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Chronicle

Since 1862

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Saturday, July 1, 2006

50 cents

INDEX



Teeing off for a payoff

Marisa Baena, last year's surprise winner, is ready to take a shot at capturing top honors again during the second annual HSBC Women's World Match Play Championship July 6-9 at Hamilton Farm Golf Club in Bedminster. A \$500,000 check goes to the champion, making this the second-richest event on the LPGA Tour. **Page A7.**



Driving to recovery

Alex Gechlik of East Brunswick guides a horse and carriage during the *Sharing Village* Group's Driving for Surviving program as Janice Marano, a program volunteer, rides along. The Bedminster-based organization uses carriage driving to help cancer patients recover following treatment.

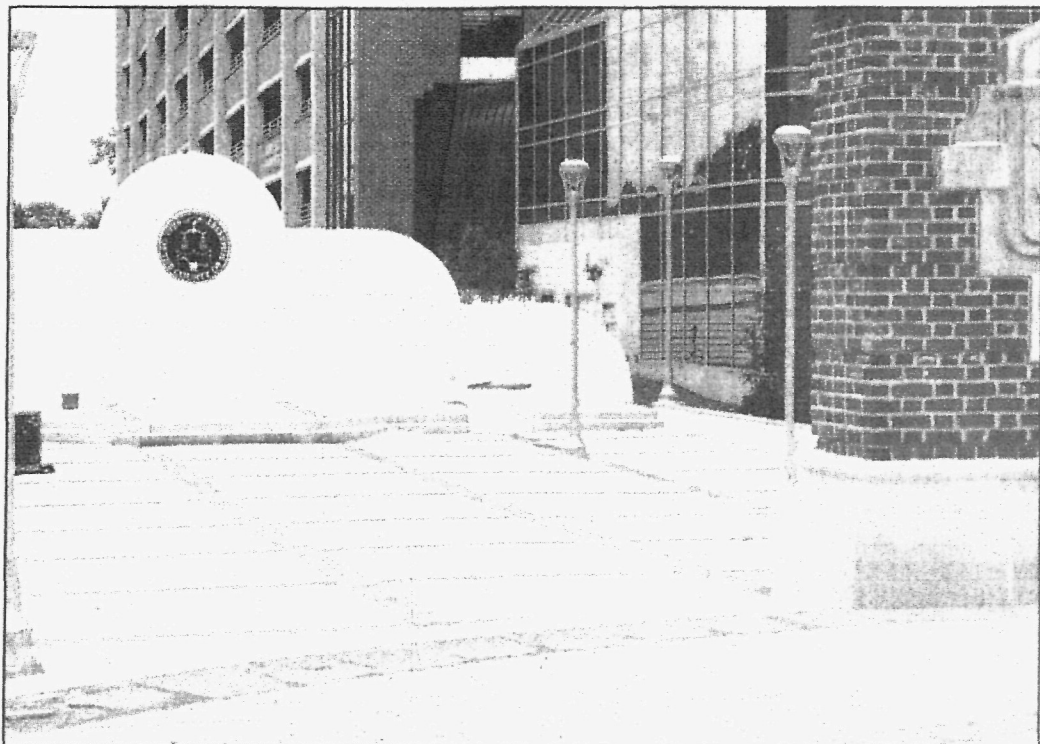
Hospital gets federal grant

U.S. Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr., D-NJ, announced that the U.S. House of Representatives approved a Fiscal Year 2007 Defense Appropriations bill that included \$2 million be secured for the Anti-Terror Medical Technology Program at the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick. The Anti-Terror Medical Technology Pilot Program will be a collaboration between the hospital and the U.S. Army Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center at Ft. Detrick, Maryland. The center has been working to develop needed medical technologies for Afghanistan, Iraq, other forward-deployed areas and scenarios for weapons of mass destruction. The two will work together in order to develop needed technologies for various weapons of mass destruction and terrorism incidents. Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital is a state-designated Level I trauma center and is thereby able to respond to disaster situations and other related mass casualty incidents. Pallone requested the funds for the project earlier this year.

INSIDE

Commentary.....	A4
Community Life.....	A6
Sports	A7
Weekend Plus	A3

'Thank you for serving'



Vets' plaza now today

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Somerset County Veterans Memorial Plaza was dedicated in a ceremony that was scheduled to be held Thursday in Somerville. Joe Badiak was expected to attending the ceremony.

By JIM WHITE
Staff Writer

It looked as if Joe Badiak would be awarded his second Purple Heart posthumously, that is, until they realized all of the blood wasn't his. It was his sergeant's, who had been killed earlier, and Badiak, in a scramble not to be overrun by Vietnamese regulars, grabbed the dead man's blood-covered M-16 and began firing, all the while the dark red gore running down over him.

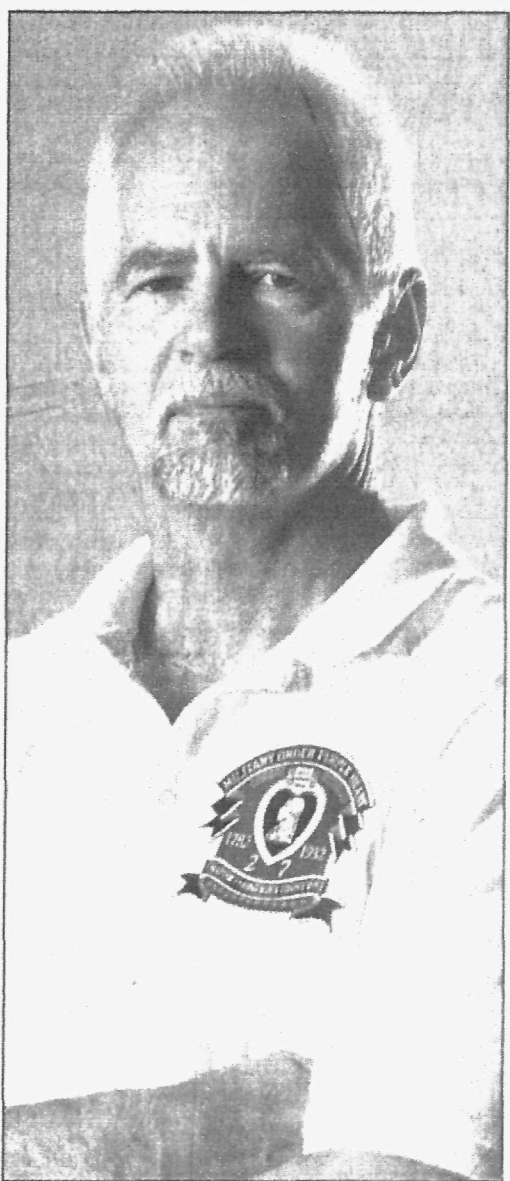
The called-in air strike that followed only furthered the unintended illusion that Badiak had stumbled upon death's door in the jungles of Southeast Asia.

"The chaplain came out and gave me my last rites," he recalled.

Badiak, 59, of Bridgewater, was one of many veterans expected to attend Thursday's dedication of the Veterans Memorial Plaza in Somerville. The 200-foot-long plaza, located next to the Somerset County Administration Building on Grove Street, is intended to be a place where veterans, families and friends can reflect on loved ones who have or are serving. Some of the plaza's features include flags for all the branches of the military as well as a Purple Heart monument that the Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 27 was instrumental in getting erected at the site. The dedication takes place at noon and is open to the public.

Badiak, a member of Chapter 27, last week talked about the plaza, his experiences in and after the Vietnam War, and war in gen-

Continued on page A2



PHOTOS BY GEORGE PACCIOLLO STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Veterans Memorial Plaza in Somerville, top, nears completion earlier this week before today's dedication, which takes place at noon. Joe Badiak of Bridgewater, above, will be on hand for the ceremony. The Vietnam War veteran was awarded three Purple Hearts for his service.

Case is made for flood control work

By AMY S. BOBROWSKI
Staff Writer

BOUND BROOK — On a day where heavy dark clouds and on-and-off rain showers posed a threat of flooding after a soggy weekend, a federal official that can push for funding for Green Brook Flood control project got a firsthand look of the area.

Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works John Paul Woodley toured Bound Brook on Monday observing features of the project already complete and looking at places where flood damage devastated the community.

At the invitation of Rep. Mike Ferguson, R-7, Woodley took a car tour through the borough stopping on Main Street, the Brook Theatre and the train station before ending at the year-old pumping station at Ballian Legion Park.

During the tour, Woodley viewed flood maps created after 1999's Tropical Storm Floyd.

"We matched up photos with landmarks to see the damage

that would have been there," Woodley said. "The water would have been well over your head. It's a pretty dramatic thing to live through — devastating. But it underscores the importance of continuing work here."

The project, which broke ground in 2001, was originally expected to cost \$300 million and be complete within 12 years. Estimates from 2002, have pushed that figure to almost \$430 million and officials were hesitant to give a timeline given the annual struggle for funding.

