielman, a 20-year member of the department, is serving as a detective bureau supervisor. He became a sergeant April 24, 2001.

Donald Merker joined the force on July 21, 1988. He is serving as a patrol division supervisor. He was named a sergeant April 24, 2001.

Promote to sergeant are: Alexander Glinsky, a 19-year member of the force. He is currently serving as a patrol division supervisor.

Frederick Huth joined the force March 14, 1994. He is serving as a patrol division supervisor.

Dominick Masi also joined the force March 14, 1994. He is serving as a traffic safety division supervisor.

Frank Tortorello, has served on the force since Sept. 9, 1992. He is serving as a patrol division supervisor.

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**ATTENTION: KNEE REPLACEMENT RECIPIENTS**

Smith & Nephew has announced a recall of their Oxinium Genesis II and Oxinium Profix II knee replacement systems manufactured between February 2002 and August 2003.

There have also been reports of premature failures of the Depuy Ultra High Weight Polyethylene knee prostheses sterilized through a gamma irradiation process. This applies primarily to knees manufactured prior to 1998. If you had your knee replaced with one of these systems, you may have a claim.

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# Still openings for SAT review

By LIBBY BARSKY  
Correspondent

**SOUTH PLAINFIELD** — There are still 60 to 70 openings for the in-house SAT Review program offered by the district, said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Robert Rosado.

The in-house SAT program was initiated by the district in October and 132 students were enrolled in it in the fall.

A new SAT Review session begins this month. It will emphasize the test's new components: a written essay and third-year math.

The new version of the SAT will be given March 12.

There is a charge of \$70 for the in-house SAT Review session that includes the cost of materials. If the student attends every session, the \$20 fee for materials will be refunded.

Rosado said some students who have taken the class have increased their scores by as many as 200 points. He is urging high school juniors to take the class to help increase their score and help raise South Plainfield High School's average SAT score.

For 2004, the average score of those taking the SAT was 1012; 77 percent of the senior class took the test.

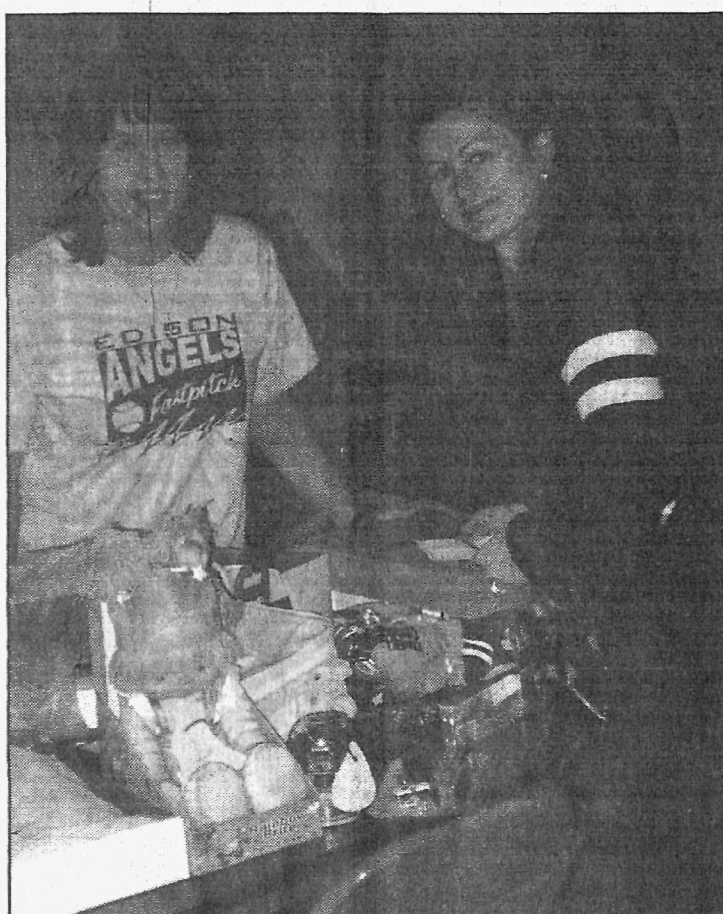
Last year, when Assistant Superintendent of School Anthony Massaro was high school principal, he initiated the requirement that all seniors apply to a college. The requirement was met by all seniors and 91 per cent of the Class of '04 are now attending college.

Since its beginning, the South Plainfield Education Foundation, a nonprofit organization, has encouraged students to achieve higher grades through its Gold Card program.

High school students who maintain a 3.0 (B) grade point average in all subjects for one marking period, engage in two or more extracurricular activities or sports and have no discipline or attendance referrals are rewarded with the Gold Card that offers opportunities to receive movie passes, free yearbooks and other items.

This year, 812 students attained Gold Card status after the first marking period. It is the largest number that the school has had.

## Santa comes early



Volunteers for FISH pack up holiday gifts in a program sponsored by Our Lady of Fatima Church in Piscataway. The gifts for about 150 children were distributed to needy families on Dec. 18. The effort was chaired by Arlene Sroczyński.

## Campus Notes

Rider University alumna **Adrienne Gillespie** of Edison was one of two students to receive the John H. Clemons Memorial Award of Merit at a recent Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) awards banquet. Gillespie received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Rider last May.

She is also a graduate of Edison High School.

\*\*\*  
**Jonathan Klopotsky**, of Albany, N.Y., son of Laura Klopotsky, received a Master of Science degree in Computer Science from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in May.

## Police Log

### Middlesex

A resident of Second Street reported Dec. 21 the theft of a bicycle worth \$230 from 547 Bound Brook Road, Niko's Sports Cards.

\*\*\*  
**Karyn M. Gregor**, 25, of Manville, was charged Dec. 24 with driving while intoxicated following a motor vehicle stop at Union Avenue and Valentine Street.

\*\*\*  
**Lewis Goodman**, 66, of Middlesex, was charged with driving while intoxicated following a motor vehicle investigation on Wellington Street Dec. 31.

\*\*\*  
**Ernest Vega**, 32, of Piscataway, was charged Jan. 2 with possession of a controlled dangerous substance, under 50 grams of marijuana, and with being under the influence of a controlled dangerous substance, marijuana. Vega was arrested on Fairview Avenue.

### South Plainfield

**William Damski** of Milltown was charged with defective brakes, operating an unsafe vehicle and defective tires after diesel fuel was found on Belmont Avenue Dec. 30.

Damski was driving a 1990 Peterbilt tractor-trailer on Route 287 when he became aware of the fuel leak. He told police he called his boss who told him to proceed to his South Plainfield destination.

Damski said he left Route 287 onto Durham Avenue, then proceeded north onto Hamilton Boulevard and then Belmont before stopping on Metuchen Road.

The cause of the fuel tank rupture is not known. The Middlesex County HAZMAT unit and the borough fire department responded.

\*\*\*  
Eight offices at 51 Cragwood Road were burglarized Dec. 29. A laptop computer was stolen from Suite 100 and three others were taken from Suite 102.

Door handles at four of the offices were broken.

## Conservation theme for students contest

"Celebrate Conservation" is the theme of the 2005 Conservation Poster and Bumper Sticker Contests. Students can discover what conservation is, where it is used and why it is important to promote it.

The contests are open to students from Monmouth and Middlesex Counties. Both contests are divided into four divisions: Grades 2-3, 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12. Freehold Soil Conservation District

prizes include \$100, \$75 and \$50 U.S. savings bonds. All first-place entries are submitted for state-level competition.

Contest entry forms are available by calling the Freehold Soil Conservation District office at (732) 683-8500, Ext. 2526 or by email at [info@freeholdscd.org](mailto:info@freeholdscd.org). Provide your name, address and zip code.

This contest entry deadline is March 11.

### ROBERT SABATTIS - ATTORNEY

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# Commentary

## Fast track rail plan

For more than a decade mass transit advocates have argued for the renewal of rail passenger service on the West Trenton Line from West Trenton to Bound Brook. Now there is a push for renewing passenger service on the former Jersey Central railroad from the end of the Raritan Valley Line in High Bridge to Easton, Pa.

The first project has dubious value while the second deserves to be pursued as quickly as possible.

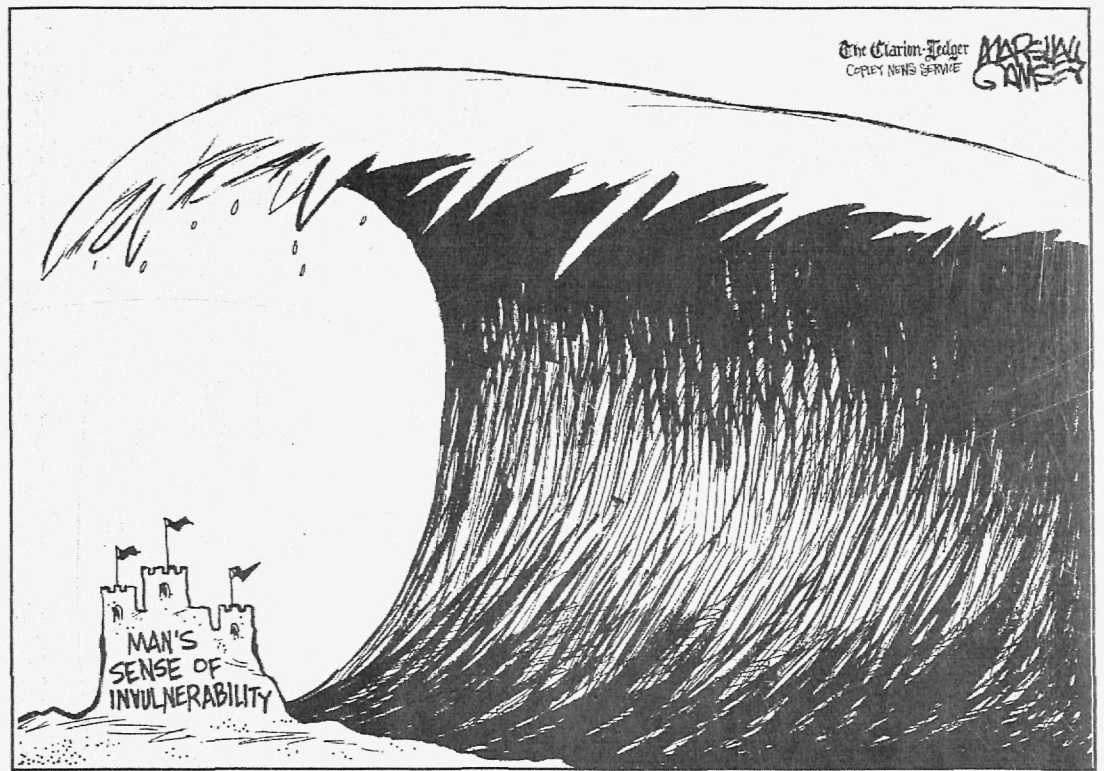
The West Trenton Line is the former main line of the Reading Railroad where speed records for locomotives were set in the late 1800s. The line connects to the Raritan Valley Line in Bound Brook to Newark and Bound Brook and the SEPTA Line in West Trenton to Philadelphia. The argument for renewal of the West Trenton line is that it should relieve traffic in the Route 206 corridor. And while that makes sense from a theoretical viewpoint, it ignores the reality that it doesn't reflect where people in South Somerset work or shop and, as any Route 206 driver can testify, widening the highway near the Somerville Circle has improved traf-

fic more than anyone has expected. The reactivation of the line could ironically increase local traffic because it would encourage development in Hillsborough that is still open space and ripe for residential development.

