

Stealing the show

Brittany Lincicome, 20, surprised a star-studded field to capture the title at HSBC Women's Match Play Championship at Hamilton Farms in Bedminster. The 39seeded Lincicome knocked off the No. 2 and 3 seeds before beating No. 8 Juli Inkster Sunday for her first pro victory. Page A7.



Balloons take flight

Get ready for the 24th annual Quick Chek New Jersey Festival of Ballooning, which is coming to Solberg Airport Readington, July 28-30. In addition to daily balloon launches, there will be food, music and fireworks. Page A5.

Academy graduates

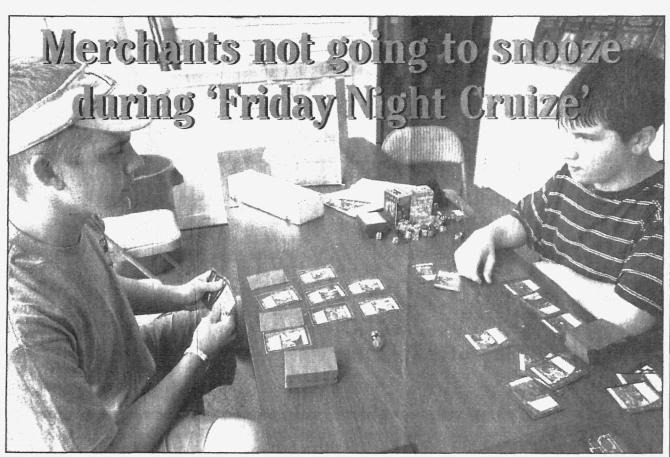
EDISON - Forty-two Middlesex County residents and one Somerset County resident have graduated from the Middlesex County Auxiliary Police Academy.

The ceremony was held June 28 in the Performing Arts Center at Middlesex County College. The graduates will be assigned to police forces in seven Middlesex County municipalities. One auxiliary officer will be assigned to the Bedminster Police Department. They are volunteer positions that enhance public safety

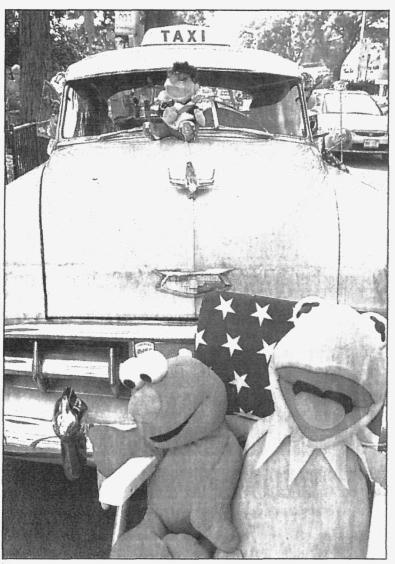
"I applaud the dedication of these fine men and women who not only committed themselves to the rigorous coursework but will now volunteer their time to help their neighbors," said Freeholder Christopher D. Rafano, chairman of the county Law and Public Safety Committee.

Each of the graduates completed more than 145 hours of coursework during the 16-week program aimed at preparing them for a variety of situations and procedures they will encounter on the job.

CommentaryA4
Community LifeA8
Sports
Weekend PlusA3



Main Street tradition equals sales



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER (TOP); THE REPORTER/2005 (ABOVE) Muppet characters adorn this 1954 Chevrolet yellow taxi, above, parked on Main Street in Somerville last summer during a "Friday Night Cruize." The tradition has paid off for merchants, who are seeing more foot traffic and sales on Friday nights. Area residents John Schulz, 16, and Will McGirl, 14, top, headed on down to Main Street during a recent Friday night to play the Marvel trading card game VS at The Only Game in Town.

Somerville Art Walk, taking place Thursday nights this month, is another reason to visit Main Street.

By ALLISON ELYSE GUALTIERI

SOMERVILLE - When the Somerville Cruizers' "Friday Night Cruize" rolls into town, it's not just a boon for the restaurants. From Crazy Deals to the Hungry Hound, some Main Street merchants have taken their cue from the crowds, and stay open, unadvertised, for the Friday night event.

"When it's dark and they've seen the cars and they've eaten dinner, they still want something to do," said Cynthia Ryan-Nannen, co-owner of The Back door, "After 8 o'clock is some of our best business hours."

While businesses traditionally close around five or six, Nannen and her business partner, Deborah Ryan-Pelletier, believe that flexibility is important to their business and their

ideal of customer service. "Our business is customer service, and we want to accommodate that," said Nannen. If a customer is running late and calls the store, she will stay open, she said, and if there's a crowd at an event or customers shopping, she

'Some weekends are hit or miss, but we have to be flexible with that," she said, adding that she watches the crowd to judge. While officially The Back Door closes at 8 p.m. on Friday, often people attending "Friday Night Cruize" are just finishing up with dinner and looking for something new to do, which Nannen sees as an opportunity to introduce new people to her store.

"What we found is that we get a lot of exposure. It's a good opportunity for businesses to capitalize on that," she said, noting that the people attending the cruise night who stop by her shop don't always buy something that night, but often return to make purchases. Some stores, however, do see an immediate

Continued on page A2

Flood control funding gets OK

By AMY S. BOBROWSKI

The funds may be less than area officials hoped for, but just \$5 million will make sure that work on the Green Brook Flood Control Project

Earlier this month, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved a bill calling for \$158 million for the state's numerous energy and water projects. The bill, which will come to a vote before the full Senate and House of Representatives later this month, allocates \$5 million for the Green Brook Flood Control Project.

"These projects will protect New Jersey from floods, preserve our environment and keep our economy strong," said Sen. Frank Lautenberg.

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

For the past two years, President Bush has left the Green Brook Flood Control Project out of his federal budget recommendations, but luckily with the fighting of Rep. Mike Ferguson, R-7, and Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen, R-11, \$5 million was reinstated last year for the Army Corps of Engineers to move forward on work.

"Once these things stop, it's hard to get them funded again," Ferguson said in a previous interview.

In May, the House Representatives Appropriations Committee approved legislation to give the Corps another \$5 million for the project.

Since work began in 2001, about \$60 million has been put to use in Bound Brook rebuilding an East Main Street bridge at a higher elevation, constructing the pumping station and installing most of a protective "U" shape of levees. An additional \$30 million is necessary to finish the loop around Bound Brook, which includes the raising of the Talmage Avenue Bridge, expected to start in the fall. With all the features in place, the development will provide protection against a 150-year

"We'd like to get more, and hopefully we will next year," said Joe Debler, chairman of the Green Brook Flood Control Commission, a group that formed to lobby for funding following floods that devastated the area in the 1970s.

If appropriated, the funds will be used to initiate contracts for portions of the levee system, the Conrail Bridge removal and the raising of the Talmage Avenue Bridge.

Construction on the new Talmage Avenue Bridge is expected to start in the fall and cost \$12 to \$15 million. The existing bridge will be replaced with a bridge 136 feet long, 60 feet

Continued on page A2

HIGHLAND PARK Organic produce arrives at market

year, to better serve residents, the Highland Park Farmer's Market will offer produce grown at the largest organic farm in New Jersey.

E.R. & Son, which operates on 40 acres in Colts Neck, will open a booth every Friday until Nov. 3 at the Farmer's Market, selling over 50 varieties of organic produce. The farm is owned and operated by Ed Lidzbarksi, a native of Sayreville and resident of Monroe Township. The farm is a major supplier of organic food to Whole Foods Market.

