# FEB 07 2005 Ine Chronicle

Since 1862

Vol. 144, No. 6

Girls earn

victories

The Metuchen and

Middlesex high school girl's

basketball squads both

earned victories Tuesday

night. For the roundup see

Saturday, February 5, 2005

# County launches tsunami aid campaign

SOUTH PLANFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY



of children have been left

do the same."

The campaign will be coordi-"Thousands upon thousands" nated through the Middlesex County Children's Health with nothing - no home, no Commission, a non-profit entifood, no clothes, many are now ty chaired by Mary Varga

Crabiel of Milltown. The commission was originally established to assist children in need of health services.

"We wanted to do something that could help the children affected by the tsunami move forward and look toward the future," said Jane Brady, a commission member who will help the children in the strick-

wanted to get the children of Middlesex County involved. Helping others is a great life lesson and one that can be taught through this program."

Students from throughout the county will be asked to donate any amount of money even if it's just 50 cents - to chair the campaign. "We also en areas. Funds raised will

purchase school supplies to help get their education back on track.

"The kits will include items that charitable organizations have recommended," Brady said. "They include pencils, construction paper, a ruler, a notebook, a pair of blunt scis-

Continued on page A2

# Volunteer coalition supports U.S. troops

# Operation Shoebox: New Jersey 2005 launches this week

By ROD HIRSCH Staff Writer

A broad-based network of volunteers and organizations has come together under the banner of Operation Shoebox: New Jersey 2005 to show its support for United States armed forces personnel deployed overseas as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Chronicle newspaper has joined with several partners — the Somerset Patriots baseball club, Flemington Car and Truck Country, NJ.com, American Recreational Military Services, The N.J. Army National Guard, the Marine Corps Reserves, other corporate partners, spouses and families of activeduty military personnel, local businesses, civic organizations, schools, veterans' groups and members to build and create a supply line of personal items that will be shipped to the sol-

Items including sun screen, paperback books, foot powder, telephone calling cards, eye drops, beef jerky, toothpaste and mouth wash, as well as letters and photographs are being packaged and shipped to United

This is the second of a twopart series looking at sleep

apnea, which affects between 15

and 20 million Americans. This

Hochron on living with sleep apnea. Adam has dealt with the

condition all his life and cur-

rently is undergoing treatment

to correct it.



States armed forces personnel deployed in Iraq/Kuwait and other locations in the Middle East region, as well as Afghanistan and Guantanamo

Bay, Cuba.
"This country has a long standing reputation for supporting the efforts of its military troops. As Americans we should consider it our duty and privilege to assist in bringing whatever comfort we can to our brave soldiers," said David Tomasini, publisher of The Chronicle.

"As you review the list of items these men and women need you must reflect and realize just how good you have it. Our entire organization and our partners look forward to your support and

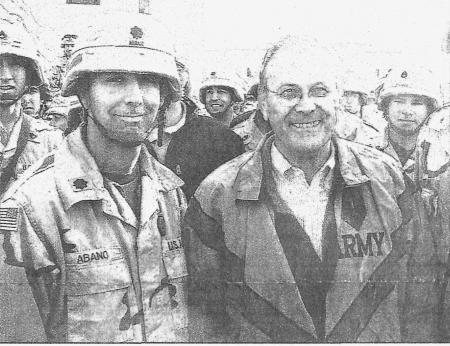


PHOTO COURTESY U.S. ARMY MAJ. SAL ABANG

U.S. Army Maj. Sal Abano of the 250th Signal Battalion, based at the Somerset Armory in Franklin, stands next to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, during Rumsfeld's Christmas Eve visit to Iraq. The armory, and the units stationed there, have been adopted by The Chronicle as part of Operation Shoebox: New Jersey 2005.

prayers," he added.

Please note that all items must not be tampered with, and must be dropped off in their original manufacturers' packaging.

Here's what's needed: Suntan lotion (SPF 45 or higher preferred); Bug spray; Chap stick; Feminine products, including sports bras, all sizes; Ear swabs (small packages); Small packets of laundry detergent; Bug wipes and

bug strips; Wipes (travel size); Razors; Toilet paper; Eye drops; Spices; Tea bags; Coffee; Small drink mixes (to add to water); Clothes line and clothes pins; Snack food; Hard candy; Gum; Writing materials - pads, pencils, pens; Batteries (any size) and Calling cards. OPSHBX has eight designated drop-

Continued on page A2

# Helping others

Josephine McKeon packs boxes as part of a campaign to supply personal items to soldiers serving overseas. See story Page A7.

# Founder's Day comes

To mark the 339th anniversary of Piscataway as a township, the public is invited to the annual Founders' Day program 1:30 p.m. Sunday in the Municipal Complex, 455 Hoes Lane. Snow date is Feb. 13.

Arthur Lefkowitz of Piscataway provides "Eyewitness Images of the American Revolution."

The historian has written two books.

For more information, call Carol Natarelli at (732) 463-8736. Refreshments will be

Community Life ........A-7,8 getting up the next day than I did.

#### By ADAM HOCHRON Staff Writer SOMERVILLE - When I was in high school, I'd wake up for school at 7 a.m. absolutely

exhausted. But on the weekends, no matter how much sleep I got, I'd wake up and still be exhausted. My parents told me it was just due to a lack of physical activity, but as it turned out, the problem was much more severe than I - or

they - had realized. Going into my sophomore year of college, things started to get worse. It didn't matter how much I slept, it felt like I hadn't slept at all. Some days I would go through a day of being exhausted and someing the night. Even after a my friends had an easier time

each morning. The pain was intense and shot through my head even when I tried simply opening my eyes.

week features a personal account from staff writer Adam Finally, when I was a sophomore, getting up for my 8 a.m. class meant I would be passed out before my 1:10 class. I found it very hard to have to explain to my professors why daily I was showing up late to class with a headache and fighting to stay awake.

Finally, with an appointment scheduled with my physician, I decided to ask his opinion to see if there was a potential medical cause for my prob-

My doctor, Keith Sherrow, said it could sleep apnea. It was not something I'd ever heard of, so I never considered it a possibility. When my parents heard what he had said, they were skeptical, thinking that someone in their 20s was too young to have any sort of a sleep disorder.

The first step was to try and record myself sleeping, to see if there were any noticeable breaks in breathing.

Unfortunately, with my little tape recorder, it was impossible to tell anything. Meanwhile, between getting the potential diagnosis and recording my sleep, I did some research on-line to find out more about apnea. What I found out absolutely terrified me. From the fact that it could



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Staff writer Adam Hochron is wired and ready to go to sleep at Somerset Medical Center's Sleep Disorder Center. Hochron has lived with sleep apnea for much of his life

potentially be fatal, to the surgical options which seemed as medieval as bloodletting, my outlook for life seemed to be quite a bit grim.

Eventually, it was decided that a sleep study was the next step to find out if apnea was the correct diagnosis. Staten Island University

Hospital was where I was sent to have the study done. With my dad driving me up, the prospects of what were to come made me quite nervous to say the least, and when he

left it wasn't much better. I could never remember being connected to so many wires, and while the technician attaching them was very nice, he didn't do anything to alleviate my discomfort. So I lay in bed and fell asleep, and a few hours later he woke me up and told me it was time to try sleeping with the mask on. The mask, as it turned out,

Continued on page A2

# **County launches** tsunami campaign

Continued from page A1

sors, a sharpener, an eraser and a box of crayons. Each kit costs \$10."

The money would be given to one or more widely recognized charities that have pledged to give more than 90 per cent of what they collect directly to the victims.

"We've done a lot of research and were able to find a handful of charities that have worked in the affected areas for decades, have named children and education as priorities and who routinely buy and provide school supplies," Brady said. "We have full faith that the money collected will be used exactly as we and all who participate intend."

Brady said County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Patrick Piegari has agreed to spread the word about the drive throughout the county. She said some school officials have already approached her about bringing the campaign to their students.

Participating students will write their names on draw-

ings of a crayon box that will be displayed at the school, making their donations more visual, Brady said.

She said she is also hoping to get local businesses, like industries, banks, restaurants and retail stores, involved in the campaign.

"This will not be a one-time event," Brady said. "I envision focusing on this for all of 2005," she said. "The need will still be there.'

Crabiel said the County Children's Health Commission met and decided to pledge \$1,000 toward the campaign.

"It will jump start the program," he said.

The commission, a 501c 3 entity, will act as the depository. All donations are tax deductible, he said.

The commission is accepting individual contributions for the campaign. Checks should be made payable to the Middlesex County Children's Health Commission. Send them in care of Children Helping Children, P.O. Box 871, New

Brunswick, N.J. 08901.

tary personnel. Young students can color pictures or create patriotic art

Continued from page A1

off sites but more are needed:

The Chronicle office, 44

Veterans Memorial Drive East,

Somerville; Commerce Bank Ballpark, 1 Patriots Way,

Bridgewater; the 250th Signal Battalion, 42nd Infantry Armoly on Hamilton Street in

Franklin; The Somerville U.S.

Postal Service office at 39

Division St., Somerville; Morgan Stanley, 166 W. Main

St., Somerville; Mannion's Pub

& Restaurant, 150 W. Main St.,

Somerville; Wachovia Bank, 1

West Main St., Somerville and the office of Dr. Steven C.

Balestracci, 154 Adamsville Road North, Bridgewater. More

sites will be added as they

Schools, students and volun-

Students and their families

teer organizations can partici-

and friends can donate items to

be shipped overseas (a specific

list will be distributed to each

school). Arrangements will be

made for pick-ups at the school.

teachers and volunteers are

needed to write letters and

cards that will be sent with each

of the packages shipped to mili-

Hundreds of students,

pate in the following ways:

become available.

Designated drop-off sites:

Volunteer coalition supports U.S. troops

- \* The Chronicle office, 44 Veterans Memorial Drive East, Somerville:
- \* Commerce Bank Ballpark, 1 Patriots Way, Bridgewater;
- \* The 250th Signal Battalion, 42nd Infantry Armory on Hamilton Street in Franklin;
- \* The Somerville U.S. Postal Service office at 39 Division St., Somerville;
- \* Morgan Stanley, 166 W. Main St., Somerville;
- \* Mannion's Pub & Restaurant, 150 W. Main St., Somerville;
- \* Wachovia Bank, 1 West Main St., Somerville
- \* The office of Dr. Steven C. Balestracci, 154 Adamsville Road North, Bridgewater.

