

The Chronicle

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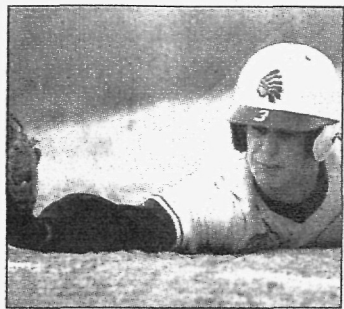
Since 1862

Vol. 144, No. 26

Saturday, June 25, 2005

50 cents

INSIDE



Sizzling Summer

With Watchung Hills High School products Matt Giannini, Chris Costa and Tyler and Shane Riccio on the squad, Ball-Kirch Post 265 is loaded with proven talent and is confident of returning to the American Legion Baseball state tournament after narrowly missing a berth last year. **Page C5.**



Star-Spangled Performance

Branchburg resident Matthew Smith, 9, kicked off the recent Autism Awareness Night held at Commerce Bank Park in Bridgewater with a memorable rendition of the national anthem. **Page A8.**

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 **Pages A5, A7.**



INDEX

Commentary.....**A-4**
Antiques.....**A-8**
Sports.....**B-1**

Classic Cruizers



Bound Brook resident Frank Aadahl's 1948 Chevrolet Aero Sedan makes the scene during cruise night in Somerville.

Bound Brook car collector is proud of his '48 Aero

By AMY S. BOBROWSKI
Staff Writer

SOMERVILLE — When it was manufactured, the 1948 Chevrolet Aero sedan didn't come equipped with what are now commonplace features, said Classic Cruizers member Frank Aadahl.

"You paid extra at the time for signals, heat and a defroster," said Aadahl, a Bound Brook resident and owner of a '48 Aero. "But when I got it, it already had them."

Aadahl was also able to get a pretty accurate history on the car because he bought it from the original owner who lived right around the corner from him.

"I bought it 12, 13 years ago from the original owner," he said. "She stopped driving when she was 80. I'd pass the car everyday."

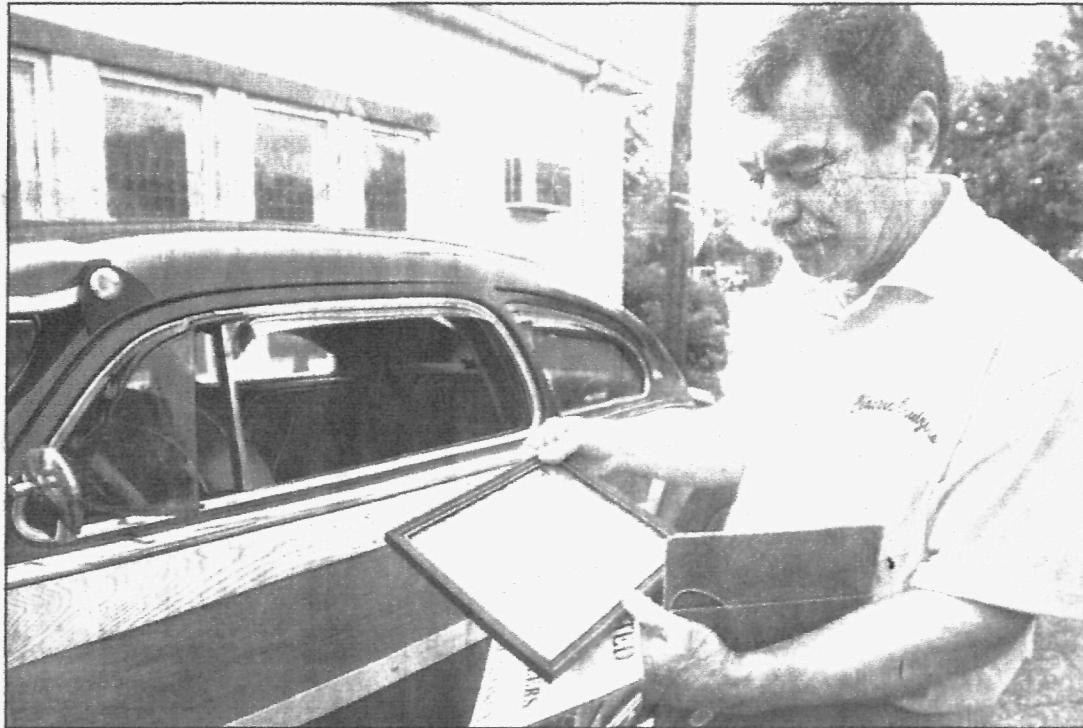
Mechanically, the car was in good shape when Aadahl purchased it, but aesthetically, it needed some work.

"She had a banged up fender," he said. "It was rusty. I sanded and painted it myself."

He painted the exterior a deep warm maroon color and added real wood trim. With the original maroon and cream plaid seat covers, the car appears as if it popped out of an earlier era.

"The original seats were mohair," he noted. "Those weren't very comfortable or practical, especially if you're wearing corduroy pants."

This is the fourth car Aadahl has restored. Also in his



Frank Aadahl of Bound Brook with his 1948 Chevrolet Aero sedan. Aadahl is a member of Classic Cruizers.

garage are a 1937 Chevrolet Street Rod, a 1938 Chevrolet Taxi and a 1970 Volkswagen Bug.

"The 1931 was my first car. I built it myself. It was my everyday car," said Aadahl, who spent more than a year working on that vehicle. "I still have it, which is unusual. Not too many guys hold on to something like that."

The 1938 Chevy wasn't always a taxi cab.

"I painted it yellow and black," said Aadahl. "I added a taxi meter and the top light and painted the striping on the side."

Aadahl rotates the cars he takes to Cruizin' Somerville and other car shows. In earlier years, he drove to shows as far away as Albany and Washington, D.C.

Now, because the garage is full, Aadahl tinkers around with old machinery.

"I like old cash registers, fire alarms, parking meters," he said. "The smaller things take up less room. It's tough laying under the cars these days."

But Aadahl gets just as much pleasure taking his cars to shows as he does restoring them and other machines.

"They all bring some sort of attention," said Aadahl. "Everybody has a story. They

Continued on page A2

No rhymes for good reasons; Poetry fest leaves Duke Farms

By AMY S. BOBROWSKI
Staff Writer

HILLSBOROUGH — The Duke Farms estate will not play host to the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation's poetry festival again next year.

The Foundation holds the poetry festival every two years and, until last year's festival, which was held at Duke Farms, it had been held at Waterloo Village in Sussex County.

Jim Haba, poetry director for the Dodge Foundation, said the Foundation decided not to hold next year's festival there because Duke Farms officials could not promise necessary permanent infrastructures would be in place in time for the event.

"When we were there, we did the festival with no electricity, no water, no telecommunications, no paths," said Haba. "We also had the misfortune of the most unusually severe weather."

Before and during the course of the event, which ran from Sept. 30 to Oct. 3, 2004, the area experienced almost six inches of rain causing the fields used for parking to become giant mud pits.

"We had over 40 buses stuck in the mud," said Haba, who noted all-weather parking facilities were something he had hoped Duke officials would be able to provide by

the time of the next festival. Despite the foul weather, the Festival welcomed a crowd of about 19,000. Prior to the 2004 festival, the every-other-year festival held at Waterloo Village since 1986 welcomed about 17,500 people on average.

Haba said the Foundation hosted the 2004 festival at Duke Farms as a dry test run, realizing there would be a lack of amenities.

"We went into the festival with the understanding we'd do the first one from the ground up to understand how permanent infrastructure might be best used," said Haba, adding he hopes at least some facilities would be

constructed by the 2006 festival.

When Foundation and Duke Farms representatives met in January, Haba said, Duke had not determined their mission. "They made it clear that they did not have the justification to provide permanent facilities for us," said Haba.

A Duke Farms spokesperson said hosting the event again would put a large strain on the staff at the estate.

"Our big concern is the amount of time and effort going into this," said Duke Farms spokeswoman Susan Dyckman. "It really tapped into our human resources."

Continued on page A2

N.J. parks funding advances

EDISON — Legislation sponsored by Sen. Barbara Buono, D-Middlesex, which would allocate \$75 million for capital improvements to state parks and historic sites recently passed the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.

If approved by the full Senate and Assembly, it would be the single largest capital investment in the history of park funding in the state, and fund improvements at several sites in Middlesex County.

"Parks are so much more than just open space. Parks are grounds where parents bring their children to play, where teenagers toss around Frisbees, where community events occur, and where many of our seniors exercise," said Buono. "This funding will allow our parks to make much-needed improvements, and greatly enhance the quality of life for all residents of Middlesex County and our state."

The measure will also allocate funds for a portion of the 57 state-owned historic sites. "Heritage and historic sites define who we are as a state and enhance communities understanding of their place in history. It is important that we restore and maintain historic treasures like the Thomas Edison Memorial Tower for future generations to enjoy," said Buono.

Buono, who is also chairwoman of the Senate Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee, is working to identify a stable source of funding for parks and historic sites as well. "While this proposed funding will jumpstart improvements, I am working alongside acting Gov. Codey with input from environmental and historical preservation stakeholders to identify a stable source of funding for all parks and historic sites," she said.

State-owned historic sites in Middlesex County include the Thomas Edison Memorial Tower and Menlo Park Museum in Edison; the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park; The Metlar/Bodine House Museum in Piscataway, and The Proprietary House in Perth Amboy.

Chamber gets update on flood project work

BOUND BROOK — About 40 local business people listened to updates on the Green Brook Flood Control Project at a recent dinner meeting held by the Bound Brook Area Chamber of Commerce.

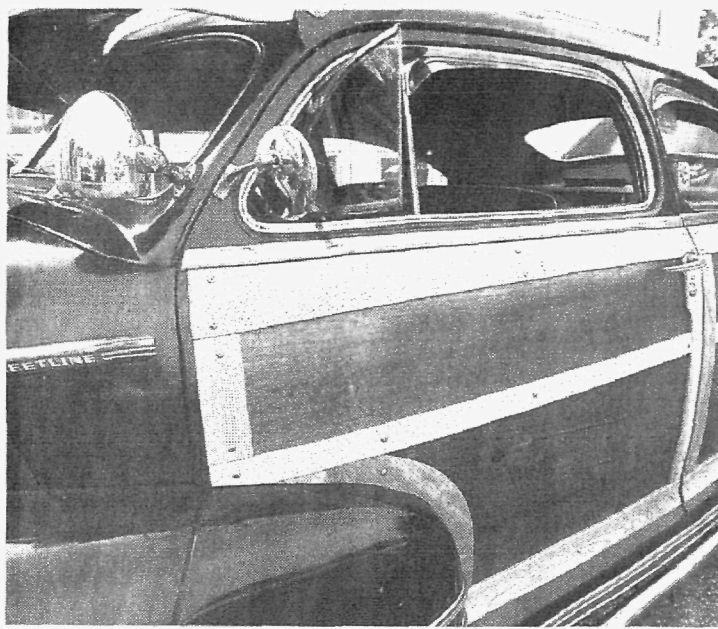
Speakers included Felix Chevere, construction team leader, and Joe Forcina, project manager, representing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. They gave a detailed presentation after the dinner buffet held at Rosina's Italian Restaurant on Union Avenue.

Using charts and a video, the two men presented an update on what has been accomplished so far on the project, and what is planned for the future.

The Army Corps of Engineers is building levees in several locations in Bound Brook, while a reinforced bridge between Bound Brook and Middlesex with a higher elevation above the stream has already been completed.

A ring wall on Route 28 and E Street is about halfway done, and the next project, officials hope, will be to elevate the bridge at Talmage Avenue and East Main Street.

Continued on page A2



GEORGE PACCIOLLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
The wood trim can be seen on this 1948 Chevrolet Aero sedan.

Finishing touches make all the difference

Continued from page A1

always had the same car or their grandfather had one. That's part of the fun of doing shows, talking to people about the car. It's a lot of work. If you didn't love it, you

wouldn't do it."

This summer marks the 16th year of the Friday Night Cruize Night, which will run on Main Street through Labor Day. Cruizin' Somerville is sponsored by Fullerton Auto Group, Route 22, Somerville.

No rhymes for good reasons; Poetry fest leaves Duke Farms

Continued from page A1

We're really trying to appeal to a broad range of people and focus on different types of environmental and cultural events."

Starting in July, Duke Farms will open up the Country Manor, which had been home to James Buchanan "Buck" Duke and Doris Duke.

"The festival demanded a heavy use of our human resources," said Dyckman. "Hosting the festival again would limit our ability to hold other programs."

Although the Hillsborough Township Committee approved a zoning change for the 270-plus acre farm in 2004 that permits the construction of a new visitor center, additional parking areas and bathrooms to accommodate large events like the poetry festival, no plan has been put into action.

"Duke Farms is still working on a long range plan," said Dyckman. "There's no time table yet; we're still laying out the vision of Duke Farms."

While Duke Farms has not yet made upgrades to accom-



GEORGE PACCIOLLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A highlight at the poetry festival is the open readings when anyone can recite poetry.

modate large crowds for the Poetry Festival, Waterloo Village has taken steps to provide additional facilities for the event.

"They've gotten a new tent of all-weather material and have agreed to upgrades of power," said Haba. "There was a situation in 2002 on

Saturday when we had the largest crowd we have 500 people standing outside of the tent. It's alright if there's standing room only, but not if it's outside."

The Geraldine R. Dodge Poetry Festival, the largest poetry festival in North America, will be held at

Waterloo Village Sept. 29 through Oct. 1, 2006.

"We were very happy to be in Somerset County and we're sorry to be leaving Somerset County," said Haba. "We hope the people who came out to see us there won't mind making the drive to see us at Waterloo."

Chamber gets update on flood project work

Continued from page A1

"This is an important part of the renaissance of Bound Brook. I know our members strongly support the completion of this large endeavor," said Dr. Perry Wolk-Weiss, president of the chamber.

More information about the flood control project can be found at www.nan.usace.army.mil, or write to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 26 Federal Plaza, ATTN: CENAN-PP-C, New York, N.Y. 10278-0090.

Bill would ban smoking in college dorms

TRENTON — Legislation sponsored by Sen. Barbara Buono, D-Middlesex, that would require students at New Jersey's public colleges and universities to go outside to light up their cigarettes has received final legislative approval in passing the Assembly.

"Allowing students to smoke inside of dorm buildings is an unacceptable health risk," said Buono. "Not only does smoking dramatically increase the potential for a serious fire, but it also exposed non-smoking classmates to the dangers of second-hand smoke. College students need to realize when you live in a dormitory, your actions affect your neighbors as much as they affect you."

Students who choose not to smoke should not have to deal with these risks."

