

Late-inning loss for team

Seventh-inning errors by Immaculata High's softball team allowed Montgomery to score the deciding run Tuesday in a 1-0 battle at Bridgewater's North Branch Park. Page B1.

Essay

EDISON - State Sen. Barbara Buono, D-18th, is sponsoring the Third Annual "What My State Means To Me!" essay contest for fourth graders in the 18th district. All public elementary schools in East Brunswick, Edison, Metuchen, South River, South Plainfield and Spotswood-Helmetta were invited to participate.

A panel of judges selected by each individual school will choose the winning essay from that district. Buono will hold an assembly at the winner's school and present that child with a Senate citation and a gift in recognition of their accomplishment. The child will be asked to read the essay for his or her classmates. Every participant will receive a Senate citation signed by the Senator. Most of the schools encourage their fourth grade students to participate on a voluntary basis.

County has opened links

Grab your clubs and head to one of Middlesex County's four public golf courses for great golf at reasonable rates.

These courses are Raritan Landing, Piscataway; The Meadows at Middlesex, in Plainsboro; and Tamarack, a twocourse location in East Brunswick. All are operated by the Middlesex County Improvement Authority and are open from dawn until dusk, seven days a week, year-round. Among the best buys are greens fees at The Meadows at Middlesex. This year registered

county residents pay \$20 for weekday play and \$30 for weekend play at that course. Also new this year are weekend twilight rates. Golfers can play for weekday rates at all four courses from 4:01 p.m. until dusk

Saturday and Sunday.

"The 2006 rates at Middlesex County's four public courses reflect the MCIA's commitment to offer residents quality services at low costs," Chairman Leonard Roseman said. "We are proud to offer a quality golf experience close to home.

Greens fees vary depending on the age and residency of each golfer. Also, registered golfers pay lower greens fees than non-registered golfers in the same age cat-

Information is available from Raritan Landing, at (732) 885-9600; Tamarack, at (732) 821-8881 and The Meadows at Middlesex, at (609) 799-4000.



CommentaryA4 Community LifeA5 Sports......**B1**

Saturday, April 29, 2006 Bound Brook to mark birthday

325th anniversary of borough's forming on Thursday

The public is invited to a Legion Park where the borough's history will be recounted. Local dignitaries will give speeches and reli-gious figures will give a secured from the Indians on at the foot of the same deed

Legion Park at a future date.

The Council Oak Tree, program at 6 p.m. in Billian unusual in appearance but well preserved, is associated with the earliest history of

municipality marks its 325th ceremony for a time capsule that the purchase of this anniversary as a settlement that will be buried in Billian tract was consummated under this oak tree. The deed to the tract was recorded in John Palmer, a Staten Island Perth Amboy and states:

"That Knoackama and Queromak, two Indian Kings, Somerset County. The first for the consideration of 100

have been received of Captain Philip Carteret, Governor of New Jersey, gentleman, Gabriel Minviefle,

Thomas Codrington, John White, John Deiavelle, Richard Hall and John Royce, of the City of New York, did sell to them

BOUND BROOK - This blessing. There also will be a May 4, 1681. It is tradition acknowledged to them to and their heirs, a tract of land on the north side of the Raritan river, beginning at the mouth of the rivulet called Bound Brook, and by the Indians Sacunk, and thence up along the river Raritan to a brook called Raweigh-weros; and from

Continued on page A2

RVCC chooses Ryan successor

By ALLISON ELYSE GUALTIERI

NORTH BRANCH — After months of interim leadership, Raritan Valley Community College has selected its next president: Casey Crabill, current president of College of the Redwoods in Eureka,

The board of trustees made the announcement Tuesday

In a unanimous vote, the trustees approved Crabill as the replacement for former president G. Jeremiah Ryan, who stepped down last year, making her the first female president in the college's history. The announcement came following an extensive search that trustees had initially hoped would be completed before the beginning of this

woman Janet Thompson, Crabill was part of the initial field of three candidates before the college's search firm went back out and

widened the field to five. "Certainly when we lost one candidate and had to go back out to expand the panel, it took us more time than we had hoped," said board president John McGuire. "We have an acceptance from her, and her According to college spokes- anticipated start time is

While the board has offered 36-month commitment, Crabill's salary is still under

Crabill indicated her excitement in a telephone interview Wednesday morning.

"First of all, it's a pretty wellknown school, so I had some knowledge of it before I came here. What I liked was the

Continued on page A2



CASEY CRABILL

Helping hands



Developer Jack Morris, above right with both arm's raised, leads volunteers down Harrison Place in Irvington on Monday to help rebuild a burned-out home for an upcoming episode of ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition." Morris' company is the redeveloper of the Downtown Somerville Shopping Center. For more, Page A2.

Community embraces Habitat for Humanity

By AMY S. BOBROWSKI and JIM WHITE Staff Writers

BERNARDSVILLE — Little things can make a big difference. For example, the playhouse built by members of Bishop Janes United Methodist Church will be auctioned off to raise funds to build houses for four families in need through the Raritan Valley

chapter of Habitat for Humanity. A steep and stone filled lot along Mine Brook Road in Bernardsville will become the home of two duplex structures. An old and deteriorating house once stood on the property. The house has been raised and workers are in the process of leveling the

"We have to move a fair amount of dirt from the site," said Sue Duffy, of Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity.

Because of the steep grade of the property, a retaining wall will be constructed to hold back the upper part of the hill. She said the excavation should take about a week.

Duffy said Joseph Jingoli & Son Inc., a Lawrenceville-based con-

tractor, will donate a week's worth of work to the excavation of the site, and Bedminster-based CJC Contracting is providing the trucks. Following the excavation, work will begin on the duplex's founda-

With volunteer help, Duffy expects foundation work to be com-

The proceeds from the playhouse are expected to pay for materials. The 8 feet by four feet house will be a replica of one of the units. The custom-made mini-structure was built with all treated wood and has a shingled roof and a sheetrock interior, said Ron Thorson,

a church member who helped construct the playhouse "We were going to build it in the church, but it wouldn't have fit

out the doors," Thorson said. After the auction, the house will be delivered to the winner and painted to match the new owner's own house. The church will accept bids through May 20 - Basking Ridge

Continued on page A2

Apprentices take part in graduation

EAST BRUNSWICK Middlesex County Vocational and Technical Schools last week awarded Certificates of Completion of Related Instruction to students at Apprentice Graduation in the auditorium of the township campus.

Karen McCloud Hjazeh, superintendent of Middlesex County Vocational and Technical Schools and Board of Education President John F. Bicsko, Jr. presented the certificates.

Each year a member of the graduating class is selected as Class Representative. This individual embodies the principles of apprenticeship which include dedication to the trade, loyalty to the sponsor, increasing productivity during training, positive attitude and work ethic, and academic excellence. The recipient of the 2006 Class Representative award is Wayne Szpara.

In recognition of their excellent record of scholastic achievement, eight of the graduating apprentices will be presented white satin stoles and certificates of membership to the National Technical Honor Society. National Technical Honor Society membership will be awarded to Troy Ayr of Colonia, Stephen Karmazsin and Richard Lord of Edison, Johnny Oliveira of Brick, Joseph Shaluha of South River, Daniel Spiecker of Toms River, Eric Swanson of Forks Township and Wayne Szpara of Matawan.

Honorary Membership in the National Technical

Continued on page A2

Something for everyone

By ALLISON ELYSE **GUALTIERI** Staff Writer

BRIDGEWATER place to eat, drink, and be merry was the Bridgewater Manor on Monday evening, as over 600 people packed the annual Taste of Somerset.

From appetizers to desserts and everything in between, local restaurants ladled out the goodies to benefit the good work of the PeopleCare Center at the annual fundraiser, which typically brings in about \$30,000 for the organization.

"Everything I'm hearing is good. Everyone is saying how nice and successful it is," said Marie Hughes, executive director of the Bridgewaterbased organization. "The

restaurants have outdone themselves."

