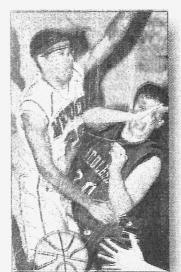
Piscataway pitching school expansion

Special election slated for Jan. 25 asks for additional \$14.6 million



SCHOOLS

Metuchen and Middlesex high school players battle during Metuchen's 60-42 victory Jan. 7. For recent results, see page B1.



Milestone marked

MAACO Collision Repair & Auto Painting honored Kim Hullfish, the franchise operator at 224 Lincoln Blvd., for producing \$1 million in sales. A record 125 of 500 MAACO franchises reached the million dollar milestone : 2004. It was the sixth time that the Middlesex facility achieved the milestone. Hullfish is shown with his wife Marylyn; his daughter, Michelle Keller and her boyfriend Geoff Brobst.

Kiwanis returns

Kiwanis is back in Edison with the formation of a new club sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Woodbridge. The new organization already has more than 20 members.

Kiwanis is an international service organization made up of service-minded men and women who believe that our children are the future and who are interested in improving their communities.

The organization includes Circle K for college students, Key Club for High School students, Builders Club for Junior High and K Kids in grade school.

The Kiwanis Club of Edison is currently meeting at the Main Street Tratto'ria, 413 Main St., Metuchen. 6 p.m. on the first and third

Wednesdays of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday.

There is also a Key Club in the J. P. Stevens High School that needs the support of the Kiwanis Club.

For additional information, call Gwen at (908) 500-2730 during the day or (908) 781-6862 in the evening.



ship Board of Education has authorized a special election seeking approval for an additional \$14.6 million to complete a district-wide expan- a.m. today at Arbor School sion and renovation program and 7 p.m. Wednesday at

The election will be held Jan. 25. The district will also hold two information meetings on the referendum — 10 that was originally approved Schor Middle School.

If approved, the tax impact on the average home assessed at \$109,000 would be \$55.23 per year, or \$4.60 per month, at current lending rates. The additional funds will connect the Anthony and Patton Buildings at Piscataway High

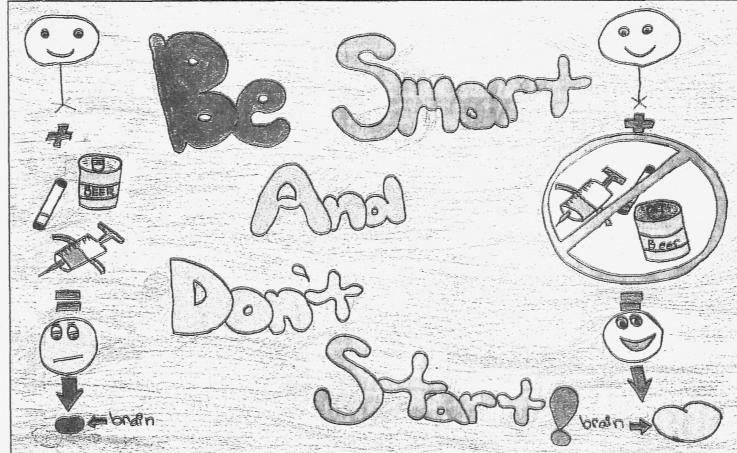
School; provide for the construction of five new science laboratories, art studios, music rooms, a 1,200-seat theater and upgrades to existing science laboratories and air conditioning.

Piscataway High School was

built to accommodate 1,700 students, 2,200 are now enrolled. Next year, 2,300 students will be enrolled.

If voters approve the referendum, the additional funds

Continued on page A2



Learning to live without

Calendar spreads anti-drug message

By ADAM HOCHRON

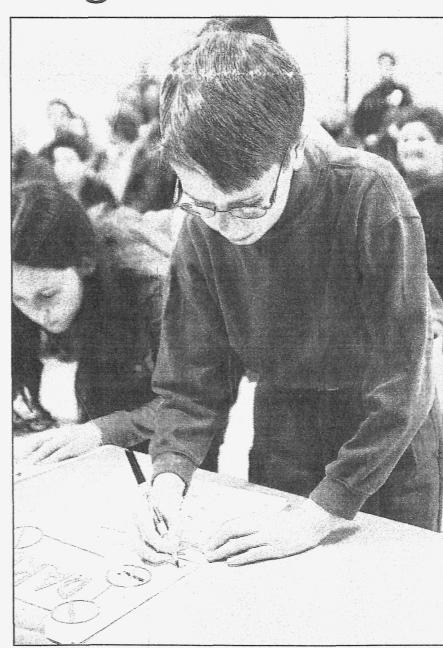
BEDMINSTER - In a time when the advertising and the entertainment industry is being scorned for producing violent and graphic material, 12 Somerset County youths were honored by their parents, local police and dignitaries for posters that promote a life without drug and alcohol abuse.

Not only did they receive congratulations, eight received savings bonds of \$100, three received \$200 savbonds and one Bernardsville pupil received a \$500 savings bond for having his design voted best of all. All of the winning entries were

made into a calendar. As part of the Somerset County Prosecutor's Office 2005 anti-drug calendar, fifth and sixth grade pupils from around the county were challenged to design their best anti drug and violence advertisements.

As the best design of the calendar, now in its seventh year of existence, Zach Horton, a fifth grader at the Saint

Continued on page A2



Elisa Chaudet, a fifth grade pupil at Stoney Brook School in Branchburg, created this patriotic rhyme for her anti-drug poster, above, which appears as part of the 2005 Anti-Drug Calendar produced by the Somerset County Prosecutor's Office. Zach Horton, left, a fifth grader at the Saint Elizabeth School in Bernardsville autographs a copy of the calendar.

IMAGE COURTESY OF THE SOMERSET PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE
(ABOVE); GEORGE
PACCIELLO/STAFF
PHOTOGRAPHER (LEFT)

More charges filed in tax flap

Somerset County Prosecutor Wayne Forrest announced last week that a series of criminal complaints were filed in Superior Court in Somerville charging Rafael Rosario with eight additional crimes, including theft by deception and tax violation, in connection with an ongoing investigation into Café Imperial.

The additional charges are second degree failure to surrender taxes, second degree failure to make required disposition, second degree theft by deception, third degree filing false tax reports, third degree misapplication of entrusted property, third degree tampering with public records, fourth degree deceptive business practices and fourth degree false swearing, officials reported.

Rosario, 43, a borough resident, is principal owner of Café Imperial, Forrest said.

According to the prosecutor, Kenneth Rosario and Henderson, currently suspended borough police chief, were arrested Oct. 19 of last year by Somerset County Prosecutor's Office detectives and charged with second degree official misconduct and conspiracy to commit official misconduct.

Forrest said the New Jerses Division of Taxation, Office of Criminal Investigation and Division of Alcohol Beverage Control and Department of Labor all joined the investigation and are actively assisting the prosecutor's office.

The charges filed against Rosario allege that he filed false sales and use tax quarterly returns on behalf of the restaurant. The charges allege he consistently underreported the amount of business sales tax received by Café Imperial for 1999-2003.

In addition, Rosario allegedly illegally withheld more than \$75,000 from the Division of Taxation and State of New Jersey during the same period, Forrest said. Forrest said the \$75,000 does not include fees, penalties and interest potentially due.

Henderson was arrested last fall on charges he tipped off Rosario about an impending raid by state liquor law investigators. Henderson was eating dinner at the Cafe Imperial on Oct. 17 when he learned that state Alcoholic

Continued on page A2

Board rejects parking plan

appeared on Dec. 11, 2004, is being reprinted because it originally contained inaccurate information about what Scotchbrook Associates, owners of an existing strip mall at the

SOUTH PLAINFIELD -

strip mall at the corner of Park and West Golf avenues may be heading to court.

According to Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer John Pabst, Scotchbrook Associates, owners of the site, have filed a suit in state Superior Court in New Brunswick against the Zoning Board of Adjustment, which had upheld Pabst's recommendation that the center have 70 parking spaces.

Scotchbrook had requested a variance so it would only need 26 spaces at the site, which houses a Chinese takeout restaurant, an auto parts parking spaces needed for a and periodical distributor, at that meeting.

No renovation or other construction work on the strip mall is planned, according to representatives Scotchbrook.

Planning Board The requested the zoning board consider the variance on the parking spaces. After hearing the request, the zoning board rejected it on Sept. 9.

During a planning board hearing on the application held Dec. 1, Mayor Daniel Gallagher, who also sits on the planning board, said work on the variance request should be stopped until any litigation is settled. The board did not take any action

Bound Brook man charged with rape

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{BOUND}}$ BROOK — A man faces charges of kidnapping and raping his former girlfriend, an 18-year-old woman.

Ĵose Raul Escano-Rodriguez, 22, of Linden Avenue was arrested Tuesday morning near a section of woods in Bridgewater where the rape was said to have taken place. The woods are off Vosseller Avenue north of the Bound Brook bor-

Escano-Rodriguez has been charged with one count of aggravated sexual assault, first degree; one count of kidnapping, second degree; one count of terroristic threats, third degree; and one count of weapons possession, third degree. He is being held in the Somerset County Jail on \$75,000 cash bail.

According to a release from the Somerset County prosecutor's office, the suspect picked up the woman around 5:17 a.m. Tuesday at her South Bound Brook home.

Continued on page A2

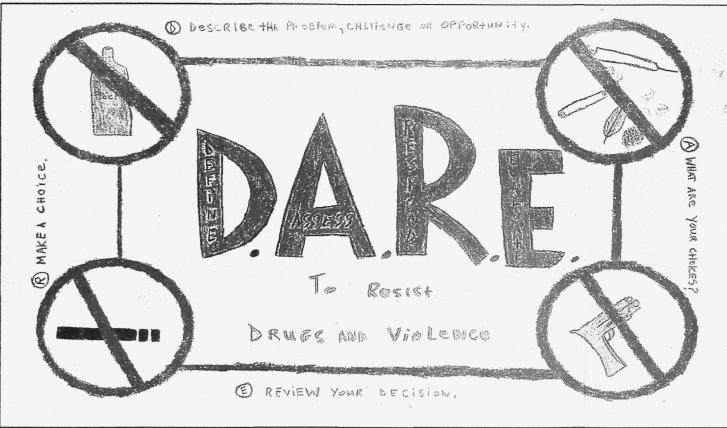


IMAGE COURTESY OF THE SOMERSET COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

The cover of the 2005 Anti-Drug Calendar, produced by the Somerset County Prosecutor's Office. The design was created by Zach Horton, a fifth grade pupil at the Saint Elizabeth School in Bernardsville

Learning to live without

Continued from page A1

Elizabeth School Bernardsville, said he was sur-

"I was thinking out of the whole county, what are the chances I'll get first prize?"
Zach said. "It's something I feel strongly about and I'm going to stick to the idea and

never change my mind."
For his poster, Zach said he took what he learned from his Drug Abuse Resistance Education Officer Doug Seals of Bernardsville and applied

"I learned about finding options, reviewing the situation, making a decision and assessing what each letter (in D.A.R.E.) stands for," Horton said.

Rokicki Nicole Bridgewater, whose father, Chris, is a member of the Franklin Police Department, said her design was "Be smart and don't start."

Nicole's poster is a take off on the "this is your brain on drugs" ad showing someone who uses drugs and another

"I thought maybe I'd win, and I like to use drawing books to practice my drawing," Nicole said. "You can't be happy and healthy with

Somerset County Prosecutor Wayne Forrest said the program has been very successful. Some 7,000 calendars will be distributed this year.

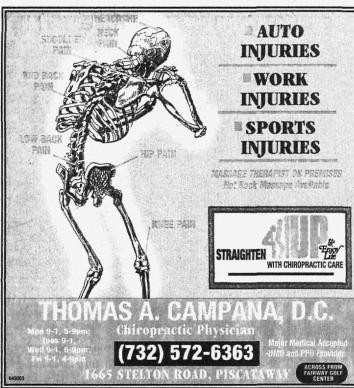
There are approximately 77 elementary schools which take part in the D.A.R.E. program, which includes class-said. "Nowadays they can room visits by specially-meet in a positive way."

trained D.A.R.E. officers and culminates in a graduation ceremony and a day at the Somerset County Ballpark where officers, students, parents and teachers all get together to enjoy time togeth-

Forrest said the program does more than just teach children about the dangers of using drugs and alcohol.

"This way the students and the officers don't meet under traumatic circumstances," he





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Piscataway pitching school expansion

Continued from page A1

will also allow the district to construct 10 classrooms and a gymnasium at Grandview as well as install air conditioning, and upgrade the parking, main entrance, rest rooms and electrical systems. At Knollwood and Randolphville schools, the funds will include the installation of air conditioning throughout the buildings, and other minor upgrades.

Rapidly escalating construction costs are responsible for the shortfall, said Robert L. Copeland, superintendent of

schools.
"Those who have undertaken home remodeling are well aware of building costs, and school construction is more expensive than residential," he said. "In March 2002, when voters first approved the expansion of our schools, the state was recommending that we calculate school construction at \$138 per square foot; currently, it is just under \$220 per square foot, not including the site. Each day that these building projects are delayed, we incur risk that construction costs will be even higher."

Increases in construction costs per square foot, the price of raw materials such as concrete and steel, land acquisition, as well as inflation, have affected school building projects throughout the state, McElroy, spokesman with the New Jersey Schools Construction Corp., the agency created to spearhead the state's focus and financial commitment to improving school facilities. Additionally, global events such as a building boom in China have increased the cost of construction materials. The price of petroleum, used in rubber materials, is another factor.

Work at six of the 11 buildings that were part of Piscataway's original March 2002 referendum approved by voters are all but finished. These include additions and renovations to Conackamack, Quibbletown, and Schor middle schools; additions to Arbor and King intermediate schools, and renovations to Fellowship Farms School. These projects have all been completed on time and within

their original budgets. Bids on the Piscataway High School portion of the referendum are more than \$33.6 million; the budget is about \$23.4 million with an additional \$1.4 million for contingency. In order to complete the high school project as it is currently designed, the district would need an additional \$10.6 mil-

Cost estimates on the Grandview, Randolphville, and Knollwood expansion and upgrades are \$3.9 million over

More charges filed in tax flap

Continued from page A1

and Beverage Control officers were minutes away from the establishment and planned to arrest several employees, police said.