Bill S-2332 would amend current law to prohibit smoking in any building used as a student dormitory that is owned and operated by a public school or institution of higher education. Many institutions in the state and across the country already have bans in place on smoking in all buildings on campus, including private rooms in residence halls. Several states have enacted legislation similar to what Buono has proposed. The administrations at these schools claim that a prohibition on smoking in residence halls reduces cleaning fees, maintenance fees and the risk

of fire.

"It is an unfortunate fact that smoking is on the rise among college students — a fact that has an impact on all students living in our dormitories, whether they smoke or not. I may not be the most popular senator with college-aged smokers in New Jersey after we pass this bill, but other students shouldn't have to deal with the harmful consequences of those who decide to light up," added Buono.

Senate Bill 2332 passed the Assembly by a vote of 78-1. It also received the concurrence of the full Senate for minor amendments made by the Assembly. It now goes to the governor's desk for his signature.

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Thomas Nettleship
Five-month-old Thomas is from Whitehouse Station and recently enjoyed his first-ever Somerset Patriots game on Thursday, June 9th. Thomas came to the game with his mom Lisa and dad Ray. Thomas has three older sisters - Elizabeth, 13; Victoria, 11, and Stephanie, 7. His favorite player at his very young age is Billy Hall.

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Local doctor heads relief mission to Ecuador



GEORGE PACCIOLLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Ryan Diorio, 17, at left, and Liz Hickey, 17, help Dr. Glenn Friedman wash a car to raise funds for a 10-day relief mission in Ecuador sponsored by the Branchburg Rotary Club. While in that country, 14 area volunteers will help residents build houses.

By ALLISON ELYSE GUALTIERI
Staff Writer

"My God, it was not hard to stumble on the problem there," said Doug Merritt. El Nino, economic hardships, sprawl, poverty — all pieces of the problem in San Pablo, Ecuador.

Starting today, a team of doctors and local residents will be headed abroad, hoping to make a small corner of the world a better place.

There, they will build homes, schools, give exams and deliver medication to a clinic there, help extend electricity, and extend the revolving fund to bring economic growth to the area.

The 10-day trip, sponsored by the Branchburg Rotary Club and Rotary District 7510, is the third time local volunteers have traveled across time zones and continents to help the people of San Pablo. This year, 14 local residents are making the journey.

Merritt, who started the annual volunteer trip, said there is much work to be done. The town of San Pablo gave the group 80 acres on which to build houses, and about 160 have been erected so far. The houses, which each have a cement floor

and foundation, a tin roof, and each house about four to six people, cost \$1,000. The families repay half that cost, and that money goes into a microcredit fund to help people start small businesses, such as selling crafts or raising chickens. Each house is in the woman's name, Friedman said, for cultural reasons.

"We've had 100 percent repayment," said Friedman. "They want so much to succeed."

Now, he said, the project is expanding.

"The goal is sanitation, the septic system for 111 houses, the clinic for 700 patients, and the retrofitting of the schools," he said of this year's trip.

The 700-patient clinic is where Dr. Glenn Friedman comes in. Friedman, who practices in Bridgewater and is affiliated with Somerset Medical Center, will be helping deliver supplies and examine patients, along with four doctors from Ecuador.

"I know how poverty impacts kids and their level of healthcare," Friedman said, as he saw the situation firsthand while attending medical school in Mexico.

Many local pharmaceutical companies, such as Pfizer and Schering-Plough, have either donated or promised supplies, such as B-12 shots and toothbrushes, and Continental Airlines has offered the group, which has been raising money through donations and car washes to fund the trip, free and discounted airfare.

"Pfizer has given us boxes and boxes of toothbrushes," left over from a promotion for one of their products, said Friedman. "These kids need basic care."

The clinic will examine local residents, giving them shots and checking for gastrointestinal and respiratory problems, which are widespread.

Friedman, who has not been on the trip before, will be bringing his daughter Samantha, 17, and Laura Juliano, 16, with him on the trip. Juliano's mother, Dr. Julie Ann Juliano, had started the volunteer project with Doug Merritt, though she is unable to make the trip this year.

"We wanted to do this because it's just a good thing to do, to volunteer and give back," said Friedman.

Assembly legislation increases truck fines

By ALLISON ELYSE GUALTIERI
Staff Writer

Legislation aimed at deterring trucking companies and truckers from using local roads passed the Assembly by a vote of 79 to 0 on Monday.

Sponsored by Assemblywoman Linda Stender, D-22, whose district includes Green Brook and North Plainfield, the bill increases the range of fines municipalities can set for trucks weighing four or more tons that get pulled over for driving on roads that have a grade of five percent or greater, up to \$2,500 for the first offense and up to \$5,000 for subsequent offenses.

The bill was proposed by Stender in response to the concerns of Green Brook officials, who have experienced problems with trucks on Warrenville Road.

"Warrenville Road is a danger to motorists because of oversized trucks," said Stender. "The trucks are overweight and often are speeding. The surefire way to ensure that trucks are driven safely is by imposing stiff penalties."

Currently, state statute only allows fines of up to \$1,000 for the first offense. The bill would allow that fine to be raised at the municipality's discretion, though the municipality would then have to post signs to alert truck drivers that the road is unsafe and they would be subject to increased fines. Somerset County has been working to increase signage on the type of roads described in this bill, such as Hillcrest Road in Watchung and Washington Avenue in Green Brook.

Currently, coordinate legislation in the Senate, S-2611, has been approved by the Senate Transportation Committee and is headed for consideration by the full Senate.

One of the bill's sponsors in the Senate, state Senator Ellen Karcher, D-12, said that she does not anticipate any difficulty with the bill's passage in the Senate, though she had not heard when it would be sched-

uled to be discussed.

"I think there is or will be support for this," she said. "We hear this again and again about trucks being on small town roads where it is inappropriate for them to be."

"The trucking industry is one that is constantly concerned with the bottom line, but truckers cannot put public safety aside for a quicker, more cost-effective route," said Senator Nicholas Scutari, D-22, who is co-sponsoring the bill. "By allowing municipalities to impose tougher financial penalties on the few drivers that deviate from designated truck routes, we can ensure that the cost of breaking the law outweighs the benefit."

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Soccer camp in Middlesex

The MetroStars Player Development Program will be offering a summer camp program on behalf of the Middlesex Youth Soccer Association at Mountain View Park in Middlesex from Aug. 8-12.

The camp is for children ages 5 to 17 and runs 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.; 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The cost is \$75, \$125 and \$175. Children will receive a T-shirt and ball.

The MetroStars Player Development Program provides a structured developmental path to the pros for players of every ability level. The camp combines skills and technique training with fun games and activities.

Registration forms are available at the Middlesex Recreation Department. For more information, visit MetroStars.com or call Dave McKiernan, (732) 752-4203.

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Commentary

When it comes to giving, we get it

Last week, the Giving USA Foundation released a detailed report which shows that Americans donated \$249 billion last year to charitable causes, up five percent over the previous year.

We're not surprised.

Here in Somerset County, we don't think twice about digging deep into our pockets when it comes to charity.

That's because those who live here are imbued with a cherished, time-honored sense of goodness and caring.

Causes and compassion go hand-in-hand.

The report was researched and written at the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, and published by the Giving USA Foundation. The study focused on four sources of contributions — individual, bequests by deceased individuals, foundations and corporations.

Individual giving was the single largest source, accounting for 75 percent of the giving in 2004, a total of \$187.92 billion, representing an increase of 4.1 percent over 2003.

"About 70 to 80 percent of Americans contribute annually to at least one charity. Being a 'philanthropist' does not merely mean making huge gifts; it means giving to any cause that you value," said Ray Clements, chair of the American Association of Fundraising Counsel, which launched Giving USA.

Use yourself as a barometer; chances are, you'll find that giving is a huge component of your value system.

We know, because on a daily basis, you come to us, and ask that we publicize your cause. It's our privilege to do so, because we believe in all the good causes that are out there.

Like many of our neighbors in Somerset County, The Reporter is on the front lines of both giving and receiving — we've said thanks, and been thanked, time and time again.

We've experienced the compassion and charitable nature of organizations and individuals from Warren and Green Brook to Somerville and Branchburg and

all the towns in between.

We join hands with others to support good causes, believing that we have an obligation to embrace our community, and to help those in need wherever possible.

We've seen it all — students collecting coats in the winter; students collecting prom gowns in the spring for young women who can't afford them; people lining up to donate blood; food banks getting stocked and restocked with donated food; Thanksgiving dinners for the homeless; kids raking leaves in the fall for the homebound; home repairs for the elderly, Toys for Tots at Christmas . . . you can draw up your own list.

Five months ago, we launched Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005, creating a supply line of comfort items like snacks and toiletries to send to New Jersey National Guard troops deployed in Iraq. We asked for your help.

You haven't stopped giving.

It's been a 100 percent grassroots effort, and in five months, OPSHBX has sent more than 2,600 packages overseas, and raised over \$40,000 to support the effort.

It seems there's at least one golf tournament every week to benefit a charity. OPSHBX has already benefited from the fifth annual Champagne Open at Beaver Brook Country Club in Annandale, which raised \$12,000 for the troops; in August, the Somerset Patriots' annual golf tournament will also benefit OPSHBX.

Our collective sense of community embodies the core values we were taught as children — extend your hand to those in need, help those who are less fortunate, or those who find themselves the victim of circumstances.

Boiled down it means that one person can make a difference, whether you buy Girl Scout cookies, toss a quarter at a canvas bulls eye along the roadside or buy a red plastic poppy from a veteran.

We have good reason to believe that the trend will continue, and that next year, another new record will be set.

Net and bolt technique inhumane way to kill deer

To the Editor:

The Humane Society of the United States, the AMVA, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and numerous other authorities have declared the captive bolt gun to be an extremely cruel and inhumane way to kill deer.

Decision-makers in Watchung have been misled as to the true nature of what they are considering.

Please understand that deer feel the same terror and pain that your own treasured family pets would feel. Speak out against this barbaric procedure.

Net and bolt is gruesome. Deer are lured to food. A suspended net is dropped, entangling the screaming and flailing terrified animals. Men attempt to physically restrain these powerful, frantic deer until a device with a retractable bolt can penetrate their skulls. Attempts are usually unsuccessful and inaccurate so they need to be repeated, prolonging the intense suffering.

HSUS says, "We firmly believe that it is impossible to ensure that this technology can be used correctly and consistently in the field to provide a humane death to deer. These guns were not designed for use on wild animals under any cir-

cumstances, and certainly not as a management tool for white-tailed deer."

A veterinarian who has supervised the use of the captive bolt gun said, "This is a very inhumane way to rid yourselves of the excess deer because of the extreme fright experienced by the deer and because the captured bolt does not effect a clean kill when the animal's head is not immobilized. The misplaced bolt does not always kill but merely wounds the deer making repeated attempts necessary to kill the struggling animal. Deer frequently break their legs in the netting."

SPCA declared that the net and bolt program constituted cruelty to animals.

Other communities have regretted their participation and issued a moratorium to outlaw net and bolt.

Please do not let the Watchung government overreact and capitulate to the vocal minority who do not understand the gravity and horror of net and bolt. They don't comprehend the trauma it would definitely inflict upon the deer as well as the families of Watchung, especially our children.

MARTHA HALMO
Watchung

Delays by Raritan officials caused residents to assume more school taxes

To The Editor:

Delays by the Raritan mayor and council wasted over \$239 of the average Raritan homeowner's money. When ordered by county officials to revalue all property, they took four years to comply.

Meanwhile, the state calculated Raritan's share of the regional school tax based on the equalized value (which is an estimate). For the 2004-05 school year Raritan paid 11.4 percent of the burden. The year after with revalued property in Raritan, the share was only 10.5 percent. Raritan's share in 2003-04 had also been 10.5 percent. Only in the one year had

there been a spike in our portion. Raritan thus paid over \$800,000 which rightfully should have been in Bridgewater's total. There is no provision in the law to obtain a refund. Now we can expect the Democrats to explain and excuse their lack of action. But the facts are that delay in revaluing caused our town to assume a greater share of the school tax burden. The only question is: How much did the inflated value of the equalized property also add to Raritan's portion of county taxes?

ANGELA PERONE
Raritan

Question of the week:

Do you think it's time to start scaling back the number of U.S. troops in Iraq?



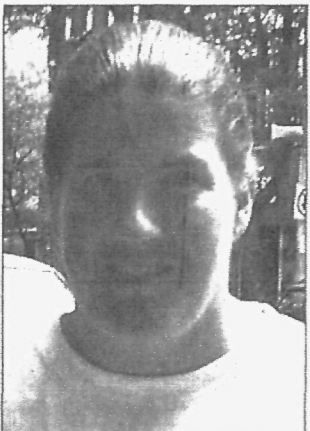
DYANN MAZZEO
Lambertville

"Yes, it seems we have crossed the point of diminished return!"



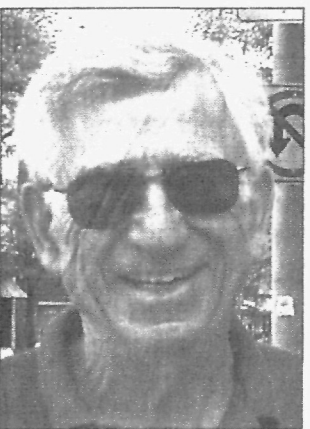
CHERYL THOMPSON
Somerville

"Our soldiers are getting killed unnecessarily. We are supposed to be teaching — not fighting!"



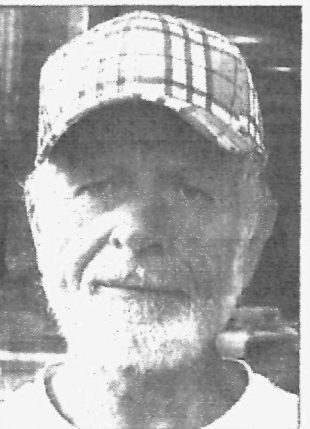
PEGGY ST. CLAIR
Somerville

"Yes."



IRWIN VOGEL
Somerset

"We should take them (our soldiers) all out, not just some. There's not enough soldiers over there now as it is."



JOSEPH CUGLIARI
Raritan

"Yes. We are wasting our lives, time and money over there. They have to decide what they're going to do — not us!"

Letters to the Editor

Pathmark in way of revitalization

To the Editor:

On June 2, 2005 Pathmark filed suit in Superior Court against the Borough of Somerville, Somerville Planning Board, the mayor of Somerville and JSM regarding the redevelopment efforts downtown.