With four rooms full of food spread over two floors, there was almost too much to eat. For Rosette Leone, of Pittstown, Randazzo's pastries took the cake, as she took a break from making the rounds to eat with her hus-

band, Rich. "We've come to every one of them. The food is good, the people are nice," Rich Leone said, adding that he buys tickets for his employees every year, "It's a really fun event. You get to taste a lot of things to decide where to go (out to

dinner) next." That exploration was a major reason for Michelle Plant, of Bound Brook, and Ken Kunich, of Somerville, to attend the event.

wearing one and memory a common market and the control of the cont

"I've tried four places already that I didn't know existed," Kunich said, noting that he and his friends usually end up eating at the same places, particularly Mannion's Pub in Somerville, which also had a table at the event.

The other reasons, course, were the comestibles and libations on offer.

"This is our third year, and it's the greatest food event in the world," declared Plant, who admitted to enjoying some Remy Martin offered by Bridgewater-based Cointreau USA, which participated. "If you love food, why wouldn't you go?

From the Far East to the islands, there was a cuisine everyone. Soriano's

Continued on page A2



Chef Rob Wheaton, of the Dead River Pub and the Inn at Somerset Hills in Basking Ridge, uses a blowtorch caramelize sugar atop a crème brulee at the Taste Somerset event at Bridgewater Manor Monday night.

ALLISON ELYSE GUALT/ERI/ THE REPORTER

Birthday

Continued from page A1

thence north to a stony hill; thence easterly to Metape's wigwam; and thence southerly along the Brook aforesaid to the beginning; as might more plainly appear by the trees marked by the grantors, and by the Indian deed recorded In Liber 1, page

This old oak grows less than a mile from the Heights of Middlebrook where the American flag was first flown over the Continental Army,

and where the army was encamped on several occasions, once over the winter. The encampment was located on the First Watchung Mountain and this strategic location gave Washington's troops a decided advantage. The movements of the enemy could be very easily detected from this vantage point.

For over 400 years this fine specimen of white oak, 85 feet high and nearly 18 feet in circumference, has stood on the property of its numerous owners. Although several of its branches have been removed in order that two houses could be built under pits protecting shade, it still

The New Jersey Department of Conservation and Development of Parks and Forests mentioned the Council Oak in a 1937 pamphlet as one of the

"Noteworthy Trees of New Jersey." The Middlebrook Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Somerset County Historical Society erected a commemorative marker at the foot of the Council Oak in 1959.

has a spread of 103 feet. According to a deed record-

at the foot of this tree that Gov. Carteret and others bought the land that is now ed at Perth Amboy, then the capital of East Jersey, it was Bound Brook from Lenni-

Lenape (Raritan) Indians for 100 pounds sterling, paid in

All these years the oak has drawn water from the soil and daily dispensed over a ton of moisture into the surrounding air. It has seen Indians come and go, and witnessed several generations of inhabitants live under and around it while Bound Brook has grown from a few houses scattered along the banks of the Raritan to an industrial town and now a bedroom community. Too, it has witnessed transportation develop from pack horses to wagon trains, canoes to canal boats and mules; railroads -

electric, steam and diesel to trucks, buses and automobiles; and the two Indian trails, said to have crossed under its branches, to the modern concrete highways.

New Department of Conservation and Development of Parks and Forests mentioned the Council Oak in a 1937 pamphlet as one of the 'Noteworthy Trees of New Jersey." The Middlebrook Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Somerset County Historical Society erected a commemorative marker at the foot of the Council Oak



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Continued from page A1

incredible quality of the faculty and staff that I met, and the sense from the trustees that they're really there for the students," said Crabill in a phone interview Wednesday morning. In her current position, Crabill is responsible for a 6,600-student, 900-employee college with a \$49.4 million budget. In comparison, Raritan Valley serves 5,800 full-time students and a \$40 million budget with 560 employees. Though her current school does have continuing-education students, she said that the program at Raritan Valley is much larger.

Crabill, who has been with College of the Redwoods since 1999, has 15 years of experience in college administra**Apprentices** Continued from page A1

Honor Society will be presented to Mr. David Kampf of Spotswood and Andrew Wojtarowicz of Milltown, for their service and support of

apprenticeship at the school

for the past 30 years. The Albert Hudanish Leadership Award is presented annually to recognize an outstanding leader from business and industry, labor, government, or education who has made a significant contribution to apprenticeship. The 2006 recipient of Albert Hudanish Leadership Award is Dennis

M. Fitzgerald, director of apprenticeship in New Jersey for the United States Department of Labor.

The Joint Apprentice Training Committee of Local Union No. 456 in North Brunswick presents the Edward J. Fofrich Memorial Award to the IBEW Apprentice graduate who practices the principles of labor unions by helping classmates in school and co workers on the job. This award has been established in recognition of Edward J. Fofrich, an IBEW Apprenticeship Instructor at the school for 25 years, and an IBEW Local Union No. 358 Electrician for 40 years. The 2006 recipient of the Edward J. Fofrich Memorial

Award Stephen Karmazsin.

Graduating Apprentices completed between 576 and 800 related-instruction hours in school and 8,000 paidtraining hours over a four-year period. International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers graduates complete 900 or more related-instruction hours in school and 10,000 paid-training hours

over a five-year period. Apprentice training is recognized nationally as one of the most effective training methods of preparing workers for careers in highly skilled technical and craft occupations. Apprenticeship programs combine full time supervised and structured on the job training with parttime, related theoretical instruction. Apprentices who successfully complete a registered Apprenticeship Training Program receive national and state credentials, which are recognized throughout the 50 states.

The United Department of Labor is the registering agency of apprenticeship Middlesex Jersey County Vocational and Technical Schools is an approved training provider of apprenticeship related instruction in Middlesex County. Employers can sponsor full time employees as apprentices. For more information, contact the County Apprenticeship Coordinator at (732) 257-3300, Ext. 1924.

Habitat

Continued from page A1

"We have a minimum bid of \$1,000," said Melanie Oseland, a volunteer from the church who is spearheading public relations efforts. "But it's a \$2,500 value."

In addition to raising funds,

Cape Cod

Split Level

Bi-Level

Mitchell hopes the playhouse raises awareness of the project. "We're doing this to make the community aware of what we're doing," Mitchell said. "It excites

parents going to the daycare to come and look at it. You'll be able to track the progress (of

together for this cause.

every age group. "You see the kids with their

the Habitat job) by looking at how this was built."

Bishop Janes is one of several area churches that have pulled

\$100 Off

Roofing Job

structures are expected to be

The other churches - St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Basking Ridge, St. James Roman Catholic Church in Basking Ridge, Millington Baptist Church, Liberty Corner Presbyterian Church and Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church — pooled contributions to purchase the lots with the house at a total cost of \$500,000. Congregants and community members will join together to build the two housing units.

Already Bishop Janes and St. Mark's partnered to provide about \$100,000 for building supplies and furnishings for one of the units. The two churches will continue their fundraising efforts to contribute to the cost of the other units.

Oseland said many people have been calling the church inquiring how they can volunteer for the project. The two finished in early 2007. Pam Ely, executive director of

the local Habitat chapter, said typically anywhere from 700 to 1,000 people volunteer to work on each project. For more information about the organization or to volunteer, call (908) 704-0016 or visit www.rvhabitat.org. For more information about the playhouse, call Bishop Janes United Methodist Church at (908)766-1108 or visit www.bjumc.org. Those interested in bidding may leave or mail a sealed bid to the church before May 20. Additionally, interested bidders may stop by the church's booth at the Charter Day festivities. Bids should be sent to Bishop Janes United Methodist Church, 22 S. Finley Ave., Basking Ridge, NJ, 07920 and should contain name, address, phone number and bid

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Joining hands to help a community

By AMY S. BOBROWSKI

By the end of the year, about 100 families displaced from Hurricane Katrina should have new permanent housing, thanks to the Bayou Habitat for Humanity.

The Bayou chapter of the organization purchased subdivisions in Louisiana, where it expects to build 100 structures this year.

"They purchased the entire subdivision with streets and everything," said Dick Carr, president of the board of the Raritan Valley chapter of

Habitat for Humanity. The Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity, based in Somerville, and area churches have teamed up to sponsor the building of a house and lend a hand in the

building process. Liberty Corner Presbyterian Church, the Raritan Valley Chapter and MindTree Consulting have partnered to sponsor this trip. MindTree with operations largely based in India and an office in Franklin - contributed nearly \$50,000 to the project.