More sites will be added as they become available. If you are interested in hosting a drop-off site, please contact us.

Church groups, Rotary clubs, chambers of commerce, Scout groups, booster clubs, veterans organizations, Little

objects to accompany each Leagues and other organization may all want to lend their support to this effort.

OPSHBX is in the process of finalizing its status as a nonprofit corporation, and will begin accepting tax-deductible contributions next week for the Benefit of Operation Shoebox: New Jersey 2005.

If you are interested in hosting a drop-off site, please con-

More volunteers are needed for several committees responsible for coordinating and staffing various initiatives soliciting donations, sorting donated goods, coordinating incoming letters from schools, packaging, transportation and shipping.

Materials and letters collected will be divided into two categories, one designated for soldiers in Company C, 250th Signal Battalion, 42nd Infantry, and other units based at the armory in Franklin. Their packages will be addressed to specific soldiers. The other category will be designated for delivery by the United States Marine Corps Reserve. The Marines fly packages to the Middle East region on a weekly basis, but they cannot be addressed to specific individuals.

Keep tabs of Operation Shoebox on nj.com/reporter and by reading The Chronicle every Saturday. You can also call Rod Hirsch, executive editor of The Chronicle, (908) 575-6684, or e-mail rhirsch@njnpublishing.com

# A personal story about living with sleep apnea

You are invited to a Continued from page A1

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would only be a part of the problem as I tried to get back to sleep during the rest of the only hindered my breathing.

March 5, 2005

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The machine sent a constant and strong stream of air into my nose, which, in fact,

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As I fought to breathe, I also fought my allergies as my nose drained into the mask. After a few hours of sleeping and fighting the mask, it was determined that there was enough data for the study. I decided after that night that no matter what the results were, I would never subject myself to something like that

When the results came, my doctor said it was worse than he'd seen for a person my age.

The next step was to find the equipment that would alleviate the apnea and hopefully bring my sleep back to a normal rate. Working with a supply company I got a Bi-Pap machine, similar to an air pump except that is varies the amount of air pressure being blown into the mask depending on if the user is breathing in or out, the mask itself and a humidifier. The humidifier serves to make the air going into my nose less dry. While there were some problems with the original mask, overall I would wake up feeling well rested and ready to attack the day.

Eventually, the problems

associated started to cloud the reasons I was using the mask. With the mask, my glasses wouldn't fit so there was no way to watch TV while wearing it. And with my allergies, my nose would run so much that taking the mask off and putting it back on every other minute was getting to be too much of a hassle. For a while I was losing weight and using the mask, so I decided I was cured and could sleep without it and the complications that came with it.

Then the weight came back, and so did the sleep problems. It was decided that enough time had gone by and I should be re-checked to see how my condition had changed in two years. This time, Somerset Medical Center would be the location, and the experience was entirely different.

Not only were the people nicer, and the room nicer, but given the chance to compare the medical center to my previous experience it was clear that not all sleep centers are equal. Just about everything about the room was modern

and warm. Since they knew I used a Bi-Pap, they started me on a low pressure setting and as my sleep changed, they changed the pressure to stop any stoppage of breath and snoring. But things got off to a rocky start as the first mask didn't fit right. A second mask was tried, and, being more like the one I used at home, was more comfortable.

The first step after connecting all the wires was to ensure that they were all getting proper readings for the test. This included holding my breath, moving my legs and moving my eyes as just a few of the pre-sleep exercises. Then it was time for bed, and in 27 minutes I was fast asleep. Dr. Carol Ash, who works in the Sleep Disorders Center, had come to see me but by the time she'd arrived I was already asleep. During the 377 minutes I was attached to the machines, I

was asleep for 271 of them. During those four hours, I had a total of 11 "sleep events:" Two were stoppages of breath, six were slowing of breath and three were a combination of the two. The longest I stopped breathing was for 18 seconds, and the longest my breathing slowed considerably was for almost 19 seconds. During this study I was in REM sleep for only eight minutes, but a majority of the sleep was in stage two, which still showed improvement over the past two years.

# The Chronicle

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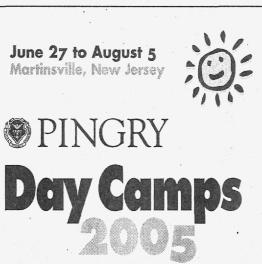
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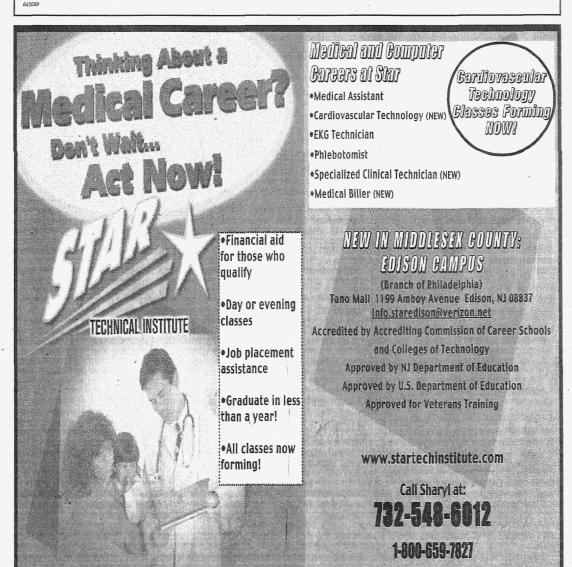
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# **Students complete** parking space study

Highland Park Commission for Universal Access, through volunteer research from Highland Park High School sophomores, just completed a study of the status of handicapped parking spaces throughout the borough.

The report was developed by nine high school students, led sophomores Kristiana Bankova and Sarah Ahmad, who conducted the study over several recent weeks, canvassing all areas of the municipality to assess the availability of handicapped parking.

'This is absolutely a step in the right direction," said Diane Feldman, chairwoman of the borough's Commission for Universal Access. "The entire town has been very supportive of this effort. Together, we will continue to look at what we can do to provide better access for everyone.

"And, I must mention, this could not have been accomplished without the wonderful support of these high school students.

In mid-December, Feldman contacted Mary Melling, a guidance counselor at the high school, asking if communityminded students would conduct the study. Once Bankova and Ahmad agreed to head up the project, the girls broke up the town into several quadrants and recruited seven other classmates to conduct the research. They are Katie Montelione, Jennifer Conway, Lei Zhu, Josie Sun, Namrata Kulkarni, Grace Long and Kendall Laparo.

"I decided to help out the commission because I thought it would be a good thing for the community," said Bankova, 16. "We found a lot of handicapped signs were broken and I would

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recruit classes have applauded the components of the

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bilities, demands of person-

nel and laws and policies that

guide police decision-mak-

ing. Topics that will be cov-

ered will include overviews

of the department's organiza-

Department.

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Department is once again and responsibilities of the

Participants will gain a bet- investigation. They will meet

limited.

ter understanding of the pro- one night a week and one

to police academy

HIGHLAND PARK — The be very interested in getting a group together to help fix those

Feldman said she was extremely impressed by the speed in which the students worked and how much data they collected, giving the commission critical information to improve handicapped parking.

The students discovered that in some areas of town, including downtown parking lots, there aren't enough handicapped spaces. In some cases, the lots do not have designated spaces or do not comply with the regu-

Also, as part of the study, it was found that many of the handicapped parking signs must be updated to comply with increased state fines for parking in stalls reserved for people with disabilities. The fine recently increased from \$100 to

Highland Park Commission for Universal Access Teams with High School Sophomores for Handicapped Parking Study Feldman said the commission

hopes to work closely with the Highland Park Police Department and business owners to update the signs. She added the commission will also work with Mayor Meryl Frank, the borough council and the police to raise public awareness about the need for creating more accessible parking spots throughout town.

'I am so appreciative of Diane Feldman and her commission for their commitment to ensuring Highland Park is accessible to all," said Councilwoman Fern Walter Goodhart. "I must also thank the volunteer students from the high school, who clearly recognize the tremendous value of community service."

The tion and structure; recruit-

ment and training; the roles

various divisions and sec-

tions such as patrol, traffic,

investigations, vice, Special

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tunity to ride along with a

The Citizen Police Academy is open to Piscataway residents who are over 21 years

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plete a thorough background

police officer on patrol.

# Middlesex plans tsunami relief effort

MIDDLESEX — In partner- Ave.; Quizon's Subs, (near ship with the American Red Food Basics),; Vincenzo's Cross of Greater Somerset the Middlesex County, Presbyterian Church has spearheaded an effort to raise funds for the Southeast Asia Tsunami Relief effort by encouraging local businesses and organizations to donate a portion of their sales during Valentine's Day weekend and Valentine's Day.

This is also in response to the proclamation by the Borough Council declaring Feb. 12-14 as a borough-wide Southeast Asia Tsunami Relief Effort Weekend.

Middlesex residents and other patrons are encouraged to patronize the following businesses as part of their Valentine's celebrations: Biondi's Florist, 601 Union Ave; Café Havana, 580 Union

Restaurant, 665 Bound Brook Road, El Tumi Restaurant, 559 Bound Brook Road; Bagels Supreme, 726 Union Ave.; Middlesex Liquors, 708 Union Ave.; Continental Cleaners, 712 Union Ave.; Boro Hall Pharmacy, 565 Bound Brook Road; Brite Cleaners, 561 Bound Brook Road; TC's Hallmark, 722 Union Ave.; Air Fresh Laundry, 730 Union Ave.; Kid's Konnection, 748 Bound Brook Road; Dollar Planet, 105 Bound Brook Road; L & M Dancewear, 2 Judson Drive; Shogun Wok, 570 Union Ave.; Foodmart, 568 Union Ave., Royal Beauty Salon, 413 Bound Brook Road; Auto Shop of Middlesex, 211 Lincoln Boulevard; Middlesex Army & Navy, 315 Bound Brook Road; Middlesex

Lumber, 500 Bound Brook Road; Luca's Pizza & Restaurant, 109 Harris Ave.; Exxon Gas Station, (across from Drug Fair, Route 28); and GNC, 706 Union Ave.