But reactivating the Jersey Central line to Easton makes a lot more sense because it could relieve the traffic on chaotic and congested Route 78. As suburban sprawl creeps westward, more and more people both live and work in the Route 78 corridor. And the interstate highway is not likely to be widened. Plus, the Jersey Central line provides an essential link between two population centers — the Lehigh Valley and Central Jersey. It just makes more sense.

Everybody supports passenger rail service. It's considered sacrilege to criticize passenger rail service. But it's expensive and requires huge taxpayer subsidies. That's why the state's precious resources need to be spent wisely and targeted precisely for the greatest good.

And that's why reactivation of the Jersey Central line should be put on the fast track.



## Letters to the Editor

## Politically correct are taking Christmas out of the holiday

### To The Editor:

Christmas. What Christmas was years ago and what Christmas is today.

Shopping for the people in your life and greeting strangers with a "Merry Christmas" as you went store to store. After paying for your purchase, the clerk would wish you "Merry Christmas" and not "Happy Holiday."

Christmas carols could be heard, over the noise of the cash registers, and all the happy smiling faces, red from the cold air outside, were the sign that an important day would soon be here.

As you walked past one of the many churches you could hear the choir practicing, the wonderful Christmas carols and, at times, the church bells would ring.

The pretty Christmas cards that wished you a Merry

Christmas, not season's greetings or happy holiday.

I used to buy many cards sent to me by some organizations; but if they don't say "Wishing you a Merry Christmas," they go into recycling bin.

Christmas greeting cards are hung on my front door, but the others are put aside until all the cards are recycled.

Due to the lack of interest by the so-called Christian people, and no talk about the anti-Christian struggle from Christian leaders in many churches, Christmas may well be the thing of the past.

Where are all Christians? Do they care about next Christmas and the many more that may follow, or maybe just this one more Christmas?

The anti-Christians are winning the so-called war against Christians and the Christians are asleep on the battlefield.

The wake-up call is overdue or maybe too late. Maybe, just maybe, "Merry Christmas" will be back in our homes, towns, counties, states and country.

In the meantime, as we wait for the great Christian awakening, go to the better high schools and listen to the Christmas music, since some schools, not knowing better, will not have a Christmas program due to the lack of knowledge by their local school boards.

To conclude this letter, I wish everyone, including the American Civil Liberties Union, National Organization for Women, the organization of separation of church and state, National Education Association, the Clintons, Edward Kennedy and all other socialists a very Merry Christmas.

**TED ZYCHLINSKI**  
South Plainfield

## Y grateful for help in securing grant for bigger, better facility

### To The Editor:

The Raritan Valley YMCA in East Brunswick would like to thank our local and state officials for helping secure a \$3.9 million Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) grant to aid our renovation and expansion efforts.

In particular, we would like to thank state Sen. Barbara Buono for her interest in this project, which will have a positive impact on the many local communities that we serve.

The re-location and expansion of our facility from Dunham's Corner Road to an existing building on Tices Lane will help us provide new and increased services to better serve more than 2,000 people across Central Jersey. Among other things, the facility will feature cardiovascular, conditioning & weight training areas, a six-lane pool, an aerobic/dance studio, child care center, multipurpose rooms and a new gymnasium.

This grant proves that once again, several entities, working together as one, can accomplish much for the common good. We look forward to an exciting 2005 with great anticipation as we watch the renovation and expansion of our Family Center. We appreciate everyone's efforts to help make this project a success.

**RON FOURNIER**  
Raritan Valley YMCA  
Executive Director

### Correction

According to the owners of an existing strip mall at Park and West Golf avenues in South Plainfield, no new work will be done to the structure itself. An article that appeared on Page A1 in

the Dec. 11, 2004, edition of The Chronicle incorrectly stated that the owners were seeking when they appeared before both the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment. Only a variance

regarding the number of parking spaces at the site is being sought by the building's owners. There has not been and will not be any application for construction or renovation of the existing structure.

## Protecting environment is unique balancing act

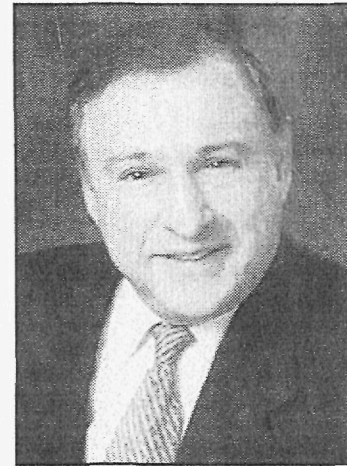
### By BOB SMITH

The story of New Jersey's environment is a tale of two states: one a sprawling industrial metropolis filled with vast superhighways and towering smokestacks, the other a lush green Garden State filled with vast greenways and towering trees. Balancing the unique environmental needs of each is at times a challenge, but when you can find that balance, the rewards are rich not only for yourself but for generations of New Jerseyans to come.

Having presided over the Senate Environmental Committee last year, I have had the pleasure of serving New Jersey at one of the most environmentally historic periods of our state's history. Many of the bills we sent on to become law will undoubtedly shape the state's environmental policy for years. To have played even a small role in that process was humbling and an honor.

We approved one of the most significant environmental achievements of the past 20 years in the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act, a milestone that will protect the water quality for nearly half of New Jersey's population. The legislation is a result of hours of public testimony and hearings held in Trenton and the Highlands region. The law is a testament of the hard work of my fellow sponsors, Sen. Robert J. Martin (R-26th Dist.) and Assemblyman John F. McKeon (D-27th Dist.); the Senate Environment Committee; the Assembly Environment and Solid Waste Committee; and countless others who contributed to the process. The Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act couples an aggressive preservation policy with smart growth planning to create one of the most comprehensive environmental safety nets ever seen in the Garden State. With the threat of encroaching development and suburban sprawl jeopardizing the pristine quality of the Highlands' water resources every day, we decided action was necessary. In August, with the Wanaque Reservoir as a backdrop, the bill was signed into law. The Highlands Council had its first meeting in December to begin implementation of the law.

Also in December, the Senate approved legislation to re-establish the Office of Environmental Law Enforcement within the Division of Criminal Justice. The environmental prosecutor was established in the early 1990s by an executive order of



STATE SEN. BOB SMITH

Gov. James Florio but was later abolished by an executive order of Gov. Christie Whitman. Once the legislation to re-establish the environmental prosecutor is signed into law, it will take an act of the Legislature to eliminate this important post. The environmental prosecutor will be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. He or she will only be able to be fired by the governor, giving the office important independence in its work.

We're raising the profile of environmental crime in the Garden State. We need to send the message that our environment is too important and must not fall victim to those who show blatant disregard for our natural resources.

In response to flooding last summer in Southern New Jersey, the Senate Environment Committee approved a bill sponsored by Sen. Wayne R. Bryant (D-5th Dist.) to give the Department of Environmental Protection the authority to penalize those who let private dams fall into disrepair and put the public at risk. [This bill is pending in the Assembly Environment and Solid Waste Committee.] Along with pending efforts to free up state bond funds for public and private dam improvements, this measure will go a long way to ensure the safety of communities at significant risk due to dam failure.

The Senate committee also approved a bill to require that switches containing mercury be removed from automobiles before they are scrapped or recycled as a means of reducing the danger of mercury contamination in New Jersey. While this dangerous substance has been eliminated in newer vehicles, many older cars still contain mercury switches. When the cars are incinerated at local junkyards the mercury is released, polluting our air and causing developmental prob-

lems in children and nervous system disorders in adults. The bill is currently pending in the Senate Budget Committee.

As we look ahead to this year, a number of important initiatives for which we've already laid the groundwork will become major priorities.

We will look to reduce air pollution in the Garden State. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, New Jersey does not meet health-based standards for fine particle pollution. In order to resolve this problem I am sponsoring a bill to reduce fine particle emissions from certain vehicles that use diesel engines. The program would establish new stricter standards for diesel particulate emissions from certain regulated vehicles, such as buses and trucks, to limit exposure of the public to these emissions. It is estimated that the number of premature deaths each year in New Jersey can be dramatically reduced and the state can save \$70 million annually on health care for people who suffer from asthma and other health problems as a result of breathing polluted air. The legislation would appropriate funds to help retrofit regulated vehicles, decreasing the financial burden on counties and municipalities in New Jersey. However, we have to find a funding source from existing revenue streams, a task that will not be easy considering New Jersey's tight fiscal condition.

We will also look to ways of maximizing the benefit from our environmental cleanup dollars. A bill sponsored by Sens. John H. Adler (D-6th Dist.) and Henry McNamara (R-40th Dist.) would free up funds for site remediation and brownfield redevelopment. This is the sort of fiscally sound, environmentally sensitive development that will restore our urban areas, make use of existing resources and bring commercial opportunities into our state's cities. The legislation has been approved by the Senate Environment Committee and is awaiting consideration in the Senate Budget Committee.

New Jersey is a state where large tracts of wilderness and immense urban landscapes can co-exist but only if we remain vigilant in monitoring the impact we have on nature. If we are responsible, we will be able to enjoy the green in the Garden State for many years to come.

The writer, whose Senate district includes Highland Park and Piscataway, is chairman of the state Senate Environment Committee.

## Letters to the Editor

## Firefighters appreciate support

### To The Editor:

On behalf of the Bound Brook Volunteer Fire Department I would like to thank all the businesses, residents and friends who have donated so generously during our annual fund drive. It is impossible to operate a volunteer organization without the continued financial support that we receive from so many

of our kindhearted friends. With these troubled times we live in today and the heavy burden of uncertainty that surrounds all of us, this year's fund drive is especially heartwarming and very special to all the firefighters. We sincerely appreciate everyone's efforts and the thoughtfulness so many have shown. May I remind anyone who

has not sent in his contribution to please do so now by mailing a donation to Bound Brook Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 293, Bound Brook, NJ 08805-0293.

Once again, we thank all of you for your excellent support.

**DAVID CZARCINSKI**  
Chief, Bound Brook Volunteer Fire Department

## The Chronicle

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## The Chronicle is here for you

The following information will help you get your ideas and community news into The Chronicle:

Call editor Craig Turpin at (908) 575-6698 with story suggestions, questions or comments. Information can be e-mailed to middlesex@njnpublishing.com.

The sports editor is Dave Allena. He can be reached at (908) 575-6690.

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### Correction policy

The Chronicle will correct errors of fact, context or presentation and clarify any news content that confuses or misleads readers. Please report errors to editor Craig Turpin at (908) 575-6698.



## Alice Zimko

MIDDLESEX — Alice Wisniewski Zimko, 85, died Jan. 1, 2005 at Raritan Health and Extended Care Center.

Born in Manville, she was a daughter of the late Alexander and Ceslava Carolewski Wisniewski.

Mrs. Zimko lived in Middlesex for most of her life. She retired in 1979 after 15 years as a cafeteria cook with the Middlesex school system.

She was a member of the Middlesex Senior Citizens Club and also the senior citizens group at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Roman Catholic Church.