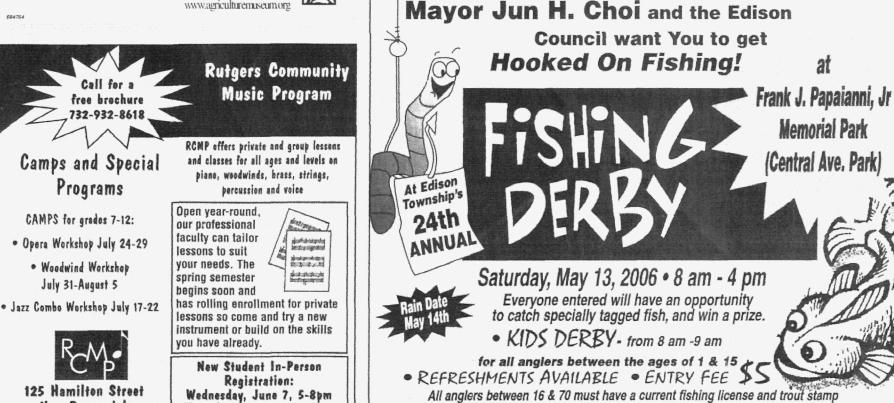
Liberty Corner Church is donating the transportation of tools to the area and transportation from the work site to the airports.

Something

Continued from page A1

Catering combined those two particular themes, as employ-ees handed out leis and rumlaced punch to participants sampling bites of Thai-inspired chicken and shrimp held under

the peanut-sauce fountain. "Everyone is familiar with the chocolate fountain, but the decision to do it this way was to show its versatility and application" said Tim Teeling, pointing out the cheese fountain with bread for the appetizer, the peanut sauce for the entrée, and the chocolate fountain with fruit for dessert. "We went with an island theme because everyone always loves that."







Wednesday, June 7, 5-8pm Thursday, June 8,11am-1pm

Call for a free brochure 732-932-8618

In The Towns

Free screening for skin cancer

PISCATAWAY — The Health Advisory Commission sponsors a free screening for skin cancer from 10 a.m.-noon today at Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes Lane.

Karen Lin from the UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School conducts the screening with her medical residents and medical students. No registration is necessary.

Scouts planning Spring Camporee

EAST BRUNSWICK — The Central New Jersey Council, Boy Scouts of America, will hold a Spring Camporee from through tomorrow at the

Middlesex County Fairgrounds.
The theme is "Be Prepared —
Scouting Salutes Our
Emergency Services."

Scouts will learn disaster relief from the people who provide those services in New Jersey. More than 4,000 scouts are expected to attend.

There will be displays from the Middlesex County Office of Emergency Management, including emergency vehicles and mobile command buses. The State Police will be there with one of their helicopters, as well as Haz-Mat teams and a mobile emergency hospital.

Civil emergency response teams will conduct demonstrations. There will be displays from the Red Cross, which will conduct a blood drive. The Sharing Network will talk about organ donations.

organ donations.
Scouts can earn a number of merit badges, including
Emergency Preparedness, First Aid, Safety, Traffic Safety, Fire Safety, Crime Prevention, Fingerprinting, Public Health and Weather.

The Central New Jersey Council covers most of Middlesex County.

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 being held today at Douglass College, on the-New Brunswick campus of Rutgers University. "Korean-American Heritage" is the

Craftspeople may submit color slides or digital images of their work to be considered for the craft show. While the primary focus of the craft show is on traditional folk crafts, all craftspeople are encouraged to apply. A



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knowledgeable, impartial panel of jurors will review all submissions.

For an application, rules and fees, visit njfolkfest.rutgers.edu or call (732) 932-5775.

Arts center has two readings

Poetswednesday sponsors two readings in May at the Barron Art's Center in Woodbridge.

A special reading at 8 p.m. Sunday, May 7 features authors found in "The Poets of New Jersey: From Colonial to Contemporary." Reading from this volume are Emanuel di Pasquale and Frank Finale, two of its three editors; Jean Hollander, Catherine Doty, Dan Zimmerman, Gloria Rovder Healy, Laura Ziegler Boss and Ben Ciardi.

Sander Zulauf, another editor of "The Poets of New Jersey," is featured in the regular Poetswednesday program at 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 10. An open reading follows this pro-

For more information, call Edie Eustace at (732) 381-7691. The Barron Arts Center is at 582 Rahway Ave., near the intersection with Port Reading Avenue.

Virgin Mary honored this Mother's Day

PISCATAWAY — Our Lady of Fatima Church holds a candle-light procession on Mother's Day to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Meet at 7 p.m. Sunday, May 14 on Van Winkle Place, off New Market Road next to the church building. Candles, rosaries and handkerchiefs will

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be available. After the procession there will be a brief service with a sermon by Rev. Dennis Kaelin and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Those who cannot walk in the procession can recite the rosary in the church.

in the church.
For more information, call (732) 968-7581.

Classes being held at community school

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:

— "Decorative Painting and
Design Craft Projects" with App

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. Register on-line at www.mid-

Register on-line at www.mid-dlesex.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.

Borough celebrating its 325th birthday

BOUND BROOK — The borough is celebrating its 325th anniversary this year.

As the oldest community in Somerset County, it will be a banner year.

Individuals, organizations or groups interested in participating in organizing events or in adding their borough-based activities happening in 2006 to a borough calendar can call Bob or Lynn

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There will be a birthday celebration May 4-7, including a 325th anniversary parade for May 6.

For additional information on the celebration weekend, contact Bill Siebel, 325th parade committee chairman, at bills2531@yahoo.com or call (732) 356-8762.

Updated information will also be posted at boundbrook.com.

Congregation plans lecture for May 7

METUCHEN — Congregation Neve Shalom has announced that the Israel Segal Memorial Lecture will take place at 10 a.m. on May 7 at the temple. located at 250 Grove Avenue. This year's speaker will be Eric Goldman, founder of ERGO Media. Goldman will speak about "Cinema and the American Jewish Experience". He received his Ph.D. in Cinema Studies from N.Y.U. teaches film at the Stern College for Women and Queens College and moderated films for YIVO and Yeshiva University, and also is a film reviewer. He is the author of "Visions, Images and Dreams: Yiddish Film Past and Present.

This annual event is sponsored by the Israel Segal Memorial Fund and the Segal family. The program is free and open to the public. For further information, call (732) 548-2238, Ext. 14, or e-mail can2r11@aol.com.



VSA arts festival

being held in June
EDISON — The VSA arts of
New Jersey Annual Statewide
Partners in the Arts Festival is
being held 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
June 1 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
at Middlesex County College.

Partners in the Arts provides opportunities for children and adults with and without disabilities to engage in an enriching and accessible celebration of the arts. Individuals and groups are invited to participate in a day of performances, exhibits, arts workshops and more.

This event is offered free of charge. The festival is one of the many projects of VSA arts of New Jersey, a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to enriching the lives and promoting the creative power of individuals with disabilities throughout

New Jersey. Cosponsors for this event are the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission and Middlesex County College.

County College.
For additional information, contact Karen Singer at VSA arts of New Jersey, 703 Jersey Ave., New Brunswick, NJ 08901, (732) 745-3885, (732) 745-5935 or (732) 745-3913 (TTY) or info@usanj.org.

Firehouse has 'giant' yard sale

PISCATAWAY — A giant yard sale is planned for 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, June 3 at the North Stelton Volunteer Fire Company, 70 Haines Ave.

Spaces are \$15 each. For reservations, call Margaret at (732) 985-0282, Ext. 6.
Rain date is Saturday June

Rain date is Saturday, June 10.





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Busy season for OPSHBX kicks off on opening night

Saturday, April 29, 2006

Rod Hirsch Executive Editor

The Somerset Patriots opened their 2006 season yesterday and volunteers from Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005 will joined with the defending Atlantic League champions to welcome fans to Commerce Bank Ballpark.

OPSHBX volunteers were at their table on the concourse alongside staff members of The Chronicle to collect donations from fans and hand out information about the program, which is dedicated to sending care packages to U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Patriots are doing their part to encourage fans to support OPSHBX all season long.

