SOUTH PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY FEB 25 2005 The Chronicle

Since 1862

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Saturday, February 26, 2005

Programs awarded \$1.8 million in housing grants



Schools advance

The GMC Tournament finals were decided earlier this week with J.P. Stevens and Piscataway advancing on the girl's side and South Plainfield reaching last night's final on the boys. For recap of tournament games see page B-1.



Laurel Scovell, 6, and her classmates from the Hunterdon Christian Home Schools of Flemington learned about maple sugaring during a visit to the Somerset County Environmental Center in Basking Ridge. Page A8.



Let's go **Patriots**

Tickets for all 70 of the Somerset Patriots home games go on sale March 12 at Commerce Bank Ballpark. Page B2.

Food drive on Sunday

The Bound Brook Chamber of Commerce is holding a food drive to benefit the Somerset County Food Bank 1-5 p.m. Sunday at the borough ShopRite.

Members of the chamber will distribute a list of needed items that can also be dropped off to them.

Sparkee the Somerset Patriots mascot will also be there to sign autographs from 2-4 p.m.



Sports......B-1

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — Seven programs that provide services to the homeless in Middlesex County have been awarded grants totaling \$1.8 million from the Federal Department of

Housing and Urban Development. These grants will go a long way in providing invaluable help to the homeless in this County," said Freeholder Blanquita B. Valenti, chair of the county's Human Services and Aging

Middlesex County Comprehensive Emergency Assistance

Committee under the auspices of the Human Services Department's Division of Social Work Services, completed and submitted the multi-agency application for Middlesex County's Continuum of Care HUD

HUD mandates that every community applying for these funds have in place a Continuum of Care to end homelessness, meaning they must be able to provide emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent housing. Each tier of housing must be

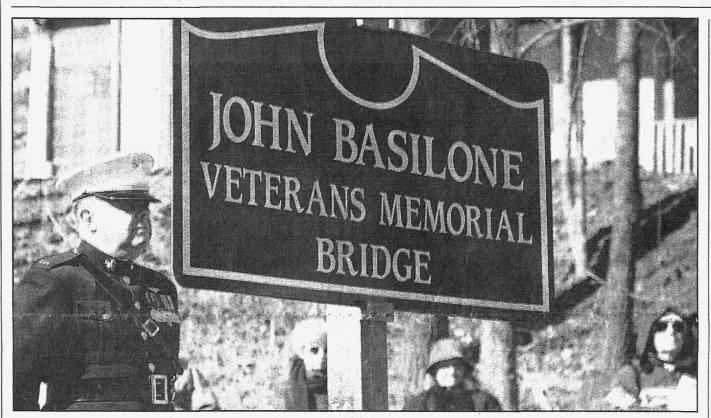
substance abuse and mental health treatment and transportation.

"These agencies work alone and together to assist those most in need," Valenti said. "Their commitment to our homeless population is commendable and certainly deserving of these funds."

The programs receiving grants are: Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, \$964,440 for a new single room permanent-occupancy facility in

accompanied by support services, such as employment training, education, Department of Community Affairs, \$140,172, for permanent housing, scattered throughout the County, for the mentally ill. UNDNJ/New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, \$67,521, for transitional housing, at scattered sites, for the mentally ill. Middlesex Interfaith Partners with the Homeless (MIPH), \$174,110, for Amanda Crossing, transitional housing for women with children in Edison.

Continued on page A2



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER George Koscelnik, above, shows off his patriotic pride with an American flag stuck in his wool cap during dedication ceremonies of the John Basilone Veterans Memorial Bridge in Raritan. United States Marine Corps CWO Nick D'Andrea stands at attention alongside the bridge sign during the dedication, photo at top of page.

Raritan bridge named in honor of John Basilone

By ADAM HOCHRON

RARITAN - Sixty years after that famous Life magazine picture of four U.S. soldiers raising the American flag on the small island of Iwo Jima, people from around the state gathered to honor not only Raritan's favorite son, but the sons of all the other towns who have served and died defending their

With 100 people in attendance for Saturday's ceremony of the dedication of the John Basilone Veterans Memorial Bridge in Raritan, the sounds of a bugler playing taps and a 21-gun salute echoed through the crisp winter day. Some of the people knew Basilone, the soldier who died at Iwo Jima, some fought in the battle with him, and some knew nothing more about him than the fact that he was a United States

"They're naming this bridge to honor a Congressional Medal of Honor winner," Manville resident Walt Tanalski, a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, said. "If you grew up in that era, the battle is something you still talk about.

Even 60 years later, the memories are still preserved. "Some of the people here are sons and daughters of people who served," he explained. "You have to remember the old ways of life. If you don't, it makes the world a sadder place.'

Tanalski was one of the many veterans and active soldiers in attendance to honor Sergeant John Basilone's memory and pay their respects to their fallen brothers. Basilone, born in Raritan in 1916, had originally enlisted in

Continued on page A2

Soldiers count on gifts from homefront

By JIM WHITE

Staff Writer

Why doesn't Uncle Sam pick up

You may have asked yourself this question while passing any of the numerous drop-off sites this newspaper has set up in Somerset County, where residents have left hundreds of bags of donated goods that will be sent overseas to U.S. troops now serving in Iraq and the Mideast region. Other generous residents have cut checks.



It's all part of Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005 — a non-profit effort sponsored by The Reporter, American Recreational Military Services, the Somerset Patriots, nj.com and an army of volunteers, corporations, veterans and families.

So, again, why doesn't the government pay for amenities like sunscreen and toothpaste?

Why must our troops rely on goodhearted, regular folk for the smallest comforts of home?
"It's a matter of beans and bul-

lets," said John Hanson, a spokesman for United Service Organization, the most well known morale-boosting program for U.S. military personnel since before this country entered World War II.

"The military provides (the troops) with equipment to do a job, and makes sure they're fed and housed," Hanson said. "It's the military's job to provide them with what they need, not necessarily what they want.'

For example, Uncle Sam was always good for tanks and bombs, but it took the USO to get our boys Bob Hope, Halle Berry and the Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders.

Continued on page A2

Revised Route 22 intersection studied

By JIM WHITE

BRIDGEWATER - Plans for a proposed interchange at Route 22 and Chimney Rock Road were presented to the public yesterday inside the county Administration Building.

Currently, drivers heading toward Route 22 are restricted to right turns only to get onto Route 22 east and

The federally funded \$28 million project — still in the preliminary design phase — would allow drivers

heading north on Chimney Rock Road to get onto Route 22 west. Drivers heading south could pick up Route 22 east, according to John Kendzulak, principal engineer for the county.

Route 22 would be split, Kendzulak said, with a "main line Route 22" going under Chimney Rock Road and "local Route 22" remaining relatively unchanged.

Kendzulak said the interchange is designed to improve safety and mobil-

He said a final design is expected by

spring of 2006. The project would then be put out for bidding later that ments in Mountainside, Union County, and Reading, Hunterdon County. spring or summer.

The interchange project is part of the' state Department Transportation's 2005-07 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.

Other Route 22 projects include drainage improvements near Crab Brook in North Plainfield; the replacement of the bridge that crosses Route 22 on the border of Watchung and Scotch Plains; and drainage improve-

and Reading, Hunterdon County. Tomorrow Frelinghuysen, R-11th Dist., and Rep. Mike Ferguson, R-7th Dist., are expected to announce they have secured \$3 million in federal funds for short-term improvements to Route 22.

The \$3 million is part of the Route 22 Sustainable Corridor Project — a multi-year plan to improve entrance and exit ramps from the highway along an eight-mile stretch from Routes 202-206 to Route 287.

Raritan bridge named in honor of John Basilone

Continued from page A1

the Army in 1934, served his hitch and returned home, only to re-enlist in the Marine Corps.

It was during his service in the Marines that his unit was sent to Guadalcanal in 1942 where they defended an airfield from Japanese attackers. During the battle two of the guns his group was using jammed; it was left to Basilone to try and repair the weapons under fire.

Basilone was able to get one gun of the guns fixed, and was able to hold off the onslaught of Japanese attacks. When the dust had settled, over 3,000 Japanese soldiers had been killed and the United States scored what would be a turning point victory in the Pacific Theatre.

After the battle, Basilone was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor and was sent home to help raise money through war bonds.

His niece, Janice Kretch, said while she didn't have many memories of her uncle John, she

visit her school when he returned home.

He received a hero's welcome, including a parade which was attended by many celebrities and politicians. After several months of selling bonds and being treated like a celebrity Basilone was allowed to return to the war as a soldier.

Now back in regular service, Basilone joined a group headed for Iwo Jima, a tiny island which the navy had been bombing for more than a month. But as the soldiers arrived on the beach, the Japanese launched their attack against the Americans. Survivors of the battle recall seeing Basilone running around the beach in an attempt to organize the soldiers and wipe out the Japanese who were raking the beach with machine gun fire from their hidden bunkers.

While attempting to get more soldiers to safety, Basilone was hit with a mortar shell and died from his injuries. Basilone was posthumously awarded the Navy Cross, and the borough of

did remember him coming to Raritan has held a parade in his honor every year since 1981.

Kretch said "It's a wonderful honor, and you have to give credit to the town that they kept honoring his memory."

Kretch was only 8 when her uncle died. In the Basilone Museum section of the Raritan Library, there is a picture with a young Kretch sitting on her uncle's lap.

Even as the bridge was dedicated, emphasis was put on the fact that this was not just to honor Basilone but also the over 6,000 soldiers who also died during that battle.

Whether the people in attendance could walk on under their own power, needed a walker, or the assistance of a fellow veteran, the members of the color guards still marched in formation holding the colors high which they'd fought to defend all those years ago.

Whether they were in their Class A uniforms or just wearing a jacket symbolizing their unit, the sense of pride, and achievement, and the knowl-



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER A Marine places a wreath at the John Basilone memorial statue in Raritan during ceremonies Saturday

edge they'd done something special seemed clear on the faces of the people participating in the ceremony.

But George Koscelnik said the day had even more meaning to him and other Raritan resi-

"I remember Basilone as a caddy at the Raritan Valley Country Club," Koscelnik said.

He said Basilone was an inspiration to people. "This day means that a man loved his country and came back after his

first tour and wanted to go

Koscelnik also said that even while the War on terror continues, it was important not to forget the soldiers who had fought and died in previous wars.

John Pacifico, the chairman of the John Basilone Committee, described Basilone as New Jersey's greatest and most famous hero.

Commandant Richard Basile, of the New Jersey State Department of the Marine

Corps League, said that when Basilone was killed, word spread to the other Marines on the beach.

"It only took a minute to know that we'd lost him, it was amazing how quickly word spread through the line," he

With as many men in uniform or in their veteran's attire as there were regular civilians in attendance, it seemed clear that while it was one day to remember those soldiers past and present, it was equally important to ensure that their memories were kept alive beyond just the day.

First Sgt. Rufino Mendez, an active-duty Marine based in West Trenton, said Basilone is an integral part of a Marine's

"The thing about being a Marine is that we're rich in tradition," Mendez said. "Iwo Jima was an important part of our history.

Mendez called the battle, "a true testament to the will of the soldiers, and says a lot

about the Marines." Rufino said that even 60 years later, Basilone was still a

part of the Marine history. "In the current Marine training, part of the syllabus is history, and Basilone is included

in that," Rufino said.

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*Readers' Choice 2004

Soldiers counting on gifts from homefront

Continued from page A1

"It's an opportunity for us to let them know America knows they are there," Hanson said, adding for as long as he can remember the troops have been required to by their own uniforms, too.

"A lot of people don't understand that either," he said.

Hanson said the already enormous military budget would be astronomical if the government were to pay for personal items.

According to published reports, the war in Iraq costs about \$4.3 billion a month. Afghanistan costs about \$800 million. The money goes toward a number of things including ammunition, hazard pay for soldiers, fuel, and maintenance of

weapons and vehicles.

"Even if we weren't fighting a war, they'd still be buying their own uniforms ... along with bubble gum, sunscreen and playing cards," Hanson

That's just the way it's always been, he said.

And that's where you, the average Joe or Jane, can help, on the local level.

Operation: Shoebox, which is not affiliated with the USO, is accepting sunscreen, bug spray, small packets of laundry detergent, clothes lines and clothes pins, feminine products, ear swabs, razors, toilet paper, eye drops, spices, tea bags, coffee, snack foods, candy, gum, pads, pens and pencils, batteries and calling

\$230,038, transitional housing

for families with substance

abuse issues in Perth Amboy.

Middlesex County Continuum

of Care, \$33,374, for HMIS, a

new homeless management

ed by HUD (partially funded

by the State).