Her husband of 45 years, Paul, died in 1986. A son, Kenneth Paul, is deceased.

Surviving are a daughter,

Barbara Liedl and husband Frank of Bridgewater; a brother, Zigmund Wisniewski of Middlesex; two sisters, Valentine Buchala of North Plainfield and Mary Jankowiak of Baltimore; and a granddaughter, Elizabeth Kirchner of Burlington.

Services were held Wednesday at Fucillo & Warren Funeral Home, Manville, followed by a Mass at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church. Burial was in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Hillsborough.

Donations may be sent to Odyssey Hospice, 20 New England Ave., Suite 101, Piscataway, NJ 08854. To send a condolence, visit [www.fucilloandwarrenfuneralhome.com](http://www.fucilloandwarrenfuneralhome.com)

## Anita M. Stacy

BOUND BROOK — Anita M. Stacy, 69, died Dec. 24, 2004.

Born Oct. 18, 1935 in Roselle, she was a daughter of the late Werner and Anna Muller.

Mrs. Stacy lived in Roselle, Hillsborough and Bound Brook before moving to Bridgewater in 1996. She owned the Bridgewater Beauty Supply shop and Wigs by Anita.

She also was a breeder of royal standard poodles and a member of the Somerset

County Dog Club.

Her husband, Stanley, died in 1991. A brother, Walter Muller, is deceased.

Surviving are a son, Allan and wife Robin of Wall; a daughter, Susan Nastasee and husband Philip of Bethlehem, Pa.; a brother, Richard Muller and wife Jeanette of Allentown, Pa.; her mother-in-law, Alice of Linden; and three grandchildren.

Private arrangements were by Bongiovi Funeral Home in Raritan.

## Erika Scheffel

MIDDLESEX — Erika Judd Scheffel, 63, died Dec. 28, 2004 at Southern Ocean County Hospital in Manahawkin.

Mrs. Scheffel was born in Crenka, Yugoslavia, and lived in Middlesex before moving to Barnegat in 2000.

Surviving are her husband of 41 years, Waldeman; a son, Marc; a daughter, Tania Redesco; a brother, Adolf Judd; a sister, Charlotte Collura; and three grandchildren.

Services were held Monday in the chapel at the Brig. Gen. William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Arnytown.

Arrangements were by Bugbee-Riggs Funeral Home in Barnegat. Memorial donations may be sent to Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, 216 Haddon Ave., Suite 328, Westmont, NJ 08108 or SOCH Foundation, 1140 Route 72 West, Manahawkin, NJ 08050.

## Mary E. Mathews

SOUTH BOUND BROOK — Mary E. Mathews, 87, died Dec. 27, 2004 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born in Easton, Pa., she lived in Bound Brook before moving to South Bound Brook in 1992.

Mrs. Mathews retired in the mid-1980s after working more than 25 years as a secretary at St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church in Bound Brook.

Her husband, Harold, died in 1963. A son, Bill, died in 1998.

Surviving are two sons, Harold, with whom Mrs. Mathews lived, and Robert of Langhorne, Pa.; a daughter-in-law, Karen of Somerset; and seven grandchildren.

Services were held Dec. 31 at Hagan-Chamberlain Funeral Home in Bound Brook. Burial was in St. Joseph Cemetery, Bridgewater.

Donations may be sent to St. Mary's Church in Bound Brook.

## Florence Beekman

PISCATAWAY — Florence E. Meyers Beekman, 83, died Dec. 27, 2004 at her home.

Born Aug. 28, 1921 in Plainfield, she was a daughter of the late Peter and Bessie Medick Meyers.

Mrs. Beekman had lived in Piscataway since 1961 and was a homemaker.

Surviving are two daughters, Judith Gesumaria of Piscataway and Jeanette Meyer and husband Richard of Piscataway; two sons, William and wife Joy of Tobyhanna, Pa., and Kenneth of Piscataway; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Services were held Dec. 29 at Mundy Funeral Home in Dunellen. Entombment was in Good Shepherd Mausoleum at Lake Nelson Memorial Park.

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# Edison teen wins national title

EDISON — Township resident Samantha Hahn, 19, was crowned National American Miss Teen for 2005 at the competition held in Anaheim, Calif., at the end of November.

"I went there, decided just to be myself and had a ball," said the petite brunette.

Hahn had wowed audiences at Middlesex County's Plays-in-the-Park's production of "Footloose" this past summer, so performing in front of big audiences was no problem for her. The competition lasted four days.

"When I made it to the top group, I thought, 'Well this is pretty cool.' Then, when I was in the top five, I looked around and was pretty amazed. When they called the first runner-up's name, it didn't dawn on me that I was the winner. Then I saw the choreographer point to me and mouth, 'You won!' and it sunk in."

Hahn won the New Jersey title last August in New Brunswick making her eligible to compete against other state titleholders.

In November, she not only won the national title, but was named the third runner-up for "Most Photogenic," won the "National Cover Girl" title, and the "Most Promising Model" title that includes a modeling scholarship.

A 2003 graduate of Bishop George Ahr High School in Edison, she is currently attending Circle in the Square Performing Arts Conservatory in New York City as well as classes in journalism at Canyon College in New York.

An accomplished dancer, actor and singer, she has been performing locally and profes-



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUSAN DOUGHERTY

Edison resident Samantha Hahn, the recently named National American Miss Teen 2005, shows her crown to fifth-grade girls at The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison. The 19-year-old beauty queen plans to spread her message of anti-bullying to students throughout the nation.

sionally in commercials, music videos, TV and theater since the age of 7. She recently completed her first feature film that will be released this year.

"I love entertaining, performing and spreading my message," she said.

Hahn plans to utilize the national title the way she did

the state title: to further her anti-bullying campaign in schools, and before senior citizen groups and philanthropic organizations.

## School Notes

EDISON — Woodrow Wilson Middle School held a breakfast to honor its Students of the Month for December.

They are Rachel Palestine, Sunpreet Singh, Tulai Patel, Emily Kleiman, Jamie Stoms, Gina Pagliano, Julie Kim, Haley Schulman, Kevin Li, Bhartesh Shah, Stephen Gadaleta, Kristina Patrocino, Prashanth Barugodda, Jimmy Patel, Kyle Phillips, Sean Hu, Therese Dizon, Anna Trakhtenberg, Jai Won Su, Kimberly Leight, Arjun Ganatra, Tanya Gupta, Sarah Zhang, Jennifer Guan and Kenneth Yang.

The eighth-graders are chosen every month from October to June. Selection is based on social and academic guidelines that include cooperation, participation, leadership ability, courtesy, enthusiasm, perseverance, dedication, positive attitude and good work habits.

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**SATURDAYS**  
 Reverend **Prayer Service** 6:00 a.m.  
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 Saunders, Sr.  
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## Marion Venturo-Zirulnik

DUNELLEN — Marion L. Venturo-Zirulnik, 78, died Jan. 2, 2005 at her home in Raritan Township.

Born Sept. 15, 1926 in Roselle Park, she was a daughter of the late Louis G. and Hazel L. Goss Colucci.

Mrs. Venturo-Zirulnik lived in Roselle Park and Dunellen before moving to Raritan Township seven years ago. She was a homemaker.

Her first husband, Emil J. Venturo, and her second husband, Milton Zirulnik, are deceased.

Surviving are a son, Douglas Venturo and wife Karen of Raritan Township; a brother, Robert L. Colucci of Toms River; and two granddaughters, Amy L. Venturo and Jennifer L. Venturo, both of Raritan Township.

Services were held Wednesday at Holcombe-Fisher Funeral Home in Flemington. Burial was in Graceland Memorial Park, Kenilworth.

Donations may be sent to Hunterdon Hospice, 2100 Wescott Drive, Flemington, NJ 08822.

## Roger Higgins Sr.

SOUTH BOUND BROOK — Roger E. Higgins Sr., 62, died Dec. 31, 2004 at Barbara E. Cheung Memorial Hospice in Edison.

He was born Jan. 22, 1942 in Pratt County, Kan., and had lived in South Bound Brook since 1971.

Mr. Higgins worked for Stewart Oil Co. before becoming a truck driver with the Big T freight line in Hillsborough. He was an Army veteran of the Vietnam War

and a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Manville.

Surviving are his wife of 40 years, Elizabeth Lomastro Higgins; a son, Roger Jr. of Bridgewater; three daughters, Laura Bartkowski of Florida, Peggy Higgins of Manville and Gail Torrello of East Brunswick; a sister, Judy Morris; and eight grandchildren.

Private arrangements were by Flynn & Son Funeral Home in Fords.

## Salvatore Severini, owned disposal firm

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — Salvatore N. "Bubby" Severini, 74, died Dec. 28, 2004 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born in Newark, he lived in Westfield before moving to South Plainfield in 1962.

Mr. Severini owned Mountinside Disposal Co. for more than 30 years until 1980. He was a past-president of the South Plainfield Italian-American Club and more recently the manager of Sal's Spirit Shoppe in South Plainfield.

For more than 30 years Mr. Severini coached the Eagles, a Pop Warner football team in South Plainfield. He also was a C League coach in the South Plainfield Little League.

He was an Army veteran of the Korean War and a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Mountinside. Mr. Severini was a parishioner of Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church.

A brother, Joseph, died in 2000.

Surviving are his wife of more than 49 years, Lois Egidio Severini; two sons, Sal and Steven; a daughter, Luanne; and five grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was held Monday at Sacred Heart Church, following services at the McCriscin Home for Funerals. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery, Westfield.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the South Plainfield Pop Warner Football Eagles.

## Americo Colombaroni

BOUND BROOK — Americo J. Colombaroni, 97, died Dec. 31, 2004 at the New Jersey Firemen's Home in Boonton.

He was born Jan. 31, 1907 in Alpha and lived in Bound Brook most of his life.

Mr. Colombaroni retired in 1981 as an automobile mechanic with a Chevron service station in Bound Brook. He also was for nearly 20 years a school crossing guard at Thompson and West Union avenues.

He had been a member of America Hose and Engine Company No. 2 in the Bound Brook Fire Department since 1941. Mr. Colombaroni was a life member of the New Jersey State Firemen's Exempt Association and the New Jersey State Firemen's Relief Association.

He was an active member of the Bound Brook Senior

Citizens Club.

His wife, Anna Bruno Colombaroni, died in 1995.

Surviving are two sons, Richard of Bound Brook and Donald of Lake City, Fla.; two sisters, Anna Felkowski of Naples, Fla., and Mary Darabant of Las Vegas; a brother, Robert Turchi of Raritan; three granddaughters, Sharon Schull and Nikki Donabue, both of Florida, and Laurie Osbourne of New Jersey; two grandsons, Richard S. and Donni, both of Bound Brook; and eight great-grandchildren.

Mass was offered Wednesday at St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church, where Mr. Colombaroni was a parishioner. Burial was in Resurrection Burial Park, Piscataway.

Arrangements were by Hagan-Chamberlain Funeral Home.

## Frances Prawdzik

PISCATAWAY — Frances A. Prawdzik, 75, died Dec. 27, 2004 at Acorn Glen Assisted Living in Princeton.

Mrs. Prawdzik was born in Nanticoke, Pa. She lived in Cranford, Piscataway and Bayville before moving to Princeton in 2001.