For the past two years, the President has left the Green Brook Flood Control Project out of his federal budget recommendations, but luckily with the fighting of Ferguson and Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-11), \$5 million was reinstated last year for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to move forward on work.

Last month, the House of

Continued on page A2

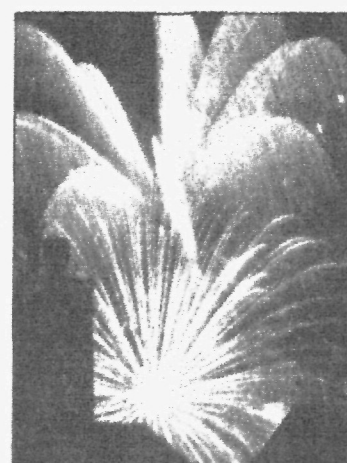
Celebrate 4th with a bang

Families from across Somerset County will celebrate the Fourth of July at Somerset County's 36th annual Independence Day Family Festival.

The free event begins at 5 p.m. Tuesday in North Branch Park on Milltown Road off Route 202 in Bridgewater.

Special attractions will be added to the schedule to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Somerset County Park Commission. The events of the day will include a variety of performers, historical re-enactments, children's games and activities, plenty of food, and a sensational display of fireworks that will be bigger and better than ever. Stage performances will provide a range of American music styles for the enjoyment of children and adults alike.

The Demensions will kick off the Independence Day entertainment with oldies, including their version of "Over the Rainbow." Headliners are Total Soul, an 11-piece band performing R&B hits from the 1960s through today. Total Soul features a mix of four-part vocal harmony, a soul-driven rhythm section and "hot horns." The fireworks display will take place at 9:30 p.m. In case of rain, fireworks go off at 9:30 p.m. the next clear night.



THE REPORTER/2005
Fireworks light up the sky during last year's Fourth of July celebration at North Branch Park in Bridgewater.

In Middlesex County, a fireworks display will be held Tuesday at the Middlesex County Fairgrounds, Cranbury Road, East Brunswick.

There will be food and games and live music featuring the Jukebox Heroes. The evening begins at 5:30 p.m., with music from 7:30 p.m. and fireworks at 9:30 p.m.

Woodbridge will also host a fireworks show for the first time in many years. It will be held 7 p.m. Monday at Alvin P. Williams Memorial Park, Cliffs Road, Sewaren.

Bike, pedestrian areas get funding

NEW BRUNSWICK — Middlesex County Freeholder Camille Fericola announced the award of \$499,584 in Open Space and Recreation grant funds to seven municipalities to improve pedestrian and bicycle paths.

"I am pleased at the local response of proposals that will improve recreation, pedestrian and bicycle facilities for our communities and the quality of life for our residents," said Fericola, who initiated the Middlesex County 2006 Open Space and Recreation Bicycle/Pedestrian Grant Program earlier this year.

The Board of Chosen Freeholders set aside \$500,000 from the Open Space Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund to provide 80 per cent of the construction cost of eligible municipal projects that will lead to safe and attractive links to open space and recreation areas. The projects also

must encourage walking and bicycling as safe alternatives to automobiles.

Fericola, a strong bicycle and pedestrian advocate, recognized the need to link residential neighborhoods and related areas to open space, parks and recreation areas. She created the program to enable municipalities to meet this need by constructing multi-use paths, sidewalks and other bicycle and pedestrian facilities and amenities that will access open space facilities.

"In addition to safety issues and accessibility to our open space and recreation facilities, it is my hope that this program will further encourage municipalities to look at walking and riding a bike as alternative means of transportation," she said. "It is too often that we hear of pedestrians and bicyclists, who are the most vul-

Continued on page A2

Summer fun



NICOLE DIMELLA/SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER
Lisa Marie Oliver, left, and her best friend Lily Marciniak, both 10 and from Middlesex, ride the Scrambler at the 43rd annual Lions Expo of the Warren Lions Club, held June 21 through Saturday at the Warren municipal field on Mountain Avenue.

In The Towns

Holiday program features music

PISCATAWAY — East Jersey Olde Towne Village celebrates Independence Day with "Rays of Light and Glory: 18th Century Music for the Fourth of July."

This free program is at 2 p.m. Tuesday when Robert Moulard, dressed in period attire, plays early American music on his own antique instruments.

Moulard is a historian, musician and storyteller from Teaneck. His instruments include the fiddle, harpsichord, hurdy-gurdy and wire harp.

Registration is required; call (732) 745-3030. East Jersey Olde Towne Village is in the northern end of Johnson Park at 1050 River Road, near Hoes Lane West.

Metuchen YMCA plans summertime events

METUCHEN — Please take note of the following events sponsored by the Metuchen Branch YMCA:

"Camp 2006" — Every day is an adventure at a day camp.

Registration has started for "Y" Tot, Kinderkemp, Camp Munsee and off-site Camp Lenape.

Adult Enrichment — Including a book club that meets the last Wednesday of every month.

"Jazz for Beginners," held at 6 p.m. every Monday.

Scrabble Club for adults, meeting at 7:30 p.m. Friday. Cost is free; registration is required.

"Knitting Meet-Up" at 7 p.m. the first Thursday of every month. This group is open to anyone interested in social knitting. Cost is free.

Moms Walking Club. Meet at 9 a.m. Friday at the Y for a stroll around Metuchen.

"Concert by the Bay" with the Garden State Symphony Band on Sunday, July 9. The bus leaves at 1:30 p.m. from the Metuchen municipal pool. Cost is \$7.

"Broadway Sally" at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse on Wednesday, July 12. The bus leaves at 9:45 a.m. from the Metuchen municipal pool. Cost of \$68 includes round-trip transportation and a choice of entrée; specify your entrée on registration.

For full information on Y programs, visit www.metuchen-edis.org.

onymca.org or call (732) 548-2044.

Bible school in the evening

BOUND BROOK — The Bound Brook United Methodist Church holds its Vacation Bible School from 5:45-8 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 17-21.

"Son Treasure Island Discovering God's Love" is the theme of Vacation Bible School. Children age 4 years old through Grade 6 are invited.

An adult Bible study is available to those who are interested.

For registration, visit www.gbmgm.org/boundbrook or call (732) 356-1372. The church is at 150 W. Union Ave., near Bound Brook High School.

Show off the garden during a summer tour

EDISON — The Edison Arts Society holds its first "Art in the Gardens" tour on Saturday, Aug. 19.

Five unique gardens will be featured, showing the variety of plantings created as an extension of the owners' homes.

"We are in search of beautiful gardens in the Metuchen-Edison area," said Linda LaStella, a trustee of the Arts Society and chairman of its Visual Arts Committee.

"We are considering gardens of any size, personally planted or installed by professionals," she said. "We want to show the range of gardens that flourish in our local neighborhoods."

Those who want to showcase their garden in the tour can e-mail Claysongs@aol.com or call (732) 906-4137.

Crafters wanted for fall bazaar

BOUND BROOK — The United Methodist Women are seeking crafters for the annual bazaar and craft fair at the Bound Brook United Methodist Church.

This annual event takes place Saturday, Nov. 4. Cost is \$20 per table and includes one lunch.

For more information, call Judy at (732) 469-4613.

Area drivers needed to deliver kosher meals

EDISON — Jewish Family &

Vocational Service of Middlesex County is looking for drivers to deliver Kosher Meals on Wheels.

These drivers would fill in for regular drivers who are away. You must have a flexible schedule and be available on at least one hour's notice. If you are interested, call E.J. Berman at (732) 777-1940.

Kosher Meals on Wheels are distributed five days a week in Edison, Highland Park and elsewhere within Northern Middlesex County.

Volunteers sought for hospice facility

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

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

Zhou said the Hospice volunteers are needed to help families, visit patients, console the bereaved or help in the office.

Hospice staff administer their programs at the six bed, homelike building on the Roosevelt campus or at homes of a patient or their loved ones.

To ensure that all volunteers are equipped for the challenge of working with the dying and their families, the Barbara E. Cheung Memorial Hospice hosts a 12 hour educational course. Workshops, videos and lectures are completed in four or five weekly sessions.

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

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.

Township Garden Club 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.

Edison Kiwanis Club meeting bi-monthly

EDISON — The newly formed Edison Kiwanis Club meets every first and third Tuesday at noon at the Edison Job Corps, 500 Plainfield Ave, Edison. New members are welcome. For more information contact Gwen at (732) 781-6862.

Campus Notes

James R. Urbaniak of Piscataway has graduated from Rutgers College on the New Brunswick campus of Rutgers University. He received a bachelor's degree in English and history, with highest honors, at commencement exercises May 18.

Urbaniak was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and received the Dean's Award for Academic and Co-Curricular Excellence. He was a co-founder of the Tinsley Volunteers, an organization for Rutgers students who live outside New Jersey. He also was a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and of Phi Alpha Theta honor society in history.