The following organizations contributed the following towards the relief effort: the Legion American Middlesex, a monetary dona-Universal Mailing Services, 10 New England Ave., Piscataway, postage; Sir Speedy Printing Center of 10 Route 22, Green Brook, print-

"While the tsunami disaster is no longer on the front page of newspapers or the top headline on television news outlets, the need of affected peoples in Southeast Asia, South Asia and eastern Africa continues and will continue for many years," said the Rev.

Neal D. Presa, pastor of Middlesex Presbyterian Church. "We are grateful that the merchants and organizations who have indicated their desire to contribute a portion of their sales during Valentine's weekend and Valentine's Day towards relief efforts have seen that the need is still outstanding.

"We urge all residents of Middlesex and residents of all surrounding areas to make your Valentine's plans with these participating stores. When you think about dropping your favorite suit to the dry cleaners, or making a dinner reservation with your family, or buying flowers for your significant other, or getting gas for your car, you will know that your purchase will also go towards sharing love to people halfway around the world.'

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# What's Happening in February 2005 at North Stelton AME Church!

123 Craig Ave.	*Worship Services 7:45 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.  Church School 9:30 a.m.  *First Sundays: Holy Communion Service - one service only at 9:45 a.m.  Church School starts at 9:00 a.m.		
Piscataway, N.J. 08854	WEDNESDAYS Bread of Heaven Bible Study Pastor's Bible Study	12:00 noor 7:30 p.m	
(732) 287-5184	THURSDAYS Senior Citizens' Bible Study	10:00 a. m	
Fax: (732) 287-2221	<u>SATURDAYS</u> Prayer Service	6:00 a.m	
Fax: (192) 201-2221	Men's Fellowship Breakfast  -Join the Men Every 3rd Saturday	8:00 a.m	
Reverend	***Special Events***  SATURDAY, Feb 5  GMAC Financial Services Educational Program	11:00 a.m.	

Dr. Kenneth L. -Learning about budgets, credit, and other financial matters. Lunch will be served.

Saunders, Sr. SATURDAY, Feb 19 **Pastor** 

Scholarship Benefit Concert 6:30 p.m. -Special Guest Singers and NAME Liturgical Dancers-Donations: \$30; Seniors & Children: \$20 -Contact Church Office for Ticket Information-

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Please call the church office at (732) 287-5184 for more information.

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# Briefs

#### Historical society holding history day

METUCHEN — The Historical Society of Metuchen-Edison will hold its 2005 Local History Day 1:30-4 p.m. Sunday in the Metuchen Public Library. In addition to displaying the

society's entire collection of historic photographs, this year's event will feature eighteen recently transcribed oral histo-

Historical Society merchandise, including reproductions of historic maps, will be available for sale. New for sale this year will be "A Guide to Edison Township: Its History and Community Resources.'

This program is free and open to the public, and light refreshments will be served.

For more information, or in case of inclement weather, contact Nancy Zerbe at (732) 906-

#### FISH to hold meeting in Dunellen Feb. 14

DUNELLEN — FISH, Inc. located in the Dunellen area, will hold its annual meeting at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 14 at the First Presbyterian Church, 218 Dunellen Avenue.

For more information, call (732) 356-0081.



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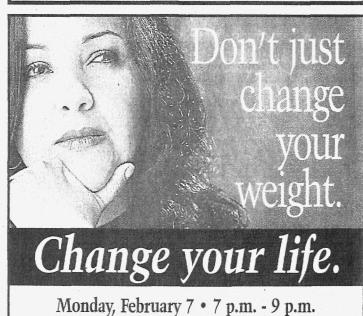
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# Commentary

193

# **OPSHBX:** Ready to serve

This is about Army Sgt. Jimmy Livak, who up until several months ago was just Uncle Jimmy to Courtney and Brandyleigh Stephenson. Their mom, Eileen Stephenson, helped her daughters and a few young friends wrap 11 packages that were shipped to Iraq in time for Christmas.



need.

It's about Major Sal Abano, one of the ranking officers in Livak's Army National Guard unit now deployed in Iraq. Last month, the major received a box with 130 belated holiday greetings written by students in Veronica LaVista's freshmen English class at Immaculata High School in Somerville.

It's about Lance Cpl. Sean Potts and Lance Cpl. Michael Dinis, 21-year-old Marines who shipped out to Iraq Jan. 4. Just a few weeks before, they had been playing with stuffed animals and race cars dropped off at Commerce Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater during the Marines' Toys for Tots drive.

This is about them, and tens of thousands of others like them, the families they were forced to leave behind and the uncertainty that has crept into the lives of the soldiers, their families and friends as they drift off to a restless sleep every night worlds apart.

This is also about a community and a growing circle of compassionate people who care and want

This is about honoring the sacrifices of families like yours, whose primary breadwinner has been shipped overseas

Charity begins at home, but this goes beyond

This is about thanks and compassion.

Those on the right of the political spectrum say we have no choice but to fight terrorism. Those on the left criticize a senseless war.

That leaves most of us in the middle - including soldiers like Jimmy Livak and Sal Abano, who are the instruments of America's foreign policy — the soldiers who are sworn to duty - and they deserve our help

Forget politics.

unteer corps.

This is about feeling proud of our neighbors who find themselves thrust into the midst of a maelstrom they didn't create, and who want nothing more than to stay alive and come back home to

That's where Operation Shoebox: New Jersey 2005 comes in. Every stick of lip balm, every tube of toothpaste, every bottle of shampoo sent to our soldiers overseas is a symbol of our support and appreciation for their sacrifice.

We are a compassionate society, and Middlesex County is a microcosm of the caring and giving that has always characterized this nation.

the Operation Shoebox: New Jersey 2005 vol-

If you're already packing and shipping

We are available to visit your school, com-

pany or organization to answer your ques-

tions and encourage your support. As our

network of volunteers expands, and the vol-

ume of donations and contributions of goods

increases, we will be able to provide more

more are needed: The Chronicle office, 44

Veterans Memorial Drive East, Somerville;

Commerce Bank Ballpark, 1 Patriots Way,

Bridgewater; the 250th Signal Battalion,

42nd Infantry Armory on Hamilton Street in

Franklin; The Somerville U.S. Postal Service

office at 39 Division St., Somerville; Morgan

Stanley, 166 W. Main St., Somerville;

Mannion's Pub & Restaurant, 150 W. Main

St., Somerville; Wachovia Bank, 1 West Main

St., Somerville and the office of Dr. Steven

C. Balestracci, 154 Adamsville Road North,

Bridgewater. More sites will be added as

We have eight designated drop-off sites but

packages for more soldiers overseas.

packages to soldiers overseas, join with us;

we'll help expedite the process.

OPSHBX is a reflection of that compassion, a conduit through which residents of Central New Jersey can show their thanks.

OPSHBX has no political agenda. We've not time for politics, or to debate the pros and cons of the war on terror.

Our agenda has but one priori-

We are determined to ship tens of thousands of packages overseas to American soldiers for as long as there is a

As civilians we can mount our own offensive against loneliness, despair, helping a weary soldier, reassuring them that we think about them

How can you help?

Write a letter. Drop a few coins into a plastic jug. Buy some phone cards so the soldiers can call home. Buy lip balm, liquid wipes, Talk to your boss, co-workers, classmates, teachers. Get involved. Get them involved. Spread the word.

Check the list on the facing page. Cut it out. Stick it on the refrigerator with some magnets. Every time you go shopping, remember to pick up a few of the needed items, and bring them to one of our drop-off sites.

We are the rear detachment, joining with other support groups to fight back against loneliness and despair. OPSHBX fuels the pipeline that pumps reassurance and comfort overseas.

Join with us and our partners — The Somerset Patriots, American Recreational Military Services, Flemington Car and Truck Country, nj.com. The New Jersey Army National Guard and the Marine Corps Reserves. There's no better feeling in the world than to give of yourself while helping others.

Support the cause. OPSHBX soon will have tshirts and caps emblazoned with the distinctive logo that you see in today's newspaper. Order one. Order several. Every penny spent will be contributed to the cause.

Next week, we'll begin to accept checks, and soon after that, you'll be able to support OPSHBX by using your credit card.

We face an uncertain future. But I've been reassured by the likes of Eileen Stephenson and Veronica LaVista, two of the volunteers who helped to shape Operation Shoebox. They've involved their young daughters in the initiative, and they understand why we're doing what we're doing, and they want very much to be a part of it all, to give of themselves to benefit others.

Hopefully, other adults will see the value of becoming involved, along with their spouses and children.

It's what community is all about, and in our own small way, it's about improving the lot of the soldiers in our extended community who need to know we understand and appreciate their sacri-

begin accepting tax-deductible contribu-

tions next week for the Benefit of Operation

Here's what you can do right now to sup-

1. We need enthusiastic, dedicated volun-

2. We need donations of specific items, list-

3. We need cards and letters which are to

be enclosed in each box that is shipped.

Soldiers appreciate scraps of news and kind

4. We need contributions, large and small.

A plastic or glass jug placed on a countertop

is a great way to encourage people to empty

their pockets of loose change and dollar

5. More drop-off sites are needed - store-

fronts, businesses, corporate cafeterias,

building lobbies, shopping malls. We will

supply you with boxes, posters and other

6. We welcome large donations and

inquiries from businesses and corporations

materials to help promote your site.

willing to support the effort.

teers to help wrap and ship packages.

Shoebox: New Jersey 2005.

words from the homefront.

port Operation Shoebox:

ed below.

**Operation shoebox: New Jersey 2005:** 

**WE WANT YOU!** 

We are extending an invitation to business- they become available. If you are interested

es, non-profit groups, schools, veterans' orga- in hosting a drop-off site, please contact us.

nizations, chambers of commerce, neighbor- We are in the process of finalizing our sta-

hoods and families and individuals to join tus as a non-profit corporation, and will

#### and unaccounted for - but the numbers are too cryptic. You'd get a better idea of the death toll if you wiped these six towns off the map: Branchburg, Brook, R le, Warren Raritan, Green Somerville, and Watchung. As many people as

HA! AND MY CRITICS SAY I ONLY SURROUND

**HTIW7J32YM** 

YES MEN.

were killed in the Vietnam War. Joe Yuzuik, one of the earnest volunteers working on Operation Shoebox: New Jersey 2005, is a Marine veteran of that war.

live in those towns are how many

The numbers tell the story -

58,168 dead; 2,500 still missing

By ROD HIRSCH

Executive Editor

He remembers the disdain of another generation, the disappointment, hurt, confusion and insults that greeted him and his comrades when they returned home to a nation deeply divided over U.S. foreign policy.