Fans who bring a bag of supplies to any home game will be given a voucher good for a free ticket to a future game with the purchase of an additional tick-

OPSHBX volunteers and The Chronicle staff will be on hand every homestand during the season, and will also man the concession stands several times during the season to raise additional funds to help pay for

shipping the boxes overseas. May and June will be busy months for OPSHBX; we'll be joining the Patriots in their annual Parade of Champions in downtown Somerville May 2; we'll be collecting supplies from shoppers at supermarkets most weekends through May; we'll welcome back the Classic downtown Somerville May 26, and throughout the summer; we'll host a packing and shipping



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Somerset Patriots' biggest boosters are Sparkee, at left, and General Admission, shown here holding up an Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005 banner during the April 1 Fan Fest at Commerce Bank Ballpark. The Patriots kicked off their 2006 season last night, and OPSHBX volunteers were on hand to collect donations.

event for the troops at Commerce Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater May 27, and on May 29, we'll join with Middle Earth, sponsors of the Tour of Somerville, to help raise dona-

We'll also benefit from the Champagne Open Tournament at Beaver Brook Country Club June 7, with lots more to come. See the calendar of events on this page for more

More volunteers are needed, so come join us.

Letters from Iraq

Dear Mr. Hirsch and Reporter Newspaper:

I wanted to let you know that I received another large care package with cookies, gum, candy and toiletries.

We continue to sense your prayers and support, and it makes a difference here on the battlefield.

Thank you again for your continued generosity, prayers and support to our deployed soldiers and our loved ones who remain behind.

God Bless.

Chaplain Scott Hammond 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault)

FOB Speicher, Iraq

How are you today? I hope you are doing well. I want to thank you for sending me the newsletter about Operation Shoebox. It brought tears to my eyes knowing that the volunteers of OPSHBX donated their time, money and skills to help support the troops around the world. I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the people who continued to make Operation Shoebox a suc-

I am a Sergeant First Class in the US Army Reserves who is serving a one-year tour at Camp Victory in Baghdad, Iraq. Currently, our mission is to work as liaisons to help support the US

Theater of Operations. My home is located outside of Portland, Ore. where I reside with my wife.

I really appreciate the care package that was sent by Operation Shoebox. I'm donating it to the Combat Stress Unit that is located on our post. They have a great outreach program and will distribute your donation to all service members and civilians less fortunate than me. It's the charitable gift from Operation Shoebox that will brighten up the day for someone in need.

Again, I thank you for the newsletter, donation, and the great support you are giving to our troops around the world.

Sincerely,

SFC Justus P. Mills US Army Reserves

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

UPCOMING OPERATION SHOEBOX NEW JERSEY 2005 EVENTS

April 28: Somerset Patriots' Opening Night, 7:05 p.m., Commerce Bank Ballpark, Bridgewater. OPSHBX volunteers will be on the concourse handing out information and collecting donations during the

April 30: Centerplate 3rd Base Concession Stand, Commerce Bank Ballpark, Bridgewater. OPSHBX volunteers will work behind the counter and earn a percentage from every hot dog, pretzel and soda sold during the Somerset Patriots game.

May 2: Somerset Patriots Parade of Champions, 5:30 p.m. Somerville Boro Hall, 6 p.m. Main Street Parade. OPSHBX volunteers will participate in the parade.

May 5: Lancaster Barnstormers vs. Somerset Patriots, 7:05 p.m., Commerce Bank Ballpark, Bridgewater. OPSHBX volunteers will be on the concourse handing out information and collecting donations during the game.

May 5: Centerplate 3rd Base Concession Stand, Commerce Bank Ballpark, Bridgewater. OPSHBX volunteers will work behind the counter and earn a percentage from every hot dog, pretzel and soda sold during the Somerset Patriots game.

May 6: Soldiers' Shopping Spree, ShopRite, Route 22, Branchburg, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Volunteers will hand out shopping lists and collect donated goods from shoppers as they

May 7: 25th annual Somerset County International Festival. Raritan Valley Community College, Route 28 North Branch. Proceeds from the sale of festival t-shirts will be donated to OPSHBX.

May 7: Soldiers' Shopping Spree, ShopRite, Route 22, Branchburg, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Volunteers will hand out shopping lists and collect donated goods from shoppers as they exit the store.

May 11: Pennsylvania Road

Warriors vs. Somerset Patriots, 7:05 p.m., Commerce Bank Ballpark, Bridgewater. OPSHBX volunteers will be on the concourse handing out information and collecting donations during the game.

May 13: Soldiers' Shopping Spree, ShopRite, Route 28, Bound Brook, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Volunteers will hand out shopping lists and collect donated goods from shoppers as they exit the store.

May 13: Soldiers' Shopping Spree, ShopRite, Route 202, Flemington, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Volunteers will hand out shopping lists and collect donated goods from shoppers as they exit the store.

May 19: Atlantic City Surf vs. Somerset Patriots, 7:05 p.m., Commerce Bank Ballpark, Bridgewater. OPSHBX volunteers will be on the concourse handing out information and collecting donations during the

May 19-20: Branchburg Recreation Department presents "Alice in the Attic," Whiton Road School, Branchburg. Audience members are asked to make a donation to Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005 in lieu of paid admission, and are encouraged to bring a bag of groceries that will be packaged and sent over-

May 20: Soldiers' Shopping Spree, King's, Route 206, Bedminster, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Volunteers will hand out shopping lists and collect donated goods from shoppers as they exit the store.

May 21: Soldiers' Shopping Spree, King's, Route 206, Bedminster, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Volunteers will hand out shopping lists and collect donated goods from shoppers as they

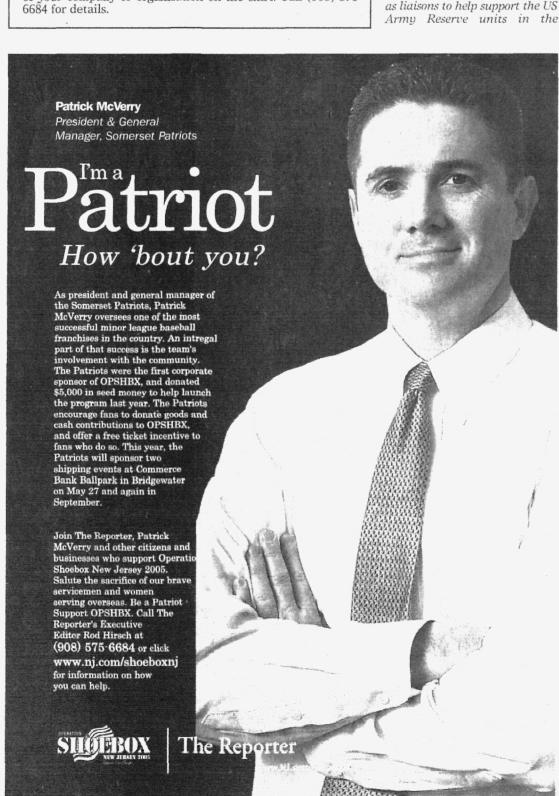
May 25: Camden Riversharks vs. Somerset Patriots, 7:05 p.m., Commerce Bank Ballpark, Bridgewater. OPSHBX volunteers will be on the concourse handing out information and collecting donations.

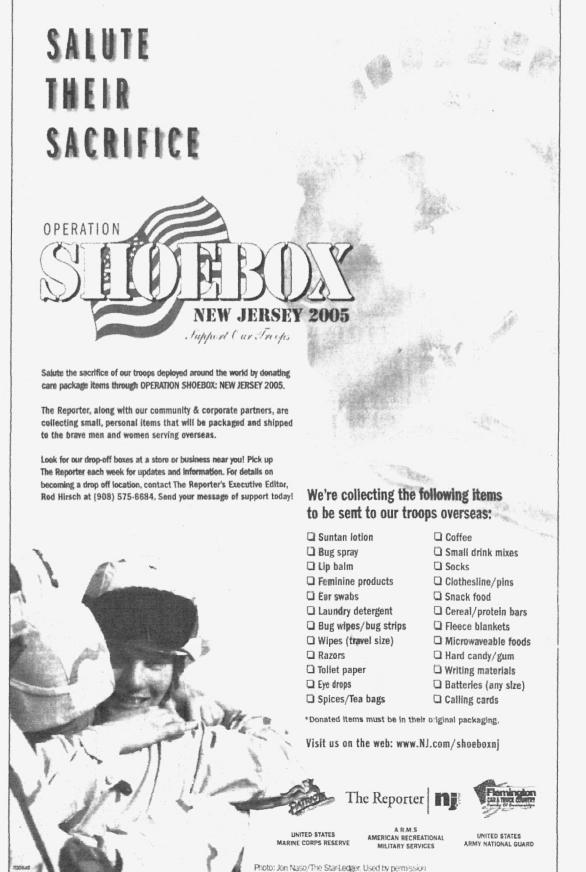
T-shirts on sale to pay shipping costs Quality T-shirts with the handsome Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005 poster and logo are available for a donation of \$10. Several stores on Main Street in Somerville and Main Street in Metuchen are selling the shirts, which feature the distinctive red, white and blue Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005 logo, and a full-color reproduction of the Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005 poster. The shirts are also available at The Chronicle office, 44

Operation Shoebox New Jersey 2005

Veterans Memorial Drive East. All proceeds from sale of the shirts directly benefit OPSHBX. Sizes available are medium, We can also reproduce the shirts in quantity for veterans'

groups, corporations, or other sponsors, and include the name of your company or organization on the shirt. Call (908) 575-6684 for details.