Undercover detectives already stationed inside the restaurant watched as Henderson informed owner Rafael Rosario and helped him alert specific employees to flee before the ABC officers arrived, police said. Videotape surveillance also captured Henderson's activities, police said.

Both Rosario Henderson remain free on

The department is currently being led by acting Chief Louis Diana, who helped unveil a new paint scheme for the patrol cars this month as part of a public image cam-

Bound Brook man charged with rape

Continued from page A1

She wanted to go to a friend's house in Bound Brook but was driven instead to the woods where he allegedly attacked her. He also put a knife to her throat.

She fought him off, grabbed the knife and threw it out of the car, then drove back to South Bound Brook to notify police when he threatened to kill her. The knife was confiscated from Escano-Rodriguez and the car impounded after his arrest.

The woman also suffered bruises and bites on her face, leg and arm, according to the release. She was treated for her injuries at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville. An investigation is continu-

ing into the rape and related attack. Anyone with information is asked to call South Bound Brook police at (732) 356-0087, Bound Brook police (732)356-0800, Bridgewater police at (908) 722-4111, the county prosecutor's office at (908) 575-3300 or Crime Stoppers at (888)

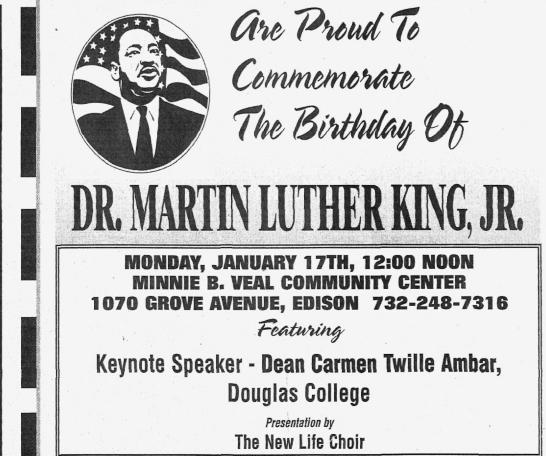
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REFRESHMENTS

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Raritan Valley YMCA head leaves post

EAST BRUNSWICK - Ron Fournier, who has headed the Raritan Valley YMCA for the past 12 years, announced his retirement last week, effective immediately.

Fournier made announcement to YMCA staff, explaining that the decision was a personal one. "This very difficult deci-

sion has been made for personal reasons, so that I can be with my family more," he

said. "A lot of things have been accomplished over the past 12 years, including a \$3.9 million grant that was recently secured through the Casino Reinvestment Development Agency, or

"This leaves the Y in a very good position to move forward with a new growth phase that will take place during the next two years."

Hank Mertens, acting pres-

ident of the Raritan Valley YMCA's Board of Directors said: "I want to thank Ron Fournier for his efforts and especially for his vision for the new YMCA Family Program Center. "We wish Ron and his fam-

ily the best of luck." The Raritan Valley YMCA, currently located in a 4,000-

square-foot building on Dunham's Corner Road, will be moving to a new expanded location on Tices Lane later this year. It serves more than 2,000 participants from throughout Middlesex

When completed, the new facility on Tices Lane will feature cardiovascular, conditioning & weight training areas, an aerobic/dance studio, child care center, multipurpose rooms, locker/shower rooms, a six-lane pool, a therapy instruction pool and

Renovation of the existing building is expected to be completed by the end of 2005. The entire expansion project is scheduled to be completed in 2006.

The YMCA provides a variety of programs and services to meet community needs, including child care, summer camp, swim programs, sports instruction and fitness/exercise programs.

*Police News *

MIDDLESEX BOROUGH Michael A. Gianchiglia, 20, of Middlesex, was arrested and charged with possession of a controlled dangerous substance and drug paraphernalia following an investigation at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 4, police said. Off. Chad Corner investigated.

Franco Villanueva, 29, of Manville, was arrested and charged with possession of a false document during a motor vehicle stop at the corner of Union Avenue and Hazelwood Avenue at 9:54 p.m. Jan. 7.

Villanueva allegedly showed a fake international driver's license to Off. Robert Ellis. Villanueva was taken to the Middlesex County Adult Correction Center after failing to post \$2,500 bail, police said.

Rose M. Pietrefesa, 37, of Middlesex, was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated and refusing to take the breathalyzer during a motor vehicle stop at the corner of Lincoln Boulevard and Cedar Avenue 12:37 a.m. Jan. 9, police said.

Off. Chad Corner investigat-

SOUTH PLAINFIELD

A burglary occurred at the Engine City Mechanic School on Hadley Road between 5 p.m. and 6 a.m. Jan. 5, police

Someone broke into two classrooms and removed a pair of Dell laptop computers valued at \$1,000 each. The burglary is under investigation,

Art grants given to county organizations

MIDDLESEX COUNTY - Society - \$4,500 The following area organizations have received grants from the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission for this year.

The grants support established groups and assists emerging arts organization.

The 2005 Local Arts Grants, and a number of other arts programs, are made possible by a \$197,662 grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts and by funds from the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Local groups include: Asian American Cultural Center, Piscataway — \$1,900 Cantabile Chamber Chorale, Piscataway — \$5,000 - Edison Chinese Chorus

- Filipino Family & Friends of North Edison — \$2,100 - Forum Theatre/Entre Act, Metuchen — \$5,500

Highland Park Community Chorus — \$2,100 Park Highland Department of Community Services — \$4,000

- Huaxia Chinese School Tai Chi Club, Edison -

- Metuchen Cultural Arts Commission — \$1,700 - Metuchen Recreation

Commission — \$1,700 Metuchen/Campbell Moss PTO - \$1,100

- New Millennium Cultural & Art Foundation, Piscataway **—** \$1,800

Piscataway Library — \$1,400 - South Plainfield Summer Dram Workshop — \$2,100 — Terra Firma Dance Theatre, Highland Park —

- Women Helping Women, Metuchen — \$1,850.

The following groups are funded under Local Arts Development. Some will be co-sponsoring a project with the commission:

Cerebral Palsy Association of Middlesex County, Edison Cleo Mack Dance

Project, Edison NAACP, Metuchen

Edison Branch - Rescue House of Prayer Youth Orchestra, South

Need rises for children's clothing

As the thermometer drops, business at the Kids Closet, which provides new, donated clothing to children living in poverty, is heating up. Unfortunately, supplies are running low.

"We are staring into empty bins for several sizes," said Richard Uniacke, director of the Kids Division at the Community FoodBank of New Jersey, which operates the Kids Closet. "It seems that nearly every child in need falls between the sizes of 4 and 12," said Uniacke, adding that the Kids Closet's greatest need is for warm pants and jeans for both boys and girls in sizes 4 to 12.

The Kids Closet, which opened in 2001, provides new clothing up to twice a year for children through their caseworkers or social service agencies. Judging requests for clothing so far this season, Uniacke said, he

expects to need at least 15,000 sets of clothing and 3,000 coats. Kids Closet stock comes from clothing manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers, as well as community organizations and individuals who donate clothing or the funds to purchase children's clothes in bulk.

The mission of the Kids Closet calls for distributing new, rather than used, cloth-"We hear it time and again from caseworkers and teachers: To a child who generally wears secondhand clothing, a set of clothes that he can call his own does wonders for a kid's self-esteem," Uniacke said.

In the past two years, the number of families in New Jersey living below the federal poverty level, which is \$18,800 for a family of four, has increased nearly 14 percent, for a total of nearly 800,000 individuals. "The

kids need new pants because they're growing, but the rent and the heating bill, those are growing, too," said Uniacke. "We can't do anything about the utility bill, so we do what we can to provide warm clothes." Those who wish to donate

clothing or funds to the Kids Closet can contact Uniacke at (908) 355-3663, Ext. 247, or by email at runiacke@njfoodbank.org. Donations may also be brought to the Kids Closet, which is housed in the Community FoodBank of New Jersey, 31 Evans Terminal Road, Hillside, weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. until noon. Those wishing to donate funds online and to find out more about the Kids Closet and the FoodBank may www.njfoodbank.org.

- Highland Park Recorder Plainfield. Man held in sex assault of

12-year-old borough girl SOUTH BOUND BROOK — A 23-year-old Bound Brook man was arrested last week after allegedly sexually assaulting a 12-year-old borough girl in her home, Somerset County Prosecutor Verry, chief of the borough department, announced.

The victim and her family notified police of the assaults on Nov. 1 of last year, officials

According to police, while staying in the victim's home last summer, Merari Barragan assaulted the girl in his bedroom on at least four occa-

after Barragan sent e-mails to her. He also reentered her home without permission after sending the e-mails and wrote harassing messages on Wayne Forrest and Robert a bathroom mirror, police

sions. The girl told her mother

about the assaults in the fall

Barragan was arrested and charged with first degree aggravated sexual assault, second degree sexual assault, third degree endangering the welfare of a child, fourth degree trespassing and harassment. He is being held in Somerset County Jail on \$50,000 bail pending a court hearing, police said.

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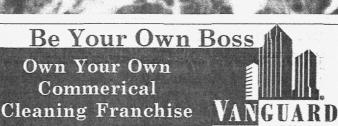


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Bond anticipation notes sold

NEW BRUNSWICK -Middlesex County has sold \$35 million in bond anticipation notes and can anticipate \$392,111 in revenue for the 2005 budget from the sale.

The sale "will help us as we work to cut the tax levy -- the amount we need to raise by taxes to run county government," said Freeholder Director David B. Crabiel.









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Commentary

A national disgrace

The United States is the richest country in the world. It is also has the most powerful military in the world.

Yet donations are being sought to help protect American soldiers stationed in Iraq.

It's a national disgrace.

Acting Governor Richard J. Codey announced Thursday the start of a statewide drive to collect used bulletproof vests that U.S. troops in Iraq will use to line their vehicles to protect themselves against bombs.

"We are establishing regional drop off points at our National Guard Armories to collect used bulletproof vests to give our troops every possible protection," Codey said

Codey urged all local, state and federal law enforcement agencies to donate used vests to strengthen armor on military vehicles in Iraq. Some groups have already begun campaigns to collect vests.

Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, the Adjutant

General of New Jersey, said the dropoff sites will be located at the Atlantic City Armory (1008 Absecon Boulevard), the Lawrenceville Armory (151 Eggert Crossing Road) and the West Orange Armory (1315 Pleasant Valley Way). Collections beganTuesday,

Rieth stressed the vests are only needed for use on military vehicles. "Every soldier being deployed to Iraq has his or her own personal body armor," he said.

"These brave men and women are risking their lives in the name of freedom," Codey added. "This is one way we can demonstrate our support and appreciation for the sacrifices they are making on behalf of our nation."

The vision of the most powerful military in the world relying upon donations from police departments on the homefront to bolster protection for the troops is shameful.

It truly is a national disgrace. And someone needs to be held accountable.



Community lends aid to victims of tsunami

WOODBRIDGE — As part of relief efforts to areas in South Asia that were devastated by the recent earthquake and tsunami, Sen. Joseph F. Vitale and Assemblymen Upendra Chivukula, as well as other areas legislators and children's advocates, announced they will partner with Office Depot to

vide supplies to orphanages in Sri Lanka.

"The absolute destruction caused by (the recent) natural disasters in South Asia is incomprehensible," said Senator

sponsor a backpack drive to pro-

prehensible," said Senator Vitale, D-Woodbridge. "Thousands of children are currently being cared for in makeshift orphanages throughout the region, as the death toll rises higher than anyone could have imagined.

"I can't think of a better cause than to provide some sort of distraction for these kids from the chaos and death surrounding them."

Assemblyman Chivukula, D-Franklin Township, said: "The children of the tsunami-stricken countries have been through a horrific ordeal, with many losing their parents and other family members. Sending a backpack full of toys and creative supplies will send a message that strangers half a world away care about the children of Sri Lanka.

"This backpack drive is an example of the many fine efforts of New Jerseyans to relieve the suffering of the tsunami victims."

Piscataway's Grandview

Piscataway's Grandview Elementary School is also kicking off a drive to raise money to aid victims of the tsunami. An assembly beginning the drive

Until Saturday I had not been

inside the Neshanic Methodist

Church for more than three

The church had been a large

part of my childhood — doing Sunday School homework on Saturday nights while watching

"Saturday Night at the Movies'

on NBC and then getting dressed

up in a starchy sports coat and

tie for Sunday School. I liked the

hymns and the Bible competi-

tions; if I hadn't been fearful of a

stutter attack, I would have been

On special days after Sunday

School, I would stay for the reg-

ular 11 a.m. service and imagine

the Holy Ghost float and slink

like Casper around the ankles

around of everyone in the sanc-

tuary. I enjoyed the choir,

though it was always small, their

voices rising through the sanctu-

ary to the outskirts of Heaven. I

watched the flicker of the

flames on the altar and on

windy winter and fall days, I lis-

tened to the unkempt tree

branches scratch against the

stained glass windows. It was as

if the fingertips of God were tap-

ping on the windows. On Palm

Sunday I liked getting palms

and hitting everyone in my class.

But I was a rebel angel and the

times were ripe for rebellion. I

left after my freshman year in

high school because the church

ing still in the rush of change in

the early 1970s. I was sick of the

conservative Old Testament (the

favored

- like any church - was stand-

a champion Bible verse finder.

decades.

will be held Wednesday. and now are in orphanages," Chivukula is among those expected to attend. and now are in orphanages," said Assemblyman John Wisniewski, D-Sayerville, who

The legislators said that Office Depot of Woodbridge has agreed to donate 400 backpacks for the relief efforts, with 200 backpacks going to the Woodbridge school district, where students are organizing a supply donation drive, and 200 backpacks to collect supplies from the community. The Woodbridge Fire Company #1 has offered to store all donations for the backpacks while volunteers are organized to assemble them. After the packs are filled, they will be shipped to approximately 50 to 60 Buddhist temples in rural Sri Lanka which have been taking in displaced children.

