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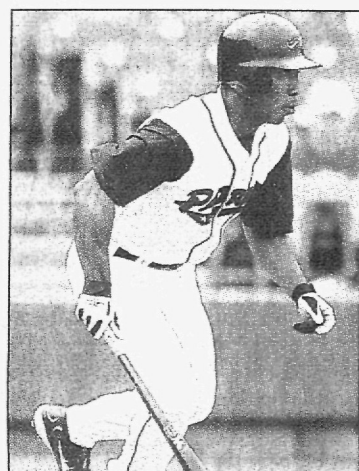
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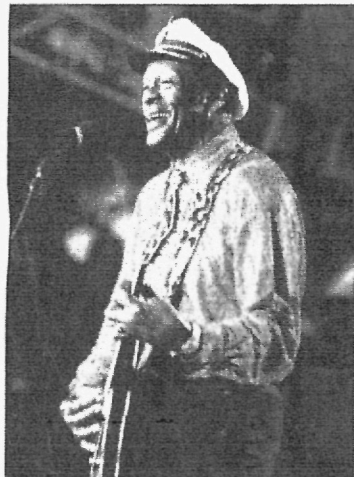
Vol. 145, No. 29

INSIDE



Man in the middle

Since joining the Somerset Patriots a month ago, Henri Stanley has proven to be an outstanding centerfielder and has also become a steady leadoff batter, bringing a .303 average into this week's Atlantic League of Professional Baseball action following an especially hot weekend series at Commerce Bank Ballpark. **Page A7.**



Legends are ready to rock

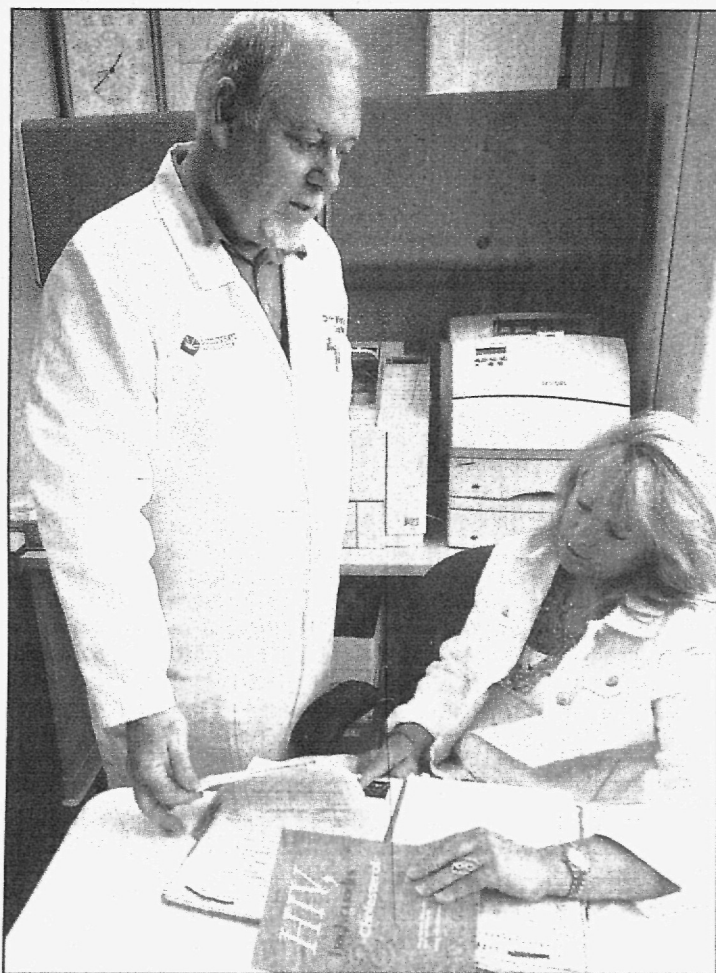
Rock 'n' roll legend Chuck Berry will be joined by Jerry Lee Lewis, Frankie Lymon's Teenagers and The Duprees in a concert presented by the Somerset County Park Commission. Tickets for the show go on sale Saturday at Commerce Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater.

Obesity will be discussed

NEW BRUNSWICK — "Fighting Back Against Childhood Obesity" is the theme of a professional seminar at Cook College. The conference is from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 3. Speakers are Karen Ensle, with Rutgers Cooperative Research & Extension of Union County; Marilou Rochford, with Rutgers Cooperative Research & Extension of Cape May County; Susan Herr, from the YMCA of the Brandywine Valley in Coatesville, Pa.; MaryAnn Ellsworth, with the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services; and Annette Devitt, from Rutgers Cooperative Research & Extension of Salem County. Teachers, parents, youth group leaders, coaches, nurses, counselors, social workers, dietitians and health care providers are invited, along with other adults who work with children. Cost is \$40. For registration, visit www.cookce.rutgers.edu or call (732) 932-9271.

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Chas White, left, a social work case manager at Somerset Medical Center's Ryan White Clinic, talks with Kim Auricchio, office coordinator. White has worked with HIV-positive patients for 17 years, and has been with Somerset Medical Center for 11 years.

25 years on, clinic continues AIDS fight

By ALLISON ELYSE GUALTIERI
Staff Writer

SOMERVILLE — Two and a half decades after the discovery of the AIDS virus, things have changed. While there is no vaccine and no cure, it's now being treated as a chronic disease, rather than a death sentence. What hasn't changed is the social stigma.

Chas White, a social work case manager at Somerset Medical Center's Ryan White Clinic, said he remembers when, in the early days, little was known about the virus, medical professionals wouldn't enter a patient's room.