The Bridgewater resident remarked at one of our recent meetings: "I wish you people were around when we were over

Yuzuik's remark is a fitting salute to those who have already embraced the spirit of OPSHBX.

Last Sunday, several OPSHBX volunteers joined with volunteers from another non-profit group, American Recreational Military Services at the New Jersey Army National Guard armory in Franklin Township. For four hours, 60 people worked shoulder-to-shoulder filling plastic bags with candy, gum, bars of soap, toothpaste, razors, decks of

cards, notepads and pencils. I'm convinced that with the support of the Central New Jersey community, that pipeline of supplies will continue to fill thousands of packages to be shipped to U.S. military personnel in Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan and other duty posts, including Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.

OPSHBX is an outgrowth of the good intentions of a cross-section of the Central New Jersey



The heart and

soul of OPSHBX

My job demands that I stay in touch with the people served by this newspaper. A common thread emerged during last year's holiday season - Eileen Stephenson and her two daughters Brandyleigh and Courtney called to tell me about Uncle Jimmy, a sergeant from one of the units at the armory, and the 11 packages they were sending to him and his friends in Iraq; we ran that story on the same page as a story about Carolann Garafola, an elected official in Warren who hosted a birthday party for her husband, but instead of bringing presents for her husband, she asked guests to bring a shoebox full of items to be sent to the soldiers in Iraq friends brought 43 boxes. The following week, I received a phone call from Veronica LaVista, an English teacher at Immaculata High School in Somerville. She had read those stories in The Chronicle, and wanted to tell me that her class was sending letters and cards to the same unit as had Eileen Stephenson and her

daughters. That's how I became acquainted with Major Sal Abano, whose picture appears on the front page of today's newspaper alongside U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld during a Christmas Eve visit to their camp in Iraq. His daughter is a student at the school. The major and I have exchanged several e-mails. His first-hand accounts of life in Iraq are all at once insightful, frightening and filled with optimism and hope.

These stories touched me, brought me back 35 years, made me think once again about my Eagle Scout project, and the letters that came back to members of Troop 277 from servicemen in Vietnam who had received similar packages we had shipped over there. My father and I had asked for donations of bundled newspapers, which we picked up at curbside on weekends and brought to the recycling center, getting \$20 to \$30 per carload. That's how we financed our pro-

Why not do it again? Why not ask Elaine, Carolann, Veronica, and others, to join the effort?

My boss and publisher of The Chronicle, David Tomasini, agreed - OPSHBX was a noble project, one that would embrace the entire community. We invited several of our friends to join with us. No one turned us down.

You've heard about the power of the press. We're about to unleash it in a way that we are certain will impress you.

We've got lots of room for more sponsors. We'd like nothing better than to receive calls offering bulk quantities of phone cards, lip balm, toilet paper, writing tablets and other

much-needed supplies. We've reached out to schools across Somerset County, encouraging students to write letters to the soldiers overseas.

OPSHBX has already helped me honor the memory of my friend, and the 25 other graduates of my high school who gave their lives in Vietnam. I have no doubt the project

will continue to bring honor to those soldiers who will benefit from this collective gesture of patriotism and pride.

It will be an honor to meet these proud soldiers when they return home.

It has also been an honor and privilege to work with those who have pledged to energize the good work that lies ahead. I look forward to meeting and working with more of you.

# 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.

Our address: The Chronicle, PO Box 699, Somerville, NJ 08876. Our fax number is (908) 575-

# 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.

# Letters to the Editor

# Heart disease remains killer among women

Do you know that heart dis-

ease is the No. 1 killer of women age 25 and older? A woman is 10 times as likely to die from heart disease as from breast cancer. Feb. 4 is the second annual

American Heart Association National Wear Red Day for Women.

On Sept. 9, 1996, I experienced a heart attack in the middle of the night. I was only 51. My symptoms included chest pains that radiated to my back as well as acute nausea. I was rushed to a hospital for pain management and it was at the hospital that I was diagnosed as being in the throes of a heart attack. I received clotheart attack and remain hospi-

talized for seven days. I received a cardiac catheterization procedure to repair two artery blockages, as well as an angioplasty and two stents to open up the arteries and improve blood flow. I consider myself a lucky survivor and I'm proud to be involved in the American Heart Association Go Red for Women movement.

American Heart Association Go Red for Women movement, sponsored nationally by Macy's and Pfizer, encourages women to take charge of their cardiovascular health, make it a top priority and live a stronger, longer life. The bold color red is the American Heart Association's color for women and heart disease, and busting drugs to relieve the on Friday, Feb. 4, women, people from all walks of life, and

cities and landmarks across the national will go red for women on National Wear Red Day for Women. Wear something red ... a red dress, shirt, scarf, jacket, tie or other red item ... on Feb. 4 in support of all women who have been touched by heart disease or stroke.

It's time for New Jersey women to take charge of their cardiovascular health by becoming more knowledgeable and empowered. Learn more about the American Heart Association Go Red for Women movement by calling the Go Red for Women hotline at (888) MY HEART.

JANE KAPLAN

Go Red for Women Movement Ambassador, Middlesex County American Heart Association

# **Eleanor Palczuk**

BOUND BROOK — Eleanor Paxson Palczuk, 76, died Jan. 22, 2005 at Glenaire — A Continuing Care Retirement Community in Cary, N.C.

Born Jan. 6, 1929 in Allentown, Pa., she was a daughter of the late William A. and Eleanor Gorman Paxson.

Mrs. Palczuk lived in Philadelphia and New Brunswick before moving to Bound Brook in 1963. She moved in 1981 to Durham, N.C., and had resided in Cary since 2001. She also had a vacation home in Topsail Island, N.C.

A certified registered nurse anesthetist for 41 years, Mrs. Palczuk was president of the New Jersey Association of Nurse Anesthetists from 1974-76. She also was a trustee and vice president of the association as well as a member of its Government Relations Committee.

She was associated with Saint Peter's Hospital in New Brunswick from 1958-81; Mrs. Palczuk was its chief nurse anesthetist from 1974-81 and taught obstetrical anesthesia to medical school students on rotation at that hospital. She earned her registered nurse degree in 1949 from the nursing school at Sacred Heart Hospital in Allentown, Pa.

As well Mrs. Palczuk was 1952-53 a staff anesthetist and clinical instructor at Sacred Heart Hospital: from 1953-55 a staff nurse anesthetist at Frederick Memorial Hospital in Frederick, Md.; from 1955-58 a staff nurse anesthetist at Misericordia Hospital in Philadelphia; from 1981-85 a nurse anesthetist with Wake Anesthesia Associates in Raleigh, N.C.; and from 1985-93 a nurse anesthetist with Durham Anesthesia Associates.

Mrs. Palczuk was a lector for Masses at Holy Infant Catholic Church in Durham, where she was a Eucharistic minister for the sick and homebound. She was a Meals on Wheels volunteer and participated in literacy programs in Durham.

A half-brother, Michael

Paxson, is deceased.
Surviving are her husband,
Nicholas Charles Palczuk;
three sons, Michael Charles
and wife Margaret L. of
Raleigh, John Jerome and
wife Karen Y. of Raleigh and
Nicholas Charles Jr. and wife
Linda S. of West Chester, Pa.; a
half-brother, Thomas Paxson
and wife Mary Rose of
Allentown, Pa.; a sister-in-law,
Marge Paxson of Allentown,
Pa.; three grandsons, Thomas
and Stephen, both of Raleigh,



Eleanor Paxson Palczuk

and Nicholas of West Chester; two granddaughters, Caitlin of Raleigh and Hannah of West Chester; and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass was held Jan. 26 at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Cary. Burial was in Raleigh Memorial Park.

Arrangements were by the Brown-Wynne Funeral Home in Cary. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Glenaire Foundation, 4000 Glenaire Circle, Cary, NC 27511; St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church; or Holy Infant Catholic Church.

# Ernest Day; founded fire equipment company

DUNELLEN — Ernest Nelson Day, a volunteer fireman with a sizable collection of firefighting memorabilia, died Saturday at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield at age 94.

He founded the New Jersey Fire Equipment Co. in 1930. Mr. Day donated his collection of fire apparatus and memorabilia, worth nearly \$2.5 million, in 2000 for the New Jersey State Fire Engine Museum planned at Allaire State Park. For many years he was a volunteer fireman with the New Market Volunteer Fire Company in Piscataway.

tained over 700 guests on the Flying Eagle, Flying Eagle II and Flying Eagle III.

As a yachtsman he enter-

Day recorded perfect attendance at Rotary meetings for 67 years and was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow. He was an honorary member of the Olongapo Rotary Club in Olongapo, Philippines.

His philanthropic interests included the Humane Society of Ocean City; the Animal Care Center of East Smithfield, Pa.; Ranch Hope, in Alloway; the Boy Scouts of America; the Salvation Army; Children's Specialized Hospital, in Mountainside; Deborah Heart and Lung Center; the Atlantic City Rescue Mission; and Rotary. He was an Eagle Scout

at age 17.
Born Sept. 14, 1910 in New Market, he was a son of the late

Day. Mr. Day lived for many years in Dunellen and had a second home in Sweetwater.

He and his wife, Ruth Conley Day, were married for 65 years and six days until her death in 1996

Surviving are a son, C.R. Bunky Day of Greenville, Va.; a daughter, June E. of Rocky Hill, Conn.; a brother, C. Howell of Greenacres, Fla.; a sister-in-law, Marie Kelly of Somerville; a granddaughter, Diana Day Mauck of Flagstaff, Ariz.; two great-grandchildren; a great-great-grandchild; and several nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to New Jersey State Fire Engine Museum, 175 Washington St., Long Branch, NJ 07740.

# Noemi 'Mimi' Tuschak

BOUND BROOK — Noemi "Mimi" Tuschak, 88, died Jan. 23, 2005 at the Hunterdon Care Center in Flemington.

Mrs. Tuschak was born in Vienna, Austria. She lived in Budapest, Hungary; Bound Brook; Plainfield; and Hillsborough before moving to Pennington.

She began her career as a social worker with the Middlesex County Welfare Board. A former special education teacher, Mrs. Tuschak later was a real estate agent in Plainfield and Hillsborough. She held a

Rocco V.