"I feel the symbol of a back-pack is something all children can identify with," said Helen Evans, president of Stand for Children, an advocacy group that has worked with Sen. Vitale for the past seven years on back-pack drives for foster children in New Jersey. "We hope to provide some sense of stability to the lives of those orphaned by the tsunami as they are transitioned into more permanent homes."

For the relief efforts, the legislators are asking anyone wishing to donate for the following items: mouthwash, soap, towels, sunscreen, water bottles, small toys, socks, T-shirts, shampoo, brushes, combs, deodorant and coloring books.

"The tragedy in South Asia has affected so many families and children. It is heart wrenching to think of all the children who had to witness the tsunami first hand, lost their families,

and now are in orphanages," said Assemblyman John Wisniewski, D-Sayerville, who is working with the donation effort. "I can only hope that these backpacks can provide a little joy in their lives during this horrible time."

The donation drive comes in the wake of massive devastation in South Asia, in which an earthquake and the ensuing tsunami have been responsible for a death toll that has already been estimated at more than 150,000 people.

150,000 people.

"To positively occupy the minds of children who face unimaginable horrors from the tsunami is an act of charity and mercy," said Assemblyman Joseph Vas, D-Perth Amboy.

"Putting order in the lives of these students will be a start on the road to recovery."

Mary Wong, director of community relations for Office Depot, said: "We are proud to partner with Senator Vitale, area legislators and the Woodbridge School District. Our national backpack program is meant to put a backpack in the hands of children who need them most, we applaud Senator Vitale, the assemblymen and the students in Woodbridge for reaching out and providing the backpacks to the children in Sri Lanka and making a difference."

The 400 backpacks were presented at Office Depot's ribbon cutting event for their new store in Woodbridge.

Donations can be dropped off at Sen. Vitale's district office, 87 Main St. Those interested in donating can also call Sen. Vitale's office at (732) 855-7441

Don't let the dream die

On Monday this country will celebrate the birthday of Martin Luther King, perhaps the most influential American of the second half of the 20th century. Yet, aside from the stock market and government offices being closed and a scattering of stories in the media, there will be little to separate Monday from the other drab days of January.

That's unforgivable.

The legacy left by Dr. King should never be underestimated or forgotten. It is inconceivable to a younger generation that just 40 years ago segregation was the rule in many parts of this country. African-Americans were forced to sit at the rear of the bus and to drink from separate water fountains. They were not allowed to stay at many hotels and they were refused service at many restaurants. This country's treatment of African-Americans was truly shameful.

The courage demonstrated by Dr. King and his followers brought about the most sweeping change in this country's history. Centuries of injustice ended with historic Supreme Court rulings often enforced by

federal troops and the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Most of these changes were prompted by Dr. King's insistence on non-violent protest; the peaceful demonstrations that he led delivered the message to all Americans that all men are created equal and, more importantly, should be treated equally. And Dr. King never gave up the struggle, despite the ugly hatred of ignorant racists and the despicable and inexcusable harassment by a rogue FBI.

Dr. King's achievements should not go underappreciated. By achieving equal rights for African-Americans, he made all of our lives better. Though his life was tragically ended by an assassin's bullet, the struggle for racial justice continued. And it continues to this day. There is still too much racism and intolerance in this country and the stench of discrimination still lingers.

To properly remember Dr. King, we should dedicate ourselves once again to the principles he espoused — the pursuit of justice for all through non-violent means. That dedication should be the root of how we celebrate this national holiday.

Letters to the Editor

Environmentalists are misusing science

To The Editor:

So New Jersey has decided to help solve the global warming problem by joining politicians and lawyers in other northeastern states in forcing a redefinition of carbon dioxide as a pollutant. The state's brief filed in federal district court consists of the entire litany of deadly disasters used by global warming alarmists: droughts, rising sea levels, catastrophic forest fires, floods, hurricanes, etc.

But carbon dioxide only constitutes a few percent of the total mix of heat-trapping greenhouse gases in the atmosphere associated with global warming. Eventually

the governor and the cabal of state attorneys general will discover that the dominant greenhouse gas, contributing more than 90 percent to global warming, is not carbon dioxide — it is dihydrogen monoxide.

Will they the shop around for an activist federal judge eager to redefine dihydrogen monoxide as a pollutant? Will the northeastern states then claim to be at the forefront of the War on Global Warming, and they must beat California to the establishment of a taxpayer-funded Center of Excellence for research into finding a renewable resource substitute for dihydrogen monox-

ide - a.k.a. water?

Sound far-fetched? Perhaps. But who would have ever believed that carbon dioxide - the essential ingredient for plant life on Earth would be falsely identified as a pollutant. But environmentalists use science to promote the environment, don't they? Wrong. The unscientific prophecies of global warming are but one example. There exists a whole catalog of junk science, and false, misleading, and fraudulent use of science by politicians, lawyers, and media and environmental activist to promote environmental lunacy.

DR. LEO F. JOHNSON

Bedminster

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.co

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.

Jersey Boy

A welcome communion of souls



Republicans) and began to like the liberal Old Testament (the one still favored by Democrats) and I began, at least viscerally, to appreciate the liberation theology of Jesus to the intolerance of the Old Testament that still mars thumping American

Protestantism.

Then there was an argument over the My Lai massacre in a Sunday School class when I suddenly found myself an outcast, there was a growing schism over the type of material taught in Sunday School, my best friends all dropped out and I succumbed to the adolescent practice of needing more sleep on weekends.

Sometimes I thought about returning but by that time my disgruntlement had been replaced by cynicism and Sunday mornings recovering from Saturday nights. Tee times were more important than church bells. Faith, if I had any at all, was practiced on a one-onone basis with no passing of the plate. For me it was more important to practice every day the

principles of the New Testament than to believe I could gain a perch in Heaven by going to church on Sunday and shaking the ritualistic Etch-a-Sketch to erase the hypocrisy of the other 6 days and 22 hours of the week.

It's been only relatively recently that I fully realized the purpose of going to church was more than just a place where you could meet God for a weekly session. A friend, who recently started attending church again , summed it up when someone asked her why: "Because it makes me feel better." She finds comfort and joy in the fellowship and the sense of community. And that is what I found Saturday when I walked into the Neshanic Methodist Church on Sunday.

It was a memorial service for someone who knew me all my life and who everyone in my hometown knew. The warmth of the sanctuary, full of the unbreakable kinship of a small town, sucked the chill out of a miserable wet winter day. We shared memories of the departed and the choir was just as angelic as long ago days. There was joy in the shared memory of the dead and there was comfort in the fellowship we shared.

"This is the way it should be," somebody said to me. He was right. Without the dogma, that church service was a celebration of life and community, a communion of common souls. Which is, if you think about, the whole

Calendar

Saturday, Jan. 15

BRIDGEWATER - Winter Hike in Washington Valley Park, Vosseller Ave., 10 a.m. \$7. Prepayment required: (908) 766-2489.

BRIDGEWATER - Best in Show: puppies and adult dogs to adopt. Petsmart, Bridgewater Promenade, 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. (908) 964-6887,

Ext. 306. **BRIDGEWATER - Love a Cat:** kittens and adult felines to adopt. Petsmart, Bridgewater Promenade, noon-4 p.m. Jan. 15, 16. (908) 964-6887, Ext.

GREEN BROOK - Auditions for Feb. 5 "Night of Follies." Green Brook Middle School, 132 Jefferson Road, 9:30 a.m. (732) 752-6326 or tori314@aol.com.

RARITAN - Rabies Clinic for cats and dogs in the borough. Firehouse, N. Thompson St., 10 a.m.-noon. Free. (908) 725-2300, Ext. 1981. SOMERVILLE -

"Scrapbooking for Kids" ages 10-13 (bring 5 current photos). Somerville Public Library, 35 West End Ave., 2 p.m. Free. Registration required: (908) 725-1336, Ext. 14.

WATCHUNG - Love a Cat: kittens and adult felines to adopt. Petsmart, Watchung Square, 1515 Route 22 West, noon-4 p.m. Jan. 15, 16. (908) 964-6887, Ext. 307.

Sunday, Jan. 16

BEDMINSTER - Lecture in Song: Fred Miller on the music of Jerome Kern. Clarence Dillon Public Library, 2336 Lamington Road, 2 p.m. Free. Registration: (908) 234-2325. **BRIDGEWATER - Summer** Camp Fair, annual event of American Camping Association. Marriott hotel, Commons Way, noon-4 p.m.

Free. (732) 469-8910. BERNARDS TWP. - Day Trip: "Wandering Around the Wallkill" River. Trip leaves Environmental Education Center, 190 Lord Stirling Road, 9 a.m. Adults \$30; students, seniors \$20. Prepayment required: (908) 766-2489. **BERNARDS TWP. - Nature** Walk around Environmental Education Center, 190 Lord Stirling Road, noon Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13. Free. (908) 766-2489

BERNARDS TWP. - "Wrap Up Your Scraps" for a new use. Environmental Education Center, 190 Lord Stirling Road, 2 p.m. \$9. Prepayment required: (908) 766-2489.

Monday, Jan. 17

BRIDGEWATER - Holiday Dance for adult singles. Green Knoll Grille, 645 Routes 202-206, 7-11 p.m. \$8 before 7 p.m., \$10 after 7 p.m. (888) 348-5544 or www.pbsninfo.com.

Tuesday, Jan. 18

BERNARDS TWP. - Home Show and business card exchange. Affinity Federal Credit Union, 73 Mountain View Road, noon. \$25. Registration: (908) 218-4300.

Wednesday, Jan. 19 **BEDMINSTER - Monthly** Meeting of Christian Business Men's Committee. Willie's Taverne, Route 202 and Hillside Ave., noon. \$15. Reservations: (908) 806-4647. **BRIDGEWATER - Singles** Dance for ages 30-up. Bridgewater Manor, Routes 202-206 South, 8:30 p.m. Jan. 19, 26. \$8 before 9 p.m., \$10 after 9 p.m. (908) 658-3000. BERNARDS TWP. - Seaside Landlubbers: a "Whale of a Tale" for ages 7-9. Environmental Education Center, 190 Lord Stirling Road, 3:30 p.m. \$8. Prepayment

required: (908) 766-2489.



Enrollment open for spring semester courses

opportunity to enroll for the spring semester at Middlesex College, begins Jan. 24.

Many courses are still available and classes are filling quickly. Visit www.middlesexcc.edu for availability of courses.

"It's not too late to jumpstart your future by becoming a full- or part-time student at Middlesex," said Admissions Director Peter Rice. "We feature excellent faculty, low tuition and more than 80 academic programs

EDISON — There is still an leading to transfer to a fouryear institution or directly to a career."

The Enrollment Center will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday. The college will be closed Monday.

The Enrollment Center is located in Cafeteria C of the College Center.

Students who wish to apply to a degree program or enroll in full-time study should begin the process by submitting an application and \$25 application fee to the

Admissions Chambers Hall. The quickest way to apply is online at www.middlesexcc.edu. Parttime, non degree students are invited to visit the Enrollment Center and talk with an advisor and register at the same time.

Enrollment procedures are explained in detail at www.middlesexcc.edu under the heading "Enrollment Information.'

The interactive spring bulletin lists all courses, availabilities and fees.

Show trips are offered

the following shows are available from the Recreation Department of Piscataway Township as follows:

- "The Producers" — Feb. 6, \$110 per ticket — Orchestra seating — 3 p.m. matinee at the St. James Theater, 246 West 44th St., New York City. Based on the Academy Award Winning 1968 film of the same name, The Producers is the story of downon-his-luck theatrical producer Max Bialystock and Leo Bloom, a mousy accountant. Together, they hatch the ultimate scam: Raise more money than you need for a sure-fire Broadway fiasco - and pocket the difference. Their Broadway brainchild is non other than "Springtime for Hitler." The Producers has become a Broadway phenomenon, earning more Tony Awards than any other show in the history of the Great White Way. The bus will leave from the Municipal Complex at 12 p.m.

- "Mamma Mia" — March 6 - \$110 per ticket — Orchestra Seating — 2 p.m. matinee at the Winter Garden Theater, 1634 Broadway, New York City. A musical with a disco beat, Mamma Mia features the music of Swedish singing group ABBA. The setting is a Greek Island where 20-year-old Sophie is due to be married. Her mom, Donna (who happens to be a former singing star) is there. But Sophie's father is not present because she is not sure who he

Beechwood

installs new

fire officials

Beechwood Heights Fire Co.

#2 has announced the instil-

lation of new officers for

Vince Vacca was elected

Robert Schneider was

elected president of the com-

pany, and will serve for two

In addition, other officers

elected were Andrew Klein,

lieutenant, Rich Malt, vice

president, Darren Lubetkin,

engineer, Mike Macher, trea-

surer, Ken Pukas, Jr., assis-

tant engineer, and Vic

The company also chose

Kevin Crynock and Ken

Capolunghi, secretary.

Pukas as trustees.

MIDDLESEX

2005.

years.

captain.

PISCATAWAY — Tickets for is. So, Sophie researches mom's diary and chooses three former lovers as likely candidates and invites them to the wedding, thinking she will figure it out when she sees them. Donna is a bit non-pleased to be visited by the gatherings of old flames. Mamma Mia! The bus will leave from the Municipal Complex at 10:30 a.m.

- "Fiddler on the Roof" — April 3 — \$110 per ticket — Orchestra Seating — 3 p.m. matinee at the Minskoff Theater, 1575 Broadway at 44th and 45th streets, New York City. A musical about the traditions that bind a family whose daughters are yearning for something new even as great changes are happening in the world outside their village of Anatevica. The international sensation was inspired by the stories of Sholom Aleichem and was first presented in 1964 introducing the memorable songs "If I Were A Rich Man," "Matchmaker, Matchmaker," "Sunrise, Sunset" and "To Life." The bus will leave the Municipal Building at noon.

— "The Lion King" — May 15 — \$115 per ticket — Orchestra Seating — 1 p.m. matinee at the New Amsterdam Theater, 214 West 42nd St., New York City. A musical about a young lion cub named Simba who struggles to accept the responsibilities of adulthood and his destined role as king. To bring the classic 1994 film to life, Disney turned to the story's roots, its rich mythology,

powerful human drama and primal African rhythms to create a fantastic new musical unlike anything Broadway has ever seen. Winner of six 1998 Tony Awards, including Best New Musical, The Lion King is an adventure into another world. The bus will leave the Municipal Building at 10 a.m.