The taxpayers of Somerville have supported Pathmark financially for over 25 years, and to now have our borough named in a lawsuit as we are about to finally see taxpayer relief is frustrating, disappointing and honestly it makes me angry and has raised the anger of many citizens regarding Pathmark.

By all accounts, this is a great project for Somerville, one that has the ability to enhance our borough financially through \$2.1 million in revenue for our taxpayers, it will enhance our downtown streetscape, it will enhance the vibrancy of Main Street, and is the kick off to all of our redevelopment efforts so we can finally have a real impact on our ratable base and our property taxes.

This project has taken two years to reach this point and it is disappointing to now have Pathmark, a long standing corporate citizen, one who is included as a part of this redevelopment project, potentially stall significant financial progress for the taxpayers of Somerville.

By all accounts, this project is a winner for Somerville — we have support for this project from all aspects of our borough — unanimous consent from two different Borough Councils, unanimous consent from our Planning Board after hearing testimony from all sides including Pathmark, support from our Architectural Review Board, support from our District Management Corporation, and most importantly support from our citizens. We have even had public support for the redevelopment of the site from Pathmark itself.

It is obvious the tenant and the landlord have a lease dispute and the borough is now being dragged into this by Pathmark, however the borough's goal for this project has not changed, and that is to have a shovel in the ground this year.

What is reasonable and fair for a tenant, for a landlord, and for our borough?

Since fall of last year, the borough has mediated discussions

between Pathmark and JSM. We have been frustrated at every step by the inflexibility and changing demands of a long time corporate citizen. Fair discussions and fair negotiations call for a reasonable give and take. The borough and JSM have sat at the table with Pathmark and acquiesced to almost every demand they have made, or have made reasonable offers of resolution. When there is a shifting target of demands, it is difficult to understand the true goals of those at the table.

Make no mistake, a food store is vital to downtown Somerville and will be a part of this redevelopment project. The borough understands that and so does JSM, however Pathmark has the sole ability right now to determine whether they are that food store and a part of this redevelopment... or not.

I, nor this council, can allow this project to be delayed; it is far too important for this borough's economic revival.

This development is real for this borough — JSM has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars to bring it to this point, and we have just received a \$25,000 down payment on the borough owned parking lot.

It is apparent JSM is ready to develop, the borough is ready, Planning Board is ready, and our citizens are ready. Everyone is ready except Pathmark...and one has to ask why...is this a case of corporate financial goals getting in the way of the greater good of the Borough of Somerville. I hope not.

Now, to those that will try and use this issue for political gain, and have already started, I say shame on you.

You are wrong to target the people at this council table as those that are responsible for a frivolous lawsuit.

You are wrong to target the volunteers on the Planning Board who sat tirelessly through many hours and many evenings of testimony and made an informed decision based upon fact which they are required to do by law.

You are most wrong to defend Pathmark over and above the taxpayers of Somerville — you've got it backwards!

You are wrong for either not knowing and understanding the issues surrounding this redevelopment, or knowing and choosing to ignore them.

MAYOR
BRIAN GALLAGHER
Somerville

Pathmark not the bad guy

To the Editor:

If you believe Somerville officials had no positive or negative bearing on the legal issues between Pathmark and Edgewood Properties or that it won't have repercussions for Somerville, think again.

First, consider the financial impact. Even if construction began on schedule, Somerville will not begin to receive the full increase in taxes from the new ratables until 2010. Any delay in the project pushes this date back even further. If Pathmark is successful in proving their case, the project will continue to be delayed until an acceptable compromise can be found. Had the Planning Board and Council negotiators taken Pathmark's concerns seriously, this situation might have been avoided.

Now let's examine the "greed" factor. As a grocer, if you were told that 270-plus new residential dwellings were being built right next to your store, wouldn't you see \$\$. What then would motivate Pathmark to raise objections? Could their impact assessment have found the proposed plan will actually negatively affect their business? What about Edgewood's motivation? While Edgewood loses years worth of revenue on unoccupied space, like where the restaurant La Cucina use to be, Pathmark has provided a constant revenue stream for more than 25 years. What then would motivate Edgewood to dismiss concerns voiced by such a dependable tenant?

Due to their long-term lease agreement, Pathmark occupies the only section of the shopping center that

Edgewood could not include in their redevelopment plan. Supposedly, Edgewood wants to bring in "high-end" retailers for the new center. Does Pathmark fit into this vision? Additionally, as prime real estate, Edgewood could realize significantly more revenue from this space based on current commercial leasing rates. Given these factors, one could certainly see the benefit to Edgewood if lower revenue performance forces Pathmark to close. And don't worry about any Somerville residents whom Pathmark employs. They'll find something else.

Finally let's examine the "negotiations" and Edgewood's community contributions. Nick Riga suggested that a section of the property be developed for public use at no cost to the town, such as a new Somerville public library. This would give the library much needed larger facilities and more space at Borough Hall to accommodate other municipal functions. This idea was simply dismissed by both Edgewood and the negotiating committee. I find it very interesting that a neighboring town negotiated the construction of a brand new Police Station at no cost to their town with one of their corporate citizens, yet it is apparently preposterous for us to make such a request. I challenge any member of the "negotiating" committee to name one item which they "negotiated" into the project plan that solely benefits the community of Somerville and provides no financial benefit to Edgewood.

JULIE HEIRY
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:

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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.

Letters from Iraq Soldiers appreciate OPSHBX packages

We'd like to share some of the letters we've received recently from New Jersey soldiers deployed in Iraq, all of whom have received packages shipped by Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005:



My name is Joseph Shawn Genovese and I am currently in Iraq. I would like to thank you for the support that has been given to us through the Operation Shoebox organization. It is really nice to know that we have not been forgotten back home and that people really do care about what we are doing over here. Both missions are very important to all of us over here.

I received in one of the care packages a letter from a little girl by the name of Molly. The letter was just as meaningful as if it came from my on daughter or little sister. (I don't have either). I have also spent time with a little boy over here and finally just last week I was able to earn his trust. We played Monopoly and drank a can of strawberry soda. It was a great time. At the end of the day we all wish we could be with our

families. We all make the sacrifice for a better tomorrow. Thank you again for all that you have done.

Sincerely

Spc. Joseph S. Genovese
NJ Army National Guard

Operation Shoebox,

Hello. My name is Spc. Edwards. We all are very thankful for the much needed support OPERATION SHOEBOX has shown to us.

I went to the post office the other day and was surprised to see a package out of New Jersey. I thought for a while and sent out a few emails and asked if anyone knew who I could thank for the wonderful box filled with so many much needed things.

When I received the box there was no letter from The Reporter. Not until today when another soldier received a box filled with so much stuff did any of us realize who was behind all of this hard work and how many volunteers took the time to give back to perfect strangers who were half way around the world.

Let me start by saying we are all very proud to have the support and friendship of so many people. The hundreds of volunteers who we will never meet is a wonderful feeling to have inside of one's self as we serve the "Greatest Nation On Earth."

Please let these people know we need folks back home like this. We wish to thank all the children and friends who put this together, we don't know where to start because we wouldn't want to leave anyone out. All I can say is your thoughts, prayers, emails, letters of support, kind words of wisdom and packages will never go unforotten.

There isn't a day that goes by that one of us doesn't need to borrow something from another soldier and the gift packages you have sent are always shared



U.S. Marines from the 3/11 Mike Battery, 2nd Platoon take a cigar break in Al Asad, Iraq, just west of Baghdad. Two Marines in the unit helped collect and sort toys at Commerce Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater last December during the Marines' Toys for Tots drive.

by all. To all of our families back home from the 3rd 112th M.P. Company Morristown N.J. we miss you and hope to be home soon.

Spc. Edwards
A-3rd 112th M.P. Company

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your generosity in sending those care packages. Sorry for this short note, but I only get an opportunity once every two weeks to email, and only for 30 minutes. I was an active duty Marine from 1982-86. After 9/11 I decided to try and come back in the Marine

Corps to serve and protect our country.

When Operation Iraqi Freedom started, I volunteered to be forward deployed in support of that operation. After being out of the Marine Corps for eighteen years, I am grateful that they have given me the opportunity to make a difference again. They had to award me an age waiver because I had been out for so many years.

I'm probably the oldest Sergeant in the Marine Corps. It's been a challenge keeping up with these young Marines. The average age of a Sergeant is 24 and I'm 42. This is my

second rotation over here in the "Big Sand Box."

We've made measurable improvement since last year. President Bush's leadership will be unparalleled in world history when we win this war on terrorism. I'm proud to call him my Commander-in-Chief.

Know that our morale is high and we will stay the course until the job is done. It's a great day to be an American and it is my privilege and duty to defend the greatest country in the world.

Semper Fi and God Bless the America.

Sgt. Stephen Ritter

Troops benefit from surprise birthday party

I've been to a few surprise birthday parties over the years, but I've never seen anyone as knocked over as Don Strickland, whose wife, kids and friends "ambushed" him when he walked through the door at the Community Volunteer Fire Co. 3 building Friday night in Warren to check on a "gas leak."

His family had plotted with his friends and co-workers for more than a month, even though the 40-year-old had insisted to his wife that there be no parties and no presents.

He was at the firehouse to pick up his 16-year-old daughter from a "Sweet 16" party; at least that's what he had been led to believe, and was lured into the firehouse when she came out to the car to tell him about the "gas leak."

Don warmed to the occasion quickly, working the room, with lots of bear hugs, handshakes, back slaps and pecks on the cheek.

As for the gifts - well, wife Cheryl had passed the word along - no gifts for Don.

She did, however, ask that those invited bring gifts for U.S. troops in Iraq - as well as a check to help cover the cost of shipping the items overseas.

Cheryl had read about Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005 in The Reporter, and cooked up the idea. She called us, and we helped where we could, and were invited to join in the fun.

"I saw it in the newspaper and suddenly, the idea just came into my mind. We just thought it would be a nice thing to do," she explained.

A mound of gift bags and boxes grew atop a round banquet table set up in the corner of the room, where guests also deposited cards and letters they had written to the troops, and more than \$400 to help pay shipping costs.

Rod Hirsch
Executive
Editor



We can all take something from this collective gesture. It was an evening to remember for Don, Cheryl and their kids. But more than that, the eagerness of the guests to support the cause is what impressed me most.

"I can't tell you how many people said 'We always wanted to do something, but we didn't know what to do,'" Cheryl explained. "We thought no matter what political affiliation we have, our hearts go out to these guys. The smallest comforts of home. It kind of breaks our hearts... we want them home. But if we can't bring them home, we'll send them a little bit of home."

And so they did. Why not do the same next time you plan a surprise party?

Busy, busy, busy

Jamie Mirabito and her three children arrived at The Reporter office Friday from their home in Ringoes to help sort through piles of bags and boxes that had been gathered the previous week. They put a huge dent in the pile, adding to the efforts of Alice Higby and Barbara Spiegel, the two ladies who've been visiting The Reporter weekly to help sort through the items you've donated for the soldiers.

No sooner had they left, however, that Penny Vogt pulled up in front of The Reporter with a huge shipment that filled the back seat and cargo area of her SUV. The boxes and bags had been collected at a company picnic earlier that day which had

400 employees of AT&T Consumer Services from the Morristown and Piscataway offices enjoying the day.

The pile grew higher later that evening when we added the gift bags collected at the 40th birthday surprise party at the Warren firehouse. All the space that had been cleared by Jamie and her three kids was once again filled, but that's a good thing - the supply line continues to be filled from any number of sources.

And, we're waiting for the haul accumulated by members of the South Bound Brook Rescue Squad, whose members volunteered to collect items from shoppers at the Pathmark Supermarket on Lincoln Boulevard in Middlesex Saturday.

Monster truck

Bill Braukmann and wife Kim will park their 4x4 monster truck in front of Midway Transmissions, 49 Old York Road in Bridgewater Saturday to help publicize Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005 and raise money to pay for shipping the packages overseas.

You can visit them from noon-4 p.m. Visitors can have their picture taken alongside the truck in return for a donation to OPSHBX, according to "Midway Joe" Tinnes. Braukmann will also sign autographs.

To show support their support for this charitable cause, Shockwave flies the OPSHBX flag in the bed of the truck when it competes against other 4x4 monster trucks like Big Foot and Gravedigger.

Last week, the Braukmann's had Shockwave at the Manville Carnival on Duke Parkway East, and on Sunday, Father's Day, the big yellow truck with purple trim was parked at the staging area for the 10th Kelsey's Run charity motorcyc-

cle event in Bridgewater collecting donations for OPSHBX. They collected over \$300 in donations. Thanks to all who gave.

Essay contest

Students in Somerset County are invited to enter an essay contest sponsored by The Reporter, Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005 and the Somerset Patriots, and in 200 words or less define "What is a Patriot?"

Essays may reflect past, present, or even future examples. The entries will be evaluated by a committee whose members

are from the educational, civic and business sectors, and judged according to grade level: Primary, Grades 1-5; Middle, Grades 6-8; Secondary, Grades 9-12.

First prize winners will each receive a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond and tickets for four to the Aug. 14 Patriots game at Commerce Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater. They will also be asked to read their award-winning essays prior to the singing of the National Anthem. Second and third place winners will receive a \$50 and \$25 U.S. Savings Bond.

Veterans from WWII, the Korean and Vietnam Wars, the

Persian Gulf War and Operation Iraqi Freedom will be honored at the ballpark in the Parade of Patriots.

All entries must be postmarked by July 5, 2005; include the child's name and grade as of September, 2004, address and telephone number. Send entries to: The Chronicle w. Patriot Essay Contest, 44 Veterans Memorial Drive East, Somerville, N.J. 08876. Contest winners will be notified by phone.

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

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
Dorell & Sons Locksmith, 20 W. Somerset St., Raritan (908) 725-2096
Shop-Rite Supermarket, 611 West Union Ave., Bound Brook
Girl Scouts of Rolling Hills Council, 1171 Route 28, North Branch
Nan Romano Fine Apparel/Distinctive Gifts, 432 Main St., Bedminster
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
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

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The Reporter, along with our community & corporate partners, are collecting small, personal items that will be packaged and shipped to the brave men and women serving overseas.

Look for our drop-off boxes at a store or business near you! Pick up The Reporter each week for updates and information. For details on becoming a drop off location, contact The Reporter's Executive Editor, Rod Hirsch at (908) 575-6684. Send your message of support today!

We're collecting the following items to be sent to our troops overseas:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suntan lotion | <input type="checkbox"/> Coffee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bug spray | <input type="checkbox"/> Small drink mixes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lip balm | <input type="checkbox"/> Socks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Feminine products | <input type="checkbox"/> Clothesline/pins |
| <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 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eye drops | <input type="checkbox"/> Batteries (any size) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spices/Tea bags | <input type="checkbox"/> Calling cards |

*Donated items must be in their original packaging.

