

The Chronicle

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Vol. 145,

Saturday, February 11, 2006

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INSIDE



Where is my Valentine?

Looking for the best Valentine's Day gift? Want to give something traditional, or something unexpected? Check out our guide on what are some of the hottest — and most unique — ideas around. Page B1

Carpoolers get gas cash

Keep Middlesex Moving Inc., the non-profit Transportation Management Association of Middlesex County, introduces Fuel Your Pool!, a new incentive that awards \$100 gas cards to commuters who form and maintain carpools.

The pilot program will focus on carpools traveling through the Route 18 construction zone between the New Jersey Turnpike interchange in East Brunswick and the Albany Street bridge in New Brunswick.

Carpools must have a work destination in Middlesex County.

"The Route 18 construction in New Brunswick will continue to have a major impact on mobility for some time," said Executive Director Bill Neary. "By linking Fuel Your Pool! to the construction corridor, we hope to demonstrate that carpooling is a flexible, uncomplicated and rewarding way to reduce traffic congestion."

Incentive programs to encourage carpooling have been implemented successfully in many states, including New Jersey. Follow-up studies have shown that a percentage of those carpools continue when the incentive has ended. HART Commuter Information Services, the transportation management association for Hunterdon County, offered carpool incentive programs in 2004 and again in 2005. HART Executive Director Tara Braddish reported an average retention rate in excess of 90 percent.

"The free gas card attracts people to carpooling," Braddish said. "Once they begin carpooling, commuters see results almost immediately, especially when it comes to the cost of fuel. Lower gas costs, less stress and reduced wear and tear on personal vehicles are what keep them carpooling after the incentive period is over."

Commuters interested in participating in Fuel Your Pool! must register with KMM and record their commute mode weekly. In order to receive the \$100 gas card, carpoolers are required to carpool at least 30 times over three months. Both registration and weekly recording can be done online at www.kmm.org. Gas cards will be awarded to qualified carpools at the end of the three-month period. Funding has been provided by the New Jersey Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration. For more information, contact Cristina Cormio Fowler at (732) 745-4318.

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A PARTY WITH A PURPOSE



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

OPSHBX celebrates one-year with packing day

Carlie Horton, Hannah Mayer and Nicole Galella, all 8-year-old members of Brownie Troop 1132, sign a banner being sent to those serving in Iraq during Saturday's packing day held in Manville to mark the first anniversary of Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005. The day drew some 1,000 volunteers who packed 1,465 boxes filled with personal supplies for shipment to U.S. troops serving in Iraq. Since its inception, OPSHBX has raised \$75,000 and packed more than 6,000 boxes. For more, see Page A5.

Service dogs go to school for training

FRANKLIN — Golden Retriever pups Kate and Kruse look like your ordinary, adorable house pets.

But there isn't anything ordinary about this sister and brother team, who currently "attend classes" at the High Road School at Somerset. The two pups are in basic training at the facility. Their trainers are four students at the school who have emotional and developmental challenges.

The dogs are part of a unique and elite California-based program that trains Golden Retrievers and Labradors as service dogs to assist people with disabilities. The High Road School, a special education facility for students ages 14-21, has incorporated an assistance dog training program into its curriculum. Since November, three staff members and four students have been training the service pups who will eventually be placed with individuals with disabilities.

According to Michele Rieman, High Road School director, the pups hail from the prestigious Assistance Dog Institute, a non-profit group based in Santa Rosa, Ca.

The organization trains Golden Retrievers and Labradors to assist people with disabilities who need help with daily tasks from dressing to shopping and more. Dogs enrolled in the program learn 90 commands. They are trained to assist people with multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, paraplegia, quadriplegia, and other conditions that affect their ability to walk or use their arms.

When fully trained, a service dog is worth \$25,000-\$30,000.

The program and its owner, Dr. Bonita Bergin, have been featured on *Animal Planet*, *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, *20/20*, *PBS*, and *HBO*. It is the only college in the U.S. to offer Master of Science and Associate of Science degrees in dog studies.



Tara Ambrose, life skills instructor, George Metelski, computer technician and certified assistance dog trainer, and Thomas Sparacio, music teacher, with students, left to right, Caryn Croll, Kristina Strano, and Raheem Solola and their Golden Retrievers in training, Kruse and Kate, at High Road School at Somerset in Franklin. Metelski oversees the dog training program at the school where the students learn how to train the puppies to assist individuals with disabilities. Ambrose and Sparacio board the dogs at their homes during the evenings and on weekends.

COURTESY HIGH ROAD SCHOOL AT SOMERSET

Rieman says its sister schools, The Sierra School at Sonoma County in Rohnert Park, Ca., and The Sierra School-El Camino in Sacramento, Ca., have successfully implemented the program and, based on its success, decided it would be an excellent learning experience for its students.

"It builds their confidence, it creates a good feeling about themselves and it gives them the opportunity to

know what it's like to be an instructor instead of the student," Rieman said. "And the pups get the training they need to eventually help some"

Continued on page A2

Students offered glimpse of future career choices

By TAKESHA PETTUS
Staff Writer

SOMERVILLE — Youngsters at several area schools got the chance Tuesday to experience what working for a county division is like when they shadowed employees during Careers to Government Day.

The event, which is held every two years, was sponsored by the Somerset County 4-H Club's Youth Development program of Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension and the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders, in celebration of National Job Shadowing Day.

A total of 124 pupils in grades six through eight from throughout the county spent the day shadowing

employees and managers from various county departments.

The morning began in the Freeholder's meeting room where Freehold Director Ken Scherer spoke about the various county departments. After grouping off with the designated division hosts, the pupils took a ride to the various offices.

Public Works Department employees George Lovas and Charley Frank both toured the facility with a group of seventh-graders from Somerville Middle School.

During the field trip, pupils had the chance to operate a backhoe and

Continued on page A2



GEORGE PACCIELLO STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Charley Frank, left, and George Lovas, second from left, both employees at the Somerset County Department of Public Works, show students from Somerville Middle School some of the equipment used to maintain county roads during Careers to Government Day, held Monday. The program is sponsored by the Somerset County 4-H Club's Youth Development program of Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension and the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Service

Continued from page A1

one with mobility impairments. It's a win-win for all involved."

Jorjan Powers, Community and Public Relations Director for the Assistance Dog Institute, said she agreed.

"Training a service dog builds confidence and communication skills for teens with disabilities or teens at risk and gives them a sense of success, gratitude, and the

unconditional love of a dog," she said, adding that pre and post self-esteem testing shows a marked increase in all areas for the students' sense of self and well being.

George Metelski, a Computer Technician at the school, attended a six-week intensive training course at the Assistance Dog Institute during the summer. Now a certified assistance dog trainer, Metelski oversees the program. During the week, four students spend two hours a day training the dogs under Metelski's supervision.

One of them, Raheem

Solola, said: "It's interesting. It's really not hard, you just follow the training rules. But you do need a lot of patience."

Two other students serve as "dog walkers." Staff members Tara Ambrose, a Life Skills Instructor, and Thomas Sparacio, a music teacher, serve as Kate and Kruse's "dog raisers." Each night and weekend, the dogs go home with two teachers at the High Road School. Kate and Kruse will train at the High Road School for 18 months, then will return to the Dog Institute which will place the pups with a client in need.

Career

Continued from page A1

watch how a salt spreader is loaded before going out to salt the 270 miles of Somerset County roads during snowy and icy conditions.

"When they go out salting

you'll see a line of 20 trucks with plows filling salt," said Frank, a 34-year veteran in the department. "It's a lot of work." Frank explained to pupils that in order to operate a backhoe or one of the many trucks housed in the department, a driver must obtain a commercial vehicle license.

"It was kind of easy maneu-

vering," said 12-year-old Ryan Palitchka. Pupils also got a glimpse into the mosquito control unit where they learned about mosquitoes and even got a chance to see the ultra low volume sprayers used to prevent infestation. They also had the chance to see mosquitoes under a microscope in the mosquito identification room.

RVCC

Continued from page A1

"We're asking from the county," said college director of finance John Trojan. The budget includes a four percent increase in funds from the counties, which provide under a third of the college's revenue. The rest comes from tuition and fees, the state and auxiliary services.

"The key thing is that we're trying to be conservative and responsible, while trying to fund programs to fuel growth," said Trojan. "We've been very successful in growing the number of full-time students."

Somerset County Freeholder Denise Coyle said: "They've done a good job controlling costs. Frankly, what I like the best are the programs. Clearly, they're designed to increase

enrollment, but I like that they're partnerships and responsive to the marketplace."

Some of the programs and activities, such as the increased emphasis on biotechnology and life sciences, will be accommodated by the new academic building on campus, which will be funded through the \$3.8 million capital budget also approved Tuesday.

The expansion project also includes a new power plant, which is set to generate about 85 percent of the college's electricity needs, Trojan said.

Expected to be online next spring, he noted that the new plant is expected to save the college \$400,000 in electricity costs annually.

With the high cost of energy, the college is also looking to increase its fund balance from \$1 million to \$2 million over the next few years in case of rainy days.

"I'm trying to prepare for

contingencies, particularly the state budget," Trojan explained. "This budget contains a small surplus, about \$300,000."

Despite the increase in tuition, the college remains at the median of county college tuitions statewide, along with Morris and Hudson counties.

The almost \$20 per credit rise in tuition over the last six years has had some officials concerned about affordability, and lead to the departure of former president G. Jeremiah Ryan.

For last year's budget, the representatives from Hunterdon County abstained from voting because of concerns and questions, a situation that was not repeated this year, as the board approved the operating and capital budgets unanimously. "You fund a wonderful institution, and we thank you for that," said Richard Schaub, interim college president.

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Basketball challenge winners announced

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 held its annual Knights Basketball Free-throw Challenge at Sacred Heart Church Gymnasium in South Plainfield.

This event was held for youths from the ages of 10 through 14. The object of the contest was the child who made the most free-throws from 15 attempts wins there age category.

The winners listed below now move on to the District level competition this month in Sayreville. The Knights would like to thank every child who participated in this event. Special thanks to the Knights of Columbus Youth Director John LoBosco and his team for running this

event with great success. The Knights of Columbus would like to thank the New Jersey Nets for donating two sets of tickets to a future game. The winners of these tickets were Nicholas Tuyp and Alyssa Wilson.

The 2006 Knights of Columbus Basketball Free-throw Challenge winners are:

- 10-year-old boys — Thomas Riccardi
- 12-year-old boys — Nicholas Tuyp
- 13-year-old boys — Jayson Bolton
- 14-year-old boys — Joseph Wilson
- 10-year-old girls — Katlin McHugh
- 11-year-old girls — Angrea Muglia
- 12-year-old girls — Alexis Cargill

Middlesex County Briefs

Chocolate Fest being cooked up

BOUND BROOK — The Women's Group of the Congregational Church is planning a Chocolate Festival for the weekend after the Super Bowl.

This event is from 1-5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11 in the social hall at 209 Church St. Chocolate cookies, chocolate cake, chocolate fudge, chocolate mousse, chocolate candy and chocolate truffles are on the menu. Ice cream sundaes, chocolate milkshakes, chocolate-dipped fruit and similar desserts are also being prepared. Hot cocoa will be available with or without marshmallows.

As well, you can win a chocolate prize for guessing the exact number of chocolate candies in a jar.

For more information, call (732) 356-1293.

Valentine roses to go on sale

MIDDLESEX — The Lincoln Hose Company sells valentine roses at its firehouse at 615 Mountain Ave.

Hours are 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12; 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13; and 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 14. Two dozen roses start at \$25.

For more information, call (732) 469-2006.

Annual meeting for FISH group

DUNELLEN — FISH Inc., Dunellen Area, holds its annual meeting at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13 at the First Presbyterian Church, 218 Dunellen Ave.

Committee chairmen will report on last year's activities and outline plans for 2006. The public is invited and refreshments will be served.

FISH is an all-volunteer non-profit organization which helps needy people in the community. Major programs include the food bank, clothing, bedding, holiday meals, Christmas toys and camperships.

For more information, call (732) 356-0081. A volunteer will return your call.

Circus tickets on sale Tuesday

EDISON — The Edison Recreation Department is sponsoring a trip Saturday, March 11, for Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus at Continental Airlines Arena.

Cost of \$35 per person includes round-trip transportation plus a ticket to the 7:30 p.m. show. All persons under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Tickets are available beginning Tuesday, Feb. 14, at the Dorothy K. Drwal Stelton Community Center, 328 Plainfield Ave., and the Minnie B. Veal Community Center, 1070 Grove Ave. No phone or mail orders will be accepted.

For more information, call (732) 248-7313 or (732) 248-7316.

Winter and spring classes being held

MIDDLESEX — The Middlesex Community School has scheduled a number of courses in the winter and spring.

Except where indicated, courses are held at Middlesex High School on Bound Brook Road. The schedule:

— "Beginning Crochet" with Dina Fornataro, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15 and 22. Fee is \$15.

— Yoga with Chitra Pillai, 7:30 p.m. Thursday for eight weeks beginning Feb. 16. Fee is \$42. Bring your own sticky mat.

— SAT Prep, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday for eight weeks beginning March 2. Fee is \$15 payable to the Community School plus \$325 payable to ESC, the course provider.

— "Floral Design" with Heather Boehme, 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 6. This class is at America's Florist, 227 W. Union Ave., Bound Brook. Fee is \$10 payable to the Community School plus \$25 payable to the instructor.