- At The State Theatre, 15 Livingston Ave., New Brunswick, tickets are available, with no bus transportation, for Bill Cosby, Feb. 26, \$50 orchestra seating.

— Sesame Street — March 26
— \$24 Orchestra Seating — 2 p.m. matinee. High energy musical extravaganza that explores the world of Imagination, Ernie captures the High Seas, Elmo dances to the rhythm of the rainforest, and Bert meets an Octopus who's got the blues. It's a story of adventure and fun that teaches children they can be anyone, do anything and go anywhere with Imagination!

For all shows, please call the recreation Department at (732) 562-2382 to reserve your seat. A \$50 deposit will hold your reservation for the New York City shows and a \$10 deposit will hold reservations for the State Theatre. All outstanding money needs to be paid one month before the scheduled show.

Make all checks payable to Piscataway Township and send to: Piscataway Recreation, Attention: Shirley Myers, 455 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ

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County Briefs

Collegians eligible for scholarships

The Freehold Soil Conservation District is awarding scholarships to college upperclassmen from Middlesex County.

Three grants of \$1,000 each will be awarded to college students whose major is in natural resources. Agriculture, conservation, environmental education, environmental science, forestry, geology, resource management and soil science are among the fields cov-

Applicants must enter their junior or senior year in the fall. For an application, visit www.freeholdscd.org or call (732) 683-8500. Deadline for applications is April 8.

Flu shots available for those 18 and older

WOODBRIDGE — The Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey will hold flu shot clinics at the VNA of Central Jersey Woodbridge Regional Office, 91 Main St. Appointments are not necessary. The shots are available to individuals 18 and older. The cost is

\$20. Medicare Part B is also accepted.

Flu shots will be administered from 9 a.m.-noon today; Saturday, Jan 22; and Saturday, Jan 29. In addition, shots will be administered from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20; Tuesday, Jan. 25; and Thursday,

Environmental group for kids is forming

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — A new group with an environmental focus is being formed for children ages 5 and older.

The South Plainfield Clean Communities Glitterbugs will meet quarterly at the PAL Building on Maple Avenue. The first meeting will be at 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 30. The group is being sponsored by the Clean Community Advisory Board of South Plainfield.

In addition to scheduled meetings, the Glitterbugs will do service projects such as cleanups and litter awareness campaigns.

Historical Society is offering scholarship

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The South Plainfield Historical Society sponsors a scholarship for a graduating high school senior. A \$250 grant is awarded every June to a student who lives in the borough. For an application, visit the guidance department in your high school or contact the society's Scholarship Committee at P.O. Box 11, South Plainfield, NJ 07080.

Charity funding event raises \$850

BOUND BROOK — Chiropractor Dr. Perry Wolk-Weiss and his staff participated in the 2004 World Children's Relief fund-raising

The week of Dec. 6-11, Wolk-Weiss offered a reduced fee for all new patients and he pledged 5 percent of all regular patient visits toward the charity. He was able to raise \$850 for the charity.

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ALL CONTAINER RECOVERY 28 Howard St. Piscataway, NJ 08854 phone 732-752-8823 Directions: Route 22 to Washington Ave South. Turn right on Rt 28 North Ave in Dunellen center and left at Madison. Go under the trestle and turn right on South Ave. Go 1/4 mile and left on Howard St. and left in the last driveway. Mon-Fri 8:30 AM to 4 PM Sat 9 AM to 1 PM

Kick it up a notch in the New Year!

During conversations...

Do people say to you? Do you say to others?

· "That's not what I asked"

· "That's not what I said"

· "I misunderstood" · "I thought you said...."

· "That's not my point."

· "Will you repeat that?"

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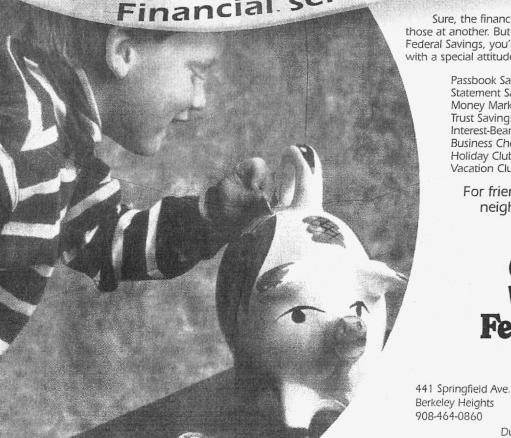
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To register or for more information: Tel: 800.734.3406 or www.performance-institute.org Cost: \$99.00





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Charlotte Ilgaz

Glanister Ilgaz, 78, died Dec. 23, 2004 at the Barbara E. Cheung Memorial Hospice.

Born in Ithaca, N.Y., she lived in Scotch Plains before moving to Edison. Mrs. Ilgaz was a longtime

bookkeeper with the Social Security Administration in Plainfield.

Surviving are two daughters, Joan and Lynne; and two grandchildren.

Private arrangements were by the Rossi Funeral Home in Scotch Plains.



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----- Obituaries -----**Barbara Anne Levinson**

SOUTH PLAINFIELD -Barbara Anne Force Levinson, 60, died suddenly Jan. 7, 2005 at her home.

Born in Rahway, she lived in Garwood and Plainfield before moving to South Plainfield in 1972.

Mrs. Levinson retired in 2003 after five years as an administrative assistant with Mazda Motors of America in Somerset. She earlier was the personal secretary to an

Eleanor

Tarnopolski

BOUND BROOK — Eleanor

Tarnopolski, 77, died Jan. 3,

2005 at the Raritan Health

Born in Palmerton, Pa., she

was a daughter of the late

Carl and Magdalana Binder.

Bound Brook before moving

to Bridgewater in 1972. She

was an officer worker in the

1950s and early 1960s at

American Cyanamid Co. in

Her husband, Bernard, died

Surviving are two sons, Bruce P. of Georgia and Barry

A funeral Mass was held

Jan. 6 at St. Mary of

Czestochowa Roman Catholic

Church, following services at

the Bridgewater Funeral

Home. Burial was in Bound

Send us

your news!

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Bridgewater.

C. of Bridgewater.

Brook Cemetery.

in 1984

Mrs. Tarnopolski lived in

and Extended Care Center.

orthopedic surgeon in New Brunswick. She earned an associate's

degree in business administration from the North Brunswick campus of DeVry University. She was a Sunday school

teacher at the Hydewood Park Baptist Church in North Plainfield, where Mrs. Levinson also was the leader for the Pioneer Girls and a caregiver in the nursery.

Surviving are a daughter, Laura B. of South Plainfield; a brother, Gary Force of Woodbridge; a cousin, Lynn deBrigard of Rahway; a niece, four nephews, a great-niece and three great-nephews.

Services were held Tuesday at the McCriskin Home for Funerals. Burial was in Rosedale Cemetery, Linden.

Donations may be sent to the tsunami relief charity of your choice.

Dorothy Ford

BOUND BROOK — Dorothy McCabe Ford, 75, died Jan. 8, 2005 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born Aug. 23, 1929 in Philadelphia, she was a daughter of the late Joseph and Myrtle Geuther McCabe. Mrs. Ford lived in

Jenkintown, Pa., before moving to Bound Brook in 1957. She was a former vice president and director of the Rolling Hills Girl Scout Council, which honored her with its Thanks and Thanks II awards.

She received a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Pennsylvania in 1951. Mrs. Ford was the forchairman of the Administrative Council at the Bound Brook Methodist Church and a past president of the United Methodist Women.

Her husband, Douglas W., died in 1999.

Surviving are a son, Dale M. of Abilene, Texas; two daughters, Donna L. of Bound Brook and Debi MacDonald of Flemington; and two grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Thursday at the Bound Brook United Methodist Church.

Arrangements were by the Hagan-Chamberlain Funeral Home. Donations may be sent to Ford Endowment Fund, Bound Brook United Methodist Church, 150 W. Union Ave., Bound Brook, NJ

Elias Gomes

— Elias MIDDLESEX Gomes, 93, died Dec. 31, 2004 at Integrated Health Services of New Jersey at Somerset Valley, in Bridgewater.

Born in Lisbon, Portugal, he lived in Belleville before moving to Middlesex in 1968.

Mr. Gomes was a baker for

Isabelle L. Paterno Gomes; two sons, Russell and Elias Jr.; four grandchildren and four greatgrandchildren.

A funeral Mass was held Jan. 3 at St. Valentine's Roman Catholic Church, Bloomfield, following services at the S.W. Brown & Son Funeral Home in Nutley. Burial was in St. Surviving are his wife, Gertrude Cemetery, Colonia.

Walter Paul

PISCATAWAY — Walter Paul, 84, died Jan. 4, 2005 at his home in Scotch Plains.

Born in Lumberton, N.C., he lived in Piscataway for 20 years before moving to Scotch Plains

Mr. Paul was an automobile body technician for 42 years with Herb Clark's Auto Body shop in New Brunswick. He was with the Army Air Corps in the South Pacific during World War II.

His wife, Lessie Mae, died in 1984. A daughter, Ginger, died in 1995.

Surviving are four sons, Michael Demaurez, Michael, Scotty and Jeff, all of Scotch Plains; a sister, Eunice Rebels of North Carolina; and three grandchildren.

Services were held Jan. 7 at the Piscataway Funeral Home. Burial was in Lake Nelson Memorial Park.

Verna Hale

SOUTH BOUND BROOK -Verna M. Hale, 74, died Jan. 7, 2005 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.

Born June 1, 1930 in Camden, she was a daughter of the late Joseph C. and Luella E. Moore Ketrow.

Mrs. Hale lived in Manville before moving to South Bound Brook in 1988. She was a homemaker and a parishioner of Christ the King Roman Catholic Church in Manville.

Surviving are two sons, Allen James of Manville and Kenneth David of South Bound Brook; two daughters, Joann Pilegis of Highland Park and Linda Lou Piller of Saylorsburg, Pa.; two brothers, James Ketrow of Naples, Fla., and Julius Ketrow of Port Charlotte, Fla.; four sisters, May Danko of La Junta, Colo., Florence Perdue of Bound Brook, Dorothy Stalvey of Bennettsville, S.C., and Luella DiMaria of South Bound Brook; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Services were held Monday at the Hagan-Chamberlain Funeral Home in Bound

Thomas Gilbert Sr.

PISCATAWAY — Thomas F. Gilbert Sr., 81, died Jan. 6, 2005 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.

He was born in New Brunswick and had lived in Piscataway since 1975.

Mr. Gilbert retired in 1984 as a chief operator with Union Carbide Corp. in Piscataway. He was a volunteer with the Piscataway Senior Citizens Club and a member of the Piscataway Garden Club.

He was an Army veteran of Funeral Home.

World War II. His wife, Martha, died in

Surviving are two sons, Thomas T. Jr. of Piscataway and Barry A. and wife Mary Ann of Pittstown; a daughter, Helena Riccitelli Piscataway; two grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Services were held Monday in the chapel at Resurrection Burial Park. Arrangements were by the Piscataway

The Reporter

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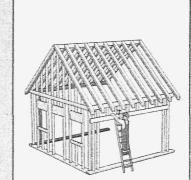
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Bundles for babies sought by United Way

Residents can help a child in the area get a better start in life through Somerset County United Way's Baby Bundles program.

Employee groups, businesses, service groups, youth groups and faith-based organizations are invited to participate by sponsoring a drive to collect needed items.

"The birth of a child should be joyous event, but for many low-income families, it can also be a financial hardship," said Melissa Boronkas, associate manager at United Way. "This program helps get families off to a good start."

Needed items include new clothes for infants, formula, diapers, blankets and healthcare items such as baby shampoo, wipes, lotions and more. Groups sponsoring collection drives will be asked to deliver donated items to a central location in Somerset County on March 14 or 15. The items will be sorted by volunteers and then distributed through a variety of agencies to lowincome parents and expectant parents in Somerset County.

Thanks to a caring community, a total of 5,340 items, worth an estimated \$12,000, were collected and donated through Baby Bundles last year.

"Needs continue to grow, and our goal is to continue to expand the program to meet those needs," said Boronkas. "We're asking groups that would like to



participate to register with us by February 11. Having a list of participants helps us to plan for the amount of space needed to sort the items as we prepare them for distribution in mid March

We'll also be able to supply groups with specific information about drop-off times and location, as well as provide marketing tools."

items as we prepare them for distribution in mid March. To register a group with United Way, call (908) 253-

6518 or visit www.somersetonline.org for more information or to register online.

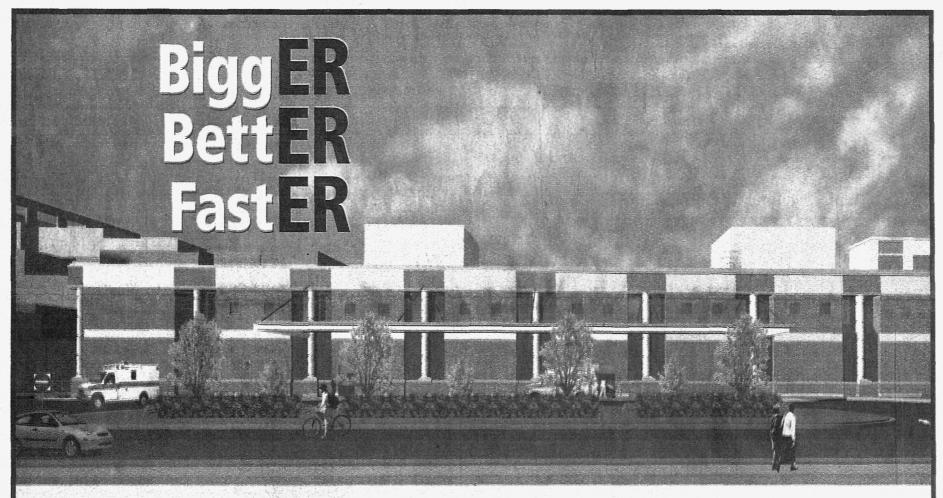
"Participating in Baby Bundles is an opportunity for the community to come together to welcome our newest members," said Boronkas. "We hope to see many people join us in this effort."