"We are very pleased to offer Highland Park residents the chance to purchase organic vegetables from one of the most reputable organic farms in the state," said Rita Finstein, a borough resident and the Farmer's Market on-site manager.

The Farmer's Market is open from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. every Friday until Nov. 3 in the parking lot of

HIGHLAND PARK - This the former Senior Recreation Center at 222 Raritan Ave. This is the 10th consecutive year of a farmer's market sponsored by the borough and Main Street Highland Park.

The Farmer's Market celebrates its 10th anniversary with a community cookbook with recipes from across town and around the world, featuring ingredients found at the market. The recipes were submitted by local residents and merchants. The cookbook will beavailable for purchase at the market in late July or Augus A cooking demonstration scheduled for September to help market-goers turn the fresh ingredients into diaing delicacies.

Each week patrons can enjoy lunch at the Farmer's Market café while listening to the music of local musicians one Friday a month. New this year

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A cut above



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Shawn "Boogie" Leyden, co-owner of Mirror Image Barber Shop in Bound Brook, is seen at left getting ready to cut a young clients hair. The shop is always busy, in part because its clients know they can get a good looking haircut. "More or less it's about skill," he said. "The Hip-Hop generation, that whole audience, we control it. Afros and long hair are out of style, which brings you back to skill." PAGE A8

Organic produce arrives

Continued from page A1

at the market, Shushan Grill, will serve fresh sandwiches, burakas and pizza to go.

The Highland Park Farmer's Market is one of the largest farmers' markets in the state. This year's vendors include

Bakers Bounty (Linden) brick oven Italian bread, fresh seasonal cakes, pies and desserts.

Donaldson Farms (Hackettstown) - produce, including peaches, squash and hand-picked sweet corn.

Dr. Pickle (Wayne) - New York-style pickles out of the barrel, sauerkraut and marinated mushrooms.

Hoboken Farm — Fresh mozzarella, Italian bread, steak, crab cakes, stuffed salmon, stuffed sole and prepared chicken.

MOTOROLA

J & L Farm (Monroe Township) — Peppers, sweet corn and tomatoes.

Melick's Town Farm - Fresh seasonal (Oldwick) fruits and vegetables, including peaches, apples, cherries, plums, corn, tomatoes and fall

R & K Farm (Monroe Township) - Produce, specializing in eggplant, peppers, basil and cut flowers.

Suydam Farms (Franklin Township) - Fresh cut flow-

Von Thun's Farm (Monmouth Junction) Fresh produce, including blueberries, peaches, apples, nectarines, sweet corn, tomatoes, peppers and fresh cut flowers. For information on Main Street Highland Park, visit www.mainstreethp.org or call (732) 828-8444.

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Main Street tradition equals sales

Continued from page A1

increase in business. Simmy Shah, owner of Crazy Deals and Price Wise, said that while the weather is nice, Fridays his businesses see more traffic.

"We increase our sales on a Friday about 25 percent when the weather's nice," he said. "It's a good boost."

While both of his stores stay open until 9 p.m., an hour later than usual, Price Wise sees more business, he said, but it's worth it for both stores.

"As long as there are people on the streets, it really doesn't make sense to close," he said. Though it is still early in the Sandford said his jewelry store has already seen people come in as a result of the classic cars coming to town early.

"I had a bunch of people come in a few weeks ago, so I expect more for this year," he said. "I have people come in and look around, and then come back."

If people are coming in, Sandford said he stays open. If not, he closes, though he usually stays open later if just for the exposure.

RanD Pitts, of Sound Express/Xpress Gear, said staying open late makes sense for his clientele.

"Our customer either goes

Cruize Night season, Paul the same time, from 9 to 5," he said. "They go out at night."

The after-work, after-school crowd comes around later. many on their ways home. While Pitts is officially open until 8 p.m., if there are people in the store shopping or there is an event going on, he'll stay as long as his customers will.

"On cruisers nights, we're open until whenever," he said. We have people come in and look around, and then come back during the week."

That experience isn't unique to his urban style and hip-hop

"I've had customers come in during the holiday season and to work or goes to school at say, 'Oh, we stopped in during the Cruizers," said Nannen. "The event brings people into town, and once they're here, it's up to the individual businesses to bring them in."

To encourage customers to return, Ryan-Nannen and Ryan-Pelletier are planning an incentive tied to the event, she said. For example, a customer who purchases something at the store will receive a VIP card for their next purchase.

And the cruise nights in themselves are a reason to stay open, according to Sandford.

"I'd stay open all night just to look at the cars," he said. "Some of them are just magnificent; real works of art."

Flood control funding gets OK

Continued from page A1

wide and six and half feet higher at its crest. Each of the roadway approaches to the bridge along Talmage Avenue, East Main Street and Tea Street - will be raised to meet the new bridge elevations. The portion of Wheatland Avenue will be

raised to meet Tea Street. Late last month, John Paul Woodley, assistant secretary of the Army for Civil Works, toured the project's facilities in Bound Brook at the invitation of Ferguson. As director and supervisor of the Civil Works Program, Woodley plays a key role in assessing

and directing the Army Corps

of Engineers' projects and budget priorities.

"The purpose of the visit was to show him the project that way he can put in a line item for the project in the (in subsequent years)," Debler said. "Once something is in there, it's easier to get it increased."

The appropriations also

included \$150,000 for the Stony Brook and the 238square-mile Millstone River Basin that spans five counties. A watershed management program that will protect against flood damage is currently in progress. Serious flooding resulted in severe damage, especially in the Manville area.

these programs tied in to the

Little Pigs," 1 p.m. Tuesday,

"The True Story of the Three

July 11. Kari Cooper from Youth

Stages leads this drama class

Registration is required for

"Rum Pum Pum," 1 p.m.

Tuesday, July 18. Cooper also

here to ages 6-8. Registration is

leads this drama class, open

"Moogie's Animal Balloon

Twisting," 1:30 p.m. Tuesday,

Summer Reading Club:

for ages 9-11.

this program.

required.



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Creative teens invited to writing workshop

PISCATAWAY — Teens are invited to The Write Stuff, a Creative Writing Workshop, led by an honors English teacher, on three consecutive Tuesdays — July 18 and 25 from 7 to 8 p.m. at the J. F. Kennedy Library ocated at 500 Hoes

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Lane. Class size is limited, so please reserve your place by signing up at the reference desk at Kennedy Library or be calling (732) 463-1633, Ext. 6.

Hospital will hold two blood drives in July

NEW BRUNSWICK - Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital will hold a blood drive 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 18 and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 25 at the RWJUH Arline and Henry Schwartzman Courtyard, Somerset Street.

Appointments for blood drives are not necessary.

Anyone who is not available during the above-listed dates and times should call the New Brunswick Affiliated Hospitals Blood Center at (732) 235-8100 ext 244 to schedule an appoint-

In The Towns

Middlesex youth can attend 'Mini-Academy'

MIDDLESEX — The Middlesex Police Department sponsors a "Police Mini-Academy" from Monday through Friday, Aug. 7-11.

This program is open to all pupils in Grades 6-8 who attend Middlesex Borough schools.

A certificate of participation is awarded to each pupil who completes the course. Cost of \$40 includes a T-shirt,

cap and all learning materials. For registration, call Capt. Kevin Reilly at (732) 356-1900, Ext.

Programs tie in with reading club MIDDLESEX — The Middlesex Public Library has

July 25. Boys and girls ages 7-12 will love twisting the balloons with him. Registration is required.

For registration where it is required, call (732) 356-6602 or visit the library at 1300 Mountain Ave.