— "Excel" with Vi Valenti, 3:30 p.m. Monday for four weeks beginning March 13. An introduction to Microsoft Excel with emphasis on entering data, formatting, calculating basic formulas, editing and managing files. Fee is \$95.

— "Basket Weaving with Adele Hueston," 6 p.m. Monday for four weeks beginning March 13. Fee is \$25.

— "Decorative Painting and Design Craft Projects" with Ann Rothwell, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 4 and June 1. Fee is \$20 payable to the Community School plus \$15 payable to the instructor.

You can register on-line at www.middlesex.k12.nj.us; look under "Community School" on the home page and click on

"General Registration Form." For registration by phone, call (732) 317-6000, Ext. 20206.

Planning, zoning seminar in Edison

EDISON — The township government sponsors a free seminar about the municipal planning and zoning process.

This seminar is at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16 at the Municipal Complex, 100 Municipal Blvd. Jeff Lehr, the attorney for the Zoning Board of Adjustment, conducts the seminar.

Municipal Boulevard can be reached from Route 27, one stop light south of Talmadge Road.

Indian dance recital in library

EDISON — Shreelatha Billa performs classical Indian dance at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18 at the main branch of the Edison Free Public Library, 340 Plainfield Ave.

Her program includes "Pushpanjali," an invocation to the gods; "Padam," a devotional in praise of a deity; and four other dances. Admission is free.

For registration, call (732) 287-2298, Ext. 1 or visit the circulation desk of the main branch.

Card party has Hawaiian theme

EDISON — "Hawaiian Nights" is the theme of the 27th annual card party sponsored by the Parent-Teacher Guild of Bishop George Ahr High School.

The event is at 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24 in the high school at 1 Tingley Lane, off New Dover Road near Oak Tree Road. Reservations are required; call Linda Lordi at (732) 548-6612 by Tuesday, Feb. 21.

Neve Shalom sets Purim events

METUCHEN — Events to celebrate Purim have been scheduled at Congregation Neve Shalom, 250 Grove Ave.

The synagogue's Purim carnival runs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, March 12.

Activities on Monday, March 13 include a "Tot Purim" program for ages 2-5 at 5:30 p.m., an abbreviated version of the Megillah reading for children at 6:30 p.m. and a complete reading of the Megillah at 8 p.m. Music precedes the Megillah readings.

For more information, visit www.neveshalom.net or call (732) 548-2238.

Valentine's Day Lovelines

Thurs., Feb. 9, 2006

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Middlesex County News

Christian social in Menlo Park

EDISON — Starlight Socials sponsors a happy hour for Christian professionals ages 20-35. The event is from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15 at the Fox & Hound Pub and Grille in Menlo Park Mall. Reservations are required; e-mail StarlightSocials@aol.com or call (732) 764-9073.

Bridal show in Menlo Park

EDISON — Local residents are invited to preview the latest in wedding fashions at the fourth annual American Bridal Show in Menlo Park Mall.

The show runs during mall hours Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 18-19. Mall stores and over 30 vendors from catering halls, DJs, limousines, florists, dress shops and tuxedo shops will be on hand to showcase the season's hottest styles and trends for weddings.

A fashion show in the Macy's section begins at 2 p.m. each day featuring live models suited in contemporary wedding attire from Macy's bridal department and Dante Tuxedos.

Guests can receive a complimentary wedding planner with any \$100 in receipts from mall retailers dated Feb. 17-19. Shoppers can obtain this gift at the Guest Services desk on the upper level near the food court.

For more information, visit the Guest Services desk or call (732) 494-MALL.

Broadway's belle to sing at season finale

NEW BRUNSWICK — The Edison Arts Society will present the Edison Symphony Orchestra Season Finale "The Romeros: The Royal Family of the Guitar" at 2 p.m. on Feb. 19 at the State Theatre, 15 Livingston Ave. in New Brunswick. Andrea Burns will be performing selections from her Broadway repertoire from

Evita, Les Miserable, The Theme from Light in the Piazza among others.

Burns has appeared as Vicki Nichols in The Full Monty, and as Belle in Disney's Beauty and the Beast. Her portrayal of Lucille Frank in Harold Prince's national tour of Parade garnered her a National Broadway Award nomination for Best Actress.

For over three decades, the Romeros have received popular and critical acclaim, appearing with the Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Boston, and Cleveland orchestras. The Romeros prevail as champions in the realm of classical guitar.

Tickets for the Edison Symphony Orchestra Season Finale are \$50, \$40, \$35, and \$30 per person. Call the State Theatre at (732) 246-7469 or toll free 877-STATE11 or visit their Web site at www.statetheatrenj.org.

Conservative temple offering programs

HIGHLAND PARK — The next meeting of Raritan Valley Chapter of Hadassah will be held 1 p.m. Feb. 21 at the Highland Park Conservative Temple.

Moshe Moskowitz will give English translations of Yiddish stories.

The following meeting of Raritan Valley Chapter of Hadassah will be 7:45 p.m. March 21 at the temple.

Judy Freeman will give a workshop on "Motivating Children to Read." She will entertain with story-telling, creative drama, songs and jokes.

World Day of Prayer is being celebrated

METUCHEN — The Church Women United of Metuchen-Edison have as their theme "Sign of the Times" for its World Day of Prayer celebration. The event will take place at the First Presbyterian Church, 270 Woodbridge Ave, Metuchen at 1 p.m. on Friday, March 3. Women of South Africa have prepared the prayer service, with prayer and

song in support of the HIV-AIDS ministry. An offering will be received in support of this work. Child care will be available. The women of the New Hope Baptist Church will present the program, and serve refreshments. All women of the community are welcome at this service.

Celtic music is coming to the Edison Library

EDISON — Mary Kay Mann will present a program of Celtic music at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 4 at the Edison Library, 340 Plainfield Ave. Drawing on the rich musical heritage of Ireland, Scotland and America, she will sing and play the Celtic harp, flute and tin whistle.

Friends of the Edison Public Library are sponsoring this program. Refreshments will be served.

To register, call the library at (732) 287-2298, Ext. 1, or sign up at the Circulation Desk.

Rabies clinics for dogs, cats

EDISON — The Division of Health has scheduled its rabies vaccination clinics for 2006.

Clinics are on Saturday, Jan. 21 at the H.K. firehouse on New Dover Road; Saturday, March 11 at the Clara Barton firehouse, 849 Amboy Ave.; Saturday, April 8 and June 3 at the Edison Animal Shelter, 125 Municipal Blvd. Each clinic runs from 10 a.m.-noon.

Each dog must be on a leash and accompanied by an adult. All cats must be in carriers or on leashes.

Dogs and cats that were vaccinated against rabies in 2003 are due for a booster in 2006.

Licenses for 2006 may also be purchased at each clinic. Dog licenses are \$8.20 if the dog is spayed or neutered, \$11.20 if not. Cat licenses are \$3 if the cat is spayed or neutered, \$5 if not. The license fee may be waived for senior citizens with a valid township ID card.

For more information, call (732) 248-7278.



COURTESY AFFINITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
From left, Beth Degnan, chair of Affinity Federal Credit Union's Community Service Committee; Andrea Krich, executive director of Middlesex Interfaith Partners with the Homeless; and Affinity employees Annalisa Logiudice, Ginny Garbowski, Michelle Ford, Valerie Latham and Atul Dholakia. The credit union recently donated diapers and wipes to the Amanda Crossing Transitional Housing Program in Edison.

Affinity helps Edison program

BASKING RIDGE — Affinity Federal Credit Union recently made a donation of diapers and wipes to the Amanda Crossing Transitional Housing Program in Edison.

The diapers and wipes were donated by employees during Affinity's Diaper Drop Campaign.

Amanda Crossing is operated by Middlesex Interfaith Partners with the Homeless and provides transitional housing and support services for single-parent homeless

women. Affinity employees visited the program facility and delivered the donations.

Affinity Federal Credit Union, New Jersey's largest credit union, is a member-

owned, not-for-profit, full-service financial institution with assets of approximately \$1.3 billion, 116,000 members, and 19 branches throughout Northern New Jersey and Central Jersey.



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Saturday, February 11, 2006

Opinion

It's time to move on

Perseverance does pay off. For residents of Somerset County — and Hillsborough, in particular — Congressman Mike Ferguson's never-give-up attitude toward the storage of thousands of tons of mercury at the Somerville National Defense Stockpile Depot netted the best result possible.

Beginning in the next few months the 2,833 tons of mercury will be shipped out, sent to Hawthorne Army Depot in Nevada. The 143,000 acre desert site is the perfect storage place for some of the world's most lethal byproducts of modern society — from nuclear waste to mercury stockpiles.

When Ferguson, R-7th, first came into office, getting the mercury out of the 77-acre depot was one of his first priorities.

The depot was built in the 1940s

and for many years has served as a storage site for leftover military weapons and refuse — such as mercury. It made sense then. The depot was right off Route 206 — the major artery through Central Jersey at the time — and surrounded by sheep farms and a few industrial sites. These days, sheep farms have given way to shopping centers and homes. What was once a rural storage site now sits smack dab in the middle of a growing megalopolis.

But the removal of mercury should only be the first step of a phasing-out of the depot. It has served its purpose but has become a relic. No longer rural, no longer isolated, it is now more a liability than an asset. The time has come to put the land to better use, and for a chapter in Somerset County history to close.

The following is contact information for state representatives serving Somerset County, as well as members of Congress serving Central Jersey.

CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE HOLDERS

— U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez (D)
One Gateway Center, 11th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102, (973) 645-3030

(202) 224-4744 (Washington, D.C.)

— U.S. Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg (D)

One Gateway Center, 23rd Floor, Newark, NJ 07102, (973) 639-8700

Hart Senate Office Building, Suite 324,

Washington, D.C. 20510, (202) 224-3224

— Rep. Michael Ferguson (R-7th)

45 Mountain Blvd., Building D, Suite 1,

Warren, NJ 07059, (908) 757-7835

214 Cannon House Office Building,

Washington, DC 20515, (202) 225-5361

— Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-11th)

30 Schuyler Place, Second Floor,

Morristown, NJ 07960, (973) 984-0711

2442 Rayburn House Office Building,

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State

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— Sen. Walter J. Kavanaugh (R-16th)

76 North Bridge Street, Somerville, NJ

08876, (908) 526-4222

— Assemblyman Christopher Bateman (R-

16th)

36 East Main St., Somerville, NJ 08876,

(908) 526-3600

— Assemblyman Peter J. Biondi (R-16th)

1 East High St., Somerville, NJ 08876, (908)-

252-0800

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set@njnpublishing.com

Question of the week: How safe do you feel in Somerville these days?



"It's very safe. It's one of the only towns you can walk around. I know, I work in Newark."
BEAU PROCTOR
Somerville



"I think it's relatively safe. It's better than it used to be."
JOEL BARMANN
Franklin



"It's very safe here. I walk everywhere."
BRIAN O'NEILL
Somerville

Letters to the Editor

Councilman seeks to continue work

To The Editor:
In a recent letter — Jan. 19, 2005 — to the residents of Raritan, I asked for your support in the special election for Borough Council on Feb. 16.

This election is for the vacant council seat which I held for the last three months of 2005 filling in for Tony Hudak, who was appointed mayor in October.

In the previous letter I stated that I would look into working with our local high school in an attempt to increase memberships for our First Aid Squad and Fire Department.

I have spoken with Bridgewater-Raritan High School Principal James Riccobono and asked him to reach out to his staff and students to see if there might be any interested individuals who would be willing to join our volunteer services.

He assured me that he would reach out to the students and faculty to distribute this information.

I also reached out to Somerset County Vocational and Technical High School Principal Edmund H. Jones.

After speaking to Jones, he invited the president of the First Aid Squad, Ken Heaphy, and myself to discuss with him various ways to get the staff and students interested in our community's special services.

Jones also advised us that he would reach out to his faculty and student body with the information for membership.

If elected, this is the kind of councilman I would be, one who is involved, dedicated and responsive, always looking into new ideas and then, most

importantly, following through with those ideas.

I am a third generation Raritan resident who is proud of this town and have chosen to raise my family here.

As councilman, I was the liaison to the Board of Health, Fire Department and First Aid Squad.

I am currently a member of the Board of Adjustment and I was a past member of the Raritan Fire Department.

As a candidate for council, I am placing my energy into a positive and professional campaign, working for all the residents of this town.

If elected, I will work with the mayor and council to look into new ideas for Raritan's future.

I have been campaigning at your homes and trying to meet with as many residents as possible to discuss your thoughts, ideas and concerns.

It is my intention to get to each home in Raritan, however because of weather conditions and the short campaign time, I may not be able to reach everyone.

You may reach me at (908) 526-3090 to tell me your concerns for our town.

It is my promise to be dedicated, responsive and available to all the residents of Raritan regardless of party affiliation.

I ask you to vote for Victor J. Laggini Jr., Democratic candidate for Borough Council on Feb. 16.

VICTOR LAGGINI JR.

Raritan

The writer is a candidate in the Feb. 16 special election for Raritan Borough Council.

St. Patrick's parade support is sought

To The Editor:

The 15th annual Somerville St. Patrick's Day Parade will kick off at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 12 and you are invited to attend.

The Parade Committee has been working on this event since October.

A parade of this magnitude requires a lot of planning and scheduling.

A souvenir parade program book is being prepared to commemorate this family fun day.