An independent nonprofit organization, Somerset County United Way supports

More than 5,300 baby care items were donated through Baby Bundles last year. Helping to unload a truck full of supplies donated in 2004 by Bristol-Myers Squibb Company are, in front from left, Glenda Conway of Squibb, Pat Piazza of United Way and Nadine Roth, also from Squibb. In the back from left are Edwin Gonzalez and Dale Murphy of United States Transfer Corporation.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SOMERSET COUNTY UNITED WAY

health and human services providers by raising funds and effectively investing them, developing volunteer resources and building community collaboratives and partnerships.



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For more information visit somersetmedicalcenter.com or call 1-800-443-4605 for a physician referral.

Alternate teaching offered by college

EDISON — Middlesex County College will hold an information session for people interested in becoming teachers through the alternate route program scheduled for 6:30-8:30 p.m. Jan. 25 in the Technical Services Center, room 100, on the Edison campus.

Pre-register must be made by Tuesday by calling (732) 548-6000, Ext. 3144, or e-mail to Darlene_Yoseloff@middlesexcc.edu.

While anyone with qualifications may apply, the program is aimed at professionals who want to change careers and teach.

The alternate route program, New Pathways to Teaching in New Jersey, allows prospective teachers to begin their training in the summer at community colleges all over the state.

The graduate-level program will run in two stages. Stage I runs in the summer as a 45-hour pre-service program with guided classroom observations. Stage II will run in the fall of 2005 and spring of 2006 and will include content specific courses and a capstone institute.

Students can choose to take the program as either a certification requirement to become a teacher in New Jersey, or choose to apply the program as 15 credits toward a master's in teaching degree from New Jersey City University.

Oniversity.

The alternate route program is for people who did not major in education while in college but would like to teach. They work toward certification while they are teaching. Many, although not all may be carrent changes.

all, may be career-changers.

Program candidates must hold a bachelor's degree with either a major in an arts and sciences field for elementary education or hold a major in the appropriate field for subject area license. Candidates must have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher for the last degree earned and hold a passing score on the appropriate Praxis II exam.



Unbeaten South Plainfield rips Middlesex

One night after pulling out a victory in its most difficult test of the season, the South Plainfield High wrestling squad had one of its easier matches as it routed Middlesex 65-8 in a GMC-White Division encounter.

In improving to 6-0 for the season the Tigers logged eight pins and a pair of technical falls while taking 12 of the 14 bouts. After Joe Bizzomo opened the match with a tech fall, winning 16-0 in four minutes at 171 pounds, Middlesex won just one bout

the rest of the way.
Billy Ashnault (112) in 28 seconds, Eddie McCray (135) in 19 seconds, Nick Curcio (145) in 1:14, Sam Martin (160) in 1:34 and heavyweight Rob Maistickle in 18 seconds all had first-period falls for the Tigers, while Pete D'Andrea (140) in 4:39, Kevin Crilley (189) in 2:06 and Preston Johnson (215) in 4:31 also

Patrick Hunter (103) and Bryan Hunt (130) built 16-0 leads in 5:13 and 4:27, respectively, for tech falls, while Jimmy Conroy (119) registered a 13-2 major decision and Mike

Jakubik (152) won 10-4. Nick Desiato (125) had a 10-9 decision for the other victory for the Blue Jays (2-3).

South Plainfield 34, Hunterdon Central 28 - Eddie McCray gave the Tigers the lead for good at 30-25 with a fall and Mike Jakubik secured the victory with a major decision as Plainfield outlasted South Hunterdon Central in a non-conference battle of unbeatens Monday

McCray needed only 1:14 to deck his opponent at 135 pounds, while Jakubik nailed down the Tigers' fifth triumph with a 17-4 decision at 145. The loss dropped Central to 5-1.

Kevin Crilley and Rob Maistickle also had falls for South Plainfield, which won only six of the 14 bouts but won the match by avoiding a lot of bonus points. Crilley pinned in 3:35 at 189 and Maistickle's fall came in 1:27 at 215. Patrick Hunter (103) and Jimmy Conroy (119) had forfeits.

Minutemen Classic I.C. Bandiero, Ed Kidney and Bill VanEmburgh earned titles to lead the way as Edison captured the team

WRESTLING

championship at the Minutemen Classic in Elizabeth Saturday, besting a 12-team field with 141 points.

The first of four finalists for the Eagles, Bandiero earned his gold at 125 pounds with a fall in 3:46. Edison then came from behind to overtake Matawan (1321/2) points and win the title as Kidney decked his opponent at 189 in 1:37 and VanEmburgh picked up a forfeit in the 215 final.

Metuchen's Jack Barrett grabbed top honors at 145 pounds when he needed just 1:48 to pin his man in the title round.

Zephr Duals

Competing in Zephyr Duals in Whitehall, Pa. during last weekend Bound Brook came away with one victory and three losses despite four victories each from Nick Murray, Jesse Harrington and Andrew Flanagan and three from Rich Perry.

The Crusaders opened the week-end with a 53-18 loss to High Point, but then edged East Stroudsburg South (Pa.) 39-37 Jan. 7. Saturday they dropped a 53-27 verdict to Milton (Pa.) and were edged by Methacton (Pa.) 39-38 as they finished the weekend with a 2-4 record.

Harrington, wrestling at 140, swept his four bouts with consecutive falls, winning in 3:25, 1:32, 4:27 and 3:31 for a dominant performance, while Murray (140) had pins in 18 seconds and 5:25 while adding a technical fall (17-1) in 4:50) and a 13-0 major deci-

Flanagan had a fall in 2:33 at 152 and a forfeit at 160 Jan. 7 and came back the next day to register a 17-6 major at 152 and an 18-6 major at 160. Perry had a forfeit in his one match the first night, and then recorded falls in 4:38 and 1:30 the next day.

South Plainfield 57, Nutley 15 — Patrick Hunter (103) in 3:07, Billy Ashnault (112) in 2:44, Jimmy Conroy (119) in 2:35 and Viet Vo (125) in 1:26 logged consecutive pins to close out the match as South Plainfield whipped Nutley (2-1) in a non-league match Saturday

Nick Curcio (145) in 1:48, Johnny Martin (160) in 1:28, Kevin Crilley in 5:00 and Rob Maistickle (215) in 1:27 also collected falls for the Tigers, who also got 10-5 decision from Pete D'Andrea (140) and a forfeit from Eddie McCray (135). Middlesex 52, Highland Park 26

Middlesex 53, Spotswood 18

Facing a pair of Blue Division squads in cross-over matches Saturday the Blue Jays rolled to a pair of victories as Dom Natolli and Bryan Reilly led the way with two falls apiece with Natolli scoring in 2:10 and 38 seconds in two bouts at 130, while Reilly pinned in 1:59 at heavyweight against Highland Park

and in 3:32 at 215 against Spotswood. Vinny Zaccardi (103) posted a sixsecond pin and a picked up a forfeit, Tony Dispenziere (119) had a fall in 1:40 and added a forfeit, Nick Desiato had a 19-3 technical fall and forfeit, Ryan DeNapoli posted 14-13 and 15-1 decisions, and Joe Bizzomo logged an 8-3 decision and a forfeit for other two-time Middlesex win-

Piscataway bounces back to coast past Edison

Coming off just their second setback of the season, the Chiefs rebounded in resounding fashion Tuesday night.

Hosting Edison in a GMC-Red Division game the Piscataway High boys basket ball squad rolled to a 25-2 first-quarter advantage and cruised from there for a 72-40 victory that lifted its record to 8-2 for the campaign.

Brandon Wilkinson dropped in six of seven from behind the three-point line and finished with a game-high 20 points, nine of which came in the opening session. Kyle Freeney followed with 10 points as seven players had at least six points for the Chiefs. Nick Reider tossed in 11 points and Dan Hanssen had 10 for the Eagles, who fell to

2-6 for the season. South Plainfield 58, Monroe 31 — Grabbing a 11-2 lead through eight minutes and outscoring the visitors in each period the Tigers coasted to a GMC-White Division triumph Tuesday night to bounce back from their second loss and

boost their ledger to 8-2. Marquis Jones connected for 23 points to leading the South Plainfield offense once contributed 14 points and Kevin Siedenburg finished with 10 as the Tigers moved to 5-0 in division play. Monroe

slipped to 6-2 with the defeat. St. Joseph's 57, J.P. Stevens 50 — The Hawks gave St. Jose's (2-6) a battle most of the way after building a 16-8 through eight minutes, but the Falcons closed out the GMC-Red Division clash with a 19-13 fourth quarter to pull away for the decision.

Andrew Biancosino dropped in 17 points and Jason Callender followed with 11, but that production wasn't enough to offset the 34-point outburst by Sean Baptiste, who had 21 in the second half. The loss dropped Stevens to 1-8 for the season.

Dunellen 56, St. Peter's 48 — Outscored 28-22 in the middle periods to find themselves trailing 38-37 entering the final period the Destroyers used a 19-10 closing kick to

BOYS BASKETBALL

remain perfect on the season as they trimmed St. Peter's Monday night in GMC-Gold Division action.

Todd DeNapoli turned in a huge performance to carry Dunellen to its seventh victory as the senior dropped in 24 points, grabbed 12 rebounds and handed out seven assists. Dean Hoski chipped in with 11 points to aid the winners.

Metuchen 55, Highland Park 33 — Knotted 16-16 at halftime after being outscored 8-4 in the second quarter the Bulldogs went on a 20-9 run in the third quarter and put the GMC-Blue Division game away with a 19-9 final session to whip Highland Park Monday night.

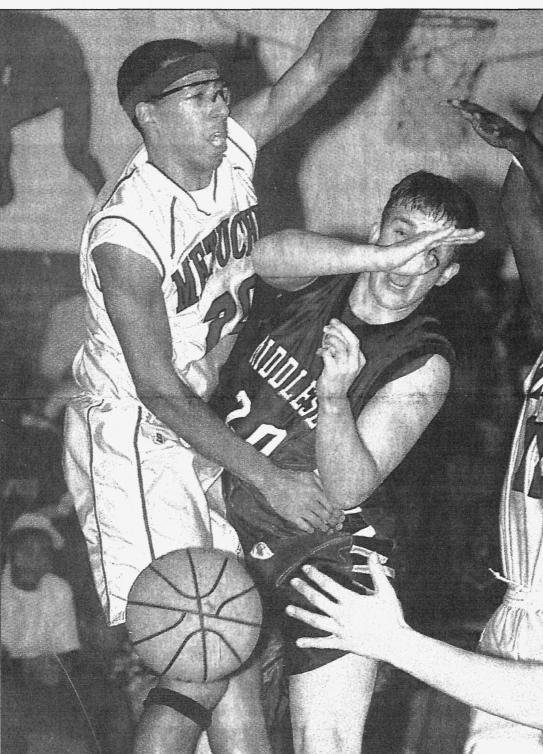
In improving to 6-2 for the season Metuchen once again relied on balance to get the job done as DeJuan Miller's 11 points led the way, while Steve Thomas and Jon Brown contributed 10 points apiece. Thomas also collected seven rebounds, while Brown dished out six assists.

Teaneck South Plainfield 57 poured in a game-high 23 points but running mate Marquis Jones managed only 15 as the Tigers dropped its second game of the season in an inter-sectional battle with Teaneck (6-2) Sunday at the New Year's Jump-Off in Teaneck.

South Plainfield held a 27-25 edge at halftime, but Teaneck gained control following an 18-11 third period. Smith added seven rebounds to his game-high point total, while Matt Baszika finished with 12 points for the Tigers.

Dunellen 61, Bernards 39 -Todd DeNapoli pumped in 22 points and handed out seven assists, while Tim Sweeney (15 rebounds) ands Lim Beltran (10 boards) posted double-doubles with 10 points apiece as the Destroyers crushed Bernards (1-6) in a non-league encounter

Saturday. Franklin 59, Piscataway 44



LARRY MURPHY/STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Metuchen High's Marcus Blakely and Gary Brenner of Middlesex battle for a loose ball during the Bulldogs' 60-42 victory Jan. 7 in GMC-Blue Division play.

Franklin's relentless defen- encounter Saturday. Robert

- After closing to within two sive pressure and dropped its Freeney's 12 points led points in the third quarter the second decision of the season succumbed to in the non-conference

Piscataway, while Jeff Etienne had 20 for the Warriors, who improved to 4-5 with the decisive upset.

East Brunswick 73, J.P. Stevens 46 - Kenny Melford dropped in 17 points but no other Hawk had more than six points as East Brunswick (5-4) opened a 22-5 cushion after one quarter of play and rolled to a Red Division triumph

Metuchen 60, Middlesex 42 - Lamar Nichols led another balanced Metuchen effort with 10 points, while Marcus Blakely contributed nine points and 13 rebounds as the Bulldogs rolled by Middlesex in Blue Division play Jan. 7. Nick Storts and Steve Thomas added points apiece for Metuchen, while Albert Carter led Middlesex with 10 and Wesley Johnson followed with

Dunellen 62, Piscataway Vo-Tech 53 — Todd DeNapoli tossed in 21 points, Tim Sweeny scored 14 and Dean Hoski netted 11 as the Destroyers picked up a Gold Division victory over Piscataway Vo-Tech (3-3) Jan. 7 by pulling away with an 18-12 third quarter that extended their lead to 48-37.

South Plainfield 66, Colonia 53 — In an early showdown against Colonia the Tigers used a 35-22 advantage during the middle sessions to earn a relatively easy victory over their White Division rivals Jan. 6. Marquis Jones poured in 35 points and collected eight rebounds and five steals, while Darren Smith followed with 16 points and Kevin Siedenburg chipped in with 12.

Edison 62, J.P. Stevens 45 — Trailing 21-17 at halftime Edison used a huge second half to whip rival Stevens in Red Division play Jan. 6. Kyle Ringer poured in 26 points to lead the victory, while Andrew Biancosino's 11 points topped the Hawks

Piscataway 53, East Brunswick 45 — Robert Freeney (14), Kent Scriven (13) and Brandon Wilkinson (12) combined for 39 points as the Chiefs earned a victory in Red Division play Jan. 6. Piscataway pulled away with a 17-11 showing in the fourth

J.P. Stevens shakes off slow start to earn eighth

After being challenged through a 11-3 after one quarter and put the competitive first half, the J.P. Stevens High girls basketball squad put it all together for a dominant second half and another victory Tuesday night.