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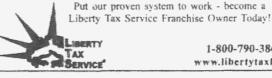
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In The Towns

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 refer-

ence desk of Kennedy Library. For more information, call (732) 463-1633, Ext. 6.

Metucher, businesses hosting spring events

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

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

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

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

Highland Park has summer fun planned HIGHLAND PARK - The fol-

lowing 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 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

The Middlesex County

Department of Workforce

Development now has its Web

site in Spanish along with

English skills will be able to

access information about a

full menu of job and literacy

services available at the One-

Stop Career Centers in New

Brunswick and Perth Amboy,

as well as literacy services at

the Community Learning

Center at Roosevelt Care

Freeholder Director David

The new tool will eliminate a

barrier which will allow those

tion about employment ser-

vices and programs in the

county to more easily find out

who need to access informa-

according

to

'Job seekers with limited

English.

Center.'

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 want-

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

Company renews its 'spot' cleanup

SOUTH PLAINFIELD - Midco Residential Services has renewed its participation in the local "Adopt a Spot" program.

Company employees clean up the roadway between the transfer station on Harmich Road and the intersection of Belmont Avenue and Metuchen Road. In addition. Midco has hired a street sweeper to sweep the roadway twice a month and a landscaping compa-

ny to pull out the weeds. "Adopt a Spot" is sponsored by the South Plainfield Clean Business Association. For full information, call Alice Tempel at (908) 226-7621

Police honor 15 with awards

Workforce Web site now available in Spanish

better job.

Visit

PISCATAWAY - The Police Department held an awards ceremony at the Municipal Complex for policemen who performed outstanding service in the past two

Sgt. Arthur Randolph and Patrolman Philip Zmuda received

their English skills and find a

the Chief's Achievement Award. Detective Dean Petrillo received the Medal of Merit, Patrolman Kevin Parmalee, Patrolman David Piro and Detective Michael Trojanowski received the Lifesaving Award. Patrolman Michael Nols received an Honorable Service Award.

Awards were presented to officers who used the department defibrillator to save lives. Patrolman Albert Annuzzi was honored for saving two lives. Patrolmen Mark Portnoy, Thomas Slover, Michael Smith and Rodwick Solomon, along with Detective Lance Williams, were honored for each saving a life. Williams also received an Honorable Service Award.

In addition, David Locke and Patricia Schibanoff received the Civilian Service Award for providing services that may be deemed beneficial to the department or the township. Such service may include apprehending a criminal or responding to an emergency.

County organization seeking volunteers

EDISON — The Jewish Family & Vocational Service is seeking those interested in being a "Chef for the Day."

Volunteers are needed to cook lunch for elderly members in a social adult day program. Those who are available at least one day a month and are interested can call E.J. Berman at (732) 777-1940, Ext. 122.

Firm cited for its work on Route 18 project

SOUTH PLAINFIELD -Gannett Fleming Inc. has received an Honor Award from the American Council of Engineering Companies of New Jersey. The engineering firm was cited for its work on the Route 18 extension in Piscataway. Honor

Awards were given as part of the council's annual Engineering Excellence Awards

Police lieutenant finishes program

EDISON — Patrick W. Kelly has graduated from the West Point Command and Leadership Program, held at the United States Military Academy in West Point, N.Y.

He is supervisor of the Community Policing Unit in the Edison Police Department with the rank of lieutenant. Kelly joined the Police Department in 1985, became a sergeant in 1994 and was promoted to lieutenant in 2004.

The program is open to officers in New Jersey police departments and is sponsored by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police.

Middlesex again a 'Tree City'

MIDDLESEX - This community has been named a Tree City USA for the 17th year.

Tree City USA is a program sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service.

Middlesex has met the four standards to become a Tree City USA: a tree department, a tree care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program and a local observance of Arbor Day.

BBHS Class of '66 plans 40th reunion

BOUND BROOK - The Bound Brook High School Class of 1966 holds its 40th reunion on Saturday, Nov. 25.

Those with information on "missing" classmates, call Becky at (908) 850-8559 or Amy at (908)

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Air Force Airman Tabitha basic training at Lackland Air Newman of Glendale.

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 Support

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

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.

personnel clerk course at School, located at Camp Lejeune, N.C. He is the son of

www.co.middlesex. nj.us/employment; under 'Departments" select "Workforce Development," then click on the yellow "Español" box in the upper right-hand corner. The user

will then see all content displayed in Spanish. Plans are to print Literary Services and Community Learning Center brochures in Spanish, Gujarati, Chinese, Vietnamese and Russian, the five most popular languages in

"We recognize the value of all our residents," Crabiel said. "We hope that the translation of the web pages and brochures will enable more of them to realize their full where to go and how to get potential and become a vital help to improve to improve part of our workforce."

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Military News

Filicicchia has graduated from Force Base, Texas. She is the daughter of Jim Filicicchia of Piscataway and Kathleen Newman of Glendale, Ariz., and the stepdaughter of Troy

Marine Corps Pfc. Richard

Maintenance Su Battalion in Jersey City.

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

Marine Corps Pvt. Ruben D. Bramhall has completed the Personnel Administration Ana R. and Robert E. Bramhall of Piscataway.



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Time for reform?

The news from Trenton on Monday was good for those who have long-campaigned to change the way New Jersey operates.

Gov. Jon Corzine and leaders in the state Legislature have agreed to begin a special legislative session near the end of the month aimed at developing true property tax reform. New Jersey enjoys the unique privilege of having the highest property taxes in the nation.

Among the areas the special session will deal with through four joint legislative committees - are: Education costs; consolidation of local government; the costs of public employee benefits, including pensions, and the call for a citizens' tax convention.

Is the time right for property tax reform? The question is better posed: Is the time ever wrong to discuss overhauling the way government services in New Jersey are funded. But is property tax reform enough?

In many ways, we may end

07102, (973) 645-3030

07102, (973) 639-8700

NJ 07059, (908) 757-7835

NJ 07960, (973) 984-0711

(908)-526-4222

STATE OFFICE HOLDERS

The following is contact information for state representatives serving Somerset County, as well

as members of Congress serving Central Jersey.

One Gateway Center, 11th Floor, Newark, NJ

One Gateway Center, 23rd Floor, Newark, NJ

45 Mountain Blvd., Building D, Suite 1, Warren,

CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE HOLDERS

- U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez (D)

(202) 224-4744 (Washington, D.C.) - U.S. Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg (D)

Hart Senate Office Building, Suite 324,

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

Rep. Michael Ferguson (R-7th)

214 Cannon House Office Building,

Washington, DC 20515, (202) 225-5361

2442 Rayburn House Office Building,

- Rep. Rodney Frelinghusyen (R-11th)

Washington, DC 20515-3011, (202) 225-5034

Sen. Walter J. Kavanaugh (R-16th)

76 North Bridge Street, Somerville, NJ 08876,

30 Schuyler Place, Second Floor, Morristown,

up "robbing Peter to pay Paul," as the saying goes. Reducing property taxes doesn't mean schools will cost less to operate or road work and municipal expenses go down. All it means is that funds from property taxes could no longer be the primary source of revenue for local government and schools. Assuming there are no other reforms, the state will have to cover the lost revenue.

Of course, property tax reform will mean other taxes income taxes and sales taxes - will have to increase. This, in turn, spreads the burden across many shoulders, not just property owners. But will it be enough without some serious overhaul of how the state collects taxes?