Township is seeking volunteers

PISCATAWAY Community Emergency Response Teams is a concept

developed in 1985 by the Los Angeles Fire Department. Volunteers are trained in disaster survival and rescue skills which would improve the abili-

ty of citizens to survive a disaster until emergency personnel could arrive. CERT teams have been used to search for lost or kidnapped children, staff Emergency Operations Centers and monitor events, **Emergency Operations Center** security-driving, information, assisting disabled visitors and minor first aid, manage "spontaneous/convergent" volunteers and assist Red Cross and other relief organizations on mass care. More than 38 states and several foreign countries have instituted the CERT sys-

The CERT training consists of 20 hours of instruction over an eight-week period.

"During the times in which we now live it is more important than ever to have trained volunteers who can ably assist our Office of Emergency Management, our firemen and rescue squads should the need arise," said Mayor Brian C. Wahler. "Particularly after 9/11, the need for additional trained volunteers became apparent. I encourage Piscataway citizens to consider becoming a CERT volunteer."

Snyder, Paul Coordinator, noted that the township has graduated two CERT teams, each consisting of 20 individuals and that a new CERT training session is scheduled to begin in April. For information or to sign up for the upcoming training, call Snyder at (732) 562-7621 or contact the mayor's office at (732) 562-2301.



County awarded \$1.8 million Correction

Continued from page D1

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen, \$247,603, for Naomi's Way, transitional housing for women with children in New Brunswick. New

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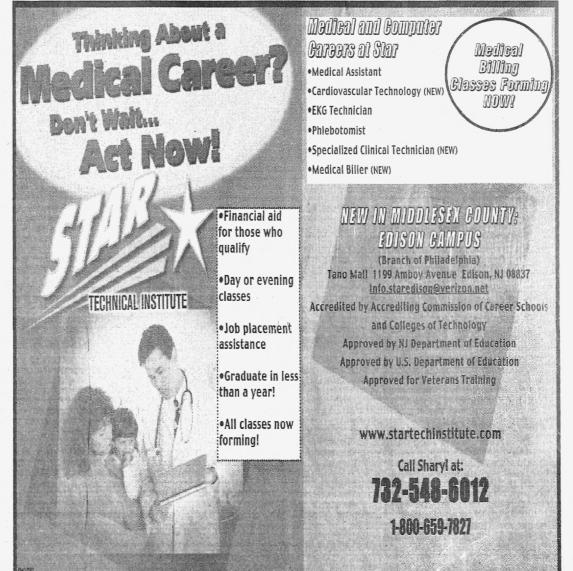
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Drug plan receiving an overwhelming response

Jersey residents have gained access to free or heavily-discounted prescription drugs through a new patient assistance program, according to HealthCare Institute of New

Rx4NJ, launched Jan. 4, is a new statewide program created to provide eligible New Jerseyans with access to medicines through a toll-free telephone number and Web site 1-888-RX-FOR-NJ and www.Rx4NJ.org.

In just over a month, 31,945 residents have been matched with a prescription program through Rx4NJ, surpassing the total number of patients who received assistance through other patient assistance programs in all of 2002 (the last year statistics are available) — 29,169, according to the institute.

"The response to Rx4NJ in just one month - has already far exceeded our

A record number of New expectations for the pro-fersey residents have gained gram," said former New Jersey Congressman Bob Franks, who is president of HealthCare Institute of New Jersey, one of more than 44 sponsors of the program. "It's obvious this program fills a very important and previously unmet need for many uninsured and low-income residents throughout the Garden State."

From Jan. 4 through Feb. 10, a total of 42,295 people contacted Rx4NJ. Nearly 76 percent of them were matched with one or more of the 300 prescription assistance programs, which dispense over 1,800 medications — making the New Jersey program one of the most successful in the

Programs in the other states typically have a 50 percent qualification rate, according to the institute.

Since its launch, Rx4NJ has received 27,147 Web site hits and 15,148 phone calls, through Feb. 10.

By answering 10 questions, a patient's eligibility is determined. Then a patient completes an enrollment form online or over the phone for each program for which the patient may be eligible. Enrollment forms also can be

"We are working hard to educate New Jersey residents about the benefits of Rx4NJ," Franks said. "Through our outreach to opinion leaders, the Latino/Hispanic community and to members of the medical community, we're making an impact on the healthcare needs of everyday citizens. We're pleased the Rx4NJ is resonating with the public and being fully uti-

In addition, an advertising campaign has begun to air on New Jersey, New York and Philadelphia television and radio stations.

Scholarship funds are available

to apply for Adele de Leeuw Scholarships should obtain applications now from guidance counselors. The scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Deadline for submission of applications is March

Previous winners already in college are also eligible to apply. They must submit complete official transcripts of college grades with new applications.

This is the 10th year the scholarships have been offered. Last year's winners

Adele de Leeuw Scholarship Fund, a fund of the Plainfield Foundation. The awards are made in accordance with the terms of a bequest from de Leeuw (1899-1988).

The Plainfield Rotary Scholarship Foundation, headed by John Wood Goldsack, acts as selector for the scholarships. Five area Rotary clubs assist in the process. Only students from high schools in Plainfield, North Plainfield, South Plainfield, Warren, Watchung, Edison and Scotch

High school seniors wishing shared \$30,000 from the Plains are eligible. Location of high school, not the student's residence, is the qualifying factor. The student must also be accepted by an accredited college or univer-

> Applicants must plan to major in art, engineering, writing, journalism or poetry. They must demonstrate scholastic aptitude and interest to pursue study in one of those areas. Selection is based on financial need.

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Certi□cate Programs start in September 2005. An Information Session will be held at 6 PM on Wednesday, May 18, 2005 at the Piscataway campus, 21 Sutton Lane, Piscataway, NJ. Space in certi□cate programs is limited. For an Application call the Adult Education Of ce at 732-257-3300, ext. 1925.

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Commentary

Lending a helping hand

No question about it - New Jersey is an expensive state to live in.

Which makes an initiative launched by the state's own pharmaceutical industry the first step of what hopefully will be many more to help make the Garden State more affordable to the many who are among the working, and in some cases, retired, poor.

Rx4NJ is an initiative to provide those with limited incomes free or deeply-discounted prescription medicine. During its first month, nearly 31,945 state residents signed up.

According to Bob Franks, president of the HealthCare Institute of New Jersey, the program is meeting the needs to the uninsured and lowincome residents, people who previously had to travel to Canada or receive their medicine through suspect mail-order companies.

More needs to take place. Somerset County ranks among the wealthiest areas in the United States, yet many people are living at or below the poverty line. What affordable housing there is has a long waiting list of people waiting to get into it. A viable in-county transit system is nearly nonexistent, and age-restricted housing here does not equate to affordable housing.

It's easy to forget that a married couple with two children living in a condominium in Bridgewater are barely scraping by, and that one lost paycheck or illness may be enough to send them spiraling into bankruptcy. But the alternatives are few. Some move out of state and commute back into the area; others hold on only to find themselves out of

Which is why more private, non-government programs, like the institute's Rx4NJ are needed. Rather than relying on an over-stretched and under-funded system to help give those on the edge a fighting chance, it is time to look at more ways businesses and non-profit organizations can work together to help those who are in need, and may not even know it.

Keeping dorms smoke free is about health and safety

The Harvard School of Public Health conducted a study stating that 30 percent of college students still smoke. While smoking among the general public has declined, smoking among college students has increased. The findings also indicate that smoke-free dorms may help incoming college students who have not yet taken up smoking avoid tobacco addiction during college.

College health directors report many challenges in addressing student smoking such as student attitudes and reasons for smoking. According to the study, students who begin smoking in college believe that they are not addicted and once they graduate they can quit smoking. These students see themselves as occasional smokers.

Some smoke to control their weight while other students smoke due to stress.

Smoking is a devastating addiction which doesn't just impact the health of the smoker but also poses a serious health risk to non-smoking students who reside in the same dormitory. According to the Harvard study, smoke-free dorms help smokers who are trying to quit by avoiding temptation and protect fellow dorm residents from exposure to second-hand smoke. College students who live in smoke-free dorms are 40 percent less likely to take up smoking than their counterparts who live in housing where smoking is permitted.

Most colleges prohibit smoking in public areas, but only one quarter extend these restrictions to student

dorms. Princeton University has recently instituted a smoking ban in undergraduate dorms. They recognized not only the impact smoking has on health but also the increased potential for fire hazards.

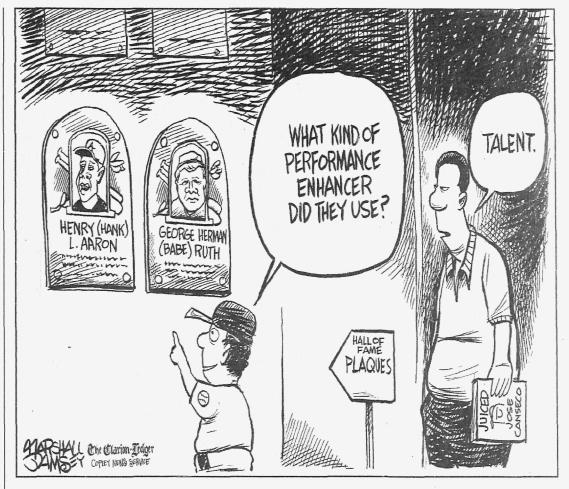
According to a recent Princeton news release, fires were caused by smoking in dorm rooms, including a 1993 fire which caused the evacuation of 150 students and \$350,000 in damage.

In order to reduce the impact smoking has on the health and safety of our college students I have introduced Senate bill 2332 which would prohibit smoking in any building used as a student dormitory that is owned and operated by a school or institution of higher learning.

Several states have enacted similar legislation. Numerous institutions in the state and across the country have bans in place in all buildings on campus including residence halls. Nearly 44 percent of students live in smoke-free dorms, another 29 percent do not live in them, but want to.

College students are the largest group of young Americans the tobacco industry is allowed to target. The rise in smoking rates among this group is a clear indication that not enough is being done to curb this dangerous addiction. No-smoking policies in the workplace are associated with the declining rate of smoking among the general public. Providing students with a similar smoke-free environment will help them avoid and give up tobacco addiction.

Sen. Barbara Buono represents the 18th District



Letters to the Editor

Greenway needed in Edison

To The Editor:

Last year I sponsored a resolution passed by the Edison Municipal Council supporting the East Coast Greenway in Edison.

Making Edison and Middlesex County part of a 2,600-mile East Coast Greenway path, for bicyclists, joggers, and hikers is terrific idea. If effectuated, Edison's portion of the Greenway would be part of New Jersey's Greenway, which would cover 92 miles.

Locally, according to the Edison's Greenways Group, the Greenway weaves through Woodbridge, Metuchen and Edison like a green ribbon and helps tie the communities together. Future plans call for extending that ribbon to Somerset County in one direction and the Perth Amboy waterfront in the other direction. The Greenway in Edison will link into the East Coast Greenway, which runs from Maine to

The Greenway would have benefits for Edison and the region, both of which need open space and recreation areas. The Greenway could provide space for recreation, provide an economic tool for attracting businesses and their employees, and even facilitate local transportation. The time has come to commit resources and funds to make the East Coast Greenway in

PARAG PATEL Edison Township Councilman

Child car seats work when used correctly

Too often have we heard about situations in which a parent is killed in a car accident that leaves a child unharmed — thanks to being in a safety seat.

Unfortunately, many adults still do not place their children in safety seats, or place them in safety seats that are not installed correctly or are not appropriate for their age and size.

This January, Middlesex County SAFE KIDS and the Level One Trauma Center at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital are urging parents and caregivers to make a New Year's resolution that could save a child's life: Select, and learn to use, the correct child safety seat every time a child travels in a vehicle

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that an infant's chance of dying in an automobile accident is reduced by 71 percent when in a correctly installed child safety seat. For children ages 1-4, that number is 54 per-

Child safety seats save lives. They are also required by law. It's critical, therefore, that parents understand the importance of using the right safety seats at all times, even when just going around the

Children should be in rear-facing safety seats until they are at least 12 months old and weigh at least 20 pounds. Those older than 12 months and weighing 20-40 pounds should be in forward-facing safety seats. And children weighing more than 40 pounds should ride in belt-positioning booster seats until the adult seatbelt fits correctly, usually around age 8 and 80 pounds.

Once a child weighs more than 80 pounds,

he/she should wear a vehicle's safety belt. A correctly fitting seatbelt should lie tightly across the bony areas of the lower hips/upper thighs and the chest and collarbone. The child's back should be straight against the seat, with knees bent over the edge and feet flat on the floor.