Visiting Sayreville, which had won just once entering the game, in GMC-Red Division play the Hawks held just a 30-26 lead at halftime, but then went on a 20-10 run in the third quarter to open some daylight and cruise to a 68-50 victory to boost their record to 8-1.

Brittany Mullings delivered a careerhigh 17 points and added six rebounds to help down the Bombers (1-7), while Tania Kennedy matched Mullings with 17 points and Kathryn Ruhno followed

South Plainfield 46, Monroe 19 - In perhaps their best defensive performance of the season the Tigers did not allow more than six points in any quarter and routed winless Monroe (0-9) in GMC-White Division play Tuesday night to improve to 7-1 for the season.

Danielle Arndt connected for four three-pointers and Coral Willis hit for three as the pair finished with 12 and 11 points, respectively, to pace the South Plainfield offense. The Tigers led game away with a 17-5 third period for a 35-14 cushion.

Piscataway 50, Edison 31 - With Asia Jenkins dropping in eight points to spark a 16-4 first-quarter surge Piscataway made fast work of the host Eagles (4-5) Tuesday night in GMC-Red Division play as the Chiefs improved to 5-4 on the season.

Caitlin Wesnesky dropped in 12 points to lead Piscataway, which extended its lead to 29-11 at halftime, while Jenkins and Brittany Myatt were right behind with 11 points apiece. Kristin Sciarillo paced Edison with nine points and Heather Dauber had

Middlesex 59, Seton Hall 40 -Shaking off a slow start with a 22-9 second-quarter run the Blue Jays earned their fifth straight victory and improved to 6-1 for the year by whipping Mother Seton in GMC-Blue Division play Monday night.

Ashley Best delivered the big individual effort with 18 points and 10 rebounds while Nicole Bizzomo followed with 14 for Middlesex, which fell behind 11-8 after the opening session

GIRLS BASKETBALL

before regrouping. Sawyer West points had 22 for Mother Seton, but the Middlesex defense limited her teammates to 18.

Metuchen 56, Highland Park 39 -Kristen Edmonds dropped in 10 thirdquarter points when the Bulldogs used a 21-13 surge to break away from a 21-21 halftime deadlock with Highland Park (1-8) en route to a GMC-Blue Division victory Monday night that improved their record to 4-3.

Edmonds had her third straight 20point showing with a 23-point effort, while Joelle Vitale and Lauren Pisano provided 10 and eight points for Metuchen, which closed out the game with a 15-5 final-quarter performance.

St. Peter's 50, Dunellen 22 - Limited to seven points in the opening half when St. Peter's (7-0) scored 27 the Destroyers were never involved in this GMC-Gold Division encounter Monday. Catherine Scerra's seven points led

Dunellen, which slipped to 5-3. J.P. Stevens 63, East Brunswick 56 — Amy Bonk poured in 20 points, including four from the foul line in the closing minute to secure the victory, and Tania Kennedy dropped in 16 as the Hawks outlasted East Brunswick Saturday in a meeting of the Red Division's premier squads. Stevens led 28-21 at halftime before the Bears (6-3) narrowed the gap to 44-41 entering the fourth quarter.

South Plainfield 44, Johnson 40 -Coral Willis (15), Blaire Houston (12) and Danielle Arndt (11) combined for 38 points as the Tigers held off Johnson (3-3) Saturday in non-league play. Arndt connected on a three-pointer to give South Plainfield some breathing room after Johnson had gotten to within a point with three minutes to play.

Edison 49, Monroe 38 — Doubling its eight-point halftime lead of 20-12 with a 14-6 third quarter the Eagles picked up their fourth victory Saturday with a GMC-interdivision triumph over Monroe. Kristin Sciarillo led a balanced effort with nine points.

Dunellen 41, Bernards 30 - Thyree Hall poured in 21 points on offense and her defense helped limited high-

scoring Catherine Carr to 13 as Dunellen trimmed Bernards (2-5) in a non-league game Saturday. Lauren Staats (11) and Catherine Scerra (9) accounted for the rest of the Destroyers' points.

Franklin 50, Piscataway 38 — Falling behind 23-15 at halftime the Chiefs could not recover in dropping a nonleague verdict to cross-river rival Franklin (3-5) Saturday. Asia Jenkins led the Piscataway attack with 10 points and Caitlin Wenesky added

J.P. Stevens 52, Edison 45 — A 20-4 opening quarter proved to be enough for the Hawks as they held rival Edison at bay the rest of the way en route to a Red Division triumph Jan. 6. Tania Kennedy pumped in 22 points and Kathryn Ruhno contributed 10 for Stevens, while Kristin Sciarillo paced the Eagles with 16 points.

South Plainfield 50, Colonia 27 -Leading 24-18 at halftime the Tigers dominated the second half with a 26-9 effort to whip Colonia in a White Division game Jan. 6. Danielle Arndt paced South Plainfield and Niya Santiago followed with 13.

Edison offers teens classes

EDISON — The Recreation Department has announced its 2005 Winter Class Session for Edison Teens in middle and high school.

To participate in these classes, all teens must have a valid Edison Teen Center ID and must register for each class. Teen ID's are available at either of the Community Centers.

Classes begin Jan. 24 and continue through March 12. Activities include:

Pen & Ink Drawing, free, 7-9 p.m. Mondays at the Minnie B. Veal Community Center and 7-9 p.m. Fridays at the Stelton Community

- Ceramic Painting, free, 7p.m. Fridays at Stelton Community Center.

Tae Bo, free, 7-8 p.m. Fridays at Stelton Community Center and 1-2 p.m. Saturdays at the Minnie B. Veal Community Center.

For more information, call the Stelton Community Center between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at (732) 248-7312 or after 6 p.m. at (732) 248-7313. Minnie B. Veal Community Center can be contacted daily 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. at (732) 248-7316.

Market Days held through Friday

MIDDLESEX — Mauger Middle School and Watchung Elementary Schools are offering Market Days through

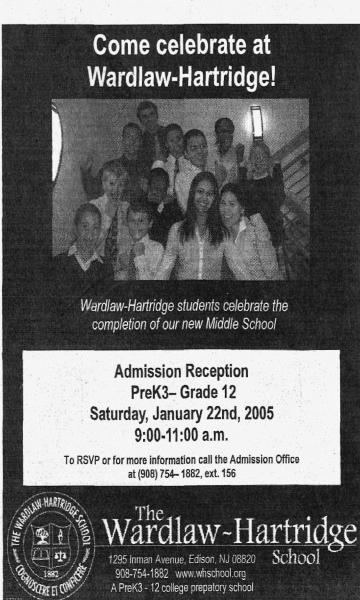
Great items are available in time for Super Bowl Sunday. To order, visit www.marketday.com or contact Robin Parker at (732) 968-1056 or Toni Kisly at (732) 302-0269.

Order sheets are also available at the school and need to be returned by Tuesday.

Pick-up day is 3-4 p.m. Jan. 27 at Mauger Middle School.

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Local students part of art show

MIDDLESEX COUNTY -Paintings, drawings, photographs, and creative writings created by Middlesex County Arts High and Arts Middles School students will be on display at North Brunswick Public Library, 880 Hermann Road in North Brunswick during the month of January.

The exhibit features work completed by gifted and talented students who participated in the Middlesex County School.

The programs, now in their 25th year, offer advanced arts classes in creative writing, dance, instrumental music. vocal music, acting and visual arts to public school students Middlesex County. Students, admitted to the program through audition, are released from their high schools one afternoon each

week for 14 weeks to partici-

pate in the various courses which are taught by professional artists.

Work from 25 Middlesex County students was selected for the exhibit this year. Students participating in the exhibit are Natalie Adler, JP Stevens HS, Edison; Elizabeth Cohn, Highland Park HS; Ashley Farris, Piscataway HS; Marisa Ganguzza, Adams MS, Edison; Ji-Young Ko, Highland HS; Mary

tion is his Property Tax Reform

Light refreshments will be

on Bret Schundler, visit at

Banjo Rascals take

www.bret2005.com.

served. For more information on

the event, call Bill Coyle at (732)

356-1863. For more information

PISCATAWAY

stage at J.F.K. Library

distinctive, toe-tapping music

Jan. 15 at the J. F. Kennedy

their first appearance at

when the Banjo Rascals makes

Piscataway Public Library 2 p.m.

Be entertained with a variety of

Todd, Highland Park HS; Shannon Pan, Wilson MS, Edison; Kelly Primeau, Middlesex HS; Karuna Srivastan, Highland Park HS. Karuna

For more information on the exhibit or the Middlesex County Arts High or Arts Middles School programs contact the Arts and Education Center at (732) 249-5151 or email info@ArtsandEdcenter.

Library News

Proposal.

HIGHLAND PARK Library to mark

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

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

METUCHEN Winter Story Times begin at library

Winter Story Times begin Jan. 31 for those ages 18 months to 5. No preregistration is needed. Sign-up begins at before each

class at 10:15 a.m. Only 15 children are allowed to attend each The schedule is: - Book Babies (18- to 24-

Feb. 1, 8, 15 and 22. Toddle Time (2- to 3-yearolds) 10:30 a.m. Thursdays Feb. 3, 10, 17 and 24.

month-olds) 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays

- Preschool Patrol (3-year-olds) 10:30 a.m. Mondays Jan. 31 and Feb. 2, 14 and 28

- Ready Readers (4- and 5-

year-olds) 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays Feb. 2, 9 and 16 and March 2.

Other events over the next two months include:

- Book Buddies (for those in kindergarten through the second grade) 7:30 p.m. Mondays. Book pick-up for "Donovan's Word Jar" is between Jan. 24 and 28 with book discussion to take place

- Mostly Mother Goose (for 1to 4-year-olds) 10:30 a.m. Fridays Jan. 28 and Feb. 18.

-Drop In Crafts (all ages with an adult) 2-4 p.m. Saturdays. A winter craft will be made on Jan. 22 and Valentine's Day craft on

African-American History Month Game (for those 5 and older) 2:30 p.m. Feb. 26.

MIDDLESEX

speak at library Gubernatorial candidate Bret Schundler will speak in the Community Room at the Middlesex Public Library at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 26. Schundler's key issue this elec-

Bret Schundler to

Library, 500 Hoes Lane. Since 1968, the Banjo Rascals have been delighting audiences of all ages with a variety of music ranging from 1890s Ragtime to the rock-n-roll of the 1950s and 60s. Their diverse repertoire extends to Dixieland standards like "Tiger Rag" and "When the

Saints Go Marching In" to

arrangements of the Big Band

Era with hit songs like "In the Mood," "Stardust," and "Moon

Medical and Computer

Add a hot fiddle, and the Banjo Rascals transform audiences into the heart of Nashville with the sound of country hits from artists such as Hank Williams, Patsy Cline and Willie Nelson.

Twilight Tales being held on Tuesday

Parents with children ages 3-5 vears old are invited to join the Piscataway Public Library for Twilight Tales, 45 minutes filled with stories and activities for parents to share with their children.

An evening program, Twilight Tales is being 7 p.m. Tuesday at the J. F. Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes Lane in Piscataway.

No registration is necessary.

Once upon a story makes its return

Preschoolers and kindergarteners ages 3-5 are invited to join the Piscataway Public Library for Once Upon A Story, a lively half hour of stories and songs being held 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at the J. F. Kennedy Library, 500

No registration is necessary.

Campus notes

 $\mathbf{M}.$ Bellew Jason Piscataway is an Andrew J. Rider Scholar, among the top 1 percent of the student body at University Lawrenceville. He is a sophomore majoring in secondary education and biology.

Bellew was honored in a ceremony on campus Nov. 6.

Erin Bunger of Piscataway is a University Scholar, among students the top Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, Pa. She is a junior majoring in psychology and was honored in a dinner on campus Nov. 12.

The daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Bernhard Bunger graduated from Piscataway High School in 2002. * * *

Six area students were named to the dean's list for the fall 2004 term at Johnson & Wales University. They are:

Shade Coleman of South Plainfield, studying for an associate's degree in restaurant management.

Jessica Gomes of Piscataway, studying for an associate's degree in advertising/communications.

Dara Maddox of Piscataway, studying for an associate's degree in baking and pastry arts.

Melissa Seguinot Piscataway, studying for an associate's degree in restaurant management. Robert Truex of Edison,

studying for a bachelor's degree in management.

Whitney Youngblood of Piscataway, studying for an associate's degree in entrepre-

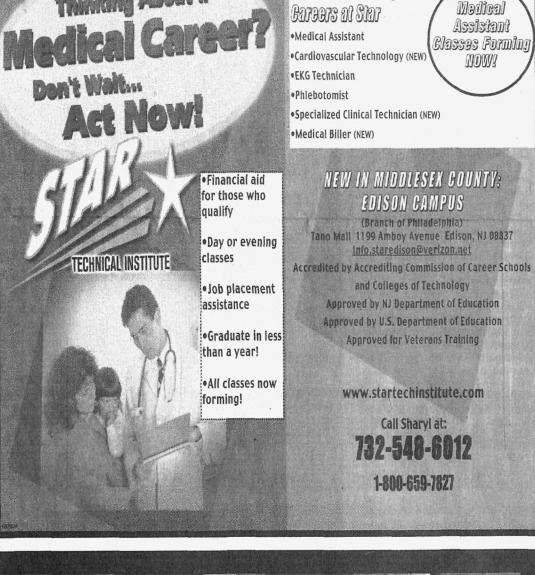
Maddox attends the Johnson & Wales campus in Charlotte, N.C., and the other students attend the Johnson & Wales campus in Providence, R.I.