She was a bank teller and loan officer during a 25-year banking career; Mrs. Prawdzik retired in 1997 as a loan officer with Fleet Bank in Iselin. She was a member of the Columbiettes and the Altar Rosary Society at St. Luke's Roman Catholic Church in North Plainfield.

Her husband, Eugene L., died in 1982.

Surviving are two sons,

Christopher of Bedminster and Eugene L. Jr. of West Palm Beach, Fla.; a daughter, Kathleen A. Timberlake of Holland, Pa.; two brothers, Raymond Ozehoski of Edgewater Park and Edward Ozehoski of Nanticoke; a sister, Elizabeth Zavislak of Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; and six grandchildren.

Mass was offered Dec. 30 at St. Elizabeth's Roman Catholic Church, Far Hills, following services at Layton Funeral Home in Bedminster. Burial was in Somerset Hills Memorial Park, Basking Ridge.

Memorial donations may be sent to Alzheimer's Association, 400 Morris Ave., Suite 251, Denville, NJ 07834.

## Frank Bukowski

DUNELLEN — Frank A. Bukowski, 89, died Dec. 30, 2004 at Greenbrook Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Green Brook.

Mr. Bukowski was born in Nanticoke, Pa. He lived in Plymouth, Pa., before moving to Dunellen in 1958.

He retired in 1980 after 20 years as a sales manager in Summit. Mr. Bukowski earlier was an agent in Pennsylvania with Franklin Life Insurance Co.

He was a football standout at Villanova University, where Mr. Bukowski graduated in 1940. He was wounded in action in Belgium while in the

Army during World War II.

He was a parishioner of St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church.

His wife, Stacia Audelewicz Bukowski, died in 1988.

Surviving are a son, Ray of Brick; a daughter, Susan Jala of Hampton; a brother, Leonard of Long Island, N.Y.; a sister, Celia Rube of Florida; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Private arrangements were by Sheenan Funeral Home. Donations may be sent to American Heart Association, 2550 Route 1, North Brunswick, NJ 08902.

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## Helen Kinosky

PISCATAWAY — Helen Kinosky, 86, died Jan. 1, 2005 at Willow Creek Rehabilitation and Care Center in Somerset.

Mrs. Kinosky was born in the Bound Brook Heights section of Piscataway. She lived in Middlesex for 37 years before returning to the township in 1982.

She worked for Union Carbide Corp. during World War II and was a waitress at the Tri-R Restaurant in Bound Brook after the war. Mrs. Kinosky was a former member of the Ladies Auxiliary to the River Road Fire Department.

She was a sacristan at St. Frances Cabrini Roman Catholic Church, where Mrs. Kinosky was a member of the parish's Altar Rosary Society. She once attended Our Lady of Mount Virgin Roman Catholic Church in Middlesex.

Her husband, Adam, died in 1963. Also deceased are three brothers, Joseph Florek, John Florek and Anthony "Ty" Florek; and a sister, Mary Smith.

Surviving are a sister, Catherine "Kit" Disalvo of Waveland, Miss.; and many nieces and nephews.

Mass was offered Wednesday at St. Frances Cabrini Church. Burial was in Resurrection Burial Park.

Arrangements were by Piscataway Funeral Home. Memorial donations may be sent to St. Frances Cabrini Church, 208 Bound Brook Ave., Piscataway, NJ 08854.

## Irene Bodnar

BOUND BROOK — Irene T. Bodnar, 76, died Dec. 28, 2004 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born in Bound Brook, she was a daughter of the late Charles and Angelina Jannone Carasoni.

Mrs. Bodnar lived in Bound Brook all her life. She was a member of the Deborah Foundation and the Bound Brook Senior Citizens Club.

She was a parishioner of St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church.

Her husband, Frank, died in 1983. A sister, Catherine Miano, and a brother, Michael Carasoni, are deceased.

Surviving are a son, Gene Daino of Hillsborough; a daughter, Donna Greco of Bound Brook; a brother, Anthony Carasoni of Manahawkin; and five grandchildren.

Mass was offered Dec. 31 at St. Joseph Church, following services at Hagan-Chamberlain Funeral Home. Burial was in Bound Brook Cemetery.

Donations may be sent to Deborah Heart and Lung Center.



## Sports

Saturday, January 8, 2005

## Balanced Piscataway whips Old Bridge

Jumping out to a 20-6 lead and putting together a balanced attack the Piscataway High girls basketball squad shook off a two-game losing streak to hammer Old Bridge 58-35 Tuesday night in GMC-Red Division play.

Coming off a pair of narrow setbacks to quality opponents in the Vaughn Stapleton Classic the Chiefs evened their record at 3-3 while handing Old Bridge its fifth loss in six starts.

Asia Jenkins and Tiffany Patrick dropped in 12 points apiece for the winners, while Caitlyn Wesnesky and Nicole Lilienfeld followed with eight apiece. After taking a 32-21 lead at halftime Piscataway iced the decision with a 16-4 surge in the third quarter.

**South Plainfield 59, Carteret 56** — Tied at 40-40 through three quarters the Tigers outscored host Carteret 19-16 down the stretch to pull out a GMC-White Division clash Tuesday night to improve to 5-1 for the season.

Danielle Arndt paced South Plainfield with 13 points, while Niya Santiago followed with 12. Asia Hollis produced a double-double with 10 points and 12 rebounds along with four blocks, while Erika Blaszak added 10 points.

**Morris Catholic 64, J.P. Stevens 47** — In an inter-sectional battle of unbeaten Tuesday night the Hawks fell behind perennial parochial power Morris Catholic 16-11 after eight minutes and 30-21 at halftime and could not come back in losing for the first time in six decisions.

Tania Kennedy tossed in 17 points and Amy Bonk scored 13 for Stevens, but Morris Catholic (7-0) had four players in twin figures

to earn the victory.

**Edison 47, Sayreville 42** — Trailing 35-32 entering the final quarter the Eagles used a 15-7 finish to post a GMC-Red Division triumph over Sayreville (1-4) Tuesday night to even their record at 3-3.

Carrie Mokar led the Edison attack with 14 points, while Gina Drost contributed 10 points and 10 rebounds. Kristin Sciarillo chipped in with nine points.

## STEVENS TOURNAMENT

Building a 24-12 lead by halftime and converting 15 of 19 free throws during the game J.P. Stevens captured the title in its tournament by downing South Plainfield 50-37 Dec. 29 in a battle of two of the GMC's top squads that went into the game without having lost.

Tania Kennedy dropped in 20 points to pace the Hawks, while Amy Bonk followed with 10 points. South Plainfield got 10 points from Nita Santiago, including seven during the first 1:20 of the second half that helped the Tigers get the deficit below 10. Danielle Arndt and Asia Hollis finished with eight and seven points, respectively.

**J.P. Stevens 71, Keyport 53** — Kennedy led a quartet of Hawks in twin figures with 20 points as the Stevens rolled in the tournament opener Dec. 27 against Keyport after opening a 46-16 lead at halftime. Bonk following with 16 points, while Kathryn Ruhno netted 12 and Jaime Gonzalez tossed in 11.

**South Plainfield 36, Union Catholic 31** —

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Tigers battled back from an 11-4 deficit after eight minutes to trim a solid Union Catholic squad in the first round Dec. 27. Arndt finished with 14 points, including a pair of treys during a 13-6 third quarter that gave South Plainfield the lead for good, and Santiago added eight points.

## SHANTY TOURNAMENT

Knotted at 9-9 through one quarter Middlesex took complete command with a 19-5 second quarter to whip Manville 58-36 Dec. 29 in the title game of the Clem Shanty Tournament at Dunellen.

Megan Reilly dropped in 12 points to pace an attack that saw 12 players score, while Nicole Bizzomo followed with 11 and Krissy Santoro added eight. The Blue Jays overwhelmed Manville (1-2) with their defense in the opening half when Middlesex forced 15 turnovers on their way to a 24-14 lead.

**Dunellen 42, Bound Brook 31** — Host Dunellen earned a split in tournament play with a consolation game triumph over Bound Brook Dec. 28. Thyree Hall paced the Destroyers with 15 points and seven rebounds, while Catherine Scerra had eight points and Lauren Staats added seven. Kim Charnuska topped the Crusaders with 11 points.

## HALEY TOURNAMENT

Falling into a 11-1 hole after eight minutes host Edison could not come back as it dropped a 56-33 verdict to Montgomery (4-1) in the title game of the Gene Haley Tournament Dec. 29.

Gina Drost led the Eagles with eight points, while Carrie Mokar added six.

**Edison 56, Carteret 48** — Knotted at 35-35 entering the final period the Eagles used a 21-13 closing surge to trim Carteret and advance to the championship game Dec. 28. Drost dropped in 14 points to pace Edison, and Kristin Sciarillo netted 10.

## STAPLETON CLASSIC

After overcoming a 20-17 halftime deficit with a 16-10 third quarter Piscataway saw its bid to upset unbeaten Red Bank Catholic (5-0) thwarted by a 17-11 final session by RBC as the Chiefs fell 47-44 in their final game of the Vaughn Stapleton Classic at Bridgewater-Raritan Dec. 30.

Caitlyn Wesnesky dropped in 14 points and grabbed 10 rebounds for the Chiefs, who finished tourney play with a 1-2 mark, while Asia Jenkins and Tiffany Patrick notched 12 points apiece.

**Immaculata 49, Piscataway 45** — Outscored 31-22 during the middle periods the Chiefs fell to Immaculata (2-3) in the middle game Dec. 28. Wesnesky once again led Piscataway with a double-double with 12 points and 11 boards, and Jenkins followed with nine points.

## ROSELLE PARK TOURNAMENT

Falling behind steadily after being outscored 11-2 in the opening quarter Metuchen fell to Johnson 49-38 in the title game of the Roselle Park Holiday Tournament Dec. 28. Kristen Edmonds logged 15 points, eight rebounds and three steals for the Bulldogs, while Joelle Vitale added 13 points.

## Bound Brook captures 4 individual SCT titles

Boasting a tourney-high four champions the Bound Brook High wrestling squad finished a close third in the Somerset County Tournament Dec. 28.

Nick Murray, Jesse Harrington, Andrew Flanagan and Michael Roberts claimed individual championships for the Crusaders, which finished with 138½ points to end up a half-point behind runnerup Bridgewater-Raritan. Watchung Hills won its second crown in three years with 153½ points.

Flanagan, the defending state champion at 145 pounds, renewed his rivalry with Watchung Hills' s Alex Caruso and once again prevailed, this time by a 5-4 decision at 160, to earn his a second straight Most Outstanding Wrestler Award and his fourth SCT crown, only the fourth wrestler to accomplish that feat.

Murray captured his second county title when he registered a technical fall over Bridgewater-Raritan's Jeff Ruggini by building a 19-2 advantage in 5:41 at 130.

Harrington, a runnerup twice in the event, earned his first gold medal by a 12-8 decision over Hillsborough's Kevin Lynch, while Roberts also picked up his first title by decking Brandon Holderbaum of Somerville in 3:41.

Bound Brook added three third-place performances as Reggie Perry (135), Chris Dobrzanski (145) and heavy-

## WRESTLING

weight Rich Perry came back to take their consolation final bouts.