There is another reform that must happen hand-in-hand with property tax relief - that of home rule. New Jersey has 567 municipalities. Somerset County alone has 21 municipalities. Still, solutions to home rule fare better here than elsewhere. There are

16th)

526-3600

three regional high schools and many communities - as well as the county - that work together to share services and participate in cooperative purchasing, where bulk items are purchased under one contract and then shared by all those who contributed funding.

Somerset County has earned accolades and awards for its shared services initiatives. But will it be enough? Depending on how far property tax reform goes, it may not be enough to simply find more ways to share, but a question of how to do what is needed now with less. And that could mean big changes for some of the county's littlest communities.

For property tax reform to work all four of the initiatives being discussed by each of the joint legislative committees will have to be discussed. Otherwise, property tax reform will be another good idea lost to the political mechanisms of the Garden

- Assemblyman Christopher Bateman (R-

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

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

The Chronicle welcomes comments and news

tips. The following is a list of our staff and how to

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Dave Allena, sports editor, (908) 575-6690; dal-

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36 East Main St., Somerville, NJ 08876, (908)-

Question of the week:

Will the sales tax increase change how you buy "big ticket" items?



"No, it's only 1 percent and I'd rather see the (state's) real estate tax reduced as it's very high. SHEILA MUNYER



"I don't expect it to impact at all on my spending habits. I can absorb the increase.



ED BUTLER Glen Gardner



"Absolutely. As the costs are high anyhow, the incremental price increase will take it over the top. I'll go to the Web and other places to shop. JEAN KÔNDEK

West Amwell



"Probably not, it's just a penny. But I don't like how we achieved the goal there were other ways to get there. GINA SORGE Harding Township

Letters to the Editor

Help needed at **Brook Theatre**

To The Editor:

If you've been wondering about the future of the Brook Theatre, you're not alone. We've been working diligently behind the scenes to get the majority of the construction completed. I'd love to tell you that everything is opening-night ready but that would be stretching the truth.

The fact is, we need you more than ever before. It looks like we're about to get our certificate of occupancy soon. Before the borough's building inspector shows up for his final trip to the Brook, there's plenty of painting and cleaning that needs to be done.

During July, we will have a volunteer night every Tuesday and Thursday from 7-10 p.m. Any time you can give us will be greatly appreciated. Dust off your work duds and drop me an e-mail (gerry@brookarts.org) on your availability.

I guess it's time to answer the

question that's been on everybody's mind: When is the Brook going to open? Well, I'm going to hedge a little here ... just a little ... because it depends on you, our trusty volunteers, to make the final push before we can open. Still, it looks like fall 2006. That's right, this year.

To the volunteers: Don't forget to memorialize all of your hard earned work by sponsoring a seat. Your name will be engraved on a seatback nameplate. This will let the audience know that you contributed to the rebirth of this Somerset County landmark. Seat sponsorships are \$250 until opening night. After that, the price will double to \$500. You already made a difference, why not make sure everyone knows it? Hope to see you on a Tuesday

or Thursday night real soon. GERRY APPEL Executive Director, Brook Arts Bound Brook

Law would hurt private schools

To The Editor:

As an advocate for 142 approved private special education programs in New Jersey, we have been keeping a close eye on the Student Development Code which is slated for a vote by the New Jersey State Board of Education on Aug. 2. We support the code in its current form which would allow public and private schools the flexibility to use part-time certified school

The school nurse association is pushing hard to reinstate the full-time nursing requirement. We strongly oppose this because many of the students we serve have serious medical conditions that require nurses with acute care experience.

Because certified school nurses are not always available or may not have acute care experience, private schools need the flexibil-

ity to use certified school nurses or registered nurses depending on the medical needs of their students.

Forcing private schools, with an average enrollment of 75 students, to hire full-time certified school nurses is unnecessary. Some charter schools and public districts also have low enrollments. In difficult fiscal times, it is not good use of taxpayer money. It also is very difficult to find certified nurses who are willing to work with special education students that have acute medical needs

GERARD THIERS

Hamilton Square The writer is executive director of ASAH, a professional organization of New Jersey-based private schools and agencies which provide highly-specialized services to over 10,000 children and adults with special needs.

Raritan leader an asset to borough

On June 17 I read a letter in a newspaper that was sent to the editor by Glenn Marton and family from Raritan.

In the Martons' letter they thanked the Raritan mayor and council for dedicating an award to his father Koral Martin for years of service as the public works supervisor in the borough. I want to say this was a much-deserved award. In this letter the Martons thanked Councilman Victor J. Laggini Jr. for his quick response. He also mentioned that Laggini was and is a man of his word for following up with this much-deserved award.

I too would like to thank Laggini for his fast response to a situation I had in my neighbor-

hood. We have had cars that drive with excess speed in the

area of my home. I mentioned this to Laggini about the problem and he responded by speaking with the local Police Department, mayor and council, and had 25 mph signs put up in this area within days. I would also like to say that since these signs have been put up I have definitely noticed a decline with speeders in my area. I want to say thank you for his fast response for the needs of residents. I also want to thank the mayor, council and Police Department who have worked very closely along with Laggini to better the town which we call home.

> CAMILLO DIRADO Raritan

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.co

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

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

Correction policy

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

Somerset County News

County is holding a tire drop-off July 20-22

SOUTH BOUND BROOK -The Somerset County Division of Solid Waste Management and the South Bound Brook Department of Public Works are collecting used tires at Robert Morris School, 122 Elizabeth Ave., 8 a.m. to noon Thursday through Saturday, July 20-22.

There is no charge to county residents, but there is a limit of eight tires per household.

Funding for the drop-off program in South Bound Brook is through a grant from the New Department Jersey Environmental Protection.

For more information and e-mail directions, solidwaste@co.somerset.nj.us or call (908) 231-7109.

Bridgewater nurse receives scholarship

SOMERVILLE Community Visiting Nurse Association has presented the first Caroline E. Krajewski Manney Nursing Scholarship to Smeretsky Laryssa Bridgewater.

She attends the UMDNJ-School of Nursing in Newark and received the award at the VNA's annual meeting on May 16. The grant is named for the late Caroline E. Krajewski Manney, director of the VNA from 1969-85 when it was known as the Somerset Valley Visiting Nurse Association.

Presenting the award was Manney's son, Steve Manney, a health officer with the Somerville Health

Department. The scholarship will be pre-

sented each year to a Somerset County resident enrolled in an accredited nursing program in New Jersey. Selection will be based on academic achievement, a letter of recommendation and an essay on why she chose nursing as a profession.

Family mentoring is offered by local group

SOMERVILLE - Jewish Family Service of Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties has a Family Mentoring Program for families in Somerset County. The program is open to any

family regardless of religious, ethnic or financial background. Training for volunteers begins at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 8, at the Jewish Family Service, 150 W. High St. For more information, call (908) 725-7799.



Aldrewsker fille stellter til tilltillter i Liettere er er er bliggeter er er er bliggeter er er er er er er e

Freeholder Deputy Director Robert Zaborowski, left, presents Somerville Mayor Brian Gallagher two Economic Development Incentive Program ceremonial checks: \$50,000 for the façade improvement program and \$100,000 for the redevelopment implementation program for the landfill and the east and west ends of town. They are joined by the mayor's son, Brendan.

COURTESY SOMERSET COUNTY

Heads up, here come the hot air balloons

READINGTON - Tickets Eating Contest. are now on sale for the 24th annual Quick Chek New Jersey Festival of Ballooning in association with PNC Bank, July 28-30 at Solberg Airport.

The annual event is North America's largest summertime hot air balloon festival and is the premier family entertainment event in the Garden State, attracting 150,000 people each year.

