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MAY 15 2005

## County asks for \$4.4 million in grants

NEW BRUNSWICK — The Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders have approved applications for grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development totaling more than \$4.4 million.

The grants will start in July. Freeholder Camille Fernicola, chair of the County's Engineering Committee, which oversees the Department of Housing and Community Development, said the HUD programs are the Community Development Block Grant,

the HOME Investment Partnerships program and an Emergency Shelter Grant.

She said that, including the upcoming 2005 grants, the HUD programs have brought about \$80 million in federal funds into Middlesex County.

"These funds have helped municipalities build senior centers and affordable housing, improve parks in low-income neighborhoods, provide transportation services to seniors and disabled persons, and carry out many other types of pro-

jects benefiting low-income people, seniors and the disabled," Fernicola said.

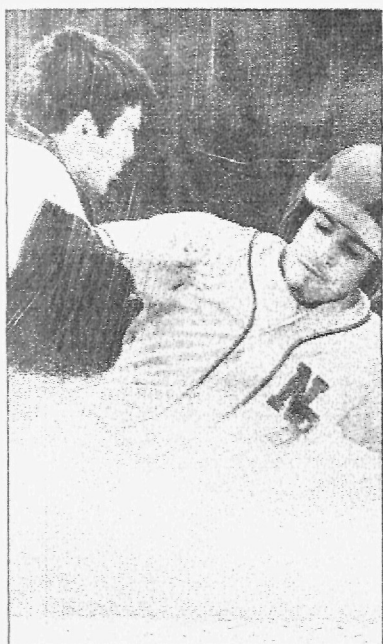
Despite the effective use of these funds over the years, Fernicola said the federal administration is pressing Congress to reduce funding for the Community Development Block Grant and change its focus, meaning Middlesex County and most other counties in New Jersey would no longer receive funds after this year (see related story below).

"The freeholders are strongly against these proposed changes, and we have communicated that to the whole New Jersey congressional delegation," Fernicola said.

"If Congress approves the Administration's proposal, a lot of good programs helping poor families, seniors and disabled residents will be short-changed."

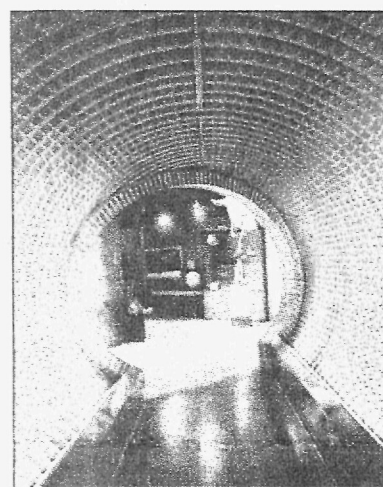
For the 2005 grant, the county would

Continued on page A2



### Borough Wins Big

South Plainfield High's baseball squad won 7-2 Monday to gain a share of the GMC-White Division title. For recap of that game and others, Page B1.



### Visit Some Outer Space

The planetarium at Raritan Valley Community College, which celebrates its 15th anniversary this month, always has something to offer — from gazing at some stars to rocking along with them. For more, visit [www.raritanval.edu](http://www.raritanval.edu).

### How to Help OPSHBX

Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005, in partnership with American Recreational Military Services is seeking cash donations in support of their ongoing effort to supply American forces overseas with a steady supply of personal items, toiletries and snacks. ARMS is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization under the Internal Revenue Service code. All contributions are tax-deductible. All contributions are dedicated to the purchase of supplies and costs of shipping. ARMS/Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005 is an all-volunteer operation. Depending on weight, it costs between \$8 and \$15 to ship each box overseas. Checks should be made out to ARMS, with the instructions "Operation: Shoebox NJ 2005" written on the memo line. Checks should be mailed to: Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005, c/o The Chronicle, 44 Veterans Memorial Drive East, Somerville, N.J. 08876. For more on Operation Shoebox, see Page A5 and A8.

### Index

Commentary.....A4,5  
Briefs.....A7  
Classifieds.....B2

### Picking up the pieces



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

As Fawnda Genovese-Garcia picks up her bride's basket, her husband, Felix surveys what remains of their Green Brook home, destroyed in a March 26 fire. The couple — who had been married a little more than a month before the blaze — are now trying to pick up the pieces. Turn to Page A3 to follow their progress in the second installment of a series that looks at how a family goes on with life in the aftermath of a tragedy.

## Volunteers sought for new grieving program

EDISON — The Barbara E. Cheung Memorial Hospice, located on the campus of Roosevelt Care Center in Edison, is looking for volunteers to help families going through the grieving process.

"Volunteers are an integral part of the interdisciplinary team that administers end-of-life care to patients and their families," said Jill Zhou, volunteer coordinator for the hospice. "Volunteers can run errands, offer support, provide music therapy and compliment the work of the clinical care providers. The presence of a volunteer communicates to the families that the volunteer is here because they want to be here, and that is very meaningful."

Zhou said the Hospice is particularly looking for volunteers to visit with families after a loved one has passed to help them get through the bereavement process.

A 12-hour educational course, that includes workshops, videos and lectures will begin May 25 and be completed in four or five weekly sessions.

The Barbara E. Cheung Memorial Hospice was re-opened and rededicated Jan. 11. The free-standing

"Volunteers are an integral part of the interdisciplinary team that administers end-of-life care to patients and their families."

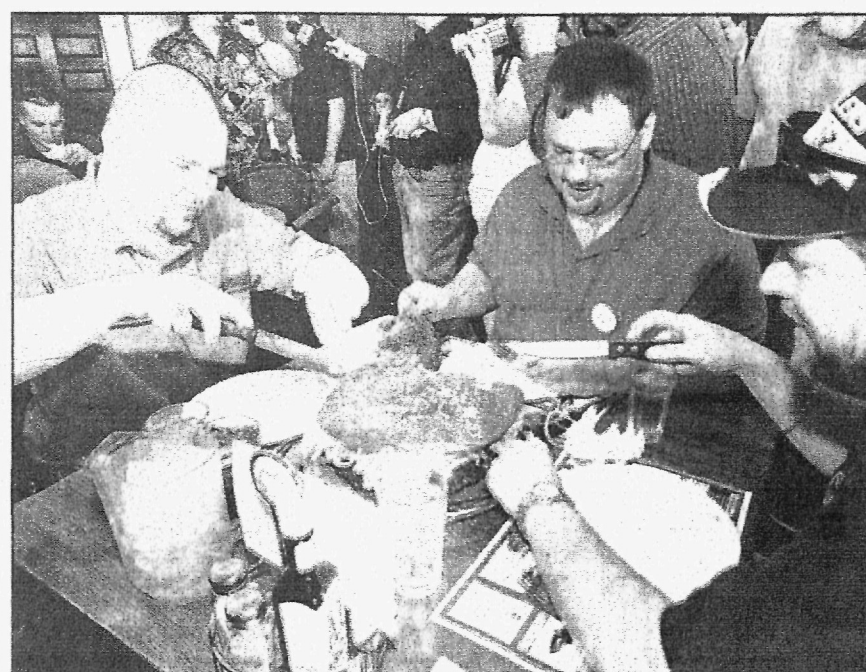
Jill Zhou  
Volunteer Coordinator,  
Barbara E. Cheung  
Memorial Hospice

building was moved from its original location to make room for the new 180 bed long-term care and rehabilitation facility at Roosevelt.

Hospice staff and their programs are administered at the six-bed, homelike building or at the homes of a patient or their loved ones.

For further information, call Zhou at (732) 321-9335.

### Got an appetite?



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Erik Olson, left, of Somerville, John McGowan, center, of Bethlehem, Pa., and Brian Stanford, right, of Landing, dig in to a 7-pound hamburger called Zeus, which weighs in at 12.5 pounds when complete with bun and trimmings, during the "America's Biggest Burger Eating Competition" held Monday as a fundraiser for Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005. "This is my first time. I'm a little bit nervous to say the least," the 26-year-old Olson said before the competition began. For more on the competition, see Page A8. For more on Operation Shoebox, see Page A5.



# County asks for \$4.4 million in federal grants

Continued from page A1

share \$2.24 million Community Development Block Grant funds with 19 municipalities, while a County-headed HOME consortium of 23 municipalities would receive \$2.1 million. A separate HUD grant of \$87,000 would help provide emergency shelter to homeless families.

"We get these grants because municipalities and the county work together," said Fericola. "The county or any of the participating municipalities

couldn't get these funds by itself. We get them by joining forces."

"We've worked together on a strictly non-partisan basis for 31 years," Fericola said. "Working together in this program paved the way for later shared programs like recycling and joint purchasing. I'm very proud of that. When we get together, we provide better service to our residents and save the property taxpayers money."

The 2005 CDBG grant would be used for 84 projects ranging

from park and street improvements to help for battered spouses.

Fericola highlighted 13 countywide projects chosen by a committee made up of municipal and county representatives.

These projects include: improving facilities at the Kiddie Keep Well Camp for low-income children and seniors; making the Oakcrest YMCA camp more accessible to disabled campers; renovating a building where Women Helping Women provide coun-

seling to battered women; making the South Brunswick YMCA's facility more accessible for disabled people; and strengthening Middlesex Interfaith Partners with the Homeless's transitional housing program providing training for homeless families with children. CDBG funds also were awarded to the Cerebral Palsy Association, InfoLine of Middlesex County, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, Jewish Family Services, the Visiting Nurses Association, the Housing

Coalition, Citizens for Independent Living and Elijah's Promise, all non-profit groups serving low-income families, seniors or disabled residents.

The new \$2.1 million HOME grant would be used to create affordable housing. Recent HOME-funded projects include the newly-opened Maher Manor senior housing in Old Bridge, the soon-to-be-open South River Landing senior housing in South River, and upcoming senior housing in East Brunswick and

Carteret. HOME funds also will be used, along with County funds, to help construct apartments specifically designed for disabled persons, adjacent to Maher Manor.

The county also would use a \$70,000 grant to help first-time homebuyers with down payments. This new program, called the American Dream Downpayment Initiative, is expected to start in mid-summer 2005, according to John Sully, Executive Director of Housing and Community Development.

## Police seeking driver who struck bicyclist

MIDDLESEX — Police received numerous calls reporting a motor vehicle accident at the intersection of Pierrepont and Giles avenues 3:59 p.m. Tuesday.

It was reported that a pickup truck had struck a bicyclist then left the scene.

The investigation revealed that Patrick T. Corley, 13, of Middlesex was riding his bicycle eastbound on Giles Avenue when he was struck by a gold or tan full-size pickup truck.

The truck was traveling northbound on Pierrepont Avenue.

After the collision, the operator of the truck stopped and spoke briefly to Patrick before getting back into the vehicle

and leaving the scene.

The driver is described as an older white man, balding, with gray hair, approximately 5'5" tall.

The vehicle travelled north on Pierrepont Avenue and was last seen entering the rear parking lot of the Food Basics grocery store.

Patrick sustained injuries to his right leg and was transported by Rutgers EMS to Robert Wood Johnson University Medical Center in New Brunswick for treatment.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Middlesex Police Department Tip Line at (732) 356-1900, Ext 847.

The accident was investigated by Officer Chad Corner.

## Grant cuts could hit Central Jersey hard

Continued from page A1

grants, gave funding to six Somerset County municipalities: Bridgewater, Manville, North Plainfield, Raritan, South Bound Brook and Somerville.

The funds may be used for a wide variety of projects, everything from sewer repairs to employment training to affordable housing.

Manville, which received \$115,000 last week, will put the money toward two projects: improvements to the library and recreation center to make the two handicapped-accessible, and sidewalk repairs.

"We're a walking school district, and the kids walk to school in the street, so we're filling in the gaps in the sidewalk," said Gary Garwacke, the borough administrator and engineer.

Garwacke said the borough

has applied for funding through the CDBG program for as long as it has been in existence, and has received funds for parks, road improvement, and sewer work, among other things.

Unlike Somerset Home and other organizations, municipalities have other ways to fund project if CDBG funding is cut.

"If we didn't get it, we'd have to get the money through taxation," Garwacke said, adding that the CDBG pot has been shrinking every year.

Raising taxes, however, is not the ideal solution.

"You understand it if there's a need to do some kind of capital project, but not for the kind of programs we run," said Rosalie Yurasko, the director of the county division of community development, which administers CDBG funds. She said that raising taxes for senior services, for example, would likely

not go over well with taxpayers.

"The beauty of community development block grants is that it's flexible funding," Yurasko said. The major eligibility requirement to receive funding through the program is providing services to low- and moderate-income individuals and families.

"While it's not a lot of money, our non-profits reach so many people with so little money," she said. This year, the county had just over \$1.4 million in CDBG funds to allocate.

There has been opposition to the plan. "After we heard the CDBG funding has been cut, there was a kind of grassroots effort in the CDBG community," Yurasko said. Many communities and counties, including Somerset, have sent letters to their Washington representatives urging them to reconsider cuts to the program.

The cuts, however, are far

from a sure thing, according to Steve O'Halloran, spokesman for Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen.

"From the congressman's perspective, he wants to do everything to help keep Somerset County communities thriving," O'Halloran said. "The budget is simply a first step in a yearlong process, and right now, we're beginning the appropriation process."

Frelinghuysen, who sits on the appropriations committee, will keep concerns about the proposed cuts to the CDBG funding in mind, O'Halloran said.

Until then, many organizations, including Somerset Home, have offered their support to the grassroots effort.

"We told them we were devastated, and we told them we would do anything they needed us to," to encourage officials to restore the funding, said Anne Bradley-Sosis.

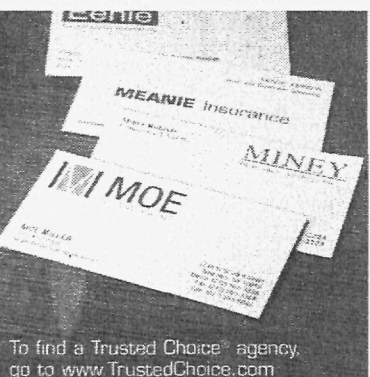


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## 'Y' child program is ready for opening

EAST BRUNSWICK — The Raritan Valley YMCA's Infant/Toddler Program will hit the ground running when it opens its doors at its newly renovated and expanded facility on Tices Lane next month.

The organization has been awarded a \$40,000 grant for its start-up program by Colonel's Kids, Kentucky Fried Chicken's national charity, and the Entertainment Industry

Foundation.

Barbara Bader, Raritan Valley YMCA business manager, explained that a community needs assessment survey, conducted for the United Way of Central Jersey by the Eagleton Institute at Rutgers University, identified infant/toddler care as one of the biggest needs in the community. The findings made the YMCA eligible for the grant.

Bader says the grant will be used to furnish and outfit the infant/toddler center with equipment and furniture.