It's also important for parents to choose a seat that is right for the vehicle and the child. Safety seats should fit the child's weight, height, age and development levels. All vehicles are not made for all safety seats, so make sure the seat fits in the vehicle and does not move more than an inch once it's installed. Different seats have different features and designs. Parents should choose one that is easy to adjust and comfortable for the child to sit in.

Family health fairs and safety events may be helpful for new parents or parents who are unsure of how a car seat should be installed or what is right for their child based on the child's age and size. The events often include car seat safety demonstra-

Parents are encouraged to call a certified car seat safety technician to make an appointment to have their installed car seat checked. Police departments are a good place to start because many have certified technicians on staff.

It may take several hours over several days to choose a child safety seat and make sure it is correctly installed, but it's worth it - because it only takes an instant to lose a life.

Diana Doherty is injury prevention coordinator at the Level One Trauma Center at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and coordinator of SAFE KIDS Middlesex County.

Condemnation shattered trust

Letter to the Editor:

We like to think that in America a persons' home is his or her castle. The condemnation of the Halper farm in Piscataway has shattered this

When Piscataway elected officials took title to the Halpers' land in October of 2004, they deprived the Halpers of their right to own property and earn a livelihood. But they also took away something intangible, the trust that Piscataway residents place in their government.

Piscataway officials claim their goal is to prevent the Halpers' Cornell Farm from ever being developed. Yet the confiscation can eventually lead to development. The official agreement to preserve the farm as open space, allows on important natural lands Middlesex County to open the elsewhere in the township this legal?

llion come close to matching the private offer of \$21 million that the Halpers received for their 75 acres in the 1980s. A Township Council that she made this offer. And given inflation, the farm could conceivably fetch a much higher price if placed on today's open market. Consider that a developer was paid over \$1 million per acre for open space bordering the Oak Tree Pond in Edison.

Adding to the dismay, Piscataway officials (and the DEP) have encouraged sprawl

property for development. Is by granting aggressive variances and permits to develop-Nor does the official ers, by road expansion, and by appraisal of the farm for \$5.4 rezoning for high-density.

The obvious solution to conflict is negotiation for farmland preservation. It allows the Halper family to Realtor testified before the retain ownership of their home and livelihood, while preventing future development. It could also save Piscataway taxpayers thousands over time, and preserve one of New Jerseys' last horseback riding academies. All who care about property rights and farmland preservation in Piscataway are urged to speak out against the condemnation.

ED MARSH Piscataway

The Chronicle

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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.

Human trafficking is a major crime

To The Editor:

This is in reference to the crime of human trafficking that was recently published. The story is about a Russian immigrant who pleaded guilty to forcing immigrant women to strip at New Jersey clubs and then using extortion to steal the money earned.

By pleading guilty, Lev Trakhtenberg will be able to walk away with only five years in prison at best. He had taken a lot more away from these women when he threatened to have mobsters in Russia harm try to escape or not pay the required \$200 per day to Trakhtenberg. These women lived in fear that they would be deported if they alerted authorities about their situation. Surely five years is a slap on the wrist for such a crime of mistreating and exploiting women by confiscating their passports, leaving them trapped, indebted and unable to approach law enforcement because they had entered the country illegally.

The New Jersey Legislature

their families if they should has taken a strong stand against human trafficking. My

colleagues Assemblywomen Linda Linda Stender and Greenstein, Assemblymen Neil Cohen and Jerry Green - and I have been working tirelessly on legislation (A-2730) that makes human trafficking a crime. Under the bill human trafficking would be a crime of the first degree with a mandatory term of 30 years

UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA Assemblyman, 17th District

Student's gift of time is priceless

To The Editor:

It is so nice to read about people like Steven Woltornist (article, Dec. 9). Not so much about the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile coming to Somerville and Trenton, but that a young man really cares about helping others less fortunate than he after winning a nationwide contest. His parents should be proud of his winning and prouder still of his willingness to share the monies with both TASK and SHIP. It was heartwarming to of his decision. Woltornist's awareness that by doing volunteer work makes

eye-opening and comforting. I can only imagine the look on the children's faces as they saw Oscar Mayer Wienermobile and received candy and balloons from a caring person. I'm sure that it will long be remembered by all. Developing pleasant memories

the world a better place is both

is priceless. The youth of today are often stereotyped as restless souls with body piercing and tattoos who regularly annoy us with their loud music and misuse of cell phones. Actually, I think of them as being a high-energy

pool of untapped talent waiting to be challenged. I believe that we, as a society, should challenge them and encourage their following Woltornist's path and get involved by using their time and talents to help others. There are so many in need who would appreciate their concern and help. Being a volunteer, they will find the pay to be nonexistent, but the rewards fantastic. Let's all become a sharing and caring people like Woltornist and get involved.

W.M. VANDERBEEK Peapack

Ralph DeStephanis

DeStephanis, 77, died Feb. 18, 2005 at the Somerset home of a daughter, Mary DeStephanis

He was born in Newark and lived in Middlesex for most of

Mr. DeStephanis was a mechanical engineer with RCA Corp. for 25 years, retiring from its Princeton facilities in 1987. He graduated from the Newark College of Engineering (now the New Institute Technology) in 1953.

He was a former chairman of the Middlesex Borough Adult School and served on the Parks Improvement Committee in the borough. As well he was a volunteer with the CHIME program for senior citizens.

A Navy veteran of World. War II, Mr. DeStephanis was a former commander and quartermaster of Veterans of Lane, Somerset, NJ 08873.

- Ralph Foreign Wars Post 6988 in Middlesex.

Two sons, Ralph and Mark, and a sister, Julia Smith, are deceased.

Also surviving are his companion, Margaret of Piscataway; a son, John of Linden; two other daughters, Ginger Mravcak and husband John of Piscataway and GiGi Roe and husband Jeff of Long Valley; a son-in-law, Andy Merlo of Somerset; and two grandsons, Jordan Merlo of Somerset and Kyle Roe of Long Valley.

Services were held Tuesday at the Cusick Funeral Home in Somerville. Burial was in Immaculate Conception Cemetery, Somerville.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Community Care Hospice, 110 West End Ave., Somerville, NJ 08876 or American Association, 19 Schoolhouse

Anne Ozimek

BOUND BROOK - Anne Syrydynski Ozimek, 85, died Feb. 14, 2005 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville. Born May 26, 1919 in Manville, she was a daughter of the late Martin and Anna Syrydynski.

Mrs. Ozimek lived in Elizabeth before moving to Bound Brook since 1946. She had resided in Bridgewater since 1982.

She worked for Food Fair in Bound Brook and as a fabricator of leather goods.

Her husband, Edward, died in 1982. Also deceased are three brothers, Louis, Peter and Walter; and two sisters, Nellie and Mary.

Surviving are a daughter, Loretta of Somerset; two sons, William of Bridgewater and Frank of Emmaus, Pa.; three sisters, Sophie Karamus of Linden, Frances Soltys of Colonia and Bertha Mizerek of Lewistown, Pa.; a brother, Steve Syrydynski of Toms River; and three grandchil-

Services were held Feb. 18 at the Hagan-Chamberlain Funeral Home. Entombment was in the Woodbridge Memorial Gardens mausoleum.

Donations may be sent to Finderne Rescue Squad, 476 Union Ave., Bridgewater, NJ

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Joseph W. Slater

Obituaries ———

MIDDLESEX — Joseph W. Slater, 70, died Feb. 16, 2005 at his

He was born in the Bronx and had lived in Middlesex since

Mr. Slater was the director of operations for Long Island University, based at its Brooklyn Campus. He had been on the LIU staff for 10 years.

He earlier was an officer with the New York Stock Exchange and a vice president of Chemical Bank in Manhattan. Mr. Slater began his career with Sylvan Lawrence Realty Corp. He graduated in 1969 from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, a unit of the City University of New York.

A member of St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church in Bound Brook, Mr. Slater was in the Navy from 1953-57.

Surviving are his wife, Maureen O'Shea Slater; three sons. Sean of Brooklyn, Joseph of Bound Brook and James of Mount Olive; five daughters, Eileen Head of Cranford, Susan and Katrina, both of Middlesex, Maureen Roche of Staten Island and Jennifer of Bernardsville; and seven grandchildren.

Services were held Saturday at the Hagan-Chamberlain Funeral Home, Bound Brook, followed by a funeral Mass at St. Joseph Church. Burial was in Bound Brook Cemetery.

Mary Lou Smero

DUNELLEN — Mary Lou Smero, 62, died Feb. 17, 2005 at her home in Loveladies.

Born in Plainfield, she lived in Dunellen and Bridgewater before moving to Loveladies in

Mrs. Smero retired in 1996 after 12 years as the owner of the Martinsville Salon Plus. She was a member of the Manville Elks lodge and St. Francis Roman Catholic Church in Brant Beach. Surviving are her husband,

John; two sons, John J. III of Bridgewater and Stanley of Somerville; daughter, Robustelli Marianne Pittstown; and two grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was held Tuesday at St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church, following services at the Sheenan Funeral Home. Donations may be sent to the Manville Elks Handicapped Children's Fund.



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Elvera DeRoma

MIDDLESEX — Elvera Sterphone DeRoma, 83, died Feb. 1, 2005 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

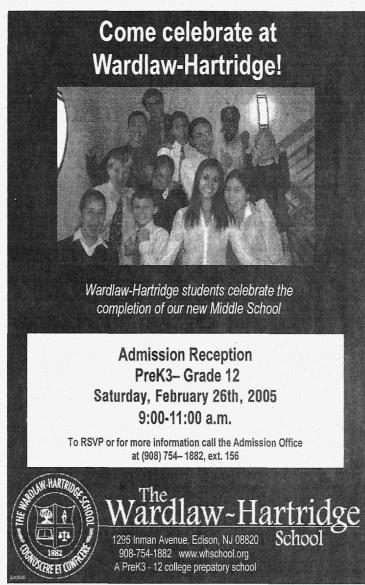
Born in North Plainfield, she lived in Plainfield before moving to Middlesex in 1977.

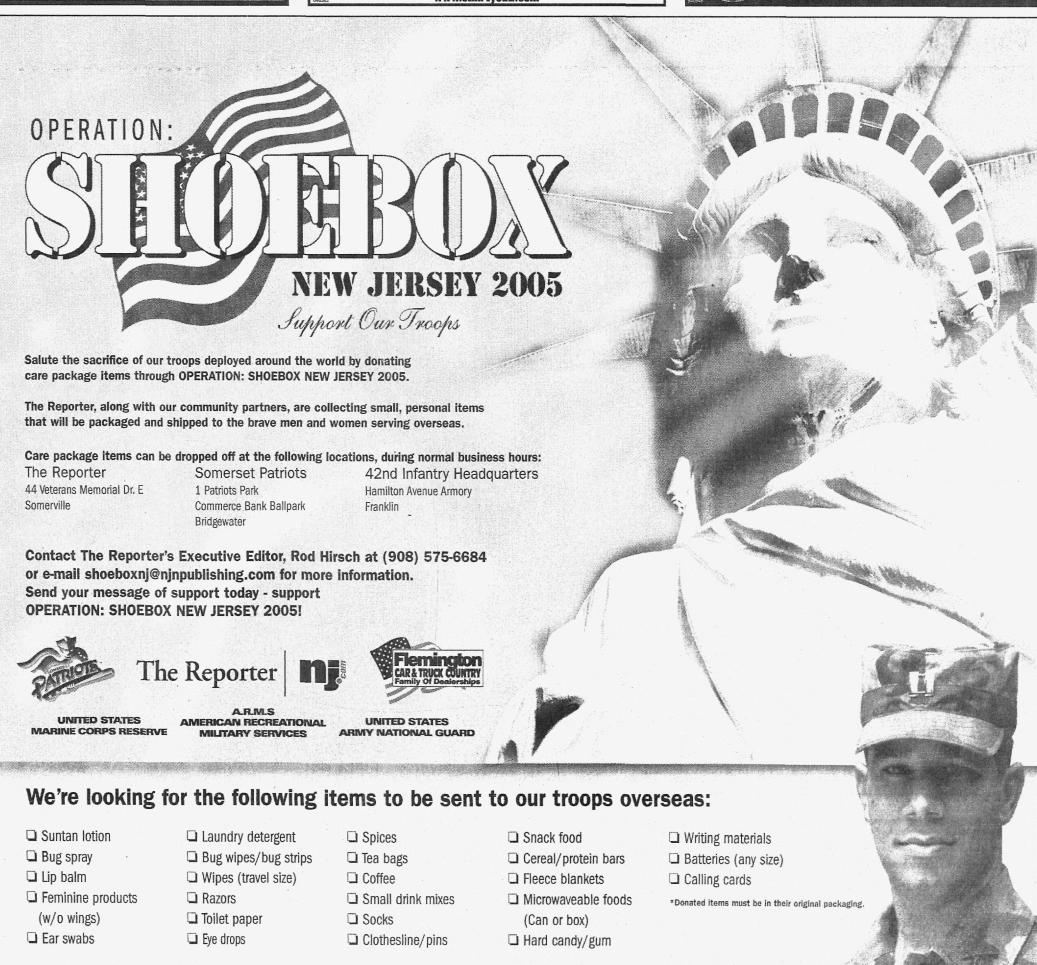
Mrs. DeRoma was a member of the senior citizens club at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Roman Catholic Church. She also was a member of the Travel Seniors club at St. Luke's Roman Catholic Church in North Plainfield.