A friend of his was dying of the disease, White said, and when he went to visit the friend in the hospital, he found food piled outside the doorway and soiled sheets on the bed.

"No one would go into his room," White said. Furious at his friend's abandonment, White walked over to the nurses' station and demanded that his friend be cared for, even going so far as to threaten the nurses that he would dump the sheets on their workspace if the situation wasn't rectified.

While that approach got results, White's friend died within the week, and White decided to learn as much as he could about the disease. Since then, he's worked with HIV-positive patients for 17 years, and has been with Somerset Medical Center for 11 years.

"They have been amazing for me. They've been there for me, and they really do care. Chas White deserves a medal of honor or something."

Michael Harrah
Patient,
Ryan White Clinic,
Somerset Medical Center

"No one should be treated like this," he said. "No one."

Clinic patient Michael Harrah, who was diagnosed nine months ago, said that the clinic has been a wonderful place to get treatment.

"They have been amazing for me. They've been there for me, and they really do care," he said. "Chas White deserves a medal of honor or something."

His treatment at Somerset Medical Center started shortly after he was diagnosed. The 27-year-old was one of many that was unaware he had the disease. He tried to donate blood, and received a card in the

Continued on page A2

Bound Brook rolls out red carpet for film

By JIM WHITE
Staff Writer

BOUND BROOK — Haven't made the switch to Sirius Satellite Radio? Miss the cast of "The Howard Stern Radio Show" during your morning commute? Well, next month is your chance for a fix when Howard's sidekick, Artie Lange, will appear at the The Rail Sports Bar and Grill for an exclusive premiere party to promote his upcoming movie "Artie Lange's Beer League."

Lange will be at The Rail from 6 to 10 p.m. Aug. 10. Other cast members from the movie are expected to join him, including Ralph Macchio of

"Karate Kid" fame; Laurie Metcalf, who played "Roseanne's" TV sister; Tina Fey from "Saturday Night Live;" comedian and SNL veteran Jim Breuer, and comedian Jim Fiorentino.

"Artie and the owner (Mike Ruane) have been friends since they were kids," explained Nick Guasco, general manager of The Rail.

Guasco said the night will include the playing of the movie trailer on more than 30 TVs, autographs and comedy skits.

"Typical Artie Lange. He'll get everybody all fired up," Guasco said, adding he expects between 300 and

500 to attend.

Ruane said he hired Lange 20 years ago to play a part in a dinner theater show he was directing. At the time Lange, a Jersey guy from Union, was driving a cab.

"And we got to be friends," said Ruane, who is co-producing the film. "He's a great guy, just like you see on TV or hear on the radio — pretty much his faults and his personality. ... I was always very impressed with his memory, and he's a very funny guy. He has an incredible capacity to turn it on and turn it off. And he rarely drops a line. That's very impressive to me."

"Artie Lange's Beer League" is a

comedy about "Artie," an unemployed, unmotivated drunk still living with his mother, and his losing softball team. But when love enters his life, things start looking up for "Artie" as well as the team.

It hits theaters Sept. 15. Attendees (21 and over) of the Aug. 10 party also will get exclusive movie photos, T-shirts and baseball caps, logo key-chain/bottle openers and gift certificates to The Rail.

Advance tickets can be purchased for \$40 a piece. Call The Rail at (732) 469-6590. Tickets at the door are \$50.

The Rail is located at 350 E. Main Street in Bound Brook.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



Patrick Moratz, left, Tesean Williams, center, and his mother, Matthette Williams, volunteers for the Raritan Valley chapter of Habitat for Humanity, work on one of the two duplexes being built in Bernardsville with the help of several area churches.

They can't wait to come home

Editor's Note: In an ongoing series, *The Chronicle* is chronicling the construction of two duplexes in Bernardsville. The houses are being built by the Raritan Valley chapter of Habitat for Humanity through a partnership with six area churches.

By AMY S. BOBROWSKI
Staff Writer

BERNARDSVILLE — Fran Robinson isn't used to having her own bedroom.

She and her four children live in a two-bedroom apartment in Asbury Park where space is slim. Her three daughters, ages 18, 10 and 8, share one of the room, while Robinson and her 11-year-old son take turns sleeping on the bed in the other bedroom "depending on whose

back hurts the most."

The conditions are less than ideal.

"The horror is that there is no privacy," said Robinson, 47, who works in NJ Transit's response center. "With the kids it's like 'She's bothering me' and 'don't touch my bed.'"

But come next year, they'll be able to spread out a little bit and enjoy some of their "own" space.

The Robinsons are one of four families who will be moving in to two duplex structures being built on Mine Brook Road by the Raritan Valley chapter of Habitat for Humanity. And after moving from apartment to apartment

Continued on page A2

Civil War comes to Middlesex County

WOODBIDGE — Hundreds of spectators will converge on Parker Press Park for a Civil War Living History Weekend on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 5-6.

A new candlelight tour on Aug. 5 will give visitors a first-hand glimpse of how soldiers and civilians spent their evenings in the 1860s — without telephones, televisions, radios, computers, cell phones and electricity.

Each year people from around the state and beyond come to Parker Press Park to be immersed in and fascinated by historically accurate re-enactments of the lifestyles and activities of Billy Yanks and Johnny Rebs, as well as civilians from North and South.

There are many activities, including demonstrations of medical procedures and exhibits of medical equipment, weapons and clothing displays, rifle load-and-fire drills, courts martial and an exhibit of hand-painted miniature soldiers arrayed on a tiny battlefield. Among crafts and activities on view will be cooking, dressmaking, quilting, lace making, chair caning and the building of ladies' period travel boxes.