"We are excited about our new facility and the additional

services, such as infant (and) toddler care, that we will be able to provide to our community," she said. "We are very grateful to Colonel's Kids and EIF for making our infant (and) toddler pilot program possible."

In December 2004, the YMCA received a \$3.9 million grant from the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority to help pay for the organization's expansion. The YMCA serves more than 900 families or 2,000 individuals.

The YMCA will move from its current location at Dunham's Corner Road in East Brunswick to a nearby facility on Tices

Lane. The grant will help with renovation costs to the existing building on the Tices Lane site.

The total expansion cost is estimated to be \$8.5 million.

In addition to a new child care center, the facility on Tices Lane will feature cardiovascular, conditioning and weight training areas, an aerobic/dance studio, multipurpose rooms, locker/shower rooms, a six-lane pool, a therapy instruction pool and a new gymnasium. Renovation of the existing building is expected to be completed by the end of 2005. The entire expansion project is scheduled to be completed in 2006.

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



**Lauren Richmond**

Lauren is a 6th grader at the Bridgewater-Raritan Middle School. Lauren's interests include baseball - she is a true Patriots and Yankees fan - going to Broadway Plays, playing the drums, golf, bowling, listening to music, tap dancing and playing with her puppy Bella. She also loves going to the movies and shopping with her older sister Dana. Lauren is a Girl Scout and enjoys being in schools plays. She loves to read and she can't wait for the release of the next Harry Potter book.

Lauren also has a passion for politics and law. Lauren volunteered for the Republican campaign during the 2004 elections and just recently has the pleasure of a visit from Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen to her sixth grade social studies class. Lauren would love to go to law school and aspires to become a Congresswoman or even President. This year Lauren will be attending the Lead American Congressional Forum in Washington, DC

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# 'You still have to pay the mortgage'

**Editor's note:** This article is the second part of a continuing series that will look closely at how a family picks up the pieces, rebuilds and goes on with their life in the aftermath of a fire that destroyed their home.

By AMY S. BOBROWSKI  
Staff Writer

A few days after the March 26 fire that destroyed her Williamsburg Colonial Saltbox style house in Green Brook, Fawnda Genovese-Garcia called her cable company to explain why she wouldn't be paying cable bills for a while.

"The woman on the other end said, 'Do you still have the black box? If not, you owe us \$400,'" recalled Fawnda. "I said, 'Of course I don't have the box. I had a fire.'"



The woman from the cable company requested Fawnda bring them the \$400 for the cable box within 24 hours.

"I don't have \$400," said Fawnda. Even after she sent the cable company a police report of the fire, they were still not happy. "They wanted a fire insurance report. I didn't have a report. They didn't determine the cause of the fire yet."

Just Tuesday, almost a month after she sent the letter and following a phone call from The Reporter, Fawnda received a phone call from Cablevision informing her they'd refund her money.

"They said they were sorry for what I had to go through," said Fawnda who was shocked by the insensitivity of the woman she had originally spoken with.

More than that though, she pondered what other bills she'd have to pay before her insurance money came through. Those thoughts didn't come right away, but instead crept up on her days, weeks and nearly a month after the fire.

"When something like this happens, you're not thinking right away. You just lost every-

thing," said Fawnda, who noted dealing with a fire is a lot like going through the five stages of grief. "You're still mourning and you get all these bills."

And the list of bills was long. It included the mortgage, the insurance, phone and cell phone bills, utilities, car bill and tax bills.

"You still have to pay the mortgage, even when your house burns down and you can't live there," said Fawnda.

The fire forced Fawnda and her husband Felix to rely on their cell phones.

"My cell phone bill has never been over \$60," said Fawnda. "It was \$255 and that wasn't even for a full month."

Despite their loss and their mounting bills, Fawnda said she never lost faith that God and good people would help them get through their tough time. In times of chaos, tears and bewilderment, Fawnda has turned to the Serenity Prayer, reciting it out loud and in her thoughts.

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference.

Her faith was rewarded. The students and staff at the schools where Fawnda and Felix work took up collections and together provided the couple with nearly \$2,500. The Red Cross picked up the tab for the couple's first three nights at the Howard Johnson and gave them gift certificates for department and grocery stores.

Fawnda's mother, Rebecca Huffman, living in Ohio, even had her credit card put in Fawnda's name. In addition, Fawnda used some of her home equity loan money, while Felix used credit cards to pay off bills and purchase necessities in the wake of the fire.

Fawnda said she wasn't worried about being able to make all the bill payments because "everybody was helping us. They were just so generous."

On top of all the bills, nearly everything the couple owned was ruined in the fire. The only possessions that escaped damage were their cars and the clothes on their backs.

"We didn't even have jackets because it was warm that night,"



Fawnda Genovese-Garcia, her hands and clothes smudged with black soot from the March 26 fire, examines a chair in the littered backyard of her Green Brook home to see whether it's worth saving.

GEORGE PACCIOLLO/  
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

said Fawnda. She and her husband had gone out to the movies the night of the fire.

The first things they bought were under clothes, t-shirts, toothbrushes and other toiletries. The couple stayed with Fawnda's daughter and her husband in their North Plainfield apartment for four nights before settling into a motel room at the Howard Johnson for almost two weeks.

"It was just a room. It had two double beds and a bathroom," said Fawnda. "It wasn't the most romantic thing. Being cooped up just got to me. But the people there were so nice. We kept thinking we'd be moving any day to more permanent housing, but we kept having to call them in the middle of the day and say

that we need to stay another night."

Because the insurance settlement had not yet been cleared, the couple paid out of pocket for their motel room. The bill for their almost two-week stay totaled more than \$750.

But the worst part about staying in the motel wasn't paying the bills; it was trying to live together as newlyweds in a single room.

At the time of the fire, Fawnda and Felix had only been married for six weeks.

"I think being in that room really got to me because you're living in a single room. We haven't even had time to be married yet," said Fawnda. "We both just adore each other, but

we're very tense. We don't fight, but there's been a strain."

To make matters worse, the room didn't have a kitchen where Fawnda could relieve stress by cooking, something she used to love to do.

"We've been eating out the whole time. Yuck. I can't wait to get back home and cook a home cooked meal," said Fawnda.

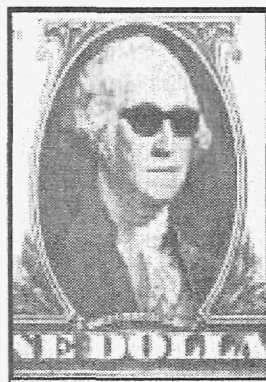
"I want rice and beans with fish," said Felix, recalling a favorite Ecuadorian meal.

Finally, on April 13, the insurance company released money for the couple to move in to

more permanent housing at the Crystal Ridge Club in Watchung. Their new two-bedroom apartment is small, but is luxurious and fully furnished with necessities from bedding to silverware.

But to the newlyweds, it's still not home.

*In Part III, appearing in next week's edition of The Reporter, Fawnda and Felix return to work, and continue to put the pieces of their lives back together, with help from friends, family and complete strangers.*



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# Commentary

## Higher education becoming a balancing act

The definition of higher education is changing all the time.

Once it meant going to a two-year school for an associate's degree, to a college or university for a bachelor's degree and to a graduate school for a master's degree. All that has changed. Continuing education has replaced college, and higher-ed is no longer just for the 18- to 24-year-old set.

It makes being the president of a higher-learning institution, any higher-learning institution, more challenging.

Today's students demand more choices and more opportunities. They want better classrooms, better professors, access to on-line learning, more hands-on experiences; many are aware of just how challenging the workplace is today and understand what it takes to survive there. After all, a whole new group of college students were already here once before and are coming back again.

In some ways it makes the debate over rising tuition at Raritan Valley Community College a bit academic. Yes, a community college has to remain affordable enough to accommodate as many students as possible, but at what cost?

Financial aid is offered to many students, and while tuition would have increased more under a plan presented by outgoing college President G. Jeremiah Ryan, it still would have been affordable enough for most students.

On the other side, as Ryan stated recently, without the tuition hike, the school will lose several teaching positions, the first sign that a decline in academics could be coming. It's something the school's students can't afford to have.

The school has begun a large construction project to help expand the services it offers students. Under Ryan's tenure, the college has formed a number of alliances with other schools, many of them four-year and beyond institutions.

The Raritan Valley of 2005 is serving the needs of its students — preparing them for whatever path they choose. It is a shame that tuition may halt that, as it is the primary reason given for Ryan's departure from the school.

Whoever is chosen as his successor will have a large challenge to face — balancing the financial needs of students with their academic needs and the demands of two counties who are served by the school.

## Property tax reform needs to be addressed

By WILLIAM G. DRESSEL Jr.

Acting Gov. Richard Codey has spoken on the "Smart Bill" which would have shifted a percentage of school property taxes to the income tax. He does not support it.

In his State of the State speech he said, "We must consider ... and act upon the report by Carl Van Horn and Michael Cole on the Property Tax Convention." He also said, "The public deserves better than false promises and unrealistic expectations." Codey has always been a man of his word.

We are confident that the naysayers are wrong. There will be a Senate vote on A-5269 and ACR-25 if the bills are approved by the Assembly. They may not pass in the Senate, but they will be acted upon — and that is a whole lot more than can be said about any other plan for property tax reform. This confirms what we've been saying for the past five years: Anyone who seriously wants to see significant and lasting property tax reform has got to support a convention.

Property taxes are unfair and inequitable. They are not based on the ability to pay and fall heaviest on those living on fixed incomes. In our state, those with the least shoulder a disproportionate share of the burden. Households with incomes in the lowest 20 percent pay 9.2 percent of their earnings in property taxes, while the wealthiest 20 percent pay 3.6 percent of their income through this assessment.

New Jersey is over-reliant on this regressive revenue source. The property tax accounts for about 45 percent of total state and local tax revenue in our state. The national average is just slightly above 30 percent.

The Legislature has always had the power to address the property tax crisis. The Legislature has had ample opportunity to address the property tax

crisis. The Legislature has not addressed the property tax crisis.

Despite decades of inaction, incredibly, there are those who still believe that the Legislature and the Legislature alone should have the right to accomplish significant and lasting property tax reform. We would welcome that. But don't let anybody tell you that that is the surest route to true reform — and don't let anybody tell you that movement toward a property tax convention precludes the possibility of legislative progress.

Legislative action on a property tax convention bill will do nothing to prevent the unanticipated, unprecedented and highly unlikely prospect that the Legislature just might decide at long last to lance this festering sore on the body politic. All action on a convention bill will do is set a time limit.

The Legislature will have until Election Day to convince the people of New Jersey that they do not need a special convention to get true property tax reform. If they can do that, there will be no convention. If they cannot, then there has to be one.

That's our fiscal illness. A-5269 and ACR-25 could be the cure. As our "primary care physicians," the acting governor and Legislature don't seem to have one, so we've asked them for a referral to a new group of specialists. Those we have in mind would be the delegates to a convention for property tax reform.

With property tax pressures almost certain to intensify this year, the people of New Jersey must be given hope for future relief. They expect the Senate and Assembly, as well as Codey, to act on a convention bill in time to get the question on this November's ballot. They need nothing more than that. They deserve nothing less.

The writer is executive director of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, based in Trenton.

## Quotable

"We haven't even had time to be married yet. We both just adore each other, but we're very tense. We don't fight, but there's been a strain."

**Fawnda Genovese-Garcia**

"Three guys came in Saturday night and ordered three of them. In two and a half hours they (each) only finished about two-fifths of the burger. They didn't want to take it home. They said they had enough."

**Costas Zambas**

"It's just like a regular house. It's not like a shelter; it's not like a group home. When you come home from school, it feels like coming home."

**Lorenzo (last name withheld by request)**

## Question of the week:

Which should a community college put first, affordability or academics?



**LYDIA HAYNES**  
Hillsborough

"Academics first — that's their primary reason for being, then figure out how to deliver the package for a reasonable cost."



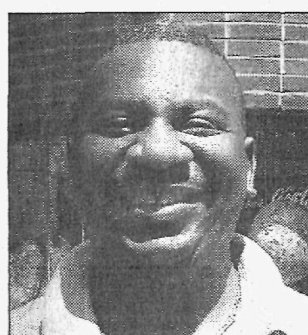
**BERNADETTE SCRAPE**  
Raritan  
"Academics first."



**MARIAN KAUFMAN**  
Bedminster  
"I think they're both equally important."



**SAM MALIK**  
Somerville  
"Affordability. Getting more people educated to better equip them with greater skills to compete in the 'white collar' world of today."



**CLARENCE BROWN**  
Raritan

"They're interchangeable — can't have one without the other. Then you take this education to its high level, which leads to a (Bachelor of Science) degree, like I have done."



**IRIS BROWN**  
Manville

"Affordable. This opportunity should be extended to everyone so they can obtain a good education."

## Letters to the Editor

## Arbor Day was well attended

To The Editor:

The Bound Brook Shade Tree Commission wishes to thank everyone who joined us in our 2005 town-wide celebration of Arbor Day. Special thanks to borough residents for helping to plant a pink dogwood tree in the Old Presbyterian Cemetery adjacent to the Bound Brook Memorial Library. We read a proclamation about the importance of everyone's stewardship of trees and dedicated the tree to the soldiers buried in the cemetery as well as to those soldiers protecting our freedoms today and for the future. Educational materials on proper tree planting and maintenance were available.

Residents who attended received wonderful trees, donated by local businesses. Many thanks to Ash's Flower Farm, B&B Nurseries Inc., Barty Farms and Home Depot for their generous donations which helped to encourage res-

ident participation and insure the success of our Arbor Day event.

Thanks also to Bound Brook High School, Effinger Sporting Goods, Lafayette School, Smalley School and Union Avenue Legend Pharmacy for informing residents about Arbor Day on their marquee displays.

In our effort to help children learn about how much trees contribute to our community and to our environment, Shade Tree Commission members presented free programs and sponsored tree giveaways at Smalley School and Wee People Preschool. We appreciate the teachers' cooperation in this worthwhile project.

Thank you all for encouraging an awareness of the importance of trees and for joining us in helping to safeguard the environment for now and for the future.

**BOUND BROOK SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

## Prayer observance held in Metuchen

To the Editor:

On Thursday, May 5, approximately 60 men, women and children gathered at Metuchen's new Borough Hall to pray to God, on the National Day of Prayer. Mayor Edmund O'Brien remarked that this is the largest crowd of prayers gathered at borough hall that he has seen in his 10 years of being mayor.

He read a proclamation authorizing this day as Metuchen's Official National Day of Prayer.