This program book is our main source of raising the necessary revenues to help finance the cost of this parade which entails band fees, police coverage, advertising, reviewing stand rental, cleanup, permits and fees.

The Parade Committee is comprised of strictly volunteers and income goes to the running of the parade.

We offer various size individual and corporate ads that range in price from \$50 to

\$200.

We hope that individuals and companies will continue to support our endeavors and request that you return the attached ad form as soon as possible and definitely by Feb. 27.

We urge you to support this community affair which has become a Somerville tradition and already has the reputation of being one of the premier St. Patrick's Day parades in the state of New Jersey.

Thank you for your support.

BILL COOPER Sr.
Chairman, Somerville St. Patrick's Day Parade

The above letter was also signed by 13 members of the 2006 parade committee: Gary Adams, Bob Canavan, Marty Collins, Kevin Donovan, Larry Doyle, Brian Gallagher, Roy Gunzleman III, Rev. Dan Herlihy, Phil Keating, Dorothy Montedonico, P.J. Mulrooney, Brendan Nally and Joe Simmons Sr.

The Chronicle

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The Chronicle is here for you

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Correction policy

The Chronicle will correct errors of fact, context or presentation and clarify any news content that confuses or misleads readers. Please report errors to editor Craig Turpin at (908) 575-6698.

Somerset County Briefs

Historic preservation town meeting coming

SOMERVILLE — The Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission will host a town meeting 4:30-8 p.m. Feb. 16.

This is an open-house event with brief presentations at 5 and 7 p.m. The meeting will be held in the first-floor conference room at 40 N. Bridge St. Free parking is available behind the building and at the Bernie Field Parking Deck one block away on East High Street.

The town meeting is part of a larger process that the commission has undertaken to assess county cultural and heritage resources, programs, services, needs and opportunities. The commission welcomes and encourages public input, which will be instrumental in developing the commission's next Long-Range Plan, in keeping with its mission to promote and protect the culture and heritage of Somerset County.

It is anticipated that the

assessment will be completed by March 2006.

Somerset County has undergone a significant demographic change since the completion of its last Cultural & Heritage Long-Range Plan in 1997. Considerable population growth and increasing diversity among county residents has provided new opportunities and new pressures for existing facilities and programs. The assessment will identify where new opportunities exist to serve current residents and to encourage tourism in Somerset County as well.

To begin identifying existing assets and opportunities, the Cultural & Heritage Commission has hosted a series of focus-group sessions with diverse members of the cultural and heritage community.

In addition, the commission has disseminated a survey to elicit specific information from various suppliers to the cultural and heritage community, as well as from consumers.

Copies of the survey are avail-

able at the Cultural & Heritage Commission office at 20 Grove St. and at performance venues throughout the area. The survey also will be available at the town meeting in the form of a postage-paid self-mailer addressed to the commission's consultant, Kise Straw & Kolodner, Inc.

For more information, contact Cultural & Heritage Manager Patricia McGarry at mcgarry@co.somerset.nj.us or call (908) 203-6020.

Ballpark luxury box requests being taken

Requests are now being accepted from Somerset County community nonprofit organizations to use the 30-seat community box at the Commerce Bank Ballpark. The box is accessible to people with disabilities.

"Since our 1999 inaugural home season at the ballpark, it has been the intent of the Board of Freeholders to make the box available for the benefit of the community, including nonprofit organizations," said Freeholder

Deputy Director Robert Zaborowski. "We are pleased to continue this tradition."

Requests must be received by 4 p.m. Feb. 28 and must include the organization's name and address, a contact person and phone number, the purpose of the organization and information about volunteer and/or community service.

Requests should be made in writing and mailed to Ginny McCall of the Somerset County Administrator's Office, 20 Grove St., P.O. Box 3000, Somerville, NJ 08876-1262 or hand-delivered to the Administrator's Office on the third floor. Organizations may request a form by calling (908) 231-7040 or by visiting www.co.somerset.nj.us.

Forty home-game dates are available during the Somerset Patriots' 2006 baseball season. A drawing will be held in early March at the county administration building to determine which community groups will use the box. Organizations drawn will be assigned available

dates in the order in which they are drawn.

There is no need for a representative of the organization to be present at the drawing.

The drawing is open to nonprofit organizations in Somerset County that do community service or have a volunteer element. Although individual sports teams are not eligible, sports leagues may enter the drawing.

Organizations using the community box must comply with all applicable rules, regulations and ordinances. Groups are responsible for arranging for — and purchasing any — food or beverages.

Centenarians honored during lunch program

Somerset County wants to identify residents who are age 100 and older. These individuals will be honored at the Office on Aging's sixth annual Centenarian Celebration at noon on May 10, at the Bridgewater Manor.

"We invite all centenarians in

Somerset County to this annual celebration," said Freeholder Deputy Director Robert Zaborowski, county human services liaison. "It is a privilege to honor these individuals who have contributed so much to the county."

Any county resident age 100 or older, or anyone with a relative or friend in that age group living in Somerset County, is asked to notify the Office on Aging at (908) 541-5745 by March 1.

A ticket reservation form and short biography should be completed for each centenarian. The form can be obtained on Somerset County's Web site at www.co.somerset.nj.us or by contacting the Office on Aging. Completed forms can be faxed to (908) 595-0194 or mailed to the attention of Janet Ressa, Somerset County Office on Aging, PO Box 3000, Somerville, NJ 08876.

For more information, contact Janet Ressa, Somerset County Office on Aging, at (908) 541-5745.

OPERATION SHOEBOX NJ 2005

Iraq veterans help volunteers mark first year

The Central Jersey community turned out in force Saturday to help mark the first anniversary of Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005.

Hundreds of people worked shoulder to shoulder to box 1,465 packages with personal supplies for shipment to U.S. troops serving in Iraq.

Manville Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2290 hosted OPSHBX volunteers at the day-long event, which by all measures was a huge success, from the number of packages that were shipped to the number of volunteers who turned out for the event. The size of the crowd - 1,000 people during the course of the day - served as a tribute to the cause, and the compassion of those who responded to the call for assistance.

Since its inception last February, OPSHBX has raised \$75,000 and packed more than 6,000 boxes. Last week's event was the most successful to date in terms of participation and packages sent.

It was a special day for all of us as we were able to honor and salute several veterans who have since returned from the Mideast, many of whom were recipients of packages shipped overseas by OPSHBX. These soldiers and Marines pitched in and worked side-by-side with the volunteers all day.

They included: Maj. John Petrer; Lt. Jonathan Seiter; Staff Sgt. Melissa Cunningham; Sgt. Rich Crum and Marine Sgt. George Cunningham. Five soldiers from the Army recruiting station in Somerville, all Iraqi veterans, were also on hand: 1st Sgt. Juan Cruz; 1st Sgt. Philip Martin; Sgt. David Benner; Cpl. William White and Cpl. Ashley Ganey.

The sun hadn't yet risen on what would become a very soggy day when the first OPSHBX volunteers showed up at the VFW hall at 6 a.m. to unload the 20-foot truck that had transported tons of supplies gathered over the past three months from the staging area at The Chronicle office in Somerville.

Less than four hours later, the hall was set up. Forty-seven storage bins brimming with toothpaste, sun block, beef jerky, cans of tuna, sticks of gum, bags of candy, lip balm, writing pads, envelopes, coffee, tea, drink mixes, socks and other items were in place atop two stands of tables configured in a U shape; in just a few hours, the expansive floor

Rod Hirsch
Executive
Editor



would be swarmed by packers picking through each bin as they worked their way around each packing area. OPSHBX workers were hard-pressed to keep the bins constantly replenished.

The lines converged at another set of tables where customs forms and address labels were affixed to each box after it had been topped off with letters and hand-made cards from thousands of well-wishers before they were taped shut.

In between, volunteers paused for lunch; the "chow line" wound round the hall with members of the VFW and the Ladies Auxiliary taking care to fill each plate. Manville Mayor Angelo Corradino, along with Renny Dilks, commander of the VFW post, and Ed Komoroski of Central Jersey Realty, were responsible for reaching out to the community and putting together an extensive menu.

There was more than enough to feed everyone on hand, everything from hot dogs, ziti and salad to sandwiches, baked beans and sausage and pepper. Dilks also spent most of the day in the kitchen, along with members of the VFW. Special thanks goes to: Frank's Pizza, Primo Pizza, Midtown Pizza, Billy's Subs & Pizza and Mia Sorella Ristorante, all of Manville; The Sacred Heart Church of Manville for supplying kielbasa and sauerkraut; the Manville Knights of Columbus for supplying baked ziti, and students from the Somerset County Voc-Tech Culinary Department for preparing seven dishes of chicken. Two large sheet cakes were provided by Mediterraneo Bakery of Bound Brook.

At the risk of leaving someone off the list, we'd also like to thank the following: Jim Wisor, president of the Manville VFW; Renny Dilks, commander of the VFW; the VFW Color Guard and Ladies' Auxiliary; Mayor Angelo Corradino; Ed Komoroski; Rev. Father Bogey; Bill Greiman, commander of the New Jersey VFW; The Manville Fire Department and the Manville First Aid Squad; Somerset County Sheriff's Department; Commander Neil DeScala and members of American Legion Post No. 12, Somerville, for their donation of \$2,000; Shanahan's Stationery in Somerville for donating 750 shipping boxes; TT Sound of Manville for providing the music and sound system all day long; members of American Recreational Military Services for all their hard work labeling, stuffing, taping and stacking

boxes; the front office staff of the Somerset Patriots and team mascot, Sparky; News 12 New Jersey and Steve Kaiser, producer of the Cablevision local access show "On the Loose;" Penske Truck Rental of Bridgewater for providing a discount on our truck; and everyone who helped fill out U.S. Customs forms which had to be affixed to each package.

Our next packing event is slated for sometime in late April or early May.

Letter from Iraq

Dear Mr. Hirsch:

On behalf of my soldiers I want to thank you and Operation Shoebox for sending packages to my troops serving in Iraq. As a fellow citizen from the great state of New Jersey, I am humbled and proud of the selfless service and giving spirit that the people of

Hundreds of volunteers packed Manville VFW Post 2290 Saturday to help pack boxes for shipment to U.S. troops in Iraq, above. At left, four soldiers and one Marine who have returned from serving in Iraq are saluted by the crowd during opening ceremonies. From left are: Lt. Jonathan Seiter; Staff Sgt. Melissa Cunningham; Sgt. Rich Crum; Marine Sgt. George Cunningham and Maj. John Petrer.

PHOTOS BY GEORGE PACCIOLLO/
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

New Jersey have displayed in giving such kind gifts. Thank you again. Lt. Col. Welton Chase, Jr. 501st Special Troops Battalion 101st Airborne Division FOB Speicher, Iraq

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



SALUTE THEIR SACRIFICE



Salute the sacrifice of our troops deployed around the world by donating care package items through OPERATION SHOEBOX: NEW JERSEY 2005.

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:

- Suntan lotion
- Bug spray
- Lip balm
- Feminine products
- Ear swabs
- Laundry detergent
- Bug wipes/bug strips
- Wipes (travel size)
- Razors
- Toilet paper
- Eye drops
- Spices/Tea bags
- Coffee
- Small drink mixes
- Socks
- Clothesline/pins
- Snack food
- Cereal/protein bars
- Fleece blankets
- Microwaveable foods
- Hard candy/gum
- Writing materials
- Batteries (any size)
- Calling cards

*Donated items must be in their original packaging.

Visit us on the web: www.NJ.com/shoebxnj



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Photo: Sgt. Nathan The Size Leander (Unit) by permission.

I'm a Patriot How 'bout you?

Keith Price
Eagle Scout
Milltown

To satisfy the requirements for his Eagle Scout community service project, Keith Price coordinated a community-wide effort to raise funds and obtain supplies for U.S. troops overseas. He and fellow members of Troop 33 delivered more than a ton of supplies, raised over \$1,200 from residents of Milltown and helped to sort those supplies prior to shipping. He is a sophomore at Spotwood High School.

Join The Reporter, Keith Price and other citizens and businesses who support Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005. Salute the sacrifice of our brave service men and women serving overseas. Be a Patriot - Support OPSHBX. Call The Reporter's Executive Editor Rod Hirsch at (908) 575-6684 or click www.nj.com/shoebxnj for information on how you can help.



The Reporter
www.NJ.com/shoebxnj

Jodie tabbed as Patriots' new pitching coach

When Brett Jodie took some time to check on his former pitching mates late last summer, he got that same quizzical look so many batters did while trying to deal with his curveball.

"After I left, I had no idea what happened," he said. "When I looked at who was there near the end of the year, I hardly recognized anyone."

And that, he will learn, oh, by around mid-June, is all a part of being a pitching coach with a team in the independent Atlantic League of Professional Baseball.

A former ace for the Somerset Patriots, Jodie has been hired as their pitching coach, replacing Jeff Scott. Scott came over from the Long Island Ducks to take the job on an interim basis in September after John Montefusco suddenly resigned.



Jodie, who's less than two months shy of his 29th birthday, was the starter for the Pats' home season debut last April, launching another comeback following shoulder surgery. But he never approached his former true form and, after posting a 3-5 record with a 6.86 earned run average in 42 innings, called it quits and returned home to Lexington, S.C.

Now feeling considerably better than he did a year ago at this time, Jodie was thinking about taking another shot at pitching this season. But after Somerset offered him the vacant pitching

coach assignment, he decided to accept it after discussing it with his family.