Her first husband, Albert Sterphone, died in 1969. Her second husband, Frank, died

Surviving are five daughters, Dolores Bowden and husband Wally of Ormond Beach, Fla., Alice Chiappetta and husband Ralph of Yardville, Minnie Ann Contursi and husband Angelo of Middlesex, Julie Vanderheyden and husband Jerry of South Plainfield and Vera Dugan and husband George of Whitehouse Station; two sisters, Marion Robustelli of South Plainfield and Sophie DiTullio of Palm Coast, Fla.; seven grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Services were held Feb. 7 at the Scarpa Funeral Home, North Plainfield, followed by a funeral Mass at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery, Westfield.





Carmen Gerrone

SOUTH PLAINFIELD -Carmen J. Gerrone, 70, died Feb. 18, 2005 at his home in Delaware Township.

Born July 23, 1934 in Tresckow, Pa., he was a son of the late Carmen M. and Mary DeBelles Gerrone.

Mr. Gerrone lived in South Plainfield and Bridgewater before moving to Delaware Township in 1980. He was with Ethicon Inc. in Bridgewater for more than 35 years, retiring in 1991 as its director of research.

He received a bachelor's degree from the Newark College of Engineering (now the New Jersey Institute of Technology). Mr. Gerrone was a member of the Oak Hill Golf Club in Milford and Magdalen Roman Catholic Church

Surviving are his wife of 49 years, Joyce S. Kiddish Gerrone; a son, Carmen J. III and wife Sharon of Raritan Township; a daughter, Cheryl Guillemin of West Virginia; a brother, Donald of Andover; a sister, Gertrude Bogansky of Somerville; a grandson, Brandon Guillemin of Mansfield Township; and two granddaughters, Cheri Guillemin of Mansfield Township and State Guillemin of West Virginia. Staci

A funeral Mass was held Thursday at St. Magdalen Church. Burial was private.

Arrangements were by the Holcombe-Fisher Funeral Home in Flemington. Donations may be sent to SPCA, 576 Stamets Road, Milford, NJ 08848.

J. Oliver Lindstrom and Evelyn Lindstrom

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — Services will be held for J. Oliver Lindstrom and Evelyn Wort Lindstrom, longtime borough residents who were found dead Feb. 18 at their home.

Mr. Lindstrom, who was age 84, was a chemist with Celanese Corp. in Summit until his retirement in the 1970s. As an Army soldier in World War II he participated in the invasion of Normandy on D-Day.

Mrs. Lindstrom, who was age 86, was an obstetrics and operating room technician at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield until her retirement in 1985. She earlier was a clerk with the Prudential Insurance Co. in Newark.

The Lindstroms were former members of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.

Mr. Lindstrom was born in Waterbury, Conn., and Mrs. Lindstrom was born in Newark. The couple lived in Dunellen before moving to South Plainfield in the late 1950s.

Surviving are a daughter, Ann L. Semanchik and husband Ken of Lebanon; and four grandchildren. Mr. Lindstrom also is survived by a sister, Nelma Luckow; and a brother, Stuart.

Private arrangements are by the McCriskin Home for

Leonard Calaway Jr.



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MIDDLESEX - Leonard Holly Hill, Fla. Joseph Calaway Jr., 76, died Feb. 16, 2005 at his home in

Ormond Beach, Fla. Born March 8, 1928 in Plainfield, he lived in Middlesser moving to Ormond Beach in 1981.

Mr. Calaway was a retired painter and an Army veteran. He was a member of United Automobile Workers Local 343 in New Jersey, the Elks in New Jersey and American Legion Post 120 in

Surviving are his wife, Elsa; three stepsons, Kenneth Engelhardt and Arnold Engelhardt, both of Bunnell, Fla., and Jeffrey Engelhardt of Franklinton, N.C.; a sister, Lenore Hnielewski of Carrollton, Texas; six step-grandchildren and four step-greatgrandchildren.

Private arrangements were by the Woodward Funeral Home in Holly Hill.

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Diana Kramer

SOUTH BOUND BROOK -Diana Kramer, 89, died Feb. 19, 2005 at Lawrence & Memorial Hospital in New London, Conn.

Born in Newark, she lived in South Bound Brook and Somerset before moving to Norwich, Conn.

Mrs. Kramer was a retired bookkeeper with Capital Motion Picture Corp. in New York City. She was a life member of Hadassah and a member of Temple Sholom in Bridgewater.

Her husband, Jacob C., died in 1992. A son, Kenneth, died in 2002.

Surviving are a daughter, Elaine Dodge; three grandchildren and six great-grand-

Mary Helen Hartfelder

MIDDLESEX — Mary Helen Chapman Hartfelder, 79, died Feb. 21, 2005 at the VNA Hospice at St. Luke's in Bethlehem, Pa.

Born in White Plains, N.Y., she lived in Middlesex for 35 years before moving to Tannersville, Pa.

Mrs. Hartfelder retired in the 1980s as a window clerk with the Middlesex post office. She was a member of two Roman Catholic churches, Our Lady of Mount Virgin parish in Middlesex and Our Lady of Victory parish in Tannersville.

Her husband, William B., is

Surviving are two daughters, Barbra J. of Middlesex and Lynette C. Psak of Bridgewater; a son, William B. of Pensacola, Fla.; 10 grandchildren and eight greatgrandchildren.

A funeral Mass was held Thursday at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery, Scotch Plains.

Arrangements were by the Middlesex Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to VNA Hospice at St. Luke's, 709 Delaware Ave., Bethlehem, PA 18015.

Gertrude Feder

METUCHEN Gertrude Fast Feder, 88, died Feb. 17, 2005 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

She was born in the Bronx and lived in Metuchen before moving to Bridgewater in

Mrs. Feder was the former controller of the Easter Seal Society of New Jersey, working for 10 years at its Somerset office. She was a founding member of Temple Beth-El in Hillsborough and its former

She was in the Women's Army Corps during World War

Surviving are her husband of 59 years, George; two daughters, Shelley A. and Nancy J.; and two sisters, Vera Bernstein and Claire Coburger.

Graveside services were held Feb. 18 at Mount Lebanon Cemetery in Arrangements were by the Speer-Van Arsdale Funeral Home in Somerville.

Daisy Hahn

PISCATAWAY — Daisy Hahn, 78, died Feb. 18, 2005 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Mrs. Hahn was born in Fanna, Italy. She lived in Tulsa, Okla., and Watchung before

moving to Piscataway in 1962. She retired in 1970 after 10 years as a data entry clerk

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with the Transamerica Tax and Real Estate Service in Piscataway. Mrs. Hahn was a member of the Piscataway Senior Citizens Club and the traveling senior citizens group at Our Lady of Fatima Roman Catholic Church.

As well she was a member of St. Frances Cabrini Roman Catholic Church.

Her husband, Harold, died in

Surviving are a son, Harold of Piscataway; a daughter, Joyce DeBellis of Bridgewater; and two grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was held Tuesday at St. Frances Cabrini Church, following services at the Piscataway Funeral Home. Entombment was in the Good Shepherd Mausoleum at Lake Nelson Memorial Park.

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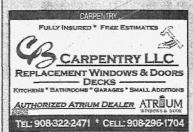
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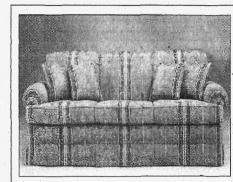
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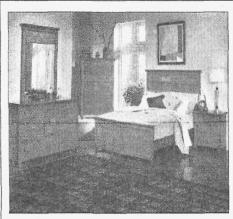
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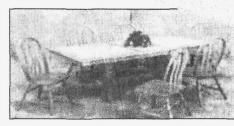
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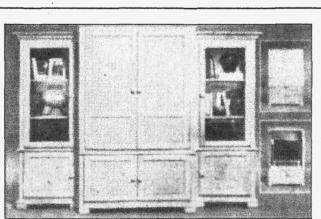


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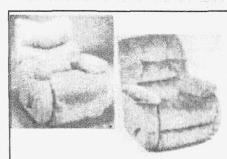
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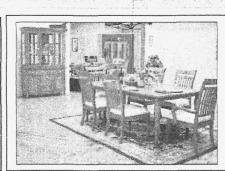


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Weekend Calendar

Saturday, Feb. 26 **NEW BRUNSWICK - Dance for** Heart Health: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for women at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, Arline and Henry Schwartzman Courtyard, Somerset St. Call (732) 253-3115 for more informa-

Monday, Feb. 28 BOUND BROOK - Somerset Naturalists: 8 p.m. at Congregational Church, corner of Church and High St's Free. Flora, Fauna and Habitats at Duke Farms highlighted. All welcome. Free Call (732) 356-2428 for

more information. Tuesday, March 1 MIDDLESEX - ESL Classes: 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 1 to May 26. at Middlesex H.S. Fee: \$50 per per-

son, \$40 for second family member. Must be 12 years old or older. Registration started Feb. 24 at Middlesex H.S. Call (732) 317-6000, Ext. 20206, for more infor-

Friday, March 4 EDISON - "World Day of Prayer": 1 p.m. hosted by Wesley United Methodist Church, Church Women United, at 5053 Woodbridge Ave. "Let Our Light Shine" is theme. Contact Merle Matusz at (732) 738-7558 for more information.

Saturday, March 5 DUNELLEN - Little League Tryouts: 2 to 4 p.m. March 5 and 12 at Dunellen H.S. Gym, ages 9 to 12 and previously registered as new player. Questions, call Little League Hotline or e-mail wenzel5@aol.com.



How sweet it is . . .



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Naturalist Carrie Gazal shows the students how the maple syrup was placed into pots to settle during a program held at the Somerset County Environmental Center in Basking Ridge.

Students get a taste of history learning the maple syrup process at outdoor environmental center

By ADAM HOCHRON

BASKING RIDGE - One day after a winter storm left the snow at their ankles, students from the Hunterdon Christian Home Schools of Flemington looked forward to a sweet reward at the end of their half-mile trek through the

While the students may only know maple syrup from their waffles, pan-cakes and oatmeal, they were given the chance Tuesday to see where it comes from during their visit to the Somerset Environmental Center. They learned not

only about the history of the sugary sweet, but also how it's made in modern

Cruise Russo, one of the older students at 14 said that he enjoyed his time at the center. "It was cool, and we didn't have to do work like we would if we were back at school."

At the environmental center, they typically make approximately six pints of syrup a year, only tapping five of the maple trees on their property. While some of the commercial syrup makers might make that much in a few hours, naturalist Eric Gehring pointed out that the process of making the syrup isn't

something that happens

"In order for a maple tree to be used for syrup it has to have a diameter of 10 inches. It takes 40 years for them to get to that size." Gehring said that each tree can make 40 gallons of maple sugar, which can then be broken down into

only one gallon of syrup.

The students were guided on a trip through history to learn about the syrup process. Gehring told them a tale from the 1300s, the story of an Iroquois chief whose wife thought the syrup was water and used it for her opossum stew. When the chief tried it, he had four bowls, which was

more than he'd ever had

John Zirkel, 12, said seeing the syrup made up close was better than reading about it in a book. Anna Matthews, 11, said it was a good experience. "It was a lot of fun. I learned a lot about how the Native Americans made syrup, and how it's made today

Part of the tour showed how syrup and sugar were used in colonial times. Students learned about the evolution of the cooking and preparation of the sweet addition to their menus. The final step of the process was to see how it's done today.

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Senior 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 meets at 1 p.m. every second Family Academy School located at 201 Voesseller Ave. in Bound Brook. For further information, call club president Sal Barbati (908) 725-5444.