Calv

MIDDLESEX — Rocco V. Calv, 81, died Jan. 30, 2005 at

the Cedar Oaks Care Center

Born in Plainfield, he lived in Dunellen and Middlesex

before moving to South

Mr. Calv was a retired parts expediter with MAN Roland

Inc. in Middlesex. A member of the Tri-County Senior

Citizens Club, he was an Army and Coast Guard veter-

His wife, Jay Armenti Calv,

Surviving are two sons,

Charles H. and wife Van of Middlesex and Richard S. and wife Linda of Toms River; a daughter, Linda Calv Smith of San Bernardino, Calif.; a brother, Daniel Calvi

of North Plainfield; a sister, Josephine Phillips of Forked

River; seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. A funeral Mass was held

Thursday at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, South Plainfield, following services at the Scarpa

Funeral Home in North Plainfield. Burial was in St.

Mary's Cemetery, Plainfield.

JCC of Central NJ Scotch Plains

YM-YWHA Highland Park Inman Sports Club Edison

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in South Plainfield.

Plainfield in 1999.

an of World War II.

died in 2003.

degree in psychology from Pennsylvania State University.

As an accomplished pianist Mrs. Tuschak gave piano lessons for over 50 years, most recently instructing students seven months ago. She was active the past 25 years in the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton. She earlier was a member of the First Unitarian Society in

Plainfield for 28 years. Her first husband, Seymour, and her second husband, Al

Wheeler, are deceased.
Surviving are a son, Robert;

a daughter, Vicki; a stepdaughter, Wanda Wheeler-Lovejoy; seven grandchildren; and a close friend, Ed Carr.

A memorial service will be at 1 p.m. today at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton, Route 206 and Cherry Hill Road; for directions, visit unprinceton.org.

Arrangements are by the Bruce C. Van Arsdale Funeral Home in Somerville. Donations may be sent to Hunterdon Hospice, 2100 Wescott Drive, Flemington, NJ 08822.

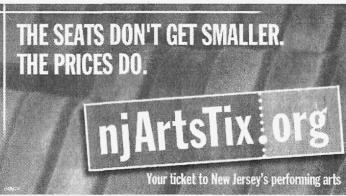


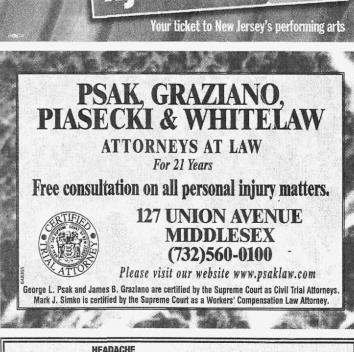
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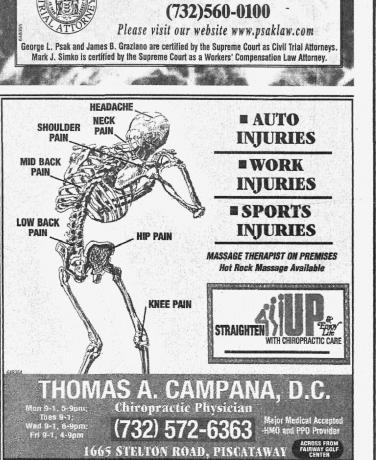


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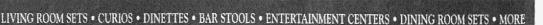


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Sat, Mon & Tues 10-6; Thur & Fri 10-9; Sun 12-5; Closed Wed BRIDGEWATER — John "Jack" Hoagland, 56, died Jan. 22, 2005 at his home. Born in Plainfield, he lived in

Bound Brook before moving to Bridgewater in 1998. Mr. Hoagland was a driver

with Northside Imports in South Plainfield. Surviving are his mother,

Eleanor E.; a brother, Thomas; and two sisters, Nancy and

Private arrangements were by the Speer-Van Arsdale Funeral Home in Somerville.



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# **Benjamin Perone III**

MIDDLESEX — Benjamin A. Perone III, 70, died Jan. 24, 2005 at Integrated Health Services of New Jersey at Somerset Valley, in Bridgewater.

Saturday, February 5, 2005

Born March 21, 1934 in Piscataway, he was a son of the late Dominick and Ann Finch Perone.

Mr. Perone lived in Green Brook and Bound Brook before moving to Middlesex in 1995. He founded the B&B Trucking Co. in Green Brook and operated it the past 42 years.

A member of Elks Lodge 1388 in Bound Brook and the Mount Carmel Society, Mr. Perone gradual Society 1052 Brook High School in 1952 and was in the Army from 1952-56.

Surviving are his wife, Barbara Kelly Perone; two sons, Benjamin IV and Kenneth, both of Middlesex; a daughter, Marianne Frazer and husband Norman of Middlesex; a sister, Catherine McGill and husband James of Bound Brook; three grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and

# **Evelyn Mignot**

MIDDLESEX — Evelyn G. Mignot, 88, died Jan. 20, 2005 at the Haven Hospice of JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born June 23, 1916 in Newark, she was a daughter of the late Arthur and Lucie Dubocs Mignot.

Miss Mignot had lived for many years in Middlesex. A registered nurse by training, she retired in the late 1980s as director of practical nurses at Overlook Hospital in Summit.

She graduated in 1945 from the nursing school at Newark City Hospital. Miss Mignot was a member of her nursing school's Alumnae Association and a former member of Electa Chapter 68, Order of the Eastern Star, in Irvington.

Her longtime companion, Helen W. Heilich, died in 1998. Surviving are eight close friends, Barbara Blundell of The Plains, Va., Margaret Keeney of Princess Anne, Md., Nancy Korl of North Plainfield, Bryan R. Crowe of Avenel, Susan Anderson of Ormond Beach, Fla., Frederick W. Heilich III of Chadds Ford, Pa., Jeanne Roland of Woodstock, Ga., and Roger G. Heilich of Mendham.

# Joseph Stransky Sr.

DUNELLEN - Joseph F. Stransky Sr., 92, died Jan. 21, 2005 at Hunterdon Medical Center in Flemington.

Born Feb. 13, 1912 in Bayonne, he was a son of the late Joseph F. and Francesca

Braha Stransky.

Mr. Stransky graduated from Bound Brook High School and lived in Dunellen most of his life. A butcher, he owned Stransky's Quality Market on North Avenue for more than 45 years until his retirement in 1978.

He was a past president of the Dunellen Lions Club and a longtime member of the

a longtime member of the First Presbyterian Church.
His wife, Catherine Lutz Stransky, died in 1986. A son, Cletus J., died in 1988.
Surviving are two sons, Joseph F. Jr. and wife Barbara of Tewksbury, and Kevir, I.

of Tewksbury and Kevin J. and wife Toni of Galloway; a sister, Ruth Ware Melbourne, Fla.; and two grandchildren.

Services were held Jan. 26 at the Mundy Funeral Home.

# Jean Spatt

MIDDLESEX — Jean Sobchinsky Spatt, 82, died Jan. MIDDLESEX 25, 2005 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born in Bayonne, she was a daughter of the late Julius and Victoria Sobchinsky.

Mrs. Spatt lived in Manville before moving to Middlesex in 1947. She moved in 1971 to Cranbury, then resided later in Point Pleasant and Millstone Borough before returning to Manville in 1992.

She cooked pierogis for events held at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Manville, Mrs. Spatt was a member of her parish's Altar Rosary Society and the Manville Senior Citizens Club. Her husband, George, died in

Surviving are two daughters, Sharon Yivisaker and husband Mark of Jupiter, Fla., and Mary Jean Mucciarone and husband Paul of Cranbury; four grand-

children; and several nieces and nephews.

Services were held Saturday at the Fucillo & Warren Funeral Home, Manville, followed by a funeral Mass at Sacred Heart Church. Burial was in Sacred Heart Cemetery,

Hillsborough.
In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Sacred Heart Building Fund, 98 S. Second Ave., Manville, NJ 08835. To send a condolence, visit www.fucilloandwarrenfuneralhome.com.

# Teresa Kumbatovic

PISCATAWAY — Teresa Kumbatovic, 91, died Jan. 18, 2005 at her home.

Born in Manhattan, she lived in Bound Brook before moving to Piscataway in

Mrs. Kumbatovic was employed by the Piscataway school system until her retirement in 1976. She was a member of the Altar Rosary Society at St. Frances Cabrini Roman Catholic Church.

Her husband, Thomas, died in 1994. A son, Thomas, died in 2005.

Surviving are a son, Robert of Bridgewater; and two daughters, Helen Fette of Piscataway and Elizabeth Kozlowski of Bridgewater.

A funeral Mass was held Jan. 21 at St. Frances Cabrini Church, following services at the Piscataway Funeral Home. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery, Woodside, Queens.

# **Dorothy Bier**

BOUND BROOK - Dorothy E. Zimmermann Bier, 85, died Jan. 26, 2005 at her home.

Born Sept. 30, 1919 in Raritan, she was a daughter of the late Paul and Emma Brammann Fiedler.

Mrs. Bier lived in Bound Brook for most of her life. She was a secretary with Mack Truck in Bridgewater and Union Carbide Corp. in

Piscataway until her retire-

ment in 1993. A brother is deceased.

Surviving are two sons, Walter C. of Somerset and Wayne L. of La Vale, Md.; three sisters and four grandchildren. Graveside services were held Monday at Bound Brook Cemetery. Arrangements were by the Hagan-Chamberlain

# Jack Awtry Jr.

Awtry Jr., 67, died Jan. 17, 2005 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Born June 26, 1937 in Somerville, he was a son of the late Jack Sr. and Katherine Van Fleet Awtry.

Mr. Awtry had lived in Bound Brook since 1961. He was a fireman with American Hose Company No. 2 and worked for the Middlesex County Utilities Authority.

He was a past exalted ruler, life member and former treasurer of Elks Lodge 1388. A former treasurer of the Sons of Italy in Bound Brook, Mr. Awtry also was a member of the Bound Brook Exempt Bound Brook Exempt Firemen's Association, the Bound Brook Kiwanis Club and St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church.

He was a Marine Corps veteran of the Korean War.

Surviving are his wife, Joanne Vischetti Awtry; a son, Marc of Bound Brook; a daughter, Lisa Wojciechowski of Bridgewater; a sister, Dorothy Zarnowski Phillipsburg; four grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

À funeral Mass was held Jan. 21 at St. Joseph Church, following services at the Hagan-Chamberlain Funeral Home. Burial was in Bound Brook Cemetery.