"I actually feel very good physically right now," said the 6-foot-4 Jodie, a righthander who was a key figure on the Patriots' 2003 ALPB championship club. "That's why this was a very hard decision for me to make."

"But I know an opportunity like this doesn't come up often and I had to make a choice," he added. "I've been throwing and I'll continue to throw and keep working out and lifting weights. But this is a great opportunity for me to try my hand at coaching and I'll see how I like it."

As a very recent former pitcher in the league, Jodie knows all about what it takes to be successful. A sixth-round draft pick of the New York Yankees in 1998, he was the Pats' top hurler three

years ago, going 12-5 with a 3.78 ERA in 24 starts.

He then signed with the Boston Red Sox but suffered a torn labrum in his right shoulder during a collision while covering first base in a 2004 spring training game. In 2002 he also underwent major surgery for a torn rotator cuff and labrum while with the Yanks' Triple-A Columbus affiliate.

"I think what's important to a pitcher are a work ethic and location of his pitches," said Jodie. "Instead of trying to make a curve as nasty as you can, I'd rather put it in a certain spot, or a changeup in a certain spot. And I always liked competing, being ready to be at 100 percent every time I went out there. There's a mindset you need to have to do well, and that's something I'll try to impart to our pitchers."

Jodie, who appeared in one

game for the Yankees in 2001 and seven more with San Diego after being traded later that season, has been working part-time with the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division during the off-season as he keeps an eye on the long-term future.

"I've always been interested in law enforcement," said the University of South Carolina graduate, "and I'm just trying to get my foot in the door in case I couldn't play this year. It's interesting work, kind of like what the FBI is on a national basis. But I'm not an agent or anything like that yet."

Jodie has spoken with Somerset Manager Sparky Lyle about what the coaching job entails, and obviously is already aware of one of the Atlantic League's major hurdles — the vast turnover of player personnel that can occur during the campaign.

In each of the past two seasons the Pats' mound staff has been almost completely altered between Opening Day and August as pitchers have left to sign with major league affiliates or with teams overseas.

Jodie will be with the Pats April 1 when they hold their annual open tryout at Commerce Bank Park and then will join the squad two weeks later for its spring training session in Lakeland, Fla. The ALPB season begins April 28 against Atlantic City.

"I'll see Sparky at the tryout and we'll talk and make sure we're on the same page about everything," he said. "He and The Count (Montefusco) had worked together for a few years and were used to each other and the program, so now we need to figure out exactly what he's expecting from me."

Panther boys cruise to Skyland swim crown

BRIDGEWATER — Having built some confidence in the previous meet, the Bridgewater-Raritan High boys put together another crushing performance to recapture another title.

Coming off a relatively easy victory over Hillsborough in the Somerset County Meet, the Panthers were even more impressive in the Skyline Conference Championships Feb. 2 when they rolled to a 333-220 decision over the defending champion Raiders at the Somerset Valley-Bridgewater YMCA.

John Benigno and Kevin Gallagher paced the effort with two individual gold medals apiece while contributing legs on two winning relays as Bridgewater-Raritan avenged last year's loss to Hillsborough, which ended the Panthers' nine-year reign.

In the girls meet the previous night, Bridgewater-Raritan lost some key points on a disqualification and it proved fatal. The Panthers fell short in their bid at defending their crown as Montgomery earned a 243-241 triumph.

Benigno turned in an outstanding performance, setting meet records in the 200-meter freestyle (1:57.19) and the 100 backstroke (1:00.16). He also anchored the 400 freestyle relay to a meet record (3:39.15) and helped the 200 free relay set a new mark (1:41.07) as well.

"I didn't know until the next day that I'd set records in the 200 free and 100 back, so I'm definitely happy having my name in the record book in those events," he said last weekend.

"We weren't really expecting to win by that much," said Benigno. "We went into the meet expecting it to be close, but we were all swimming well and pumped up. Once we started swimming well we just started going faster. To beat them by 100 points is pretty big."

Gallagher doubled in the sprints, winning the 50 free (24.70), where he edged teammate Josh Gonzalez (25.29), and the 100 free (54.08). The senior joined Benigno on the 400 free squad, and he anchored the 200 free relay to its meet record.

Andrew Frank, despite not being at full strength, aided the victory by winning the 500 free (5:24.33) and leading off the winning 400 free relay that also included Gonzalez. Joe Knolmajer and Gonzalez completed the 200 free relay combination.

"Going into the conference meet I really didn't know what to expect," Head Coach Sean Foley said. "I knew we were in good shape, but I didn't think we'd be able to jump on them like we did. The younger kids really stepped up. Everyone I needed to swim well did. It was a really a team victory. Everyone contributed in one way or another."

Morgan Sawin captured the distance free events, taking the 200 in 2:15.47 and the 500 in 6:02.08 while also swimming a leg on the winning 400 free relay (4:14.86) that touched out Montgomery by a 100th of a second to help put the B-R girls in contention.

"I was happy with my times, both in the individual events and relays," she said. "I went faster in both my races and my

splits were faster in the relays than in the county meet. I made the cut for the summer nationals in the 200 free with my time, so that's something that's off my mind."

"Winning the (400 relay) was something we really wanted to do because Montgomery had won the first two relays and we didn't want them to sweep. We dropped six seconds in six days, so that was pretty good."

Hannah Gonzalez earned the Panthers' third individual gold medal by claiming the 200 medley (2:30.67), and she was the anchor on the 400 free relay that nipped Montgomery. Gonzalez also added a runner-up finish in the 100 butterfly.

Laura Kucsan, who along with Jackie Knolmajer completed the winning relay squad, was disqualified on a questionable call as the second seed in the 500 free and that proved to be the difference. Foley was more than pleased with the way Kucsan, who was second in the 200 free, bounced back.

"As a team we were disappointed because we were so

close," he said, "but as a coach I was so proud of the way the girls responded, and the way Laura responded."

"It was a great meet. My girls swam great and my hat is off to Montgomery. I knew we were going to win the conference meet. I knew we were going to win by somewhere around eight points. Everything was going the way I figured it would, and then there was the questionable call."

BOYS RESULTS
Team Scores: 1. Bridgewater-Raritan (BR) 333; 2. Hillsborough (H) 230; 3. Montgomery (M) 175; 4. Ridge 103.5; Hunterdon Central 102; 6. North Hunterdon 90; 7. Warren Hills (WH) 85; 8. Watchung Hills (WH) 83; 9. Somerville (S) 41; 10. Phillipsburg 23; 11. Immaculata (I) 21; 12. Franklin 10.

200-Meter Medley Relay — 1. Hillsborough 1:53.46; 2. Bridgewater-Raritan 1:56.83; 3. Somerville 2:08.31; 10. Immaculata 2:10.22; 11. Watchung Hills 2:10.44.

200 Freestyle — 1. John Benigno (BR) 1:57.19 (meet record); 2. Ernesto Desat (BR) 2:03.66; 4. Pat Luciano (WH) 2:08.12; 12. Kevin McCallum (BR) 2:11.81.

200 Individual Medley — 1. Drew Talanek (M) 2:14.32; 5. David Yao (BR) 2:26.20.

50 Freestyle — 1. Kevin Gallagher (BR) 24.70; 2. Josh Gonzalez (BR) 25.29; 5. Mike Randall (BR) 26.24.

100 Butterfly — 1. Levi Schmidt (WarH) 1:00.63; 2. Andrew Frank (BR) 1:01.44; 3. 5. Joe Knolmajer (BR) 1:03.64; 6. Will Zeleny (BR) 1:05.53.

100 Freestyle — 1. Kevin Gallagher (BR) 54.08; 3. Josh Gonzalez (BR) 55.75; 7. Pat Luciano (WH) 59.13; 8. Frank Cuzzola (BR) 59.56; 9. A.J. Albert (I) 1:00.13; 12. Mike Vernoa (I) 1:01.83.

500 Freestyle — 1. Andrew Frank (BR) 5:24.33; 4. Ernesto Desat (BR) 5:42.87; 6. Kevin McCallum (BR) 5:51.03.

200 Freestyle Relay — 1. B-R (Joe Knolmajer, Josh Gonzalez, John Benigno, Kevin Gallagher) 3:39.15 (meet record); 3. Watchung Hills 3:46.47; 8. Immaculata 3:51.33; 9. Somerville 3:53.24.

100 Backstroke — 1. John Benigno (BR) 1:00.16 (meet record); 2. 3. Ashley Mak (WH) 1:04.57; 4. David Yao (BR) 1:04.71; 7. Matt Chiang (BR) 1:09.07; 12. Ryan Gavin (WH) 1:11.62.

100 Breaststroke — 1. Pat Kuelhne (H) 1:10.20; 3. Mike Randall (BR) 1:10.85; 5. Jeremy Chaudet (S) 1:13.23; 6. Brian Shelton (NH) 1:13.57; 7. Jeff Reyes (BR) 1:13.70; 8. Justin Chen (BR) 1:13.71.

400 Freestyle Relay — 1. B-R (Andrew Frank, Josh Gonzalez, Kevin Gallagher, John Benigno) 3:39.15 (meet record); 3. Watchung Hills 4:00.96; 8. Somerville 4:27.26.

GIRLS RESULTS
Team Scores: 1. Montgomery (M) 243; 2. Bridgewater-Raritan (BR) 241; 3. Hillsborough (H) 221.5; 4. Hunterdon Central (HC) 121; 5. Ridge 112; 6. 6. North Hunterdon 87.5; 7. Immaculata (I) 80; 8. Warren Hills (WH) 78; 9. Watchung Hills (WH) 53; 10. Phillipsburg 20; 11. Somerville (S) 18; 12. Franklin 12; 13. Voorhees 12.

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Senior Citizens Calendar

Bound Brook

The Bound Brook Seniors meet at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month in Asbury Hall of the Bound Brook United Methodist Church, 150 W. Union Ave. and the corner of Livingston. All seniors are welcome to join including non-residents. Meetings include informative programs, refreshments, information about upcoming trips and bingo.

Upcoming Trips and Events:

Atlantic City trips are held the third Tuesday of each month. Call Ed Kimmel at (732) 469-1263 for details.

April 27 — Cherry Blossoms near Newark Cathedral with lunch at restaurant in Iron Bound District. \$62.

April 29 to May 6 — Branson, Mo. Eight days, seven nights. \$925 (includes meals, rooms, tours and shows. Non-members welcome.

For more information about the planned trips, call Frank at

(732) 356-6310.

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

The Senior Leisure Club of St. Mary's Bound Brook club sponsors Atlantic City trips to the Taj Mahal casino the fourth Tuesday of each month. The bus departs from the church parking lot at 10:15 a.m.

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

Dunellen

The Dunellen Senior Citizen Club is open to all Dunellen residents 60 years and older. Meetings are held at 10 a.m. each Friday at the new seniors building on Orange Street in Columbia Park. Bingo is played each Friday after the meeting.

Bus transportation is provided. New members are welcome. Coffee and tea are provided; bring your own sandwiches.

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

Edison

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

Jewish Family and Vocational Services — The volunteer program at Elderday, "Chef for the Day" needs volunteers to prepare lunch for the elderly members of the social adult day program in Edison from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call E.J. Berman at (732) 777-1910, Ext. 122.

Elderday Care (a Social Day Care Program) for folks with memory loss and various degrees of dementia has a few immediate openings available. Transportation is provided with

sliding scale fees. Interesting program includes meals, snacks; and activities that all can easily participate. Consider this a great safe way to provide social activities for your loved one. Call (732) 777-1940 for information.

Openings are now available for CAMEO (Challenging Adult Minds and Energizing Ourselves), a social day care program tailored to the needs of adults who are physically disabled, but cognitively alert. Some of the activities designed for CAMEO are book reviews, exercise, day trips, painting, discussions of current events and special interest group activities. Transportation is provided with sliding scale fees. Call (732) 777-1940.

Metuchen

The Metuchen Chapter 3208, AARP, holds a monthly board meeting at noon on the second Monday of the month. The general meeting starts at 1:15 p.m. at St. Luke's

Episcopal Church, 17 Oak Ave. and Middlesex Ave. (Route 27). The monthly board meeting is at 12 p.m. and the general meeting starts at 1:15 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Guests are welcome at our meetings. This chapter is currently accepting new members; for information about joining the chapter call Mary or John McCabe at (732) 603-3967.

For additional information about trips, call Miriam Dingle at (732) 548-9395

Upcoming events:
Feb. 23 — "Charley's Aunt" at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse - \$58 for transportation, lunch and admission. Leave Metuchen Pool parking lot 10 a.m. Reservations due by Feb. 13.

Wednesdays are Senior Day at the club.

The Middlesex Borough Office on Aging is collecting old cell phones to distribute to the homeless 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 will meet at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 14 in the church hall. Members are asked to bring pasta for F.I.S.H.

Upcoming events:
Feb. 28 — Mardi Gras lunch at Rudy's Beau Rivage, Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. Themed entertainment. \$60 pp. Details later.

March 29 — Wayne Manor - St. Joseph's Show. Family style lunch. Details later.

For information on trips call: Ellie Procacci at (732) 752-3093 or Mary Jane Stoddard at (732) 356-2093.

In The Towns

Learn to paint with acrylics

EDISON — The Edison Arts Society offers a class in acrylic painting at the North Edison Branch of the Edison Free Public Library, 777 Grove Ave.

Classes meet at 1 p.m. Wednesday for six weeks beginning Feb. 22. Acrylic artist Roy Steinberg helps you learn color theory, ways to use a palette knife and composition for a painting.