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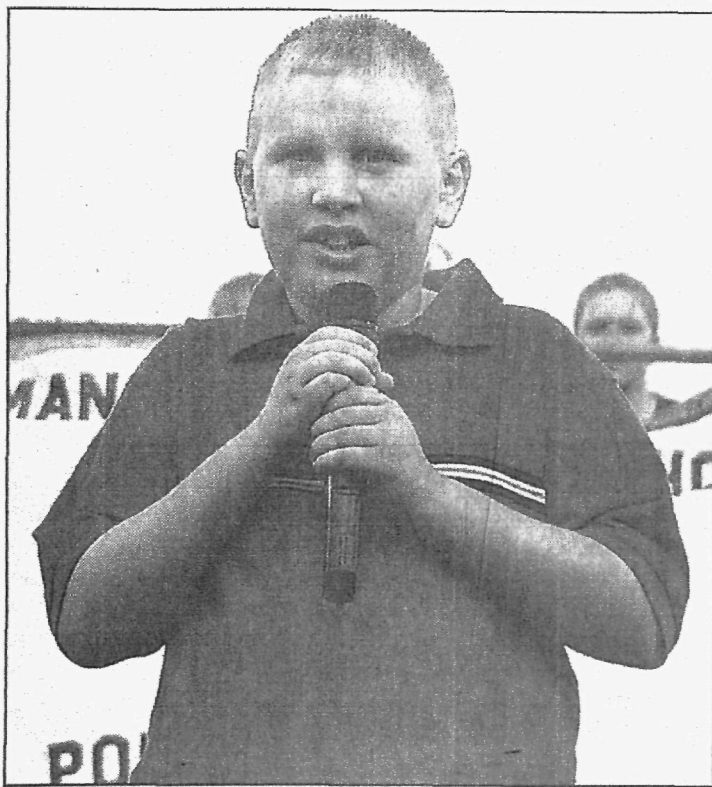
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Everything Jersey

It was a star-spangled rendition to remember



COURTESY SOMERSET PATRIOTS
Branchburg resident Matthew Smith, 9, sings the national anthem June 16 during Autism Awareness Night at Commerce Bank Park. Matthew is a student at Somerset Hills Learning Institute.

By TAKESHA PETTUS
Staff Writer

BRIDGEWATER — Matthew Smith showed no fear when he took the microphone to sing the Star-Spangled Banner at the start of a recent Somerset Patriots game.

His mother Michelle Smith says Matthew acts shy until a crowd forms around him for a performance. Under ordinary circumstances, most 9-year-olds asked to sing before a crowd at a packed ballpark would suffer a case of the flutters.

That's what makes Matthew so extraordinary - he has autism.

His performance was part of the Patriots' second annual Autism Awareness Night.

"He loves the audience," said his mother.

The Branchburg resident performed the National Anthem last year at the ballpark.

First diagnosed at age 3, Matthew's parents, Michelle and Rodney Smith, enrolled him at the Somerset Hills Learning Institute in Gladstone. The goal of the

school is to help Matthew and other children like him one day live independent and productive lives, executive director Kevin Brothers said.

About half of those who enroll prior to the age of 5 graduate from the school with the tools to live an independent life.

Michelle Smith is especially proud of her son's ability to perform year after year. The two would rehearse the song every day to ensure that Matthew remembered the song. As a reward for performing on game day, Matthew was allowed to eat junk food and purchase a prize from the Somerset Patriots gift shop.

As part of Autism Awareness Night at the ballpark representatives from the New Jersey Chapter of Cure Autism Now were on hand manning a table on the concourse with information about autism.

Autism is a lifelong developmental disability that affects the way a person communicates and relates to people. Often times, children

and adults with autism have difficulty with social interaction, communication and imagination.

Currently, the school is located in a basement of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Gladstone. It has 20 students, 23 teachers and a support staff. The non-profit institute is currently in the process of a \$5 million fund raising campaign to aid in the construction of a 19,000 square-foot facility. The goal is to raise the funds by April 2006.

The school will also host a golf marathon on July 18 to help towards that goal.

Golfers will play a minimum of 54 holes to raise funds through pledges made by donors to each player. The Neshanic Valley Golf Club, Branchburg will host the event. There is no entry fee for players. The only requirement is that each player come up with a donor list of pledges.

For more information on the event contact Michelle Smith at 908-623-0514 or Teresa Jensen at 215-872-0879.

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Surprise!

Birthday party guests bring gifts for U.S. troops

By JIM WHITE
Staff Writer

WARREN — Freshly 40, the sudden look on Don Strickland's face resembled that of a once unassuming child who had just been knocked down for a tumble in the Atlantic Ocean surf for the first time.

"SURPRISE!!!!!!!" Like a crashing wave, the unanimous roar of nearly 100 of his family and friends rocked the birthday boy back on his heels; it was clear he had no idea.

The lead-up to last Friday's party inside the Community Volunteer Fire Company 3 building — of which Strickland is a member — was carefully orchestrated by his wife of 16 years, Cheryl Strickland, and their three children, Magen, Rebecca and Danny.

"We told him I'm at a Sweet 16 party here," Magen, 16, said prior to her father's 9:15 p.m. arrival at the firehouse. She said her mom and dad were on their way to pick her up after attending her 14-year-old sister's dance recital at Watchung Hills High School.

"We're gonna tell him something is wrong with the stove — we smell gas or something — and he needs to take a look at it," she said.

This was key in fooling her father, who friends described as someone always willing to lend



a hand, or ear, should trouble arise.

"Just a genuine guy. The real deal," is how Jim Jarkovsky of New Providence, a friend of Don Strickland's for 17 years, described him.

"He's a super guy. Has a lot of character," said Steve Bufardec from Midland Park, a fellow mechanic who has worked with Strickland for about 11 years now at Wyman Ford in Maplewood. "He likes to joke around and play games. It really helps you get through the day."

In that spirit, Cheryl Strickland began organizing the event a month ago after reading about this newspaper's Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005 program — a joint effort between The Reporter and numerous businesses and organizations, families, veterans and volunteers to maintain a care-package supply line to U.S. troops serving in Iraq and the Mideast region.

"I saw it in the newspaper and suddenly the idea just came into my mind," she said. "We just thought it would be a nice

thing to do."

In the 116 invitations mailed out, she asked that guests bring supplies for the troops instead of presents. And by party time a corner of the firehouse was eclipsed by a mountain of gift bags stuffed with thousands of ordinary household items. Some cut checks to cover the cost of shipping the supplies overseas. Others included letters of encouragement for those working in harms way.

"I can't tell you how many people said 'We always wanted to do something, but we didn't know what to do,'" Cheryl Strickland said. "We thought no matter what political affiliation we have, our hearts go out to these guys. The smallest comforts of home. It kind of breaks our hearts ... We want them home. But if we can't bring them home, we'll send them a little bit of home."

Judging by the bear hug Don Strickland gave his wife, he approved of her original twist on the birthday party.

"I told my wife no party, no gifts," he said. "I got a beautiful family, a house, I pay my bills. I don't need anything ... It's incredible. I'm impressed she came up with this."

"We need to get them home," he said of the men and women serving in Iraq. "To me it's a senseless thing going on over there right now."



The moment at his 40th birthday surprise party is Don Strickland, at right, with his wife Cheryl, who had asked guests to honor her husband's wishes — no gifts. Instead, she asked everyone to bring items needed by U.S. troops in Iraq, as well as donations to send the packages overseas.

On turning the big 4-0, Ron Strickland said it really hadn't sunk in yet.

"But I never feel old, anyway. Young at heart, I guess," he said.

His parents, Don and Mary Anne Strickland said the night's turnout was testament to the kind of man they raised. "Johnny-on-the-spot. That's why all these people are here," Strickland Sr. said.

"Since the time he was a teenager he's been a leader. It always amazed me how people follow him," his father said, adding he believes his son's

character had a lot to do with his decision to become a firefighter eight years ago.

"From the time he wore that corn necklace to school that he made," his mother said, adding her boy was bit of a terror in the beginning. "He destroyed his room by the time he was one. We had to nail the crib to the floor ... A lot of trouble, but a leader."

The couple said they were pleased to have Operation: Shoebox New Jersey 2005 as part of their son's 40th birthday.

"I think Americans need to

recognize the dilemma we're in, and not focus on the negative aspects of the political situation ... What we feel personally about the Iraqi situation is indifferent," Strickland Sr. said. "As an American family I feel we have to look within ourselves ... and hope to God we bring our sons and daughters home, like tomorrow."

To get involved with Operation: Shoebox, call Rod Hirsch, executive editor of The Chronicle, (908) 575-6684 or e-mail rhirsch@njnpublishing.com.

Contest asks kids to define a Patriot

STAFF REPORT

Students in Somerset County are invited to enter an essay contest sponsored by The Reporter, Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005 and the Somerset Patriots, and in 200 words or less define "What is a Patriot?"

Essays may reflect past, present, or even future examples. The entries will be evaluated by a committee whose members are from the educational, civic and business sectors, and judged according to grade level: Primary, Grades 1-5; Middle, Grades 6-8; Secondary, Grades 9-12.

We've received several entries since the contest was

announced earlier this month. Zachariah Jordan, a third grader from Hillsborough writes "a patriot is a person who stands tall when you say the Pledge of Allegiance."

Marissa Cohen, a fourth-grader from Warren writes "my grandfather spent his 19th birthday in a foxhole in Germany with bullets whizzing over his head ... he got hurt and earned a Purple Heart. That is my definition of a patriot."

First prize winners will



each receive a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond and tickets for four to the Aug. 14 Patriots game at Commerce Bank Ballpark in

Bridgewater. They will also be asked to read their award-winning essays prior to the singing of the National Anthem. Second and third place winners will receive a \$50 and \$25 U.S. Savings Bond.

Veterans from WWII, the Korean and Vietnam Wars, the Persian Gulf War and Operation Iraqi Freedom

will be honored at the ballpark in the Parade of Patriots.

All entries must be postmarked by July 15, 2005; include the child's name and grade as of September, 2004, address and telephone number. Send entries to: The Chronicle, Patriot Essay Contest, 44 Veterans Memorial Drive East, Somerville, N.J. 08876. Contest winners will be notified by phone.

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Antiques store hosts pet benefit

By AMY S. BOBROWSKI
Staff Writer

SOMERVILLE—Bonnie Reeder, owner of The Antiques Emporium, 29 Division St., noticed a common passion among her dealers.

"A number of people here have befriended homeless animals," said Reeder.

This weekend, the store will hold several events and sales to benefit the Mobilization for Animal Rights, an all-volunteer organization that collects funds and pet food for various animal shelters, animal rescuers and people who foster care for homeless ani-

mals.

"They (Mobilization for Animal Rights) hold fundraiser dinners and raffles and donate the funds to various rescue groups, shelters and individuals," said Judy Rittenhouse, a dealer at The Antiques Emporium. "They help defray the costs of vet care. A lot of times, these homeless animals are in extreme need of vet care."

Saturday the store will hold a FUNtastic Flea market of donated items. On both Saturday and Sunday, The Antiques Emporium will offer free verbal appraisals of antiques and collectibles. Donations accepted for the

appraisals will benefit local animal charities. Additionally, all the store's dealers will discount their merchandise up to 30 percent during the events.

In keeping with the animal theme, the store will give out free hotdogs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

As the owner of and foster caregiver for a number of cats, Rittenhouse, said the benefit event couldn't come at a better time.

"This is an urgent time of need. It's kitten season," said Rittenhouse, who noted that Reeder came up with the idea of the benefit event.



Antiques dealer Judy Rittenhouse, left, and Antiques Emporium owner Bonnie Reeder hold a basket filled with donated pet food. The Somerville store will host a benefit this weekend for a pet shelter.

GEORGE PACCIOLLO/
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18-22. Catalogs available. (212) 636-2680.

June 25-26: Marble Weekend, vintage marble games and related memorabilia, dealers, craftspeople and artists, Wheaton Village, 1501 Glasstown Road, Millville, Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday,

10 a.m.-3 p.m. \$10, \$9 seniors, \$7 students, children five and under free. (800) 998-4552.

June 25-26: Free Appraisals and Storewide Sales to benefit Mobilization for Animal Rights animal care charity, Antiques Emporium, 29 Division St., Somerville, noon-3 p.m. both days. Free hot dogs Saturday. Pet food collection throughout June. Open 11 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, until 7 p.m. Friday. (908) 218-1234.

June 26: Trading Music: New Jersey's Instrument Makers, Museum of Early Trades & Crafts, 9 Main St., Madison, 3-5 p.m. Presentation explores the craft of making musical instruments in the early 19th century. (973) 377-2982.

July 6: Free Appraisals, Antiques Emporium, 29 Division St., Somerville, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (908) 218-1234. Free appraisals are held the first Wednesday of each month. (908) 218-1234.

July 9: Second Saturday Record & CD Collectors Expo, Firehouse, 97 Parish Drive and Route 23, Wayne, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$5. (973) 209-6067.

July 10: Second Sunday Camera Show, Firehouse, 97 Parish Drive and Route 23, Wayne, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. \$5. (973) 838-4301. April 9: Second Saturday Record & CD Collectors Expo, Firehouse, 97 Parish Drive and Route 23, Wayne, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$5. (973) 209-6067.

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Saturday, June 25, 2005

Sports

Dalton hurls Post 435 past Middlesex

Post 435 of Edison improved to 6-2 on the season as it trimmed Middlesex 4-1 behind the pitching of Kevin Dalton, who carried a no-hitter into the sixth inning before allowing the only hit of the game in a matchup of Middlesex County American Legion Baseball League Red Division teams Monday night.

Dalton (1-0) fanned nine and walked four and did not surrender a hit until Dennis Rivera doubled into the gap in left in the sixth. Rivera later scored on an error.

Edison pushed across a run in the third when Rob Rubenstein stroked a run-scoring single, and it was 2-0 after Mike Manfre tripled and scored on Cal Costanzo's fielder's choice in the fourth.

Father & Son upped the lead to 4-0 in the fifth when a hit batter and two walks loaded the bases, and an RBI grounder by Nate Fabretti and an error on the play chased home the second run.

Matt Campanella pitched well in defeat for Middlesex, which slipped to 3-4 for the season, allowing three during his stint on the mound.

North Plainfield 8, Flemington 6 — Matt Giannini's first start in the Somerset-Hunterdon American Legion Baseball League certainly didn't match his last appearance on the mound at Hunterdon Central High School, out Ball-Kirch was able to overcome an early deficit to claim a victory over host Flemington to improve to 5-2 Monday night.