The three-day, jam-packed festival features up to 125 hot air balloons and offers morning-through-night family entertainment, including fireworks, live musical entertainment, children's amusement rides, and hundreds of arts and crafts booths and food vendors.

A special return feature this year is the Quick Chek Original Toasted Italian Sub

Here's an overview of this year's festival highlights: BALLOONS

Up to 125 colorful hot air balloons, both sport and special-shaped, are scheduled to fill the skies over the scenic Hunterdon County country-

Special-shaped balloons are a staple of the festival. This year's group includes the 135foot-tall Quick Chek Eagle; the PNC Bank American Flag, the world's largest flying American flag; the Little Bees, the only balloons that hold hands and kiss in midflight, a pink, 16-story high Energizer Bunny that's taller than the Statue of Liberty; and Beagle Maximus, the world's largest dog, who is

making his festival debut. Balloon ascensions are scheduled at the calmest

hours of the day, wind and weather permitting: 6:30 p.m. Friday, 6:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Saturday, 6:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday.

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

Kachunga & The Alligator and the Purina Incredible Dog Team head the list of family attractions. Other family shows include the Quick Chek Entertainment Tent, the New Jersey Monthly Magic Corner, the Family Fun Pavilion, the Kid's WB! Crash the Backlot Tour! and plenty of amusement rides.

CONCERTS The festival concert series on the Bud Light Main Stage

begins at 8 p.m. Friday with New Riders of the Purple Sage.

Headlining at 8 p.m. Saturday will be The Charlie Daniels Band, presented by

State Farm in association with New Jersey 101.5.

Peter Frampton, presented by PNC Bank and Q104.3, takes center stage at 3 p.m. Sunday. His performance will be followed by the festival's final hot air balloon ascension at 6:30 p.m. Musical performances are held rain or

FIREWORKS & BALLOON GLOW

Marriott Fireworks Extravaganza is scheduled for 9:30 p.m. Friday. The New Jersey Office of Travel & Tourism Balloon Glow lights up the festival grounds at 9 p.m. Saturday.

FESTIVAL HOURS Festival hours are 1-10 p.m. Friday, July 28; 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, July 29, and 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, July 30.

TICKET SALES Adult tickets are \$17 in WHAT: 2006 24th annual Quick Chek New Jersey Festival of

WHERE: Solberg Airport, Readington

WHEN: July 28-30; Festival hours are 1-10 p.m. Friday, July 28; 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, July 29, and 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, July 30.

TICKETS: Adult tickets are \$17 in advance and \$20 at the gate. For children 54 inches and under, tickets are \$7 in advance and \$10 at the gate. Children ages 3 and under are free. Advance tickets are available at all Quick Chek stores in New Jersey through July 27.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.balloonfestival.com or (800) HOT AIR 9.

advance and \$20 at the gate. For children 54 inches and under, tickets are \$7 in advance and \$10 at the gate. Children ages 3 and under

Advance tickets are available at all Quick Chek stores

in New Jersey through July 27, online at www.balloonfestival.com or by phone at (800) HOT AIR 9.

Park at Raritan Valley College Community Branchburg and ride the shuttle bus to the festival.

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 July 11, 2006 and the 20 day period of limitation within 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 Thereol."

various equipment, including pagers and compressor diesel exhausts, including pagers a

Purpose	Appropriation and Estimated Cost	Estimated Maximum Amount of Bonds or Notes	Period of Usefulness
a) <u>Collector of Taxes</u> : Acquisition of a desktop folder inserter, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$11,025	\$10,473	5 years
b) <u>Department of Public Works</u> : 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	\$431,064	\$409,511	5 years
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.	t is a		
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) <u>Department of Public Works</u> (<u>Roads Division</u>): 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	\$10,584	\$10,054	5 years
	* *		

\$314,203 \$8,434 \$8,012 equipment, including personal computers, a color laser printer and task chairs, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.

k) Administration: Miscellaneous repairs, as more specifically described and as 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.

TOTALS.

 Parker Fire House: Replacement of the overhead door, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto. including all related costs and

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

This Notice is published pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-17. \$76.84 NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION

NANCE NO. 1694-06 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL

\$87,977 \$92,607 \$5,237 \$7,331 expenditures incidental thereto \$1,358,900 \$1,100,955

B96 1T 7/15/06

In The Towns

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. Saturday, 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

Kevin Garron from New York Life explains the many ways to do so at 11 a.m. Saturday, 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.

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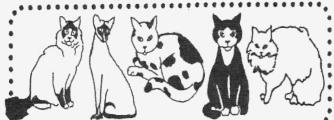
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Campus Notes

Sarah Michelle Weinstein of Edison has received a bachelor's degree in international studies from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md. The daughter of Jeff and Karen Weinstein attended John P. Stevens High School.

Two area students have graduated from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va.

Ai Lin Chiang of Piscataway received a master's degree in counseling and human relations. Emily Stawick of Piscataway received a bachelor's degree in psychology.

Mading Mading of Highland Park received a bachelor's degree in May from Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn.

Eleven area students received degrees in May from the Metropolitan Campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University, located in Teaneck. The graduates and their degrees:

Phyllis Abdul-Raheem of Piscataway, master's degree in educational leadership.

Nicole Dos Santos of Edison, master of administrative science degree.

Edmundo Rufos Piscataway, master of administrative science degree.

Jillian Gervasio of Edison, bachelor's degree in business management. Neal Golding of Piscataway,

master of administrative science degree. Terrence Hoben of Bound Brook, bachelor's degree in indi-

vidualized studies. Gerald Lewis of Piscataway,

bachelor's degree in individualized studies.

Adam McLaughlin of Edison, master of public administration degree.

John Padovano of South Plainfield, master's degree in educational leadership.

Sonya Randolph-Squitieri of Edison, master's degree in edu-

cational leadership.

Katie Truong of Piscataway, master's degree in science.

Two other students achieved academic honors at the Metropolitan Campus of FDU in the spring 2006 semester. Turek Wallace of Piscataway was named to the honors list with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a scale of 4. Kevin Oseghale of Piscataway was named to the dean's list with a grade point average of 3.2 or

Ronald Leuchars

1931 in

lived in

Obituaries

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Jay D. Liggett

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — Jay D. Liggett, 57, died July 3, at his home in Branchburg.

Mr. Liggett was born March 7, 1949 in Canton, Ohio. He lived in La Crosse, Wis., North Plainfield and South Plainfield before moving to Branchburg in 1981.

A technical salesman, Mr. Liggett was employed with Engineered Components in Three Bridges since 1977 and

MIDDLESEX — Ronald I. Leuchars, 74, died July 2, 2006

Middlesex before moving to

Mr. Leuchars was a retired

journeyman machinist with

MAN Roland Inc. He served

two terms as commodore of

the Vikings Yacht Club in

He was an Air Force veteran

of the Korean War and a mem-

ber of the Presbyterian

Surviving are his wife, Ruth;

a daughter, Sarah Maslo and

Church in Bound Brook.

in Bradenton, Fla.

Plainfield, he

Bradenton in 1993.

Laurence Harbor.

Born July 27,

had been its president the past 11 years. He earlier worked in building construction in Wisconsin for five

He was the past exalted ruler of Somerville Elks Lodge 1068 in Bridgewater, which honored him as its Elk of the Year for 2005-06. Mr. Liggett held district and state posts in his 16 years as a member of Lodge 1068. He received the William A. King

Award in 1999 for the highest individual score in the initiation ritual given by the Elks Eastern Division in Kansas City, Mo.