I would like to thank the following church leaders for their special prayers offered to God: James Miller, First Baptist

Church of Metuchen; Edward Slack, First Baptist Church of Metuchen; Donald McFarren, Metuchen Assembly of God; Gregory McFarren, Metuchen Assembly of God; Paul Licameli, St. Francis Cathedral; Mark McCreary, Second Baptist Church; and Ron Owens, New Hope Baptist Church.

It was a joy to have the clergy pray for our blessings, our dependence on God, the oppressed, families, government, leadership and churches.

To all who participated, a job well done.

**MARTIN A. "SKIP" JESSEN**  
Edison

## Volunteers, support made drill a success

To the Editor:

Last month, the Somerset County Health Department, Office of Emergency Management, local public health and law enforcement agencies, Somerset Medical Center and many other county offices, municipalities and local organizations participated in the international TopOff 3 public-health emergency exercise.

On behalf of the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders, I want to thank not only the county, municipal and agency personnel who put in long hours to plan and execute this massive event, but also the 300-plus volunteers who signed up to role-play as "victims" of the mock disaster and as workers in the mock medication-distribution clinic that was set up

at Raritan Valley Community College.

I'm proud to report that Somerset County had one of the highest turnouts of TopOff 3 volunteers of any county in New Jersey. This is a testament to the civic-mindedness of our residents and I want to thank each and every volunteer who gave up his or her evening on April 7 to help this county become more prepared in the event of a real emergency. While there were many challenges presented during the drill, the lessons we learned from this experience will add to our already excellent emergency-response operations at the county and municipal levels.

**RICK FONTANA**

Director, Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders

## Sex assault affects many

To The Editor:

Sexual assault is a serious crime that affects thousands of people in New Jersey every year. In fact, rape care programs statewide received more than 26,000 calls to their sexual assault hotlines in 2004. Sexual assault is a traumatic experience and while all survivors react differently, most go through a range of emotions including anxiety, guilt and depression. When a person is sexually assaulted he or she feels powerless and alienated. It is estimated that over 32,000 survivors of sexual assault between ages 12-45 get pregnant each year. Becoming pregnant at the hands of the assailant is like being victimized a second time.

We applaud the Legislature and Acting Gov. Richard J. Codey for protecting women in New Jersey from being revictimized by health care providers who in the past may have denied a survivor of sexual assault certain medication or treatment. Led by Sens. Shirley Turner and Joe Vitale, Assemblymen Neil Cohen,

Reed Gusciora, John McKeon and John Wisniewski, New Jersey is now one of only a handful of states who allow survivors of sexual violence a real choice in their medical treatment. Under this new law, emergency departments and general hospitals are required to give female sexual assault victims a pregnancy test. If the test indicates no pregnancy has occurred, the facility is required to provide survivors with information on emergency contraception [and] prescription drugs to prevent pregnancy. Upon her request, the facility is now obligated to provide the contraception.

In New Jersey, a number of religious, health and women's groups came together to support this legislation and we praise these groups for looking beyond their differences to defend the rights of sexual assault survivors in this state.

**CHRISULA TASIPOPOLOS**  
Coordinator, Somerset County Sexual Assault Support Services  
Women's Health & Counseling Center,  
Somerville

## The Chronicle

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## The Chronicle is here for you

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

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

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

Our address: The Chronicle, PO Box 699, Somerville, NJ 08876. Our fax number is (908) 575-6683.

### 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.



# Big 'burger shares fame with OPSHBX

Operation Shoebox had its most successful fund raising event to date Monday at the Clinton Station Diner, but this wasn't about the money, although we counted up \$990 by the end of the day.

This was about raising public awareness, and thanks to Mike Zambas, owner of the diner, and Arnie Chapman, president of the Association of Independent Competitive Eaters, OPSHBX got lots of publicity, and was able to spread the word about its ongoing efforts to send gift packages to U.S. troops deployed in the Mideast.

MTV, Patriot Media, WFMZ-TV, Channel 69, News 12 New Jersey, 101.5 FM, 1010 WINS, The Easton Express-Times, Hunterdon County Democrat and Courier News were on hand for "America's Biggest Burger Eating Competition."

Armas and Chapman had designated OPSHBX as the beneficiary of the contest last month when they announced the event, and though there was no question that the big burger was the main item on the menu for the media, OPSHBX got its fair share of mention on the air and in the news columns.

Read Jim White's story on page B1 for all the details.

## Somerville Supply Line

The big day is just 48 hours away.

Somerville residents, elected officials and the business community will join with the volunteers of Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005 Saturday in downtown Somerville to participate in "Operation Somerville Supply Line," a four-hour event during which we'll pack, wrap and ship boxes for U.S. armed service personnel from the Central Jersey region who are serving in Iraq and the Mideast.

Frank Valanzola, a vice president at the Morgan Stanley branch office in downtown Somerville, and a charter member of the growing circle of OPSHBX volunteers, is coordinating the event, sponsored by the Somerville District Management Association, the Somerville Merchants Association, The Reporter, the Somerset Patriots and other civic groups.

To ensure the success of this event, we need supplies, and we need volunteers to help with the wrapping and shipping of suntan lotion, bug spray, lip balm, eye drops, razors, shampoo, snack foods, hard candy, drink mixes, bat-

Rod Hirsch  
Executive  
Editor



teries, calling cards and other items.

Posters advertising the event have been posted in the windows of downtown Somerville storefronts.

We hope this event will act as a blueprint for other communities, civic organizations and business groups in Central New Jersey. Please let Frank know whether you'd be interested in hosting a similar event at your school, office, or in your downtown business district. Perhaps you'd like to stop by and observe - and as long as you're there, maybe pitch in and help. Remember, it's all about the soldiers and Marines half a world away.

## School salutes soldiers

Today concludes Immaculata High School's 10-day collection drive designed to gather thousands of items that will be boxed and shipped to U.S. armed forces in Iraq and the Mideast.

A special program at the Somerville school was to have featured a video shot in Iraq by Army Maj. Sal Abano, an officer in the 250th Signal Battalion, 42nd Infantry, a National Guard unit based in Franklin that was deployed to Iraq beginning in October. His daughter is a student at the school.

The supplies were gathered, along with hundreds of letters written to the soldiers by the students, and will be boxed, packed and shipped during Saturday's special event in downtown Somerville.

## Auction benefits OPSHBX

Raritan Antique Village, just 1 mile off the Somerville Circle, will be hosting an art sale and silent auction to benefit Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005, a five-day event that begins May 18 featuring presentations and demonstrations by the artists.

A portion of the silent auction proceeds raised by the sale of the artwork will be donated to Operation Shoebox.

The antique store is located at 44 West Somerset St. in downtown Raritan.

Local artist Cliff Brown approached Ellyn Brannick,

owner of the antique store, with the idea of an art show where a portion of the proceeds would be donated to a charity. Together with designers Kelley Evens and Kolbe Clark, they worked out the details. Brown, a regular fixture on the local art circuit, has been showcased as an artist in residence both in the United States and abroad. He will preview some of the pieces for the weekend's art show as well as talk about and demonstrate techniques used in the artwork on Wednesday, May 18 at 7 p.m.

The art show will also feature local artists' work as well as work from around the world in a variety of styles. The show will run for several days with multiple special events throughout the week:

Art Show and Auction Schedule of Events

May 19, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., art-work preview; May 20, 6-9 p.m., wine and cheese reception; May 21, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., refreshments, 1-3 p.m., artist demonstration; May 22, noon-2 p.m., pastries, coffee, and tea, 3-5 p.m., Silent Auction results will be announced.

This is a great way to find the perfect piece for a home, an office, or even a hotel lobby and help our troops at the same time. To get directions or more information, call Raritan Antique Village at 908-526-7920.

## Special thanks

Nine employees of JOM Pharmaceutical Services in Franklin, a division of Ortho McNeil Pharmaceutical, visited The Reporter office last week to help sort through the bags and boxes of donated goods that have piled up the past two weeks and get them organized for Saturday's Somerville event.

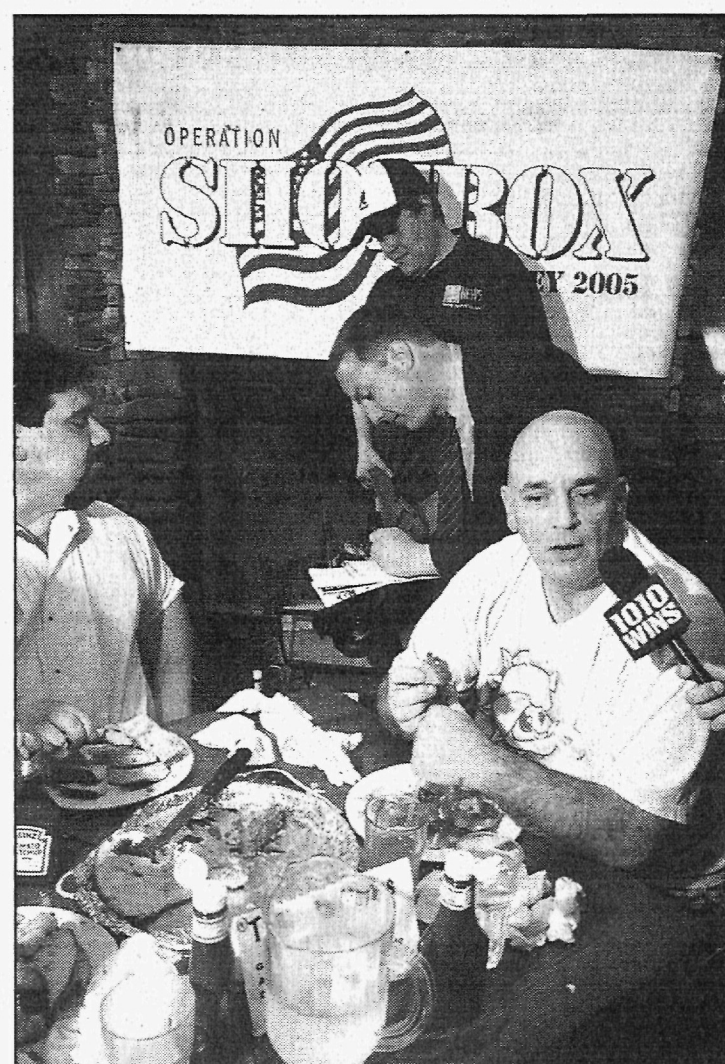
It took them two hours of steady work to make the piles disappear, a total of 18 man hours.

Our thanks to Pat Lawton; Gladys Harper; Valerie Scott; Charlotte Jackson; Allyson McCann; Dion Trott; Gerri Cordianno; Raj Mandelwala and Carolyn Allen.

## T-shirts for sale

Quality T-shirts with the handsome Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005 poster and logo are available.

Several stores on Main Street in Somerville will begin selling the shirts next week. The shirt features the distinctive red, white and blue Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005 logo, and a full-



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"Gentleman Joe" Menchetti, far left, is interviewed by WFMZ-TV newsman Scott Noll, while at right, Dominick "The Doginator" Cardo, talks to a reporter from 1010 WINS radio during Monday's hamburger eating contest at the Clinton Station Diner, a benefit that raised nearly \$1,000 for Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005.

color reproduction of the Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005 poster.

The shirts cost \$10 and are also available at The Reporter office, 44 Veterans Memorial Drive East, and at several stores on Main Street in Metuchen. All proceeds from sale of the shirts directly benefit OPSHBX.

Buy one for yourself, buy a few as gifts. We can also reproduce the shirts in quantity for veterans' groups, corporations, or other sponsors, and include the name of your company or organization on the shirt. Call and ask for details.

## Help is on the way

Shipments big and small came into The Chronicle's office over the past few weeks, all of which has been sorted and destined for packing Saturday in downtown Somerville. We'd like to acknowledge those individu-

als and organizations who have contributed their efforts: Nicole Schmidt, a Mary Kay representative and employee of Pfizer, who brought in Mary Kay products as well as 10 cases of lip balm from Pfizer; sixth-graders from the MacKinnon Middle School of Wharton, in Morris County, who took the time to label each bottle of sunscreen, shampoo and toothpaste with a message: Dear Soldier, We're thinking of you! Love, 6th Graders from MacKinnon Middle School Wharton, N.J. and the Green Brook School of South Brunswick, a K-5 school with an enrollment of 450 students. The Vanderveer School in Somerville came through again, dropping off several dozen bags of donated items last Friday.

Rod Hirsch is executive editor of The Chronicle. He can be reached at (908) 575-6684 or email rhirsch@njnpublishing.com.

## Calendar of Events

**May 12:** Commerce Bank Ballpark, Bridgewater, Somerset Patriots vs. Newark Bears, 7:05 p.m., fans bringing items for the soldiers will be given a voucher good for one free ticket to a game during the season. (908) 252-0700.

**May 14:** "Operation Somerville Supply Line," Somerville officials, business organizations and residents will gather with Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005 volunteers to box and ship items for U.S. troops, noon-4 p.m. Landmark Shopping Center, West Main Street, Somerville. Donations of needed items requested. (800) 350-3326.

**May 14:** "Aerobathon," fund raising event, Powerhouse Gym, Route 22, Bridgewater. Call for details (908) 595-1111.

**May 15:** Volunteers from Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005 and American Recreational Military Services will box and ship items for U.S. troops, 1-5 p.m. 42nd Division armory, Hamilton Street, Franklin. (732) 937-6290.

**May 16:** Clinton Station Diner, Route 173 & Bank Street, Clinton (off Route 78), 15 percent of the dinner receipts from 4-9 p.m. will be donated to Operation Shoebox. (908) 713-0012.

**May 16-21:** Special Collection for U.S. soldiers deployed in the Mideast in commemoration of Armed Forces Day (May 21), Wachovia Bank, 758 Route 202 south, Bridgewater (Wegman's Shopping Center), Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Thursday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon.

**May 19:** Commerce Bank Ballpark, Bridgewater, Somerset Patriots vs. Bridgeport Bluefish, 7:05 p.m., fans bringing items for the soldiers will be given a voucher good for one free ticket to a game during the season. (908) 252-0700.

**May 30:** Clinton Station Diner, Route 173 & Bank Street, Clinton (off Route 78), 15 percent of the dinner receipts from 4-9 p.m. will be donated to Operation Shoebox. (908) 713-0012.

## Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005 Drop-off sites:

### Somerset County

The Chronicle office, 44 Veterans Memorial Drive East, Somerville  
Commerce Bank Ballpark, 1 Patriots Way, Bridgewater  
The 250th Signal Battalion, 42nd Infantry Armory on Hamilton Street in Franklin  
The Somerville U.S. Postal Service office at 39 Division St., Somerville  
Somerset County Sheriff's Office, County Administration Building, Grove Street, Somerville  
Morgan Stanley, 166 West Main St., Somerville  
Mannion's Pub & Restaurant, 150 West Main St., Somerville  
Alfonso's Italian Restaurant, 99-101 West Main St., Somerville  
Beneath It All, 72 West Main St., Somerville  
Wachovia Bank, 1 West Main St., Somerville  
Dr. William Moskowitz, 205 West Main St., third floor, Somerville  
Somerville Center Antiques, 33 West Main St., Somerville  
Shop-Rite Supermarket, 611 West Union Ave., Bound Brook  
Girl Scouts of Rolling Hills Council, 1171 Route 28, North Branch  
Somerset County Park Commission main office, North Branch Park, Milltown Road, Bridgewater  
Somerset County Environmental Education Center, 190 Lord Stirling Road, Basking Ridge  
Leonard J. Buck Garden, 11 Layton Road, Far Hills  
Warrenbrook Golf Course, Warrenville Road, Warren  
Spooky Brook Golf Course, Colonial Park, Amwell Road, Franklin  
Raritan Valley Community College Theater and Student Activities office, Route 28, North Branch  
Learning Express Toys, 315 Route 206, Hillsborough  
Test Sports Club, 1982 Washington Valley Road, Martinsville  
US Bicycle Hall of Fame, Main Street, Bridgewater  
Powerhouse Gym, Route 22, Bridgewater

Felix #9 Diner, Route 22, Bridgewater  
Bedminster Post Office, 251 Somerville Road, Bedminster  
Attic Treasures Antiques, Sansone Plaza, Route 22 East, Green Brook  
Country Manor Furniture, 272 Route 22 West, Green Brook  
Executive Fitness Club, 292 Route 22 West, Green Brook  
Shop Rite Supermarket, Route 28, Bound Brook  
Dr. Steven C. Balestracci, 154 Adamsville Road North, Bridgewater  
Soprano's, 154 Adamsville Road North, Bridgewater  
The Cricket, 408 Elizabeth Ave., Somerset  
Morgan Stanley, 15 Independence Blvd., Warren  
Baja Fresh Mexican Grill, 1595 Route 22 West, Watchung  
Attic Treasures, 319 Route 22 East, Sansone Plaza, Green Brook  
AAA Vac, 1515 Route 22 West, Watchung Square Mall, Watchung  
Borough Hall, Route 22 and Grove Street, Somerville  
Gladstone Cleaners, 258 Main St., Peapack-Gladstone  
North Branch Post Office, Route 22, North Branch  
Somerset Medical Center main lobby, 110 Rehill Ave., Somerville  
Capelli Salon, 1171 Route 202 North, Branchburg  
Natural Medicine and Rehabilitation, 745 Routes 202/206 South, Bridgewater  
Sal's Talk of the Town, 1987 Washington Valley Road, Martinsville  
Bucky's/The Closet, 45 So. Main St., Manville  
Sherman & Son Jewelers, Bridgewater Commons Mall (second level), Bridgewater  
Sherman & Son Jewelers, Somerset Shopping Center, Route 202/206, Bridgewater  
Exercise Woman, Route 206 South, Raritan  
**Middlesex County**  
Dollar Planet Dollar Store, Route 28, Middlesex

Summit Federal Savings & Loan, Washington Avenue, Dunellen  
Variety Village, 420 Main St., Metuchen  
George's Dry Cleaning, 424 Main St., Metuchen  
Boro Ace Hardware, 655 Middlesex Ave., Metuchen  
Metuchen Savings Bank, 429 Main St., Metuchen  
What's The Scoop, 410 Main St., Metuchen  
Quick Sign, 3 Kellogg Ct., Unit 15, Edison  
Abbey Carpet, 501 Stelton Road, Piscataway  
**Hunterdon County**  
The Hunterdon County Democrat, 8 Minneakoning Road, Flemington  
Shop-Rite Supermarket, 272 Route 202/31 North, Flemington  
Sherman & Son Jewelers, Route 202, Flemington  
**Warren County**  
Star Gazette & Warren Reporter, 106 E. Moore St., Hackettstown  
Franky & Johnny's Island Park Bar & Grill, 261 Route 46 East (intersection of Routes 46 & 31), Buttzville  
Tramontin Harley Davidson, Exit 12, Route 80 Hope Interchange, Hope  
**Morris County**  
Legends Harley Davidson, 1895 Route 46 West, Ledgewood  
Gearhart Chevrolet, Route 46 East, Denville  
**Passaic County**  
Morgan Stanley, 695 Route 46 West, Wayne  
**Essex County**  
Morgan Stanley, 150 JFK Parkway, Short Hills  
**Ocean County**  
Morgan Stanley, Bayview Corporate Center, 1433 Hooper Ave., Toms River  
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<input type="checkbox"/> Ear swabs	<input type="checkbox"/> Snack food
<input type="checkbox"/> Laundry detergent	<input type="checkbox"/> Cereal/protein bars
<input type="checkbox"/> Bug wipes/bug strips	<input type="checkbox"/> Fleece blankets
<input type="checkbox"/> Wipes (travel size)	<input type="checkbox"/> Microwaveable foods
<input type="checkbox"/> Razors	<input type="checkbox"/> Hard candy/gum
<input type="checkbox"/> Toilet paper	<input type="checkbox"/> Writing materials
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## Gabriele Garner

MIDDLESEX — Gabriele Maria Elisabeth "Gabi" Garner, 85, died May 5, at Harborside Health Care-Woods Edge in Bridgewater. Born April 15, 1920, in Westfahlen, Germany, she was the daughter of Fred and Lucia Mattias Kappauf. She came to the U.S. as a child in 1927, settling with her family in Middlesex.

Mrs. Garner was a homemaker. She was a graduate of Bound Brook High School. She and her husband, James W. Garner, who died December 6, 1997, were active members of the "B-Sharps" Square Dance Club in Bridgewater. She continued her

dancing activities until ill health prevented her from continuing. She was a lover of animals and a long-time member of the American Humane Society.

Mrs. Garner is survived by her niece, Judy E. Orr, of Middlesex, her nephew, Robert John von See of Middletown, RI.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday at Hagan-Chamberlain Funeral Home in Bound Brook, with the Rev. Martin Winters, Pastor of the Reformed Church of Bound Brook, officiating. Interment is at Bound Brook Cemetery.

## Jennie Pawlikowski

METUCHEN — Jennie C. Lacheta Pawlikowski, 78, died May 4, 2005 at her home in Neshanic Station.

Born in Newark, she lived in Metuchen and Somerset before moving to Neshanic Station in 1996.

Mrs. Pawlikowski retired in 1988 after 16 years as a secretary in the purchasing department of JFK Medical Center in Edison. She was a former member of St. Matthias Roman Catholic Church in Somerset.

Her husband, Edward J., died in 1997. A daughter, Christine L., died in 2001.

Surviving are two daughters, Barbara A. and Mary C., both of Neshanic Station; and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass was held Monday at St. Bernard of Clairvaux Roman Catholic Church, Bridgewater, following services at the Branchburg Funeral Home. Burial was in Holy Cross Cemetery, North Arlington.

Donations may be sent to American Cancer Society, Somerset Unit, 600 First Ave., Raritan, NJ 08869. To send a condolence, visit [www.branchburgfuneralhome.com](http://www.branchburgfuneralhome.com).

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What a find.

## Calvin Lutes

EDISON — A service for Calvin V. Lutes, 84, of Edison was held Monday evening in the Mc Crislin Home for Funerals in South Plainfield.

Mr. Lutes, who died Friday in the New Jersey Firemen's Home, Boonton, was a member of the Elizabeth Fire Department from 1949 to 1980, when he retired as captain.

Previously, he was a machinist at Elastic Stop Nut Corp., Union, for four years.

A Navy veteran of World War II, he served as an aviation machinist mate. He was a member of the Elizabeth Fire Officers Association International Association of Fire Fighters Local 777.

Born in Elizabeth, he lived there and in Pine Beach before moving to Edison 11 years ago.

Surviving are Frances, his wife of 58 years; daughters, Linda Mc Grath and Karen Lutes; a sister, Madelyn Hampp; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

## Mary Elizabeth Gray

SOUTH BOUND BROOK — A service for Ms. Mary Elizabeth Gray, 50, of Somerset was held Tuesday in Antioch Baptist Church, 28 Oliver Ave., New Brunswick.

Ms. Gray, who died May 5 in Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick, was a head cook at the Green Brook for 21 years.

Born in Somerville, she lived in South Bound Brook for many years before moving to Somerset five years ago.

Surviving are a daughter, Asia Peace; her mother, Alberta Gray; a brother, Langston Gray, and a sister, Dora Virden.

## Kimberly S. Rogers

FLEMINGTON — Kimberly S. (Weiss) Rogers, 40, died suddenly on Friday at her residence. Born in Rahway, she is a former resident of Linden and Colonia before moving to Flemington 12 years ago.

Kimberly worked for the past for years for Hot Tub Technology as a hot tub technician in Flemington. She was an active member of the Ladies Auxiliary Committee, Flemington Elks, #1928. She was a volunteer and member for COSAC, a support group for families with autistic children and was a member and volunteer with ARC of Hunterdon. She enjoyed cooking and working along side her husband.

Kimberly was preceded in death by her grandmother,

Louise Weiss in 2002.

Surviving are her beloved husband of one and a half years, Doug Rogers, her loving daughter Courtney Bussiere and dear son, Kimmy Bussiere, both of Flemington, her dear parents William and Christine Marko Weiss of Scotch Plains, her dear sisters Lisa Mallick and husband David of Cranford, and Christa Weiss of South Plainfield, two nephews Max and Matthew and her fond in-laws, Bruce and Patricia Kerr of Flemington.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at the Branchburg Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Kimberly's memory to COSAC, 1450 Parkside Ave., Suite 22, Ewing, NJ 08638.

## Eleonore Erna Sall

EDISON — Eleonore Erna Sall of Stuart, Va., died May 3, 2005 at Roanoke Memorial Hospital in Roanoke, Va., one day after her 75th birthday.

Born in Nuremberg, Germany, she was a daughter of the late Erna Fortsch.

Mrs. Sall was a past worthy matron of Chapter 25, Order of the Eastern Star, in Stuart. She was a recent member of Christ Episcopal Church and Chapter 66, Order of the Eastern Star, both in Martinsville, Va.

Surviving are her husband, Donald L. of Stuart; two sons, Robert K. and wife Diane of New Egypt and

Gerard P. and wife Sharon of Edison; a sister, Ursula Dachlauer of Nuremberg; four grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Services were held Monday at the Moody Funeral Home in Stuart with Rev. Barry Clement and Rev. Eugene Payne officiating. Entombment was in the Patrick Memorial Gardens mausoleum, Stuart.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to American Heart Association, c/o Patty Hazelwood, Memorial Gift Chairman, 1542 Big A School Road, Stuart, VA 24171.

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## Seniors Calendar

### Bound Brook

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

#### Upcoming Trips and Events:

May 31 - June 2 — The Hamptons - \$375 (non-members welcome), Call Frank (732) 356-6310 for details.

\*\*\*

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

#### Event Schedule:

May 22 — Spring Social, 4 p.m. school cafeteria.

### Edison

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

Important senior issues will be presented at Edison Main Library, 340 Plainfield Ave. Saturday, May 14 at 10 a.m. Topics: living wills, power of attorney, health directives, assisted living, active adult communities and reverse mortgages. Free with refreshments served. Call library at (732) 287-2298 or go to circulation desk.

### Middlesex Borough

**Our Lady of Mount Virgin Seniors** meet the second Tuesday of the month, at 1 p.m. in the church hall.

#### Trips and Events:

May 27 — Hunterdon Hills Playhouse. "Best of Branson" (bus is filled)

### South Bound Brook

**The South Bound Brook Senior Citizens Community Club** meets at 2 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month at Our Lady of Mercy Church Hall, 122 High St.

#### Events and Trips

May 20 — Duke Gardens and Larison's Restaurant.

### South Plainfield

**South Plainfield Chapter AARP, # 4144** will hold its next meeting May 16th at 12:30 p.m. at the Senior Center on Plainfield Avenue.

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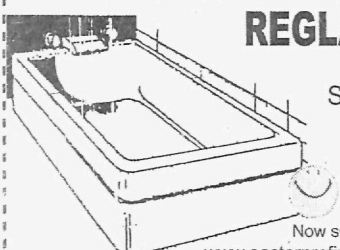
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## Briefs

### Library presents "The Jersey Devil" program

METUCHEN — The Historical Society of Metuchen-Edison invites the public to a program titled "The Jersey Devil" 1:30 p.m. May 21 at the Metuchen Library, 480 Middlesex Ave.

Angus Kress Gillespie, professor of American Studies at Rutgers University, will present the origins and legends of the Jersey Devil.

The program is free, complimentary refreshments will be served and society publications will be available.

For directions or more information, call Steve Reuter at (732) 452-1381 or Bob Takash at (732) 985-5821.

### Antique and custom car show, swap meet

DUNELLEN — The 19th annual Antique-Custom Car Show/Swap Meet sponsored by the Rotary Club of Dunellen-

Green Brook will be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 5 at Skinner Plaza.

Vendor spaces and sponsor applications available.

Call Mike Ryan during the day at (732) 969-0003 or Rich Kline during the evening at (732) 752-2114.

This event will include prizes, games, food and martial arts demonstrations.

Rain date is June 12.

Proceeds go to the Dunellen-Green Brook Rotary Club's Scholarship Programs.

### Piscataway Recreation sponsoring a team

The Piscataway Recreation Department will sponsor a baseball team to compete in the 2005 Middlesex County American Legion Junior Baseball League.

Team membership is limited to Piscataway residents ages 17 and under. Players must be born on or after January 1, 1988, in order to be eligible.

The Recreation Department has scheduled tryouts 3-5 p.m.

May 21 at Columbus Park, located at Eleventh Street and Mansfield Road. The rain date for tryouts is 1-3 p.m. May 22.

Players must attend the tryouts and players are required to bring a copy of their birth certificate to the tryouts. In case of bad weather, call (732) 562-2389 for cancellation information.

For additional information, contact the Piscataway Recreation Department at (732) 562-2382.

### Janice Garbolino Memorial 5K Classic

EDISON — On June 4 at 10 a.m. the Janice Garbolino Memorial 5K Classic at Roosevelt Park will be held.

The start and finish will be by the lake at Lakeview School.

The cost is \$15 per person age 13 and older if registered by June 3; \$20 per person age 13 or older if registered on

June 4; \$5 for children 12 and under at all points of registration. Team fee is \$60 and teams must be registered. Call Beth Helsby at (732) 548-2044 for details.

### Hamfest 2005 radio club "flea market"

PISCATAWAY — The Raritan Valley Radio Club HAMFEST 2005 Fleamarket will be held at the Piscataway High School, located near intersection of Old New Brunswick Road and Behmer Road, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 18. Admission: buyers, \$5; sellers, \$5; plus \$5 each additional space. Call (732) 968-7789 before 8 p.m. or W2QW.