The highest honors graduate received the William H.S. Demarest Scholarship, the Class of 1945 Scholarship and the John Perrine Scholarship through Rutgers College. He was named to the dean's list for the spring 2006 semester.

Urbaniak is a student senator to the Rutgers Graduate School of Education in New Brunswick, where he will study for a master's degree in education. The son of John and Francesca Urbaniak is a 2002 alumnus of Piscataway High School.

Two Edison teens have received scholarships from the David B. Crabel Scholarship Foundation.

William S. Plastine, who attends John P. Stevens High School, received a \$3,500 award. Matthew Sheptuck, who attends St. Joseph's High School in Metuchen, received a \$1,500 award.

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Saturday, July 1, 2006

Opinion

A place for the ages

Thursday the yellow do not cross "police" tape was taken down, and for the first time anyone will be able to walk among the memorials to the ordinary men and women who gave of themselves during times of war.

The Somerset County Veterans' Memorial Plaza in Somerville will be unveiled with a ceremony full of pomp and circumstance. Such a ceremony is the right thing to do, as was the construction of the memorial.

But, while this place that honors so much history will be filled with veterans and dignitaries and flags and tributes — and yes, tears from those who remember more than they often tell — the plaza's place in Somerset County's future has yet to be written. It will be. In gestures big and small, in a hundred Memorial Day ceremonies and a thousand quiet moments of reflection.

The plaza will serve as a place to sit and eat lunch or stop and make a cell phone call. It will be the staging point for ceremonies. It will be a convenient place to walk between county buildings.

The plaza will also be a place for survivors to stop and remember their fallen comrades, their husbands, their sisters and the parents they may have only barely gotten to know. It will be the place where school children will learn about our past. It will be where we gather in future times when we go to war — or when, to some future generation, war is an abstract thought from the history books rather than a reality.

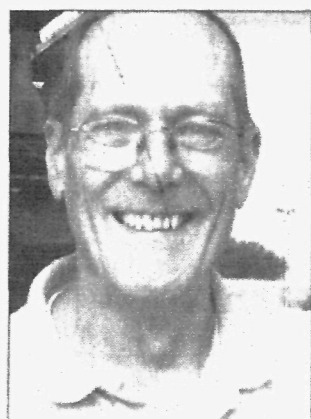
On stone edifices and in simple flag poles, this memorial plaza will recall — silently — those who gave their lives or lost their youth and changed forever. What that recollection will mean is up to the visitor.

The county only built this monument. It cannot give the monument meaning. The names and words, the flags and stone, mean nothing without us. What gives this place purpose is our memories and the memories of those who were there, of those who heard the stories of our parents and grandparents and brothers and sister. It is up to us — not the monument — to remember their sacrifice and recall their legacy.

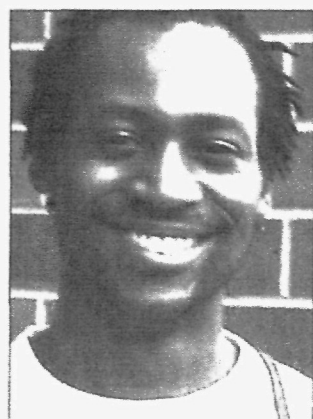
Question of the week: Should consumer fireworks be legal in New Jersey?



"They (people) do it anyway. As long as they're adults, and not minors and act more responsible — OK."
MONICA CRETER
Manville



"Yeah. Gotta grow up sometime. You can buy them elsewhere, why not have fun. Will someone get hurt? Yes. They have to be responsible."
RON MORRIS
Bridgewater



"There should be an age restriction, just like tobacco and liquor, because children are going to be curious and I know what that's like."
DANTE MCCOY
Plainfield



"No. It's very dangerous for everyone involved."
TERESA BYRA
Manville

Letters to the Editor

Institute was a fresh start

To The Editor:
Somerset County Technology Institute — four words, but four words that mean a lot to me. This school has given me a second chance for the better. Nothing is perfect, but this school is about as close to perfect as you can get, filled with caring and supportive teachers, friendly classmates and a calming environment. This school provides superb opportunities for people with different ages, different skill levels and different education backgrounds. If you are just a beginner, you can gradually succeed to higher levels. If you are more advanced, you can still refresh and build up your knowledge to perfection. If you have ever lost your job, you know how it feels ... lost, disappointed and worth-

less. Do not spend time worrying about what will happen next. Take action and register for SCTI. It is an exceptional thing to do to redeem your reputation and yourself in life. The school is just like a family — where everyone young or old supports and helps one another in all aspects. Studying and learning are not always boring and tedious. At SCTI it is very pleasurable, entertaining and just plain fun. Going to school is ageless as improvement is endless. Do the right thing and join the family at SCTI, people will look up to and admire you and your skills, and hopefully do the right thing like you and follow your path to greatness.

ROSETTE NGHIEM
Bridgewater

Take part in local politics

To The Editor:
First I would like to thank those Raritan Republicans who voted for me in the June 6 primary for mayor and those who helped in my campaign. Next I wish to congratulate Tom Brodbeck who won. I have sent him the balance in my campaign account to use in his fall campaign. I wish him well.

I would also thank The Reporter for printing letters to the editor including support for me. The regional daily paper did not do this.

Again as in most primary seasons someone approached me stating "I don't believe in primaries I vote for the person not the party" and walked smugly off. Parties require candidates to fashion a vision that includes many points of

view. Otherwise narrow interests would elect candidates to do their bidding. Imagine New Jersey without parties: The state-county-municipal workers, the New Jersey Education Association and one or more other public employee unions could provide the workers and join a group of political action committees from the pharmaceutical industry for funding and elect the governor and a majority of state legislators.

I don't know what kind of state we would have but I am sure that it would have a law requiring public employees to have a prescription plan to die for. The system doesn't need everyone to participate in party politics but don't do it.

ALSDORF SMITH
Raritan

Consumer fireworks should not be illegal

To The Editor:
Independence Day is just around the corner and with it comes the annual debate in New Jersey about the relative safety and legality of consumer fireworks. Politicians and fire officials totally disregard the diminishing fireworks-related injury numbers and the dramatic rise in the use of consumer fireworks in America and continue to hold the citizens of New Jersey hostage and prohibit the use of consumer fireworks in the Garden State.

Despite the fantastic safety record of consumer fireworks in America, New Jersey — home to five signers of the Declaration of Independence, birthplace of one president and adopted state of another, home to Bruce Springsteen and Jon Bon Jovi, and a state whose very motto proclaims liberty — still will not allow its citizens to celebrate freedom in the manner predicted by John Adams in 1776 — with fireworks.

The fact is that consumer 1.4G fireworks are safer today than they have ever been. Phantom Fireworks and the fireworks industry uses an Underwriters Laboratory-type organization called the American Fireworks Standards Laboratory to test the consumer fireworks products at the factory level in China for

compliance with U.S. manufacturing and performance standards. If the products fail, they are not permitted to be exported to the U.S.

According to figures published by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, from 1992-2004 the actual number of fireworks-related injuries has been reduced by over 23 percent while during the same period the use of fireworks in America has increased by over 270 percent (87.1 million pounds to 236.2 million pounds). Think about that. Use has dramatically increased while at the same time actual injuries have been significantly reduced.

If you compare those numbers with any other consumer product regulated by the CPSC — i.e., ATVs, trampolines — the number of injuries generally increase correspondingly with increased use.

Indiana, Georgia, Connecticut and Minnesota have liberalized their fireworks laws to bring the total number of states now to 45 plus the District of Columbia that permit the use of some level of consumer fireworks. This year Indiana became a full-line consumer fireworks sales and use state — just like New Jersey should.

WILLIAM A. WEIMER
Vice President, Phantom Fireworks
Youngstown, Ohio

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. 20515, (202) 225-5361

— 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,

Washington, DC 20515-9011, (202) 225-5034

STATE OFFICE HOLDERS

— 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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The Chronicle

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The Chronicle is here for you

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

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

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

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Correction policy

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

Somerset County Briefs

County-led food drive is ending tomorrow

SOMERVILLE — Visitors to the County Administration Building on Grove Street can supplement local food banks' supplies by dropping off canned food donations this month.

A blue recycling bucket with

a "Curbing Hunger Month" sign is in the first-floor lobby through tomorrow. Donations will be delivered to the Food Bank Network of Somerset County and other food pantries in the area.

Especially needed are canned meat, canned fish, canned pasta, canned stew, meaty soup, tomato sauce, canned fruit,

peanut butter and jelly.

Perishables are not accepted, nor are food in glass bottles and jars.

This is the 12th year that county households are participating in the "Curbing Hunger" food drive. Canned food donations are being collected at the curb on regular recycling days through tomorrow.

row.

Volunteers are needed to help sort the food. If you are interested, call (732) 560-1813.

Mental health services proposals are sought

SOMERVILLE — The Somerset County Department of Human Services is seeking proposals from nonprofit orga-

nizations to provide mental health services for Work First New Jersey clients in the county.