Cost is \$125. Discounts are available for Arts Society members and senior citizens. You must provide a canvas and a small set of acrylic paints.

Registration is required; e-mail edisonarts@aol.com or call (908) 753-ARTS.

Merchants group schedules meeting

DUNELLEN — The Dunellen Merchants and Professionals Association holds a general meeting at 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27 at the Dunellen Public Library on New Market Road.

All business owners and professionals in the borough are invited. Dunellen residents are also welcome.

For more information, call (732) 713-6068.

Shrove Tuesday ham and pancakes

DUNELLEN — The Dunellen United Methodist Church serves a ham and pancake dinner on Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 28.

Servings are from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the religious education building at 316 Jackson Ave. The menu also includes potatoes, beverage and dessert. Cost is \$9 for adults and \$4 for children.

For more information, call Betty Hixon at (732) 752-7250.

Social event held for Christian women

EDISON — Starlight Socials sponsors an event for Christian professional women from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, March 1 at the Fox & Hound Pub & Grille, located in Menlo Park Mall.

There is no cover. A casual weight loss chat, support group and pool tables are available. Finger foods are free.

Registration is required; e-mail StarlightSocials@aol.com or call (732) 764-9073.

Knights are offering Lenten fish dinners

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — Knights of Columbus Council 6203 and Sacred Heart Church sponsor fish dinners every Friday night in Lent.

Servings are from 5-7 p.m. March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 and April 7 at Sacred Heart School, 149 South Plainfield Ave. The menu includes fried fish, broiled fish, fish Parmigian, garden salad, rice pilaf, French fries, cole slaw, coffee, tea soda and dessert. Pizza is available as well along with macaroni and cheese.

Cost is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and \$4 for children.

Takeout is available.

In addition, Sacred Heart Church holds Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m. each Friday in Lent.

Learn to make a practical craft

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — Learn "Practical Crafting" at the South Plainfield Public Library at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday, March 6.

Ronda Wisniewski shows you how to make origami gift boxes using paper-folding techniques. Bring a ruler, a pencil and a glue stick. Fee is \$1.

Registration is required; call (908) 754-7885 or visit the library at 2484 Plainfield Ave.

Borough kindergarten holding registration

MIDDLESEX — Middlesex Public Schools have scheduled kindergarten registration for the 2006-07 school year.

Registration is at Hazelwood School on Hazelwood Avenue, Parker School on South Lincoln Avenue and Watchung School on Fisher Avenue.

Hours are 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, March 9-10.

Children entering kindergarten must be 5 years old on or before Oct. 31.

Registration packets are available at each elementary school. To find out which school your child would attend, call Nancy Johnson at (732) 317-6000, Ext. 20303.

Juried craft market held at folk festival

Applications are now accepted for a juried craft market to be held as part of the 32nd annual New Jersey Folk Festival.

This year's festival is on Saturday, April 29 at Douglass College, on the New Brunswick campus of Rutgers University. "Korean-American Heritage" is the theme.

For an application, rules and fees, visit njfolkfest.rutgers.edu or call (732) 932-5775. All entries must be received by Wednesday, March 15.

Junior Baseball Club sponsors scholarships

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club is accepting applications for its college scholarships.

Applicants must live in South Plainfield, be graduating from high school in June and have participated with the Junior Baseball Club at least five years.

For an application, call (908) 754-2090 or visit the guidance department at South Plainfield High School.

All applications must be returned by April 1.

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Military Honors

Army Pvt. Stephen M. Gahrman has graduated from One Station Unit Training at Fort Sill, Lawton, Ok. The training included completion of basic military training and advanced individual training.

He is the son of Michael Gahrman of Piscataway and Joellen Venturi of Cape Coral, Fla. Gahrman graduated in 2000 from Edison High School.

Coast Guard Seaman Apprentice Luis G. Lopez, a 2005 graduate of Edison High School, recently graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May.

Army National Guard Pfc. Ramon W. Martinez has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

He is the brother of Luis A. Pacheco of Edison. Martinez received an associate's degree from Florida Metropolitan University, Jacksonville, Fla.

Army Pvt. Stephen M. Gahrman has graduated from one station unit training at Fort Sill, Okla., which combines basic training with advanced individual training. He completed the field artillery fire support specialist course in advanced individual training.

Gahrman is a 2000 graduate of Edison High School. He is the son of Michael Gahrman of Evans Avenue, Piscataway, and Joellen Venturi of Cape Coral, Fla.

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Are Proud to Present an
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Awards will be presented to the winners of our African American Heritage Poster Contest.
This very special event will be held on
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At the **Minnie B. Veal Community Center**
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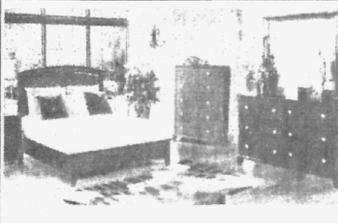


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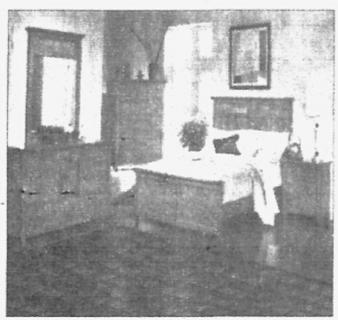


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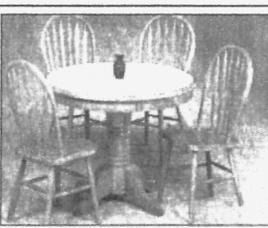
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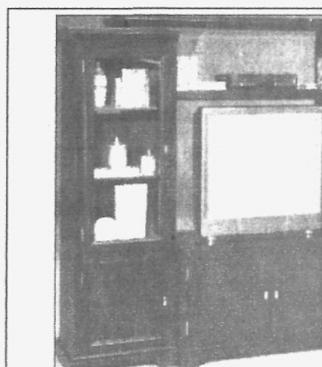
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Your Choice of Colors: Natural, Natural and White or Natural and Green or White Washed. 24" x 30"
Sale \$79



Vanity & Bench Set
\$99

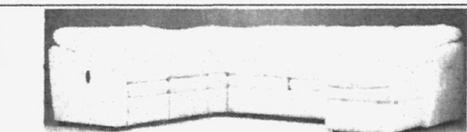


Oak Tile Top Nostalgia Dinette
42" Round Table with 4 Fully Assembled Chairs
\$399



4 pc Entertainment Center in Cordovan Finish
Left Pier, Bridge Unit, Console, Right Pier
Reg. \$2499 Sale \$1899 **WOW \$1299**

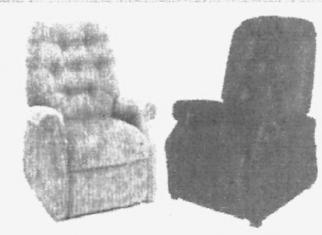
OVER 60 BEDROOM SETS FROM \$1699 TO \$8999



Contemporary 3 pc Sectional in Micro Fiber, Double End Recliner Wedge Double End Recliner
Reg. \$2969
SALE \$2229
WOW \$1999



Cherry Table and 2 Chairs
includes all 3 pieces
\$245



Chenile Velvet Rocker
In Blue, Mauve, Green or Brown also available in Black Vinyl
\$199

ODD SOFAS, LOVESEATS, END TABLES & JUVENILE FURNITURE UP TO 50% OFF!

Martin's Furniture

350 Rt. 22 West
Green Brook, NJ
732-356-8388
Mon. - Fri. 10-9 • Sat. 10-6 • Sun. 12-5

1 Year Interest Free Financing Available to qualified buyers

432 Route 31
WASHINGTON, NJ
908-537-0075
Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed. 10-6
Thurs. & Fri. 10-9 • Sun. 12-3

Community News

Society to host Valentine's meal

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The South Plainfield Elks and the South Plainfield Historical Society will be hosting a Valentine's Day Breakfast tomorrow from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. The menu will include eggs, bacon, sausage, home fries, pancakes and French toast. The cost for adults is \$6, children ages five to twelve is \$5 and children four and under are Free. All proceeds will benefit the Historical Society High School Scholarships and community programming.

County college adds help desk classes

EDISON — Beginning in January, a new program offered at Middlesex County College will train workers to become Help Desk Administrators. Graduates of the program will staff computer help desks and call centers.

"This is a booming field," said Frank Burke, chairperson of the Computer Science Department. "For example, one company, Vonage, is anticipating hiring 100 people per month. Computer support is one of the top 20 growth areas in Middlesex County, and help desk administration is a significant part of that field."

Students take courses in communications, customer service, help desk technology, and specific technical areas. For this spring, those areas are the Internet, the PC, Microsoft Windows and Office.

To pursue Help Desk Administration, students must have taken at least one of three computer courses: CSC 105, Computer Applications and Systems; CSC 106, Intermediate PC Applications with Programming; or BUS 107, Computer Applications for Business.

English Composition I is also a prerequisite. Once the prerequisites are completed, the certificate program can be finished in two semesters.

"There is a huge job opportunity here," Burke said. "These are good jobs with good wages. We anticipate being able to provide able and competent people to fill them."

For more information on the program, please call the Office of Admissions at 732-906-4243 or the Computer Science Department at 732-906-2526.

Recycling center to begin winter hours

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The South Plainfield Recycling Complex on Kenneth Avenue has started fall/winter hours.

The Yard Waste Site, at the end of Kenneth Avenue, will be open for brush, leaves and grass clippings from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

Recycling Drop-off Center hours are noon to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

2005 Yard Waste Decals are available in the Municipal Clerk's office in Borough Hall. Bring the registration of the vehicle that will be used.

For updates, call the Recycling Hotline: (908) 226-7620.

Garden Club will be seeking new members

PISCATAWAY — The Piscataway Garden Club is seeking new members.

Meetings are held at 7 p.m. the third Thursday of every month at the Senior Citizens Center, 700 Buena Vista Ave. The center is off Hoes Lane behind Kennedy Library.

For more information, call (732) 885-5050.

Volunteers sought for local Elderday Care

EDISON — The Jewish Family and Vocational Service of Middlesex County is looking for volunteers to work in its "Elderday Care" program.

This program for older adults meets between 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday and Friday at Temple Emanu-El on James Street, across from JFK Medical Center. Volunteers also are needed to help cook and serve lunch on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. E-mail ej.berman@jvvs.org or call (732) 777-1940, Ext. 122.

When a cigar is more than a cigar

Searching for that perfect gift? Forget that tie and pick a stogie

By **JIM WHITE**
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day



For him ...
For her

WARREN — Here, in Cigarville, "Tony Montana" keeps a watchful eye over the dimly lit lounge as a flirtatious looking Carmen Electra hypnotizes patrons from behind the bar.

These are just two of the pictures that adorn the walls of the cigar store/social club located off Washington Valley Road in the Pheasant Run Plaza.

Inside Cigarville customers can find 500 different brands of cigars, along with all the gadgets and accessories associated with smoking stogies, including humidors, lighters, cutters and cases.

And here, in Cigarville, aficionados can also find a lifestyle.

"We have a pretty nice established clientele," said owner Mario Villacis, who set up shop about five years ago. "In the '90s I saw the boom. Everyone was smoking cigars, so I decided to open a retail location. ... I see more and more new cigar smokers."

Including ex-cigarette smokers. "It's more natural tobacco, no additives," he said. "Cigars are like a good wine. The more (it is) aged, the better the cigar."

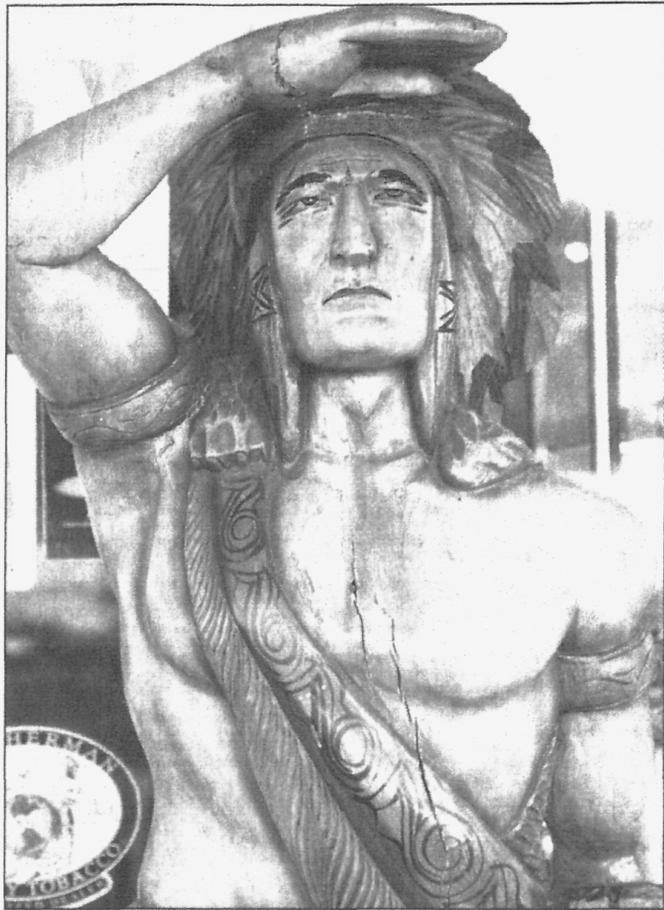
And what better way to remind that special, cigar-loving person in your life that you love them this Valentine's Day than a present from the shop.