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# It's not how, but how much can you chew?

## Zeus proves daunting for contestants in America's Biggest Burger Eating Competition

By JIM WHITE  
Staff Writer

CLINTON — Inside the kitchen of the Clinton Station Diner, where preparations were being made Monday for "America's Biggest Burger Eating Competition," manager Costas Zambas' tale could have been an omen for what would transpire later that day.

"Three guys came in Saturday

night and ordered three of them," Zambas said. "In two-and-a-half hours they (each) only finished about two-fifths of the burger. They didn't want to take it home. They said they had enough."

His words would ring true for all but one of six teams of three that gathered in the restaurant to see who could consume the "Zeus" monster burger the

fastest — a 7-pound hamburger that actually tips the scales at more than 12 pounds when topped off with a bun and all the trimmings — with only an hour and a half to do it, cash and prizes for the top three teams.

In the end, the team that completed the task, would part with a less than surprising finale — after all, these guys had been gorging themselves with huge amounts of hamburger meat for over an hour, so something had to give.

The anticipation of a "reversal of fortune" — a saying among competitive eaters when someone loses their lunch during an event and is subsequently disqualified — grew and grew as the teams had at the slabs of beef, each topped with an oversized bun, nearly a head of lettuce, onions, tomatoes and between 15 and 20 slices of American cheese.

"This is my first time. I'm a lit-

tle bit nervous to say the least," said 26-year-old Erik Olson of Somerville, who joined with two of his buddies — John McGowan, 26, of Bethlehem, Pa., and Brian Stanford, 41, of Landing, NJ — for a chance at \$500, a trophy, and, of course, bragging rights. They named their team The Three Stooges.

"We heard about the event, got some time off of work and decided to make a go of it," said Olson, a contract administrator.

Would Olson be the one to toss

his cookies? McGowan, a customer care representative, said he had tried a portion of a "Zeus" burger before and didn't get sick, so he seemed an unlikely candidate.

What about Stanford? "You got to do it as fast as possible," he surmised. "Cram it all in before you feel it."

Stanford, a service manager for a copier company, also said he thought the competition was a worthy cause with entry fees and sponsorships going to Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005 — a joint effort between this newspaper, American Recreational Military Services, the Somerset Patriots, nj.com, Flemington Car and Truck Country and numerous families, veterans, volunteers and businesses to maintain a supply line to U.S. troops serving in Iraq and the Mideast.

In February, Mike Zambas,

owner of the Clinton Station Diner, created the burger to mark the one-year anniversary of his establishment, and after joining with Operation: Shoebox (he donates 15 percent of his Monday night dinner receipts every other week to the cause), came up with idea for the competition after being contacted by the Association of Independent Competitive Eaters, which seeks out competitive eating venues usually to benefit charitable causes.

"May the force be with you," he said to the competitors at the start of the binge, which took in \$990 for Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005. The money will be used to cover the costs of shipping the items overseas.

"As an ex-soldier I think it's a fantastic organization," AICE President Arnie "Chowhound" Chapman of Oceanside, Long Island, said of OPSHBX. "This is a very dedicated group of people and I'm glad to be a part of it."

Chapman, 44, entered the competition with two other professional competitive eaters under the name TriState Titans, which included "Gentleman Joe" Menchetti, 35, of Connecticut, who showed up in a tuxedo and top hat, and Dominick "The Doginator" Cardo, a 46-year-old world beef-tongue eating champion from Pennsylvania.

The TriState Titans were the

obvious favorites and the least likely to throw up, err, away, the competition.

Chapman showed up wearing a floppy dog-eared cap and said he prepares for such events by chugging a half gallon of water two or three times a day and stops eating 14 to 24 hours before start time. He said he used to undergo "cabbage training," which involved eating one or two heads of cabbage a day, but his wife ended that.

"My wife threatened two change the locks if I didn't stop," he said.

He said he found a love for competitive eating in 1991, when he was out of work and needed some cash, which he earned by winning a Nathan's hotdog eating contest in Rockaway Park, Queens.

"I must confess, I like the absurdity of it also," he said of competitive eating. "It doesn't fit into the traditional sports realm."

Thirty minutes into Monday's competition it appeared that everyone involved had hit a wall. The Three Stooges had ordered diet cokes, Chapman was sweating profusely, and Cardo pondered over a plate full of ketchup.

"Come on guys, I'm the one who ate the onions," said Menchetti, urging on his fellow Titans while stuffing cake-like slices of bun into his mouth. "I've been on the Atkins diet. This is kind of a treat."

Menchetti then showed that he really is a gentleman — urging Chapman not to try and force down the mess he had left on his plate, and eventually taking the plate from him.

"I don't want to lose this because we want to finish," said Menchetti, fearing Chapman — ironically the president of AICE — might lose it at any moment.

His timing was perfect, because at one hour, 11 minutes and 52 seconds, Menchetti wolfed down Chapman's scraps, the TriState Titans were declared the winners, and Chapman, who couldn't hold it down any longer, erupted from the mouth onto himself, the table and floor, sending onlookers scurrying with a mix of disgust and amusement.

Chapman would later rename himself Arnie "Chunks-hound" Chapman.

To get involved with Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005, call Rod Hirsch, executive editor of The Chronicle, (908) 575-6684.

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## Legal Notices

### ORDINANCE NO. 1643-05 NOTICE OF PENDING BOND ORDINANCE AND SUMMARY

The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, has been finally adopted by the Borough of Middlesex in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, on May 10, 2005 and the 20 day period of limitation within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such ordinance can be commenced, as provided in the Local Bond Law, has begun to run from the date of this publication. Copies of the full ordinance are available at no cost and during regular business hours at the Clerk's Office for the members of the general public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

Purpose	Appropriation and Estimated Cost	Down Payment	Estimated Maximum Amount of Bonds or Notes	Period of Usefulness
a) Office on Aging: Acquisition of a senior citizen vehicle, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$35,000	\$1,750	\$33,250	5 years
b) Department of Public Works: Acquisition of various vehicles, including two 1-ton dump trucks with plows and salt spreaders and a single axle 10-ton dump truck with plow for the Roads division, a combination sewer cleaner for the Sewer division and a new engine for a garbage truck for the Garbage division, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$325,000 (*Includes a \$95,000 grant expected to be received from NJCAA.)	\$11,500	\$313,500	5 years
c) Police: Acquisition of evidence tracking hardware and software, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$17,000	\$850	\$16,150	5 years
d) Recreation: Acquisition of playground equipment for the Hazlewood School and Parker School, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto, and further including all work and materials necessary therefore and incidental thereto.	\$15,000	\$750	\$14,250	15 years
e) Office of Emergency Management: Acquisition of personal alert pagers and the replacement of computers in EOC and Command Post, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$11,000	\$550	\$10,450	5 years
f) Fire Department: Acquisition of various equipment, including the continued replacement of turn out gear, fire hose replacement, adaptors and wrenches, first responders equipment, 307 hydrant markers, computerized fire fighting equipment, generators and Scott air packs, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$250,000 (Includes a \$136,444 Assistance to Firefighter Grant expected to be received.)	\$12,500	\$237,500	15 years
g) Municipal Court: Acquisition of a videoconferencing system, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$5,100	\$250	\$4,850	10 years
h) Buildings and Grounds: Various improvements and the acquisition of various equipment, including improvements to Borough Hall and other municipal buildings and Cedar Avenue and Soccer Fields Phase II and the acquisition of a badging system and supplies and street barriers, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto, and further including all work and materials necessary therefore and incidental thereto.	\$647,000 (Includes a \$24,000 Federal Homeland Security Grant expected to be received and a \$200,000 grant received from NJDOT and a \$97,556 grant received from the County, The Federal and County grants are appropriated herein, but are not being funded by bonds or notes since both grants have been received.)	\$16,500	\$509,000	10 years

TOTALS \$1,305,100 \$44,650 \$1,138,950

Appropriation: \$1,305,100  
Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$1,138,950  
Grants Appropriated: \$200,000 grant to be received from the New Jersey Department of Transportation, a \$95,000 grant to be received from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, a \$136,444 Assistance to Firefighters Grant expected to be received, a \$24,000 Federal Homeland Security Grant and a \$97,556 grant received from the County of Middlesex.

Section 20 Costs: \$180,540  
Useful Life: 9.46 years

This Notice is published pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-17.  
\$95.66

### BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX TAX SALE NOTICE

#### NOTICE OF SALE OF PROPERTY FOR NON-PAYMENT OF TAXES, ASSESSMENTS AND/OR OTHER MUNICIPAL LIENS

Public notice is hereby given that I, Tonya Hubosky, Collector of Taxes of the Borough of Middlesex, in the County of Middlesex, will sell at public auction on June 7, 2005, at the Borough Hall, 1200 Mountain Avenue, Middlesex, New Jersey, at 10:00 a.m. or at such time and place to which said sale may then be adjourned, all of the several lots and parcels of land assessed to the respective persons whose names are set opposite each respective parcel as the owner hereof for the total amount of municipal liens chargeable against said lands respectively, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:5-1, et seq., as computed to the 7th day of June 2005. Industrial properties may be subject to split compensation and control act (N.J.S.A. 58:10A-1 et seq.) and the industrial site recovery act (N.J.S.A. 13K-6 et seq.).

Take further notice that the hereinafter described lands will be sold for the amount of the municipal liens chargeable against each parcel of said land assessed as one parcel, together with interest and costs to the date of the sale. Said lands will be sold at the lowest rate of interest but, not to exceed 18%. Payment for said parcels shall be made prior to the conclusion of the sale in the form of cash, certified check, money order, or prearranged wire transfer, or parcels will be resold. Properties for which there are

no other purchasers shall be struck off and sold to the borough of Middlesex at an interest rate of 18%. In addition, the municipality is precluded from issuing a tax sale certificate to any prospective purchaser who is or may be in any way connected to the prior owner or operator of the site.  
At any time before the sale I will accept payment of the amount due on any property with interest and costs. Payment must be in the form of cash, certified check or money order.

The lands to be sold are described in accordance with the last tax duplicate as follows:

BLOCK	LOT	NAME	ADDRESS	TYPE	AMOUNT
25	5.5	Hoeltje, Ted V	96 Conover Pl	Tax	1945.86
40	31.32-34	Pollarak, Robt J & M Pollarak	351 High Street	Tax	6277.11
55	20.A.21	Heavyrio, John S Jr	1229 Bound Brook Rd	Tax	4249.78
86	6.01/C002A	G P Realty Inc	455 Union Ave	Tax	4024.99
86	6.01/C002B	G P Realty Inc	455 Union Ave	Tax	4024.99
100	6	Kravitz, A & S	405 Beechwood Ave	Tax	5011.26
129	1	Physique LLC % Joseph Martinelli	Lincoln Blvd	Tax	675.83
150	67.68-69	Branch-McClish, Terri	635 Ashland Rd	Tax	4377.65
153	24	Pittman, Janet M & Gloria	231 Lincoln Blvd	Tax	3547.99
244	5	Whitcomb, Howard J & Deborah L	606 Denton Place	Tax	3885.84
245	10.11	Chionis, Thomas G	189 So Lincoln Ave	Tax	3123.30
254	1.1, 2.4	Benson, Glenn D	500 Bound Brook Rd	Tax	7151.16
258	11.12-13	Elery, Maryanne	328 Runyon Ave	Tax	4323.83
259	2	Embroidery Concept & Design Inc	201 Pond Ave	Sewer	355.25
266	22/C009B	Waterside LLC	201 Pond Ave	Tax	18163.53
267	2	Union Foundry Co Inc % A Kadish	65 Harover S	Tax	2575.12
270	3.4	Artistic Architectural Sculpture	Wilton Ave	Tax	851.15
270	5.8-8	Artistic Architectural Sculpture	Wilton Ave	Tax	2636.67
271	9.10-12	Artistic Architectural Sculpture	201 Wilton Ave	Tax	2948.15
271	1.2	Artistic Architectural Sculpture	Wilton Ave	Tax	851.15
271	3.4	Artistic Architectural Sculpture	Wilton Ave	Tax	851.15
271	7.8	Artistic Architectural Sculpture	Wilton Ave	Tax	1276.74
271	9.10-15	Artistic Architectural Sculpture	Wilton Ave	Tax	2284.32
271	16.17-22	Artistic Architectural Sculpture	Wilton Ave	Tax	1276.74
283	26.27	Ceruso, Samuel L & Mary Ann	751 Drake Ave	Tax	4645.04
280	1.2-10.42-46	K & L Corporation % Test Fabrics Inc	200 Blackford Ave	Sewer	7004.81
285	61.62-64	Casazza Enterprises LLC	421 Lincoln Blvd	Tax	2948.15
304	20.21	Kolbas, Ronald J & Elizabeth C	659 Lorraine Ave	Tax	1152.46
309	28.29	Bell, William H & Ann E	701 Mountain Ave	Tax	2720.77
312	4.5	Short, Allan D	607 Voorhees Ave	Tax	47.63
348	1	Physique LLC % Joseph Martinelli	150 Lincoln Blvd	Tax	1825.47
348	2	Physique LLC % Joseph Martinelli	CRR NJ	Tax	624.35
348	3	Physique LLC % Joseph Martinelli	Lincoln Blvd	Tax	435.14
349	10.A	Sue-Joe, Inc	232 Lincoln Blvd	Tax	5541.18
352	1.C	Bakeland, Inc	84 Bakeland Ave	Tax	44032.23
352	1.C	B & H Metal	84 Bakeland Ave	Sewer	411.48
\$267.04					B105 4T 5/14/21.28.6/4/05

### NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 1640-05

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX AND THE MIDDLESEX BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR A FIVE YEAR LEASE OF PUBLIC LANDS IN MOUNTAINVIEW PARK AND FOR A TURF MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

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 on the 10th day of May, 2005 in the Municipal Building, 1200 Mountain Avenue, Middlesex, New Jersey.

Kathleen Anello  
Borough Clerk  
B99 1T 5/14/05

\$6.46

### NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 1641-05

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX AND THE MIDDLESEX BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR A FIVE YEAR LEASE OF PUBLIC LANDS IN MOUNTAINVIEW PARK AND FOR A TURF MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

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 on the 10th day of May, 2005 in the Municipal Building, 1200 Mountain Avenue, Middlesex, New Jersey.