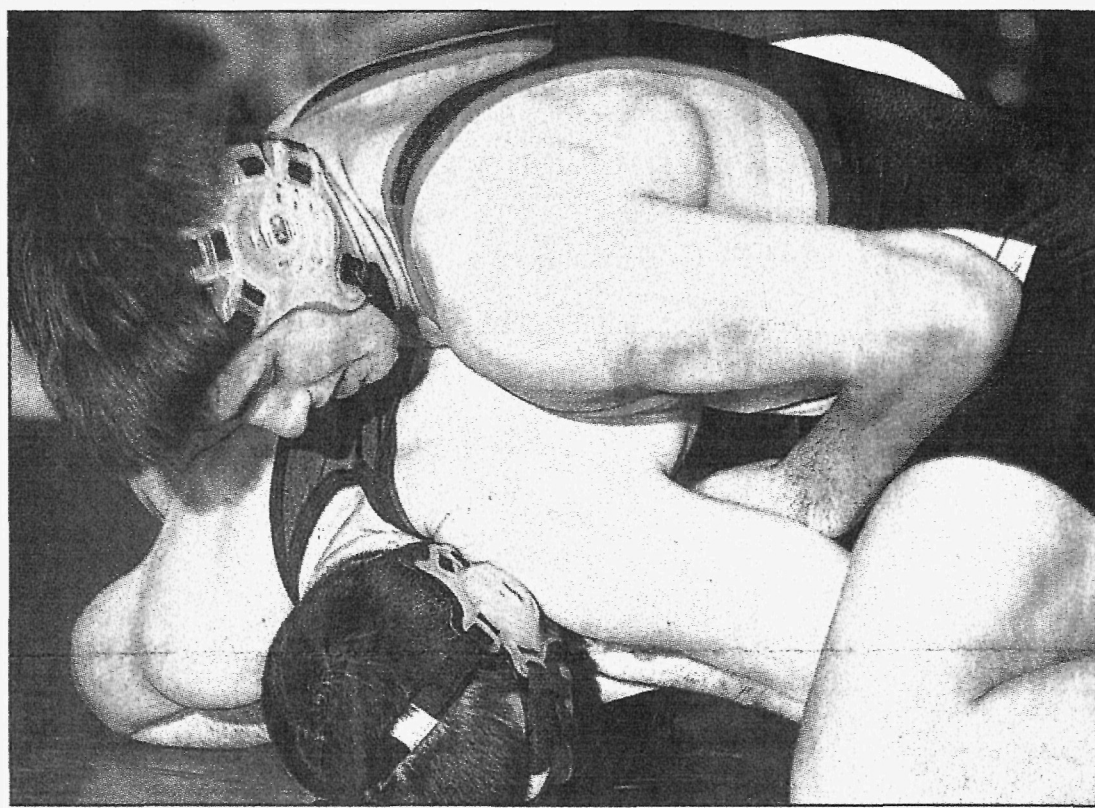
## HUNTERDON CENTRAL INVITATIONAL

In the highly-competitive non-scoring Hunterdon Central Invitational that was comprised of 20 teams Dec. 29 South Plainfield sent four to the finals and came home high a tournament-leading three champions.

Cousins Patrick Hunter and Jimmy Conroy captured championships along with Ed McCray, while Sam Martin settled for runnerup honors for the Tigers, who also had five wrestlers reach the consolation finals where they had one third-place finisher.

Hunter dominated his title-round opponent David DeCamp of Notre Dame by rolling to a 19-3 decision in 5:29 for a technical fall at 1-3 pounds, while Conroy outlasted Cherokee's Voris Tejada 3-1 at 119 and McCray decided Delran's Vinny Comisso 6-1.

Martin dropped a 9-2 verdict to J.R. Nettuno of Hunterdon Central, while Rob Maistickle took third at 215 when he pinned Old Bridge's Atman Ramadani in 1:30. Billy Ashnault (112), Nick Dorey (130), Paul Ritchey (152) and Nick Crilley (189) all dropped nar-



GEORGE PACCIELLO/THE CHRONICLE

Bound Brook High's Jesse Harrington works to turn Hillsborough's Kevin Lynch during Harrington's 12-8 victory in the 140-pound final of the Somerset County Tournament Dec. 28.

row verdicts in the third-place bouts.

Middlesex's Joe Bizzomo reached the consolation final at 171, and pulled out a 3-2 decision over Lawrence's Neal Amato for third place.

## RAHWAY TOURNAMENT

Will Miehe and Pavel Stuchinski won titles to lead

the way as J.P. Stevens finished third with 124 points at the Rahway Tournament Dec. 29. Rahway won with 207½ points, while Sayreville was second with 183½.

Miehe earned his championship by decking Governor Livingston's Scott Mack in 1:10 of the final at 152

pounds, while Stuchinski also logged a fall in the championship round as he pinned Sayreville's Pete Breton in 1:48 at 215.

The Hawks also had four second-place performances as Greg Zannetti took runnerup honors at 103, Moses Tam fell in the final at 112, Hamilton

Cook lost in the title round at 145 and Anthony Howard was beaten in the final at 145.

## ROSELLE PARK TOURNAMENT

Rob Damon and Chris Jones produced titles when Piscataway took part in the Roselle Park Tournament Dec. 30 against a solid field.

Wrestling at 171 pounds Damon pinned Pat Sheehan of champion Howell in 5:20, while Jones was even more proficient at 189 when he decked Madison's Dan Trimbele in 2:23.

## BEARS INVITATIONAL

Metuchen's Jack Barrett turned in a dominant effort in the championship round of the Bears Invitational at East Brunswick Dec. 28 when he needed only 18 seconds to deck Bishop Ahr's Mike Metrokatsis at 145 pounds to win the Bulldogs' only title.

Harry Peterson also reached the final for Metuchen, but the 140-pound finished second on a 7-4 setback. The Bulldogs finished with 861/2 points to place sixth.

## JOHN GOLES INVITATIONAL

J.C. Bandiero earned top honors at 125 pounds when he edged Delaware Valley's Nick LeFevre 2-0, while Ed Kidney finished second at 189 for Edison's top finishes at the John Gole Invitational Dec. 28 at Warren Hills. The Eagles totaled 98 points for sixth place.

## South Plainfield, Piscataway, Metuchen post victories

After building a 25-17 lead at halftime the South Plainfield High boys basketball squad doubled its advantage in the third period with a 13-4 session to whip visiting Carteret Tuesday night in a GMC-White Division encounter.

Marquis Jones had another big effort to lead the Tigers, who won their fifth straight to improve 6-1 as the senior guard pumped in 24 points and grabbed 11 rebounds. Half of Jones's points came from the foul line, where he converted 12 of 14 attempts.

Shamai Santiago finished with 10 points and Darren Smith followed with eight for South Plainfield, which handed the Ramblers their second loss in five starts.

**Piscataway 58, Old Bridge 48** — Getting six points from Kent Scriven the Chiefs bolted to a 20-8 advantage after one quarter, and Robert Freeney and Allen Hairston took over from there as Piscataway trimmed Old Bridge Tuesday night in GMC-Red Division play to improve to 6-1 for the year.

Freeney dropped in a game-high 21 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and handed out five assists, while Hairston totaled 13 points and 11 caroms. Scriven finished with nine points while added seven boards and five assists.

**Metuchen 52, Governor Livingston 48** — Down 33-32 with eight minutes left the Bulldogs received 10 fourth-quarter points from Marcus Blakely to slip past Governor Livingston (4-2) Tuesday night in a non-conference battle of once-beaten clubs.

Blakely finished with 12 points to

lead Metuchen, which won its third straight to up its record to 4-1, while Nick Storts followed with 10 and Lamar Nichols chipped in with nine.

**Perth Amboy 67, J.P. Stevens 52** — After taking a 20-19 edge into the second periods the Hawks were outscored in each period after that and dropped a GMC-Red Division verdict to visiting Perth Amboy (3-1) Tuesday night.

Andrew Biancosino turned in a big effort for Stevens, which slipped to 1-4 for the campaign, by dropping in 20 points, while Jason Callender followed with 11, but Perth Amboy received a 30-point performance from Jermaine Clark to win going away.

**St. Joseph's 66, Edison 27** — The Eagles stayed within range for a period at 8-2 but were then outscored 48-13 in the middle periods by St. Joe's in GMC-Red Division play Tuesday night.

Kyle Ringer netted 13 points and Sean Oganoika had eight but the rest of the Edison lineup managed only six points in losing for the fifth time in six starts. Sean Baptiste, who had 15 points during the middle quarters, topped all scorers with 21 points for the Falcons, who won their first game after five losses.

## KOWAL TOURNAMENT

Kevin Sidenburg snapped a 53-53 deadlock on a free throw with 47 seconds left and Marquis Jones extended the lead to 56-53 with a pair of foul shots as South Plainfield held off Cranford 57-53 to claim the title in the John Butch Kowal Tournament at Rahway Dec.

## BOYS BASKETBALL

30.

Jones and Darren Smith combined for 43 points with Jones dropping in 22 to go with 12 rebounds and four assists as the Tigers handed Cranford (4-1) it first loss in a rematch of last year's Kowal final also won by South Plainfield.

The Tigers opened a seven-point lead early in the fourth quarter, but Jones went to the bench with his fourth foul and the Cougars took advantage to rally to tie the game. Jones, however, returned to score seven points down the stretch. Terence Grier scored a game-high 23 points for Cranford.

**St. Peter's 59, J.P. Stevens 45** — Andrew Biancosino dropped in 19 points and Ryan Washington followed with 12 but it wasn't enough as the Hawks fell in the seventh-place game at the Kowal Tournament Dec. 30 to St. Peter's of Jersey City in a game that saw Stevens outscored 15-0 at the foul line and not attempt a free throw.

**South Plainfield 59, Scotch Plains-Fanwood 53** — After surrendering a 30-21 halftime lead in the second half the Tigers used a 15-9 surge in overtime to win their Kowal Tournament semifinal Dec. 29.

Marquis Jones delivered another huge effort with a 29-point outburst to go with seven rebounds and three assists, while Darren Smith followed with 15 points.

## STAPLETON TOURNAMENT

Putting together a stifling defensive effort and getting 15 points

from Brandon Wilkinson Piscataway completed a 3-0 showing in the Vaughn Stapleton Classic at Bridgewater-Raritan with a 51-27 rout of Roselle Dec. 30.

The Chiefs actually trailed 6-5 after one period, but they took control with a 14-5 second quarter and expanded their advantage the rest of way in winning for the fifth straight time. Rodney Freeney followed Wilkinson with 11 points, while Allen Hairston added eight and Anthony Davis had seven.

**Piscataway 67, Union 50** — Using a balanced effort that saw four players connect for double figures the Chiefs led 28-24 at halftime before pulling away with an 18-11 showing in the third period against Union (1-4).

Freeney and Wilkinson netted 12 points apiece, while Hairston tossed in 11 points and grabbed 12 boards and Sherrod Parkins added 10 points.

## SHELLO TOURNAMENT

Sparked by the scoring of Todd DeNapoli Dunellen used a big second half to trim Middlesex 51-46 and claim the title in the Mike Shello Tournament at Dunellen Dec. 29.