Surviving are his wife, Jan E.; his parents, John R. and Elizabeth McCartney Liggett of Liberty Corner; a son, Jason P. of Burlington, Vt.; two brothers, John M. of Branchburg and Larry L. of West Seneca, N.Y.; and three sisters, Pam Bowman of Basking Ridge,

Andrea Thomas of Austin, Texas, and Colleen Kerr of Rochester, N.Y.

A memorial service and Elks ritual will be held at the Somerville Elks lodge in Bridgewater.

Arrangements are by the Layton Funeral Home in Bedminster. Donations may be sent to Somerville Elks Lodge 1068, BPOE Handicapped Children's Fund, 375 Union Ave., Bridgewater, NJ 08807.

husband Walter "Bud" of Bradenton; a sister, Margaret Stark of Toms River; and a granddaughter, Morgen Maslo

of Bradenton. A memorial service was held Thursday at the Kirkwood Church in Presbyterian Bradenton. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Bound Brook Presbyterian Church, 409 Mountain Ave.,

Bound Brook, NJ 08805. Arrangements are by the Shannon Funeral Homes, Town Chapel, in Bradenton. To send a condolence, visit www.shannonfuneralhomes.co

BRANCHBURG — Robert F. Chernesky, 80, died July 7, 2006

Memorial Home in Piscataway. He was born in Manville and moving to Branchburg in 1962. Bridgewater for 44 years and retired in 1983 as an insurance manager. He was a seaman first

Pacific during World War II. He was a member of Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church

Surviving are three brothers,

Joseph of Florida, Frank of Pennsylvania and James of

Hewitt of Arizona MaryAnn Tomko of South Carolina; a brother-in-law, Frank Gannone of Bound Brook; three sisters-in-law, Nemeth Ernestine Branchburg, Theodora Gannone of Bridgewater and Stephanie Gannone Scottsdale, Ariz.; and several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

A funeral Mass was held lence, visit www.branchburgfu-

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Robert Chernesky

at the Francis E. Parker

lived in that borough before Mr. Chernesky was with American Cyanamid Corp. in class with the Navy in the

in Bridgewater. His wife of 51 years, Marie

Gannone Chernesky, died in

Manville; two sisters, Gert

Tuesday at Holy Trinity Church, following services at the Branchburg Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Autism Speaks, 2 Park Ave., 11th Floor, New York, NY 10016. To send a condo-

neralhome.com. COZY QUILTS . JEWELRY . BATH & BODY . TRENDY CLOTHING . Come See What's New This Summer...

Show off the garden

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

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

Those who want to showcase

In The Towns

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, Kinderkamp, 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

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

For full information on Y programs, visit www.metuchen-edisonymca.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.gbgm-umc.org/boundbrook or call (732) 356-1372. The church is at 150 W. Union Ave., near Bound Brook High School.

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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

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 compliment the work of the clinical care providers. The presence of a volunteer communicates to the families that the volunteer is here because they want to be here, and that is very 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.



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In The Classifieds

Lincicome gives unmatched showing

20-year-old earns crown with three major upsets

By DAVE ALLENA

BEDMISTER - Surrounded by so many great players, you could be easily be excused for not paying attention to 20-year-

old Brittany Lincicome at Hamilton Farms last week. Everyone is certainly paying

attention now, though. In an impressive display of long drives and shot-making, Lincicome walked off with her first professional title and the \$500,000 top prize money that went with the distinction by winning the second annual HSBC Women's World Match Play Championship.
Seeded just 39th, Lincicome

knocked off five higher-ranked opponents among her six victories, including eighth-seeded and Hall of Famer Juli Inkster in the title match, and became the second straight seed from the bottom half of the draw to win for the first time at the event.

Along the way Lincicome eliminated second-seeded Michelle Wie - the cover girl of women's golf who has yet to win on LGPA Tour — and third-seeded Lorena Ochoa, the top money-earner on the tour this year, and 15th-seeded Se Ri

And what a storyline the youngster had.

Despite coming up through the junior ranks with as much as success if not more than some of the other young newcomers on the LGPA Tour and even after finishing seventh in the previous week's LGPA Women's U.S Open, Lincicome was a big underdog at the start of the tournament.

Making the victory even better was winning with her father Tom as her caddy, the same father that saw her knack for the game at an early age and. taught her how to play and win without the benefit of professional teachers.

And then there's a matter the money - the \$500,000 winner's share of the \$2 million purse that should help pay a lot of the expenses that in the past have been covered by taking on

babysitting chores. All in all, Lincicome produced

HSBC MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP

a storybook tournament.

"It feels so awesome," she said. "It's so over-whelming right now, but tomorrow you know I'll wake up and think this was a dream or did I really just win that. It was a great week of golf, and I played really, really

"I'm in shock. That was a huge accomplishment. It's what I've been trying to do since I was a little girl — play on the LGPA Tour and win a tournament. It's a big boost in my game to know I can pull it out if I need to. "

After out-lasting Ochoa in the Sunday morning semifinals in 19 holes, the second time she had gone to extra play, Lincicome got off to a great start against Inkster, at 46 the oldest player left after the first day of play, opening a 5-up advantage through just eight

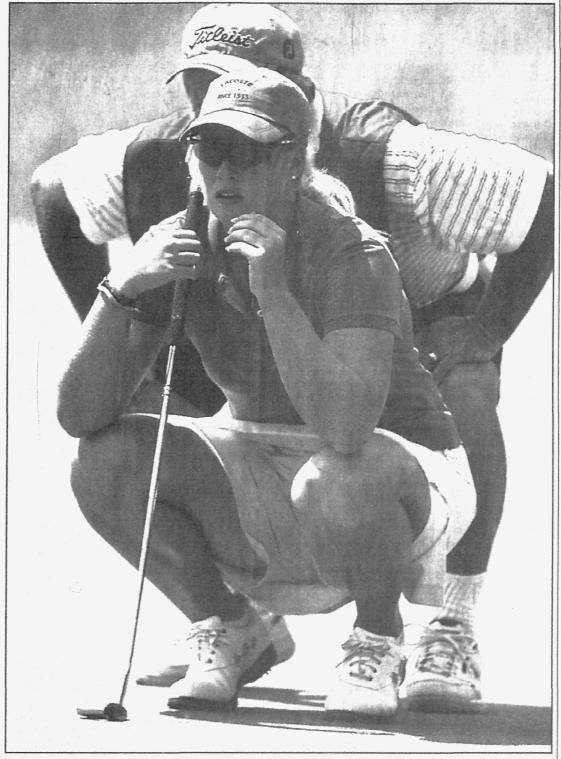
Inkster, who rallied against top-seeded Annika Sorenstam in the quarter-finals to win 1-up, won the 12th, but then halved 13 and 14 before winning 15. Pars by both players at 16 where Inkster conceded an 18-inch putt, gave the championship to Lincicome.

"Getting off a lead early was huge," she said. "I think if we would have been - like the match that went all the way through 18 and an extra hole (in the morning) — I probably would have faltered a little bit and maybe not have actually

"So it was good to get out to a good lead right away. I wasn't planning on 3- or 4-up, but I was hoping 1- or 2-up right away, and I did it. That was a huge confidence-booster and got things

"Thank God I was up by a lot, because as I said I've never dealt with this pressure situa-tion. I was happy I was up going into these last couple of holes. Yeah, I was thankful I was up by a couple. She was going to have to make birdie."