Someone please help my lawn

Expert advice can help save the grass — and sanity

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second of a two-part series focusing on lawn care. Last week was an examination of Commerce Bank Ballpark, which has one of the best-looking lawns in Central Jersey. This week get advice on what to do - and not do - when making that lawn grow.

By CRAIG TURPIN Staff Writer

It's still there in my nightmare.

From afar it is a field of beautiful green — as soft and thick as plush carpet, as vivid as jade. As I walk toward it, though, it changes. Dandelions begin creeping in, crab grass shoots up. My feet hurt as I walk on the grass, now covered with acorns. Tiny fire ants bite at my toes. There is mud everywhere and the sidewall of an old tire can just be seen trying to break the surface.

I wake in a cold sweat. The idea of even having a lawn for me has been an elusive dream. When I finally grew up and bought my first house with my then-soon-to-be wife, we picked an 18th-centufarm's storehouse in

Hunterdon County. Surrounded by green and lush landscaping, of course? No. Try brown, weed-choked with an encroaching forest that had dropped acorns — now sprouting — on our roof. I make no claim to having a green thumb. I love nature, but I don't grow it. I leave that to my wife, a trained horticulturist.

Our backyard was little more than a foot path followed by a severe 20-foot drop off into the woods, with another drop off to a stream. It may sound romantic; trust me, it's not.

It was the lawn from hell dust from the untilled farm fields choked us in the spring while the woods provided a safe haven for all kinds of animals and insects to come visiting on hot summer nights. I



had grown up in the country and next to farms - but never this close to the country. I desperately wanted a lawn to give us a small breather from nature overload.

I wish I had known Ray Cipperly then. The award-winning head groundskeeper for the Somerset Patriots, Cipperly's neighbors often seek him out for advice on how Patriots, to handle their unruly lawns. For two years running, Cipperly and his crew at the Patriots' Commerce Bank Ballpark have been honored as Groundskeeper of the Year by the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball.

The "Jewel of the Atlantic League" has drawn the attention of the Major Leagues, too. Last year, Cipperly turned down an opportunity to take on the head groundskeeper job with the New York Mets.

Much of what Cipperly has learned has come through years of practice and study. I admit to making my own mistakes along the way as we transformed our woodland into a green oasis.

Living in a home that is almost as old as the nation itself provides its own amusement. You don't just go pulling down walls or renting a Bobcat to level off the land.

Using photographs showing what our home and its environs looked like in the early 1900s as a reference, we graded off the back to create a gentle slope. We also dozed trees to give us a little more room for

our lawn. In the process we also uncovered what turned out to be a Colonial-era garbage dump. It brought our work to a screeching halt, and for the next nine months what would have been our side-yard became a full-scale archeological site. A few thousand shards of pottery, a few hundred fragments of glass bottles and nearly half-a-ton of fresh-water clam shells later, and finally we could get the lawn we had dreamed of.

The first lawn looked great as the back began sloughing off.

Cipperly explains, adding the best way to handle them is to landscape rather than plant a lawn.

If I had only known that then

preparing for the arrival of our second. Our little home - a three-story, four-room 650square-foot box - was straining to contain two cats, a dog, a half-dozen fish and me, my wife and son. There was no way we could stay once our second

it came in, but soon the side yards turned into creeks and "Slopes are tough to irri-

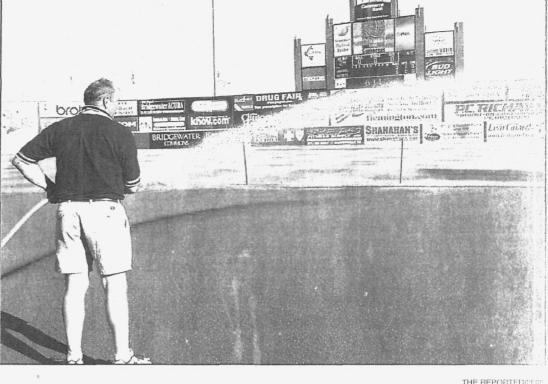
Our answer was bales of hay, catch fencing, determination and enough seed to blanket Yankee Stadium. It became a battle of wills between gravity and the elements; we fought for that lawn — our ammunition was handfuls of grass seed and buckets of hay to cover the almost-daily pockets of brown

dirt that popped up.

During all this time we celebrated the birth of our first child and, before we knew it, child was born.

We made the decision one late fall day, standing in the backyard of our historicallyprotected (and thus unexpandable) home, admiring the little sprouts that was our just-germinated lawn. After six years of work to restore and renovate our home, three years of waiting for a real lawn, and six months of tender care, we were throwing it all away and

To Place Your Ad Call: Claire 908-894-1082



Ray Cipperly, head groundskeeper for the Somerset Patriots, waters the clay before a game at Bridgewater's Commerce Bank Ballpark. Cipperly has been honored as Groundskeeper of the Year by the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball, and the field has twice been named as the best field in the league. Known as the "Jewel of the Atlantic League," the field looks the way it does thanks to hours of care by Cipperly and his grounds crew. The work doesn't just take place during the warm months either Cipperly can be seen below working on the field early this year.

moving to Pennsylvania.

We bought a home that was still under construction, and moved in on the coldest day of the year in January 2004. Winter snow melted to reveal a beautiful expanse of thick, brown mud. Yes, once again my dreams of having a lawn were crushed. By now I was beginning to fantasize - yes, fantasize — about hopping on a trac-tor and mowing a lawn. What many regarded as a thankless chore, I envied. I even volunteered to mow my neighbors' lawns. I was like an addict surrounded by users, straining to keep myself under control.

Spring seemed to take forever to arrive, but soon word

came from the developer that our lawn was on its way. Well, builders are great at making houses, but they stink when it comes to lawns. My wife and I, joined by our son, spent hours picking through the dirt to remove bits of construction debris. With thoughts of "Haven't I been here before?" I pulled nails, soda cans, bits of siding, a 2-by 4-foot piece of plywood, shingles and, yes, a tire, from our "lawn."

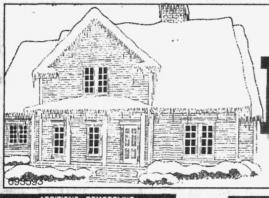
Seeding day was met first by anticipation, and then by frustration. Forget topsoil and grading, our builder arrived with a couple of guys, some basic seed mix loaded in the back of a pick-up truck, some

fertilizer, and went to town. They didn't even get to take a step over our property line.

We told them no thanks -- in a nice way; they told us good luck, and we were on our own. Cipperly says it was a good

When he bought his current home, the first thing he did was to kill the lawn. He corrected the soil's balancel by adding lime and planted a blend of grass mixed for grow ing in the Northeast. The misincluded bluegrass, rye and tall fescue.

"Spend the money on the seed," Cipperly explains Cheap seed often contains weeds, he said.



The Reporter

Somerset Messenger-Gazette • The Chronicle

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George Cerebe

MIDDLESEX - George P. and husband Heath of Toms Cerebe, 63, died April 18, 2006 at his home in Harrisburg, Pa.

Born in Neptune, he lived in Middlesex before moving to Harrisburg in 1997.

Mr. Cerebe retired in 1991 as a field office supervisor with the Middlesex County Board of Social Services in Perth Amboy. He was a former member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Dunellen.