Tied at 23-23 at halftime the Destroyers took the lead with a 5-3 third quarter and then won by outscoring Middlesex 23-19 down the stretch as DeNapoli poured in 18 of his game-high 24 points in the second half. DeNapoli also collected five assists, while Tim Sweeney added 12 points.

Jabree Sunkins had the big offensive showing for the Blue Jays with 19 points, while Authnel Reid fol-

lowed with 15 as Middlesex lost for the first time.

**Bound Brook 52, Manville 47** — Julio Rodriguez popped in 16 points, Van Shivers contributed 14 points and 10 rebounds and Marek Marszalek followed with 13 as the Crusaders snapped a 30-game losing streak by edging Manville in the consolation game of the Shell Tournament Dec. 29.

Matt Melesurgo had 17 rebounds for the winners, who took control with a 16-7 third quarter that gave them a 40-32 advantage when Rodriguez netted seven of his points.

## ROSELLE PARK TOURNAMENT

Marquis Blakely netted 17 points and the tourney's MVP Award as Metuchen captured the Roselle Park Holiday Tournament with a 75-59 conquest of Hanover Park Dec. 28. DeJuan Miller finished with 16 points and grabbed 12 rebounds for the Bulldogs, who pulled away with a 42-27 second-half showing. Jon Brown and Kevin Rush added 12 and 10 points, respectively.

## HALEY TOURNAMENT

Host Edison fell behind 30-23 at halftime against John F. Kennedy and could not recover in dropping a 69-63 decision in the consolation game of the Gene Haley Tournament Dec. 29. Kyle Ringer popped in 19 points and Sean Oganoika dropped in 16 for the Eagles.

**Carteret 43, Edison 42** — Oganoika tossed in a game-high 19 points and Ringer followed with 12, but the Eagles fell just short against eventual-champion Carteret in the opening round Dec. 28.



Briefs

600 pounds of pet food donated

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The Plainfield Animal Hospital on Park Avenue collected 600 pounds of pet food in a holiday food drive.

All the food is being donated to the Plainfield Area Humane Society said Donna Barden, who cares for unwanted pets.

"The spirit of the holiday season and generosity was truly overwhelming," said Scott Linick, the animal hospital's proprietor.

Library to mark Chinese New Year

HIGHLAND PARK — The Highland Park Public Library, 31 N. Fifth Ave., is hosting a Chinese New Year Celebration for the whole family from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 29.

The FCD Chinese School will conduct programs in calligraphy, arts and crafts and Abacus, a Chinese counting device.

The language and cultural school will also present a Chinese Traditional Toys Exhibition and a Chinese Culture Appreciation Seminar.

The events are geared for adults and children to enjoy together and to learn about Chinese culture and holidays.

For more information, call the library at (732) 572-2750.

Luminaria sale nets \$851 for FISH

A donation of \$851 has been made to the Dunellen-Area FISH.

The donation represents the proceeds from a luminaria sale to residents of Middlesex and surrounding communities. The residents lit the candles on the sidewalks in front of their homes on Christmas Eve.

Schundler to speak at library

MIDDLESEX — Gubernatorial candidate Bret Schundler will speak in the Community Room at the Middlesex Public Library at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 26.

Schundler's key issue this election is his Property Tax Reform Proposal. Light refreshments will be served. For more information on the event, call Bill Coyle at (732) 356-1863. For more information on Bret Schundler, visit at [www.bret2005.com](http://www.bret2005.com).

Colleges forge an alliance agreement

Middlesex County College and Georgian Court University have signed an articulation agreement that will pave the way for students in Middlesex County College's A.S. in business administration program to be automatically accepted in the four-year college and retain the credits they earned at the county college.

Middlesex students will be able to transfer all courses, up to 66 credits total. Students may transfer into the college's accelerated program at 90 Woodbridge Center Drive in Woodbridge or into the traditional B.S. in business administration program or B.S. in accounting program offered at the university's main campus in Lakewood.

Jewish Film Series continues tonight

HIGHLAND PARK — "The Nazi Officer's Wife" is the next offering for the Jewish Film Series at the Highland Park Conservative Temple and Center.

The movie will be shown at 8 p.m. tonight in the synagogue at 201 S. Third Ave.

Edith Hahn was a Jew from Austria who passed as an Aryan woman in Germany after the Anschluss. A factory manager asked her to marry him. She did — after telling him her true identity. When he was drafted into the German army Hahn lived in constant fear.

Interviews with Hahn, her daughter and other survivors are part of the movie. After the movie William Collins Donahue, an associate professor of German at Rutgers University, gives a related talk.

Admission is \$5. For more information, visit [www.hpctc.net](http://www.hpctc.net) or call (732) 545-6482. Babysitting is available for \$12 extra; visit [USHYP@hotmail.com](mailto:USHYP@hotmail.com).

Calendar

Monday, Jan. 10

**EDISON - Garden Club**  
**Meeting:** 7 p.m. at Edison Main Branch Library featuring video "Think About Spring Gardens." Library located at 340 Plainfield Ave.; the public is invited Light refreshments will be served.

**MIDDLESEX - Dance and Exercise Program:** 6:30 p.m. at Beechwood Heights Firehouse, 1118 Union Ave. Free demonstrations by Marie's Aerobics and Dance. Come dressed to participate if you wish. Call Marie at (732) 356-0063 for more information.

Tuesday, Jan. 11

**MIDDLESEX - Dance and Exercise Program:** 9:30 a.m. at Chez Renee Studio of Dance, 1319 Bound Brook Rd. Free demonstrations by Marie's Aerobics and Dance. Come dressed to participate if you wish. Call Marie at (732) 356-0063 for more information.

**EAST BRUNSWICK - Master Gardener Program Alumni:** 7 p.m. at Holly House inside the Rutgers Gardens on Ryder's Lane. For local Master Gardeners to offer input on how efforts can be best utilized in 2005. For more information, contact Helpline at (732) 398-2585. Sponsored by Rutgers Cooperative Extension Services.

Thursday, Jan. 13

**EDISON - Dance Learning Social:** 6:45 to 9 p.m. at Edison VFV Post 3117, 1970 Woodbridge Ave. Admission \$10 per person; singles and couples welcome. Latin Style dances every Thursday in January. Call Brandis Dance Theater for information: (732) 388-4605.

**MIDDLESEX - Salsa Learning Socials:** 6:45 to 8 p.m. at Café Havana Restaurant, 580 Union Ave. Singles and couples welcome, no experience required. \$10 per person. Contact Jorge at (732) 574-0482 for information;

(732) 302-9920 for directions.

Friday, Jan. 14

**EDISON - Dance Learning Social:** 8 to 9 p.m. at Edison VFV Post 3117, 1970 Woodbridge Ave. Admission \$8 per person for class only, \$15 per person for class and 9 p.m. party. Singles and couples welcome. Salsa taught in January. Call Brandis Dance Theater for information: (732) 388-4605.

**EDISON - General Dance Party:** 9 p.m. to midnight at Edison VFV Post 3117, 1970 Woodbridge Ave. Admission \$12 per person, light refreshments included, couples and singles welcome. Call Brandis at (732) 388-4605 for information.

IN THE FUTURE:

**METUCHEN - Martin Luther King Day Celebration:** 4 p.m. Jan. 16 at the New Hope Baptist Church, 45 Hampton Street. Service will include music, readings and reflections plus comments from Mayor Ed O'Brien. For more information call (732) 549-8941.

**MIDDLESEX - Salsa Learning Socials:** 6:45 to 8 p.m. Jan. 20 and Jan. 27 at Café Havana Restaurant, 580 Union Ave. Singles and couples welcome, no experience required. \$10 per person. Contact Jorge at (732) 574-0482 for information; (732) 302-9920 for directions.

**EDISON - Dance Learning Social:** 6:45 to 9 p.m. Jan. 20 and Jan. 27 at Edison VFV Post 3117, 1970 Woodbridge Ave. Admission \$10 per person; singles and couples welcome. Latin Style dances every Thursday in January. Call Brandis Dance Theater for information: (732) 388-4605.

**MIDDLESEX - DANCE FOR WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS:** 7 p.m. Jan. 21 at American Legion Hall, Legion Place. Sponsored by Family Life Services of Diocese of Metuchen. Call (732) 985-5439 for further information.

**EDISON - Trailer and Camping Show:** 1 to 9:30 p.m. Jan. 21, at the NJ Convention Center located in Raritan Center, Middlesex Ave. Edison. Sponsored by MAC Events, Spring Lake. Center is booked to capacity with exhibits. Call (800) 332-3976 for further information.

**EDISON - Dance Learning Social:** 8 to 9 p.m. Jan. 21 and Jan. 28 at Edison VFV Post 3117, 1970 Woodbridge Ave. Admission \$8 per person for class only, \$15 per person for class and 9 p.m. party. Singles and couples welcome. Salsa taught in January. Call Brandis Dance Theater for information: (732) 388-4605.

**EDISON - General Dance Party:** 9 p.m. to midnight Jan. 21 and Jan 28 at Edison VFV Post 3117, 1970 Woodbridge Ave. Admission \$12 per person, light refreshments included, couples and singles welcome. Call Brandis at (732) 388-4605 for specific information.

**EDISON - Trailer and Camping Show:** 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Jan. 22, at the NJ Convention Center located in Raritan Center, Middlesex Ave. Edison. Sponsored by MAC Events, Spring Lake. Center is booked to capacity with exhibits. Call (800) 332-3976 for further information.

**EDISON - Trailer and Camping Show:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jan. 23, at the NJ Convention Center located in Raritan Center, Middlesex Ave. Edison. Sponsored by MAC Events, Spring Lake. Center is booked to capacity with exhibits. Call (800) 332-3976 for further information.

**PISCATAWAY - Dementia Care Program:** 7 p.m. at F. E. Parker Home, 1421 River Road. Wellness program presented by Amy Matthews, Alzheimer's Association on Brain Behavior. Call (732) 545-3110 for further information.

**BOUND BROOK - Masquerade Ball and Casino Event:** 7 to 11:30 p.m. Jan. 29 at Elks Club on 2nd Street and Maiden Lane, sponsored by Chamber of Commerce and Bound Brook Rotary. Proceeds to benefit projects of sponsors. \$45 pre-sale, \$50 at door. Call Mike Schuyler at 732-469-6453 for tickets and information.

**METUCHEN - Bus Trip:** Feb.17 at 10 a.m. from Gulton Street Parking Lot to see "George Washington Slept Here" at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse sponsored by Metuchen Chapter 3208 AARP. Cost \$58 includes lavish luncheon. Call Miriam Dingle (732) 548-9395 for further information.

**EDISON - Art Garfunkel Trip:** 8 p.m. show March 5 sponsored by Mayor, Edison Council and Edison Recreation. \$50 includes transportation. Tickets available starting Jan. 10 at Stelton Comm. Ctr. And the Minnie B. Veal Community Center. In person ticket sales only, up to four each. Contact Edison Rec. at (732) 248-7312 for more information.

Senior Citizens Calendar

Bound Brook

**The Bound Brook Seniors** meet 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month in Asbury Hall of the Bound Brook United Methodist Church, 150 W. Union Ave.

**Upcoming Trips and Events:**

For information, call President Frank Gilly at (732) 356-6310. Non members are welcome.