It was a great moment for the champion and her father/cad-



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTGRAPHER

Brittany Lincicome lines up a putt with the help of her caddie and father Tom during her semifinal victory over Lorena Ochoa. Lincicome went on to top Julie Inkster 3 and 2 to capture the HSBC Women's

"He's been with me through everything," Lincicome said. around junior golf and the world when I'm asleep in the back seat. It means everything think he was going to make it for a while (because the other heat), but we got some bananas and drinks in him and he was

In winning Lincicome not Pressel, along with Wie.

to have him on the bag. I didn't only conquered some of the great players in the game but also turned the tables on some of the Tour's younger players ished fourth, and Morgan

World Match Play Championship at Hamilton Farms in Bedminster Sunday.

'He's the one that dragged me

like Paula Creamer, who fin-

Bridgewater nearing post-season berth

By DAVE ALLENA Staff Writer

BRIDGEWATER — Riding a four-game winning streak and looking at a favorable schedule during the final week, Post 507 of Bridgewater looks primed to earn a post-season spot.

With four berths in the state American Legion Tournament and two more in the Connie Mack Tournament available in the Senior Division of the Pyramid Baseball League, Bridgewater put itself in great position after out-lasting Bernards 12-9 Monday night to up its record to 9-6.

Tied for fifth place with Immaculata but with three more games to play, Post 507 could vault all to third if it keeps winning. Head Coach Brian Trapani, however, is not claiming anything at this point.

"I know we look like we're in good shape, but if we hit a bad stretch we could finish as low as seventh place," he said. "It's

important to stay focused and keep our eyes on the prize.

"The politically correct thing to say is there are no easy games, but four of our last six games are against teams that won't go to the post-season. If can get one up at Alpha (last night) that would put us in great shape. We have to take advantage of the games we have in hand."

Bridgewater's post-season hopes didn't look very good the night of July 3. Having already lost the first game of a doubleheader against Immaculata, Post 507 trailed Immaculata 11-10 heading into the bottom of the second in the second game.

A loss there would have dropped its record to 5-8, but instead a two-run rally earned the first of four straight victories, including a 3-2 conquest over league-leading Saturday night and a forfeit from Somerville Saturday morning. "That was a big game for us, **AMERICAN LEGION** BASEBALL

winning it like we did," Trapani said. "It's given us some momentum to get on a little roll. It definitely helped. We've definitely been playing better, although we didn't play very well defensively tonight.

"I gave our kids a lot of credit. They could have easily rolled over and quit when they weren't playing well, but they They've Flemington twice, handing them two of their four losses. It shows they can compete with the better teams in the league.'

Against Bernards Post 507 nearly took their eyes off the end of the game too early. Getting off to a 6-0 lead after an inning and leading 11-2 after two, Bridgewater watched the Mountaineers climb back to

within 11-9 before prevailing. It was a game of mistakes as numerous errors, walks wild pitches and passed balls - first by Bernards and then by Bridgewater -- contributed to most of the scoring.

Bridgewater's first-inning outburst was more like a leaky dam by Bernards as Post 507 collected only two hits in the six-run session Andrew Priece, who finished with three of the winners' seven hits, singled in the first rur, and Nick Loughlin later had a two-run single.

After Joe Travaglini and Robbie Steinkopf doubled in the second when Ryan Anderson and Steinkopf picked up an RBI apiece, Bridgewater extended the lead in the second when Loughlin homered for the final run and Ryan Zulpa drew a bases-loaded walk.

Bernards got three back in the third when errors plated all the runs, and then scored four times in the fourth as Matt Decota doubled in a run, Pat Riley and Steve Sant'Angelo singled in one apiece and Joe

Fernandez had an RBI ground

Corey Frankosky ended up going the distance for Post 507, scattering eight hits (two by Kyle Schneider) while striking out four and walking one.

The loss dropped Bernards. which has not won since the third game of the season, to 2-13-2 in its initial year in the

Bridgewater 3, Flemington 2 — In a crisply play game Saturday night Post 507 earned its second close verdict over front-running Flemington as Dave Ragazzo turned in a complete-game seven-hitter with two strikeouts and four walks.

Back-to-back doubles by Mike Zangrillo (2 hits) and Mike Shedlosky snapped a scores dual in the bottom of the fourth, and after Flemington tied it in the fifth, Eric Guida followed a two-out walk to Frankosky with a two-run homer to left for a 3-1 lead that Ragazzo made stand up.

Patriots look for revived offense

By DAVE ALLENA

BRIDGEWATER - One positive thing coming out of a split season in which you fail to win the first half is getting an opportunity to wipe the slate

After finishing the first half of the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball campaign in third place in the South Division with a 33-30 record, the Somerset Patriots will get that chance starting tomorrow night when they host the Bridgeport Bluefish at Commerce Bank Park.

But unless a couple of things change and the one constant of the opening 63 games remains, the second half won't be an easier than the first for the league's defending champions.

In desperate need of more offense after batting a ALPBlow .242 while averaging just under 4.1 runs a game and searching for an everyday second baseman, Somerset will look to its outstanding pitching staff that turned in a team earned run average of 3.43 in the first half to continue to keep it in games.

Having gotten Tuesday, yes-terday and today off for the league's all-star game, the Patriots will look to get off to a better start in the second half.

"I'm hoping the all-star break will help," Manager Sparky Lyle said. "Sometimes you have to get away from the ball park, have some fun and stop thinking about things for a couple of days."

Shortstop Kevin Nicholson totally agreed.

"I think this break is going to help us," he said. "It's going to give us a chance to take some time off and recharge our batteries. It's also going to let some of the nagging injuries heal up.'

A year ago Somerset reached the post-season by virtue of its first-half title. With no similar luxury to fall back on, winning the second-half will likely be a must to return to the playoffs. Getting off a strong start is probably a must.

"It's very important to get off to a good start," Lyle said. 'We're not scaring anybody when we come to play. That's something we have to change. Everybody knows they're capable of beating us 2-0. We have to establish ourselves against those teams and let we know we can beat them."

Nicholson again was in agreement with his manager.

"Getting off to a good strong in the second half is huge," he said Thursday night. "Coming from behind like we did in the first half wasn't fun. We need to get off to a good start and put some separation between us and the other teams.

"You look around d the locker room and guys are dumbfounded we haven't won more games. If you can get off to a good start it's going to help because then you can dictate the ways things go. When you're the team to beat you have that confidence you need."

As a player Nicholson understands there's no comfort zone this year, but he's doesn't believe that's necessarily a bad thing.

"I think there's pressure on us to win the second half." he said. "This is a club known for a winning tradition and for the players they've brought in here. Not winning the first half puts pressure on us, but if everyone plays well this team is capable of winning. We just need to be more consistent. especially on offense.

"I don't know if I really liked clinching (a playoff berth) last year like we did. As a club you get it in your mind sometimes that there's no pressure, and you really want to be playing your best in September.

Somerville rebounds from difficult start

By DAVE ALLENA

Staff Writer Following a slow start that

included a lopsided loss, Somerville appears to have righted the ship in Central Jersey Baseball League play. Usually one of the stronger

teams in the High School Division of the CJBL, Somerville opened the summer with three straight setbacks, but now has started to turn things around by winning four of its past five outings to get even at

One day after belting Montgomery Gold 16-6 on the strength of an 11-run second inning, Somerville came back to wallop the other Montgomery entry, the Green squad, 19-5 sparked by a 13-run explosion,

once again in the second inning. "Friday we looked OK," Head

Coach Tony Scrocca said. "I don't think Montgomery had their full compliment of players in that one, but Saturday we were on. We could have played anybody that day. The kids just went up there and hit the ball.