Giannini, who had pitched in the state all-star game Saturday and had thrown a no-hitter when Watchung Hills captured the North 2 Group IV title earlier in the month, allowed five runs on four hits while striking out five and walking six in 4 and 2/3 innings.

Giannini and Chris Costa both finished 3-for-4 to lead a 13-hit attack with Costa knocking in two runs and Giannini one. Dan Leary had a two-run single, while Bill Merkler and Costa had RBI singles when Post 265 scored four times in the fourth to come back from a 4-3 hole. Mike Benak added a pair of hits.

Clara Barton 14, Franklin 13 — Keith Walker lofted a sacrifice fly in the bottom of the seventh to knock in

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

the winning run as Post 324 Barton rallied from a 13-4 deficit with nine runs in the sixth and another in the seventh to edge Franklin Monday in a MCALBL inter-division game night.

Kevin Rush, who earned the victory with three innings of one-run relief, belted a two-run homer during the sixth-inning uprising, while Gary Turner doubled home a pair to knot the game at 13-13.

Turner finished the game 4-for-4 with three runs scored, while Adam Kramen, who doubled to open the seventh and set up the decisive run, collected three hits. Steve Seybuck notched a pair of hits for the winners, and Nick Triano had a two-run double earlier in the game.

Piscataway 7, South River 6 — After belting four homers earlier in the game Post 261 picked up the winning run in the bottom of the sixth on a run-scoring single by Robert Rose to

edge South River in a MCALBL cross-over game Monday night to move to 6-2 on the year.

Russ Hopkins slugged a three-run homer, while Kenny Walker and Allan Hudson hit solo shots for Piscataway, which won it with two runs in the sixth for reliever Bobby Abreu, who allowed one run over four innings of work. Hudson led the winning attack with a 3-for-4 performance, while Hopkins went 2-for-4.

North Plainfield 6, Clinton 2 — Mike Benak tossed a six-hitter, fanning eight and walking four in going the distance as the Bulls trimmed Clinton Saturday by pulling away late after the game was knotted at 2-2 through four innings.

Nick Cesare singled home a run in the first inning, and after Bill Merkler belted a solo homer to tie the game in the fourth, Cesare doubled in the go-ahead run in the fifth. Shane Riccio singled in a run and Kevin Baker had a sacrifice fly in the sixth, and Mike Benak hit a solo homer in the seventh to cap the scoring. Benak and Merkler joined Cesare with two hits each.

Edison 11, Perth Amboy 1 — Jon

Mendez fired a six-inning three hitter, fanning eight and walking one, as Post 435 crushed Perth Amboy June 17. Mike Manfre singled three times and drove in three runs to lead the Edison attack, while Kevin Dalton and Keith Lorfing had two hits and one RBI apiece and Mike Shymanski contributed a two-run single. Rob Rubenstein, who stole three bases, scored three times.

Piscataway 6, South Plainfield 4 — Xavier Ysabel singled home the tying run and Coleman Peteet singled in the go-ahead run as Post 261 scored three times in the top of the seventh to edge South Plainfield June 17. Russ Hopkins drove in two runs with a pair of hits, while Kenny Walker tossed four scoreless innings in relief.

Ridge 4, North Plainfield 2 — Post 265 lost an eight-inning verdict to Ridge June 17, wasting a strong pitching effort by Park Smith, who fanned seven and walked two while allowing two hits. Bill Merkler doubled to open the fourth and later scored on a ground ball, and also singled home the second run in the sixth.

Sobkowiak just pitches in for Patriots

BRIDGEWATER — As far as Scott Sobkowiak is concerned, you're only as good as your next start.

Among the top pitchers in the independent Atlantic League of Professional Baseball through the first two months of this season, Sobkowiak prefers not to get too involved with such matters as his won-loss record, earned run average and where he might rank as a candidate to get picked up by a major league-affiliated club.

"First of all, I have no idea what my stats are," he said Saturday night after his already-impressive statistics became even better during the Somerset Patriots' 4-2 triumph over Lancaster at Commerce Bank Park. "It's a superstitious thing. I looked at my stats one time and in my next outing I gave up something like eight runs in one inning, so ever since I don't even bother with them. I don't want to hear it."

For the record, the 27-year-old righthander will carry a 5-2 ledger and a 2.64 ERA to the hill tonight when he starts at Long Island. In 10 outings encompassing 61 1/3 innings he's allowed 52 hits and 10 walks while striking out 49 batters.

"I just go out there and do the best job I can," he said. "I'm here to pitch in Somerset and to win in Somerset. I'm as committed to this team and this league as I could be because I can't control if I can get out of here."

"I can't sign myself," he added. "But what I can do is throw the ball the best I can every time out and give my team an opportunity to win. I worry only about my pitching, and everything else should fall into place. If I pitch here all year and continue to put up numbers as well as I have and don't get picked up, well, I have an agent for that and we'll talk during the off-season about how I can get to someone's spring training."

The 6-foot-5, 230-pound Sobkowiak, who pitched one inning for the Atlanta Braves four years ago, admitted he used to become distracted from the task at hand while his mind wandered to thoughts of the future.

Prior to this season, he'd had mixed success in the minor league ranks, posting a 39-31 mark and a 3.74 ERA in seven

years while pitching at various levels. He also was in independent ball last summer, going 8-7 with a 4.20 ERA in 15 starts for Rockford of the Frontier League, and went 6-7 (3.85) in the same number of outings the previous year.

"When I played before in an independent league, I was worried about the scouts in the stands and why am I not getting signed," he said, "and my numbers would reflect that. I threw terribly. Now all I'm focused on is throwing well and it makes the game that much more easy and I'm having fun again. I love going out there and competing."

"So if something is supposed to happen at the affiliated level, it will over time and I'm not worried about rushing it."

Sobkowiak, an Illinois native who resides in Orlando, Fla., began his pro career in 1998 with Atlanta's Single-A Eugene (Ore.) squad and eventually got his shot with the Braves in 2001, making a single one-inning relief appearance and allowing two hits and a run.

"Oh, I don't even count that," said Sobkowiak of his cup-of-coffee major league resume.

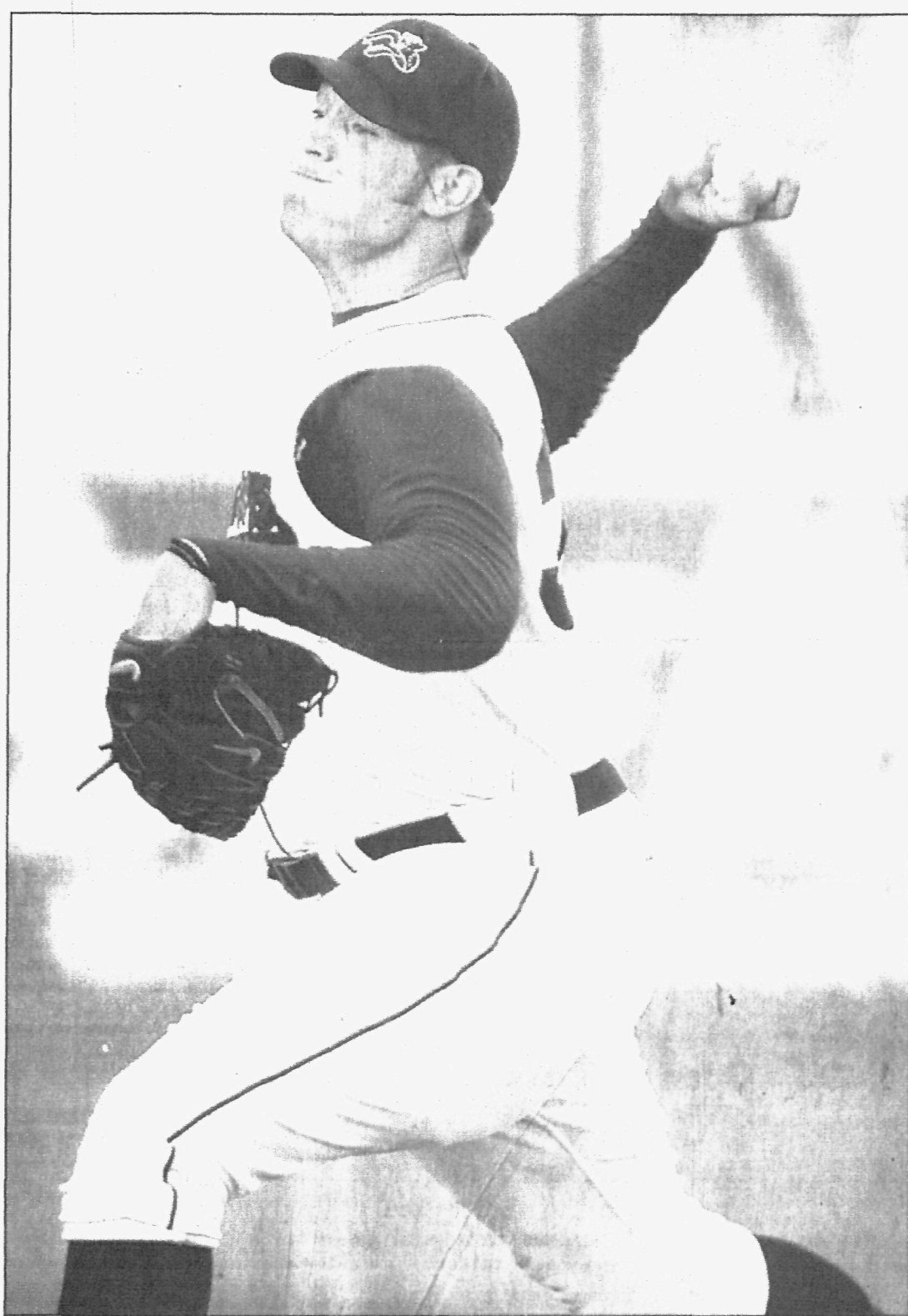
He started four games (1-2, 5.91) for the Cincinnati Reds' Single-A Potomac team two years ago before being released, then opted for independent ball.

With Somerset, he's thrilled not only with the positive atmosphere surrounding the squad but also with the fact that Manager Sparky Lyle and pitching coach John "The Count" Montefusco have such an extensive major-league background in pitching.

Lyle, a former relief specialist, spent 16 years in the big leagues, winning the Cy Young Award in 1977 with the New York Yankees. Montefusco, a 13-year veteran, earned the National League's Rookie of the Year honor in 1975 with the San Francisco Giants.

"Count has shown an eagerness and willingness to work with me," said Sobkowiak, "because I made it clear from the first day I was going to use and abuse him. He and Sparky have experience and knowledge I've never seen before on one team."

"They had great success over an extended period of time in the big leagues, so why wouldn't I pick them apart



Scott Sobkowiak gets sets to throw a pitch against Lancaster Saturday night when he led the Somerset Patriots to a 4-2 victory. Sobkowiak improved his record to 5-2 while lowering his earned run average to 2.64.

and continue to ask questions as I try to get better? I'd be ignorant not to utilize the privilege I've been given to have those guys to draw from. Realistically, they're an open doorway for me getting back to where I want to be."

STOPS LANCASTER

Except for a two-batter sequence in the fourth inning Saturday, Lancaster's Barnstormers undoubtedly wish he'd been somewhere other than Commerce Bank Park.

Sobkowiak went eight innings, allowing seven hits, one walk and two runs while striking out seven against a lineup with five left-handed batters in it. David Elder and Robert Marquez finished off the visitors in the final stanza.



Rangers sign Lee to AAA contract

The Lancaster Barnstormers saw enough of Derek Lee Sunday. Apparently, so did the Texas Rangers.

In what turned out to be his final audition for a major league-affiliated club, Lee tossed a complete-game six-hitter, struck out six and didn't yield a walk while pitching the Somerset Patriots past Lancaster 9-0 at Bridgewater's Commerce Bank Park.

The next day Lee, a 30-year-old lefthander, signed with Texas and was assigned to the Rangers' Triple-A Oklahoma squad in the Pacific Coast League.

"We knew Derek was among the top pitchers in the league, as well as a lefty," said Somerset President/General Manager Pat McVerry, "and after scouts saw him pitch, it was clear he was going to be signed. We wish him the best of luck and hope to see him make the major leagues."

Lee went 4-2 in 10 starts for the Patriots, including a pair of complete-game shutouts, and posted a 2.45 earned run average with 48 strikeouts and 16 walks in 66 innings. During his four June outings he had a 3-1 record and a 2.12 ERA.

The 6-foot-4 Lee, a resident of Fort Worth, Tex., is the 10th ALPB player — and the first Patriot — to sign with a big-league organization this year. He spent the 2004 season with the Toronto Blue Jays' Double-A New Hampshire affiliate, compiling a 3.38 ERA in 56 innings.

He has two seasons of Triple-A experience with the Milwaukee Brewers and entered the year with a career minor league record of 56-55 with a 3.47 ERA in 209 games. Replacing Lee in the rotation is lefty Todd Moser.

Somerset has also lost another player, catcher Ryan Kellner, who early this week announced he was retiring following Wednesday's game. Until a week ago Kellner, 27, had been the regular backstop but his performance had tailed off. He was hitting .256 with 11 RBI in 36 games.

ANOTHER ATTENDANCE MARK

The Patriots set an ALPB attendance record for a three-day weekend series as 22,175 fans showed up for their three contests last weekend with Lancaster at Commerce Bank Park.

This was the first time in league history a team has drawn more than 7000 spectators three straight games, as 7719 came in Friday night, 7421 Saturday and 7035 Sunday afternoon (Father's Day). CBP's seating capacity is listed at 6100.

Sorenstam is among entries in rich HSBC event

BEDMINSTER — Most of the big guns will be there. Most certainly, so will the big money.

One of the most lucrative first-place prizes in the history of the Ladies Professional Golf Association will be at stake next week when the inaugural HSBC Women's World Match Play Championship is held at Hamilton Farm Golf Club.

Employing a match-play format for the first time in a half-century, the LPGA is offering the second-largest winner's payoff in women's golf, with \$500,000 going to the individual who gets past all challengers during the tournament which begins Thursday and concludes Sunday. The runnerup will receive \$300,000.

The total purse for the tourney, which will attract 64 golfers, is \$2 million. The top winner's prize for an LPGA event is

the \$560,000 which went to last year's U.S. Open champ, Meg Mallon.

Among the golfers expected to compete in the single-elimination event are top-rated Swedish standout Annika Sorenstam, who's won six of the eight LPGA tourneys she's entered this year, Cristie Kerr, Lorena Ochoa, Grace Park, teenage sensation Paula Creamer, Rosie Jones, Karrie Webb, Juli Inkster, Laura Diaz and Jennifer Rosales.