Middlesex Borough

Our Lady of Mount Virgin Seniors meet the second Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. in the church hall. Members are asked to bring boxes of pasta for F.I.S.H.

Trips and Events: March 9 — Atlantic City - \$17 per person.

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

Piscataway

The Piscataway Senior Center is located at 700 Buena Vista Ave., behind the J. F. Kennedy Library on Hoes Lane (Rt. 18). March 7 — Cholesterol

Screening 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. \$15 payable at sign-up - register at reception desk.

South Bound Brook

The South Bound Brook Senior Citizens Community Club will meet at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 2 at Our Lady of Mercy Church Hall, 122 High St. **Events and Trips** March 8 - Atlantic City -

South Plainfield

South Plainfield Chapter AARP, #4144 is holding two separate Safe Driving Courses; the first on March 10-11, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Piscataway Kennedy Library. The second is on Saturdays, March 12 and 19th at Muhlenberg Hospital, Plainfield from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Both four hour sessions must be completed to receive a certificate for an insurance discount as well as a reduction of two points on a driving record. Any licensed driver may attend. Cost: \$10. Call Mary at (732) 752-3764 to register.

Tigers rally to capture Group III title

Facing their first major challenge High School. of the season the Tigers responded like the champions they proved to be. Going against Ocean Sunday for the state Group III crown the South

Plainfield High wrestling squad overcame a 28-17 deficit by taking three of the last four bouts to post a 34-32 victory for the school's third state group championship in the sport.

Freshman Patrick Hunter provided the deciding points when he earned a 22-7victory at 103 pounds for a technical fall in 3:24 in the match's final bout as the Tigers capped a perfect 18-0 dual-meet campaign.

Earlier in the day South Plainfield turned back High Point's bid in the semifinals with a 34-21 triumph at throughout the match as Ocean held Ritacco Center at Toms River North an 8-6 edge in bouts won but South

In the title match Kevin Crilley began the Tiger rally. After watching Ocean (20-2) take three straight bouts to open its 11-point advantage Crilley went out and decked his man at 189 in 1:53. Rob Maistickle then

delivered a second straight fall, pin-

ing 3:25 at 215. With South Plainfield up 29-28

Preston Johnson needed to avoid getting pinned, and despite a huge weight disadvantage he did just that by dropping a major decision to set up Hunter for the winning points.

The Tigers won only three of the first 10 bouts but stayed close with some big bonus points as was the case

SOUTH PLAINFIELD WRESTLING

Plainfield boasted 18 extra points on four pins and two tech falls.

Jimmy Conroy put the Tigers on the board with a 43-second pin at 119, while Ed McCray needed only 46 seconds at 135 to deck his opponent. Paul Ritchey opened an 18-1 lead at 145 at the 5:05 mark for a

In the semifinal match against High Point (17-5) South Plainfield captured six of the first seven bouts for a 27-3 lead and coasted from there as the Tigers finished with an 8-6 advantage in victories.

Billy Ashnault got things started with a tech fall at 112, winning 20-5 in 5:37, and Conroy followed by pinning in 3:06 at 119. After a High Point decision South Plainfield won the next four bouts capped by Ritchey' pin in 1:35 at 145. Nick Dorey (130) won 5-3, McCray (135) posted a 15-2 major and Pete DeAndrea (140) took an 8-4 verdict.

South Plainfield 50, North Hunterdon 12 — Capturing 11 of the 14 bouts, including four by pin, the Tigers easily handled second-seeded North Hunterdon (9-4) in a clash of the top seeds in the North Jersey 2 Group III final Feb. 17.

After a 3-3 tie through two bouts with Viet Vo opening with a 7-4 victory at 125 pounds South Plainfield

took charge a four-bout run capped by Mike Jakubik's fall in 1:59 at 152. McCray (135) started the surge with a 19-6 major decision, while DeAndrea (140) claimed a 7-1 verdict and Ritchey (145) copped a 7-2

After a fall by the Lions South took the next three matches with Mark Wagner (171) earning an 11-3 major, Crilley (189) decking his man in 2:46 and Maistickle (215) following with a fall in 1:04.

The Tigers closed out the match following a North Hunterdon decision at heavyweight with three more victories as Hunter (103) won 3-0, while Ashnault (112) and Conroy (119) logged consecutive falls in 5:32

Stevens, Piscataway advance to GMCT final

With experience of playing and winning big games the Hawks started quickly and then held on late to earn a chance to match history.

Facing fifth-rated Cardinal McCarrick, which entered the matchup riding a 17-game winning streak, the two-time defending champion J.P. Stevens High girls basketball squad claimed a 49-43 victory Monday night to reach the Greater Middlesex Tournament Conference championship game for the

third straight year. The Hawks faced sixth-seeded Piscataway for the title last night in their bid to equal Hoffman's three-year reign as the best in tournament histo-

Stevens, which improved to 19-3 on the season while dropping the Eagles to the same record, took a 13-9 lead after eight minutes, and after leading by as many as 15 in the first half, settled for a 28-17 lead at halftime.

McCarrick was still down 36-25 entering the fourth quarter, and then scored 10 unanswered points to get to within four with less than two minutes remaining. The Hawks, however, never allowed the game to get closer, to eliminate the upset-minded Eagles.

Tania Kennedy and Amy Bonk delivered strong performances to lead the way for Stevens as both scored 16 points with Kennedy also collecting seven assists and four als and Bonk contributing eight rebounds. Kathryn Ruhno added 11 points, while Kathryn Caitlyn Seamster grabbed a team-high 14

Piscataway 63, Perth Amboy 59 - Fighting back from an with eight points. early deficit and then stop-

GIRLS BASKETBALL

bid down the stretch the Chiefs recorded a semifinal upset Monday night to advance to the GMCT title game for the first time since

Seeded sixth Piscataway knocked off its second straight higher rated opponent and improved to 15-7 for the season. The second-rated Panthers, meanwhile, had an 18-game winning streak halted in falling to 19-3.

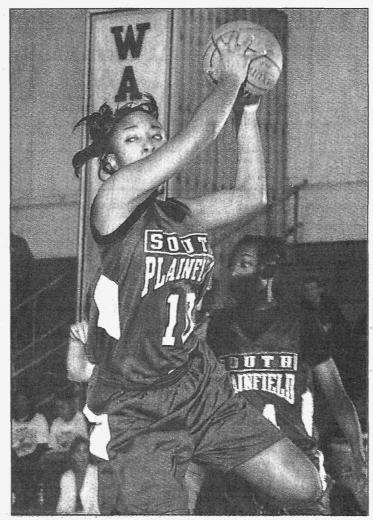
Perth Amboy had its way in the early going as it led 16-12 after one period and stretched the advantage to 25-16 midway through the second quarter. Piscataway, however, answered with a 12-0 run to close out the half for a 28-25 lead at the break. Jen Vroman

tied the game with a trey and Asia Jenkins converted a three-point play for the lead. Piscataway used a 21-17 third quarter to extend the lead to 49-42 entering the fourth period and the Chiefs went up by as many as 11 before the Panthers made their run by scoring 10 straight points to make it a

one-point game with two minutes to go. The Chiefs, however, made their free throws from there with Tiffany Patrick dropping in a pair to finish off a brilliant effort in which she led all scorers with 23 points, connecting on 9 of 10 from the

Jenkins followed with 17 points, while Vroman finished with nine and added a big steal with eight seconds to play to seal the verdict. Caitlin Wesnesky chipped in

J.P. Stevens 47, Bishop Ahr ping Perth Amboy's comeback 41 — Getting an unexpected her 18 points in the final eight



South Plainfield High's Shaunique Cisson grabs a rebound earlier this season. Cisson and the Tigers were upset by Cardinal McCarrick in the GMC Tournament quarter-finals Saturday in a 52-

challenge from ninth-seeded minutes. With Stevens trailing Bishop Ahr (17-7) the Hawks by five early in the fourth turned to Tania Kennedy in the fourth quarter and the victory Saturday in the quar-

Kennedy dropped in nine of

quarter Kennedy scored five points, hitting a three-pointer, senior standout delivered to to tie the game, and then lead Stevens to a hard-fought secured the victory down the stretch by converting four free

Amy Bonk chipped in with 12 points for the Hawks, who final eight minutes to allow only six points and help fuel a game-ending 14-3 tear.

Piscataway 65, South Brunswick 58 — Avenging two earlier losses to third-seeded South Brunswick the Chiefs used a 31-18 advantage during the middle periods to take command and turn the tables on the Vikings in the GMCT quarter-finals Saturday.

After overcoming a 17-12 deficit with a 15-9 second quarter for a 26-25 edge at halftime, Piscataway took charge with a 14-2 surge to open the third period. Asia Jenkins notched the first five points in the run, while Caitlin Wesnesky fueled the burst with seven points.

Jenkins pumped in 23 points to lead all scorers, while Wesnesky finished with 16 and Brittany Myatt came off to bench to score 13, including eight in the fourth quarter. The Chiefs held onto the lead in the late going by making seven of eight free throws.

Cardinal McCarrick 52, South Plainfield 42 — Having taken a lead early in the fourth quarter the fourthseeded Tigers had no answer when Cardinal McCarrick ran off 12 straight points to take command in the GMCT quarter-finals Saturday.

Blaire Houston gave South Plainfield a two-point led to cap a recovery from a fourpoint deficit, but the Eagles took charge for good with the decisive run. Niya Santiago and Houston topped the Tigers, who fell to 17-5, with 13 and 12 points, respectively.

J.P. Stevens 51, Carteret 24 Tania Kennedy dropped in 17 points and Amy Bonk pitched in with 15 as the Hawks blasted 16th-seeded Carteret (8-12) in the second

went on the defensive over the round Feb. 17. Stevens took charge with a 15-6 opening quarter and iced the verdict with a 13-1 second period for a 28-7 lead at halftime.

Piscataway 46, Colonia 32 -Bolting to a 13-1 lead after one quarter the Chiefs led all the way in eliminating 11thranked Colonia (13-9) in the second round Feb. 17. Asia Jenkins led the way for Piscataway with 18 points, while Tiffany Patrick followed with 13.

South Plainfield 44, New Brunswick 39 — Rallying from a 27-22 hole at halftime by outscoring the visitors 22-12 over the final 16 minutes the Tigers escaped a scare from 13th-rated New Brunswick (9-12) as Niya Santiago dropped in 16 points and Blaire Houston chipped in with 11.

Cardinal McCarrick 65, Middlesex 38 — Outscored in each period, including 27-14 in the third, the 12-ranked Blue Jays could not keep pace with a streaking McCarrick squad in the second round Feb. 17. Ashley Best and Nicole Bizzomo had six points apiece for Middlesex, which fell to 14-7

Bishop Ahr 61, Dunellen 32 - Falling behind 17-2 after one quarter the eighth-seeded Destroyers were never in their second-round game with Bishop Ahr Feb. 17 as they fell to 13-5 for the year. Thyree Hall led Dunellen with 12 points and Catherine Scerra added eight.

Perth Amboy 51, Edison 33 Running into red hot Perth Amboy in the second round the 15-th rated Eagles fell behind 25-13 at half time and couldn't recover in slipping to 10-11 for the campaign. Kristin Sciarillo dropped in 13 points to pace the Edison

South Plainfield reaches title game

Matt Baszika could not have picked a better time for a career-type perfor-

With standout Marquis Jones getting considerable attention from the Colonia defense Baszika delivered a huge effort to lead the defending champion South Plainfield High boys basketball squad to a 56-44 victory Tuesday night in the semifinals of the Greater Middlesex Conference Tournament.

Baszika scored a game-high 22 points, grabbed 11 rebounds and added three assists to propel the third-seeded Tigers into last night's championship game against fourth-seeded St. Joseph's (16-8), which edged top-seeded SDouth Brunswick 46-44 in the other semifinal for its 10th straight victory.

In winning South Plainfield improved to 18-5 on the season and won the rubber-match between the White Division rivals, while the second-ranked Barrons fell to 18-6.

Colonia got off to a great start by hitting 7 of 10 shots in the opening session for an 18-10, and led 27-22 at halftime. That all changed in the third quarter when the Tigers scored the first six points and outscored the Barrons 15-2 for a 37-29 lead with 1:28 to play in the

Baszika led that decisive surge with eight points, twice scoring in transition with one of them on a dunk. Darren Smith added three-point play and two free throws during the run. After that closest Colonia could get was six points.

Smith followed Baszika with 19 points and grabbed nine rebounds to help overcome a five-point game by Smith, who failed to score in double figures for only the second time this year.