Deadline for submissions is noon on Monday, July 17. Late or incomplete proposals cannot be considered.

The Request for Proposal form is available online. Click on "E-Mail Subscriptions to

County Documents" from the Somerset County website at www.co.somerset.nj.us. A new page will open; click on "Forms & Brochures," then "Request for Proposal." Print the form, fill it out and return it by U.S. mail.

You can also obtain a copy of the form by calling (908) 704-6300.

In The Towns

Reading support group for children

PISCATAWAY — The Piscataway Public Library offers a reading support program for young children this summer.

The program pairs teen volunteers with children who will enter Grades 1-3 in the fall. Sessions are at Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes Lane, from July 17-Aug. 10.

Interested parents can fill out an application at the adult reference desk of Westergard Library, 20 Murray Ave., or the adult reference desk of Kennedy Library.

For more information, call (732) 463-1633, Ext. 6.

Farmers Market will mark 10th anniversary

HIGHLAND PARK — Help Main Street Highland Park celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Farmer's Market by having your recipe printed in a special compilation of Highland Park's favorite dishes. The cookbook will feature foods from borough neighborhoods and from around the world. Those who submit the tastiest recipes will be invited to serve their dishes at the Highland Park Farmers Market for public tasting.

Submissions will only be taken if the main food ingredients are sold at the Farmer's Market. Include where the published recipes originated as well as name, e-mail, address and phone number. Names only will be published in the book.

E-mail the recipes to cook-book@mainstreethp.org or by regular mail to Main Street Highland Park, 421 Raritan Ave. Highland Park NJ 08525. Or just stop in.

Jersey Fresh is an advertising and promotional program originally developed in 1983 to help farmers inform consumers about the availability and variety of fruits and vegetables grown in New Jersey.

For more information call Main Street at (732) 828-8444 or visit the Jersey Fresh website at

<http://www.state.nj.us/jerseyfresh>.

Metuchen businesses hosting spring events

METUCHEN — The Metuchen Area Chamber of Commerce sponsors these spring events:

Antique and Classic Car Cruise Nights on Wednesdays, July 5, Aug. 2 and Sept. 6. Music and entertainment are provided.

Memorial Day parade, Monday, May 29. All scouts and youth groups are encouraged to participate.

For more information, visit www.metuchenchamber.com or call (732) 548-2964.

Highland Park has summer fun planned

HIGHLAND PARK — The following are upcoming events being held in the borough.

The events are part of a series of activities organized or hosted by the Main Street Highland Park organization.

— Random Acts of Fun — every other Thursday evenings, 5-8 p.m., July 6, July 20, Aug. 3. Features a different block each week, along Raritan Avenue from Cedar to 5th Avenue.

— Second annual Highland Park Arts Festival — 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 17, along Raritan Avenue.

— Fifth annual Autumn in the Park — 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19, along Raritan Avenue.

Band anniversary DVD is planned

PISCATAWAY — The Superchief Band at Piscataway High School marks its 35th anniversary this year.

To mark the occasion the Superchief Band Parents Association is producing an anniversary DVD. Videotapes, 8 mm film and still photos are wanted.

If you wish to share your personal collection, e-mail pcw-chair@yahoo.com or call Pat Hatfield at (732) 248-9426. Saturday, Dec. 9.

Kathrine Lagocki

BOUND BROOK — Kathrine Jedrych Lagocki, 79, died June 24, 2006 at Harborside Healthcare-Woods Edge in Bridgewater. Born in Wlaszowa, Poland, she was a daughter of the late Jozef and Bernice Jedrych. Mrs. Lagocki lived in Bound Brook before moving to Bridgewater in 1969. A homemaker, animal lover and gardener, she was a member of the Polish National Alliance and Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Manville. Her husband, Jozef, died in 2001. Also preceding her in death were a sister, Sabina Kruczak; and a brother, Chester Jedrych. Surviving are two sons, Frank of Palm Coast, Fla., and Michael of

Bridgewater; three daughters, Linda Stine of Flemington, Terri Euriak of Hanover Park, Ill., and MaryAnn Erickson of Manville; a brother, John Jedrych of Poland; eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Services were held Thursday at the Fucillo & Warren Funeral Home, Manville, followed by a funeral Mass at Sacred Heart Church. Burial was in Resurrection Burial Park, Piscataway. Donations may be sent to Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, 98 S. Second Ave., P.O. Box 924, Manville, NJ 08835.

To send a condolence, visit fucilloandwarrenfuneralhome.com.

Gladys Jenkins

MIDDLESEX — Gladys C. Jenkins, 81, died June 18, 2006 at Deborah Heart and Lung Center in Browns Mills. Born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., she lived in Bound Brook and Middlesex before moving to Toms River. Mrs. Jenkins was a retired assembler with RCA Corp. in Bridgewater. She began her career as a waitress in South Bound Brook and later was for two years an assembler with Gavin Electronics in Somerset. She was a member of Rolling Thunder National Chapter 1 in Neshanic Station. Her husband of over 35 years, Frederick, died in 1993. Also preceding her in death were a son, William; and a daughter, Geri-Beth. Surviving are five daughters,

Shirley Liles of Toms River, Mary Falvo of Jacksonville, N.C., Virginia of Absecon, Ruth Levine and husband Herb of Maryville, Tenn., and Helen Welsh and husband Thomas of Manchester; two brothers, John Kriedler of San Diego, Calif., and David Kriedler of Easton, Pa.; a sister, Helen Toney of Wilkes-Barre; 17 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. Services were held July 24 at the Middlesex Funeral Home. Burial was in Franklin Memorial Park, North Brunswick.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Deborah Heart and Lung Center, 200 Trenton Road, Browns Mills, NJ 08015. To send a condolence, visit middlesexfuneralhome.com.

Mary Oliver

MIDDLESEX — Mary Ravaglia Oliver, 88, died June 13, 2006 at Runnells Specialized Hospital of Union County in Berkeley Heights.

Born in Bound Brook, she lived in Middlesex and Plainfield before moving to Berkeley Heights in 2001.

Mrs. Oliver retired after 15 years as a bookkeeper with County Supply in North Plainfield.

Her husband of 40 years, Herman, died in 1980. Also preceding her in death were four brothers, Joe, Al, Charlie and Jake; and a sister, Molly. Surviving are a son, Douglas

and wife Susan of Bentonville, Ark.; a daughter, Martha Oliver Withjack and husband James Grieshaber of Green Brook; three grandchildren; a great-grandchild; and several nieces and nephews.

Services were held June 17 at the Middlesex Funeral Home. Burial was in Bound Brook Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Haven Hospice, c/o JFK Medical Center, Attn: Irene Perez, 65 James St., Edison, NJ 08818. To send a condolence, visit www.middlesexfuneralhome.com.

Louis Santangelo

DUNELLEN — Louis F. Santangelo, 96, died June 4, 2006 at the Bridgeway Care Center in Bridgewater.

Born in Plainfield, he lived in Warren and Dunellen before moving to Bedminster.

Mr. Santangelo retired in 1972 after 35 years as a draftsman with Research-Cottrell Corp.

His wife of 35 years, Pauline Russo Santangelo, died in 1969.

Surviving are a daughter, Rosemarie Bersch of Bedminster; a son, John A. and

wife Ann of Rochester, Mass.; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was held June 8 at Blessed Sacrament Roman Catholic Church, Martinsville, following services at the Branchburg Funeral Home. Burial was in Holy Redeemer Cemetery, South Plainfield.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Care Alternatives Hospice, 70 Jackson Drive, Cranford, NJ 07016. To send a condolence, visit www.branchburgfuneralhome.com.