In all, the entrants represent 15 countries and have combined for a total of 303 LPGA victories, including 31 major championship titles. All nine winners from this season will be showcased, as well as LPGA Tour and World Golf Hall of Fame members Sorenstam, Inkster, Beth Daniel and newly-qualified member Webb.

Also teeing it up will be Ai Miyazato, the leading money-winner on the Japan

LPGA tour. But, unless she wins this weekend's U.S. Open at Cherry Hills, 15-year-old Michelle Wie will not participate. She's not eligible to receive a sponsor exemption because she's already accepted the maximum number permitted by the LPGA Tour.

The top 60 on the LPGA's money-winning list at the start of this week earned automatic bids to play, with the field filled out by four exemptions — the U.S. Open champ, the Japan tour money-leader (Miyazato) and two sponsor selections to be determined late this week by tourney officials.

The four-year-old par-72 Hamilton Farm Highlands course, designed by Dana Fry and Dr. Michael Hurdzan, plays 6523 yards from the championship tees and has drawn much national acclaim. The same duo also designed Branchburg's Neshanic Valley Golf

Course, Somerset County's newest public venue.

The match-play format is unique, and will make the competition interesting as the weekend progresses.

The golfers will be seeded one through 64 and there will be 18 holes of match play on the tourney's first two days, beginning with 32 opening-day encounters. The third round and quarterfinals are scheduled for Saturday, July 2 and the next day the 18-hole semifinals will be held in the morning followed by the 18-hole championship confrontation at 2 p.m.

Sorenstam easily nabbed the No. 1 seed, topping the money list at \$1,503,338 so far this year. Kerr is next at \$831,602, followed by Ochoa (\$762,268) and Creamer (\$636,740). The latter three have each played in 11 or 12 LPGA tourneys.

Library Briefs

DUNELLEN — The public library in Dunellen will hold a workshop on Stage Combat and Fencing at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 29. All middle school and high school students are invited to participate in this free program in the library meeting room. The workshop, conducted by Joseph Rizzolo, introduces basic stage choreography with an emphasis on safety. According to Rizzolo, "Looking good and not getting hurt was never so exciting!" Registration is required and space is limited. Call the library at (732) 968-4585 or visit the circulation desk for more information or to register.

EDISON — The Children's Dept. of the Edison Public Library will hold registration in person or by phone beginning June 20 for children Kindergarten to third grade for "Knight Time Tales!" Find out what happens when Good Knight climbs down the wall of his crumbly tower! Meet his

horse and dragon friends! Based on the story "Good Night, Good Knight!" by Shelly Moore Thomas. Registration is limited and open to Edison residents only. The program, held at the main library located at 340 Plainfield Ave. will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 28.

METUCHEN — This summer, Metuchen residents between the ages of 13 months and 11 years old, are invited to join the New Jersey statewide summer reading club, Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds. You must side up your child on the morning of each class: Story Starters, 18 to 24 months of age, will be introduced to storytimes at 11 a.m. on Tuesdays; 7/12, 7/19, 7/26, 8/2, 8/9, and 8/16. Bookworm Bunch, for two to three year olds who are toddlers and their special adults who will share stories, songs and a simple craft. Join the fun at 11 a.m. on Wednesdays 7/13, 7/20, 7/27, 8/3, 8/10 and 8/17. The Kids Klub for four to five year olds have members who go into this meeting alone, but parents will join them to help with crafts.

Kids Klub meets at 11 a.m. on Mondays on 8/11, 7/18, 7/25, 8/1, 8/8 and 8/15. Terrific Tuesdays will be held at the Metuchen Pool at 1 p.m. If you're at the pool on Tuesday afternoons, be sure to stop by for stories and songs!

Advance registration is required for the following programs. Registration for the Summer Reading Club, reading groups and special programs begins at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 29. You must register in person, but feel free to call to register for all other programs. Join a book review group, the titles will be announced at registration.

Other programs being offered are Book Buddies, grades K to 2 and Book Buzz, for grades three to five.

Special events will include Wacky Wednesday, After Dinner Adventures, and Friday Films. Contact the library at (732) 632-8526 for further information on specific dates and time, especially for the Family Reading Challenge!

MIDDLESEX — All children who can read (or are learning) are invited to join the Middlesex Public Library's summer reading program Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds. The program will run from Monday, June 27 through Friday, August 19 and is open to young people of all ages and will include programs, prizes, drawings, story hours and more. We are also inviting families to join the Read-To-Me Club.

Currently scheduled programs are: 1:30 p.m. Monday June 27 - Bob Conrad, magician and ventriloquist; 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 6 - Mr. Malcolm's presentation of Shrek I and the Lion King. At 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 19, Kari Cooper will present a belly dancing workshop and at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 28 Kari together with three colleagues will conduct a medieval fighting demonstration. At 7 p.m. on Wednesday, August 3 John Miller and the Pearl Observatory will show us the night sky and give the history of the constellation Drago (Dragon). Because of space limitations in the portable observatory, registration is required.

From June 27 on, you can reg-

ister for the Read To Me Club, Toddler Storytime, and Twilight Tales by calling Mary Jenkins, the children's librarian at (732) 356-6602, at the Middlesex Public Library.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — "Two summertime craft courses for teens, "Intro to Knitting" and "Intro to Crochet" will be offered by the South Plainfield Public Library.

During each course, students will be taught the basic skills needed to complete a scarf. Each session will be led by "Practical Crafting" instructor Ronda Wisniewski, and the introductory session will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 14. "Intro to Knitting" will be held thereafter at 7 p.m. on July 21 and August 4 while "Intro to Crocheting" will be held at 7 p.m. on July 28 and August 11.

The courses are designed for young people age 12 to 16 and their parent or guardian. Both are presented free of charge, but space is limited.

South Plainfield Free Public Library is located in the South Plainfield Municipal Complex,

at 2484 Plainfield Ave. For more information, call the library at (908) 754-7885 or visit the website at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The children's program, "Sing Along With Mr. Kurt" will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 29 at the South Plainfield Public Library.

A longtime favorite of South Plainfield Library audiences, Mr. Kurt will perform his trademark silly songs, as well as old favorites. In addition, information about the Library's Summer Reading Club will be available. The program is suggested for children up to the age of eight. It's being presented free of charge, pre-registration is suggested, but not required.

South Plainfield Free Public Library is located in the South Plainfield Municipal Complex, at 2484 Plainfield Ave. For more information, call the library at (908) 754-7885 or visit the website at www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us.

Briefs

"Y" plans bus trip for active older adults

METUCHEN — The YMCA branch in Metuchen has planned a bus trip to the wonderful music of the Garden State Symphonic Band at the Concert by the Bay.

The outside area is shaded, so pack a picnic basket and bring a lawn chair. Buses will depart from the Metuchen municipal pool parking lot located on Lake Ave. at 1:15 p.m. on July 10, and return around 5:45 p.m.

The fee for this event is \$5 per person and the transportation is included with the fee. To register,

call Jean Vick at (732) 548-2044, Ext. 217 or register at the YMCA.

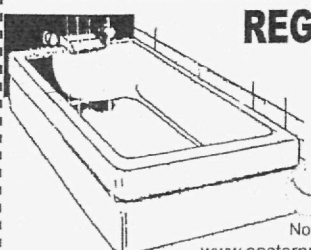
Piscataway offering Police Youth Week

PISCATAWAY — The Police Department has scheduled Police Youth Week from Monday through Friday, July 11-15.

This program is open to any one who lives and/or attends school in Piscataway; will be entering Grades 7 or 8 in September; and has an interest in learning how police officers perform their duties as well as how the department serves the government and the community.

Applications are available from police headquarters, 555 Sidney Road, or any township middle school. For more information, call Detective Calvin Laughlin at (732) 562-2349 or Detective Frank Hackler at (732) 562-2368. Applications must be completed and returned by Friday, June 10.

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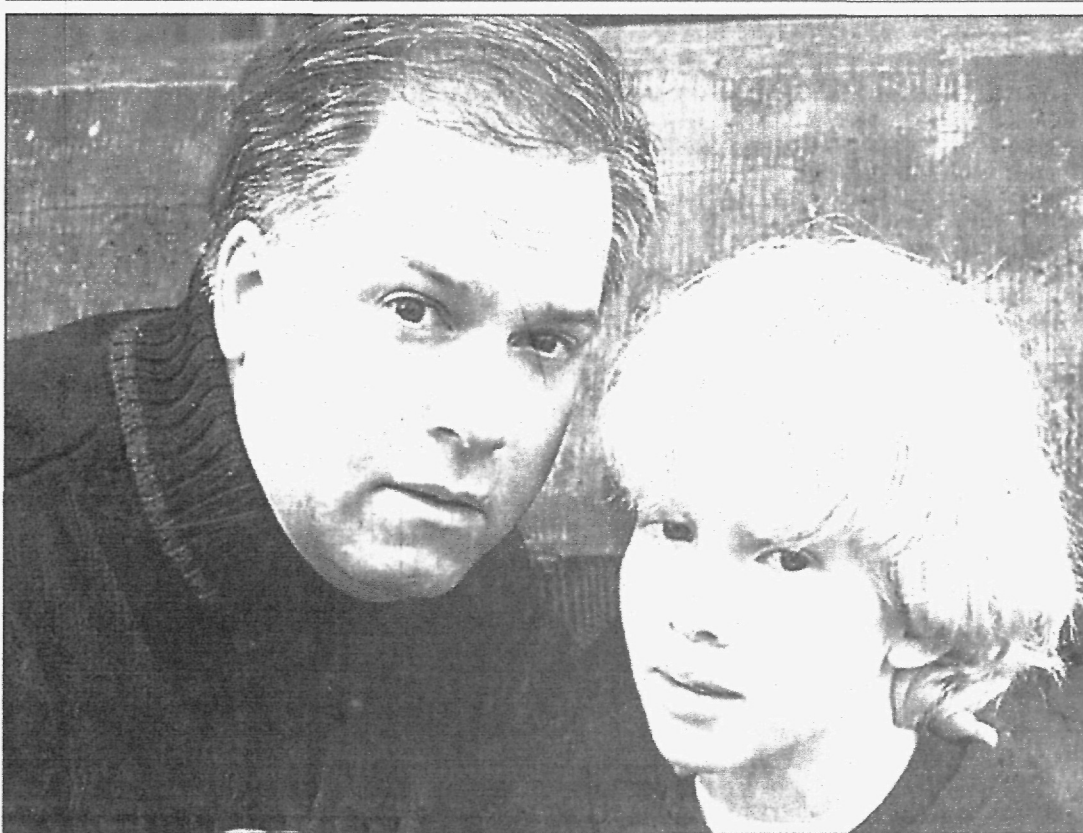
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Jeff Babey stars as Fagin, the rascally ringleader of a troupe of child thieves, in Villagers Theatre's production of "Oliver," being performed this weekend. Alec Richards of Bridgewater is Oliver Twist.

'Oliver' finishes run this weekend

FRANKLIN — Villagers Theatre, a nonprofit center for the performing and cultural arts, presents the musical "Oliver," which runs through

Sunday. The familiar tale of a mistreated English lad is being directed by Jim Neil of East Brunswick. Alec Richards of Bridgewater plays Oliver Twist, the Charles Dickens character who immortalized the phrase "Please sir, may I have some more?"

The Villagers Theatre is located inside the Franklin Township Municipal Complex off of

DeMott Lane in Somerset. Friday and Saturday performances begin at 8 p.m., and the Sunday matinee is at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$18 (\$16 for seniors and students). Reservations can be made by calling the box office at (732) 873-2710. Directions and information about Villagers Theatre can be found at www.villagerstheatre.com.

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For registration information, call 908-647-5555 or visit our Web site at www.pingry.org

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Stress Factory host comedians this summer

The following comedians will be performing at The Stress Factory in New Brunswick through the end of July:

- John Valby, today, \$16
 - Patty Rosborough, tomorrow and Saturday, \$12
 - Jim Breuer, June 29, \$12
 - Jim Mendrinos, June 30, \$12
 - Jim Mendrinos, July 1 and 2, \$12
 - Andrew "Dice" Clay, July 3, \$50
 - Jim Breuer, July 6, \$12
 - Tim Young, July 7, 8 and 9, \$12
 - Jim Breuer, July 13, \$12
 - Rob Magnotti, July 14, 15 and 16, \$12
 - Jim Breuer, July 20, \$12
 - Lenny Marcus, July 21, 22 and 23, \$12
 - Jim Breuer, July 27, \$12
 - Rich Francaise, July 28, \$12
 - Goumba Johnny with Rich Francaise, July 29 and 30, \$25
- The Stress Factory is located at 90 Church St. Reservations are necessary. Call (732) 545-4242.
- Ticket prices: Thursday: \$12 admission Friday and Saturday: 8pm, \$12 admission, optional \$7 buffet; 10:30pm shows \$12. Open mic night Wednesdays at 8 p.m., Thursday 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., Sunday 8pm.

Irish festival at PNC center

HOMDEL — The St. Patrick's Day parade grand marshals from around New Jersey and the late John Cryan Sr. of Union will be honored at this year's 35th Annual Irish Festival to be held at the PNC Arts Center from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

Tony Kenny, Willie Lynch, the Bantry Boys and Celtic Cross — some of the finest Irish entertainment in the tri-state area — will perform. In addition, there will be a ceilidh tent, mass bagpipe competition, a children's area, an Irish shopping village, step dancing, Irish food court and Irish pub.

Father Terry Loughran from County Limerick will celebrate a Mass honoring deceased family members of the Irish Festival Committee at 10 a.m. The grand marshals and the family of John Cryan Sr. will receive proclamations recognizing contributions and commitment to the Irish community in New Jersey. In addition, Karen Smith, General Chairperson of Ocean Township and Tom Moore, Co-Chairperson of Wall Township, will recognize John Cryan Sr. on the main stage midday.

There will be a march following Mass to the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial for a ceremony to present Gold Stars to the mothers of New Jersey servicemen killed in Iraq. U.S. Army Brigadier General Richard O'Meara will preside over the ceremony.

Karen Smith and Tom Moore jointly stated, "We are proud to honor the grand marshal, and especially John Cryan Sr. — also a past grand marshal twice — for all of their commitment, hard work and accomplishments inside their communities. John Cryan was born in Castlereagh County Roscommon, Ireland, and most recently lived in Union. He and his wife, Mary Ann Carr Cryan, were married for 49 years. He was a great dad and treated the neighborhood kids like they were his own. John touched the lives of thousands with his inspiration, guidance and wit."

Senior Citizens Calendar

Bound Brook

The Bound Brook Seniors meet 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month in Asbury Hall of the Bound Brook United Methodist Church, 150 W. Union Ave. After each meeting refreshments are served and Bingo is played.