South Plainfield 60, New Brunswick 59 - Darren Smith knocked down one of two free throws with a half-second left as the Tigers avoided what would have been a major letdown after seeing a 15-point early lead wasted in the

BOYS BASKETBALL

quarter-finals Sunday.

Fouled on the rebound of a missed shot by sixth-ranked New Brunswick (13-9) Smith capped a 22-point performance that paced South Plainfield. Marquis Jones added 19 points and added six assists for the Tigers, while Kevin Siedenburg had eight.

The Tigers jumped to a big lead in the opening session, settling for a 25-16 advantage after eight minutes. It was still a nine-point game at 48-39 entering the final session when the Zebras used a 19-7 surge to take a 58-55 lead. New Brunswick had a chance to extend the lead with 35 seconds left but missed two free throws.

Smith then converted a pair of foul shots, and after Brandon Landfair made one of two from the line Jones scored on a layup with 14 seconds remaining to knot the game at 59-59. Alex Lamberty then missed a shot with time running down, and then fouled Smith on the rebound.

Colonia 66, Piscataway 63 - Giving second-seeded Colonia all it could handle for three quarters the seventh-rated Chiefs faded down the stretch Sunday in the quarter-final as the Barrons overcame a 49-43 deficit with a 23-14 run over the final eight minutes.

Piscataway, which slipped to 14-9, never trailed until Nick Smith connected on a pull-jumper with 26 seconds left following his steal as Colonia rallied for its 18th victory in 23 games after trailing 59-50 with 3:14 to play. Smith matched a career-best 36 points

to lead the way. Brandon Wilkinson and Rodney Freeney provided the bulk of the Piscataway offense as Wilkinson dropped in 23 points and Freeney added 23. Wilkinson connected on five

of seven from three-point range, and converted 9 of 13 attempts overall.

South Plainfield 75, J.P. Stevens 59 -Using a 17-7 opening session to take command the Tigers eventually built a 54-32 cushion through three periods and opened the defense of their title by rolling past 14-th-seeded J.P. Stevens in the second round Feb. 18.

Darren Smith pumped in 24 points to not only lead all scorers but surpass 1,000 points for his career as his total reach 1,002. Matt Baszika followed with 20 points, while Marquis Jones dropped in 13 points and handed out 12 assists.

Andrew Biancosimo dropped in 22 points to lead the Hawks, who fell to 7-16 with the setback, while Kenny Melford pitched in 13 points and Aaron Miller added 10.

Piscataway 72, Perth Amboy Vo-Tech 50 - Kent Scriven notched all eight of his points in the first quarter when they Chiefs claimed a 22-11 lead and they were never headed in whipping 10thrated Perth Amboy Vo-Tech (12-8) in the second round Feb. 18.

Rodney Freeney dropped in a gamehigh 27 points for Piscataway, which outscored PAVT in every quarter, while Brandon Wilkinson and Dujuan Gratz added nine points apiece.

Old Bridge 51, Dunellen 38 - Falling behind 20-0 after eight minutes the ninth-ranked Destroyers made a late charge to get the lead down to six with 3:45 left but eighth-seeded Old Bridge held on to take the second-round game

Dunellen, which fell to 15-3 for the season, used a 16-5 second period to get back into the game, and then twice made it a six-point contest in the closing minutes before leading scorer Todd DeNapoli fouled out with 3:21 left. He finished with eight points. Travis DeNapoli led the Destroyers with 11 points, and Tim Sweeney followed with

TRACK & FIELD

Lewis, Losey shine at group championships

Greg Lewis of Metuchen High captured the Group I pole vault and Piscataway's Michelle Losey scored in three events to earn the top individual performances in Group IV at Sunday's state group championships at Princeton University.

Team-wise, the Piscataway girls, led by Losey's efforts, totaled 19 points to finish with a share of fourth place, while the Metuchen boys took fifth with 18 points with 10 coming on Lewis' victory. Lewis cleared 12 feet 6 inches to win by a foot

Losey had her top finish in the 400 meters where she captured runnerup honors in 58.41 seconds, just .14 of a second behind champion Krystal Cantey of Winslow. Losey added in fourth place in the 55-meter dash in 7.47 and took fifth in the

Asia Washington collected the other Piscataway points by taking fourth in the 400 in 59.02 and sixth in the 200 in 26.60. For the Metuchen boys Kyle Edmonds contributed a thirdplace effort in the 55 hurdles in 8.01 seconds, while Marcus Farris placed fifth in the 200 in 24.08.

Yasmin Parks accounted for all three of the points for the J.P. Stevens girls by gaining a share of fourth place in the high jump as she cleared 5-0. Piscataway's Kevin Woolfolk ran the 55 in 6.75 for fifth place and the two points by the Piscataway boys, while Cara O'Neill went 3:28.47 for sixth in the 200 for the Metuchen girls.

Patriot tickets are on sale

The Somerset Patriots have placed season tickets and group ticket packages on sale for the 2005 season. Fans can choose from several packages including Full Season (70 games), Half Season (35 games), Mini-Season (12 games),

and Flex Ticket plans (20 undated vouchers). In addition to the same seat for the season, full- and halfseason ticket-holders will receive a discount off tickets, the privilege of entering the ballpark earlier than the general public, a season ticket-holder ID card with pre-paid credit to use at the park, the opportunity to win a trip to 2006 spring training, 2005 Big East Tournament passes and complimen-

For more information, stop by the Patriots Ticket Office located at the ballpark or call (908) 252-0700.

tary playoff tickets.

Patriots' team with OPSHBX for ticket sales

Somerset Patriots of the League Professional Baseball have announced that the team will host a special collection event for Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005 with the opening day of ticket sales for the 2005 season at Commerce Bank Ballpark 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005 has been created to build and maintain a supply line of personal items to be shipped to soldiers overseas. Materials collected will be divided between soldiers in 250th Signal Battalion, 42nd Infantry and soldiers designated for delivery by the United Marine States Reserves.

Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005 is asking for people to bring the following items to the ballpark on March 12: sun screen, paper back books, foot powder, telephone calling cards, eye drops, beef jerky, toothpaste, mouth wash, bug spray, lip balm, feminine products, ear swabs, laundry detergent, bug wipes/ bug strips, wipes (travel size), razors, toilet paper, spices, tea bags, coffee, small drink mixes, socks, clothesline/ pins, snack foods, cereal/ protein bars, fleece blankets, microwaveable foods (can or box), hard candy/ gum, writing materials, and batteries (any size).

for Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005 on March 12 will receive a special Buy One Get One Free ticket offer on any Sunday through Thursday game all season long. Fans that bring an item will also receive 25 percent off in the Somerset Patriots Gift Shop.

The Patriots will provide complimentary food and beverages, music courtesy of the Patriots Flagship Station WCTC 1450 AM/Magic 98.3 FM, and the Speed Pitch will be set up for different con-

Tickets for all 70 home games will be available at the ballpark. Somerset Patriots ticket prices are \$12 for Executive Field Box Seats, \$9.50 for Field Box seats, \$8.50 for Upper Box seats, and \$5 for Turf Club seating.

Game times for the 2005 season are 7:05 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1:35 p.m. on Sundays. The Patriots will host 12 fireworks shows, different promotional nights, and theme nights to assure that there will be something happening at the ballpark for all 70 games.

The Somerset Patriots have placed Season Tickets and Group Tickets on sale for the upcoming 2005 season. For more information on how to be part of the 2005 season, call (908) 252-0700 or visit www.somersetpatriots.com.



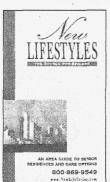
A special collection of items for Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005 will be held during the opening day of ticket sales for the Somerset Patriots, being held March 12 at Commerce Bank Bailpark.

Briefs

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Legal Notices

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION: VEGETATIVE SPRAYING PROGRAM
NOTICE

Nelson Tree Service, ABC Tree Service, Davey Tree Service, Lewis Tree Service, Aspen and Asplundh Tree
Company have been contracted by Jersey Central Power and Light Company (JCP&L) to conduct scheduled vegetative (manual and/or mechanized backpack foliar or stump spraying as necessary) maintenance on sub-transmission and transmission line rights-of-way. The maintenance activities cross 231 municipalities in the Company's northern and central regions. A water-soluble herbicide "Accord" will be applied to brush and tall growing vegetation to
reduce/eliminate outages caused by vegetation contact with electrical wires. Application/maintenance is order to
restore power to transmission and distribution systems in the event of storm damage that may occur withing no your to transmission and distribution of the province of the above activities and the province of the above activities

ORDINANCE NO. 1635-04

For further information, contact John Anderson, JCP&L's Forestry Department at 973-401-8897 for areas north of the
Raritan River and Richard Marsh, JCP&L's Forestry Department at 732-212-4138 for activities south of the Raritan
River.

ORDINANCE NO. 1635-04

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1565

REGULATING MASSAGE, BODYWORK

AND THERAPY ESTABLISHMENT

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION

ORDINANCE NO. 1533-04

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 955,
ENTITLED, "TATTOOING ORDINANCE NO. 955,
ENTITLED, "TATTOOING ORDINANCE NO. 955,
OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX"

Notice is hereby given that the following Ordinance was \$5.44

REGULATING MASSAGE, BODYWORK AND THERAPY ESTABLISHMENT

Notice is hereby given that the following Ordinance was adopted at a Public Meeting of the Borough Council of Middlesex, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey held Middlesex, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey held Building, 1200 Mountain Avenue, Middlesex, New Jersey Remainded Fractions (Stathleen Anello, RIMC Stathleen Anello,

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www.NewLifeStyles.com

Callers requesting New LifeStyles may also receive information from providers in their area.

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION: VEGETATIVE SPRAYING PROGRAM

Coloring contest winners announced

BOUND BROOK — The American Legion Giles-Biondi Post #63 announced their recent poster coloring contest winners. Participants were from grades four and five at private and public schools in the borough.

First place: (\$100 savings bond) Steven Varga, 5th Grade, Holy Family Academy.

Second Place: (\$50 Savings Bond) Celina Maria Page, 5th Grade, Holy Family Academy. Third Place: (\$50 Savings

Bond) Amanda Fredericks, 5th Grade, Holy Family Academy. The poster they all colored in revealed the upper portion of an American eagle and behind it was

an unfurled American Flag and to

the side was a picture of the bat-

Borough scholarship applications available

tleship New Jersey.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD - The Junior Baseball Club of South Plainfield is now accepting applications for their college scholarships. The applications can be

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION

Borough Clerk B45 1T 2/26/05

picked up at the guidance department of the high school or by contacting the S.P. Junior Baseball Club at (908) 754-2090.

The applicant must be a graduating high school student this June, must be a South Plainfield resident, and must have participated in the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club for a minimum of five years.

The filing deadline is April 1.

Black History Month program held today

PISCATAWAY — Celebrating Black History Month, the Piscataway Civil Rights Advisory Commission has scheduled a program featuring guest presenters who will share their favorite poetry readings highlighting the African American experience.

The free program will be held 2-4 p.m. today at the John F. Kennedy Library from 2 to 4 p.m. In addition, there will be an exhibit of African American Inventions and Inventors. The public is invited, parking is available and refreshments will be served.

Grant is received for area autism program

NEW BRUNSWICK - VSA arts of New Jersey (VSA/NJ) is pleased to announce that it is the recipient of a \$6,000 grant from the Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation of Ridgewood. This grant will support inclusive, after school art and music programming involving children with autism ages eight and over and their peers without disabilities. The program is a collaboration with the Peer Mediation Group of Edison High School. Visual arts

workshops will be held on Tuesdays, March 22 to May 24,

at Edison High School.

Through after school workshops, students with autism will interact with their peers without disabilities in an enriching arts environment. The program will encourage participants' strengths and emphasize their similarities. Simultaneously it will sensitize young people to issues related to autism and encourage the development of friendships based on

mutual respect and friendship. The Daniel Jordan Fiddle Foundation was established in January, 2000 to provide grants for programs for adolescents and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), a neurological disorder manifested by pervasive developmental delays.

The registration deadline for this program is March 8. For more information on this program or for registration materials, contact VSA arts of New Jersey at (732) 745-3885 or info@vsanj.org.

Job seekers support now meeting weekly

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — The NOVA Job Seekers Support Group meets every Thursday morning from 10-11:30 a.m. to network, share ideas, contacts and re-charge our batteries.

To reserve your place or for further information, call Diane Markowitz at (732) 777-1940 or email d.markowitz@jfvs.org.