Sutlers (period vendors) will be selling clothing and notions, wood products and furniture and military goods and equipment. Visitors can have portraits made by a pho-

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Moving ahead



Felix Garcia looks on while Fawnda Genovese-Garcia embraces her friend, Carol Richardson, during a party held at the couples' Green Brook home. For more than a year Felix and Fawnda have waited as contractors rebuilt their fire-damaged house. Now, their journey is complete. **PAGE A5.**

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A Gold Mine in Bedroom Drawers

Newswire: People are selling their old scrap gold that is gathering dust for its cash value because gold prices are so high. With the price of gold at a 25 year high (over \$650.00 per ounce), it makes sense. ScrapGold.com, a gold recycler, offers free insured recycle kits so people may cash in their scrap with 24 hour service and guarantee satisfaction. They accept

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

Habitat

Continued from page A1

several times in the past decade, the family is looking forward to having a place to call home.

"They (her children) can't wait," she said. "All I hear is 'Can I paint my room' this color or that color."

Six area churches pulled together to purchase the Bernardsville lot and three adjoining parcels, located across the street from the municipal building. The churches — Bishop Janes United Methodist Church in Basking Ridge, St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Basking Ridge, St. James Roman Catholic Church in Basking Ridge, Millington Baptist Church, Liberty Corner Presbyterian Church and

Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church — pooled contributions to purchase the lots with the house at a total cost of \$500,000. Congregants and community members will join together to build the two housing units.

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

Previously, the property was home to a dilapidated fieldstone and wooden house. That building was raised earlier this year and the land has been leveled to make way for the new structures. The steep grade of the site made for an extensive site preparation process.

"We took 160 (truck) loads of dirt out of here," said

Howard Guenther, a site supervisor for the Bernardsville project.

The official groundbreaking — the start of actual house construction — took place in early June. Already, a retaining wall and an adjacent fence were built along the rear of the property and the footings are in place. This week, masons are expected to put in the foundation. In the coming weeks, workers and volunteers will install a deck and backfill the lots. Framing on the duplex could start in two to three weeks, barring any obstacles or weather setbacks.

The local Habitat chapter only works with low-income families, those who earn 30- to 50-percent of median income. Families must also show that they have a need for better housing, they are willing to pitch in when it is time to build their home, they are legal residents, and they have

a good credit and work history.

Homeowners are required to repay a no-interest mortgage, usually in the \$90,000 to \$100,000 range, over a 15- to 30-year period. The four, 1,100-square-foot homes will be within the two duplexes, facing each other. And because there is no parking lot at the site, a garage will be built beneath the duplexes. The first floors of the two-story homes will contain a living room, kitchen and dining room. The second floors will contain three bedrooms and a bathroom.

The homes are not air-conditioned.

The families selected are required to contribute up to 500 hours of "sweat equity" to help build their homes.

For more information about the organization or to volunteer, call (908) 704-0016 or visit www.rvhhabitat.org.

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25 years on, clinic continues AIDS fight

Continued from page A1

mail that told him that something was wrong, and gave him a number to call.

"When I was diagnosed, my numbers were very, very high," Harrah said, referring to his "viral load" or the number of copies of the disease in

a sample of his blood. Today, his numbers are down to an undetectable level, after nine months of treatment at the clinic.

"I was at the point of being near-death, and I didn't even know it," he said, adding that he had no symptoms.

"We have a lot of treatment

options now," said Dr. Lisa Pittarelli, director of the Ryan White Clinic at Somerset Medical Center. "20 years ago, it was considered a fatal diagnosis, a death sentence."

The clinic handles about 160 patients, primarily from Somerset, Hunterdon and Middlesex counties.

Civil War comes to Middlesex County

Continued from page A1

tographer using Civil War-era equipment and methods. Guests can buy Civil War books directly from their authors. Specialists will be talking about Civil War movies, collecting of memorabilia and other topics. A Civil War library will be selling Civil War books at bargain prices. There will even be a Civil War museum on site.

A highlight for many is a daily skirmish that demonstrates the weapons, tactics and strategies used during the war. Narrators explain what's happening so visitors can follow the action. Ongoing scenarios that run throughout the

day often involve visitors: Interrogations, checking of travel passes, soldiers asking to have letters from home read to them, drafting of youngsters into the armies and similar activities.

Living historians (accurate impersonators of real people: Doctors, generals, civilians, military officers, common soldiers, spies and maybe even Abraham Lincoln) are pleased to pose for photographs — and they love to talk with visitors.

While everyone studies about the Civil War at some point in school, there is no better way to grasp what it was like than to meet the soldiers and civilians up close and personal; to see and feel

the uniforms; to wander among the camps and peek into the tents; to listen to officers shouting orders; to hear the guns roaring; to be enveloped in clouds of smoke; to smell food cooking over open wood fires. Overall it's an incomparable learning experience for children and adults — it's like having scores of history teachers (the re-enactors) as tutors.

Many of the re-enactors will be living at Parker Press Park from the afternoon of Friday, Aug. 4 until the evening of Aug. 6. The camps are open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 5-6. The park will also be open for a candlelight tour from 8:30-10 p.m. Aug. 5.

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In The Towns

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. today. Creative Memories consultant Dayle Glammarino 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.

Pancake breakfast for baseball club

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club holds a pancake breakfast from 8 a.m. to noon tomorrow at the Elks lodge, 1254 New Market Ave.

Cost is \$6 for adults, \$4 for children ages 5-10 and free for children ages 4-under. The menu includes eggs, bacon, pancakes, sausage, French toast, cinnamon raisin French toast, home fries, coffee, tea and juice.