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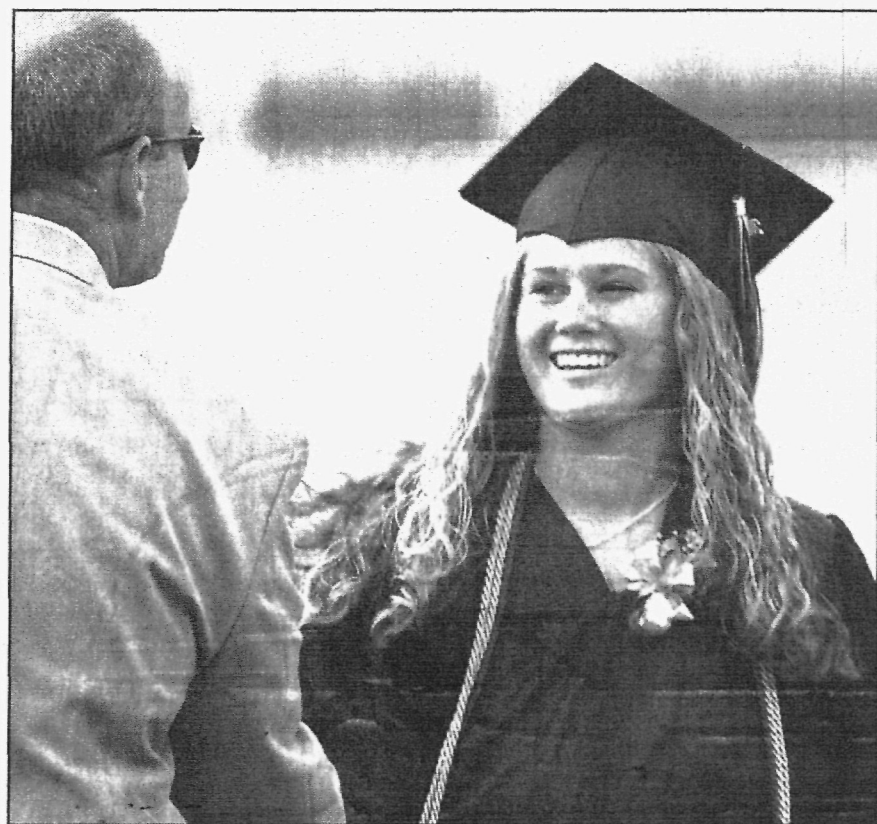
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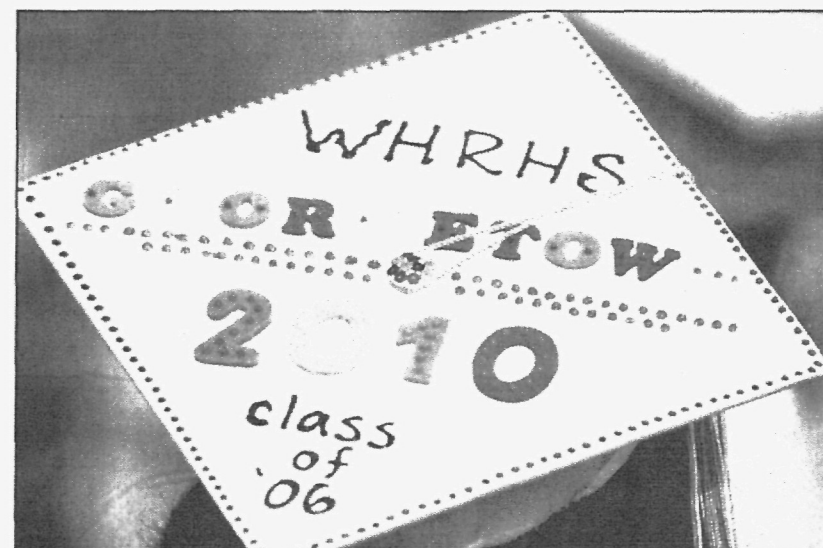
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Fax Email resume & salary requirements to: Fax: 908-766-4505 bob@igtcpa.com	Sales Help 265 INSIDE ADVERTISING SALES The ExpressTimes and NJN Publishing, with 18 community weekly news papers and two of the area's leading websites, has an immediate opening for a motivated and dynamic recruitment inside salesperson in our Asbury, NJ (Hunterdon County) Telecenter. As part of our recruitment advertising sales team, you will work with local businesses throughout the Lehigh Valley and northern New Jersey to help them recruit top candidates through advertising in the area's top newspapers and websites. If you love a challenge, have energy and commitment to achieve goals and want to have fun at work, we offer a supportive environment, lots of resources to get the job done, thorough sales training, excellent benefits package, and a competitive salary and bonus package. Send your resume to: Sherry Ferello NJN Publishing Company P.O. Box 32 Flemington, NJ 08822 Or email to: Jobs@njnpublishing.com	Employment Trades 275 ELECTRICAL JOURNEYMAN Minimum 5 years experience, residential, self motivated individual with leadership skills. Full time position, good pay and benefits. Call 908-233-2444	Employment Trades 275 SERVICE TECHNICIAN Boilers, furnaces, A/C a +. Benefits package included/ 401k. Please call 908-735-6136	Situations Wanted 280 HOUSEKEEPERS, NANNIES, COMPANIONS All nationalities/Lic. Bonded AURORA AGENCY 170 Morns Ave. L. Br. NJ 732-222-3369	Situations Wanted 280 POLISH REFERRAL SERVICE INC. providing live-in/out housekeeper for elderly, Lic. & Bonded 908-688-9140
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Stepping into their future

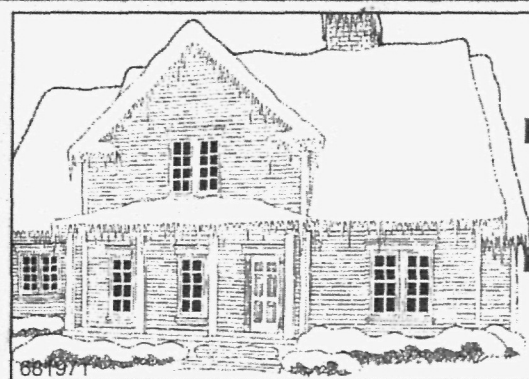
Graduates receive
a big send off



Across Somerset County last week members of the Class of 2006 said their goodbyes, gave their speeches and celebrated the end of high school and the beginning of their future. What follows is a snapshot of graduation ceremonies held at Bridgewater-Raritan High School and Watchung Hills Regional High School, which held commencements on June 22 and, Somerville High School, which held its graduation on June 23. Bernards High School graduated its Class of 2006 on June 16. Above right, with an American flag flying in the breeze, Somerville High School salutatorian Karen Ptesche addresses her fellow graduates. Above left, Watchung Hills Regional High School graduate Maureen Keegan joins fellow members of the Senior Chorale Group in singing the Star Spangled Banner. Left, Elissa Brecher, who graduated from Bridgewater-Raritan High School, is congratulated by Assistant Principal Mark Morrell after receiving her diploma. Right, this Georgetown University-bound graduate's cap says it all.



**Photos By
George Pacciello
Staff Photographer**



The Reporter

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Saturday, July 1, 2006

Sports

Baena eager to take shot at another title

By ALLAN CONOVER
Sports Editor

BEDMINSTER — A year ago, hers was just another obscure name near the bottom of a long roster of golfers who were gearing up to compete in the inaugural HSBC World Match Play Championship.

But she was the only one still standing after six rounds and four days in the Central Jersey heat and humidity. The No. 60 seed in a field of 64, Marisa Baena emerged as the winner of the first-place \$500,000 check, the second-largest payoff in Ladies Professional Golf Association history.

"It feels strange to hear people say, 'You're a champion,' but it is definitely a great feeling to know that you will be in LPGA history forever," said Baena, who's looking forward to defending her title during the second HSBC tourney Thursday through July 9 at Hamilton Farm Golf Club.

Baena had been considering retirement early last year. Winless in 151 LPGA events and in the deepest depths on the money-earnings list, she'd been hampered by several nagging physical ailments and injuries and wasn't enjoying the game nearly as much as she once did in her native Colombia.

But at Hamilton Farm she just kept striding up and over the varied topography of the 6523-yard Highlands layout and beating whoever she was pitted against, finally topping rookie Meena Lee 1-up for the victory and the kind of payday she'd only dreamed of. She entered the tourney having earned \$87,000 for the year.

"I was able to do something I had wanted to do for many years, but couldn't," she said during a recent press conference. "I've been having a bad back and shoulders for about eight years and never had the time to rehab because I was always fighting for my card. Winning the event and having the three-year exemption gave me the opportunity to try to get healthy and hopefully have a longer career."

"At that time, I didn't realize it would have such a big impact

HSBC WOMEN'S GOLF

on my life. It has been a little tough this year fighting my injuries and trying to get better, but knowing I don't have to fight for that card the next three years definitely gave me a little bit of a break. I'm feeling a lot better now."

Of course, the 29-year-old Baena realizes winning again is going to be one immense challenge with the likes of Lorena Ochoa, Annika Sorenstam, Karrie Webb, teenage wonder Michelle Wie and Paula Creamer among the standouts scheduled to compete.

"I think it's great the HSBC has decided to sponsor this event and the LPGA is bringing back match play," said Baena, who finished 28th during the Wegmans LPGA tourney last weekend in Pittsford, N.Y. and is now No. 43 in the Rolex Women's World Rankings. "I definitely love the format — I hooked it last year. I think match play shows the quality of play around the Tour, which has changed so much the past eight years. The depth of the Tour is amazing."

"Before it used to be the first through 30th, and now it goes all the way to 120. By me winning last year, it proved the difference between the top and bottom is not very much."

Right at the top is Mexican native Ochoa, the 2006 ADT Official Money List leader and the third-rated player — behind No. 1 Sorenstam and Wie — on the Rolex list. Ochoa recently put together an outstanding six-event stretch, during which she either won or finished second.

The run began with her playoff loss to Webb in the Kraft Nabisco Championship in early April and extended to her victory at the Sybase Classic in mid-May.

The 24-year-old Ochoa, a former University of Arizona standout, has already earned more than \$1 million for the third straight year and Webb isn't far behind in the runnerup spot. Ochoa finished seventh, nine under par, during the

Wegmans event.