Manville fire company offers NASCAR trips

MANVILLE — The Camplain Volunteer Fire Company Number Two of Manville is sponsoring its 11th annual A Day at the Races with trips to the following NASCAR Nextel Cup Races: Richmond International Speedway on May 14, Dover Downs International Speedway on June 5, and Pocono Raceway

on July 24. All trips include round trip transportation from Manville, race tickand after the races.

The Richmond bus trip will also include one night lodging at the Ramada Inn in Fredericksburg,

All proceeds from these trips will benefit the Camplain Fire Company building and equipment

To reserve tickets and for other information, contact the firehouse at (908) 526-0439 and leave a message for Mark or Rob.

Middlesex Pool has applications for work

MIDDLESEX — The Middlesex Community Pool has openings for life guards, front desk and snack bar positions for the summer 2005 swim season.

Applications can be picked up and dropped off at the Borough Clerks Office, 1200 Mountain

Middlesex Recreation offers arts and crafts

MIDDLESEX — The Middlesex Recreation Department offers an hour long arts and crafts class for 4- and 5-year-olds who are not yet attending Kindergarten.

Class enrollment is limited to 15 children. Classes are held on a Thursday morning from 9-10 a.m. or 10:30-11:30 a.m. and run for 10 weeks.

Registration fees are \$45 for Middlesex Borough resident and \$80 for non-residents.

Widow's organization is holding meeting

MIDDLESEX COUNTY - The Middlesex East Widows or Widowers will conduct a business meeting on the second Tuesday of each month starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Carteret Community Center located at Pershing and Cooke Avenues in Carteret. Light refreshments and socializing to follow. All widows and widowers are invited to attend.

For more information, contact Dorothy at (732) 541-2174 or Lois at (908) 757-0515.

Call 732-968-1020

www.dunellen-theater.com

HOW TO STOP YOUR TEENAGE SON FROM GETTING A HEROIN ADDICTION, LONG BEFORE HE'S **TEENAGER**

Just being around for your boy can give him a better life. Boys who grow up without a father are 37% more likely to have problems with drugs. Even if you don't live with your kids, you can make a difference. Give them the emotional and financial support they need. They're your kids. Be their dad.







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300 Craft Designers & Fine Artists

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Daily Adult Admission \$700 Children Under 12 & Parking FREE Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10-6

DIRECTIONS: Take Garden State Pkwy. (Exit 127 N. bound, Exit 129 S. bound) or 1-95 (Exit 10) to I-287 N. (toward Metuchen) Take Exit 10 off I-287 (Rt. 527 N.). Left on Davidson Ave. Left on Atrium Dr.

FOR DISCOUNT ADMISSION COUPONS: Print them from our website at www.SugarloafCrafts.com D Call 800-210-9900

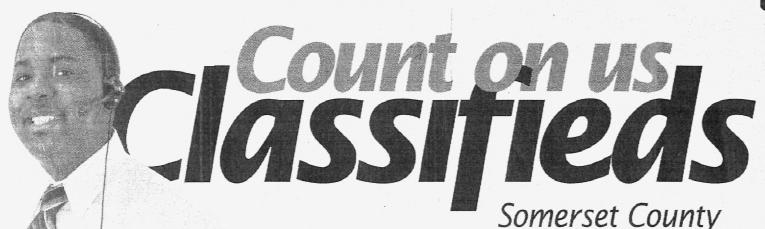




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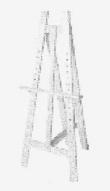














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Coming Events 170

CRAFTERS Spring Adventure
ARTS & CRAFTS Sat/Sun Mar 19 & 20 8x10 space \$60 Holland Twp School Hunterdon County Sponsor HTWC Deadline Mar 1*. Info: Connie 908-995-2269 after 7 p.m. No franchise

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DRIVERS low hiring FT drivers for de-liveries of our products throughout eastern half of US, Must be dependable & have clean driving rec-ord. CDL CI A req'd. Comp

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Equipment Mechanic **Grounds Maintenance Staff** Applications are now being accepted starting immed. Please contact Jason for details @ 908-246-5044 or 908-237-1390

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agement Office Fleming ton. Apply in person, 10am-4pm, daily. Fax re-sume: 908-782-2994 EOE **ELECTRICIAN**

Hunterdon County electrical contractor looking for FT Electrician in residential & commercial work, bene-fits, vacation paid, school-ing. Must be able to work independently and have a driver's license.

driver's license.
Send resume to:
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For est, and grounds maint. Must be knowledge. edgeable, detail oriented, self-motivated and reliable. Good wages/benefits. Hertzog Assoc., Stocktor NJ (609) 397-1454

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Knowledge of plant and pest id. NJ pesticide lic req. in categories 3A & 3B. D.L. req. CDL pref Competitive, pay & ber Fax resume 908-668-757 Call Ed 908-413-0574.

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Part Time Help 255

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Fresenius Medical Care has been a global leader in dialysis for over 25 years. With FMC dialysis clinies in a thousand nities across North America, we have a singular focus on dialysis and a determination – to help our patients live their lives to the fullest. If you are passionate about your profession and are looking to begin or continue a successful career that will truly make a difference, send a resume to Pam.Gibson@fmc-na.com. Job code: Flemington/Colonia.

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\$49 billion dollars left un

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Situations Wanted 280

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Acreage & Lots 305 FRANKLIN TWP, WARREN CTY

BUILDING LOT
Perced, soil logged, wel 1.5 ac on country lane part wooded/open Upscale area. Homes resell \$600,000 up

One of N.J. most beautiful

Preserved farmland much of area 1/2 mi Musconetcong R.

(trout)

1/4 mi babbling brook
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Commercial Property For Sale 315

BRANCHBURG 1500 sq. ft. warehou Two 3000 sq. ft. warehouse units with small office call KNAUER REALTYCORP 908-526-7600

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BFAUTIFUL Like new Townhouse at desirable "Overlook at Lopatcong" features 2 BR, 2 ½ bath, cheerful eat-in-kitchen, two car garage, full basement, and more. Located scenic, convenient Warren County, just minutes from 178 exit 3. Asking \$273,000. 908-387-9670

Homes for Sale 330 A NO DOWN PMT LOAN Call Today To Qualify For a Special NO-Money Down Low Closing Cost Conven tional mortgage. Act Now

While Funding Lasts!! Call
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BA, Colonial. In Mountain View Farms 2 car gar \$454,900 215-378-4725 BRANCHBURG Move condition. Half duplex, 3 Bdr., 2.5 bath, new kitchen, finished base-

CLINTON TWP., Blossom Hill area, live on a private 1 acre cul-de-sac lot. Large 4 bed, 2 ½ bath colonial, screened porth&fnishedbesement,\$479.9K Remax Renown Realty 908-879-8866 Margaret 908-797-8736

FLEMINGTON BORO - 3 BR brick Cape Cod, Fin bsmt, W/built-in bar, built-in pool, & attached rental apt., \$450,000 908-237-4548

Homes For Sale 330

by OWNER FLEMINGTON/RARITAN TWP nmaculate 3 BR ranch on 1.22 Acres. Completely renovated, new roof, full basement, Plus more... Exc. School sy \$410,000 Principles Only. 908 6196781 for Appt.

FOR SALE

by OWNER

erth Amboy Waterfront Beautiful Victorian home 100 yrs old., located within walking distance to waterfront, downtown & train station, 6 BR, 3.5 BA, LR, DR, EIK, 3 car detached garage, 2° kitchen, 3° Fl. tached garage, kitchen, 3

Mother/Daughter apt. Storage Rm, Porch & patio Storage Rm, Porch & patio basement, attic, high ceilings, Meticulously maintained, New A/C & water heater, security system, stain glass windows, pocket doors, Turret windows, A must see w/ all old world and modern charm. Must be preapproved \$599,900,00 \$599,900.00 proved \$599,900.00 732-826-7141 after 6PM.

by OWNER

HOLLAND TWP. - 3 /4 BR. 2 VOLLAND TWP. - 3/4 BR, 2 4 BA, Center Hall Colonial 6 4 Acres, Irg Gourmet kit. Visland, DR, 24 x 24 Great m, 2 car garage, Full Bsmt, ity utils., nr Rt 22 & 78. \$519,900. 908-995-0245

Open Houses 331

open house CALIFON New Construc-tion by GRANT HOMES, 3BR + unfinished bonus room, 2.5BA, hardwood room, 2.5BA, hardwood floors, granite tops, fplc., 2nd fl laundry, w/d, deck, 2 car garage., quiet street, \$495,000. Brokers webome.

2/27 1:00-4:00 PM from Rt. 513W left on in St... right on River Rd 201-602-1199 www.granthomesusa.com

Real Estate Wanted 360

CASH BUVED FOR YOUR HOUSE NOW!. WE ARE NOT REALTORS. NO COMMISSION, NO CLOSING COSTS. make it EZ for you to sell. Call Pat 888-858-2377

Vacation Property For Sale 380

WATERFRONT CONDO- The Mansions in Forked River. Luxury 2BR, 1.5 Bath, garage + deeded boat slip. rage + deeded boat slip. \$359,900 Century 21 La-cey Realty 609-693-1000 Ask for Karen McLaughlin

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Real Estate Rentals Real Estate Rentals **Apariments 405**

Apartments 405 CLINTON GARDENS - Spacious 1 & 2 BR apts. DW, AC, patio, balcony, laundry, ample parking. Junction of 22, 31 & 78. Walk to town. 973-635-1163 or 908-735-2994

Flemington - 1 BR, Avail. Immed. \$700. + utils. 215-794-3021

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CLINTON, Large 2BR, just renovated. \$1000/mo 1 mi, from Rt 78, No Pets Contact 908-638-8133 OR 908-239-5701 FLEMINGTON - 2" fir., 3 BF mo. sec. 908-713-9984 apt., w/w carpet, C/AC, w/d hkup., bsmnt., off st.

prkg., yd., avail. 3 \$1250. 908-237-9907 gas & utils. 908-534-9380 FLEMINGTON 3 BR

Just off 202 Private hom vate home/garage 908-221-1080 **HIGH BRIDGE** - 2 BR, Very Nice, 2nd FI, Off St Parking \$1025/mo. 908-832-7888

KENILWORTH - 5 rm 2" fl apt. New modern kit & bath, laund hkup in bsmt. C/A, new windows. \$1200 /mo +utils. 1 mo. sec. 908-276-4364

AMBERTVILLE - 1 bed room, eat-in kitchen, spa-cious. \$1,050/month. No smoking. Call 609-618-4583

Lambertville - 1st fl efficiency heat incl., \$700./mo + utils. Stockton - 1st fl, 2 BR, \$1000./mo. + utils 215-794-3021

New Providence- 2rd flr, 3BR, 1.5 ba, EIK, C/A, No smoking no pets. \$1600 908-665-1993

street parking, carpeted \$975./mo. 908-757-5137 North Plainfield- Ig 2 BR recently updated, W/I hook-up, private entrade porch, yard, remodeled bath, hrdwd flrs. \$1,250 /mo + util. 1.5 mo Sec. 908-769-9233

NORTH PLAINFIELD -

NORTH PLAINFIELD, newly remodeled 1st fl, 2 BR ap in small friendly complex, no. of rt. 22 & mins. to rte. 78, pvt. ent., new ww, a/c, new appl., res. pkg., laundry rm., inc. all util. but elec., no pets/smoke, 1.5 mo sec., \$1,100 908 256-9737

RARITAN - 2 BR in nice 2 fam. house on quiet dead end street. C/AC, gar., W/D hkup. \$1100/mo. 732-766-2169

Readington- 2BR apt. on 2" flr in country farm house. EIK, LR, Bsmnt, Ig yd, Iocated on scenic pic postcard setting. 370 acres horse farm w/ horse trail on Rt 202 S. Pets ok for add. fee. Horse stable arena & lessons (private or group) also avail for add charge. \$975/mo + utils. 3 year lease. Call 973-325-1300

 Readington
 Twp
 2
 BR,

 Close
 to
 Rt
 202,

 \$850/mo.
 +
 utils.
 908

 202-2157

STOCKTON - Lrg. 1 BR apt in Vict. house, 2nd flr. No pets \$975 + utils., 4/1. 609-397-9075 avail.

The Reporter 17

4.875

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5.250

4.750

6.000

5.125

5 625

5.375

5 500

5.000

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30 5.510

30 5.130

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3/1 libor int. only 4.375

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Real Estate Rentals Houses For Rent 430

Apartments 405 Alnton- Newly renovated.