Seeing Eye dogs in library program

PISCATAWAY — The Piscataway Public Library sponsors a demonstration of Seeing Eye dogs at 7 p.m. Monday at Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes Lane.

Teens will get to meet some Seeing Eye pups in training and learn how these canines are chosen, courtesy of the Middlesex County Puppy Pals 4-H Club. No registration is necessary.

Kids' 'Lunch with Librarian'

PISCATAWAY — Children ages 4 years old and older can have "Lunch with the Librarian" at noon Wednesday at Westergard Library, 20 Murray Ave.

This hour of stories, songs and games is free; bring a bag lunch. No registration is necessary.

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. Saturday, July 29 at the South Plainfield Free Public Library. No registration is necessary.

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.

Victor Cromwell Park is ready to reopen

EDISON — A fishing derby registration will begin at 12:30 p.m. July 30 as part of activities surrounding the reopening of Victor Cromwell Park.

There will also be a dedication of the new Mayor Zuccarelli Bridge. The derby begins after the dedication.

Summer programs offered at library

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The South Plainfield Public Library has summer programs for children and teens.

Several programs are at the same time every week in July and August:

"Storytime" for ages 3-up, 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday and 1:15 p.m. Thursday. No registration is necessary.

"Time for 2's and 3's," open to ages 2-3 years old, 1 p.m. Tuesday and 10:30 a.m. Wednesday. No registration is necessary.

"Books-N-Babies" for those up to age 3 years old, 10:30 a.m. Thursday and Friday. No registration is necessary.

"Reading with Miss Mija" for children ages 6-up, 6:30 p.m. Thursday. No registration is necessary.

Chess Club for beginner and advanced players, 3:30 p.m. Friday. No registration is necessary.

Other programs are at a specific time and day:

"Make Your Own Candy Sushi" for young adults, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 20. Registration is required.

"Kidcraft" for ages 6-up, 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 24, 31, Aug. 7 and 14. There is a \$1 materials fee each week. Registration is required.

"Decorate a T-Shirt," 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 27. Young adults should bring an old T-shirt or a plain new T-shirt. Registration is required.

An "Earring Craft" for young adults, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 3. Registration is required.

End-of-summer party for young

adults, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 17. Registration is required.

For registration, call (908) 754-7885 or visit the library at 2484 Plainfield Ave.

Bible school heads to 'cove'

PISCATAWAY — "Treasure Cove" is the theme of this year's Vacation Bible School at All Saints' Lutheran Church, 5205 Deborah Drive.

Vacation Bible School runs from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, July 31 through Friday, Aug. 4. All children age 3 years old through Grade 6 are invited to join a search for the treasure that lasts.

Search parties will participate in a treasure hunt through theme-related Bible stories, games, songs and crafts. Snacks are provided.

For registration, call (732) 463-1510.

Coffeehouse for local teens

PISCATAWAY — Teens are invited to promote their own writing and listen to others do the same at "The Write Stuff Coffee House Showcase."

This free program is at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 1 at Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes Lane. Seating is limited.

For registration, visit the library's reference desk or call (732) 463-1633, Ext. 6.

Library has couple 'Wild About Books'

PISCATAWAY — Beth and Scott Bierko combine work as singer-songwriters with arts in education.

This couple is the principal performers in Beth & Scott & Friends. Their new presentation is "We're Just Wild About Books" and can be seen at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 3 at Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes Lane.

Families with children ages 3 years old and up are invited to this free program. No registration is necessary.

Bible school is a 'Fiesta'

PISCATAWAY — Christ United Methodist Church holds its Vacation Bible School at 9 a.m. Monday through Friday, Aug. 7-11.

This year's theme is "Fiesta: Where Kids Are Fired Up About Jesus!" Cost is free and space is limited.

For registration, call (732) 463-1517. The church is adjacent to the Municipal Complex at 485 Hoes Lane.

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.

Anniversary parade participants sought

BOUND BROOK — The Parade Committee for the Bound Brook 325th Anniversary celebration, being held Oct. 8, is looking for local groups to sponsor floats depicting various historical eras during the history of Bound Brook, from the signing of the deed with the Indians right up until today's redevelopment efforts. The committee is looking for local organizations to sponsor a float in the parade.

For more, contact Phyllis Pournaras at (732) 356-0141.

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Saturday, July 22, 2006

Opinion

Letter to the Editor

A heart felt thanks to the community

To The Editor:

To the committee members of Jack's Kids, the Somerville Elks and so many others:

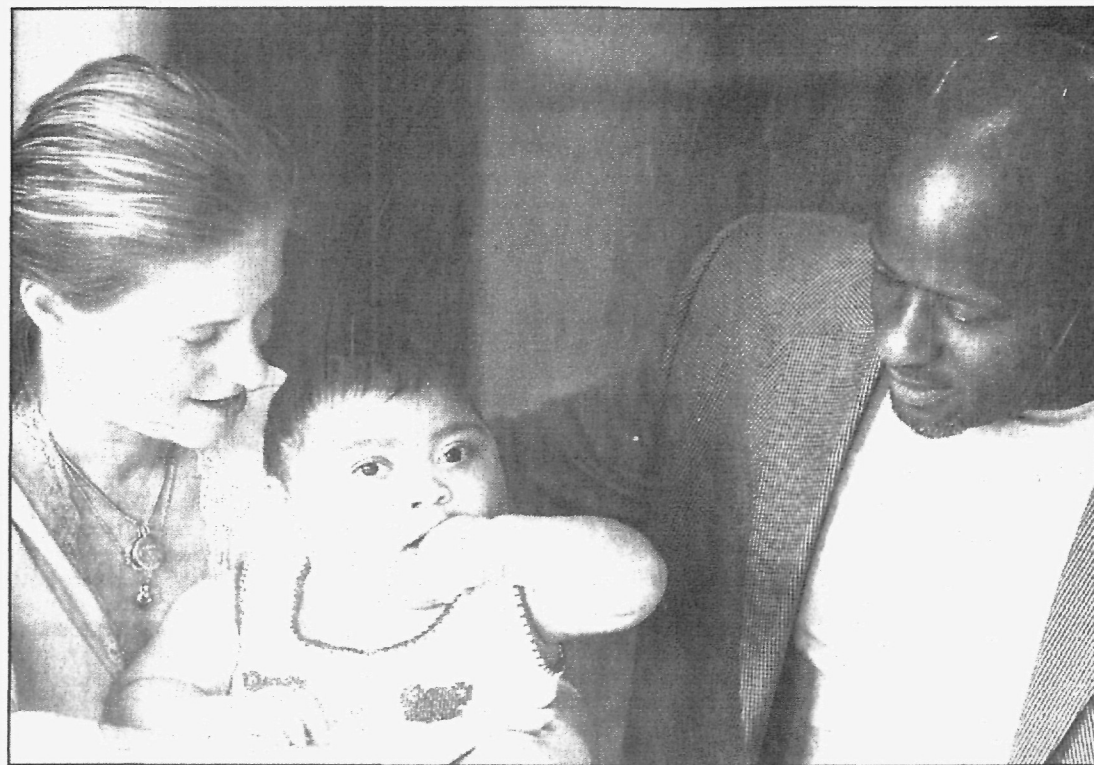
We want to thank you for the tremendous gifts of your time, energy, prayers and money that you so generously give not only to our family but to many families every year. In the midst of circumstances that shake us to our very core with fear for our child, her future and our capability to provide for all of our family, you have stepped forward and said we know and we can help. The media news does need to be filled with more stories like this, because your actions are what this country was built on — neighbor helping neighbor and good wishes delivered automatically, just because we live near one another. Which is exactly what our experience of living in Somerville has been: Neighborly support and a helping hand.

Not even four years ago, we moved to Somerville because it was a short commute and the house was vacant and affordable. We had no idea that two years later when Charlotte was born so very sick that God had brought us to exactly the right town to help us even though no one really knew us. That we were new in town did not matter and in fact we have been astonished by the people who have stepped in to lend a hand to us as strangers. The Kelly family lived around the corner at the time, and as committee members and a Jack's Kids mom, Meghan quickly saw how

distraught we were. From there the Dwyer family surrounded us with positive support all the while dealing with their own loss of a beautiful baby girl. I can only be inspired by Maureen and Larry Dwyer and their amazing family. They have made sure that we are taken care of by keeping us in the fold of Jack's Kids and I often imagine that Charlotte and their girl Maureen know each other as the little angels that they are. I hope my children grow to be contributors the way that these kids and all of the young people who volunteer their time for community service for the softball tournament are. The Pierce Frauenheim family has on more than one occasion made sure that we were OK and because of their thoughtfulness we are. It is clear that there are many wonderful families in Somerville and close by or the event would not be the success that it is.

So we are blessed in countless ways by the miracle that is Charlotte's life. I can see by the previous recipients of Jack's Kids softball tournament that children can and do overcome and live with extreme conditions. They do it with the help and commitment of their families. Their families do it with the help and support of their community. In the end we are all so much better for these little ones and those who know that it takes a village to raise a child.

LINDA and MICHAEL DOWNEY
Somerville



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Linda and Michael Downey with their daughter, Charlotte, 2, are one of many families helped by the Jack Gardner Memorial Softball Tournament, which was held last month and hosted by the Somerville Elks. Charlotte suffered a massive stroke when she was born that left her paralyzed and her kidney damaged. Over the past 14 years, the tournament has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for area children who are ill or handicapped.

Balance is the key to state's future

By JOHN SAWICKI

How long can the taxpayer of New Jersey, whether individual, small business or corporate, be expected to be the sole source of new income to cover New Jersey's extraordinary expenditures and borrowing, both past and present?

We have seen over the past few weeks exactly how the Legislature reacted to this year's deficit and the governor's proposed methods of balancing the budget. We know we will be paying an additional penny on every taxable item purchased in the state. We were also faced with the possibility of having our cash-strapped hospitals assume the burden of a \$50-per-day bed tax. We saw the chance that there would be a new professional services tax that would impact the legal, accounting and related professions.

The single common denominator in all these proposals: The individual taxpayer will ultimately bear the financial burden.

Taxing lawyers, accountants, hospitals and consumers will not solve the predicament in which the state finds itself. All these proposals will raise the cost of living for New Jersey families and individuals. We are the victim of excessive spending, excessive borrowing and short-term financial gimmicks. There is a bigger picture to address before our children discover that they can no longer afford to live and work in New Jersey. We must create a government in balance, one that spends what it earns, minimizes operating costs and limits borrowing.

My concern is the impact of Gov. Corzine's recently introduced \$30.9 billion budget, its associated tax increases and the very noticeable limited spending cuts. He has proposed a \$13 million cut in extraordinary aid to municipalities, most of which are strapped paying for state-mandated programs. The result: An increased municipal portion of the tax bill.

The governor has cut \$11 million in incentives for municipalities to share services, the single most direct action that saves municipal tax dollars. The governor has announced significant funding cuts to colleges and universities, the institutions that prepare our children to enter the workforce and attain a quality job at an affordable wage. Yet there is no talk about how to save money by making state government smaller beyond eliminating 1,000 jobs by attrition.