"People come in, they buy four packs, five packs, before they go out to dinner (for Valentine's Day)," Villacis said.

In addition to the wide assortment of cigars, the love-struck can also find cufflinks, watches, bracelets, keychains, wallets and pens, as well as gift cards.

"Stuff men can use," Villacis said. But the ultimate gift would be a \$300-a-year membership to Cigarville, entitling that significant other full access to the lounge — dubbed "Le Club at Cigarville" — including private parties, as well as two free cigars each week and first shot at new shipments of cigars.

Currently, 40 members belong to the Cigarville club, including former heavyweight contender Gerry Cooney.



PHOTOS BY GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Keeping watch outside Cigarville in Warren, this traditional wooden American Indian keeps its eyes to the horizon. Inside the "cigar bar," Mario Villacis, owner of Cigarville, seen below left, and Mike Coppola, below right, relax with a smoke. Cigars make a unique gift for Valentine's Day.

Asked if any women have joined the club, Villacis said: "No, unfortunately not."

"It's a great place to come and relax," said Mike Coppola, a food broker from Warren who has been a member for more than a year now.

Sitting on a leather chair inside the candlelit lounge and puffing on a Gloria Cubana Maduro, Coppola talked about the draw of the place.

"It's a real men's club. They got a big television, you can watch the football games, the baseball games. We watch a lot of sporting events here," he said. "It's a smoke-friendly place. I enjoy coming out and relaxing after work. Everybody knows each other."

"Everybody busts each others' balls," Villacis said. "It's a social thing. People come in after playing golf. They network their businesses. Basically, everybody helps each other out."

Puffing on a 40th Anniversary Padron, Villacis talked about some of other the perks that go along with being a member.

"We have free internet access. People come in, relax, have an espresso, watch a movie," he said. "Most are aficionados and like to talk about cigars."

The shop also offers cigar testings and rolling courses, and the lounge has a BYOB policy.

Villacis also pointed out that his establishment is exempt from the new smoking ban in New Jersey restaurants and bars.

"They can smoke in here," he said.

For more information about Cigarville, call (732) 537-1400 or visit www.cigarville.net.



Sugar . . . advice . . . and everything nice

By **ALLISON ELYSE GUALTIERI**
Staff Writer

For many, Valentine's Day is an easy holiday. There are traditional gifts, most of them associated with love and romance.

Few things are as classic as a dozen long-stemmed red roses. Over the years, they have become the standard for Valentine's Day floral gift-giving, whether picked up during a last-minute stop at a grocery or convenience store or ordered weeks in advance from a florist.

Linda Marton, of Scott's Florist in Raritan and Irma Kurze, of Flowers by Heaven Scent in Somerville, agree that red roses — and roses in general — are always the day's most popular item.

On Valentine's Day, Marton said the line at the shop reaches to the door with husbands, fiancés, boyfriends and fathers — all there for their special ladies, and the store hires extra staff and drivers just for that day. Kurze said that Valentine's Day is the year's busiest, with the majority of people requesting red roses.

Prices go up for the holiday, so many people pre-order. "A lot of people order ahead of time," Marton said.

For some of the rarer roses, it's important to pre-order because a florist isn't necessarily going to have the purple roses she loves or the "Confetti" roses, which are yellow with orange tips. Valentine's Day is also the busiest for any florist, so pre-ordering ensures that the perfect gift gets to the person in time.

Of course, Marton said, she and her staff will always help out if a customer wants to make it a truly special occasion.

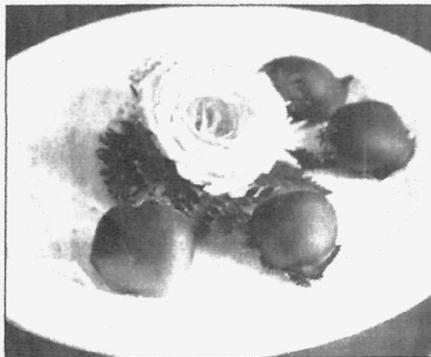
"Last year, we had a delivery where we had to go four times. He sent little notes with each one, and the last time he proposed to her. We were all crying," Marton said.

Even if popping the question isn't in the cards, Marton and her staff regularly help patrons choose their gifts.

"We also encourage the guys. They always ask for our recommendations," she said. Often they forget

"Last year, we had a delivery where we had to go four times. He sent little notes with each one, and the last time he proposed to her. We were all crying."

Linda Marton
Scott's Florist,
Raritan



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chocolate-covered strawberries and a rose make the perfect centerpiece to a great Valentine's Day dinner. This design was created by Somerset Hills Hotel in Warren.

that there's a card and ask for a suggestion for what to write. Marton said it's an important part of sending flowers. "It's nice when a woman gets a love letter," she said.

Senders should also consider the recipient's taste, though Marton and her staff are always willing to help them choose. "You have to ask them what the

wife likes, what her tastes are. We joke a lot with them, and feel them out," to help pick the perfect arrangement, she said.

"Most of the men know exactly what they want, and they want the roses," Kurze said, though a popular choice for those that don't like roses is red carnations. There are alternatives available, however.

People also request rose petals, for a little something different and romantic, which both Marton and Kurze sell. If there's a big gift, like a piece of jewelry, a single red rose can make a perfect romantic accompaniment, Kurze said.

"That's what's important, a lot of romance in a relationship," said Marton. "Just a little something to make it special."

Sometimes, it's the delivery that can make all the difference.

"What's also nice is that the women get their flowers at the job, so they can show off a bit," Marton said. While for her, getting flowers at work isn't too special, she appreciates it when she receives flowers at home.

"It just brightens everybody up. Even though I work here, I love getting flowers," she said.

Linda Grubb, owner of Heavenly Sweets in Hillsborough, said that she starts getting orders for chocolates just after New Year's, especially for the chocolate-covered strawberries, which are hand-dipped at her shop. "Last year, people were carrying them out wet, they just couldn't wait," she said.

Most of her customers ask for custom boxes. Grubb carries a full array of special heart-shaped boxes, and will do custom orders ranging from a quarter pound to five pounds.

"Valentine's is a last minute holiday," she explained. "They come in panicked, after work."

The most popular choices for Valentine's Day are the chocolate-covered strawberries, the chocolate-covered truffles, and the solid hearts.

For those watching what they eat, Grubb also carries a wide range of sugar-free chocolate sweets, so there are sweet treats for all types available.

Grubb also does special requests, such as combining jewelry into her boxes or baskets.

Joseph Zelinski

BOUND BROOK — Joseph Zelinski, 86, died Jan. 26, 2006 at his home in Bridgewater. Born May 15, 1919 in Ashley, Pa., he was a son of the late Casimir and Mary Sebastinas Zelinski. Mr. Zelinski lived in Bound Brook and Branchburg before moving to Bridgewater in 2003. He was an Army veteran of World War II and worked for 35 years at American Cyanamid Co. in

Bridgewater. He was a member of the American Legion and the Branchburg Senior Citizens Club. Preceding him in death were his first wife, Catherine Madaychik Zelinski; and his second wife, Marie Boehler Zelinski. Surviving are a brother, Edward of Florida; and many nieces and nephews. Private arrangements were by the Johnson-Walton Funeral Home in Milford. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Alzheimer's Association, Greater New Jersey Chapter, 400 Morris Ave., Suite 251, Denville, NJ 07834.



Everything Jersey

Kenneth Mantz Jr.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — Kenneth M. Mantz Jr., 58, died Feb. 6, 2006 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield. Born Dec. 30, 1947 in Plainfield, he was a son of the late Kenneth M. Sr. and Anna Merolla Mantz. Mr. Mantz lived in Scotch Plains, Piscataway and South Plainfield before moving to North Plainfield in 1997. He retired in 2001 after 25 years as the owner of the Cupboard Delicatessen in Watchung, which was founded by his father. He was a member of the Dunellen United Methodist

Church. Surviving are his companion, Linda Ruppert of Middlesex; three daughters, Jennifer Duarte and Rebecca, both of Fogelsville, Pa., and Jessica of Allentown, Pa.; a sister, Ruth Ann Della Ratta of Howell; two grandchildren, a niece and a nephew. Services were held yesterday at the Mundy Funeral Home in Dunellen with Rev. Hazel T. Shue, pastor of the Dunellen United Methodist Church, officiating. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery, Scotch Plains. Donations may be sent to the Kidney and Urology Foundation of America.

Arthur A. Roff

DUNELLEN — Arthur A. Roff, 83, died Jan. 18, 2006 in Lantana, Fla. Born June 26, 1922 in Plainfield, he was a son of the late Dunellen Mayor Albert J. and Anna P. Haas Roff. Mr. Roff lived in Dunellen before moving to Lantana in 1988. He was a marine port engineer with Exxon Corp. in Aruba; Venezuela; Seattle, Wash.; Miami, Fla.; Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; and Jacksonville, Fla. He retired from Exxon in 1988. He attended Dunellen public schools and in 1943 graduated from the United States Merchant Marine Academy. Mr. Roff was with the Merchant Marine in the

Atlantic and the Pacific during World War II. He was a member of the Dunellen United Methodist Church and Anchor Lodge 149, Free & Accepted Masons, in Plainfield. Preceding him in death was a daughter, Pamela Martin. Surviving are his wife of 62 years, Eileen Hayes Roff; a daughter, Andrea McNally; a sister, Grace A. Roff Hodge of Piscataway; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held Jan. 28 at Guardian Angels in Lantana. Donations may be sent to Guardian Angels or the Hospice of Palm Beach County.

Legal Notices

NOTICE TO PERSONS DESIRING CIVILIAN ABSENTEE BALLOTS

If you are a qualified and registered voter of the State who wants to vote by absentee ballot in the School Election to be held on April 18, 2006, kindly complete the application form below and send to the undersigned, or write of apply in person to the undersigned at one requesting that a civilian absentee ballot be forwarded to you. Such request must state your home address, the address to which said ballot should be sent, if different, and must be dated and signed with your signature. If any person has assisted you to complete the absentee ballot application, the name, address and signature of the assistor must be provided on the application. Also, you must sign and date the application for it to be valid and processed. No person who is a candidate in the election for which the voter requests an absentee ballot may provide any assistance in the completion of the ballot or may serve as an authorized messenger. No civilian absentee ballot will be furnished or forwarded to any applicant unless request therefore is received, in our office, not less than 7 days prior to the election, and contains the foregoing information.

Voters who are permanently and totally disabled, and any other voters who wish to vote only by absentee ballot in a general election, and who state that on their request shall, after their initial request and without further action on their part, be forwarded an absentee ballot application by the county clerk for future elections in which they are eligible to vote and until the voter requests that he or she no longer be sent an application. Permanently and totally disabled voters also have the option of indicating on their absentee ballot application that they would prefer to receive absentee ballots for each election that takes place during the remainder of this calendar year. Permanently and totally disabled voters who exercise this option will be furnished with absentee ballots for each election that takes place during the remainder of this calendar year, without further action on their part.

Application forms may be obtained by applying to the undersigned either in writing or by telephone, or the application form provided below may be completed and forwarded to the undersigned.

Dated: February 11, 2006

Elaine M. Flynn Middlesex County Clerk P.O. Box 1110 New Brunswick, NJ 08903 (732) 745-4463 TDD (732) 745-5553

A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY HAS THE RIGHT TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT OR TO BE ASSISTED AT THE POLLS BY TWO ELECTION CLERKS, ONE FROM EACH PARTY, OR BY A PERSON CHOSEN BY THE VOTER OTHER THAN THE VOTER'S EMPLOYER OR AGENT OF THAT EMPLOYER, OR OFFICER OR AGENT OF THE VOTER'S UNION. VOTING LOCATIONS MUST BE ACCESSIBLE AND ACCESSIBLE PARKING WITH PROPER SIGNAGE MUST BE PROVIDED. DEAF AND HEARING IMPAIRED VOTERS CAN ACCESS THE FOLLOWING TDD NUMBER (732) 937-8364. INSTRUCTION PRINTED IN LARGE TYPE MUST BE CONSPICUOUSLY DISPLAYED AT EACH PERMANENT REGISTRATION FACILITY AND POLLING PLACE. VIOLATIONS OF THE ABOVE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS. (732) 745-3471.

William M. Robins, RMC, Dunellen Municipal Clerk Kathleen Anello, RMC, Middlesex Municipal Clerk

\$55.08

B17 IT 2/11/06

NOTICE TO MILITARY SERVICE VOTERS AND TO THEIR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

If you are in the military service, or the spouse or dependent of a person in military service or a patient in a veteran's hospital or a civilian attached to or serving with the Armed Forces of the United States, or the spouse or dependent of and accompanying or residing with a civilian attached to or serving with the Armed Forces of the United States, and desire to vote, or if you are a relative or friend of any such person who, you believe, will desire to vote in the School Election to be held on April 18, 2006, kindly write to the undersigned at once making application for a military service ballot to be voted in said election to be forwarded to you, stating your name, age, serial number if you are in military service, home address and address at which you are stationed or can be found, or if you desire the military service ballot for a relative or friend then make application under oath for a military service ballot to be forwarded to him, stating in your application that he is over the age of 18 years and stating his name, serial number if he is in military service, home address and the address at which he is stationed or can be found.

Military service voters may also apply for a military service ballot by sending a federal postcard application form to the undersigned.