Atlantic City trips are the third Tuesday of each month, leaving 9:45 a.m. from El Imperial. Call Ed Kimmel at (732) 469-1263.

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**Senior Leisure Club of St. Mary's** Bound Brook club sponsors bus trips to Atlantic City Casino Taj Mahal every fourth Tuesday of each month. Bus departs from St. Mary's Church Parking Lot at 10:15 a.m.

**Trips and Events:**

Feb. 10 — Dutch Apple Dinner Show "Las Vegas," in Lancaster, Pa. \$61 per person, final payment due Jan. 11. Details later.

March 9 — Atlantic City - \$17 per person.

May 27 — Hunterdon Hills Playhouse "Best of Branson" \$61 per person.

For information on trips, call Ellie Procacci (732) 752-3093 or Mary Jane Stoddard (732) 356-2093.

Piscataway

The Piscataway Senior Center has announced their schedule of upcoming events at the Center, located at 700 Buena Vista Ave., behind the J. F. Kennedy Library on Hoes Lane (Rt. 18).

Jan. 20 — Atlantic City trip: departs 8:30 a.m. Returns 6:30 p.m. \$16.50

Jan. 26 — Chinese New Year Celebration, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$2.25; sign up at Nutrition Desk.

Feb. 09 — Program: "Nursing Homes Have Come a Long Way, Baby!" 11 a.m. Free.

Feb. 10 — Valentine's Day Luncheon 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. \$2.25 per person at Piscataway Senior Center.

Feb. 16 — Black History Program, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost 2.25 per person. Sign up at Nutrition Desk at Piscataway Senior Center.

Feb. 17 — Atlantic City trip: departs 8:30 a.m. Returns 6:30 p.m. \$16.50

Mar. 16 — St. Patrick's Day Celebration, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. \$2.25; sign up at Nutrition Desk.

Dunellen

**The Dunellen Senior Citizen Club** is open to all Dunellen residents 55 years and older. Meeting held each Friday at 10 a.m. at Knights of Columbus Hall on South Avenue. Bus transportation is provided.

For information, call (732) 968-1285; President of Dunellen Senior Citizen Club, Ida Cihanowyz.

Edison

**Edison Chapter of AARP #3346** reminds members that new applications are being accepted.

Metuchen

**The Metuchen Chapter 3208, AARP,** will hold its monthly meetings starting Monday, Jan. 10 at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 17 Oak Ave. and Middlesex Ave. (Route 27). The monthly board meeting is at 12 p.m. and the General Meeting starts at 1:15 p.m. The speaker at this meeting will be Esther Gelard, speaking on "Identity Theft." Refreshments will be served. Guests are always welcome.

The chapter is currently accepting new members; call Ruth Hancock for further information at (732) 548-2332.

**Trips:**

Feb. 17 - Hunterdon Hills Playhouse, "George Washington Slept Here" \$58 per person includes transportation, lavish luncheon, admission, gratuities and taxes. Bus leaves 10 a.m. Call Miriam at (732) 548-9395 for further information and tickets, which must be bought by Feb. 1.

South Bound Brook

**The South Bound Brook Senior Citizens Community Club,** meets at 2 p.m. on Wednesdays, at Our Lady of Mercy Church Hall, 122 High St. The next business meeting will be on March 2 at 2 p.m. in Our Lady of Mercy Church Hall. One box of pasta per member will be collected at the meeting for the food bank. Annual dues are \$10 and will be collected at the business meeting. Bingo is played every Wednesday and refreshments are served. The club is open to all seniors, 55 years and older residing in South Bound Brook. For information or reservations, call Catherine (732) 356-4080.

**Events and Trips**

Jan. 19 — Annual Winter Luncheon - members only.

Feb. 16 — Hunterdon Hills Playhouse, (George Washington Slept Here).

March 8 — Atlantic City.

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**South Bound Brook Senior Citizen Center,** 113 Clinton Ave., offers the following programs:

Exercise - Every Mon. and Wed., 10:30 a.m.

Bingo & Cards - Tues. & Thurs., 10:30 a.m.

Librarian - 2nd Wed. of month, 11:30

Post Office - 4th Wed. of month, 10:30 a.m.

Liquid Embroidery - Every Tues. & Thurs., 10 a.m.-noon

Outreach Specialist at Center - 3rd Thurs. of month, 10-11 a.m.

Cards or games - every Friday

For information, appointments or to register for programs, call the center at (732) 271-1646.

Admission to center programs and activities is free. For lunch, contact the senior center by 10:30 at least one business day in advance to make a reservation. A suggested donation of \$1.50 is recommended for lunch.

**South Plainfield Chapter AARP,** will hold its meeting on Thursday, Jan. 20, as the Senior Center will not be available on the usual Monday. Ms. Phyllis Floyd of RSVP will be the guest speaker.

**Trips:**

Feb. 10 — Hunterdon Hills Dinner Theater "George Washington Slept Here" \$62 covers all costs. Call Lee immediately at (732) 968-6613 for details and reservations, only a few seats left.

Middlesex

Borough

**Middlesex: Bus transportation** is available for borough seniors. Sign up by calling (732) 356-0414. Wednesdays are Senior Day at the club.

The Middlesex Borough Office on Aging is collecting old cell phones to distribute to the homebound for emergency 911 use. If you have one to donate, call the office at (732) 356-0414.

For information and to register for any of the above programs or issues of interest to the senior population in Middlesex Borough, contact Sheila at (732) 356-0414.

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**Our Lady of Mount Virgin Seniors** meet the second Tuesday of the month, Jan. 11 and Feb. 8 at 1 p.m. in the church hall. Members are asked to bring boxes of pasta for F.I.S.H. On Feb. 8, in lieu of the Penny Sale we will have a raffle. Members are asked to donate NEW prizes for the raffle table.

Legal Notices

**SOUTH BOUND BROOK ANNUAL NOTICE 2005**

Pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, it is to be advised that the meeting of the South Bound Brook Fire Department Board of Engineers is open to the public. All meetings are held at the South Bound Brook Fire Company, 85 Edgewood Terrace, South Bound Brook, New Jersey 08860. Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month at 6:30 P.M., unless changes at a later date are publicly advertised thereafter.

Bryant Malone, Captain  
South Bound Brook Fire Department  
\$5.78 808 11 1/8/05

**NOTICE OF ABSENT DEFENDANTS (L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO:**  
**SHIRLEY L. BROOKS**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon SHAPIRO & DIAZ, LLP, Plaintiff's Attorney, whose address is 406 Lippincott Drive, Suite J, Marlton, NJ 08053, an answer to the complaint (and amendment to complaint, if any) filed in a civil action in which MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. is Plaintiff and COLEMAN C. BROOKS, JR. AND SHIRLEY L. BROOKS are Defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, MIDDLESEX and bearing Docket # F-21565-04 within thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication, exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint (and amendment to complaint, if any). You shall file your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex, 24 Market Street, Trenton, NJ 08625, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice and Procedure.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing a mortgage dated March 21, 2001, made by COLEMAN C. BROOKS, JR. AND SHIRLEY L. BROOKS, MARRIED, as Mortgagor(s), to ARK MORTGAGE, INC. recorded on April 5, 2001, in Book 585 of Mortgages for MIDDLESEX County, Page 756, and (2) to recover possession of the concerned premises commonly known as: 152 ROBERTS AVENUE WEST, PISCATAWAY, NJ 08854.

If you are unable to obtain an attorney, you may communicate with the New Jersey State Bar Association by calling (201) 249-5000. You may also contact the lawyer referral service of the County of Venue by calling 908-828-0053. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County of Venue by calling 908-249-8200.

You, SHIRLEY L. BROOKS, are made a party defendant to this foreclosure action because you may have an interest in the subject property by reason of a lien, encumbrance, or otherwise which the Clerk of the Superior Court, Hughes Justice Complex, CN-971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice and Procedure.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of foreclosing the mortgage dated September 11, 2001, and made by FRANK ANZALONE, to SECURITY ATLANTIC MORTGAGE CORPORATION recorded on September 13, 2001, in the MIDDLESEX County Office, Book 583 of Mortgages, Page 119, to recover possession of and concerning real estate located at 312 BRUCK AVENUE, PERTH AMBOY, NJ 08861.

By written assignment of mortgage the said Security Atlantic Mortgage Company, Inc., assigned its mortgage and condonote to IndyMac Bank, FSB, plaintiff herein which assignment was recorded in the Clerk's office of Middlesex County on October 31, 2001, in book 552, page 201.

You, LINDA ANZALONE, are joined as a party defendant to this foreclosure action by reason of a judgment, dated May 31, 1989, Judgment number: J-047738-1989, Case No. M-008415-75; Venue: BERGEN; Debtor: Frank Anzalone; in an undisclosed amount.

You may contact the Lawyer Referral Service of the County in which this action is pending by calling 732-828-0053. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County in which this action is pending by calling 732-249-7600.

DONALD F. PHELAN, CLERK  
Superior Court of New Jersey  
DATED: DECEMBER 30, 2004 807 11 1/8/05 \$17.34

**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY MIDDLESEX COUNTY**

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and required to serve upon PHUSE, Becker & Saltzman, LLC, whose address is 2000 Horizon Way, Suite 800, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054. An Answer to the Complaint and Amendment to Complaint, filed in a civil action in which INDYMAC BANK, FSB, is Plaintiff and FRANK ANZALONE, et al, are Defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, MIDDLESEX County, bearing Docket No. F-20491-04, within thirty-five days (35) after JANUARY 8, 2005, exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, Judgment by Default may be rendered against you for relief demanded in the Complaint and Amendment to Complaint. You shall file your Answer and Proof of Service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Hughes Justice Complex, CN-971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice and Procedure.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of foreclosing the mortgage dated September 11, 2001, and made by FRANK ANZALONE, to SECURITY ATLANTIC MORTGAGE CORPORATION recorded on September 13, 2001, in the MIDDLESEX County Office, Book 583 of Mortgages, Page 119, to recover possession of and concerning real estate located at 312 BRUCK AVENUE, PERTH AMBOY, NJ 08861.

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You may contact the Lawyer Referral Service of the County in which this action is pending by calling 732-828-0053. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County in which this action is pending by calling 732-249-7600.

DONALD F. PHELAN, CLERK  
Superior Court of New Jersey  
DATED: DECEMBER 30, 2004 807 11 1/8/05 \$17.34

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY THAT:**

Whereas, there exists a need for certain legal services for the Borough of Dunellen; and

Whereas, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of the contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bids must be publicly advertised.

Now therefore be it resolved by the Governing Body of the Borough of Dunellen as follows:

1. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an agreement with John Bruder, Esq.

2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" under the provisions of the Local Public Contract Law because the services rendered are professional services of a recognized profession whose practice is regulated by law.

3. Further be it resolved that the 2005 salary will be as

set forth in the municipal salary ordinance.