Kathleen Anello  
Borough Clerk  
B99 1T 5/14/05

\$6.80

### NOTICE OF PENDING BOND ORDINANCE AND SUMMARY

The Bond Ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, has been finally adopted by the Borough of Middlesex in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, on May 10, 2005 and the 20 day period of limitation within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such ordinance can be commenced, as provided in the Local Bond Law, has begun to run from the date of the first publication of this statement. Copies of the full ordinance are available at no cost and during regular business hours at the Clerk's Office for the members of the public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:

Title: "Bond Ordinance Providing a Supplemental Appropriation of \$32,000 for Streetcape Improvements on the Route 28 Business Corridor in and by the Borough

of Middlesex, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey and Authorizing the Issuance of \$30,400 Bonds or Notes of the Borough for Financing Part of the Appropriation."

Purpose: Streetcape Improvements on the Route 28 Business Corridor, as more fully described in bond ordinance #1623-04 of the Borough finally adopted October 26, 2004, including all work and materials necessary therefore and incidental thereto.

Appropriation: \$32,000  
Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$30,400  
Grants Appropriated: N/A  
Section 20 Costs: \$1,000  
Useful Life: 15 years

This Notice is published pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-17.  
\$12.58

Kathleen Anello, Clerk  
B102 1T 5/14/05

### NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 1647-05

AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING THE MIDDLESEX BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE MIDDLESEX BOROUGH MUNICIPAL COURT AND ALL OTHER MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENTS TO CHARGE FEES FOR COPIES OF VARIOUS DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FEE SCHEDULE ADOPTED AND APPROVED BY THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY IN THE OPRA LAW

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 on the 10th day of May, 2005 in the Municipal Building, 1200 Mountain Avenue, Middlesex, New Jersey.

Kathleen Anello  
Borough Clerk  
B102 1T 5/14/05

\$6.80

### NOTICE OF ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION ORDINANCE NO. 1649-05

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY MORE PARTICULARLY CHAPTER 407(B)(3), BUS STOPS DESIGNATED

The above ordinance was introduced at a public meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Middlesex, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey, held on May 10, 2005 and will be further considered for the final passage after a public hearing at a Public Meeting of said Borough Council to be held at the Municipal Building, in said Borough on May 24, 2005 at 7:30 P.M.

Kathleen Anello, RMC  
Borough Clerk  
B103 1T 5/14/05

\$6.46

### NOTICE TO ABSENT DEFENDANTS

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

YVONNE SKIMELIS

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED to appear upon FEIL, SUCH, KAHN & SHEPARD, a plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 7 Century Drive, Suite 201, Parsippany, New Jersey 07054, telephone number (973) 538-9300, an Answer to the Complaint and Amendment(s) to the Complaint, if any, shall file a civil action in which CHASE HOME FINANCE LLC is Plaintiff and DONALD P. RENKERT, et al., are defendants, pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, MIDDLESEX County and bearing Docket No. F-6184-05 within thirty (35) five days after 5/14/05 exclusive of such date. If you fail to do so, Judgement by Default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. You shall file your answer and proof of service in duplicate with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Hughes Justice Complex, CN-971, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice and Procedure.

This action has been instituted for the purpose of (1) foreclosing a mortgage dated October 17, 2004 made by DONALD P. RENKERT and YVONNE SKIMELIS as mortgagors to Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corp. recorded on November 18, 2004, in Book 19183 of Mortgages for MIDDLESEX County, page 244, et seq., which mortgage was duly assigned to the Plaintiff named above, who is the present holder of said mortgage, and (2) to recover possession of and concerns premises commonly known as 166 WASHINGTON ROAD, SAYREVILLE, NJ 08872.

If you cannot afford or are unable to obtain an attorney you may communicate with the Legal Services Office of the County of venue by calling:

MIDDLESEX COUNTY LAWYER REFERRAL: (732) 828-0033 MIDDLESEX COUNTY LEGAL SERVICES (732) 249-7600.

YOU, YVONNE SKIMELIS are made party defendant(s) to this foreclosure action because you are one of the mortgagors and may be liable for any deficiency and for any lien, claim, or interest you may have in, to or against the mortgage premises by reason of the Mortgage made by you, DONALD P. RENKERT and YVONNE SKIMELIS, as set forth above.

Upon request, a copy of the Complaint and Amendment to Complaint, if any, will be supplied to you for perusal.

Dated: May 9, 2005

DONALD F. PHELAN  
Clerk of the Superior Court  
New Jersey

B104 1T 5/14/0



Saturday, May 14, 2005

## Sports

## Lordi lifts Jays; Tigers shade Colonia

In a meeting between two of the state's top pitchers, Erica Lordi and Chrissy Yard, Lordi pitched her Middlesex High softball squad to a 1-0 victory Monday in a non-league test.

The senior right-hander just missed another no-hitter — allowing only a two-out infield single in the top of the seventh — and struck out 10 against one walk. The Blue Jay defense, meanwhile, played flawlessly behind her to help post the team's 14th victory against a single loss.

Yard (16-3) was nearly as tough for the 16-4 Raiders, but Middlesex touched her for four hits, including a triple by Anna Aborashed and a run-scoring single by Heather Delgado one out later in the fifth inning.

**South Plainfield 5, Colonia 4** — Squaring off with Greater Middlesex Conference White Division champion Colonia (18-2) Monday the Tigers prevented the visitors from a

sweep in division play by scoring twice in the bottom of the seventh inning and snap their 11-game winning streak.

Kelly Downes singled in the first run and then scored on a two-out single by Dorothy Cameron to bring South Plainfield from behind for its 14th victory in 18 games. Jess Miller had a two-run double to key a three-run fourth inning for the Tigers, while Jessica Senz tossed a five-hitter, fanning seven without a walk.

**J.P. Stevens 5, East Brunswick 0** — In a game where the defenses played major roles the Hawks wrapped up a perfect GMC-Red Division season at 14-0 and boosted their overall record to 17-2 by blanking East Brunswick (12-6) Monday.

Becky Garibotto pitched a one-hitter, striking out two without issuing a walk, and the Stevens defense committed only one error. The Bears, meanwhile, had two errors on

## HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

the same play that allowed three runs to score during the Hawks' four-run fifth inning. Brittany Lobell, who had a triple, finished with two of the four hits Stevens collected.

**Edison 9, Perth Amboy 2** — Nicole Steiner doubled and singled to drive in four runs and scored two runs to lead the offense and Kelly Karp pitched a five-hitter as the Eagles smacked Perth Amboy in GMC-Red Division action Monday to boost its record to 12-9 for the campaign. Rachel Ruch also had a pair of hits for Edison, which scored three times in the third and four times in the fourth for an 8-0 lead.

**Metuchen 8, Spotswood 0** — Susan Golbe and Christina Mantak (double) both finished 3-for-4 with one RBI, while Lauren Rush pitched a two-

hitter with six strikeouts as the Bulldogs dominated Spotswood in GMC-Blue Division play Monday to improve to 12-5 on the season. Liz Marquard chipped in with a double, single, two RBI and three runs scored for Metuchen.

**South Brunswick 3, Piscataway 1** — Sherry Kestenbaum allowed just four hits but the Chiefs managed only three of their own and suffered a narrow defeat to South Brunswick (10-6) Monday in GMC-Red Division action to drop to 1-15 on the year. Piscataway's only run scored on a throwing error in the fourth.

**Metuchen 3, South River 2** — Nicki Gassaway and Susan Golbe plated a run apiece when the Bulldogs scored twice in the top of the second

for a 3-2 edge and Lauren Rush shut out South River (6-0) the rest of the way, finishing with a six-hitter, as Metuchen moved to 11-5 for the campaign with a Blue Division triumph Saturday.

**J.P. Stevens 10, South Brunswick 0** — Becky Garibotto tossed a five-inning two-hitter with five strikeouts and the Hawk offense five times in the fourth and twice in the fifth to end the game early as Stevens rolled to its 16th victory May 6 and clinched the Red Division title against South Brunswick. Kim Shjarback was 3-for-3 with a double and an RBI, while Stephanie Kamin singled twice and knocked in three runs.

**Middlesex 18, Highland Park 0** — Rebounding from a 5-3 loss the previous day to Bishop Ahr in a matchup of division leaders that left both teams with one loss, the Blue Jays hammered Highland Park

in Blue Division play May 6 as Erica Lordi no-hit the Owls for the second time this year, fanning eight and walking two. Lordi, Anna Aboushad and Danielle Veilleux all homered in a 16-hit attack.

**Metuchen 2, Dunellen 1** — Metuchen's Lauren Rush scattered four-hits and struck out four to out-duel Dunellen's Cassie Shotwell, who had a three-hitter and fanned seven, as the Bulldogs won a tight GMC-crossover game May 6. Heather Brown's squeeze bunt and an error on the play accounted for the Metuchen runs in the fifth. Dunellen slipped to 10-4 with the loss.

**Old Bridge 3, Edison 2** — Rachel Ruch smashed a two-run homer in the top of the ninth to break a scoreless deadlock for the Eagles, but Old Bridge (9-8) rallied to earn a Red Division triumph May 6 when Edison committed three errors in the bottom of the ninth.

## South Plainfield earns share of White crown

With an opportunity to earn a share of the Greater Middlesex Conference White Division championship on the line Monday the Tigers didn't waste it as they came from a 2-0 deficit to whip Colonia 7-2 and gain a piece of the top prize.

It was either going to be Colonia (13-7) or the Tigers sharing the title with Sayreville, which trimmed Woodbridge 5-2 on the final day of the schedule, as all three began the day with 10-3 division records. The victory by South Plainfield pushed its overall ledger to 14-5.

Kevin Siedenberg (2-for-2) delivered a two-run single, while Nick Cesare and Mike Downes picked up RBI when they were hit by pitches during the Tigers' five-run fourth inning. Chris Stallone knocked in a pair of runs with two hits, while Cesare (6-1) scattered eight hits to earn the pitching victory.

**J.P. Stevens 3, Old Bridge 1** — Needing to win to reach .500 and remain in contention for a state tournament spot the Hawks received a strong pitching performance from Doug Wallner and some big hits to trim Old Bridge (10-7) Monday in GMC-Red Division play and even their record at 10-10.

Wallner (3-3) tossed a route-going six-hitter with six strikeouts, while Jon Book belted a pinch-hit two-run homer following a triple by Mike Chupka in the fourth for a 2-1 lead and Andrew Biancosimo doubled in an insurance run in the fifth.

**Edison 9, Bridgewater-Raritan 3** — The Eagles continued their strong play of late by spanking Bridgewater-Raritan (6-12) in a non-conference

## HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

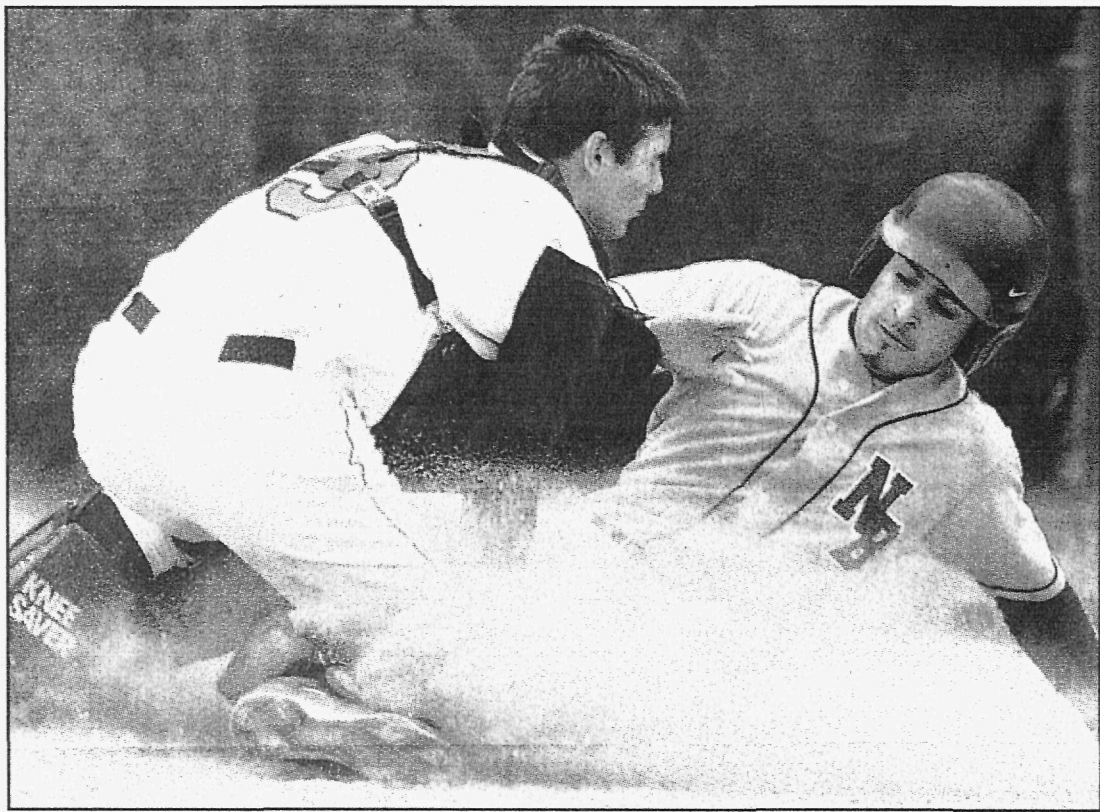
encounter Monday to improve to 12-8 on the season as they put together a 12-hit attack and got a solid effort on the mound from Jon Mendez.

Mark Chudnow paced the attack with a 3-for-3 performance that included three RBI, while Mendez allowed five hits and one earned run over eight innings to earn the victory. Phil Okner keyed a six-run first inning with a two-run single, while Tony Greder had two hits and one RBI.

**Bound Brook 13, Hillside 3** — Exploding for 10 runs in the top of the first inning the Crusaders coasted to an easy Mountain Valley Conference Valley Division victory Monday in a five-inning game against Hillside to boost their record to 7-6 on the season.

Kevin Parras collected a double and two singles in four trips and drove in four runs, while John Ibarra went 3-for-4 with a double and two RBI for Bound Brook, which totaled 16 hits. Jorge Rentas also logged a 3-for-4 showing with two RBI and struck out six on the mound with a five-hitter for the triumph.

**Metuchen 9, Dunellen 1** — Gerard Monglardini scattered six hits to earn the victory and Pat Callas paced a nine-hit attack with a 3-for-5 showing that included a home run and a double as Metuchen improved to 7-0 with a GMC-crossover victory over Dunellen Monday. T.J. Wenzel notched the lone RBI for the Destroyers, who fell to 6-



LARRY MURPHY/CORRESPONDENT

South Plainfield catcher Chris Stallone tags out a New Brunswick runner at the plate during the Tigers' 11-9 victory May 6. South Plainfield also defeated Colonia 7-2 Monday to finish the GMC-White Division season with a share of the championship with Sayreville.

11 on the year. The Bulldogs broke open the game with a five-run fourth inning for an 8-0 lead.