On the application for a military service ballot, military service voters may request that a military service ballot be sent for all subsequent elections through and including the next two regularly scheduled general elections for federal office which takes place after the request is made.

(NOTE: MILITARY SERVICE VOTER CLAIMING MILITARY STATION AS HOME ADDRESS FOR VOTING PURPOSES MAY NOT USE MILITARY ABSENTEE BALLOT UNLESS REGISTERED TO VOTE IN THE MUNICIPALITY WHERE SUCH STATION IS LOCATED.)

Forms of application other than federal postcard application forms can be obtained from the undersigned.

Dated: February 11, 2006

Elaine M. Flynn Middlesex County Clerk P.O. Box 1110 New Brunswick, NJ 08903 (732) 745-4463 TDD (732) 745-5553

William M. Robins, RMC, Dunellen Municipal Clerk Kathleen Anello, RMC, Middlesex Municipal Clerk

\$54.40

B19 IT 2/11/06

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Fill out application. Print and sign your name where indicated.
2. Mail or Deliver application to your County Clerk.
* Permanently and totally disabled voters have the option of indicating on an application for an Absentee Ballot that they would prefer to receive an Absentee Ballot for each election that takes place during the remainder of the year.
3. It is not mandatory for you to check off one of the options.

INFORMATION

- 1. You must be a registered voter.
2. You will not be permitted to vote at your polling place if you applied for an Absentee Ballot.
3. Your Absentee Ballot must be received by the County Board of Elections before close of polls on Election Day.
4. You will receive instructions with your Ballot.
5. Your Ballot will be mailed on or after the 40th day prior to Election Day.
6. Do not submit more than one application for the same Election.
7. You must apply for an Absentee Ballot for each Election unless you check off the box to receive an application for every General Election only.

CIVILIAN ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION

I hereby apply for an absentee ballot for the (check one):
Primary General Municipal School Special
Other to be held on (date)

PRINT OR TYPE NAME DATE OF BIRTH
STREET ADDRESS
MUNICIPALITY ZIP CODE PHONE (OPTIONAL)

Sign your name as it appears in poll book
Mail my ballot to the following address (if different from above):
STREET ADDRESS
MUNICIPALITY STATE ZIP CODE

ABSENTEE VOTER OPTIONS (Check any of the following if it applies to you)

- I am permanently and totally disabled and wish to receive an absentee ballot for all elections to be held during the remainder of the calendar year.
I am not permanently and totally disabled, but wish to vote only by absentee ballot in a general election. If you check off this box, you will automatically be sent an absentee ballot application for any general election until you request otherwise.

Any person providing assistance to voter in completing this application must provide:

PRINT OR TYPE NAME
ADDRESS
MUNICIPALITY STATE ZIP CODE

SIGNATURE OF ASSISTOR DATE
NO CANDIDATE IN THE ELECTION FOR WHICH THE VOTER IS REQUESTING AN ABSENTEE BALLOT CAN BE AN ASSISTOR OR AUTHORIZED MESSENGER.

ONLY if sick or confined, a voter may apply for an absentee ballot by authorized messenger. Messenger shall be a family member or a registered voter of this County.

I designate (Name of Messenger) to be my authorized messenger.
(Signature of Voter)

Authorized Messenger must sign application and show photo ID in the presence of the County Clerk or County designee. "I do hereby certify that I will deliver the absentee ballot directly to the voter and no other person, under penalty of law."

SIGNATURE OF MESSENGER
STREET ADDRESS
MUNICIPALITY STATE ZIP CODE

VOTER NUMBER PARTY WARD DISTRICT
MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATION TO
Middlesex County Clerk
Elections
PO Box 1110
New Brunswick, NJ 08903-1110

William M. Robins, RMC, Dunellen Municipal Clerk
Kathleen Anello, RMC, Middlesex Municipal Clerk
\$57.72 B17 IT 2/11/06

BOROUGH OF METUCHEN MIDDLESEX COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE, that the undersigned shall expose for sale in accordance with N.J.S.A. 17:27, of public auction on Feb. 22, 2006 at 10 o'clock of 24 Viewyard Ter Edison, NJ, the following described motor vehicles which came into possession of the Metuchen Police Dept through abandonment of license to carry same:
1985 Chevy, 148CCT18848 0172258
1989 Ford, 4E149J00K 0100006
2000 Mer, 4M1M7304 0601271
1985 Chevy, 148CCT18848 0172258
Vehicles can be released up to the day of auction.
Metuchen Police Dept
P/O Edward J. Mosko
Impound Unit, 732-632-8110
B02 IT 2/11/06

(1) Each such parking space shall be not less than 12' feet wide.
(2) Any such person violating any of the provisions of this subsection shall be subject to a maximum penalty upon conviction of a fine not exceeding \$60 for the first offense and not exceeding \$150 for the second and each subsequent offense.
Submitted by William M. Robins, RMC
Dunellen Municipal Clerk
\$17.34 B03 IT 2/11/06

BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX

ORDINANCE #06-02
PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PENDING BOND ORDINANCE AND SUMMARY
The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Dunellen, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, on February 6, 2006. It will be further considered for final passage at a meeting of said governing body to be held at Municipal Building, 355 North Avenue, Dunellen, New Jersey, on said County on February 20, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. During the week prior to said meeting copies of the full ordinance will be available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's office for the members of the general public who shall request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:
Title: BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO WALNUT STREET IN THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, APPROPRIATING \$25,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$47,500 OF BONDS AND/OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, THE COST THEREOF, AND MAKING THE DOWN PAYMENT FOR SAID IMPROVEMENTS AUTHORIZED TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN AND BY THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY.
Purpose(s): improvements to Walnut Street, said improvements to include all costs, equipment and improvements necessary therefore or related thereto.
Bonds/Note Authorized: \$47,500
Section 20 Costs: \$50,000
Useful Life: 10 years

William Robins, RMC
Dunellen Municipal Clerk
\$15.64 B24 IT 2/11/06

BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX

ORDINANCE #06-01
The following ordinance, published in full, was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Dunellen, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, on February 6, 2006. It will be further considered for final passage at a meeting of said governing body to be held at Municipal Building, 355 North Avenue, Dunellen, New Jersey, on said County on February 20, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. During the week prior to said meeting copies of the full ordinance will be available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's office for the members of the general public who shall request the same.
The following Dunellen Parking Ordinance is amended as follows:
Ord. 266-35, Handicapped parking.
Handicapped parking in municipal parking lots and Board of Education property in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:4-19, the following off street parking yards and Board of Education property are designated as handicapped parking areas. Such spaces are for use by persons who have been issued special identification cards, plates or placards issued by the Division of Motor Vehicles or a temporary placard issued by the chief of Police. No other person shall be permitted in these spaces.
Schedule:
Priority Lincoln Middle School
Number of Spaces 1
Location: Lincoln Avenue, beginning at the driveway pole and adjacent to the sidewalk leading to an entrance.

William Robins, RMC
Dunellen Municipal Clerk
\$15.64 B24 IT 2/11/06

AVISO PARA PERSONAS QUE DESEEN PAPELETAS DE CIVIL AUSENTE

Si usted es un votante del Estado calificado y registrado, que quiere votar con papeleta para voto en ausencia en la Elección Escolar que se llevará a cabo el 18 de abril de 2006, por favor complete el formulario a continuación y envíelo al abajo firmante o exíbralo o diríjase en persona de inmediato al abajo firmante solicitándole que le sea enviada una papeleta para cibil ausente. En dicha solicitud debe figurar su dirección residencial y la dirección a donde se le debe enviar la papeleta para voto en ausencia debidamente fechada y firmada por usted. Si alguna persona lo ayudó a completar el formulario de papeleta para voto en ausencia, en dicho formulario debe figurar el nombre, la dirección y la firma del ayudante. Usted también debe firmar y fechar el formulario para que este sea válido y procesado. Ninguna persona que sea candidato en la erección para la que el votante solicita una papeleta para voto en ausencia podrá proveer asistencia para completar la papeleta o ejercer como mensajero autorizado. Ninguna papeleta para civil ausente será proporcionada o enviada a un solicitante a menos que la solicitud para ello sea recibida siete días antes de la elección, y contenga la información mencionada anteriormente.

Los votantes con incapacidades permanentes y totales, y cualquier otra votante que desee votar solamente a través de papeleta para voto en ausencia en una Elección General y que así lo aclare en su petición, luego de su solicitud inicial y sin más proceder desu parte, se le enviará un formulario de papeleta para voto ausente a través del Secretario del Condado para futuras elecciones en las que tenga derecho a votar y hasta que el votante solicite que no se le envíe más el formulario Los votantes con incapacidades permanentes y totales también tienen la opción de indicar en los formularios para papeleta de voto en ausencia que preferían recibir las papeletas para casa elección que se lleve a cabo en lo que resta del año. A los votantes con incapacidades permanentes y totales que utilicen esta opción se les proporcionará papeleta de voto en ausencia para cada elección que se lleve a cabo en lo que resta del año, sin más proceder de su parte.

Los formularios de solicitud deben obtenerse solicitándolos al abajo firmante por escrito o por tel efono o se debe completar y enviar al abajo firmante el formulario de solicitud que se encuentra a continuación. Electores del servicio militar pueden solicitar la papeleta de voto militar enviando una solicitud federal en forma de tarjeta postal a las Secretaria del Condado.

FECHA: Febrero 11, 2006

Elaine M. Flynn Middlesex County Clerk P.O. Box 1110 New Brunswick, NJ 08903 (732) 745 4463 TDD (732) 745-5553

William M. Robins, RMC, Dunellen Municipal Clerk Kathleen Anello, RMC, Middlesex Municipal Clerk

\$71.40

B16 IT 2/11/06

ELECCIÓN ESCOLAR AVISO PARA ELECTORES EN EL SERVICIO MILITAR, SUS PARIENTES Y AMIGOS

Si usted se encuentra en el servicio militar; es esposa(o) o dependiente de alguien en el servicio; es paciente en un hospital para veteranos; es un civil adjunto a, o sirve con, las Fuerzas Armadas de los Estados Unidos, es esposa(o) o dependiente de un civil adjunto a, o que sirve con, las Fuerzas Armadas de los Estados Unidos, si usted tiene estas características y desea votar, o es un familiar o amigo de alguien que las tenga y que usted crea que quiera votar, en la Elección Escolar que se llevará a cabo el 18 de abril de 2006. Escriba por favor, al abajo firmante para solicitar que le envíen una papeleta del servicio militar, para votar en dicha elección. Si usted está en el servicio, incluya su nombre, edad, número de serie, dirección residencial y la dirección de su base o donde se le pueda localizar. Si desea la papeleta para un pariente o amigo, haga la petición bajo juramento, solicitando que la papeleta del servicio militar le sea enviada a esa persona, declarando que la papeleta es mayor de dieciocho años, su nombre, su número de serie si está en el servicio militar, dirección residencial y dirección de su base o de donde pueda ser localizada. Electores del servicio militar pueden solicitar la papeleta de voto militar enviando una solicitud federal en forma de tarjeta postal a las Secretaria del Condado. En la solicitud para la papeleta del servicio militar, electores del servicio militar pueden requerir que una papeleta del servicio militar les sea enviada para: todas las elecciones subsiguientes e incluyendo las próximas dos elecciones generales programadas regularmente para cargos federales que tengan lugar después que la solicitud sea hecha.

(NOTA: EL ELECTOR MILITAR QUE DECLARE SU ESTACION MILITAR COMO DOMICILIO PARA VOTAR NO PUEDE USAR LA PAPELETA DE MILITAR AUSENTE A MENO QUE ESTE REGISTRADO PARA VOTR EN EL MUNICIPIO DONDE DICHA ESTACION ESTA LOCALIZAR.)

Las solicitudes, excepto la solicitud postal federal, pueden ser obtenidas en la siguiente dirección:

FECHA: Febrero 11, 2006

Elaine M. Flynn Middlesex County Clerk P.O. Box 1110 New Brunswick, NJ 08903 (732) 745-4463 TDD (732) 745-5553

William M. Robins, RMC, Dunellen Municipal Clerk Kathleen Anello, RMC, Middlesex Municipal Clerk

UNA PERSONA INCAPACITADA TIENE EL DERECHO A VOTAR CON PAPELETA DE AUSENTE O A SER ASISTIDA EN LAS URNAS POR DOS OFICIALES DE ELECCIONES, UNO DE CADA PARTIDO, O POR UNA PERSONAL ELEJIDA POR EL VOTANTE QUE NO SEA SU JEFE, O EL AGENTE DE ESE JEFE, U OFICIAL O AGENTE DE SU UNION. LUGARES DE VOTACION DEBEN SER ACCESIBLES Y DEBE SER PROVEIDO ESTACIONAMIENTO ACCESIBLE CON SEÑALES APROPIADAS. VOTANTES CON SORDERA O POCA AUDICION PUEDEN CONTACTAR EL SIGUIENTE NUMERO TDD: (732) 937-8364. INSTRUCCIONES IMPRESAS EN LETRA GRANDE DEBERAN SER CLARAMENTE EXHIBIDAS EN CADA LUGAR PERMANENTE DE REGISTRO O VOTACION. VIOLACIONES A LO ANTERIOR DEBERAN SER REFERIDAS A LA JUNTA DE ELECCIONES DEL CONDADO DE MIDDLESEX (732) 745-3471.