"We're awfully young this year, and to be honest I'm surprised with where we're at with our record. I didn't expect to be .500 at this point. We don't have great pitching, but we do have some kids that throw strikes. We have some holes in our defense, but these guys can hit. We score a lot of runs.

While pleased to be back on track from a tough start, Scrocca admits there's still a lot to get done this summer if he's to achieve his objective.

CJL BASEBALL

"There's a lot of things they still have to learn," he said. "For example, it might not seem like much, but on fly balls to the outfield they have to learn how to prevent the runner from taking the extra base. It's my job to teach them how to do the things they need to play at the next level. That's what they should

get out of this season." Winning a pair of mercy-rule five-inning games will change anyone's perspective. Saturday, Somerville received a routegoing effort from Eric Fowler on the mound, while the offense took advantage of walks and errors and put together an 11hit attack.

Danny Reynolds laced a tworun single, while Sean Cruz and Chris Venditto added RBI singles for a four-run first inning, and Somerville went up 16-1 after two innings as Cruz, Eric Karpinski and Will Hadduck notched two hits each during the 11-run second.

Cruz had a two-run double and an RBI single, Karpinski had a pair of run-scoring singles and Hadduck, who matched Cruz with three hits, contributed a two-run triple. Fowler, who allowed one hit and one run through four innings, struck out six and walked four while finishing with a four-hit-

Karpinski, Bryce Gibbons, Eric Fowler and Sean Cruz have all played very well," said, "and

Hadduck has been a pleasant surprise. He's a first baseman, but he's been playing third for us and he's has some nice gems, real varsity-level plays.3 Friday night Somerville built

an 11-2 cushion after two innings and added its other five runs in the fifth to back the pitching of Gibbons, who went the first three, and H.R. Gorski. Both hurlers allowed three runs and had two strikeouts.

Hadduck, Gibbons, Reynolds and Venditto each delivered a two-run single in the second, while Gorski doubled in a run. In the fourth Will Mancie singled in a pair, while Gorski tripled in one, Hadduck doubled in one and Venditto singled in one. Fowler, Reynolds, Mancie, Gorski, Hadduck and Venditto each had two hits.

Barbers, and their skills, are still in vogue

By JIM WHITE

Red, white and blue swirl around the barber pole outside a shop on Hamilton Street in Bound Brook. Make no mistake, this isn't

Similarly, the colorful beacon on Davenport Street in Somerville lets customers know that the man behind the chair is highly skilled in the art of cutting hair — men's hair.

Traditional barber shops have seen a sort of revival over the last few years — possibly a bit of a backlash to the metro-sexual movement

that drew men to unisex salons in droves. "My clientele don't go to Supercuts," said Mike "Miz" Jones, co-owner of Mirror Image Barber Shop in Bound Brook. "They don't cut hair nearly as well. They're interested in quantity. I'm interested in quality.'

Fellow owner Shawn "Boogie" Leyden con-

"More or less it's about skill," he said. "The Hip-Hop generation, that whole audience, we control it. Afros and long hair are out of style, which brings you back to skill."

Leyden and Jones said Mirror Image opened its doors to the public not long after 1999's Tropical Storm Floyd with hopes of helping to rebuild the borough. They said they also chose Bound Brook because of its diverse community, which would require the skill to cut all hair

And, there is a certain charm that goes along with a barbershop.

"Guys can come in here and chill, talk sports, besides going to a bar," Leyden said. John Scheuck of Somerset said he's been frequenting Mirror Image for the last three or four years.

"I like listening to the conversation," he said. "We talk politics, issues of faith, cultural issues, social issues, financial issues, and sports of course."

Over on Davenport Street in Somerville, borough resident Chris Tatro, 17, of Somerville, stopped in to MenStyle barber shop for a trim. He said he started coming to MenStyle about six months ago because, "My last barber butchered my hair."

Asked why a young man like himself would choose a barber over an attractive hairstylist at one of those unisex salons so many of his peers choose to frequent, Tatro spoke matter-

"(Barbers) give better haircuts," he said. "I don't want women touching my hair. You never know what they're going to do with it."

MenStyle owner Norm Nuwer agreed. "Women are taught to do that ... To give you that latest style," he said. "I think it has to do with men's and women's psyches. Women like to be coached along. They compare notes. Men make up their mind for the most part. Even with that metro-sexual thing, guys still have a

pretty good idea of what they want." While Nuwer acknowledged that there has been a revival in barber shop business - he said hairstyles are shorter and he has "somewhere in the neighborhood of 250 to 300, I guess" regulars - the business itself is in "rough shape."

"Nobody wants to do it anymore, and it's tough to get young guys in (who want to be barbers)," he said. "And economics. It doesn't pay like it used to. Hairdressers get twice to three-quarters as much for doing the same

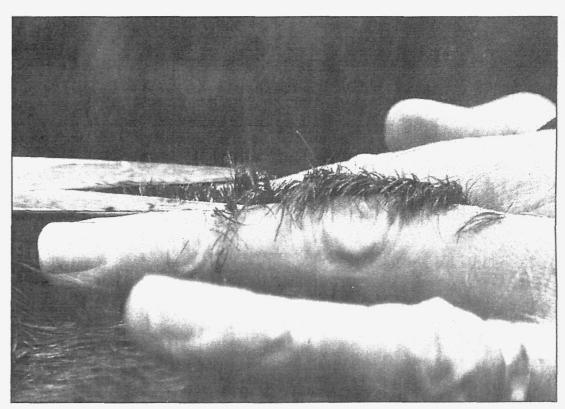
"(Salons) will bring in barbers to do that. Either that, or they'll fake it."

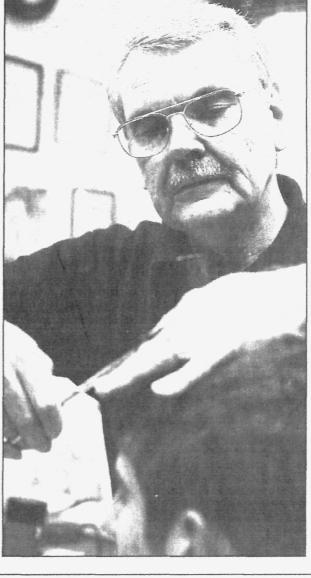
Nuwer, who has been cutting hair for 42 years and opened up shop in Somerville seven and a half years ago, said he got into the business because, "It looked like a nice way to work for yourself and make a couple of bucks

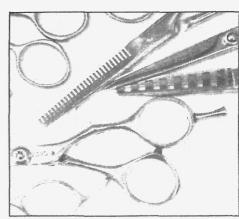
... Being able to call my owns shots, and meet a lot of people. ... I can find out better than the paper what people are really thinking sometimes."

He said he hears a lot of things, but even though some of his clients happen to be members of Somerville government, he hasn't been able to find out exactly when the work will begin on the Downtown Somerville Shopping

"I'm supposed to know everything," he said with a laugh. "They don't know when they're going to start. Or at least they're not saying."





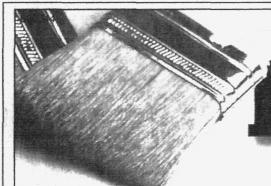


The skilled hands of barber Norm Nuwer, at top, cutting hair inside his shop, MenStyle, in Somerville. Tools of the trade are pictured above. At left is Nuwer cutting the hair of Chris Tatro, 17, of Somerville.

PHOTOS BY GEORGE PACCIELLO/

"(Barbers) give better haircuts. I don't want women touching my hair. You never know what they're going to do with it."

Chris Tatro Somerville



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