**South Brunswick 4, Piscataway 2** — The Chiefs' up-and-down season continued Monday as they fell a game below .500 at 9-10 with a GMC-Red Division setback to South Brunswick (12-5). Piscataway

held an 8-2 advantage in hits but three errors and some pitching wildness prove fatal. Bobby Abreu notched a pair of hits and drove in a run for the Chiefs.

**South River 5, Metuchen 4** — Needing a victory to move within a game of .500 and inch closer to a state tournament berth the Bulldogs instead could not rally past South River (7-10) in

the bottom of the seventh Saturday after the visitors scored three times in the top of the inning for a 5-2 lead. Chris Callas stroked a two-run double to narrow the gap, but was left stranded as the tying run. Lenny Bing tripled and Eddie Darrah doubled in the loss.

**South Plainfield 11, New Brunswick 9** — Mike Benak

doubled twice and drove in three runs and Nick Cesare homered and singled as the Tigers outlasted New Brunswick (12-10) in White Division play May 6. Chris Bakazan (3-1) picked up the pitching decision and had a double for South Plainfield, which grabbed a 10-4 lead in the bottom of the fifth and held on.

**Piscataway 11, Perth Amboy 2** — David Gerena (2-1) scattered four hits and struck out six as the Chiefs whipped Perth Amboy (2-16) in a Red Division matchup May 6. Bobby Abreu paced a 12-hit attack with a 3-for-4 showing that included an RBI, while Matt Skocylas singled twice and drove in two runs. Gerena, who knocked in a pair with his, and Russ Hopkins doubled for the only extra-base hits.

**J.P. Stevens 4, South Brunswick 3** — Gabe Valdes sent a single back through the middle to knock in Andrew Biancosimo and Mike Chupka, who had singled and advanced on a bunt by Colin Creange, to lift the Hawks past South Brunswick in a nine-inning Red Division battle May 6. Adam Kramen allowed one hit and one inning in relief to earn his first victory. Jason Callender had a double to aid the winning attack.

**Edison 5, Old Bridge 2** — Jason Fabretti (4-0) tossed a complete-game five-hitter with seven strikeouts and delivered a two-run double during a three-run second inning as the Eagles trimmed Old Bridge in Red Division action May 6. Julian Lagunas went 3-for-3 and drove in a run for Edison.

## Piscataway wins 11 relays

As fast as the Chiefs proved to be in the sprints they could not last to the finish line in last week's race for team honors at the Greater Middlesex Conference Relays at South Brunswick High School.

Despite out-distancing Old Bridge 7-0 in first places the Piscataway High girls track & field squad had to settle for run-up honors 94-93, while the Piscataway boys produced four titles but placed third with 80 points as South Brunswick topped Old Bridge 93-81 for first.

Asia Washington turned in the top performance by a Piscataway athlete as she anchored three teams to a victory and had the best long jump showing in leading the Chiefs to four first places.

Ayana West, Michelle Losey, Tiffany Gathright and Washington combined for a 4:14.2 clocking in the sprint medley to surpasses the meet standard of 4:15.2 set by South Brunswick last year.

Kelly Allen, Collene Cumberbatch, Ronnah Parham and Losey combined to capture the 4 X 100 meters in 49.7; Parham, West, Cumberbatch and Washington won the 800 relay in 1:43.9; and the quartet of Losey, Parham, West and Washington claimed the gold in the 1600 in 3:56.2.

Washington, who went 17 feet 10 inches, and Cumberbatch hooked up with Nike Isijola win the long jump with a combined 46-1/2, while the combination of Joanna Martin, Taisha Shaw

## HIGH SCHOOL TRACK &amp; FIELD

and Shea Blanchard captured both the discus (271-2) and the shot put (98-11) for the Chiefs.

The Piscataway boys won the meet's four fastest races in taking the 400, 800, 1600 and shuttle hurdles behind the efforts of Malcom Jenkins, who anchored two winning relays and contributed legs on the other two.

Terrence Fox, Jon Francois, Tony Logan and Jenkins teamed to take the 4 X 100 in 42.9, edging Old Bridge by a tenth of a second, while Jenkins, Logan, Kevin Woolfolk and Rob Damon combined for a 1:29.6 clocking to once again beat Old Bridge, this time by .6 of a second.

Jenkins, Rob Williams, Logan and Damon finished off the meet with a victory in the 1600 in 4:21.4, once again nipping Old Bridge (4:22.0), while Williams, Jenkins, Matt Fassano and Francois earned top honors in the shuttle hurdles in 1:03.2, shading J.P. Stevens by .2 of a second.

J.P. Stevens came away with three first places on the girls side, taking the long jump, triple jump and shuttle hurdles with Latoya Dixon and Yasmin Parks contributing to all three. The Hawks finished fourth overall with 52 points as South Brunswick was third with 59.

Dixon, Parks and Bobbi Van Fleet won both the triple jump (93-7) and the high jump (15-0),

while Dixon, Brittany Mullings, Marissa Sutherland and Parks took the gold in the hurdles in 1:05.5 to beat Piscataway by a full second.

**BERNARDS INVITATIONAL** Jenkins, Parks and the Piscataway boys' 4 X 100 squad came home with gold medals in 31st edition of the Bernards Invitational Saturday.

Competing in the 400 Jenkins ran a blistering 48.8 to win by more than a second, while the senior added a third-place showing in the 200, where he just missed against Passaic's Nina Horowitz and Watchung Hills and Stevens teammate Dixon all cleared 5-2.

Fox, Woolfolk, Logan and Francois formed the 400 relay squad that that turned in a 43.9 clocking that edged Sayreville, which had the same time. Piscataway's 1600 squad posted a runnerup finish in 3:27.5, while Damon took third in the 800 in 1:54.7 and Brett Puryear was third in the long jump at 20-3.

South Plainfield teammates Chrystal Williams Asia Hollis went 2-3, both in 12.5, behind East Orange's Raquel Vassel in the 100, while Kathryn Ruhno of Stevens got off a throw of 115.5 for third in the javelin for other top three finishes in the girls competition.

## Newark HRs top Patriots

Starting pitching, an early-season strength of the Somerset Patriots, proved to be their undoing Tuesday night.

The Newark Bears jumped on Brett Jodie for seven hits and six earned runs in the first three innings and held on for a 6-4 triumph as 3715 fans looked on at Commerce Bank Park in Bridgewater.

The setback left the Patriots with a 5-7 record in the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball while Newark, which had been swept by Somerset in a three-game series at home last week, improved to 6-5.

Jodie (1-2) walked two and struck out two before being relieved with two out in the third by Todd Moser, who fired 4 1/3 innings of shutout ball before Phil Akens finished up impressively. But the damage had already been done much earlier.

Jose Herrera belted a three-run homer to right field in the second frame, giving the Bears a 3-0 lead, and Jose Olmeda followed a pair of singles with another three-run blast in the next inning.

Somerset got on the board in the second when Jeff Nettles singled and rightfielder Ryan Radmanovich connected for his first home run of the year.

The Pats added two more runs in the fifth when Ryan Kellner walked and shortstop Tony Gsell, a former Immaculata High standout, ripped his second homer, cutting the visitors' advantage to 6-4.

**Long Island 3, Patriots 1** —



Despite a third straight strong pitching effort from starter Brian Tollberg, the Patriots couldn't muster enough offense to support him Monday night as 6040 fans looked on at Citibank Park in Central Islip, N.Y.

Tollberg (1-1) gave up six hits, two walks and two runs in six innings before being relieved by Dave Elder, who permitted his first run of the season while pitching the seventh. Shane Heams came on for the eighth frame, allowing one hit and fanning two batters.

Rodney Myers, Tollberg's teammate with the San Diego Padres three years ago, pitched even a bit better for the Ducks, yielding six hits, one walk and an unearned run during the first seven innings to nail down his first triumph of the year.

Somerset scored in the opening stanza as Jeremy Owens smacked a leadoff single to right, advanced to third on two straight groundouts and came home when Todd Betts reached on a throwing error by the third baseman.

**Patriots 7, Long Island 2** — Betts went 3 for 5, including a three-run homer in the third and a two-run shot in the fifth, to spark Sunday's triumph in front of 5324 fans at Citibank

Park. His groundout also drove in the game's first run in the opening stanza but he also strained a groin muscle while running out a double later in the game and may be sidelined several games.

Radmanovich had two hits, including a double to left in the seventh which sent home the game's final run, and lead-off man Billy Hall went 2 for 2, scored a run and stole his fifth base of the season. However, Hall also strained a groin muscle as he was picked off second base in the third inning and was pulled from the lineup.

Greg Modica pitched the first five innings for Somerset, allowing six hits, two walks and a run while fanning five as he earned his first victory in two decisions. Three relievers finished up, with Brad Clontz pitching the final two innings of shutout ball.

**Long Island 1, Patriots 0** — Righty-swinging catcher Joe Depastino jumped on a 2-0 fastball and launched it over the right-field fence in the seventh to lift Long Island to victory Saturday night in front of 6138 fans.

Derek Lee pitched well for the Pats, allowing just three hits and two walks in seven innings, but the two-out home run by Depastino was enough offense for the home team, which also got a superb pitching effort from 36-year-old southpaw Donovan Osborne. The former big-leaguer gave up six hits and no walks while fanning eight in six innings before being relieved.



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## Announcements

## Announcements 110

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Rd. 7 min. to Rt. 78.  
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☎ 908-331-9825

**KINGWOOD TWP** - 4BR, 2.5BA,  
Fam RM w/ stone f/p, center  
hall col., 2.2 acres, \$550,000  
908-246-3535

**LBI BEACH HAVEN TER.** -  
4BR, 1.5BA, Cape, new  
roof/camp/wm, gas fpl, bay  
beach, can email pictures  
\$625,000 908-832-9147

**MUST SEE**

**LEBANON TWP** - 3 BR, 2 BA  
ranch, 3 car detached garage  
on 2 beautiful acres, backs  
up to green acres, \$434,900.  
908-832-0782

**by OWNER**

**RINGOES** - Historic Country  
Home, on 2 "Park like"  
acres, 4 BR, 2 full BA, min's  
from Flemington &  
Lambertville. Asking  
\$490,000. By appointment,  
only 908-806-8396 or  
www.1790countryhome.com

**PRICED TO SELL**

**WASH. TWSP** - Brick ranch, 1  
acre, corner lot, Mt. view,  
3BR, 2BA, w/ firs, huge  
kitchen, base, brick fpl, all  
appl, fenced w/ land  
scaped, new w/w carpet.  
\$349,900 908-889-8068

**Open Houses 331****OPEN HOUSE**

**12-3pm**  
Saturday May 14th &  
Sunday May 15th  
**KINGWOOD**  
**TWP**  
40 FAIRVIEW RD  
10 year old, low maintenance,  
b-level, 2BR, 2BA, EIK,  
Fam RM, F/P in LR, C/air, 2 car  
garage, 2.4 acres, avail for quick  
closing, \$349,900!  
DIR: From Flemington,  
to Rte 12, to Rte 519 S, R  
on Fairview #40.

**New Construction 332**

**HOLLAND TWP** Custom  
homes to be built to your  
specs. Available in new 7  
lot subdivision, 5+ acres,  
lot + home starting at  
\$550,000+.  
☎ 908-996-3183

**Income Property For Sale**

**335**  
**BLOOMSBURY** - 4 Family, Nets  
\$25K, Realtor Market analysis  
\$375K. By Owner \$349K  
Hampton Duplex Nets \$21K  
Lebanon Twp Duplex Nets  
15K. 908-284-0327 or FAX #  
for spec sheet.

**Investment Properties****342**

**LEBANON TOWNSHIP** - To  
tally renovated 8 unit apart-  
ment building, \$96,600 G.O.I.,  
asking \$1.1M, owner is a  
Real Estate Licensee. 908-  
433-6883

**Real Estate Rentals****Apartments 405**

**Branchburg Twp**  
**COTTAGE FOR RENT**  
Country Setting  
All new renovations!  
2 bdrms, lg rm, full kitchen  
\$1,100/mo. + utils.  
Call 908-725-6998

**FLEMINGTON 1 BR APT.**

Kit, LV, newly remodeled  
Victorian home, \$975 per  
mo. Short term, avail.  
732-735-6645

**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE**

All residential real estate  
advertising in this news  
paper is subject to the  
Federal Fair Housing Act,  
the New Jersey Law  
Against Discrimination and  
Pennsylvania Human  
Relations Act. These laws  
prohibit discrimination in  
the sale, rental or financing  
of dwellings.

**The Fair Housing Act**

prohibits discrimination on  
the basis of race, color,  
religion, sex, handicap,  
national origin, or mar-  
ital status, actual or sexual  
orientation, or nationality,  
and Pennsylvania law  
prohibits discrimination on  
the basis of age, disability  
or ancestry.

**In addition to the protections**

noted above, New Jersey  
law prohibits discrimination  
based on creed, ancestry,  
marital status, actual or sexual  
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and Pennsylvania law  
prohibits discrimination on  
the basis of age, disability  
or ancestry.

**To report housing discrimination,**

call the Office of Fair  
Housing and Equal  
Opportunity of the U.S.  
Department of Housing  
and Urban Development  
(HUD) at 1-800-699-9777.  
The HUD TTY telephone  
number for the hearing  
impaired is (212) 708-1465.

**In New Jersey, call the**

Division of Civil Rights in  
the Department of Law and  
Public Safety at (609) 984-  
3100. In Pennsylvania, call  
the Pennsylvania Human  
Relations Commission at  
(717) 787-4410 or the Fair  
Housing Council of  
Suburban Philadelphia at  
(610) 604-4411.

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**FLEMINGTON 1 BR APT.**

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732-735-6645

**Real Estate Rentals****Apartments 405**

**CLINTON GARDENS** - Spa-  
cious 1 & 2 BR apts. DW,  
AC, patio, balcony, laundry,  
dry, ample parking. Junc-  
tion of 22, 31 & 78. Walk  
to town. 973-635-1163 or  
908-735-2994

**FLEMINGTON ARMS 1 & 2BRs.**

908-237-4556; or 908-  
806-3650 ext. 505. Email:  
mlf43@aol.com

**FRENCHTOWN 2 Bdr.**

shops, w/d, \$1100/mo.  
heat incl., 1.5 mo. sec. no  
pets, parking. 908-347-  
3766 or 908-237-9748.