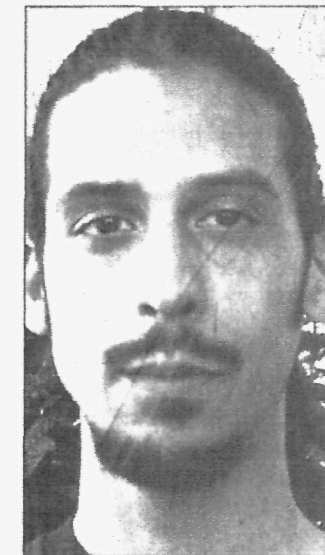
The governor mentioned that we can't keep spending more than we take in. I agree, but it is time to take a serious look at the expense side and limit reliance on the income side. The mantra must be balance. State government must create a balance between the needs of our citizens and the needs of our businesses. Without balance, one of the groups will not survive, and without the other, they also will not survive.

John Sawicki is president of the Middlesex County Bar Association.

Question of the week: What are you doing to beat the heat?



"I go to the beach. The wind off the ocean keeps you cool."
SARAH KELLY
Neshanic Station



"I play videogames. I play guitar. I sit inside."
FRANK SCROFANI
Manville



"I swim, I keep a mini-fan on me or I stay in my car."
AMBE WILLIAMS
Warren

Letters to the Editor Take time out to attend meetings

To The Editor:

All the users of the EDC sewage treatment facilities, whether franchised rate payers (The Hills, Pluckemin) or bulk rate payers (Far Hills, Peapack-Gladstone, Bedminster village) should know that the EDC Ad Hoc Committee, which will make recommendations affecting the already high rates paid, have, according to a recent revelation by the Bedminster Township Committee, meetings that are open to the public.

I strongly encourage you to attend their meetings to insure that your voices are heard about serious cost matters affecting you. You can

check future meeting schedules at <http://www.bedminster.us>; click on "Calendar."

If the ratepayers are not interested enough to attend the EDC Ad Hoc Committee meetings, made up of representatives from their involved municipalities or the Bedminster Township Committee meetings to voice their concerns, then I strongly suggest they refrain, in the future, from expecting all Bedminster non-user/non-ratepayers to exclusively foot legal bills for intervening in future EDC rate increase petitions before the Board of Public Utilities.

JOSEPH H. METELSKI
Bedminster

Pedestrian safety law needed in NJ

To The Editor:

Drivers of motor vehicles continue to ignore pedestrians in our state and a tougher pedestrian safety law is a necessity to save lives.

Recently my proposal, bill A-175, passed the Assembly Transportation and Public Works Committee and will hopefully become law. This law would require motor vehicles to stop for pedestrians in crosswalks. Presently the law only requires vehicles to yield. The present law is difficult to interpret because cars can normally beat the pedestrian to the crossing, therefore drivers often feel there is no reason to slow down. It may even cause drivers to accelerate.

The new law would require

drivers to be on the lookout for pedestrians. Drivers, aware that they may need to stop at any time, would likely reduce their speed as they approach intersections.

This law would reduce the number of pedestrian fatalities and work to keep schoolchildren safer as they enter the crosswalks on our state's roads.

I am hopeful that the Legislature will pass this bill and make New Jersey a safer state for pedestrians.

JON M. BRAMNICK
Assistant Republican Party Whip, New Jersey Assembly
Westfield

The writer, whose 21st District includes Warren and Watchung, is a primary sponsor of A-175.

Summer blood drives help stop shortage

To The Editor:

With the summer of 2006 upon us and the likelihood of a blood shortage in New Jersey, it can be a frustrating time for patients needing blood transfusions.

A few summers ago when New Jersey resident Hank Klehm was 14 and battling leukemia the last thing he and his mom needed was to be stuck for hours in a hospital waiting for units of blood to arrive for his transfusion.

Unfortunately, during summer months there is every chance that such a shortage of blood could consume available hospital supplies and blood bank inventories. As a result, doctors and patients like Hank could be spending precious time waiting for special deliveries of urgently needed blood products.

In a proactive effort, New Jersey Blood Services is launching a campaign to remind donors to make appointments to donate blood

during the upcoming summer months. By sounding the alarm to rally blood donors during summertime, we look to remind blood donors of the continuing need our state hospitals have to maintain an adequate blood supply during this critical period. We encourage all eligible residents to donate blood during these summer months, so surgery patients, accident victims and children fighting cancer like Hank can get needed transfusions in a timely manner.

Hank is doing well today thanks to over 100 blood transfusions and he recently noted, "I now have many more blood relatives. Their gift will last a lifetime."

If you want to donate blood, please call (800) 933-2566 or go to www.nybloodcenter.org. Be a lifesaver ... donate blood this summer.

JOHN ARMITAGE
Executive Director, New Jersey Blood Services
New Brunswick

The Chronicle

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The Chronicle is here for you

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

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

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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.

Saturday, July 22, 2006

Community Life

Finally, they are back home

Green Brook couples' odyssey reaches end

By AMY S. BOBROWSKI
Staff Writer

Editor's Note: This article is part XIII in a continuing series that looks closely at how a family picks up the pieces, rebuilds and goes on with their life in the aftermath of a fire that destroyed their home. The first seven parts of the series were published in *The Reporter* on Thursdays between May 5 and June 9, 2005, and resumed in September last year. Parts XI and XII were published in March and May of this year, respectively.

GREEN BROOK — Decorative wooden signs along the fence that surround the wooden plank deck read "There's No Place Like Home" and "Friends Gather Here."

The messages were fitting, as friends and family sat at several picnic tables during a weekend late last month celebrating the homecoming of Fawnda Genovese-Garcia and Felix Garcia.