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# The Reporter

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# Growing volunteer network maintains supply line to Iraq

By JIM WHITE Staff Writer

Millions of Iraqis stuffed ballot boxes last Sunday, with hopes for a better future. At the same time, on the other side of the world, about 50 volunteers were busy packing boxes with personal items and treats for the men and women charged with the task of ensuring the fragile seeds of democracy do take hold.

Inside a warehouse on the grounds of the 42nd Infantry Division, New Jersev Army National Guard armory in Franklin, relatives, veterans and members of American Recreational Military Services, along with volunteers from Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005 sorted, packaged, taped and tagged the basketball

shoe-sized boxes for shipping.

The Chronicle has adopted C
Company, 250th Signal Battalion, and other units based at the Franklin armory and is working with ARMS, the Somerset Patriots, NJ.com Flemington Car and Truck Country and numerous other volunteer and veterans' organizations, corporations and families to bring some of the comforts of home to area troops stationed in Iraq and the Mideast region through Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005.

OPSHBX will maintain a supply line of personal items including sunscreen, paperback books, foot powder, phone cards, eye drops, letters and photographs that will be packaged and sent to the soldiers and Marines deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

All goods donated and contributions collected through the OPSHBX network of drop-off sites and by its partners will be inventoried and packed at the armory for shipping overseas.

Over the past several months, the armory has become a focal point for the families of the soldiers who have been deployed Kuwait, Iraq, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.



The 42nd DISCOM Family Readiness Group is based at the armory, a support network that overnight became an extended family for those affected by the deployment.

Many of those family members were busy bundling and wrapping last Sunday.

"When I spoke to my husband he said morale was really low. A lot of guys are really homesick," said Ana Parks, of East Brunswick, whose husband, Cpl. Gilroy Parks, of C Company, left for Iraq on Jan. 5. "This is to just let them know that we love them and we miss them."

Sunday's effort saw 122 boxes filled with Tic Tacs, Twizzlers, beef jerky and Goldfish crackers, along with soaps and shampoos, female hygiene products and even baby wipes — a favorite among troops operating in the hot Iraqi desert.

Between the packing and short sporadic cell phone calls with loved ones witnessing first hand the reality of war, Sunday's gathering inside the warehouse was also about bond-

"It gives us (volunteers) a chance to get together. A lot of people are going through the same thing," Parks said, adding she and her husband have a 15year-old daughter and a 9year-old son. "This is the first time their father has ever been away. It's really, really

In Iraq, Sunday's historical election and early reports of unsuccessful attempts to stop it, fueled something inside of

"I'm a little more hopeful," she said. "I'm hoping that people turn out and do what they have to do to let our guys



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Volunteers line up on both sides of a long table to fill up plastic bags with supplies for soldiers in Iraq at the New Jersey Army National Guard armory in Franklin last Sunday. Each soldier will receive four bags containing toiletries, snacks and other personal items which are placed in a box for shipping. Below, volunteers Judi DiMaio, left and Eileen Stephenson fill up bags with personal items that will be shipped to soldiers in Iraq.

come home."

Eileen P. Stephenson, of Bridgewater, whose brotherin-law, James Livak, a mechanic in C Company is stationed in Iraq, shared the same sentiments about the election.

"We were excited. We were very, very excited," said Stephenson, who, along with daughters, two Brandyleigh, 13, Courtney, 9, is committed to Operation Shoebox.

"Very overwhelming," Stephenson said of Sunday's turnout. "You think everyone forgets (about the troops), and

they haven't." Vietnam combat veteran Jersey.

and ARMS member Dennis McKeon, of Staten Island, admired the efforts of all the volunteers

"We didn't have anything like this in Vietnam. It was very difficult in those days for packages to get to troops. We didn't receive much," he said. "I'm very happy this is being done for our troops now."

ARMS meets once a month and so far has shipped 15,000 pounds of goods to troops overseas, according Ronnie Micciulla, executive director. The group, made up of 25 staff members and 300 volunteers, serves all the armories in New



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Bags that have moved along the assembly line wind up on a table in front of volunteer Josephine McKeon, who places four bags inside each box.

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B27 2T 1/29,2/5/05 NOTICE OF ABSENT DEFENDANTS

(L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO:

ALBINA MARTIN; FREDERICK JAMESON;
PATRICIA GANDOLFINI; SCOTT ROBINS

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon SHAPIRO & DIAX, LLP, Plaintiff's Attorney, whose address is 406 Lippincott Drive, Suite J, Martion. NJ 08053, an answer to the complaint, and any lifed in a civil action in which FEDER-cut or omplaint, if any) filed in a civil action in which FEDER-AL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION is Plaintiff and WILLIAM D. MARTIN, JR. are Defendants, pending in the Superior court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, MIDDLESEX ALD NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION is Plaintiff and WILLIAM D. MARTIN, JR. are Defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, MIDDLESEX ard bearing Docket # F-1468-06 within Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after the date of this publication. Thirty-five (35) days after february 23.001. The complaint, if any), You shall file your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hughes Justice Complex, 25 Market Street, Ch.-971. Trenton, NJ 08625, in accordance with the Rules of Civil toreclosing a mortgage date of the publication of the value of

NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS
(L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO:
DIANA GARCIA

LEGAL NOTICE
SOMERSET SAVINGS BANK
Notice of Annual Meeting
Notice is hereby given of the Annual Meeting of the Members of Somerset Savings Bank, S.LA, 220 West Union Avenue, Bound Brook, N.J. 08805 on Wednesday, February 16, 2005 at 4.00 pm o'clock for the sole purpose of the election of Directors and to receive a report of the Bank.
The polls for the election of Directors will be entitled to vote at the meeting.

828-0053. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County of Venue by calling (732) 249-7600.
You, DIANA GARCIA, hold a mortgage/lien/judgment You, ALBINA MARTIN; FREDERICK JAMESON; that may affect the mortgaged premises and the mortgaged premises and the mortgaged premises and the mortgaged premises are proposed to the subject property by reason of the election of Directors and to receive a report of the Bank.
The polls for the election of Directors will be open 4:00 pm 10 4:30 pm. Members of record at the close of business on December 19, 2004 will be entitled to vote at the meeting.

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# **Seniors Calendar**

# **Bound Brook**

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

Event Schedule:

Feb. 14 — Valentine's Day Social and membership meeting, 1 p.m. in school cafeteria.

# **Middlesex Borough**

Our Lady of Mount Virgin Seniors meet the second Tuesday of the month Feb. 8 at 1 p.m. in the church hall. A Nutritionist will be the speaker. 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", Lancaster, PA. \$61 per person. A few seats are still available.

For information on trips, call Ellie Procacci (732) 752-3093.

# **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).

Feb. 7 — Proper Foot Care presentation and free foot screening 10 a.m. Limit 10, registration required.

Feb. 9 — Program: "Nursing Homes Have Come a Long Way, Baby!" 11 a.m. Free.

# **South Bound Brook**

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

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

# **South Plainfield**

South Plainfield Chapter AARP, #4144

Trips:

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

# **Library Briefs**

#### DUNELLEN

# Happy hearts on Valentine's Day

A Happy Hearts Valentine's Day craft program will be held 3:30 p.m. Feb. 14 at the library.
Library employee and crafter Martha Richardson will help children create Valentines.

For more information, call (732) 968-4585 or visit the circulation desk.

#### EDISON

#### Library celebrates Chinese New Year

To celebrate the Chinese New Year, the FCD Chinese School will present a cultural event for families at the North Edison Library 2-4 p.m. Feb. 5.

# **PISCATAWAY**

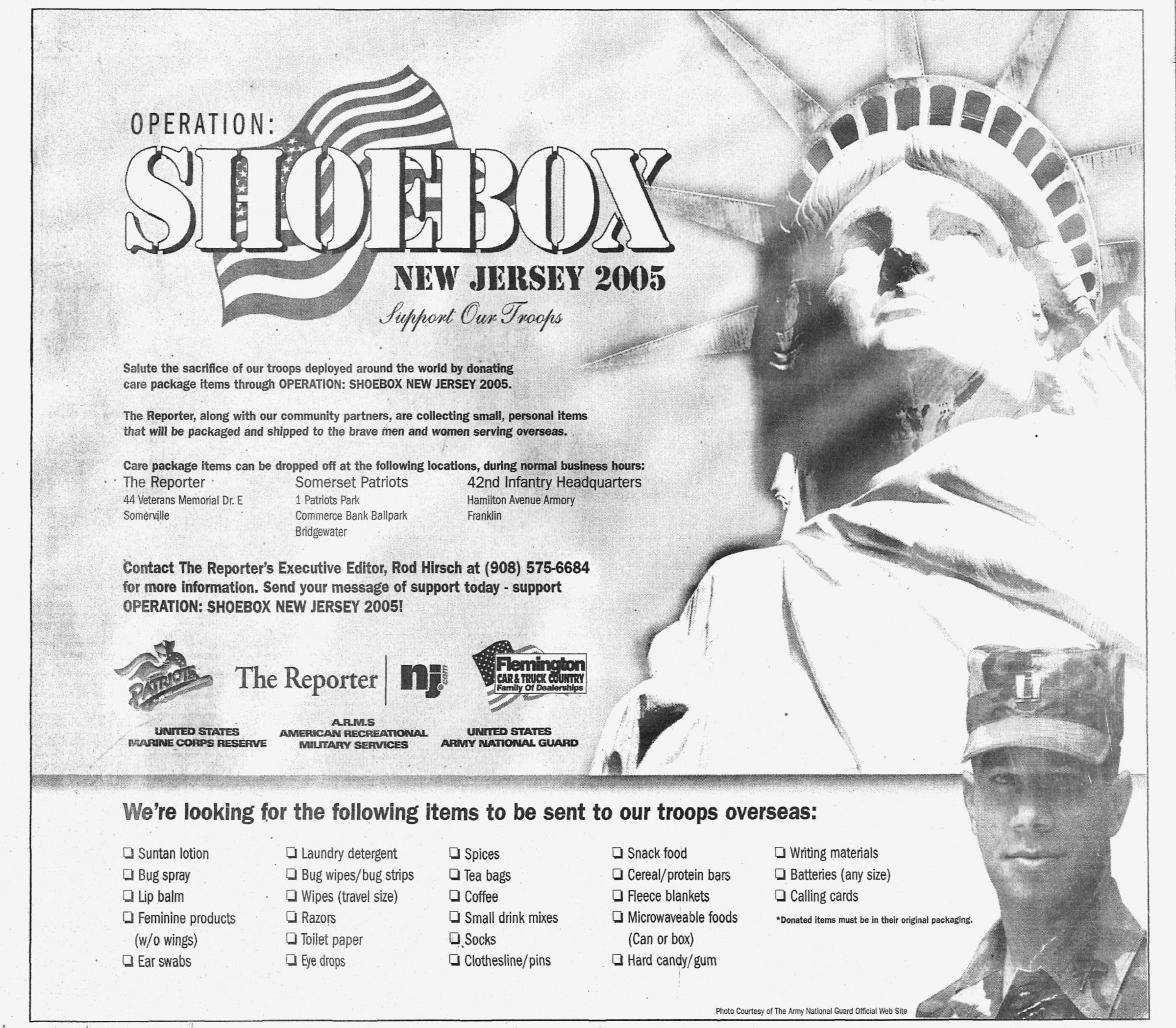
# Twilight Tales being held on Tuesday

Parents with children ages 3-5 years 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. Feb. 8 at the J. F. Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes Lane in Piscataway.