4BR, 2BA, eat in kit with
pantry, DR, FpI, attic,
bsmnt, 2 car gar, a/c.
Walk to school & town. No
smoking/pets. \$2300/mo
+ utils. 908-735-9508 UNION TWP 1BR, 1BA Furn Unfurn., quiet country set-ting, . Close to Rt. 78, No smoking/pets. Short term ok\$1000/mo. incl. utils 1.5 DUPLEX - 3/2, LR, DR, de

Whitehouse Station- 1/2 Du plex for rent. Perfect for Mature working couple. No pets \$1100/mo + oil,

Commercial Property For Rent 410

HEIGHTS BERKELEY DOWNTOWN avail., retail / office 730 & 715 sq ft. avail. immed. Call Landlord for appt. 908-507-6980

CLINTON - Downtown avail. 908-730-6009

Competitive Pricing Must See!

FLEMINGTON:

Various Sizes

1st ClassSpace

1050-4000 s.f.

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Hunterdon County Office space, ½ mile off Rt 78 ample parking. Available immed. Many size office

suites available. Call 917 974-6690

PITTSTOWN - 3,000 sq. ft

bldg. w/overhead doors, high ceilings, good for carpentry, storage or light mfg., avail. immed. \$1600

NNN 908-730-6803

609-466-3939

RINGOES- Office space avail

1100 Sq Ft. 5 rms, kit. & bath, Beautiful hrdwd firs, 1 car gar., full bsmt storage,

ample parking. \$1550/mo utils inc. 917-572-3754 or

Houses For Rent 430

Duplex, 3 BR, w/d hkup, yd, attic, bsmnt, 2 car gar

newly repainted, Ise sec. cr chk. \$1350/mo + utils,

CLINTON AREA - Carriage

house on historical propert close to I-78. Very charming

w/D, \$1600 + utils. avail 3/1. **908-735-6659**

BLOOMSBURY BORO -

Housing To Share 435 PLAZA I Clinton Area- Roomate to share 2 BR house. Coun-Commerce St 908-328-7222 or 713-

> Gillette- Furnished room and bath \$700/mo ind utils + 1.5mo sec. 908-604-0770

Newly

w/ frplc, Eat In Kit, all new appl, W/D, new carpet \$1550. 6 mo-Yr Ise. 908

713-6776, 908-310-7085

Quiet Family Neighborhood, 3BR, 1 Bath, Basement, Garage, \$1800/mo. \$208-439-3550

SOMERVILLE - 4 BR, 2 BA

all appliances, no pets \$1600 908-537-9192

SUMMIT - 3 BR ranch, EIK hdwd fir., CAC, bsmt, garg porch. Walk to downtown train, schools, \$1950/mc + utils. 908-239-5445

Home, excellent value, rent \$21,600 per year, asking \$130 K. Buy this home with 3% down, special investor/rehable

program available, ca 1-800-766-3335

TRENTON-2

FLEMINGTON

Townhouses/Condos For Rent 475

Clinton - Beaver Brook -End unit, 2rd fl. 2BR, 2 BA, W/D, \$1450./mo. + 1 mo. sec., refs. 908-236-6544 Leave Message. MATTRESS SET- Queen pil-

Clinton/Beaver Brook 1 BR, all appl., exc. cond \$1150.+utils.Avail. immer 908-399-7452

Clinton - Beaver Brook, Beautiful 1 BR, Upper end unit, all appl. incl. \$1350./mo. + utils. **570**

620-2119 for appt. FLEMINGTON- Sun Ridge- 2story,2BR, 1.5 ba. w/garage No pets, Short term. \$1400.+utils 610-837-4380

for the Farm 565 JOHN DEERE 635 disk, **Vacation Property For** Rock-flex, hyd. fold, 18', very nice shape. very nice Sliaps, \$8500./080. Call 609

Bradley Beach 6BR, 3BA Sea Shore Colonial. 1½ blocks to beach, w/d. Avail 7/30- 8/20. \$2500 a week. 908-268-3537 IMOTHY HAY Small round bales. Call 609-683-0414

HILTON HEAD, SC - 2 BR 2 BA Condo, 300 yds. to beach, \$700/week. Call 732-863-5810

LAKE GEORGE AREA - 3 BR lake front home. Fp, dock Avail summer & winter fo rent. 732-397-6852 o www.vrbo.com/44986

Antique Delft Chandelier, solid brass & ceramic. Minimum offer \$350. Call 908-735-8187 LBI - North Beach sleeps 6, very private, short walk beach, \$2400/week **MOVING** 908-996-7524

Long Beach Island- 2[™] off beach, sleeps 8. Call 908-464-5374 call for appt. 908-295-9216

BOSCH DISHWASHER White, top of the line apexx, re-tails over \$1,500, used ORTLEY BEACH , NJ 2 BR, eat in kit., LR, C/A, DW, W&D, furnished deck, gas grill. \$1100/week. Call 908-782-0885

CABINETS, UNUSED Natural Oak, 6 upper, 3 ower, 27" SB, call 908-Merchandise 337-4053

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ARM Loan Limits up to \$600,000.

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Furniture 560

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BEDROOM SET- New 7 pc. set, Bed, Dresser, Mirror & 2 Nite Stands. List \$2000. Sell \$950, Can de-

liver. Call 732-259-6690

Dining Rm New \$899 Also

model house furniture. New Table 47x76x98x120 \$330. Chairs \$79/ea. Can deliver. **908-281-7117**

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ble. \$3500. Call 908-534-2273 after 4:30pm.

Lane leather recliner

end tables \$75 ea, 2 Fireside chairs \$100 ea

908-782-6197 after 7pm

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MATTRESS SET- Full or-

w/warranty. \$120 732-259-6690

low top, brand name w/warranty, \$135

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chair \$500. Look like top exec! 908-735-2564

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Multicolored w/ lounge piece in Good Cond. \$300

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580

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FREE

tho/plush, new in plastic w/warranty, \$120

ville, cherry wood, hutch, 6 chairs, 108'

STORE FIXTURE LIQUIDA TION! 100'S of items: Handy Shelving: cases; Safes; Cash Regis Garment Racks; Shopping Carts; Pallet Rack; Pallet Jacks; Time Clocks; Office Equip. MORE! Everything goes CHEAP! HURRY IN to these discount/closeout stores to make offers NOW! HACKETTSTOWN:

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tric, glass top, 4 burner. \$150 908-369-6019

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BOARDING on private farm in Ringoes, just off Rt. 202. Large box stalls, outdoor arena, round pen, tack room, trails. Daily T/O, run-ins, single T/O available. Owners on premises. \$350, per mo.

908-284-0231 BOMB PROOF 30MB PROOF - indoor/outdoor arena or
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Bay/Wht sock pony mare,
Super 1° ponyl Solid and
quiet enough for beginner
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course, been shown locally, mini thru children.
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Laredo '00 platinum, ithr int., loaded, 55K, exc. cond. vw Cabrio GLS '2000, auto \$13,800 609-397-2388 mi, dk blue w/beige ful leather inter, beige con Land Rover Discovery II '99 vertible top boot, rollbar black, \$10,500. Call 908am/fm cass/6-Disc CD stereo system, p/mirrors, p/w, p/l, dual heated seats, tilt steering wheel, LEXUS ES 300 '94 - White 174K, fully loaded, clean, non smoker. \$5300 OBO cruise, privacy glass, VW alarm system w/2 remote

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Truck, '04 K2500HD crew cab, 8 ft. bed, 8.1 engine,

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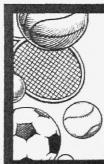
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Camps and Schools



College's Camp Middlesex open house being held this Sunday

EDISON — A sampling of Services Center on the Edison the 8-week summer session tor of Professional and and pick up the complete pro-Middlesex and an introduction to the summer recreation program at Middlesex County College will be held on 1-4 p.m. Sunday in the Technical

June 27 to August 5 Martinsville, New Jersey

Boys and Girls, Ages 3 to 14

PINGRY Day Camps

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At this sixth annual Camp Fair, children and their families can learn about the more than 60 week-long special interest camps held during

and pick up the complete program brochure. Light refreshments will be served.

"We'll be bringing back all our popular camps," said Elaine Berlin, assistant direcCommunity Programs at the College. "People have told us of many more interests, so we're offering additional new programs.

Among the new offerings

are Outside Science and answer questions and explain Ecology, Fashion Design, Genealogy, Volleyball, One-be demonstrations of size of the demonstration of size of the demonstration of size of the demonstration of the de Painting Stroke and Berlin Grossology. Ms. stressed that every instructor is experienced in his and her field as well as with children in general.

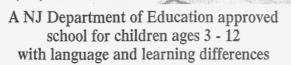
In the fun-filled atmosphere of the Camp Fair, representatives of the permanent and summer staff will meet with children and their families to

the summer offerings including Science, Theater, Karate and Cooking. An annual high-light of the Camp Fair is the drawing for a \$100 gift certifi-cate applied to camp tuition.

Reservations for the Camp Fair are not required. For additional information, contact the Registration Office at (732) 906-2556.

Rock Brook School

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- · Each class staffed with a special education teacher, a certified speech pathologist and a teaching assistant.
- · Community outreach programs including speech/language and occupational therapy
- · Tuition paid by child's home district if approved



www.ROCK-BROOK.org

4-H to hold summer camp

EAST BRUNSWICK — 4-H will be hosting the 2005 Explorations Week Summer Program July 11-15 at the Middlesex County 4-H Center, 645 Cranbury Road.

The program focuses on acceptance and belonging among attendees as well as having fun and promoting self-confidence. Helping kids make new friends and achieve a sense of accomplishment are also important goals of the program. E-Week is open to boys and girls who will have completed grades 3 though 7 in 2005. Children from grades 3 through 5 are especially encouraged to take

part, as there are many spaces open for this age group. Arrangements can be made

for kids with special needs.
Attendees of the program will have a chance to choose from daily activities such as Rocketry, Cheerleading, Wilderness Survival, Drama, Drawing and Biking. The theme of E-Week 2005 will be "Adventures in

Space." The cost of the program is \$145 for 4-H members, \$150 for non-members and includes program materials, lunch and beverages, an E-Week T-shirt, Field Trip and an optional Friday night overnight stay.

For more information or to register, contact the Middlesex County 4-H office at (732) 745-3446.

JCC camp

open house

being held

p.m. March 13.

Community

will receive \$50 off.

ages 2 through teen.

son. Busing is included. Camp Talamini-Ruach also offers pre and post camp weeks for children in grades kindergarten to 6. One-week sports camps are also avail-

and swimming.

Birnbaum

Camp

BRIDGEWATER — Camp Talamini-Ruach will be holding an Open House 2-3:30

The open house will be held

at the Shimon and Sara

Talamini Road. The community is invited to attend the Open House and meet the

Camp Directors who will be discussing plans for the upcoming camp season. Any new camp registration received at the Open House

offers programs for children

The camp season runs from June 27 through Aug. 19, and there is an option of registering for one 4-week session or the entire 8-week camp sea-

able including soccer, tennis

The senior camp staff is

comprised of mature, experienced Directors and Unit

Heads, and all senior counselors have completed high

school. There are also staff positions are available for

Counselor's In Training, Junior Counselors, Senior

Counselors, Units Head, Specialists and Camp Nurse. A camp brochure and regis-

tration form is available on

www.ssbjcc.org/camp.htm. For further information on

Camp Talamini-Ruach, contact Marcy Sitrin, camp direc-

tor, at (908) 725-6994, Ext.

Center, 775

Talamini-Ruach



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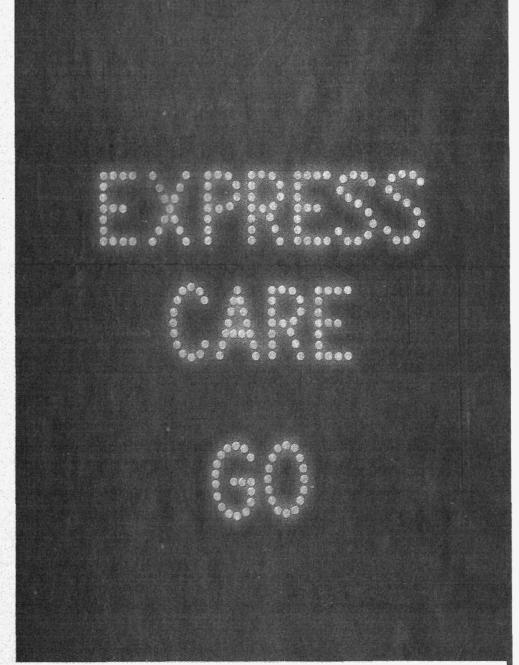
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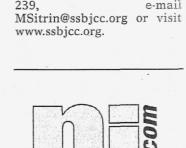
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