**GARWOOD - Two 1BR apts.**

in sm. friendly complex. Heat & hot  
water incl. No pets, walking  
and laundry room onsite. \$970 -  
\$1115/mo. 908-789-9138

**GLEN GARDNER 2 Bdr.**

w/hardwood flrs, w/d, pri-  
vate parking, newly re-  
modeled, \$1150. + utils.  
Next to park, 5 min. to I-  
78, 1.5 mo. sec. No pets.  
Call 908-347-3766 or 908-  
237-9748

**HIGHBRIDGE - Lg 2 & 3 BR**

apts. Deck, yd., in town, pet  
OK. \$950 w/ up heat/hot  
water incl. 908-284-0327

**LAMBERTVILLE -**

1BR/parking/quiet.  
No pets/smoking. Avail.  
July. \$850/mo. Call  
908-397-3109 for details

**Lebanon Boro. immac. 1BR.**

lg kit, LR, walk-in closets,  
new W/D & ref. \$1,100  
incl elec. 908-965-9048

**\*MILFORD\***

Spacious 1st Apt., in Historic  
Millford Opera House. 2200  
sq.ft. Newly renovated, \$1400/mo.  
+ utils. 908-895-2800

**NORTH PLAINFIELD - Victorian**

5 mns. 1 BR, formal DR,  
den, \$950 + utils. NO PETS.  
908-561-5085 after 6

**PHILLIPSBURG (2) 1BR.**

Spac. Victorian apts, re-  
novated. No pets \$725 &  
\$850/mo. + utils + 1.5 sec.  
☎ 908-859-2580

**Readington - 2BR apt.**

on 2<sup>nd</sup> flr in country farm house.  
EIK, LR, Bsmnt, lg yd, lo-  
cated on scenic pic post-  
card setting. 370 acres  
horse farm w/ horse trail  
on Rt. 202 S. Pets OK for  
ad. fee. Horse stable,  
arena & lessons (private  
or group) also avail for  
ad. charge. \$975/mo +  
utils. 3 year lease. Call  
908-331-9825

**RINGOES/LAMB AREA - 4pm**

private country 1/2 house,  
lg yd, w/d hookup.  
\$950/mo, ht and cable  
paid. Sec/1 yr. lease, call  
OK. avail 1-7 609-397-3076

**SOMERVILLE - 1&2 BR.**

Garden apts. from \$850 -  
\$1050, 3 to 1.5 mo. free  
rent on all 1 BRs. Mon-  
Fri. 8-5, 908-725-2909.  
www.brooksidgegardens.net

**SOMERVILLE**

Lovely one bedroom,  
Garden Apartments  
close to NYC Train!  
Spring Move-In Special  
Call for details!  
★ 908-725-2596 ★  
Spanish Speaking

**WARREN - Furn. Lg LR, BR.**

Ba, Huge closets. Incl. utils.  
No pets/smoking. Beautiful  
scenery. 732-469-3496

**Westfield New 1 - 3BR apt.**

w/d, Refrigerator, c/a, inter-  
com, Stairing at \$1300/mo.  
908-928-1110

**Commercial Property****For Rent 410****AUTO****AUTOMOTIVE****BODY SHOP**

With spray booth and  
frame machine looking  
for ideal person to  
lease business from  
owner. 8 Bays ready  
for business with es-  
tablished clientele.  
Call: 908-806-0184

**AUTO****AUTOMOTIVE****REPAIR SHOP**

3 Bays w/lifts, 1  
w/front end alignment  
machine, A/C in office  
& shop, full equip.  
w/all tools. Looking for  
ideal person to lease  
business from owner.  
Ready for business with  
established clientele.  
Call: 908-806-0184

**BERKELEY HEIGHTS**

**DOWNTOWN** - 2 units  
avail. retail or office 730  
& 715 sq. ft. avail. immed.  
Call Landlord for appt.  
908-507-6980

**Competitive Pricing****Must See!****FLEMINGTON:****PLAZA I****Commerce St****Various Sizes****600-2200 s.f.****908-782-7043****FLEMINGTON MAIN STREET**

Prof office 1500sf, Off St.  
priv. Etc. Condi also avail  
1500sf where 908-832-0276

**Westfield Retail/Office**

525 Central Ave.  
Up to 5500 sq. ft. avail.  
908-928-1110

**Houses For Rent 430**

**ALEXANDRIA TWP.** Beauti-  
ful Setting 2.3 BR, 1 1/2 BA,  
renov kit w/ new appts, LR,  
DR, HW flrs, freshly painted,  
walk out basement w/d  
5 min. to 78. \$1300/mo.  
pets negotiable. 908-996-3764

**CALIFORNIA - 2BR ranch**

on 5 acre wooded property,  
2BA, LR, EIK, all appli-  
cances including washer/  
dryer. \$1600/mo + utils.  
908-832-1179

**REDUCED!**

**Flemington/Raritan Twp.** 4  
BR, Colonial, 2.5 baths, LR,  
DR, 2 car garage, fam. rm.,  
fpl deck, \$2200/mo + utils.  
609-327-1477

**PHILLIPSBURG - Cozy 2 Br**

hse, lg kit, quiet St.  
bsmt, ing backyard. Avail  
6/1 9950/mo + utils. 908-  
414-2106

**Houses For Rent 430**

**HOLLAND TWP 1<sup>st</sup> flr, 7 Rm.**  
4 BR, 1 Bath, Full Base-  
ment Par. Fin. N/P, N/S.  
\$1800/mo. incl. incl.,  
Avail immed. HUD OK.  
Also 2 BR - 2<sup>nd</sup> flr, 1 Bath,  
n/p & n/s \$1100/mo. incl  
utils, 1.5 sec. avail 6/1  
CALL 908-246-7690

**SERGEANTSVILLE**

in scenic  
village, 3BR, 1.5 BA, single  
family home, 4th BR or of-  
fice on first floor, one car ga-  
rage, off street parking.  
Fenced yard overlooks pre-  
served land, immediate oc-  
cupancy, one year lease or  
longer. \$1600/mo. plus  
utilities N.T. Callaway Real  
Estate 609-397-1974

**Rooms 460**

**Branchburg - 22 W. near**  
Bridgewater - rooms &  
kitchenette, weekly &  
monthly rates, Free HBO,  
TV, Microwave, Refrid. call  
908-303-9517

**Somerset 1 Room in 4 Bdr.**

ranch, kitchen, LR, private  
parking, \$395 per month.  
1 yr. lease 908-244-7875.

**Townhouses/Condos****For Rent 475**

**CLINTON - BEAVER BROOK**  
Large 1 BR 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl. All  
appl., exc. cond., \$1225 +  
utils. Avail. immed.  
908-399-7452

**CLINTON - Beaver Brook, 1BR/1BA**

upper end unit, backs to golf  
course, all appl. immaculate,  
\$1250/mo. - utils. 1.5 mo. sec.  
Call 908-534-4472

**FLEMINGTON - 2 BR, 1 1/2 BA.**

Full basement, avail  
immed. \$1500/mo. some  
utils. incl. No Pets. 908-  
806-3482

**REMNINGTON SUN RIDGE**

Luxury  
townhouse, 2 mstr. BR, full fin.  
bsmt, gar., ex. lg deck pool &  
park, \$1850/mo. avail 6/15 or  
7/1 609-879-1165

**FRENCHTOWN - Duplex 2**

Bedroom, new kitchen,  
recently renovated. \$975  
per month. Call 908-782-  
5263

**Phillipsburg, 3BR, 2.5 BA**

townhouse in Overlook  
Development ready for  
imm. occupancy. 2 car  
gar, all appl incl w/d,  
deck, clubhouse & pool.  
\$1700/mo 908-236-8704

**Readington Hunters Crossing**

Beautiful 1 BR, lg LR,  
DR, den, w/lr, p/bath, full  
setting. A real show place  
must see. \$1450/mo.  
908-996-7431

**Phillipsburg, 3BR, 2.5 BA**

townhouse in Overlook  
Development ready for  
imm. occupancy. 2 car  
gar, all appl incl w/d,  
deck, clubhouse & pool.  
\$1700/mo 908-236-8704

**Vacation Property For****Rent 480**

**LAVALLETTE - 3 BR house,**  
LR, DR, Kit, full BA, outside  
closed shower, 1 block ocean,  
A/C. Avail wdy. 908-231-1122

**LBI NORTH BEACH, Bay Side**

condo, 4 BR, 2.5  
baths, AC, 2 decks, all  
amenities. Avail August  
weeks, \$2600/week. Call  
908-789-9410

**MYRTLE BEACH condo**

4 years old, sleeps 6, 2  
baths, on golf course, 2  
min. to beach. DVD  
available to preview. Call  
908-996-3188

**Wonderful Long Beach Island**

house. 100 yards  
from beach, 4 BR, 1.5 BA  
+ outside shower, 3 win-  
dow a/c units, Sunroom  
and Deck w/gas grill. Very  
private back yard  
\$2200/week in July &  
August. Call 908-534-  
9392

**Wanted To Rent 485**

**WANTED TO RENT:** Furnished  
home, 3+ BR, pool is a +,  
needed from 8/1-8/14, fees  
negotiable. 732-742-8825

**Merchandise****Building Material &****Equipment 520**

**PLUMBERS DELIGHT JACUZZI**  
WHIRLPOOL BATH  
complete w/ Moen fix. Lk  
nw \$675 B0908-246-1533

**Clothing 530**

**WEDDING GOWN FOR SALE**  
Hand made by professional  
seamstress, cleaned and  
vacuum packed, incl de-  
tachable train, veil, head  
piece & card bag, size 10-12  
\$200 908-756-1186

**Furniture 560**

**5 PIECE LR SET:** Sofa, love  
seat, chair & ottoman,  
bick/gar, ivory end table &  
coffee table, exc. cond.,  
\$550 for all. 908-725-8363

**Beautiful 3 Yr old Sofa Set**

Light blue w/violet flow-  
ers. Paid \$2400 asking  
\$600. 908-369-4137

**BEDROOM SET - 7 pcs.**

Sleigh bed, dresser, mirror  
chest & nite stand. List  
\$2200, Sell \$975. New in  
box, can deliver. 908-  
732-259-6690

**Bedroom Set - Deco water**

fall \$2500. Curved glass  
oak china cabinet \$1,000.  
Brass & Iron Bed, double  
\$800. 908-238-9743

**BEDROOM SET - Solid oak,**

dresser w/lt mirrored hutch  
& cannonball hbrd/hbrd.  
\$500 080. 908-534-0099

**Furniture 560**



WELCOME TO  
THE AGE OF  
INDEPENDENCE®

Introducing our new  
“Just Because,  
Not a Grand Opening,  
Not a Holiday” special  
Edison offers.



### New Independence RewardsPlus Checking.™

Get 5000 automatic Bonus Points from Visa® Extras  
when you sign up today.\*

Unlimited check writing.  
First order of checks free.

**3.05%**  
APY

with a balance of \$15,000 and over.\*\*  
Plus many other free services included.

### Free Business Checking For Life™

Open an account today and never pay to  
write a check again.

**FREE** first order of checks  
**FREE** Independence VISA® Business CheckCard  
**FREE** online banking  
**NO** monthly maintenance fees  
**NO** deposit charges  
**Limited time offer**

### Home Equity Loan

No fees, points, closing costs or appraisal fees.<sup>†</sup>  
Tax-deductible interest.<sup>††</sup>

HOME EQUITY LOAN

**5.25%**  
APR<sup>\*\*\*</sup>

15 YEAR FIXED RATE

get a \$100 gift card  
for the Home Depot®<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup>  
when you close on  
your loan

### Home Equity Line

No fees, points, closing costs or appraisal fees.<sup>†</sup>  
Tax-deductible interest.<sup>††</sup>

HOME EQUITY LINE

**3.74%**  
APR<sup>§</sup>

FIXED FOR 6 MONTHS

### 13 Month CD

Your money will work harder with this great rate.

**3.56%**  
APY<sup>§§</sup>

13 MONTH CD

Stop in our new Edison branch, or call **732-287-0648**.

These offers available only at our Edison Branch, 3876 Route 27, Edison, NJ, from 4/10/05 through 5/31/05, excluding Free Business Checking For Life. \*Bonus rewards points will be issued upon the opening of an Independence RewardsPlus Checking® account, obtaining an Independence Visa Gold CheckCard and enrolling in Visa Extra. Independence Community Bank reserves the right to change this offer at any time. \*\*You must deposit a minimum of \$100 to open this account. This is a variable rate account—the Balance Terms, Interest Rates and Annual Percentage Yield may change at any time. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) rates as of 4/10/05: 3.05% APY earned on accounts with a minimum balance of \$15,000 and greater. Accounts with a balance of \$15,000 to \$14,999.99 will earn 1.01% APY. Accounts with less than \$15,000 do not accrue interest. \$15,000 service fee will be assessed if the average daily balance for the month falls below \$5,000. Other fees and charges charged only by Visa—these could reduce the earnings on the account. \*\*\*Offer expires 5/31/05. New accounts must be opened by 5/31/05, and will be considered a “New Small Business Checking Account” as long as the account is open, active and in good standing. This offer applies to small business checking accounts only. Personal accounts and not eligible. Transfers from existing Independence accounts do not qualify. Offer terminates every week. Offer may be withdrawn at any time. This check offer applies to all of our Independence RewardsPlus Checking and Fixed Rate Checking accounts. (Hazard insurance required and flood insurance may be required. Minimum loan size is \$25,000. Maximum loan size is \$200,000. This offer is applicable only to qualifying, first-time, first-closed loan, whose proceeds are not available for people. Subject to credit and underwriting. The amount of your loan depends on the value of your home, your income, sources of debt and credit history. This offer is not available for the refinancing of existing Independence Home Equity Loans or Home Equity Lines of Credit. Certain other restrictions apply—check with Independence Community Bank representative for additional important details, limitations or alternative options. Offer subject to change or withdrawal at any time without prior notice. ††Consult your tax adviser regarding the deductibility of interest and potential tax savings. †††APR (Annual Percentage Rate) Independence Home Equity Loan—rate of 3.74% for a 15-year average home equity loan with automatic payment from an Independence Checking Account. For a 15-year loan, the monthly payment is \$8.04 per \$1,000 borrowed. Rates are accurate as of 4/10/05 and are subject to change. Additional terms available. Independence Community Bank is not affiliated with The Home Depot®. The Home Depot® is a registered trademark of Home Depot U.S.A., Inc. Applications must be received by 5/31/05 and automatically approved and closed—available only for Home Equity Loans. Your \$100 Gift Card to The Home Depot® will be mailed to you once you close on your loan. Allow 2-4 weeks from time of closing to receive your Gift Card. APY (Annual Percentage Rate) The mandatory rate of 3.56% is fixed for six (6) months before ending and is not based on any index. This rate requires automatic payment from an Independence Checking account and a \$25,000 initial deposit or transfer of funds at account opening. After the first six (6) month period, the APR is variable monthly and equal to the highest Federal Reserve and may reduce the earnings on the account. The rate in effect as of 4/10/05 and is subject to change.

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