No registration is necessary.

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# Metuchen routs Highland Park for 10th

Wasting no time in taking command the Metuchen High boys basketball squad earned its 10th victory of the campaign Tuesday night with a 68-42 romp over Highland Park in GMC-Blue Division play.

The Bulldogs, who improved to 10-4, bolted to 25-7 lead after eight minutes and had the game wrapped up by halftime at 40-14 as the Owls (3-11) failed to keep pace.

Marcus Blakely turned in another big effort in the victory as he dropped in a game-high 23 points. The usually-balanced Metuchen attack got the majority of its points this time from four players as Nick Storts finished with 17, while Jon Brown and Dejuan Miller added 10

J.P. Stevens 57, Bishop Ahr 49 — Building a 29-17 lead at halftime the Hawks held off a solid Bishop Ahr (8-5) squad with an outstanding effort at the foul line to earn a

GMC-interdivisional triumph Tuesday night and boost their record to 4-12.

Andrew Biancosimo, who pumped in a game-high 27 points and pulled down eight rebounds, and Kenny Melford, who finished with 14 points and eight assists, both converted five free throws in a game that saw Stevens convert 13 of 16 opportunities while the Trojans made only 5 of 11.

Newark Technology 81, Bound Brook 39 — Going against a strong Newark Technology squad (11-4) Tuesday night in MVC Valley Division action the Crusaders fell behind 19-8 after one quarter and were put away with a 19-2 second

Anthony Melesurgo dropped in 20 points and collected 16 rebounds, but Technology's defense limited Bound Brook's top two scorers Julio Rodriguez (7) and Marek Marszalek

#### **BOYS BASKETBALL**

to a combined 15 points as the Crusaders fell to 1-13 for the year. Edison 61, North Brunswick 56 -Trailing 36-33 entering the fourth quarter the Eagles took advantage of their opportunities at the foul line and outscored North Brunswick (5-11) 28-17 over the final eight minutes to rally for a GMCcrossover triumph Monday night.

Connecting on 17 of 22 from the charity stripe, including 12 successful attempts in the fourth period, Edison outscored the Raiders 17-2 at the foul line to earn it fourth victory against 11 losses.

Kyle Ringer poured in 28 points, connecting on all four of the team's three-pointers, while Nick Reider dropped in 13. Sean Oganoiki and Dan Flak chipped in with eight

42 - Seemingly out of with less than two minutes to play the Cheifs rallied for the game's final 11 points and improbable victory over previously once-beaten South Brunswick (15-2) in a GMC-Red Division battle Saturday.

Rodney Freeney fueled the Piscataway comeback with three free throws with 1:50 to play, a three-pointer with 50 seconds left, and after a Brandon Wilkinson buried a try with 15 seconds remaining for a 44-42 edge Freeney sealed the upset with two foul shots. Freeney led all scorers with 27 points.

Metuchen 80, Spotswood 46 — Building a 22-12 advantage after eight minutes the Bulldogs cruised from there in routing Spotswood (3-8) in GMC-Blue Division play Saturday.

Piscataway 46, South Brunswick Metuchen attack with 17 points and also finished with five rebounds and four steals, while Dejuan Miller and Kevin Rush followed with 14 apiece. Nick Storts finished with nine points and Jon Brown added eight as the Bulldogs continued to show plenty of bal-

J.P. Stevens 53, Woodbridge 52 -After breaking open a 24-23 game at halftime with a 22-12 third quarter the Hawks held off Woodbridge (6-8) in a GMC-crossover game Saturday to earn their third victory of the campaign.

Andrew Biancosimo, who finished with a game-high 15 points, dropped in a free throw with six seconds left and it proved to be the game-winner when Woodbridge hit three-pointer at the final horn. Kenny Melford and Ryan Washington followed with 14 and Marcus Blakely topped the 12 points, respectively, for Stevens.

# Middlesex, Metuchen register victories

Down 9-6 after eight minutes the Middlesex High girls basketball squad did all its damage in the second quarter when the Blue Jays blitzed Mother Seton 15-0 en route to a 46-35 triumph Tuesday night.

Nicole Bizzomo and Ashley Best dropped in 10 points apiece to share top scoring honors for Middlesex, while Anna Abourashed followed with nine. The victory pushed the Blue Jays' record to 10-4 for the season as they bounced back from an upset loss to Metuchen.

Metuchen 55, Highland Park 34 — After seeing their 27-21 halftime lead knocked down to 34-27 the Bulldogs put the game away with a 21-7 fourth-quarter run against Highland Park (1-13) Tuesday night in GMC-Blue Division play.

Joelle Vitale earned gamehigh scoring honors with 17 points for Metuchen, which improved to 8-7 and moved closer to a state tournament berth, while Kristen Edmonds pitched in 15 points and Lauren Pisano added 10 and 11 rebounds. Caitlin Mulligan paced the winners with 14 boards.

Dunellen 47, Piscataway Vo-Tech 34 — Building a 15-4 lead after eight minutes the Destroyers made that outscoring their hosts 14-0 at the foul line in trimming Piscataway Vo-Tech 94-8) in a GMC-Gold Division game Tuesday.

Catherine Scerra and Lauren Staats tossed in 13 points apiece and Christina Scerra notched 10 points for Dunellen, which improved to 10-4 overall and gained a share of first place in the division with St. Peter's, which was upset by South

#### **GIRLS** BASKETBALL

Amboy.

Bound Brook 54, Newark Technology 31 — Taking control with a 10-2 opening sesthe Crusaders sion outscored Newark Technology (5-9) in each period en route to an easy MVC-Valley Division victory Tuesday night.
Allison Slater and Krystal

Miranda shared game-high scoring honors with 14 points apiece for Bound Brook, which improved to 5-8 for the season, while Stephanie Kehn added 12 points. Chrystal Rinehold pulled down 15 caroms for the Crusaders, who led 21-7 at halftime and 36-14 after three periods.

South Plainfield 55, Bishop Ahr 34 — Coming off a nonconference setback the Tigers took out any frustration they had on Bishop Ahr in a GMC inter-division matchup Monday night as South Plainfield used a 17-6 second-quarter burst to open a 28-13 halftime advantage and coast from there.

Coral Willis, who finished with 13 points, and Danielle Arndt, who tossed in 11 for the game, notched eight points apiece during the Tigers' big second quarter. Niya Santiago pitched in 17 points and had four steals to lead the South Plainfield attack as the Tigers mobbed to 12-3 for the year.

Edison 48, North Brunswick 46 — After falling behind by four points late in the game the Eagles came from behind and edged North Brunswick on Kristin Sciarillo's jumper with 15 seconds left in a



LARRY MURPHY/STAFF CORRESPONDENT Metuchen High's Kristen Edmonds looks to go up for a shot as Middlesex's Anna Abourashed defends. Edmonds scored 20 points to lead the Bulldogs to a 46-37 upset.

Monday night.

paced Edison with 15 points, and Sciarillo, who finished ledger over the .500 mark at

GMC-interdivisional clash with 12, tossed in six points apiece over the final eight Heather Dauber, who minutes to spark the victory, which pushed the Eagles'

8-7. The Raiders slipped to 3-9 with the setback.

Belvidere 59, Dunellen 44 Facing once-beaten
 Belvidere Monday in a nonconference matchup the Destroyers hung tough for a half, owning a 27-25 edge at the break, but the County Seaters (12-1) outscored their hosts 34-17 in the second half to earn the victory.

Thyree Hall tossed in 15 points to pace Dunellen, while Lauren Staats fol-lowed with 14 and Catherine Scerra added 11, but it wasn't enough to top the combined 45 points from Chrissie Beha, who poured in 27 points, and Melody Gerhardt.

Watchung Hills 46, South Plainfield 32 — After taking a 17-16 edge at halftime the Tigers fell apart in the second half and dropped a nonconference decision to South Plainfield (8-7) Saturday. Danielle Arndt and Niya Santiago scored nine points apiece to lead the South Plainfield offense.

Spotswood 30, Metuchen 29 — After coming back from a 21-18 deficit to force overtime the Bulldogs failed to score in the first extra session and then lost in double overtime to Spotswood (8-6) in GMC-Blue Division play Saturday. Kristen Edmonds Metuchen and Katie Rosini added seven.

Metuchen 46, Middlesex 37 After seeing what had been a 23-11 halftime lead reduced to two points in the final session Metuchen held off a Middlesex rally to post a Blue Division upset Jan. 28. Kristen Edmonds scored 20 points, converting 10 of 14 free throws, to lead the Bulldogs, while Ashley Best toped the Blue Jays with 17.

**TRACK & FIELD** 

# Chiefs win 2nd league crown

Following up its title-winning performance at the conference relay the Piscataway High girls indoor track & field team added the GMC Championships crown Jan. 27 by an impressive 92-55 margin over runnerup Old Bridge.

Asia Washington shattered the meet standard in the 400meter run and led off the winning 1600-meter relay for the Chiefs to lead the way. Washington's 58.73-second clocking easily bettered the 1:00.3 turned in by Old Bridge's Kim Henry in 2000.