"I'm very excited," said the soft-spoken Ochoa, who's the equivalent of a rock star in Mexico. "I worked really hard in the off-season just to be able to have good results, and I just want to enjoy it, just be having fun on the golf course and putting together some low rounds. It's been great."

Ochoa, considered a pioneer of Mexican golf, credits her success this year not only to an improved swing — the fruit of a dedicated off-season — but also to a more mature mental approach.

"I think with time you learn to just pace yourself out there, just to be smarter," she said. "Before, I was five strokes behind the leaders. Right now, I am probably one or two, and sometimes I have a chance of winning tournaments. And I think I'm more mature and able to understand more what's going on and just feel better with my game, especially under pressure."

Ochoa, who won an NCAA-record eight straight tourneys while an Arizona sophomore in 2002, will undoubtedly feel some pressure next weekend in the World Match Play Championships.

The one-on-one format claimed some big names early in last year's event, with just a single top-10 seed, Candie Kung, reaching the semifinal round. And the only other top-10 to make it as far as the quarterfinals was No. 1 seed Sorenstam, who was ousted by Kung.

Wie, of course, will attract plenty of attention, as she did a few weeks ago at Canoe Brook CC in Summit with her unsuccessful bid to qualify for the PGA's U.S. Open. The 16-year-old Hawaiian has yet to win a women's pro title but is a huge hitter with enormous potential and promise.

Other top entries like Japan's Ai Miyazato, Korea's Seon Hwa Lee and Jee Young Lee and Americans Brittany Lang (who tied for third in the Wegmans tourney) and Morgan Pressel have yet to celebrate their 21st birthdays.

Everyone will be battling for



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Colombia native Marisa Baena, here watching a putt about to drop in during last year's championship round, will go after her second straight HSBC Women's World Match Play crown next weekend at Hamilton Farm Golf Club. Baena currently is No. 43 in the Rolex World Rankings.

a part of the \$2 million purse, and the \$500,000 that goes to the champion will be the second-largest winner's share for a non-major tournament.

The tourney field will draw from the top 30 players in the Rolex rankings, half of whom are from Japan and Korea, along with the winner of this weekend's U.S. Women's Open, the top player on the Ladies European Tour, two sponsor

exemptions and the leading 29 golfers on the ADT Official Money List who haven't already gained entry into the tournament via the aforementioned criteria.

The tourney will be televised in the U.S. by The Golf Channel the first two days and by CBS the final two days.

For further information on the HSBC Women's World Match Play Championship, visit

the web site at www.hsbcgolf.com. Tickets can be purchased by calling 1-866-492-4722 and on-line at www.hsbcgolf.com.

HSBC SCHEDULE:
Thursday, July 6 — 32 first-round matches, tee times 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Friday, July 7 — 16 second-round matches, tee times 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Saturday, July 8 — Eight third-round matches, tee times 7 a.m.-8:10 a.m.; four quarterfinal matches, 12:30-1 p.m.
Sunday, July 9 — Semifinals, tee times 8 and 8:10 a.m.; Final, 12:50 p.m.

Another tight loss for Patriots Patriot pitcher goes to Braves

Bridgeport didn't muster much offense against the Somerset Patriots Tuesday night. But the Bluefish did just enough to win.

Runs in the third and sixth innings off Todd Moser provided the visitors with a 2-1 triumph in front of 3520 fans at Commerce Bank Park as the Patriots' Atlantic League of Professional Baseball first-half pennant hopes took another hit.

With first-place Lancaster getting rained out, the Pats (27-23), who lost their second straight one-run decision, dropped four games behind the Barnstormers in the South Division race with 13 games remaining in the season's opening half.

Trailing 2-1, Somerset threatened in the ninth when Larry Barnes singled through the middle and Ryan Radmanovich reached on an infield hit with two out. Jim Burt drilled a shot on the ground which appeared to be heading towards center but shortstop Deivi Cruz made a superb stop and flipped to second for the game-ending force-out.

The Blues (29-23) scored first in the third frame before the Pats pulled even in the fifth when Burt doubled, moved up on a ground-out and scored on a passed ball. Bridgeport then went ahead in the sixth on a pair of doubles.

Moser (2-3) went seven innings, allowing seven hits and one walk while striking out six.

Monday's Patriots game in Lancaster was postponed because of rain and has been rescheduled for 7:05 p.m. Monday, July 10, which would conclude the league's first-half season. However, if the division race has been decided by that time, the game likely will not be played.

Lancaster 6, Patriots 5 — Somerset's four-game winning streak was snapped Sunday

afternoon as the Barnstormers scored a ninth-inning run on a walk and two hits, breaking a 5-5 tie in front of 4136 fans at Clipper Magazine Stadium in Lancaster.

Barnes went 2 for 4, including his ninth homer, Kevin Nicholson connected for his first homer of the year and Radmanovich hit No. 10.

Righthander Ben Crockett, who entered the game with a scintillating 1.62 earned run average, was treated harshly by Lancaster as he permitted 10 hits, one walk and five runs, all earned, in 6 2/3 innings. He was relieved by Justin Wechsler, who went the rest of the way and took the loss.

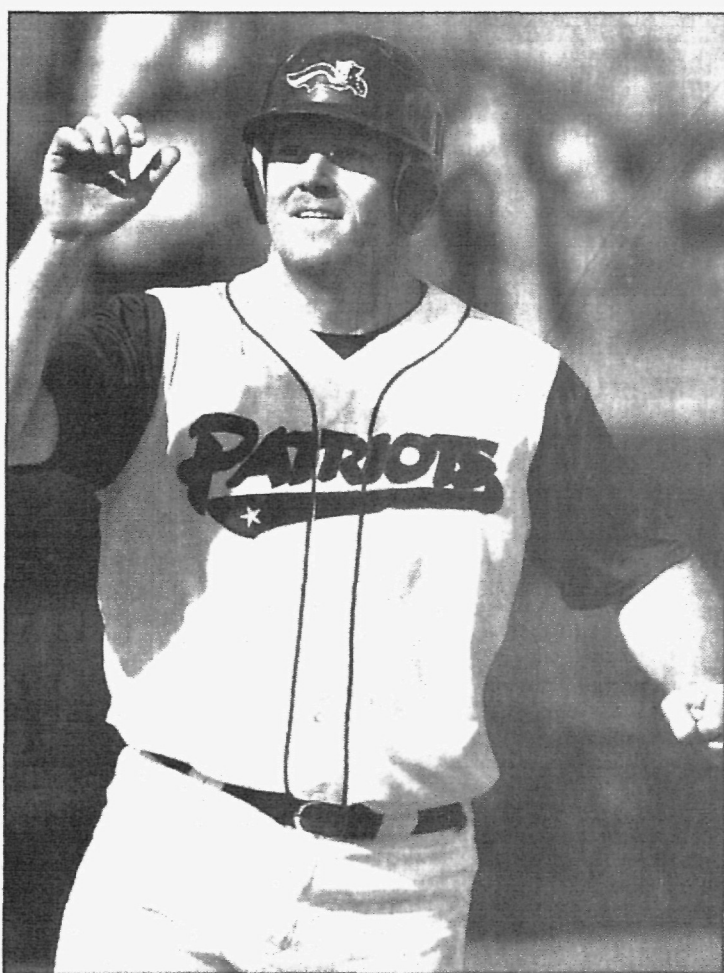
Somerset scored twice in the fourth when Nicholson, who had 11 homers a year ago, led off with a round-tripper to right-center and another run scored off an error, tying the game 2-2. Lancaster then scored three times in the seventh to go ahead 5-2.

The Pats bounced back with three runs in the eighth as Barnes led off with a homer, Jeff Nettles singled to right and Radmanovich greeted new reliever Charlie Weatherby with a two-run homer to right-center.

Patriots 8, Lancaster 6 — Travis Anderson and George Sandel both went 3 for 5 and contributed RBI singles during the decisive ninth inning, when the Pats scored three times to snap a 5-all deadlock, as 5093 spectators looked on Saturday night in Lancaster.

Nettles and Barnes had two hits apiece, including home runs, and Immaculata High graduate Tony Gsell belted a pinch-hit two-run homer in the eighth.

Barnes began the last-inning uprising with a one-out single to right and scored on Nettles' double to left-center. After Radmanovich was walked intentionally and Burt was hit



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Travis Anderson was a huge factor in a pair of Patriot victories last week, going 3 for 5 against Lancaster Saturday and drilling a game-winning two-run single in a 5-3 decision over Camden two nights earlier.

by a pitch, Anderson roped an RBI single to center and Sandel followed with another run-scoring hit through the right side.

The Barnstormers, who were out-hit 15-8, had gone ahead 2-1 with a pair of fourth-inning runs off starter Billy Sylvester but Somerset came back with two in the fifth as Barnes and Nettles ripped two-out back-to-back homers, giving both eight for the season.