Upcoming Trips and Events:

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

Aug. 9 — Hawaiian Luau - \$64

Sept. 25 to Oct. 1 — Golden Isles of Georgia - \$513 - details to follow.

Oct. 12 — Oktoberfest at Hunts Landing, details to come.

For detailed information, call President Frank Gilly at (732) 356-6310. Non members are welcome on trips if space allows.

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.

The Senior Leisure Club of St. Mary's meets at 1 p.m. every second Monday in the cafeteria of Holy Family Academy School located at 201 Voesseller Ave. in Bound Brook. For further information, call club president Sal Barbati (908) 725-5444.

Dunellen

The Dunellen Senior Citizen Club is open to all Dunellen residents 60 years and older. Meetings are held each Friday at 10 a.m. at the

new seniors building on Orange Street in Columbia Park. Bingo is played each Friday after the meeting. Bus transportation is provided. We are currently looking for new members, come out and enjoy! Why stay home? We serve coffee and tea, bring your own sandwich, and enjoy the company of your peers.

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

Edison

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

Metuchen

The Metuchen Chapter 3208, AARP, holds a monthly meeting at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 17 Oak Ave. and Middlesex Ave. (Route 27). The monthly board meeting is at noon and the general meeting starts at 1:15 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Guests are always welcome.

The chapter is currently accepting new members; call Thomas Costello for further information at (732) 548-7901.

Middlesex Borough

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

The Middlesex Borough Office on Aging is collecting old cell phones to distribute to the homebound for 911 use. If you have one to donate, call

the office at (732) 356-0414.

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

Our Lady of Mount Virgin Seniors meet the second Tuesday of the month, at 1 p.m. in the church hall. Members are asked to bring boxes of pasta for F.I.S.H. For information on trips, call Ellie Procacci (732) 752-3093 or Mary Jane Stoddard (732) 356-2093.

Trips and Events:

Aug. 11-13 — Washington D.C. details to come.

Sept. 15 — Mystery Trip — Cost: \$51 includes bus and gratuities, service charges and taxes. There will be a complete luncheon and afternoon of entertainment and activities. Deposit of \$25 due by July 12, balance due August 9.

Piscataway

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

Group meetings for Tai Chi will be Wednesday's from 10-11 a.m. This is a drop in class. Sign up at the Reception Desk.

The Visiting Nurse Association will visit the center the third Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. No cost. Sign up at Reception Desk.

July 11 — 11 a.m. Dr. Silverstein, Dermatologist "Early detection can prevent future problems. Free

July 12 — 11 a.m. Summer Safety - Main dining area. Free

Calendar

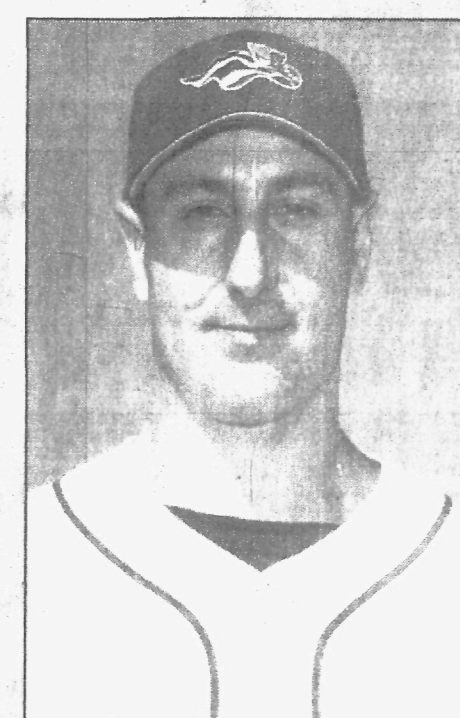
Sunday, June 26
METUCHEN - Church Anniversary: At 9:30 a.m. the New Hope Baptist Church will celebrate its Eighty-Second Anniversary. Rev. Dr. Charles Walker of the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church of Philadelphia will deliver the message. Call (732) 549-8941 for details.

Wednesday, June 29
DUNELLEN - Blood Drive: 4

to 9:30 p.m. at the Dunellen Firehouse, 231 South Madison Ave. Give the Gift of Life. "We can't Live Without It." Call (732) 218-8190 for further details.

IN THE FUTURE:
MIDDLESEX - Yankee Stadium Trip: August 13 bus leaves 10 a.m. from Middlesex H.S. game starts 1:05 p.m. Cost is \$40 includes game ticket and transportation.

Sponsored by Middlesex Boro Republican Organization. Yankees vs. Texas Rangers. Call Geri at (732) 752-2048 to reserve ticket and details.



PLAYER Of The Week

RYAN RADMANOVICH
Outfielder

Radmanovich hit .438 during a five-game stretch with seven hits, two home runs, and five RBI. Over a ten-game period, Radmanovich hit .457 with 16 hits, five home runs, and 11 RBI. He was 7-for-9 during the three-game series June 17-19 against the Lancaster Barnstormers, including two home runs.

PLAY BALL!

The Reporter

See You At The Game. - Commerce Bank Ballpark - I Patriots Park, Bridgewater

Legal Notices

BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK

TAX SALE NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE OF PROPERTY FOR NONPAYMENT OF TAXES, AND/OR OTHER MUNICIPAL LIENS

Public notice is hereby given that I, Mary L. Teston, Collector of Taxes of the Borough of Bound Brook, in the County of Somerset, will sell at public auction Wednesday July 6, 2005 at the Municipal Building, 230 West 10th St., Bound Brook, NJ at 10:00 a.m. or at such later time and place to which said sale may be adjourned, all of the several lots and parcels of land assessed to the respective persons whose name is set opposite each respective parcel as the owner thereof for the total amount of municipal liens chargeable against said and respectively in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:5-1, et seq. as computed to 6th day of July 2005. Take further notice that the hereinafter described land will be sold for the amount of the municipal lien 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 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 wire transfer, or parcel will be resold. Persons wishing to make use of a home loan must contact tax collector's office prior to June 29th 2005. Properties for which there are no other purchases that be struck off and sold to the Borough of Bound Brook at an interest rate of 18%. At any time before the sale I will accept payment of the amount due on any property with all interest due and cost of sale. Payment must be in form of cash, certified check, or money order. Parcels with Farm Land Assessment may be subject to release for industrial properties may be subject to the Spill Compensation and Control Act (N.J.S.A. 58:10-23 et seq.). The Water Pollution Control Act (N.J.S.A. 58:10-4 et seq.) and the Industrial Site Recovery Act (N.J.S.A. 13:27-6 et seq.) Pursuant to the soldiers' and sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1919 - N.J.S.A. 38:23C-18, this provision applies to the collection of taxes or assessments and provides certain unique relief to those qualifying individuals. In the event the owner of the property is on active duty in the military service, the tax collector should be notified immediately. 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. The lands to be sold are described in accordance with last tax duplicate as follows:

BLK	LOT	TYPE	ASSESSED TO	LOCATION	AMT.	SEV. CH.
1	42	T	Samanthas Holdings LLC	2-16 W. Main St.	8514.25	
5	12	T	Myon Associates	118 Talmage Ave.	1677.19	
5	13	T	Myon Associates	119-114 Talmage Ave.	1290.14	
5	15	T	Myon Associates	106 Talmage Ave.	3659.69	
5	17	T	Myon Associates	102 Talmage Ave.	483.08	
5	18	T	Myon Associates	23 Columbus Pl.	24.94	
5	22	T	Myon Associates	115 Main St. W.	324.51	
5	25	T/S	Myon Associates	129 Main St. W.	59.17	
6	14	T	Deerwood Group Inc.	21 W. Main St.	1549.18	
7	2	T/S	Kilbuz, Francis M.	25 W. Second St.	1042.15	
8	1	T	Milanes Jr. Luis & Lorena	23-25 Park Ave.	22.52	
8	8	01 T	15 John St. LLC	15 John St.	193.44	
10	9	T	Binick, Stanley Jr. & Elise	219 E. Main St.	427.62	
13	1	T	Bound Brook Hotel Inc.	503-507 E. Main St.	3478.66	
13	9	T	Valencia, Clemente & Luz	150 E. Main St.	16.42	
13	9	00C	Montalvo, Rolando & Brto. Irma	535 E. Second St.	67.72	
13	31	T	Cruz, Juan	112 East St.	113.67	
13	31	T	East High St. Properties Inc.	112 East St.	113.67	
20	15	T	Hernandez, Carlos A.	203 Talmage Ave.	121.44	
23	3	T	Carrasquillo, Rafael	100 Linden Ave.	100.00	
23	20	T	Perciano, Patrick & Ona	27 Drake St.	100.00	
30	2	T	Rhino, Nadia, Fahem & Karem	115-117 Van Kuren	390.44	
30	21	T/S	Hogers, Richard P. & Wanda S.	122 High St. W.	121.44	
31	4	S	Ercosa, Melody P.	8 W. High St.	167.72	
31	16	T	Tajur, Carlos A.	11 W. Second St.	121.44	
31	21	T/S	Tajur, Carlos A.	11 W. Second St.	121.44	
33	14	S	Westerman, H. William	110 John St.	101.44	
37	2	S	Salas, Delma	11 Thompson Ave.	11.59	
40	3	A	Gallardo, Frederick & Amy	204 W. Union Ave.	121.44	
45	16	S	Lozano, Silvio & Garcia, Victoria	327 Cushingburg Rd.	87.72	
60	8	S	Bound Brook-28 LLC	446 W. Union Ave.	4.72	
67	9	S	Hernandez, Sandra	311 East St.	312.44	
69	2	08	Storck, Robert & Betty	12 Green Brook Court	121.44	
69	23	01	Rohmann, Henry	659 Crescent Dr.	11.59	
76	9	S	D'Agostini, Joseph	145 W. Union Ave.	4.72	
79	12	T	Scopina, Caputo & Frediano	409 E. Main Ave.	121.44	
90	27	01	Jones, Paul J. & Barbara A.	517 Vokesville Ave.	1639.14	
94	8	01	Struss, Helen	611 Mountain Ave.	5637.11	
95	25	S	Wolfin, Raymond S. & Barbara T.	730 Watchung Rd.	121.44	
96	1	T	Straka, Albert & Alissa L.	1845 Mountain Ave.	150.00	
96	1	03	Suryak, Henry & Julia	Middlebrook Rd.	103.11	
97	2	08	Calandra, Anthony & Pope, Duane	1782 Middlebrook	121.44	
98	04	35	Bruder, John F. & Mary Beth	905 Meadow Dr.	6.11	
98	05	12	Rosano, Rafael	910 Meadow Dr.	8944.29	
103	4	T	Pietrowicz, Dorothy C.	561 Marion St.	2884.51	
31	31	02	Brakow, George R. Jr. & Kathleen	37 Fairview Ave.	804.11	
33	10	SA	Grado, Herman & Oliver, Roberts	44 Fairview Ave.	220.00	
33	9	SA	Bora, Henry	22 Fairview Ave.	119.77	

\$149.60

B119.61 4.33.19.00.00

BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN

TAX SALE NOTICE

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE OF PROPERTY FOR NON-PAYMENT OF TAXES, ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER MUNICIPAL CHARGES

Public Notice is hereby given that I, Eileen F. Leonard, Collector of Taxes for the Borough of Dunellen, County of Middlesex, will sell at public sale on June 28, 2005, at 10:00 a.m. or at such time and place to which said sale may be adjourned, all of the several lots and parcels of land on which taxes and other municipal charges remain unpaid up to the date of the tax sale subject to N.J.S.A. 54:5-1 et seq. Said property shall be sold subject to redemption at the lowest rate of interest, but in no case shall exceed 18% per annum. Payment for property purchased shall be made via cash, money order, certified check or wire transfer prior to the conclusion of the sale. Industrial properties may be subject to the Spill Compensation and Control Act (N.J.S.A. 58:10-23 et seq.), the Water Pollution Control Act (N.J.S.A. 58:10-4 et seq.), and the Industrial Site Recovery Act (N.J.S.A. 13:27-6 et seq.). In addition, the Municipality is precluded from issuing a certificate to any prospective purchaser who is or may be in any way connected to the prior owner or operator of the site. The said lands and the names of persons who have been assessed as owner of said lands and the total amount due and owing on said lands are as follows:

Block	Lot	Owner	Address	Amount
2	10	D & H Management LLC	120 No. Washington Ave.	4281.92
2	11	112 N. Washington Ave. LLC	112 N. Washington Ave.	3936.03
2	11	112 N. Washington Ave. LLC	112-118 No. Washington Ave.	1678.78
3	16	Rocki, Victor & Wanda	156 Front St.	2316.01
9	1	Straka, Albert & Alissa L.	517 Jefferson Ave.	3606.02
9	20	Prococi, Jeffrey R. & Debra A.	132 Second St.	4749.58
12	7	Neameier, Ronald & Dennis	610 No. Washington Ave.	4749.58
25	14	Kochanski, Gregory P. & Cindy	414 Lincoln Ave.	1199.77
25	16	Wagstaff, Amelia	414 Lincoln Ave.	1199.77
26	21	Delgado, Alcielo, Jr. & Julie L.	406 Madison Ave.	2829.90

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

45 Hampton Street, Metuchen, NJ 08840
(732) 549-8941

Rev. Ronald L. Owens, Sr. Pastor

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

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

Saturday Church School 9am

"Where worship is joy and joy is worship"

www.nhbchurch.com

POOLS

LOWEST PRICES IN NEW JERSEY

LEFTOVER POOLS

	Reg.	SALE W/PKG.	SAVE
21x48 - Gray	\$899	\$799	\$1298 \$300
18x48 - Tan	\$799	\$699	\$1198 \$300
18x52 - Gray w/SS Panel	\$1299	\$899	\$1399 \$600
15x52 - Gray w/SS Panel	\$1119	\$699	\$1198 \$700

SPECIAL POOL PACKAGES INCLUDE:
• Columbia Sand Filter w/Sand
• Auto Skimmer • Vacuum, Hose, Pool Skimmer, Brush, Test Kit
• Chemicals 5 lb. Chlorine, Algaecide, P+ • Stabilizer, 5 gallon Liquid Chlorine
• Resin Ladder • Plus Delivery

SALE \$499
REQ. \$898
(PACKAGE IS LEFTOVER FOR SPECIFIC POOL)

EASYSET™ POOLS 20% OFF SALE

Ready for water in 10 minutes


	Reg.	SALE
10'x30" (w/filter)	\$149	\$119
12'x30" (w/filter)	\$199	\$159
12'x36" (w/filter)	\$239	\$191
15'x36" (w/filter and ladder)	\$299	\$239
15'x42" (w/filter and ladder)	\$449	\$359
18'x42" (w/filter and ladder)	\$689	\$559
18'x48" (w/filter and ladder)	\$759	\$639
24'x42" (w/filter and ladder)	\$999	\$799

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The New Jersey Department of Health, Partnership For A Drug-Free New Jersey

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Auto Classification 1385

Employment Classification 201

Merchandise Classification 550

Classified in-column deadline: Monday at 5 p.m.