In the relay Piscataway's quartet of Washington, Ayana West, Collene Cumberbatch and Michelle Losey also erased a meet record in spectacular fashion as the unit finished in 4:10.80 to erase the 4:13.1 Piscataway set two years ago.

The Chiefs won a third event as Nike Isijola paced a 1-3-5 finish in the 55 hurdles with her victory in 8.68. Ronnah Parham took third in 9.11 and Irene Frimpong was fifth in

Losey added a pair of runnerup performances to her anchor leg on the relay by taking second in the 55-meter dash in 7.41, just missing to Old Bridge's Ashely Gomez, who won in 7.39, and second in the 400 in 59.29 behind Washington. Washington also finished fourth in the 55 in 7.45, and Parham was fifth in 7.51. West placed fifth in the 400 1:02.04.

J.P. Stevens, which finished a tie for fifth with 20 points, picked up 18 points in the high jump where Yasmin Parks and Lataya Dixon went one-two with Parks's 5-foot, 1-inch effort edging her teammate by one inch. Piscataway's Isijola was third at 5-0 and Edison's Amy Diaz took fourth at 4-10.

Taisha Shaw claimed second in the shot put with a 34-834 to lead a 2-4-5 showing by Piscataway. After South Plainfield's Latoya Johnson (33-4¾) finished third, Joanna Martin (33-2¾) and Shealyn Blanchard (32-11¾) followed for the Chiefs.

Deidre Lippay earned a third place in the 1600 for Metuchen in 5:40.07, while the Bulldogs also picked up a third-place finish in the relay in 4:21.65.

In the boys meet J.P. Stevens totaled 21 points for fifth place, while Piscataway finished sixth with 20 and Metuchen was in a tire for seventh with 15 points.

In the high hurdles Kyle McGrady of East Brunswick won in 7.73 following by Alex Lehrer (7.88) of Stevens, Piscataway's Jon Francois (7.91), Brent Scott (7.99) of Stevens, and the Metuchen pair of Stephon Cooper (8:01) and Kyle Edmonds (8.13).

Piscataway's Kevin Woolfolk lost a photo finish to South River's Anthony Parillo in the 55 as both were timed in 6.59, while Brian Sutherland of Stevens took fourth in the 400 in 51.69 and the Metuchen relay squad finished fourth in

# 12-0 South Plainfield rolls past Old Bridge Puryear (140) posted a

Even the best of the GMC's largest division could not stay with the Tigers. Taking on Red Division-leading Old Bridge (9-2) Tuesday night, the White Division champion South Plainfield High wrestling squad rolled to a 44-18 victory to remain perfect on the season

at 12-0. The Tigers got falls from Jimmy Conroy in 51 seconds at 119 pounds and from Ed McCray in 3:15 at 135 during a five-bout run that opened a 21-0 lead at the start and they never looked back in winning nine of the 14 bouts.

Viet Vo won 3-0 at 125, Nick Dorey grabbed a 6-4 decision at 130 and Pete DeAndrea capped the early run with a 5-3 verdict before Old Bridge cut the margin to 21-9 with three straight deci-

Mark Wagner, Kevin Crilley and Rob Maistickle regained the momentum for South Plainfield will consecutive falls as Wagner decked his man with a second left at 171, Crilley needed 2:43 to put away his opponent at 189 and Maistickle pinned in 2:47 at 215.

Billy Ashnault closed out the victory for the Tigers with a technical fall at 112 by building a 19-2 lead in 5:25 after a forfeit and a decision by the Knights.

Piscataway 54, Franklin 9 — Dropping only three decisions along the way the Chiefs all-but- cemented a post-season berth with a rout of crossriver rival Franklin Tuesday night in a non-league encounter that pushed their record to 8-4 for the season.

Rob Rabouin (125) in 2:51; Barry Gerrard (130) in 46 seconds and Terrence Williams-Park (135) in 1:58 logged consecutive pins as Piscataway won the first six bouts for a 29-0 lead. A.J Hrabar (119) won 11-2 and Brett 10-2 victory major decisions and Rocco WRESTLING Contessa (145) posted a

10-4 verdict during the opening run. Rob Damon (189) in 1:33, Chris Jones (215) in 3:00 and Chaz Downing-Van Ness in 30 seconds also pinned for the Chiefs, while C.J. Adams (103) logged a 15-2 major and Shane Beckford (160)

Woodbridge 31, Edison 30 - After finishing deadlocked 30-30 the Eagles came out on the short end on criteria as Woodbridge's 8-6 edge in bouts gave the Barrons (7-4) the verdict in the GMC-crossover battle Tuesday night.

Matt Gabriell (139) in 1:44 and Ed Kidney (189) in 42 seconds registered pins for Edison (4-8), which J.C. Bandiero (125) posted a technical fall with a 19-2 decision in 3:40. James Pang (145) had a 10-0 major, Bob Wolf (171) won 5-2 and Steve Meola (112) picked up a forfeit for the other Eagle victo-

Somerville 37, Bound Brook 36 - The Crusaders' lack of wrestlers in the lowest four weights were pivotal in the outcome against Somerville Monday night as the non-conference match went to criteria after it finished tied at 36-36, and Somerville won for having more

six-point decisions (5-4). Nick Murray (130) in 2:42, Jesse Harrington (140) in 33 seconds, Andrew Flanagan (171) in 1:48) and Mike Roberts (189) in 1:59 each record a fall for Bound Brook, which they weren't enough to kieep the Crusaders from slipping to 5-8 for the year.

Reggie Perry (135) logged a technical fall with a 15-0 decision 5:11, while Billy Vivona (160) posted a 12-2 major had a 14-4 decision, while C.J. Adams

prised Somerset County champion Picchiello 4-2 in over-

time at 215. Sunday Flanagan took part New Invitational All-Star Classic at Rider University and came home a winner at 160 pounds when Dave Richmond of Warren Hills had to default 14 seconds into the second period with Flanagan

South Plainfield 37, High Point 28 -Facing another of the state's top squads Saturday the Tigers pulled away in the late going behind back-to-back pins from Billy Ashnault (112) in 1:41 and Jimmy Conroy (119) in 3:09 and a 9-8 decision from Greg Martin in the finale

Ed McCray (135) opened the match for South Plainfield with a fall in 1:20, while Paul Ritchey (145) decked his man in 4:37 and Rob Maistickle iced his heavyweight opponent in 3:08. The final Tiger points came on a 12-3 major decision by Pete DeAndrea (140) in 16-0 start that High Point eventually

Piscataway 39, Watchung Hills 28 -Facing Somerset County champion Watchung Hills (8-4) Saturday the Chiefs came back from a 10-6 deficit with five straight victories, including falls by Russell Hopkins (189) in 1:46 and heavyweight Bryan Mohan in 2:54, to take 27-10 lead en route to a nonleague triumph.

Rocco Contessa (145) opened the match by pinning in 24 seconds to set the early tine, while A.J. Hrabar (119) logged a technical fall with a 18-0 victory in 4:34. Terrence Williams-Park (135)

(103) and Rob Damon (171) added decisions and Chris Jones (215) picked up a forfeit.

Piscataway 63, Middlesex 7 — A.J. Hrabar (119) in 5:54, Barry Gerrard (130) in 20 seconds, Terrence Williams-Park (135) in :38, Rocco Contessa (145) in 1:37, George Williams (152) in 3:06 and Rob Damon (171) in 1:30 each had a fall as the Chiefs routed Middlesex in GMC-crossover match Saturday to improve to 7-4 with the double-dual

C.J. Adams (103), Chaz Downing-Vanness (112) and Brett Puryear (149) added decisions for Piscataway, while Shane Beckford (160), Russell Hopkins (189) and Chris Jones (215) had forfeits. Bryan Reilly had a 12-2 major at heavyweight and Nick Desiato (125) added a decision for Middlesex, which slipped to 4-10.

Watchung Hills 50, Middlesex 12 -The Blue Jays managed to win only three bouts in the other half of their double-dual Saturday as Nick Desiato decked his opponent in 58 seconds at 125, while Tony Dispenziere (119) and Danny Lewis (145) added decisions.

New Providence 35, Brook 31 -Facing unbeaten New Providence (7-0) in a Mountain Valley Conference battle Saturday the Crusaders forfeited the lowest four weights and it proved costly once again in another narrow setback.

Steve Lawrence (189) in 3:28 and heavyweight Rich Perry in 5:41 registered pins for Bound Brook, while Jesse Harrington (140) posted a technical fall with a 20-4 decision in 5:43 and Andrew Flanagan (152) won by disqualification. Nick Murray (130), Billy Vivona (160) and Chris Konysz (171) each won by

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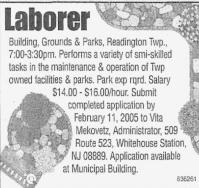
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Clinton Area- Roomate to share 2 BR house. Coun-908-328-7222 or 713-

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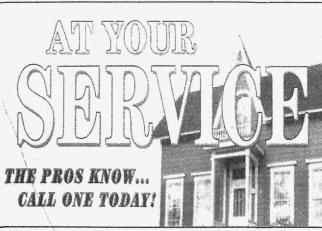
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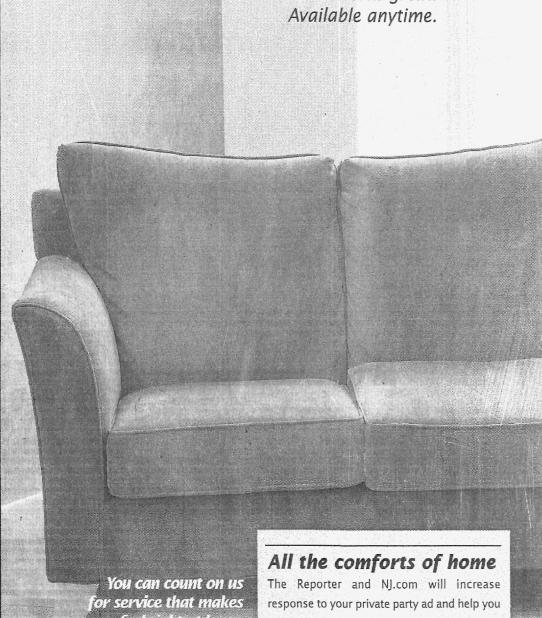


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