As a Special Forces soldier with the Army in the Vietnam War he was awarded a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart.

A daughter, Eileen, died in

Surviving are his wife, Middlesex; his parents, Bernard and Bernice of Monroe Township; two Hospital, 501 St. Jud daughters, Christine Cargill Memphis, TN 38105.

River and Elizabeth of Middlesex; a brother, Gerard Paul of Virginia; five sisters, Monica of Manalapan, Kathleen of Florida, Bernadette Harvey of Pennsylvania, Joan Marcuzzi of Middlesex and Mary Noble of Monroe Township; two grandchildren; many nieces and nephews; and a close friend, Joe Gilpatrick.

A funeral Mass was held Saturday at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Roman Catholic Church. Burial was in Resurrection Burial Park, Piscataway.

Arrangements were by the Middlesex Funeral Home. In Kathleen Feeney Cerebe of lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place,

Richard Carmen

BOUND BROOK — A Chamberlain Fune memorial service to cele- 225 Mountain Ave. brate the life of Richard Calvin Carmen will be held from 3-5 p.m. Sunday, April attend. Mr. Carmen died the

Chamberlain Funeral Home,

His children would welcome all who would like to Hagan- Dec. 28, 2005 at age 79.



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Roman J. Slusis

MIDDLESEX - Roman J. Slusis (Slusarz), 81, died April 20, 2006 at Somerset Medical Center Somerville.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., he lived in Arbor before moving to Middlesex in 1960.

Mr. Slusis began his career as a sheet metal worker with Furnace Thatcher Garwood, then worked 15 years with Coffee-Mat in Kenilworth and 10 years with Rowe International Whippany. Most recently he worked part-time at Devine's Pharmacy in Dunellen.

He was an Army veteran of World War II.

Surviving are his wife of 58 years, Florence Krzykwa Slusarz; a son, Richard Slusarz of San Mateo, Calif.; a daughter, Maureen Slusarz of Burlingame, Calif.; two grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass was held Monday at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Roman Catholic Church. Committal was private.

Arrangements were by the Middlesex Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to St. Jude Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church.

Gloria A. Neal

SOUTH PLAINFIELD -Gloria A. Ashton Neal, 79, died April 22, 2006 at the Haven Hospice of Muhlenberg Regional Center Medical Plainfield.

She was born in Plainfield and had lived in South Plainfield since 1950.

Mrs. Neal retired after 23 years as a billing clerk at Muhlenberg

Her husband, Richard M., Cemetery, Colonia.

died in 1980. A daughter, Catherine Warner Neal, died in 1983.

Surviving are a daughter, Mary E. of South Plainfield; a son, Gary and wife Gita of South Plainfield; a sister, Jeanne Gavazzi Bridgewater; and 10 nieces and nephews.

Services were Wednesday at the McCriskin Home for Funerals. Burial was in St. Gertrude

Regional Medical Center.

A Gold Mine in Bedroom Drawers Newswire: People are selling their old scrap gold that is gathering dust for its cash value because gold prices

are so high. With the price of gold at a 25 year high (over \$575.00 per ounce), it makes sense. GoldKit.com, a gold recycler, offers free insured recycle kits so people may cash in their scrap with 24 hour service and guarantee satisfaction. They accept

broken and outdated items like chains, charms, rings and more. "Everyone has bits of gold just lying around which can be turned into cash" says Richard Zakroff, VP of marketing. "Even old dental gold has value." GoldKit.com processes over 10,000 recycle Kits per month. People can get a free GoldKit at 1-800-283-4700 or GoldKit.com.

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REFERRAL

Panthers set sights on another crown

By DAVE ALLENA Staff Writer

BERNARDS — Pushed to the limit a year ago when it pulled out a two-point victory, don't expect Bridgewater-Raritan High's bid for a fifth straight Somerset County Tournament crown to be any easier this time around.

With much-improved Montgomery having given the Panthers all they could handle in a 3-2 match a week ago and both Hillsborough and host Pingry possessing considerable talent, this year's tournament figures to be a battle to the end when the finals are held at noon tomorrow in Bernards Township.

Boasting three positions that have lost just once each while playing an imposing early-season schedule, Bridgewater-Raritan figured to be the team to beat once again when the action began Thursday, although none of the Panthers should begin play until today's quarterfinals.

A year ago B-R survived for a 9-8 victory over Pingry, while Hillsborough was a point back. With four of the seven finalists returning, including No. 2 doubles champions Aneesh Devi and Josh Lee, the Panthers certainly have the guns to win again.
"I think we have a good shot at winning," said B-R Head Coach

Curt Weaver. "We're strong at both doubles and strong at third singles. It should be a lot of fun, and it should be pretty competi-

"Montgomery has been playing very good tennis. They gave us an excellent match, which could have gone either way. They probably

SOMERSET COUNTY TENNIS TOURNAMENT

have the best one-two players in the county. Pingry is another great team, and Hillsborough and Watchung Hills both have some good

"The guys look forward to the county tournament. We want to duplicate what we did last year and build on it. That means we want to win our conference matches leading up to the counties, and then we want to win the county tournament again.'

The Panthers will have Chris Wu, the runnerup at second singles in 2005, in the first position this year while Scott Van Dorn, who teamed with Adam Miller to win at first doubles a year ago, is playing second singles and once-beaten freshman Eric Hsu is at No. 3. Both doubles squads — Devi-Lee and Rob Cooperman-Anup Dhujle — may have received top seeds along with Hsu at last

night's seeding meeting. "It's a team format, so we're looking for consistency in each spot," Weaver said. "Our guys have been playing better each week. Our match against Millburn (Saturday's 3-2 loss), the Number One team in the state, shows we can compete with anyone.

"The key is taking it one match at a time. You have to try and go deep into the tournament in each area. You don't want to lose early. I think this is a situation where if we didn't win, the team would be disappointed."

Watchung Hills, fourth last year, has third singles finalist Dan Alhanti back in the same position, while No. 1 singles semifinalist Jacob Wolski returns as well. Thomas Wolski, who reached the emifinals at first doubles with Jared Fand, is at second doubles. Manning the doubles spots for the Warriors are Alex Alvarez-

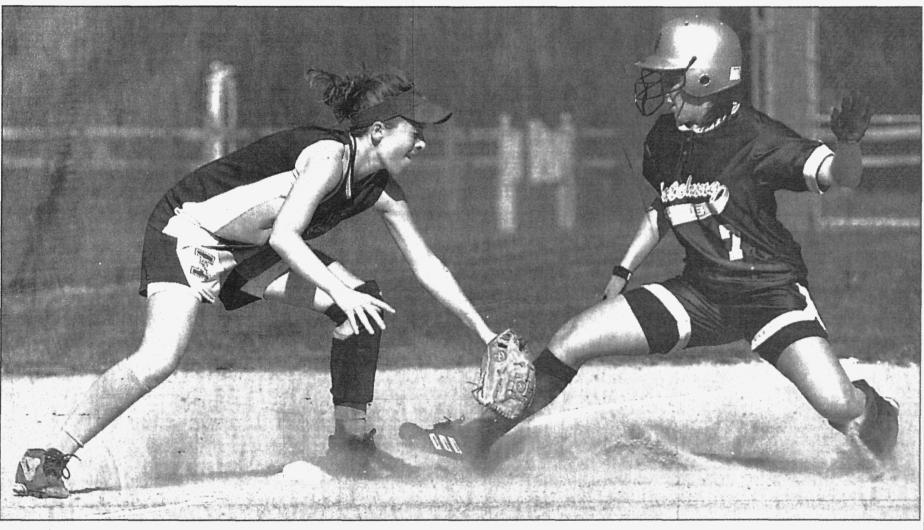
Dan Hartenstein in the first slot and Fand-Ian Schneiderman. Bernards will likely have freshman John Roser, senior Justin Suriano and sophomore Stephen Hill playing singles.

Last year Hill reached the No. 3 quarterfinals before bowing to Alhanti of Watchung Hills. Alex Oster, who played in the quarters at second doubles a year ago, teams with Shawn Cotton at first doubles this spring.