In the eighth Anderson singled with one out and, following another out, Gsell pinch-hit for Patrick Boran and hit his third homer of the season to left for a 5-2 cushion.

Lancaster pulled even with three runs (one coming in on a wild pitch) in the home half of the eighth off Andy Pratt. Mike Johnson (3-3), who allowed an unearned run while pitching the final 1 1/3 innings, was the winner.

BRIDGEWATER — Jason Shiell may have gotten the break that will land him back in the major leagues.

Shiell, who'd been a member of the Somerset Patriots' sterling starting pitching rotation, was signed by the Atlanta Braves late last week and assigned to their Triple-A club in Richmond. The 29-year-old righthander has pitched in 20 big-league games, including 17 for the 2003 Boston Red Sox, where he was 2-0 with a 4.63 earned run average in 23 innings.

Shiell is the second Patriot hurler to sign with a big-league organization this season, although Billy Sylvester returned to Somerset June 19, three weeks after agreeing to terms with the Washington Nationals and making two ineffective starts for their Double-A Harrisburg team.

Among the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball's top pitchers this year, Shiell made nine starts for the Pats, posting a 3-2 record with a 2.92 ERA while striking out 32 batters in 52 1/3 innings. Shiell has two seasons of Triple-A experience, going 36-30 with a 3.55 ERA in 218 games.

STANLEY SIGNS

Outfielder Henri Stanley, a career .287 hitter in 626 minor league games, signed with the Patriots last week. He spent the last year-and-a-half with Las Vegas, the Los Angeles Dodgers' Triple-A affiliate.

"We're looking for Henri to add a little speed and run production to our lineup," said Patriots Manager Sparky Lyle. "We've been struggling to find a catalyst in our offense so far, and we feel Henri may be one of the pieces we've been missing."

Stanley had three seasons of Triple-A experience with the Houston Astros, San Diego Padres, Boston Red Sox and Dodgers organizations and has totaled 142 doubles, 44 triples, 68 home runs and 303 runs batted in. He was a 2002 Texas League All-Star selection with the Double-A Round Rock Express, finishing the year with a .314 average, 16 homers and 72 RBI.

COMING UP

The Patriots have nine games remaining in the first-half season, which means every contest is crucial if they hope to catch first-place Lancaster in the South Division standings. The first-half winner is guaranteed a spot in the September league playoffs, which is what Somerset did a year ago on the way to its third ALPB championship.

Somerset, in the midst of its longest home stand (10 games) of the year, takes on Long Island 7:05 tonight and 1:35 tomorrow afternoon.

Then the Road Warriors come to town for games Monday (7:05 p.m., followed by a fireworks show), Tuesday (5:05), Wednesday (11:05 a.m.) and Thursday (7:05). Somerset concludes its first-half campaign with three games in Atlantic City July 7-9, followed by the annual All-Star break.

However, because Monday's game in Lancaster was postponed because of rain, a make-up date has been set for 7:05 p.m. Monday, July 10. But the game will only be played if the South Division championship has yet to be decided at that time.

For Patriots ticket information call (908) 252-0700, stop by the team's ticket office at the ballpark or go on-line at www.somersetpatriots.com.

Middlesex County News

Learning center helps break language barrier

EDISON — Eleven million people — one of every 20 adults in the United States — are not literate in English.

The eastern part of Middlesex County has an alarming literacy problem, especially in New Brunswick and Perth Amboy, with 39 percent of adults affected. Many may be fluent in another language, but cannot comprehend English text at its simplest level, or have trouble with pronunciation. Some native English speakers simply cannot read. The result is a lack of career opportunities for these residents.

Compounding the problem is that their co-workers, their friends or close relatives might not have any idea that they cannot read. Without that knowledge, they are unable to help by referring them to literacy classes.

One such person is Javier Irizarry of Perth Amboy.

"I can talk real well," he said with only a bit of an accent from his native Puerto Rico. "I got by at my jobs by talking; people didn't know I couldn't read. If I had to fill out an application, I would go with friends and they would help me out. At work, I would sit with a paper in my hands making like I was reading it."

Irizarry dropped out of high school after his sophomore year to take a job mixing cement for a construction company. His goal was to save money so that he could move from his small hometown in southern Puerto Rico to New Jersey.

"There wasn't much work in Puerto Rico, so I came here

when I was 18 to find a job and to learn English," he said. "After two months I found a job in construction making \$3.50 an hour."

He soon realized that the opportunities for someone who could not read were limited, especially after all four of the places he worked for went out of business. "So, since I was unemployed, I decided it was time I went back to school, to learn to read English and to learn a career," he said. "That's why I came (to Middlesex County's Community Learning Center) six months ago."

The center was established in 2003 after the Workforce Investment Board's Literacy Committee found that adults with less than a fourth grade reading level had few places to go to learn English, since most vocational training and language training classes required a higher level of literacy at the start. The plan to establish the center in an unused portion of the Roosevelt Care Center was approved by the Freeholder Board and was funded by the state Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

"I'm doing much better," said Irizarry, who would like a career in the computer field. "Dan (Scibienski), my teacher, is bilingual, so he understands our problems. We have a mixture of people here; some can read English, but can't speak it, I'm just the opposite. But now, I can get a book, and read it. It needs to have little words, but I'm getting there. I can read to my 5-year old; I can fill out a job application," he said with a grin of self-satisfaction.

Irizarry's fellow students are

similarly motivated.

"They're here to improve how they speak, how they read and how they write, so they can get a job or a better job," explained Gwen Kane, supervisor of the facility, who also teaches the advanced class. "Because we were established as part of the county Department of Workforce Development, our goals are greater than simply teaching our students English; we teach them English so they can go on to jobs or get into training for a career. That's what motivates them."

One of Kane's students is Thach Pham of Edison, who, like Irizarry, dropped out of high school, is unemployed and left his native South Vietnam at 18 years of age.

"I left to escape the Communists," he said. "When I first came to the United States, I worked in manufacturing. I couldn't communicate with others that much, but I could run a machine. I started coming to the Community Learning Center about four months ago to learn English, and it's really helping. I'm learning a lot of vocabulary and grammar, and I can understand a lot more."

Pham is preparing to go on to study Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning at Lincoln Tech.

Whereas Pham and Irizarry have specific career goals in mind, Nilsa Torres of Perth Amboy is on the fence.

"After I get the basics down here, I will go on to study for a career," she said. Torres left the Dominican Republic with her parents 21 years ago to "find a better life."

In the Dominican Republic,



COURTESY MIDDLESEX COUNTY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER

Dan Scibienski, ESL and basic skills instructor at the Middlesex County Community Learning Center, in the classroom with, from left, Thach Pham of Edison, Nilsa Torres of Perth Amboy and Javier Irizarry of Perth Amboy. Scibienski was selected the 2005 Adult Educator of the Year by the Raritan-based New Jersey Association for Lifelong Learning.

she was a fourth grade teacher; her first job in the United States was in a factory. As factories closed, she moved on to other factories where, at her last job, she was able to "get some experience doing office work. I have a lot of experience in scheduling and payroll."

But that company, too, closed to relocate out of the country.

"I was trying to learn English on my own," she explained. "If I

didn't understand a word, I would ask someone or look it up in the dictionary, but here I'm learning the rules of grammar; my English is improving in writing, reading and speaking, too. I feel I'm really learning now."

Torres was considering studying to become a nurse, but Kane is trying to convince her to return to teaching. "My teacher sees that I have the ability to teach, have the

patience and can work well with children, so I'm thinking about that, too."

Kane said: "Most of our students go on from here into training or on to jobs. We have very few drop-outs and many success stories. Our students leave the Community Learning Center with improved self-esteem, increased self-confidence and a feeling of accomplishment."

Military Notes

Air Force Airman Tabitha Filicicchia has graduated from basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. She is the daughter of Jim Filicicchia of Piscataway and Kathleen Newman of Glendale, Ariz., and the stepdaughter of Troy Newman of Glendale.

Marine Corps Pfc. Richard

G. Atkins has completed the personnel clerk course at Camp Lejeune, N.C. He is the son of Richard G. Atkins of Piscataway.

Army National Guard Spc. Yong M. Kim has returned to the U.S. after a deployment to U.S. combat operations in the Middle East. He is a combat medic assigned to the

50th Maintenance Support Battalion in Jersey City.

Kim is the son of Jung Ja Park of Reading Road, Edison, and a 1996 alumnus of Edison High School.

Army Pvt. Gregory V. Crane has graduated from basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C. He is the brother of Kristine Crane of

Piscataway and the son of Frank Crane of Fords.

Marine Corps Sgt. Maj. James E. Peterson has reported for duty with Marine Aircraft Group 36 at the Marine Corps Air Station in Futenma, Japan. He is a 1980 graduate of St. Joseph's High School in Metuchen.

Marine Corps Pvt. Ruben D. Bramhall has completed the personnel clerk course at Personnel Administration School, located at Camp Lejeune, N.C. He is the son of Ana R. and Robert E. Bramhall of Piscataway.