The couple finally moved back into their Green Brook home in April after spending more than a year in an apartment while their house was rebuilt. A fire ravaged the cozy Williamsburg Colonial home in March 2005.

While they were away from home, Jon Foure often looked over that fence near the deck, checking out the builders' work and missing his neighbors.

"I'm her crazy neighbor," he said. "You've seen the show 'Home Improvement.' I'm like Wilson. We wave 'Hi' over the fence. We told her they had to come back soon. We were lonely. We missed our neighbors."

Since moving back in almost two months ago, the couple has spent almost as much time outside of the house as they did inside. For the first few weeks, boxes remained stacked in the living room. New decorations were still covered with plastic wrap and the curtains still needed to be hung in some rooms of the newly rebuilt house.

But on Memorial Day weekend, Fawnda put those tasks aside and spent

Sifting Through The Ashes

time in her yard — digging in the dirt and planting flowers. She wouldn't have wanted to be anywhere else than home on the holiday weekend.

"I'm so happy just to stay home," she said. "I cleaned out a box or two, but I mostly worked in the yard. I got poison ivy, but it's a small price to pay. It's good to be home."

Where the bristly branches of dead bushes once poked out of the ground, now sits a little knoll of brightly-colored impatiens surrounded by a small white picket fence. A second flower garden with geraniums and hydrangeas, bordered on one side by the house and natural rock on the other, replaces the soot, ash and charred planks that fell there following the fire.

"I spent a lot of time in the yard because I love to garden," Fawnda said. "We've had such few nice days. I have so much else to do, but if I don't do it now, it will be too late."

These days, Felix too is spending a lot of time outside the house. Felix, who moved to the United States from Ecuador in 2000, set up shop as a legal consultant and opened an office in North Plainfield on May 1. He guides his clients with legal issues and can refer them to organizations, attorneys and other services if necessary. Felix, who was a civil rights attorney before moving to the States, expects the majority of his cases to focus on immigration issues. The small second-story office, decorated with an American flag and Felix's degrees and citizenship certificate, has already received several clients.

One of those clients is Carmita Del Rocio, an undocumented citizen who lives



in Plainfield.

"Her husband is Cuban American and she is from Ecuador," Felix said during a recent trip to his office. "She doesn't have her papers and this guy (her husband) has been abusing her. On Sept. 25, 2005, he beat her so bad she was in the hospital. She needs help."

Del Rocio was afraid if she divorced her husband she'd be sent back to Ecuador. But after going to see Felix, she discovered there were other options.

"What she doesn't know is that the Department of Homeland Security can give domestic violence victims permanent residency," said Felix, with his characteristic go-getter tone. "I'm going to fight for her in order for her to apply for permanent residency."

Felix expects these types of cases, where he aids immigrants in understanding their options, to be his specialty.

"There's a large number of Hispanics that don't have papers," he said. "People give money to offices and they don't do anything. That is wrong. I'm going to fight to stop the corruption."

Back at home during the homecoming party, a milder Felix joked with neighbors and friends.

"You teach me how to use the screwdriver, I'll teach you to speak Spanish," he said to Foure.

Despite the fact that many of the walls are bare, the house looked like it had already been well lived in. The refrigerator and freezer were well stocked, the oversized arm chairs welcomed people to take a load off and the dining room table over flowed with burgers, hot dogs, baked beans and desserts. Outside, builders Andrew and Jason Wertheimer, of Wertheimer & Sons, Inc. of Pine Brook who worked on the house, manned the grill.

"Can you believe how great it looks," Andrew Wertheimer said. "It looks like her home."

Less than two weeks in the house, Fawnda had control of her kitchen and knew where everything was.

The natural wood dining room set that Fawnda purchased for herself years ago looks like new. Once covered by ash and saturated by smoke, the set was restored by Chem Clean of Scotch Plains. The company picked up the set from the house, cleaned it with a patented solvent that strips the finish off the wood without damaging it, dried



Felix Garcia, pictured at top, plays the new baby grand piano his wife, Fawnda Genovese-Garcia, got him for their first anniversary. The couple recently moved back into their Green Brook home, which had been heavily damaged in a fire last year. The rebuilt home is seen above.

it in the heat and sanded away layers to free the furniture of smoky odors.

"They did a great job," Fawnda said. "You can't even tell it's been through a fire."

As they entered the house, each guest was anxious for the grand tour. They "oohed" and "aaahhed" at the new baby grand piano Fawnda got Felix for their first anniversary earlier this year; they reached out to feel the tassels that hung from the curtains, they peeked in the bedrooms, ran their hands along the smooth granite countertop in the kitchen and sank into the plush new couches in the living room.

After much pestering, Felix gave in and sat down at the piano bench.

"I haven't played in 45 years," he said in resistance. But within seconds, he was playing Mozart like he was a born pianist. Nearby, flickering lights came from atop the new and beautifully crafted white wood and marble mantle. From a distance, it appeared like candlelight gave a soft glow to the room.

"Check these out," Fawnda

exclaimed, picking up the faux votive candles. "They're from Department 56. They're the best candles. They don't burn, they don't melt, they can't catch a house on fire and if you blow on them, they blow out like a real candle."

Fawnda and Felix love their new first place, but are hesitant about putting it to use.