"We're good and we're getting better, but I don't know if we're good enough yet to stay with the top teams," said BHS Head Coach Courter Smith. "We have a couple of guys like Roser and Suriano, and maybe even Hill, that can hang with players on certain days, but I don't think we're there yet as far as winning a

Ridge's George Laffey, who missed last year's tournament, figures to earn the top seed while Montgomery's Jeremy Eckhardt, Hillsborough's John Wu and Jacob Wolski could also be in the mix for a run at the No. 1 singles title.

At second singles Montgomery's Matt Pierson, Hillsborough's Mark Apostolos, who was a first doubles finalist last season, along with Thomas Wolski and Suriano could all be in the running to



Watchung Hills High's Michelle Huff gets to third base ahead of the tag by Immaculata shortstop Caitlin Bay during the April 18 contest at Bridgewater's North Branch Park, won by Watchung Hills 4-1. Immaculata, the No. 4 seed in the Somerset County Tournament, has since defeated Piscataway 8-0 and Franklin 11-1 and fell 1-0 in Tuesday's game with Montgomery

Spartans' Foley is king of Bunker H

Kevin Foley won his second tournament of the spring Monday, firing a four-under-par 33-35—68 to take honors in the Bunker Hill/Viking Invitational at Bunker Hill Golf Course in Franklin Township.

Foley, hindered by an eye injury a week earlier when he lost a sudden-death playoff in Somerset County Tournament, displayed a much better short game Monday, sinking eight birdies among his 31 putts, the longest going 10 feet.

He had four bogies. Teammate Andrew Tursky, who was four-under after 13 holes, tied for fourth at 35-37-72, Kevin Kucharski had an 84 and Jeff Szabo 89 as Immaculata finished third in the team standings with 313.

Immaculata High senior The Princeton 'A' squad won with 301, 11 strokes ahead of Princeton B.

Immaculata 203, Hunterdon Central 206 - Foley's oneunder 35 and Tursky's 40 led the Spartans (4-2) during the April 21 triumph over Central (3-5) at Royce Brook GC Hillsborough. Kucharski and Szabo had 42s for the Spartans and Ian Jackson 44.

SOFTBALL

Three seventh-inning errors resulted in the game's lone run Tuesday when Montgomery edged the Spartans at Bridgewater's North Branch

Stephanie Clemente, who did the pitching for Immaculata (6-3), committed a throwing error after fielding a grounder, allowing a Cougar runner to score

IMMACULATA ROUNDUP

from third following two earlier infield miscues. Clemente gave up six hits and a walk while striking out five against MHS

Winning pitcher Dougherty yielded one hit -Jen Lapicki's leadoff double to deep left field in the opening inning - and one walk while

Immaculata 11, Franklin 1 — Maria Sullivan drove in three runs with a single and a pair of doubles and Spartans' pitcher Kat Cannell yielded just two hits April 20 at winless Franklin.

Immaculata 8, Piscataway 0 --

Caitlin Piazzolla gave up four hits and no walks while fanning nine batters during the Spartans' home victory April 19 against winless Piscataway, which lost for the eighth time. Caitlin Bay had two hits and two RBI, Piazzolla had two hits and an RBI and Jenny Beer doubled.

BOYS LACROSSE

After opening up a threepoint lead in the third period Monday, Montgomery went on to halt the Spartans' six-game winning streak with an 8-5 verdict. Brian Shemesh and Matt Janssen had two goals each for Immaculata (7-2) and Alex Glowatz had the other one. MHS improved to 3-4.

Immaculata 17, Roxbury 10 ---Brian Shemesh's five goals April 20 helped the host Spartans, who led 10-2 at halftime, topple Roxbury. Connor Nolan, Joe Zagari and Glowatz had two goals each.

BASEBALL

Jack Rice's grand-slam homer highlighted the unbeaten Spartans' six-run third inning, when their lead reached 10-0, and Frank Florio belted a tworun shot April 20 during a 15-5 victory over Franklin at Flemington's HealthQuest Field.

GIRLS LACROSSE

Ashley Zelinsky's rebound off her own shot with 1:33 left in the second overtime lifted Hunterdon Central to a 10-9 victory over the Spartans in Flemington April 20. Samantha Scioscia had three goals and an assist for Immaculata (0-6) and Kerri Muniz had two goals.

Pioneers fall short in eight

SOMERVILLE ROUNDUP

Delaware Valley High's baseball team scored three times in the sixth inning to tie the game and then added four more runs in the eighth to top Somerville 7-3 Tuesday at Branchburg's White Oak Park.

Pat Bray had three of the seven hits for Somerville (8-3) and drove in two runs while losing pitching Mike Kaminski, who entered the Skyland Conference-Raritan Division game in relief of starter Tim Nevolo in the sixth, added two hits.

The Pioneers scored in each of the first three innings before DelVal (5-5) rallied and eventually prevailed with four hits, one walk and an error in the eighth. SHS also hurt itself by committing four errors.

SHS 15, Belvidere 5 Avenging an early-season loss, the Pioneers walloped Belvidere (3-6) in Warren County April 20. Brian Davis had three hits, an RBI and scored twice, Nevolo had two hits, including a triple, and three RBI and Bray and Matt DeMarco had two RBI apiece. Kyle Lefkus (3-0), who allowed four hits, was the winning

BOYS TRACK

Anthony Appezzato was an overall triple winner Monday while helping the unbeaten Pioneers sweep a double-dual from Warren Hills 107-33 and winless Hackettstown 129-11. SHS has won six in a row.

Appezzato took the long jump at 19-5, triple jump (40-9) and discus (132-0) against both opponents. Mason Robinson was first in the 100 (11.0) and 200 (22.7) against both rivals and Steve DeFazio won the 1600 (4:47) and 3200

GIRLS TRACK

Kelsey Coffin captured the 100 high hurdles in 18.5 and the 400 intermediates in 1:12 Monday, leading SHS past Hackettstown 10-6-34 and Warren Hills 86-54 in a doubledual as the Pioneers evened their record at 3-3.

Also winning against both foes were Brittany Mackey (400, 1:02.6), Alexis Truchan (800, 2:40), Ashley Jones (long jump, 14-6.5) and Espree Vandervoort (shot put, 32-5).

SOFTBALL

Lauren Markakis's RBI single staked the Pioneers to a fourth-inning lead April 20 before visiting Belvidere bounced back for an 8-1 victo-

The County Seaters (9-1) scored three in the sixth on Ashley Plumaker's bases-filled double and added their final five runs in the next inning. Winning pitcher Megan Roncoroni gave up three hits and a walk while fanning six and Lindsay Lehman pitched for the Pioneers (3-5).

BOYS LACROSSE

Fourth-period goals by Brian Nobbs, Tim Roberts and Jesse Peterson finally put the Pioneers on the scoreboard Monday during their 14-3 loss at Watchung Hills. The Warriors (5-3) built an 8-0 halftime advantage over SHS (1-7).

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Dragon, Fenton set pace for Panther girls

Facing one of the state's top-rated lacrosse squads Tuesday, the Bridgewater-Raritan High girls got six goals each from Alyssa Dragon and Megan Fenton on their way to a 20-10 triumph over Ramapo.

Fenton, who also totaled six assists for the Panthers (7-3), scored four times in the opening half as B-R built an 11-8 margin over the visitors (8-2) from Bergen County.

Ali Gabinelli had four goals and four assists for the winners, Kelly Golej had three goals, Kendall Deck one and Dragon also handed out five assists. The Panthers, who took 36 shots on goal, got nine saves from first-half goalie Kelly Butler and three from Kristen DeTroia, who played after the intermission.

B-R 12, Hunterdon Central 8 -Dragon scored five goals, Golej had four and Fenton one along with three assists Saturday during the Panthers' victory over Central (3-4) in Flemington. Krista Fieselmann and Kate Miller also scored for the Panthers and Butler made 12

Lindsay Durant led off the sixth inning with a home run over the center

BRIDGEWATER-RARITAN ROUNDUP

field fence Tuesday, providing B-R with a 1-0 victory at Hillsborough.

Durant, who had two strikes on her when she ripped her third homer of the year, also had a single while Taryn Schnell had the only other hit for B-R (5-5). Winning pitcher Lauren Fitzsimmons permitted four hits and three walks while striking out six.

A superb defensive sequence by the Panthers in the fifth prevented the Raiders (6-4) from getting on the scoreboard. With a Raider on second, centerfielder Schnell retrieved a shot to the fence and fired the ball to second baseman Maria Caro, whose relay throw to catcher Sam DeSimone nailed the runner at the plate.