4th of July Publishing Deadlines

Somerset Reporter

NJ In-column Classified Fri., July 1 at 5pm
NJ Classified Display Thurs., June 30 at Noon

Announcements

Adoption 105

ADOPTION A beautiful life awaits your baby in a home filled with love and happiness. Expenses Paid. Please call: Owen and Ed 1-800-941-0121

ADOPTION: Loving couple in their 30's seeks to adopt an infant or toddler. Call Lori Steve toll-free at: 1-800-832-0703 (code 08) Email: LS-ADOPT@att.net Website: http://home.att.net/ls-adopt

ADOPTION: Your baby is our miracle. Loving mom, dad & sister await your new born. At home mom, financially secure. Toll Free (866) 513-2105

ADOPT: World travel, ball games, beaches financial security, love hugs, and devotion await your baby! Expenses paid. 1-800-558-9771

Announcements 110

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

Notices 115

BUY NEW JERSEY FOR \$399! The New Jersey Press Association can place your 25word classified ad in over 150 NJ newspapers throughout the state combined circulation of over 2 million households. Call Diane Trent at NJPA c. 609 406-0600 ext. 24, email drent@njpa.org or visit www.njpa.org for more information. (Nationwide placement available)

PAINTING J & M Interior/ exterior, power washing, fully insured. Guaranteed work. 908-534-2324

Notices 115

Each week hundred of Public Notices are published in New Jersey's daily and weekly newspapers! The New Jersey Press Association has created a Internet database where these notices are posted. njpublicnotices.com

You have access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to statewide sheriff's sales, foreclosures, RFP, bids for schools, town meetings, variances, plus many other types. Search for notices manually or subscribe to Smart Search and have notices sent to your email address automatically. Go to: www.njpublicnotices.com for more information and to subscribe.

REACH OVER 1.5 MILLION HOUSEHOLDS! The New Jersey Press Association can place your 2x2 Display Ad in 128 NJ weekly newspapers for ONLY \$1099. Call Diane Trent at NJPA at 609-406-0600 ext. 24 or email drent@njpa.org for more information. Regional Rates Now Available in New Jersey! (Nationwide placement available)

Lost & Found 135
LOST AFRICAN GRAY Band on Leg. Very Tame. Wyckoff Roundsville Rd. REWARD!! 908-637-5062

Employment

Child Care 202

Immediate FT/PT Childcare avail. in my Backing Ridge Home. Non-smk. Eng. Spk. First Aid/CPR Cert. tris avail., preschool exp., 7:30 am - 6 pm (M-F) Call Christine (908) 580-0224

Employment Agencies 205
Immediate Job Openings! STAFFING ALTERNATIVES Call 732-246-1687

Drivers 230

DRIVER

CDL Bus Driver for Summer Day Camp. Competitive salary and fun environment. Jun 27th - Aug 19th. Call for interview 908-876-3429

DRIVER

Low-Boy and tandem drivers experienced only with CDL-A clean record a must! Call 908-874-3980

Drivers 230

DRIVERS

A Number of Carriers Offer a Competitive OTR Job, but we go further! Start from 40 to 42 cpm with an Assigned Truck, a 14-day get home guarantee and impressive benefits. And most importantly, you have other choices if an OTR job just isn't right for you! \$0 down lease option if you're always wanted to be a business owner, but thought you didn't have the credit or cash. We'll get you started with financing and low monthly payments. Contracting opportunities OTR contracting options feature no forced dispatch and weekly settlements averaging over \$1 per mile. You maintain your independence plus have security of a stable partner. Hundred of dedicated sites having this many dedicated customers means more dedicated jobs. Most J.B. Hunt dedicated drivers average in excess of \$40K per year and are home weekly. 1-800-252-4868. We have a driving opportunity that's right for you. Call to learn more about jobs in your area! EOE. Subj. to D/S

Drivers 230

DRIVERS

COVENANT TRANSPORT. Excellent Pay & Benefits. Experienced Drivers, O/O, Scios, Teams, Graduate Students. Bonuses Paid Weekly. Equal Opportunity Employer. 888-667-3729

Drivers 230

DRIVERS

Heartland's GREEN MILES Program means \$.50/mile. Home weekly! Great Equipment! 401k! Blue Cross/Blue Shield! E2 Pass; toll card! We sample offer more. HEARTLAND EXPRESS 1-866-282-5861 www.heartlandexpress.com

General Help 240

AMERICA'S AIR FORCE

General Help 240

AMERICA'S AIR FORCE

Jobs available in over 150 careers, plus:

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- Up to 100% Tuition assistance
- High Tech training

High school grads age 17-27 call 1-800-423-USAIR or visit AIRFORCE.COM

U.S. AIR FORCE CROSS INTO THE BLUE

General Help 240

ASSEMBLERS

We are seeking assemblers for medical device and chemical coating operations. Candidates must be able to work with chemicals, possess experience in a medical manufacturing environment, be knowledgeable of GMP's and take pride in their work. Only qualified applicants need apply. Mon. thru Fri. 9am-3pm at Hydramer Inc. 35 Industrial Parkway (off Readington Rd.), Branchburg, NJ 08876. 908-722-5000 EOE M/F/D/V

General Help 240

ACCESS A NEW CAREER IN HEALTHCARE!

Training in Massage Therapy, Medical Assistant, Medical Billing Coding, Surgical Technologist, The Chubb Institute! Call 1-888-966-7771 NOW!

General Help 240

ACCOMPLISH

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General Help 240

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Full time immediate opening in accounts payable. For invoice processing, key entry, filing, record keeping and light bookkeeping. Qualified applicants should fax resume to Peg Gerke at: 908-788-4949

General Help 240

ACT NOW. DRIVERS-

Flatbed, Bulk Tank and Refrigerated Divisions. Performance based pay. Experience operators. Independent Contractors or Company Drivers. CDL in truck. Program available. 800-771-6318 www.primetone.com

General Help 240

BARBER SHOP

In Bridgewater area. Seeking Barber/ Stylist. R/PT. Saturdays a must. Experience required 908-996-4126 or 908-283-0808

General Help 240

CHILD CARE

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

General Help 240

DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATOR

American Red Cross of Central New Jersey (Huntdon office) is seeking a bright, independent individual with strong initiative to grow our financial donor base in Hunterdon County with a focus on special events and direct mail. Responsibilities include office management, experience in special events desirable. Excellent interpersonal and organizational skills necessary and ability to effectively work with donors, committee members, staff and sponsors.

Send cover letter & resume, inc. salary requirements to: info@njredcross.org or mail to 707 Alexander Road, Ste 101 Princeton, NJ 08540 EOE

General Help 240

ALL AROUND OPERATIONS

Operations position at Flemington Furs for honest individual interested in learning all facets of the business including design elements, crafting, fashion and service. Will train. Full time seasonal with potential for full time year round. If individual proves desire to learn. Call Ms. Hanson at: 908-782-2212

General Help 240

INSULATION INSTALLER

FT for Hunterdon City Co. Drivers license req. Benefits available. No exp. necessary. 908-534-2108

General Help 240

LOVE TO SHOP?

Get Paid to be a Secret Shopper. Evaluate Local Stores, Restaurants, & Theaters. Flexible Hours, Training Provided. Email Required. 1-800-585-9024 ext 6262

General Help 240

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Earn \$150-\$300/Day. All Looks/Types Needed. No experience Necessary. TV, Music Videos, Commercials, Film, Print. Call Toll Free 7 days! 1-800-260-3949 Ext 3100

General Help 240

Now Hiring for 2005 Postal Positions.

\$17.50 - \$50.00/hr. Full benefits/Paid training and vacations. No experience necessary. 1-800-584-1775 reference #4300.

General Help 240

OFFICE MANAGER

FT Admin. position for fast paced Construction Co. in Hunterdon County. Responsibilities include AP, billing, AR, Payroll and general coordination of office activities. Exp. with Excel/Word a must. Timeliness exp. preferred. salary requirements to: 908-534-3851

General Help 240

DELI HELP

Local deli needs FT/PT help. Call 908-334-9554

General Help 240

ELECTRICIAN

Expt Res. Comm. & Ind. Benefits avail. immed. Ace Elec Serv 908-534-2404

General Help 240

SWIMMING POOL SERVICE

FT. experience preferred. 908-638-9339

General Help 240

Medical Help 250

DENTAL ASSISTANT

For friendly established Flemington practice, Thursdays from 11-4. Fax resume to: 908-788-0030

General Help 240

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST

Have you examined your career goals lately? Would you like to work with a fully equipped team that focuses on the highest quality of dentistry for their patients? Are you computer-savvy, motivated to succeed & people oriented? Are you a good communicator & listener who helps move people into action? If so, we have what you are seeking in New Providence. Fax resume 908-222-9712

General Help 240

MEDICAL ASSISTANT

FT. Busy Hershorough practice. Great staff, compensation and benefits. Fax resume to 908-895-0013

General Help 240

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST

Seeking Medical Receptionist including Saturdays for busy Family Practice. Experience preferred but will train right person. Fax resume: Attention Pam @ 908-735-9922

General Help 240

LEGAL SECRETARY

Somerville Law Firm specializing in real estate, and use and estate planning, seeks exp'd Legal Secretary. WP / Windows req. Benefits. Fax resume to: 908-526-4122 or call: 908-231-1551

General Help 240

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Medical Receptionist

Homes For Sale 330

A NO DOWN PMT LOAN
Call Today To Qualify For a
Special No-Money Down
Low Closing Cost Conventional
Mortgage. Call Act Now
While Funding Last Call!
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4 BR, 2 1/2 BA colonial, on 1
acre corner lot, in a quiet
neighborhood in Saucon
Valley. Mature landscaping,
minutes to I-76, over-
sized 2 car gar., screened
in porch, redwood deck,
hardwood flrs., lg LR, for-
mal DR and foyer w/
crown molding and wain-
scotting. BA w/ corian &
ceramic tile, floor, brick
fast room, 1st floor laundry
and mud room, full bsmt,
public water and sewer,
newer roof and C/A, secu-
rity syst. \$479,000. For
Sale By Owner \$430,992.
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2.5BA, center hall colonial at
3400 sq. ft., 2.16 acre, all
amenities, pool, \$674,900.
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kitchen, many extras,
\$435,000, quick closing
908-996-3150

by OWNER

Roselle Park, Garage,

basement, back yard, 3
BR, New BA, near
Schools, \$299k, 908-
380-8030

New Construction 332

HOLLAND TWP Custom
homes to be built to your
specs. Available in new 7
lot subdivision, 5+ acres
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5624

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housekeeper for elderly. Lic.
& Bonded 908-689-9140

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Boats & Motors 1330

1988 23 FT. SEARAY plus
brand new trailer, 500
hrs., exc. cond., \$12,500/
obo. 908-534-6409

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

AUDI A6 '01, Quattro, 2.8L,
loaded, 61K, leather, sun
roof, mint cond., \$15,500/
obo. Call 732-946-9689

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

AUDI A6 2.8 '99, Quattro,
AWD, black w/black inter.
99K mi., good cond.,
\$9500. Call 908-782-2077

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

BMW 1981 733i four door
sedan. Pristine Restoration.
Over \$15,000 invested.
Email hoover1@panet.net
for photos & restoration list.
\$17,000 Call 908-782-2557

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

BMW 330i '01 prem &
sport pkg, titanium silver,
47K mi, exc cond.,
\$24,000 obo
908-647-2075

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

BMW 525i '92 - 151,000
mi, well kept, dependable,
beauty, \$6000. obo 732-
469-0675

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

BUICK PARK AVE. ULTRA '93
6 cyl, fuel inj., super charge, 4 dr.
sedan, exc. cond. 133K
\$3500/obo 908-7074720

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

DODGE GRAND CARAVAN LE
92' 144K, nice cond. w/
rear temp control, 4 bucket
seats \$2500 732-381-1865

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

FORD ECONOVAN 1988 -
135K mi, new motor, roof
rack, interior shelving,
perf for contractor, asking
\$3800 732-742-8942

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

FORD TAURUS 2001 - SES,
4 door SDN, Red color,
37K, V6, excellent cond.,
radio, CD, fully loaded,
\$7250 OBO 908-272-4103

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

GMC Jimmy '91, 4x4,
loaded, trailer hitch, just
passed inspection, 137K,
\$1400. 908-726-9177

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

HONDA ACCORD '04 2 door, ex
V6, fully loaded, XM sat. radio,
moon roof, one owner, garaged,
\$12K \$19500 908-806-3663

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

HONDA 52000 '02, only
5,500 miles, garaged,
never out in rain or snow.
Serious inquiries only.
\$23,995. 908-534-3855

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

ISUZU RODEO 97' 419K,
\$22500, OBO Fair Cond.
908-892-7521

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

LEXUS ES 300 '94 - White,
177K, fully loaded, clean,
non smoker. \$4,000. Firm
908-623-7996

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

Mercedes 1987 560 SEC
Stunning 2 door Coupe.
Over \$33,000 invested.
Email hoover1@panet.net
for photos & restoration
list. \$17,000. 908-782-2557

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

MERCEDES BENZ 86 '50 SL
light ivory on palomino leather,
both hard and soft tops. Perfect
Cond. Always garaged. 82K,
\$21,500 OBO 973-226-2077

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

MERCEDES '030 '98,
loaded, 110K, sunroof,
leather, CD, exc. cond.
\$8,600/obo732-946-9689

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

Mercedes CLK 430 '02,
very nice cond., convertible
silver w/black top, V8,
\$37,995. 908-782-2077

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

MERCEDES CLK 500 2004 -
Convertible, very nice, V8
eng., leather int., auto,
white w/white top, less
than 13K, \$57,500. Please
call Nick 908-782-2077.

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

MERCEDES ML320 '02, Fully
equipped, 4 wheel drive,
leather int. rem. fact. war.,
35K, \$23,500. Call Nick
908-782-2077

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

Mustang Coupe, '65, rebuilt
302 engine, exhaust &
rear end. \$3500. obo,
856-285-4731

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1305

BEST OFFER
NISSAN PATHFINDER '93
exc. pkg., 4ND, V6, 95K,
\$12,500 908-516-7