4. A copy of this resolution shall be published in The Chronicle as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Approved 1/1/05  
Robert J. Seader  
Mayor of the Borough of Dunellen

William Robins  
Acting Clerk of the Borough of Dunellen  
\$11.90 808 11 1/8/05

**DUNELLEN BOROUGH 01-01-2005: #5**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY THAT:**

The following is the list of the Official Borough Council Meeting dates for the year 2005:

Saturday, January 1, 2005 -- Reorganization Meeting --

Monday, January 10, 2005  
Monday, February 7, 2005  
Monday, February 21, 2005  
Monday, March 7, 2005  
Monday, March 21, 2005  
Monday, April 4, 2005  
Monday, April 18, 2005  
Monday, May 2, 2005  
Monday, May 16, 2005  
Monday, June 6, 2005  
Monday, June 20, 2005  
Tuesday, July 5, 2005  
Monday, August 8, 2005  
Monday, September 12, 2005  
Monday, September 26, 2005  
Monday, October 3, 2005  
Monday, October 17, 2005  
Monday, November 7, 2005  
Monday, November 21, 2005  
Monday, December 5, 2005  
Monday, December 19, 2005

All meetings begin at 7:30 P.M. unless otherwise noted.

Approved 1/1/05  
Robert J. Seader  
Mayor of the Borough of Dunellen

William Robins  
Acting Clerk of the Borough of Dunellen  
\$14.28 809 11 1/8/05

**DUNELLEN BOROUGH 01-01-2005: #13**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY THAT:**

Whereas, there exists a need for Bond Counsel, and

Whereas, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of the contract for Professional Services without competitive bidding must be publicly advertised.

Now therefore be it resolved by the Governing Body of the Borough of Dunellen as follows:

1. The cost of said services shall follow the contract.

2. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an agreement with Frohling & Hudak, LLC, Newark, New Jersey.

3. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a Professional Service under the provisions of the Local Public Contract Law because the services rendered are professional services of a recognized profession whose practice is regulated by law.

4. A copy of this resolution shall be published in The Chronicle as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Approved 1/1/05  
Robert J. Seader  
Mayor of the Borough of Dunellen

William Robins  
Acting Clerk of the Borough of Dunellen  
\$12.24 810 11 1/8/05

**DUNELLEN BOROUGH 01-01-2005: #14**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY THAT:**

Whereas, there exists a need for the services of a Registered Municipal Accountant to conduct an audit of the Borough of Dunellen, and

Whereas, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of the contract for Professional Services without competitive bidding must be publicly advertised.

Now therefore be it resolved by the Governing Body of the Borough of Dunellen as follows:

1. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an agreement with Hudolik and Morrison, P.A., of Highland Park, NJ.

2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a Professional Service under the provisions of the Local Public Contract Law because the services rendered are professional services of a recognized profession whose practice is regulated by law.

3. A copy of this resolution shall be published in The Chronicle as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Approved 1/1/05  
Robert J. Seader  
Mayor of the Borough of Dunellen

William Robins  
Acting Clerk of the Borough of Dunellen  
\$11.22 811 11 1/8/05

**DUNELLEN BOROUGH 01-01-2005: #15**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY THAT:**

Whereas, there exists a need for Engineering Services for the Borough of Dunellen, and

Whereas, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of the contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bids must be publicly advertised.

Now therefore be it resolved by the Governing Body of the Borough of Dunellen as follows:

1. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an agreement with CME Associates, 5141 Bordentown Avenue, Perlin, New Jersey 08859.

2. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a Professional Service under the provisions of the Local Public Contract Law because the services rendered are professional services of a recognized profession whose practice is regulated by law.

3. A copy of this resolution shall be published in The Chronicle as required by law within ten days of its passage.

Approved 1/1/05

Robert J. Seader  
Mayor of the Borough of Dunellen

William Robins  
Acting Clerk of the Borough of Dunellen  
\$11.90 812 11 1/8/05

**PUBLIC HEARING MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT BOROUGH OF SOUTH BOUND BROOK PLANNING BOARD**

TAKE NOTICE that on the 18th day of January, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. a hearing will be held by the South Bound Brook Planning Board at the municipal building located at 12 Main Street in conjunction with a MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT addressing redevelopment of the former GAF property and other properties within the "triangle" formed by Main Street, Washington Street and the Canal. The Master Plan changes provide for the transformation of the Industrial District into a new residential condominium district and expansion of the B-Business District.

The proposed amendments are part of a refinement of the preliminary proposal to the "Industrial District Redevelopment," a plan adopted in May 1998. A copy of the full report is available for inspection at the office of the Municipal Clerk during regular business hours.

The Borough Council has referred the matter to the Planning Board in order to ensure consistency between the Master Plan, the Redevelopment Plan and the Borough Zoning and Development Regulations. The purpose of this hearing is to hear all persons who have an interest in or would be affected by the Master Plan changes.

At least 10 days prior to the hearing, this notice shall have appeared in the official newspaper of the Borough. Notice shall also have been served by personal service or certified mail along with a copy of the documents to the Clerk of the adjoining municipality of Bound Brook and to the Somerset County Planning Board.

Carol Rice  
Secretary, Planning Board  
\$11.90 813 11 1/8/05

**PUBLIC HEARING MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT BOROUGH OF SOUTH BOUND BROOK PLANNING BOARD**

TAKE NOTICE that on the 18th day of January, 2005 at 7:30 p.m., a hearing will be held by the South Bound Brook Planning Board at the municipal building located at 12 Main Street in conjunction with a MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT addressing neighborhood character protection. The Master Plan changes provide for the establishment of regulatory design guidelines for visual character and enhanced protection of neighborhoods with unique character, namely the Downtown Main Street Business Area and the Historic Dublin Residential Area. The proposed amendments by the foundation for refinement of the Borough Zoning and Development Regulations. A copy of the full report is available for inspection at the office of the Municipal Clerk during regular business hours.

The Borough Council has referred the matter to the Planning Board in order to ensure consistency between the Master Plan, and the contemplated changes to the Borough Zoning and Development Regulations. The purpose of this hearing is to hear all persons who have an interest in or would be affected by the Master Plan changes.

At least 10 days prior to the hearing, this notice shall have appeared in the official newspaper of the Borough. Notice shall also have been served by personal service or certified mail along with a copy of the documents to the Clerk of the adjoining municipality of Bound Brook and to the Somerset County Planning Board.

Carol Rice  
Secretary, Planning Board  
\$11.56 814 11 1/8/05

**BORO OF SOUTH BOUND BROOK OFFICE OF PLANNING/ZONING SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J. 08880**

**2005 MEETINGS**

THE PLANNING /ZONING BOARD MEETS ON THE THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 12 MAIN STREET, SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY ON THE FOLLOWING DATES.

JANUARY 18, 2005 - 7:30 P.M.  
FEBRUARY 15, 2005 - 7:30 P.M.  
MARCH 15, 2005 - 7:30 P.M.  
APRIL 19, 2005 - 7:30 P.M.  
MAY 17, 2005 - 7:30 P.M.  
JUNE 21, 2005 - 7:30 P.M.  
JULY 19, 2005 - 7:30 P.M.  
AUGUST 16, 2005 - 7:30 P.M.  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2005 - 7:30 P.M.  
OCTOBER 18, 2005 - 7:30 P.M.  
NOVEMBER 15, 2005 - 7:30 P.M.  
DECEMBER 22, 2005 - 7:30 P.M.

CAROL A. RICE  
SECRETARY  
South bound Brook Planning/Zoning Board  
\$10.54 815 11 1/8/05





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## Announcements

## Adoption 105

**Adoption:** A loving childless married couple wish to adopt newborn. Eager to share lifetime of love. Ft. mom and devoted dad. Expenses paid. Liz & Ed. 1-800-922-3372 (Pin#00).

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## Announcements 110

**Disclaimer:** The Reporter, Messenger-Gazette & The Chronicle reserves the right to edit, reclassify or reject any classified advertising at any time and will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. The Reporter, Messenger-Gazette & The Chronicle liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error and will not be liable for failure to publish an ad.

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## Notices 115

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Each week hundred of Public Notices are published in New Jersey's daily and notices are posted, njpublicnotices.com. You have access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to statewide Sheriff's sales, foreclosures, RFP, bids for schools, town meetings, variances, plus many other types. Search for notices manually or subscribe to Smart Search and have notices sent to your mail address automatically. Go to: www.njpublicnotices.com for more information and to subscribe.

**REACH OVER 1.5 MILLION HOUSEHOLDS!** The New Jersey Association can place your 2x2 Display Ad in over 130 NJ weekly newspapers for ONLY \$1050. Call Diane Trent at NUPA at 609-406-0600 Ext.24 or email drent@njpa.org for more information. Regional Rates Now Available in New Jersey!(Nationwide placement available)

## Employment

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## Employment

## Child Care 202

## NANNIES

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## Employment Agencies

## 205

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## Drivers 230

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Start 2005 with our new pay raise! \$1.46/mile if you want to make \$\$\$ and you drive over-the-road for a living, you need 1-866-282-5961. www.hearlandexpress.com

## General Help 240

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## All-Star Training Academy, Inc.

New facility in Bridgewater. **PT Night Receptionist** Tues, Wed & Fri nights 4 to 9:15 PM - occasional Saturdays 8:45AM to 1:30PM. **Bookkeeper** PT/Excel and quickbooks experience. **Exercise Instructor** - experienced in aerobics, flexibility and strength training classes. Kick boxing a +. **Dance Instructor** - Hip/Hop, jazz instructor w/ interest in a dance company. **Tumbling Instructor** - Experienced w/ gymnastics background. Train right person. **Retail Sales/Management** - Market and manage pro-shop & design set-up. Ability to work independently + blend well with other staff to complete gym projects. Fax resume w/ salary requirement and references 732-568-1171 or email NJATA1@aol.com

## Carpet

## Cleaner/Helper

Needed for carpet cleaning co. No experience required. Call 908-930-6273

## General Help 240

## BOOKKEEPER OR JUNIOR ACCOUNTANT

FT. For busy Flemington accounting office. 5yrs. exp. + Excel & Word required. Fax resume to 908-782-5409 Attn. Peg.

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## CHILD CARE

Work in your own home. Apply at Monday Morning Inc 908/526-4884

## COMMUNITY EDUCATOR

FT DV/SA expertise to work in schools, etc. Resume to [agencyinfo@womenscrisiservices.org](mailto:agencyinfo@womenscrisiservices.org)

## COMPANION

## HOUSEKEEPER

For elderly woman in Rte 31 Hampton area. M-F hours. Start No later than: 7:30am and End No earlier than: 2:30PM. Elderly person is not bed bound enjoys cards, reading and limited local shopping. Applicant must have car and references. Contact for week days: 908-927-4726 Weekends and Evening: 908-537-7672

## COOKS

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## General Help 240

## DISPATCHER

Raritan Borough Police Department, FT. 12 hour shifts. Typing required. Excellent fringe benefits. Applications may be received at Raritan Police Dept. 20 First St. Raritan, NJ 08869. EOE No later than Jan. 17th, 2005

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## General Help 240

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## General Help 240

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## General Help 240

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## General Help 240

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The ideal candidate will possess HS diploma and certification in electricity from an accredited vocational, technical or trade school. Valid and current NJ State Electrician's License and valid driver's license required. We are looking for a candidate with knowledge of all aspects of low, medium, and high voltage electrical maintenance. Must have technical knowledge including familiarity with the National Electric Code. Computer literacy, good interpersonal, problem solving and organizational skills required.

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