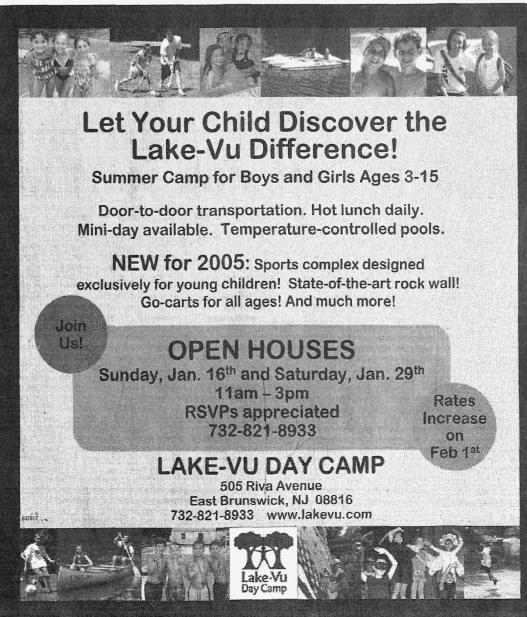
Daniel Golbeck Rudel of Metuchen was named to the dean's list for the fall 2004 term at Choate Rosemary Hall, preparatory school in Wallingford, Conn. He is the son of Dr. Thomas K. Rudel and Dr. Susan L. Golbeck.

Paul Dellanno of Edison achieved second honors in the first trimester at Seton Hall Preparatory School in West Orange. He earned a grade point average of 3.5-4.0 in the fall term.

Clarinetist Jodi Weitz performed in the Westminster Conservatory Faculty Recital Series on Jan. 9 at Bristol Chapel on the campus of Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton.

Weitz has been a middle school band director in the Piscataway School District for the past three years. She received her bachelor's degree in music education at the University of New Hampshire and her master's degree in clarinet performance at Rutgers University.





Briefs

Program will honor King's legacy

PISCATAWAY Piscataway Civil Rights Advisory Commission will hold its annual program honoring the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King 4 p.m. Sunday at North Stelton A.M.E. Church, 123 Craig Ave.

Refreshments will be served and the public is invited.

Keynote speakers will be the Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Saunders, pastor of the church. The theme is "Embracing the Vision Developing the Dream."

Music, liturgical, dance, poetry and greetings will be part of the

Dog license renewals due in Bound Brook

BOUND BROOK - This is the month all dogs over the age of seven months must have their licenses renewed, borough officials said.

The fee is \$8.20 for spayed or neutered dogs and \$11.20 for those that have not been spayed or neutered.

Owners must also have proof of rabies inoculation good through the licensing year. For additional information, call (732) 356-0833, Ext. 639

To renew by mail, send a check payable to the Borough of Bound Brook and a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Bound Brook Borough Hall, 230 Hamilton St., Bound Brook, NJ 08805, Attn: Dog Licensing.

Hospital to celebrate King's birthday

NEW BRUNSWICK - The Diversity Committee of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital will present an event in celebration of the life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King in the hospital's Arline and Henry Schwartzman Courtyard 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday.

The Rev. Dr. DeForest B. Soaries, former state secretary of state and senior pastor of the First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens in the Somerset section of Franklin Township, will give the keynote address. The medical center's Diversity Choir will also perform and refreshments will be served.

The hospital is located on Somerset Street. Pre-registration for this even tis required and can be made by call (732) 828-3000, Ext. 3483.

Middlesex BOE looks to fill vacant seat

MIDDLESEX — The Middlesex Board of education is accepting resumes for an open seat on the Board of Education that expires in April 2005.

Those interested must have been a resident of the borough for at least one year and are registered to vote in the district.

Interested candidates should submit their resumes no later than Jan. 21 to: Michele Previte, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, 300 Kennedy Drive, Middlesex, NJ 08846.

Blood drive coming to **Dunellen in January**

DUNELLEN - The sixth annual Dunellen/Green Brook blood drive will be held at the Faber Elementary School's all-purpose room, located at the corner of High and Lehigh streets, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 22.

The blood drive is sponsored by the Dunellen/Green Brook Rotary and Girl Scout Troops #114 and #166.

No appointment is needed. For more information, call (732) 968-

Marsh is topic of naturalist meeting

BOUND BROOK - Mary Leck, botanist, will present Nature for Natives and Nobles, a botanist's view of the Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown Marsh 8 p.m. Jan. 24 at the Congregational Church, corner of Church and High streets.

The program is sponsored by the Somerset Naturalists. There is no charge to attend.

For additional information, call (732) 356-2428.

Medical center holds blood drive Jan. 27

NEW BRUNSWICK --- Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital will hold a blood drive 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jan. 27 in the Arline and Henry Schwartzman Courtyard, Somerset Street.

Donors must be in good health, at least 17-years-old, weigh more than 100 pounds and not have donated blood within the last 56 days. Anyone taking medications or those with other eligibility questions should call the hospital's blood center to be pre-screened over the phone. All donors must bring identification with them and should eat before arriving.

Appointments are not necessary. Those who cannot donor on Jan. 27 can schedule a time to

give blood. For additional information or to schedule another date to donate, call (732) 235-8100, Ext. 244.



Ianiero celebrate 57 years

Helen Blazo Ianiero and 1947, in Our Lady of Mount Clement Ianiero Sr. celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary on Nov. 27 by renewing their vows at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church, Box in Middlesex. Middlesex, officiated by Father John. Following the Mass, the family gathered at the home of their daughter and son-in-law Lorrie and Mike Heldt in Martinsville. They were married on Nov. 29, five great-grandchildren.

Virgin Church in Middlesex. Clem retired from R.C.A. and Helen retired from her own business, Hobi's Lunch

They have three children, Clem who lives in Middlesex, Lorrie who lives in Martinsville, and Nancy who also lives in Middlesex. They have five grandchildren and

South Bound Brook plans Tory Jack Day program

As part of its annual Tory Jack Day program celebrating Black History Month, the South Bound Brook Historic Advisory Preservation Commission, in conjunction with the Friends of the Abraham Staats House, Inc., and in partnership with the First Baptist Church, will present eminent historian Joe Becton.

He will speak on the topic "Blacks in the American Revolution" 11 a.m. Feb. 5 at Register of Historic Places. the First Baptist Church, Franklin Street. Members of the First Rhode Island Guard providing a musket firing demonstration and will be on hand to answer questions and interact with the public.

From 2-4 p.m. the public is

headquarters of General Baron Frederich von Steuben during the Middlebrook Encampment of 1778-79, has recently been listed on the New Jersey

The house is at 17 Von Steuben Lane, only a few blocks south of the First Regiment will act as Honor Baptist Church located at the corner of Montgomery and Franklin Streets one block off Main Street.

invited to tour the historic bkfaulks@aol.com.

SOUTH BOUND BROOK — Abraham Staats House. Staff will be on hand to discuss Black and local history, and provide details about the house as well as the slave and patriot, "Tory" Jack, a member of the Staats' household who spied on the British during the American Revolution.

The Abraham Staats House,

For information or directions, call (732) 469-5836 or e-mail

\$2,500 Cape Cod \$2,700 **Bi-Level** Split Level \$2,900

Roofing Job

CARLSON BROS. 908-272-1266

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

45 Hampton Street, Metuchen, NJ 08840 (732) 549-8941 Rev. Ronald L. Owens, Sr. Pastor

Sunday Worship Services at 8am & 11am 1st & 5th Sundays at 9:30 am

Wednesday Bible Study 12noon & 7pm Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6pm

Saturday Church School 9am

"Where worship is joy and joy is worship"

www.nhbchurch.com



A TRIP TO LAS VEGAS!

Call 732-968-1020

www.dunellen-theater.com

Seniors 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.

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

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

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

Metuchen

The Metuchen Chapter 3208, AARP, will hold its monthly meetings on Mondays 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. Guests are always welcome.

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

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.

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.

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.

Trips and Events: Feb. 10 — Dutch Apple Dinner Show "Las Vegas," in Lancaster, Pa. \$61 per person, final payment due

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

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 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.

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.

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.

Legal Notices

SFY 2005 SALARY ORDINANCE FOR EMPLOYEES
ORDINANCE 05-01
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

BE IT RESOLVED BYTHE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BUHOUGH OF DURELLER, No. 18 Council Medical to the public distribution of the STY 2005 for Employees.

A copy of this Ordinance will be posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Clerk's office, be available to the public distribution of the school of the bulletin board in the Chronicle in the issue dated 15 January 2005. Public Hearing and Adoption of this Ordinance is scheduled for the Council Meeting dated 7 February 2005. Pursuant to N.J.S.A 52:32-44, Business Registration, Approved 1/10/05 proof of valid business registration shall be submitted by Frank T. Bieniek a bidder with its bid proposal at the time of bid for 100% Council President State funded projects.

FULL TIME

SFY 2005 SALARY ORDINANCE FOR EMPLOYEES ORDINANCE 05-01

Administrator/Clerk Court Administrator Tax Collector/Treasurer Finance/Payroll Clerk Recreation Director Police Dispatcher Deputy Court Administrator Deputy Clerk/Registrar Recycling Groundskeeper Registrar Clerk Typist/Deputy Registrar	\$60,000.00 \$30,000.00 \$30,000.00 \$27,000.00 \$27,000.00 \$24,000.00 \$24,000.00 \$24,000.00 \$24,000.00 \$24,000.00 \$24,000.00	\$78,433.00 \$39,209.00 \$39,209.00 \$35,290.00 \$35,290.00 \$31,365.00 \$31,365.00 \$31,365.00 \$31,365.00 \$31,365.00 \$31,365.00
PART TIME-SALARY		
Municipal Attorney Construction Code Officer Municipal Judge Chief Financial Officer Public Works Supervisor Tax Assessor Municipal Prosecutor Sewer Inspector Property Maintenance Officer Public Defender	\$33,000.00 \$27,000.00 \$18,000.00 \$18,000.00 \$15,000.00 \$15,000.00 \$10,000.00 \$8,000.00 \$6,000.00 \$4,000.00	\$43,133.00 \$35,290.00 \$23,523.00 \$23,523.00 \$19,600.00 \$19,600.00 \$13,084.00 \$10,451.00 \$7,834.00 \$5,217.00
PART TIME HOURLY		
Sewer Inspector Additional Hourly Sub Code Official (Electrical, Fire, Plumbing) Interpreter Planning Board Secretary	\$30.00 \$24.00 \$20.00 \$12.00	\$40.00 \$30.00 \$25.00 \$18.00
Finance/Payroll Clerk Tax Clerk Head School Crossing Guard Laborer Senior Citizen Van Driver School Crossing Guard Janitor	\$12.00 \$12.00 \$10.00 \$8.00 \$8.00 \$7.00	\$18.00 \$18.00 \$14.00 \$12.00 \$12.00 \$11.00
PART TIME MONTHLY/MEETING		
Planning Board Recording Secretary Chief Fire Prevention Inspector Fire Prevention Inspector	\$275/meeting \$300/month \$200/month	\$300/meeting \$325/month \$225/month

\$48.28 NOTICE OF ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION ORDINANCE NO. 1630-05
AN ORDINANCE FIXING AND DETRIMINING THE SALARY OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX FOR THE YEAR 2005.

TITLE Assistant Prosecutor \$ 23,000 Assistant Borough Attorney \$ 5,000

SECTION 2

The rates of Compensation established above shall serve as a guide in employment and subsequent changes in rate of employees hired after passage of this ordinance.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistant with the provisions of this ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed. SECTION 4

This Ordinance shall take effect upon its final passage, approval and publication according to law. INTRODUCED: January 11, 2005 Mayor Ronald S. Dobies

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS
(L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO:
YOGESH K. SAGGI, HIS HEIRS, DEVISEES AND
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES, AND HIS, THEIRS
OR ANY OF THEIR SUCCESSORS IN RIGHT TITLE
AND INTEREST

B16 1T 1/15/05

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon FRANK J. MARTONE, P.C., Plaintiff's Attorney, whose address is 1455 Broad Street, Bloomfield, New Jersey address is 1455 Broad Street, Bloomtield, New Jersey 07003, an answer to the complaint (and amendment to complaint, if any) filed in a civil action in which BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO FLEET NATIONAL BANK is Plaintiff and YQGESH K. SAGGI, et als, are Defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, MIDDLESEX County and bearing Docket Number F-17071-04 within Thirty-

s2,500.00 annually

B20.1T.1/15/04

five (35) days after January 15, 2005 exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, judgment by default may be renearly against you for the relief demanded in the complaint (and amendment to complaint, if any). You shall lile your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Pulls of the your and proof of service in duplicate with the Pulls of the Young and Pulls of the Lotal amount of the Bid business of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00.00), apayable to the Dunellen Brorough Treasurer.