\$62.98

B21 IT 2/11/06

LEGAL NOTICES

Deadline is Noon on Monday

For information call 908-575-6703

fax your notice to 908-575-6745

E-mail your notice to somervillelegals@njpublishing.com



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Classification 1385 Employment Classification 201 Merchandise Classification 550 Classified in-column deadline: Monday at 5 p.m.

Auctions 010

LAND AUCTION* 240 Props Must be Sold! Low Down/EZ Financing Free catalog 800-766-0367 WWW.LANDAUCION.COM

Adoption 105

ADOPTION: A childless married couple seeks to adopt a newborn. Will have a stay-at-home parent. Financial security. Expenses paid. Alison & Dean. (ask for Erin/Adam) 1-800-841-0804.

PREGNANT? Thinking ADOPTION? Talk with caring people specializing in matching birth-mothers with loving families nationwide. EXPENSES PAID. Toll Free 24/7. One True Gift Adoptions 866-921-0565

Announcements 110

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

Did you suffer a Heart Attack, Stroke, or Kidney failure while taking VIAXX, CELEBREX or BEXTRA? Your claim may be worth \$250,000+. Call toll free 1-877-833-0926 (24 hours)

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.

Employment

Employment Agencies 205

Immediate Job Openings! STAFFING ALTERNATIVES Call 732-246-1687

Drivers 230

DRIVER \$12/hr. Bridgewater van deliveries, light loading, PT, 10am-2pm, M-F. Call 908-595-1118

Drivers 230

DRIVER Home Daily, Great Pay, Insurance, 401K, CDL Class A 2 yrs experience. Inter-Coastal Bob: 1-800-200-5424

Drivers 230

DRIVER PT, exp. driver, N/S enviro., clean lic., drive my car to appts-locally NY & PA. Please send resume to: Attn: M4277 North Jersey Newspapers 171 Rt. 173, Suite #300 Asbury, NJ 08802

Chauffeurs Needed

For busy Hunterdon Co. based limousine service. FT & PT opportunities. CDL a definite plus. Call for interview appointment. 908-735-8865

Drivers

There's a driver shortage. We know it, you know it. So we raised our pay rates. Our average driver earned \$1038 per week in 2005. Interested in learning more? Call Us Today! (866) 1-want-LJ www.kennedytrucking.com CDL-A required TEAMSTER-JOB

General Help 240

\$1,220 Weekly Salary! Earn Cash Daily! No Commute! Simple Work! FREE Info. Call Now! 1-800-693-0815 24hrs

General Help 240

\$879/Week! Easy Work! No Suit! No Commute! Genuine Opportunity! Start Today! Call Now! FREE Info! 1-800-483-5176

General Help 240

FENCE Installers, Laborers, Sub-contractors & sales. 1-800-262-3245

Glazier

Entry level / experienced position available in Neshaan Station in multi-location glass and mirror company. Will train for finishing, measuring, and fabricating mirrors and shower enclosures. Successful candidate will be mechanically inclined. Excellent salary and benefits. Valid driver's license required. Call Scott 908-782-0812

Great Summer Jobs

OAK CREST DAY CAMP Earn \$ and have a fantastic summer! Great Summer Camp Jobs Available for College and HS Students 17+, Teachers & Coaches. Call: 609-466-0055 or Fax: 609-514-0663

Painting & Decorating

Interior and exterior painting co. seeking artistic and highly motivated individuals for FT/PT positions. Salary range \$11.15 per hour plus overtime & 401k. Must have valid driver's license and transportation. Call 908-766-5218 or email resume to: ctbecker@optonline.net

Medical Receptionist

FT busy OB/GYN office. 1-2 yrs experience necessary. Benefits available. Send resume and salary requirements to: PO Box 352 Flemington, NJ 08822 or Fax to: 908-788-6483

NJ Publishing is seeking a Accounts Payable Clerk

Full time position in Flemington. The ideal candidate has a minimum of five years accounting/business experience, proficient on a calculator, accurate in data entry and has EXCEL and WORD experience necessary. Interested persons should email your resume to: jobs@njpublishing.com or fax to: 908-782-5419

Receptionist

Busy Waiting, Construction Co. Must be well spoken for heavy phone volume. Other office duties. D.L. a must. Flexible hours. \$10-12 Hour. Fax resume to: 908-668-7575

Receptionist

For Medical Office, Ft. Calton Area, Cal. Linda @ 908-832-2125

Physical Therapist

PT to FT in Medical Facility. Please call for resume to: Complete Care. Fax: 908-782-6327 Ph: 908-782-6565

Part Time Help 255

BUS/VAN \$1,000 Sign on Bonus + benefits. Hunterdon & Somerset areas. Must have CDL P. W. Main. Call: 908-782-1864 9:00-2:00pm M-F.

General Help 240

OPERATIONS ASSISTANT FOR NEW PROVIDENCE CREDIT UNION Career opportunity for self-motivated individual who wants to contribute to the long term success of our organization by applying both their ideas & their energy. Small staff, reliability a must. Credit Union, banking or acctg. background pref. BA or equivalent work exp. req'd. Fax resume & salary requirements to: 908-271-9302.

General Help 240

OPHTHALMIC ASST./TECH for professional Offices in Hopewell/Lambertville. Experience preferred but willing to train. Full benefits offered. Call: 609-466-0055 or Fax: 609-514-0663

Warehouse/Maintenance

Flexible hours. Call 908-638-5507 cmeyer@enviro-clear.com

Part Time Delivery Drivers

HAVE A BIG VAN OR SMALL BOX TRUCK? Provide your full size cargo van delivering newspaper bundles to stores, machines, and Post Offices. Work approximately 8 hours on Wednesday afternoons and evenings. Knowledge of Hunterdon County towns and surrounding areas helpful. Interested? Call John at (908) 782-4747 x607 Hunterdon County Democrat 8 Minnekaoning Rd Flemington, NJ

Receptionist

Busy Waiting, Construction Co. Must be well spoken for heavy phone volume. Other office duties. D.L. a must. Flexible hours. \$10-12 Hour. Fax resume to: 908-668-7575

Receptionist

For Busy Family practice. FT/PT. Great benefits! Experience required. 908-788-7846

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Warehouse/Maintenance

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Furniture 560

Bedroom New \$699 New mattress & box \$239. Also model house furn. Can Deliver 908-281-7117

BEDROOM SET- 6 Pc. Burled Walnut, Queen Sz. Head board/Frame, Dresser, Mirror, Armoire, 2 end tables. Etc. con'd. Can email photos. \$1500 delivered, \$1200 picked up. 908-231-7915

BEDROOM SET- 8pc. Cherry wood sleigh bed, dresser, mirror & 2 nite stands. New in box. Value \$3500 sacrifices can deliver \$1,675 732-259-6690

BEDROOM SET- Sleigh bed, triple dresser w/ mirror, chest & nite stand. New in box. Value \$2,300 sell \$975. Can deliver 732-259-6690

BEDROOM SET- White Wicker, Dresser, Armoire, Bookshelf, Vanity w/chair, Full headboard/Mattress & Night stand, lamp, Twin head board \$550 908-304-5056

DINING ROOM- Double pedestal table, 6 chairs, lighted hutch buffet. New in box. List \$3000 sell \$1475. Can deliver 732-259-6690

Mattress & Box New \$139. Macy Brand in wrappers. Also model house furn. Can deliver 908-281-7117

MATTRESS SET- New Pillow Top, Brand Name new in plastic w/ warranty. Queen \$135 King \$195. 732-259-6690

Sofa + Loveseat New \$299. Dining table + chairs \$129. Also model house furn. Can deliver 908-281-7117

Thomasville solid oak Dining Set - Oval table, 6 chairs, china cabinet, side server, \$2200, pristine condition. 908-532-2692 after 5pm.

Bargain Basement 573

SEARS BEST H/D 12 GAL. AIR COMPRESSOR, 2 Stage dual pressure regulators. \$99. Call 908-232-3423

General Merchandise 580

Free DIRECTV Satellite, 4 rooms. FREE TiVo/DVR. Add HDTV, 220 Channels - local, Pkgs. from \$29.99/mo. First 500 orders get Free DVD Player. 866-641-7031. Promo #16026.

SNOWS & RIMS (4) Blizak 157 snows on alloy rims \$3-112 bolt pattern from Audi A4 20k miles \$75 732-689-5605 908-470-0438

SNOWS & RIMS (4) Blizak Snows on alloy rims 16" tires 5-100 bolt pattern from Audi TT 10k miles \$250 732-689-5605 908-470-0438

Washer and Dryer pair with stands. Stainless Steel interiors. \$900 for the pair. 220 Volt. Call 609-252-4544

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Yes! Absolutely free advice about fraudulent contests and get-rich quick schemes. Call 1-800-876-7060 today for free info.

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Machinery & Tools 584

Tractor - Custom Crosley Engine, 4 Ft Snow Plow, 3 Gang Mowers, Parts \$1000. 908-722-1623

Flea Markets 599

BIG INDOOR FLEA MARKET Roselle Catholic H.S. 1 Raritan Rd., Roselle SAT. FEB. 11th 9-4 pm

Wanted To Buy 625

ALL LIONEL FLYER & OTHER TRAINS. Top cash prices pd. 973-334-8709 or 201-404-8030

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Horses 630

Tewksbury Boarding quality care, service oriented horse care facility, 24 hour supervision. Out-pour ring with jumps, grass turnout & miles of trails. Horse training available, school horses & ponies available for lessons, lease & sale. Equitation, hunters, jumpers. Beginner horse owners & riders welcome. 908-439-2571

Pets 640

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Financial & Business Opportunities

Business Opportunities 650

\$1,710 Weekly possible! Work Available Now! No commute! Real Opportunity! Start NOW! FREE Info. Call now. 1-800-691-4753 24hrs

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Financial Services 655

\$50,000 FREE CASH GRANTS *****2006! Never Repay! For personal bills, school, new business. \$49 BILLION left unclaimed from 2005! Call Now! Live Operators! 1-800-274-5086, Ext 67

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PERSONAL/MEDICAL BILLS, SCHOOL, BUSINESS/ HOME! LIVE OPERATORS, ALMOST EVERYONE QUALIFIES! AVOID DEADLINES CALL NOW! 1-800-274-5086 Ext. 66

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Boats & Motors 1330

TRANSPORTATION

Autos For Sale 1385

Autos For Sale 1385

Autos For Sale 1385

Autos For Sale 1385

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1385

Transportation

Autos For Sale 1385

Vehicles Wanted 1415

AUTOS- DON'T TRADE IN! CHARITY DONATIONS: Children's Cancer, Big Brothers/Sisters, Boy/Girl Scouts, Homeless, SPCA, YMCA and more! Or we'll buy any year/ make - free pickup - Fast service. Call 1-888-395-3955

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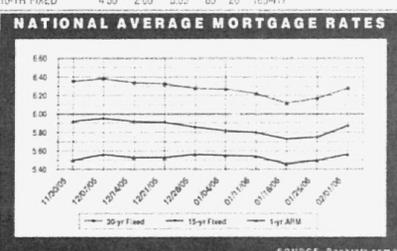
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CONSUMER MORTGAGE GUIDE

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TYPE	RATES	PTS	APR	LOCK	DWN	LOANS	COMMENTS
AMERICAN ENTERPRISE BANK OF FL	877-247-7107	Nations Great Rates					
30-YR FIXED	6.00	0.00	6.03	30	20	165-417	With
15-YR FIXED	5.50	0.00	5.64	30	20	165-417	Community
30-YR JUMBO	6.00	0.00	6.15	30	20	417-650	Bank
21 ARM	4.75	0.01	6.57	30	20	165-650	Values
AMERICAN FEDERAL MORTGAGE CORP	888-321-HOUSE(4687)	ALL RATES AND FEES GUARANTEED					
30-YR FIXED	5.75	1.75	5.96	30	20	0-417	IN WRITING.
15-YR FIXED	5.38	0.00	5.43	30	20	0-417	
51 ARM	5.38	0.00	5.42	60	20	0-503	
71 ARM	5.63	0.00	5.72	60	20	0-500	
DITECH.COM	800-616-8208	Your mortgage solution					
30-YR FIXED	5.88	2.00	6.19	60	20	0-417	Delivered!
15-YR FIXED	5.50	2.00	6.02	60	20	0-417	
30-YR JUMBO	6.12	2.00	6.38	60	20	417-15M	
15-YR JUMBO	5.75	2.00	6.17	60	20	417-15M	
LOAN SEARCH	800-591-3279	NJ's Low Jumbo Rates!					
30-YR FIXED	6.00	0.00	6.03	60	20	0-417	
15-YR FIXED	5.38	0.00	5.44	60	20	0-417	
71 ARM JUMBO	5.38	0.00	6.06	60	20	0-500	
51 ARM JUMBO	5.13	0.00	6.34	60	20	0-500	
PAN AM MORTGAGE, LLC	800-660-7987	ANY INCOME ANY CREDIT 120+					
30-YR FIXED	5.50	2.00	5.79	30	20	100-417	PROGRAMS BUY
15-YR FIXED	5.00	2.00	5.31	30	20	100-417	OR REFI. \$395
OPTION ARM	1.20	0.00	5.49	60	20	100-25M	CREDIT W/ AD
5-YR FIX PAY	2.20	0.00	5.59	60	20	100-25M	



MORTGAGE LENDERS: REACH THOUSANDS OF HOME BUYERS! To appear in table, call 800-327-7717, ext. 1410

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Source: Advance Internet 2004 Monthly Statistics