Seamen Recruit Lauren C. Evans, Michael K. Liu and

David M. Pellicane have completed Navy basic training at Great Lakes, Ill.

Evans is the niece of Jill S. McConey of Piscataway. Liu, a 1999 alumnus of Edison High School, is the son of Jaw Liu of Edison. Pellicane, a 2004 alumnus of Piscataway High School, is the son of Patricia A. Lewis and Steve R. Pellicane of Piscataway.

Legal Notices

ORDINANCE NO. 1687-06
NOTICE OF PENDING BOND ORDINANCE AND SUMMARY
The bond ordinance, the summary terms of which are included herein, has been finally adopted by the Borough of Middlesex, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, on June 27, 2006 and the 20 day period of limitation within which a suit, action or proceeding questioning the validity of such ordinance can be commenced, as provided in the Local Bond Law, has begun to run from the date of the first publication of this statement. Copies of the full ordinance are available at no cost and during regular business hours, at the Clerk's office for members of the general public who request the same. The summary of the terms of such bond ordinance follows:
Title: "Bond Ordinance Providing for Various Capital Improvements of the Borough of Middlesex, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey, Appropriating the Aggregate Amount of \$1,358,900 Therefor and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,100,955 Bonds or Notes of the Borough to Finance Part of the Cost Thereof."
Purposes:

Purpose	Appropriation and Estimated Cost	Estimated Maximum Amount of Bonds or Notes	Period of Usefulness
a) Collector of Taxes: Acquisition of a desktop folder inserter, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$11,025	\$10,473	5 years
b) Department of Public Works: Acquisition of various vehicles, including a dump truck for the Roads Division, a 4x4 utility truck with plow and lift gate for the Sewer Division, a 4x4 pickup truck with plow and lift gate and a turn mower for the Parks Division and a garbage truck for the Garbage Division, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$431,064	\$409,511	5 years
c) Department of Public Works (Parks Division): Replacement of fencing at various fields, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$55,123	\$52,367	15 years
d) Department of Public Works (Roads Division): Improvements to Orchard Road, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$330,740 (includes the NJDOT Grant)	\$124,203	10 years
e) Department of Public Works: Improvements to the roof of the Borough's garage, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$7,001	\$6,651	15 years
f) Fire Department: Acquisition of a sports utility vehicle, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$66,148	\$62,841	5 years
g) Fire Department: Acquisition of various equipment, including pagers and compressor diesel exhausts, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$10,584	\$10,054	5 years
h) Fire Department: Improvements to Fire Headquarters, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$330,740	\$314,203	15 years
i) Library: Acquisition of various equipment, including personal computers, a color laser printer and task chairs, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$8,434	\$8,012	5 years
j) Assessment: Acquisition of computers, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$2,205	\$2,095	5 years
k) Administration: Miscellaneous repairs, as more specifically described and set forth on a list on file in the Borough Clerk's office which is incorporated by reference and set forth at length herein and is hereby approved, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$92,607	\$87,977	15 years
l) Parker Fire House: Replacement of the overhead door, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$5,512	\$5,237	15 years
m) Rescue Squad: Acquisition of a boat motor/lift/lift suction units, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$7,717	\$7,331	15 years
TOTALS	\$1,358,900	\$1,100,955	

Appropriation: \$1,358,900
Bonds/Notes Authorized: \$1,100,955
Grants Appropriated: \$200,000 grant expected to be received from the New Jersey Department of Transportation.
Section 20 Costs: \$126,300
Useful Life: 9.66 years

This Notice is published pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-17.
\$76.12

Kathleen Anello, Clerk
B92.17.7.1/06

MIDDLESEX BOROUGH
NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION
ORDINANCE NO. 1693-06

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SIGN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX (SECTION 428-81(7)) OF THE OFFICIAL CODE OF THE BOROUGH TO CLARIFY THE FACT THAT THE TWO (2) ANIMATED ELECTRONIC SIGNS, ONE ERRECTED BY THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX AND ONE ERRECTED BY THE MIDDLESEX BOARD OF EDUCATION ARE EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE SIGN ORDINANCE SECTION OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE

Notice is hereby given that the following Ordinance was adopted at a Public Meeting of the Borough Council of Middlesex, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey, held on the 27th day of June, 2006 in the Municipal Building, 1200 Mountain Avenue, Middlesex, New Jersey.

Kathleen Anello
Borough Clerk
B93.17.7.1/06

MIDDLESEX BOROUGH
NOTICE OF ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION
ORDINANCE NO. 1694-06

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX BY AMENDING CHAPTER 355, STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL
The above ordinance was introduced at a public meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Middlesex, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey, held on June 27, 2006 and will be further considered for the final passage after a public hearing at a Public Meeting of said Borough Council to be held at the Municipal Building, in said Borough on July 11, 2006 at 8:00 P.M.

Kathleen Anello
Borough Clerk
B94.17.7.1/06

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Dunellen track meet today

DUNELLEN — The Recreation Department sponsors the first Dunellen Track and Field Invitational today in Columbia Park.

Age groupings are: Toddler (3-6 years old), Sub-Bantam (born 1998-99), Bantam (born 1996-97), Midget (1994-95) and Youth (born 1992-93). Ribbons will be awarded to each athlete in the Toddler category. Medals will be given for first, second and third place in other categories. Trophies will be awarded for teams that finish first, second and third. Register at Borough Hall before the meet or in Columbia Park beginning at 8:30 a.m. on race day. For more information, visit www.dunellen.com or call (732) 752-2466, Ext. 19.

Middlesex church hosts blood drive

MIDDLESEX — The Middlesex Presbyterian Church will host a Community Wide Blood Drive 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday. "What a wonderful way to share life and to offer potential for life by giving blood," said the Rev. Neal D. Presa, pastor. "In partnership with the American Red Cross chapter and Middlesex Presbyterian Church, we are sponsoring this community blood drive to invite community members to give a pint of themselves to help others they don't know but who will need help one day. It costs little on the part of the donor, but it sure will mean a whole lot to people in need of blood."

To make an appointment, call (800) 448-3543 and mention Middlesex Presbyterian Church or visit www.pleasegiveblood.org (use zip code 08846) to link to this blood drive.

'Mammal Mania' after the Fourth

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — "Mammal Mania" comes to the South Plainfield Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 5.

Boys and girls ages 4-up can see mammals from around the world.

Mammals' behavior, their habitats and relationships with humans are also explored.

The program is presented as part of the Summer Reading Club. Registration is required; call (908) 754-7885 or visit the library at 2484 Plainfield Ave.

Scrap hosting concert July 8

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — At 7 p.m. on July 8 the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus will be hosting its second annual live acoustic concert with pop recording artists Billy and Rose Falcon. Tickets are limited and are available by advance sales only. All proceeds will go towards the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus charity fund. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for anyone under 18. This price includes the concert and the "after show" party where the performers will mingle with the audience and refreshments will be served. For tickets or additional information, call Brian Cargill at (908) 755-9717.

See reptiles live at borough library

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — "The Strange World of Reptiles" can be found at the South Plainfield Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 17.

This free program features the four main groups of reptiles: crocodiles, turtles, lizards and snakes. Boys and girls ages 4 and older are invited.

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

Learn how to grow herbs in the garden

SOUTH BRUNSWICK — Learn how to grow herbs in the garden in a workshop with master gardener Donna Pemberton.

This workshop is at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 19, at the Earth Center in Davidson's Mill Pond Park.

Attendees will also find out how to make herb-flavor vinegar from the herbs left over at the end of the year.

Fee is \$20. Registration is required; call (732) 398-5262.

Scrap booking for children

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The South Plainfield Free Public Library wants children to get into scrap booking. Boys and girls ages 8-up can make a photo sharing card at 9 a.m. July 22. Creative Memories consultant Dayel Giammarino leads this workshop. Bring six to 10 photos for the project. Fee is \$8.

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

Learn how to maximize an IRA

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — It's never too late to "Maximize Your IRA." Kevin Garron from New York Life explains the many ways to do so at 11 a.m. July 29 at the South Plainfield Free Public Library. No registration is necessary.

For more information, visit www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us or call (908) 754-7885. The library is adjacent to the Municipal Building at 2484 Plainfield Ave.

MCC magazine earns honors

EDISON — For the second year in a row the Middlesex County College literary and arts magazine *Myriad* has garnered national awards.

Myriad received the 2005 Silver Crown Award of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. The magazine is published in the spring and distributed free of cost to the MCC community. The college also received four Gold Circle Awards from the association for individual achievement. They went to Caroline Calogero, for her essay "Living Legacy;" Andrew Lowe of Edison, Nicole Weik and Barbara Quilla, for spread design; John Baginski, for black-and-white photography, and Brian Cole of South Plainfield, for color photography. All awards were presented at the association's annual conference at the Roosevelt Hotel in Manhattan. The students who received individual awards were honored at the annual dean's tea on the MCC campus.

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