B-R 10, Watchung Hills 3 — Durant homered and Fitzsimmons tossed a three-hitter, helping the Panthers win at WHHS (5-4) April 20. Schnell had a double and Jill Dorell tripled for the win-

BASEBALL

All was quiet Tuesday until the sixth inning, when Tim Fedroff walloped a leadoff home run to ignite an eight-run explosion and visiting Hillsborough went on to post a 9-0 triumph over the Panthers. B-R's Dave Ragazzo (2-2), who took a

shutout into the sixth, was relieved by Nick Loughlin after giving up three runs (two earned). Winning pitcher Corey Swickle went the distance, allowing four hits (two by Ryan Sapp) and four walks. The Panthers' record dipped

B-R 9, North Brunswick 1 — Tom Talty went 2 for 3, including a three-run homer in the fifth when B-R went ahead 5-1, and sophomore Cory Frankosky pitched a complete-game six-hitter April 21 at North Brunswick (5-6). Greg DeSantis doubled for one of the Panthers' nine hits.

BOYS LACROSSE

With Nick Federici scoring every goal but one, the Panthers built an 8-5 lead over winless North Hunterdon midway through the third period and held on for the victory by the same score in Annandale April 21.

Federici, whose seven goals are a

career-high, had four goals and Steve Golmont, assisted by Kyle McGrady, the other as B-R (4-4) secured a 5-2 firstperiod lead. Federici added two secondquarter shots as the Panthers' advantage went to 7-4 at halftime and, after the Lions pulled within 7-5, Federici (Dan Flecca assist) fired in the game's final goal with 5:50 remaining in the third stanza.

The Panthers toppled South Jersey power Cumberland 4-1 before falling to Millburn 3-2 in the second round Saturday during the Bryan Bennett Memorial Tournament.

Scott Van Dorn (6-2, 7-5) and Eric Hsu (0,0) won at second and third singles against Cumberland and Josh Lee-Aneesh Devi and Rob Cooperman-Anup Dhujle whitewashed their doubles foes. Cumberland's top player, Don Rogers, defeated Chris Wu 4-6, 6-4, 6-1.

But in the next round at Copper Springs Racquet Club, powerful Millburn swept the singles in straight sets to eliminate the Panthers. Millburn went on to shut out Westfield and Moorestown Sunday to take the championship.

In The Towns

Seeking groups for Edison parade

EDISON - The Edison Township Parade Committee holds its Memorial Day parade on Sunday, May 28 in the

Stelton section of the township. Any organization or group interested in marching in the parade should call Evelyn Kraszewski at (732) 548-4648.

Consignment sale benefits Katrina relief MIDDLESEX — All proceeds

from a Kids Consignment Sale benefit Hurricane Katrina relief. The sale is from 8 a.m. to noon today at the Middlesex

Presbyterian Church, 1190 Mountain Ave. Children's clothes, toys, furniture and maternity goods are for sale, all new or gently used.

Donations are welcome; email Alarsen65@aol.com or call (732) 424-7370.

'Celestial Spring' for chamber chorale

PISCATAWAY - The Cantabile Chamber Chorale presents its "Celestial Spring" concert at 7 p.m. today at Christ United Methodist Church, 485 Hoes Lane,

Scheduled are a world premiere by Emma Lou Diemer

and new music from Bruce Lazarus, A 250th anniversary tribute to Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is also planned.

Admission is \$15 for adults, \$12 for students and seniors. A \$3 surcharge applies for tickets purchased at the door.

reservation. For more information, visit www.cantabilechamberchorale.org or call (732) 560-

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'Celebrate Mom' before her big day

PISCATAWAY — East Jersey Olde Towne Village wants you

to "Celebrate Mom!" tomorrow. Children can decorate a flowerpot at 1 p.m. They can also plant a seed in the pot so it can

grow before their eyes. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Feather Schwartz Foster talks about "Mothers in the White House" at 2 p.m. She is a historian and the author of "Ladies: A Conjecture of Personalities," a novel whose subjects are presidents' wives.

Both segments are free. Registration is required; call (732) 745-3030.

East Jersey Olde Towne is in the north end of Johnson Park, off River Road at the stop light with Hoes Lane West.

Rutgers alumni symphony concert

The Rutgers University Alumni Wind Symphony holds its spring concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 13 at the Nicholas Music Center, New Brunswick.

The symphony is a non-profit ensemble under the direction of Nicholas Santoro and Nanette O'Neal, both of whom are Rutgers alumni.

Musicians include Rutgers alumni and those who have not attended the university.

Admission is free. For more information, call William Mele at

(732) 951-1993. Nicholas Music Center is at 85 George St., near Route 18.

Lions schedule their flea market

METUCHEN — The Metuchen Lions Club holds its 33rd semiannual flea market from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 10 in the New Street parking lot.

Spaces are \$18 each and measure 18 x 20 feet. Vendors are wanted; call (732) 906-8899 or (732) 549-2581. Rain date is Saturday, June 17.

Legal Notices

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Effective October 15, 2004. Pursuant to P. j. 2005, C. 51 (bornerly known as Executive Order 134) apparent low-bidder must provide a completed, signed Contractor Certification, and Disclosure of Potitical Contribution Forms within seven (7) state dusiness days from the pro-iect bid date.

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after receipt of the Notice of Award.

Pursuant to the "Public Works Contractor Registration Act", NJ.S.A. 34:11-56.48 et seq. (PL.2003, c. 91), bidders must register with the New Jersey Department of Labor, Division of Wage and Hour Compliance.

The Department, in accordance with Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252 U.S.C. 49 C.FR. Parts 21 and 23 sisued pursuant to such Act, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 will afford minority business enterprises full opportunity to submit bids in response to the grounds of race, color, sex, national origin, or hendicap in the contract award.

23 issued pursuant to such Act, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 will afford minority business enterprises full opportunity to submit bids in response to the grounds of race, color, sex, national origin, or hendicap in the contract award.

Drawings and specifications for the proposed work are available at Bid Express website www.bidx.com. You must subscribe to use this service. To subscribe follow the instructions on the web site. The fee is \$35.00 per month for unlimited access to view and download the plans, directly payable to Bid Express. Drawings, special provisions, and bid documents may be instructions on the web site. The fee is \$35.00 per month for unlimited access to view and download the plans, directly payable to Bid Express. Drawings, special provisions, and bid documents and additional \$95.00 per month for unlimited access to view and download the documents and additional \$95.00 per month for unlimited access to view and download the documents and additional \$95.00 per month for unlimited access to view and download the plans, directly payable to Bid Express. Drawings, special provisions, and bid documents may be instructions on the web site. The fee is \$35.00 per month for unlimited access to view and download the documents and additional \$95.00 per month for unlimited access to view and download the documents and additional \$95.00 per month for unlimited access to view and d

Certification and Disclosure of Political Contribution
Egins within seven (7) state business days from the project bid date.

Pursuant to NJSA 52:32-44, Business Registration, proof of valid business registration shall be submitted by a bidder with its bid proposal at the time of bid for 10% of the following proposal at the time of the following proposal at the following proposal

New Jersey Department of Transportation Division of Procurement Bureau of Construction Services 1035 Parkway Avenue PO Box 605

Bureau of Construction Services
103 Parkway Avenue
PO Box 665
Trenton, NJ 08625
Tren

Clerk of the Superior Court of New Jersey B68 1T 4/29/06

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MIDDLESEX COUNTY
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TAKE NOTICE, that the undersigned shall expose for sale, in accordance with R.S. 39:10A-1, at public auction on: May 10 2006 © 10:00am at 24 VineYard Road Edison NJ 08817, the below described motor vehicles which came into possession of the Metuchen Police Dept through abandonment or failure of owners to claim same. The motor vehicles may be examined at 24 Vine Yard Road Edison NJ

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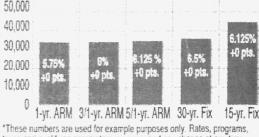
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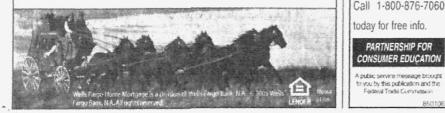
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