New Jersey, 08625, in accordance with the Rules of Civil foreclosing a mortgage dated January 14, 2003, made by YOGESH K. SAGGI, as Mortgagor(s), and the Young and Pulls of the Young All Young and Young an

S20.06

B17.17.1/15/05

The Borough of Duncillen reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, or to waive any Bid defect where such defect under NJ.S.A. 27:7-35.1 et seq., in the NJDOT MULTI- also reserved to increase or decrease the quantities of PURPOSE ROOM, New Jersey Department of Transportation, 1035. Parkway Avenue, until 10:00 A.M. on 2/10/2005 and opened and read for:

BOUTE 130 OVER MAE BROOK, CONTRACT NO. 080993030, PARTIAL CULVERT REPLACEMENT, NORTH BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP

BY REJECTION OF BIDS:
The Borough of Duncillen reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, or to waive any Bid defect where such defect or all bids, or to waive any Bid defect where such defect or all bids, or to waive any Bid defect where such defect or all bids, or to waive any Bid defect where such defect or all bids, or to waive any Bid defect where such defect or all bids, or to waive any Bid defect where such defect or all bids, or to waive any Bid defect where such defect or all bids, or to waive any Bid defect where such defect or all bids, or to waive any Bid defect where such defect or all bids, or to waive any Bid defect where such defect or the wive any Bid defect where such defect or the wive any Bid defect where such defect or the wive any Bid defect where such defect or the wive any Bid defect where such defect or the wive any Bid defect where such defect or the wive any Bid defect where such defect or the wive any Bid defect where such defect or to waive any Bid defect where such defect or to waive any Bid defect where such defect or to waive any Bid defect where such defect or to waive any Bid defect where such defect where such defect or to waive any Bid defect where such defect or to waive any Bid defect where such defect or to waive any Bid defect where such defect the policy or to waive any Bid defect where such defect the policy and the policy and

Pursuant to the * Public Works Contractor Registration Act, N.J.S 34:11-56.48 et seq. (PL. 2003, c. 91), bidders must be registered with the New Jersey Department of Labor, Division of Wage and Hour Compliance. 3: the time of bid. Drawings, specifications, and bid documents may be inspected or obtained for a fee of \$22.00, for full size drawings, at the NJDOT Engineering and Operations Bidg. 1st floor, Box 600 Trenton, New Jersey 08625 during business hours. Names and addresses of prospective bidders for this project may be acquired by telephoning 809-530-4593 during business hours. Their fax number is 609-530-4503. Drawings, special provisions, and bid documents may also be inspected (BUT NOT OBTAINED) by contracting organizations at our various Design Field Offices at the following locations:

200 Stierli Court Mt. Arlington, NJ 973-770-5141

Route 79 and Daniels Way Freehold, NJ 732-308-4025

1 Executive Campus Rt 70 West Cherry Hill, NJ 856-486-6624

New Jersey Department of Transportation Bureau of Construction Services, Procurement Division B18 3T 1/15,22,29/05 \$52.02

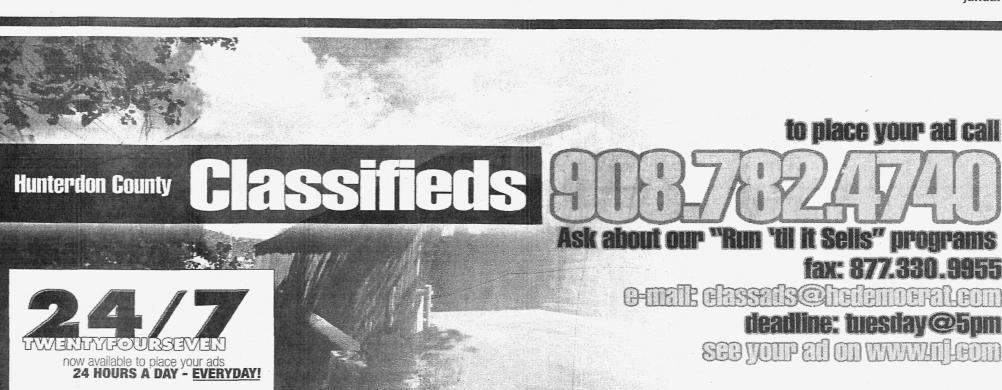
NOTICE TO BIDDERS Triple Combination Pumper NOTICE TO BIDDERS is hereby given that sealed Bids are invited and will be received as set forth herein. OWNER: Borough of Dunellen, Middlesex County, New

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: 1 Triple GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: 1 Inple
Combination Pumper for the Fire Department
ADDRESS FOR SUBMITTING BIDS: Office of the
Municipal Clerk, Borough of Dunellen, 355 North
Avenue, Dunellen, NJ 08812
Att: William M. Robins, Acting Municipal Clerk
Contract Documents may be examined Monday through
Friday, except legal holiday, from 9:00AM to 4:00PM, only
at the office of the Municipal Clerk at the address set
forth above.

OBTAINING CONTRACT DOCUMENTS:

Contract Documents may be obtained only from the office of the Municipal Clerk at the address and hours set forth above upon payment of Twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).

B20 1T 1/15/04 for each set of Contract Documents. Checks should be



Announcements **Adoption 105**

Adoption - A married cou ple seek to adopt new born. Will be F-T mom and devoted dad. Financially secure. All penses paid. Michelle Robert, 1-800-841-0804

Announcements 110

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 at ter the first day of publica-tion. The Reporter, Mes-senger-Gazette & The Chronicle liability shall be limited to an adjustmen for the cost of the space occupied by the error and will not be liable for failure

TANNING WOLFF TANNING BEDS AF-FORDABLE CONVENIENT Tan at Home, Payments from \$29/month, FREE-

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Color Catalog. Call Today 1-800-842-1305. www.np.etstan.com Lost & Found 135

FOUND ADULT PERSIAN MALE CAT - In the vicinity of Westfield area. 908 233-7218

Employment Education 201

BOY'S

BASEBALL COACH (MIDDLE SCHOOL) Please submit letter of interest to Athletic Director, East Amwell Twp School 43 Wertsville Road. PO Box 680. Ringoes, NJ 08551 AA/EOE-M-F

Part-time Teacher Asst. Teacher

A leader in early childhood care and education has immediate openings for part-time teaching positions available at our Springfield and Berkeley Heights school loca tions. Afternoon hours Friday. No certification needed. Training pro-vided. Require own Interested candidates

please call (908) 273-7040 x202 or x201 OR FAX RESUME

Employment Education 201

P/T SCHOOL NURSE The Overlook Child Care Center has an immediate opportunity for a part-time School Nurse. RN/LPN NJ License required. Flexible sched-ule, Mon.-Fri. Interested (908) 273-7040 X204 (908) 277-0559. EOE

Child Care 202 BASKING RIDGE- Exp'd Nanny 3 days a wk. \$12-

Nanny 3 days a wk. \$12-4/hr.www.NannyLine.com **NANNIES** All NJ areas, all hours.

Apply

carefulcaregivers.com 908-334-5652

Immediate Job Openings! STAFFING ALTERNATIVES

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Drivers 230

\$1000 sign on Bonus until January 14". Enjoy your hometime and families

during this holiday season. We offer \$500 orien-

tation pay for company drivers and great miles. 0/0 receive free base plates and permits with

1000 mile average length of haul. When you're ready to run call us at 1-800-767-7109

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Needed. Flatbed. Refrigerated. Tanker. Over-the-Road. Some Regional.

cense Training. 1-800-771-6318. www.primeinc.com

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SUMMER JOBS!

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16 passenger A/C vans, Great Routes, competitive pay \$18+ per hour! Top flight

summer Camp for your kids! 6/27-8/19 looking for CDL drivers. Call Jonathan 732-297-2000

www.oakcrestdaycamp.con

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CD player, garage kept, under factory warranty, mint cond., 9,689 mi, \$7995 908-265-6265 Saturn SL 96' 5 speed, 140K mi, Very Good Condition! \$1500

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806-7559 Toyota Celica GT 02'- 5 spd, loaded, Premiere Pioneer System, Too many mods. to list. Great Cond.,

36k asking \$16000. 908-797-0388 TOYOTA Rav 4, '98, AWD 5 spd. manual, AC, pw, pb, ps, am/fm cass CD, sil-ver, 104K, exc. cond. \$6575 obo. **908-319-5060** VOLKSWAGEN GLY 2002 V6, blue/gray, 4 dr, auto, excellent cond., ext. warranty goes w/car, beige leather int. 41k miles.

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XLT, quad cab, 60k mi., full power good cond. Must sell,\$18,000. neg,

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Calendar

Theater

CIRCLE PLAYERS

416 Victoria Ave., Piscataway

(732) 968-7555; www.circleplayers.com

"Five Women Wearing the Same Dress," comedy by Alan Ball. 8 p.m. Jan. 14, 15, 21, 22; 3 p.m. Jan. 9, 16. Admission \$15 Friday, Saturday; \$12 Sunday. Discounts available.

GEORGE STREET PLAYHOUSE 5 Livingston Ave., New Brunswick (732) 246-7717; www.gsponline.org

"The Winning Streak," baseball comedy by Lee Blessing. To Jan. 30. Admission \$56-\$28; discounts available. Call or visit website for showtimes.

SOMERSET VALLEY PLAYHOUSE

Route 514, Hillsborough

(908) 369-7469; www.svptheatre.org

"Charlotte's Web," local production of children's book standard. 2 p.m. Jan. 15, 16, 22, 23. Admission \$7.

Events

COMPUTER SHOW

Garden State Exhibit Center, I-287 Exit 10, Somerset (800) 53-COMPUTE; www.marketpro.com

Hardware, software and such, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Jan. 22, 23. Admission \$7

LIVING THE DREAM

State Theatre, 15 Livingston Ave., New Brunswick (877) STATE 11; www.statetheatrenj.org

Martin Luther King holiday program, starting at noon Jan. 17. Free admission; tickets required.

NEW JERSEY MOTORCYCLE SPECTACULAR Garden State Exhibit Center, I-287 Exit 10, Somerset

(732) 469-4000; www.cycleprousa.com Choppers show and swap meet, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Jan. 15, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 16. Adults \$15; under age 16 free.

Sky Shows
RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Route 28, Branchburg

(908) 231-8805; www.raritanval.edu/planetarium "The Winter Skies," 3 and 7 p.m. Jan. 15, 22. Admission \$5.

"Laser America," 4 p.m. Jan. 15, 22. Admission \$5. "Best of Pink Floyd" (laser show), 8 p.m. Jan. 15. Admission \$5. "The Dark Side of Oz" (laser show), 8 p.m. Jan. 22. Admission

Concerts

BEL MUSICA

8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14

Somerset County Library, 1 Vogt Drive, Bridgewater (908) 526-4016, Ext. 153

"The Golden Age of Operettas and Musicals" featuring Florence Lazzeri, soprano. Free admission.

8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15

Somerset County Vo-Tech, Vogt Drive, Bridgewater

(908) 781-0470; www.njjs.org

Benny Goodman tribute concert. Admission \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. **BRASIL DUO**

8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 21 Watchung Arts Center, Watchung Circle, Watchung (908) 753-0190; www.watchungarts.org



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FORUM THEATRE COMPANY

A Kid's Forum, a theatrical group operating out of the Forum Theatre Company of Metuchen, is performing "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" through Monday.

Goldilocks returns to Forum

Theatre Company has announced the return of A Kid's Forum production, "Goldilocks

rorum production, "Goldilocks and the Three Bears," which runs through Monday.

This is an hysterical adaptation by Paul Whelihan of the beloved tale of a young girl who happens upon the home of three bears. Finding no one home she helps herself to some home, she helps herself to some porridge, breaks a chair and abruptly falls asleep in one of their beds. Given the trademark Kid's Forum twist, this version has Goldilocks being put on trial for breaking and entering, petty theft and van-dalism. The audience becomes the jury, deciding the fate of the

With a book brimming with humor (featuring a somewhat

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dysfunctional Bear family and a talking parrot who accompanies Goldilocks on her journey), the music is a fanciful collection of popular 1970s music, with songs by Loggins and Messina, The Pointer Sisters, The Artist Formerly known as Cat Stevens and more.

All musicals are recommended for children ages 2 and up and all seats are reserved.

Metuchen restaurant Dan's on Main is offering a brunch special in conjunction with the 1 p.m. Sunday performance. Ticket prices are \$12.50 for everyone, brunch not included, with discounts for groups of 20 or more.

Camp and school groups, daycare centers, Boy Scout and Girl Scout Troops as well as other organizations are all encour-

College's Edward Nash Theatre.

The evening will benefit The

aged to book early for best availability.

Performances are 11 a.m. today, 1 p.m. tomorrow and 11 a.m. Monday. The theatre is located at 314 Main St.

Tickets can be ordered by calling the box office at (732) 548-0582. For additional information tion, visit www.forumtheatrecompany.com.

The Forum Theatre Company, a qualified organization of the New Jersey Cultural Trust, is a not-for-profit regional theatre, is a member of NJ Theatre Alliance (the State's coalition of professional theatres) and Actors' Equity Association (the union for stage performers) and is funded in part by The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, NJ State Council on the Arts / Department of

State, a partner agent of the National Endowment for the Arts, Yellow Book USA, Marlowe Enterprises, Lucent Technologies, Middlesex County Cultural & Heritage County Cultural & Herrisg-Commission, Middlesex County Housing and Community Development Commission Development Commission, Schering Plough Corporation, Union Foundation, Hyde & Watson Foundation, PSE&G, Pfizer Foundation, Merrill Lynch & Co. Foundation, The Grand Marnier Foundation, E.J. Grassman Trust, Target Stores, New Jersey Theatre Alliance, The Stephanie E. Laucius Educational and Charitable Foundation, Chase Manhattan Foundation, Exxon Mobil Corporation, McMaster Carr Supply Company and numerous

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Prudential sponsors children's benefit

 Sunshine Kids, a non-profit Prudential New Jersey organization dedicated to help-Properties is sponsoring a show ing children with cancer starring musical group The through positive group activi-Duprees and Comedian Jackie ties. Fontana 8 p.m. Feb. 5 at the Tickets are \$30 and \$45. For Raritan Valley Community

additional information or to purchase tickets, call (908) 725-3420 or (732) 469-1515.

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schedule FRANKLIN — The Villagers

Villagers

announces

Theatre, a nonprofit center for the performing and cultural arts, has opened its 2004-05 which includes KidsVill Series. series

"Goldilocks on Trial" by Ed Monk and directed by Christie Leigh Green, March 12-20, and "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" based on the Victor Hugo novel and adapted and directed by Stephanie Youngman, April 9-16.

Villagers Theatre is located on 415 Demott Lane in the Somerset section of the township. To request a season brochure, call the box office at (732) 873-2710. Directions and further information about the 2004-05 season can be found at www.villagerstheatre.com.

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EAST BRUNSWICK Wednesday, January 19th

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm (Refreshments) Ramada Inn 195 Route 18 South

EDISON

Thursday, January 20th 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm (Refreshments)

Clarion Hotel & Towers 2055 Lincoln Highway

(also known as Route 27) **MONROE TOWNSHIP**

Saturday, January 22nd 9:00 am - 12:00 pm (Full Buffet Breakfast) Holiday Inn Centerpoint 390 Forsgate Drive Exit 8A NJ Turnpike

Plenty of free parking. Please arrive early, seating may be limited.

Attend One of These Seminars and You'll Find Out...

- ✓ How to protect your estate if you become incapacitated during your lifetime.
- ✓ The right and wrong way to leave property to your children.
- ✓ How to plan your estate to minimize Federal and New Jersey's "new" estate taxes.
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- ✔ How to maintain privacy of your family's personal affairs.
- ✓ How to protect your assets in the event of a nursing home stay.

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