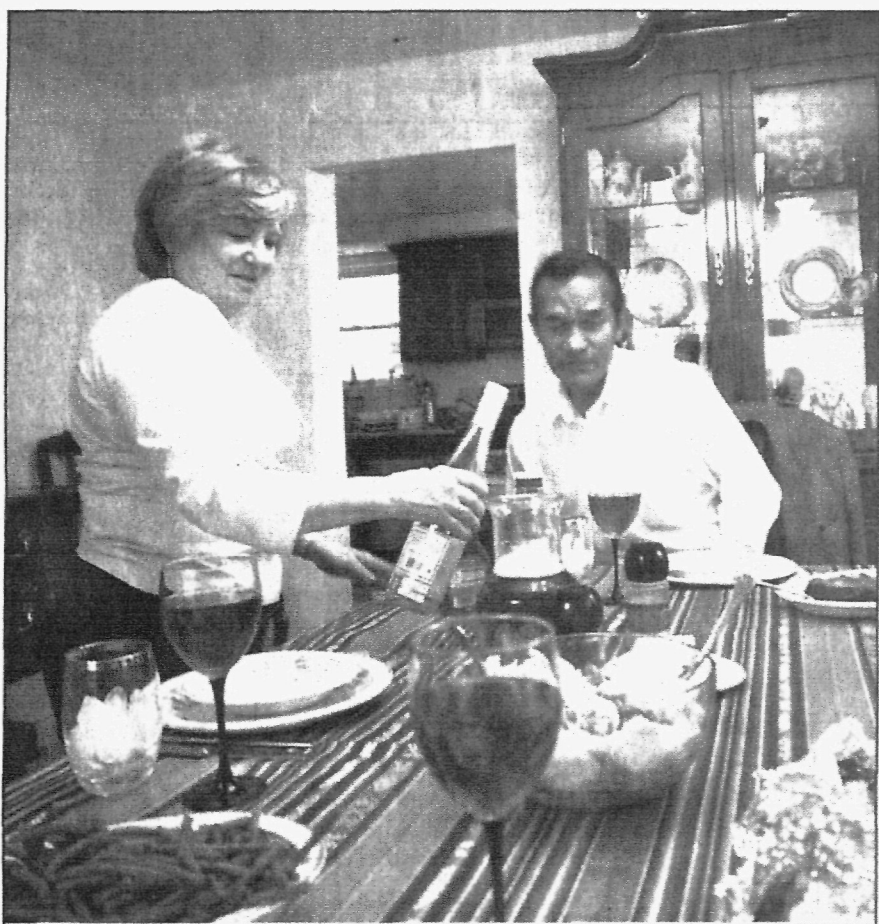
"I'm afraid to use it," Fawnda said. "I think I'll get one of those fake log things."

As guests left, Fawnda embraced them in huge hugs; thanking all of them for the support they've shown her and Felix. Each one told her how strong she's been through the whole ordeal.

"She's a fighter," said Carol Richardson. "She's a real firecracker. We've been friends for 20 something years. Our kids used to play together in Maplewood."

Turning to Fawnda she said, "It's good to have you back."

"It's wonderful to be back," Fawnda responded, as a smile on her face stretched from ear to ear.



Fawnda Genovese-Garcia is pictured above left pouring wine while Felix Garcia sits down to dinner at their Green Brook home. For more than a year *The Reporter* has followed the couple as they rebuilt their fire-damaged home, from the aftermath through to the recovery. There have been big moments, such as Felix beginning a practice that specializes in immigration issues, and small milestones, such as hanging curtains in the living room.

PHOTOS BY
GEORGE
PACCIELLO/
STAFF
PHOTOGRAPHER



In The Towns

Concert marks 325 years of Bound Brook

BOUND BROOK — A free concert this month marks the 325th anniversary of Bound Brook.

The concert is at 7:30 p.m. today at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 214 Church St. Music is from the *Deer Ridge Singers* with commentary from local historian Dorothy Stratford. All are welcome.

Programs tie in with reading club

MIDDLESEX — The Middlesex Public Library has these programs tied into the Summer Reading Club:

"Mooie's Animal Balloon Twisting," 1:30 p.m. Tuesday. Boys and girls, ages 7-12, will love twisting the balloons with him. Registration is required.

"The Collie of Castle Hill," 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 1. Here's a story for all ages about Carl Maier and Lucky, the dog that saved his life. No registration is necessary.

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

Open house at RU gardens

NEW BRUNSWICK — "Feel the Spirit" at the 42nd annual open house of the Rutgers

Gardens, on the Cook College campus of Rutgers University in New Brunswick.

The open house is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 29, rain or shine. Tours showcase the Donald B. Lacey Display Garden and the latest annuals to bloom. You can "Ask the Experts" in a clinic, hear talks on gardening and purchase plants for your own garden.

Admission is by a donation for parking. Bring your own garden cart to transport your purchases. Early birds will not be admitted.

For more information, visit www.rutgersgardens.rutgers.edu or call (732) 932-8451. All net proceeds directly support the Rutgers Gardens.

Take a tour

of Earth Center

SOUTH BRUNSWICK — Guided tours of the Middlesex County Earth Center are now available by appointment.

The Earth Center includes a 1,000 square foot vegetable garden and a 13-bed herb garden, plus a display of shade trees and ornamental trees. All are found at Davidson's Mill Pond Park. For more information, call (732) 398-5262.

Creative arts camp

coming to area church
DUNELLEN — The Dunellen United Methodist Church has a

creative arts camp open to children ages 3 years-up.

This camp meets from 6-8 p.m. Monday through Aug. 3 in the church at 150 Dunellen Ave. Camp-goers get to produce and perform their version of the Bible story "Through the Roof." Cost is \$5 per family.

For more information, call Janet Urban at (732) 752-1866 or Rev. Hazel Shue at (732) 968-6676.

County softball leagues forming

Slow-pitch softball leagues in Middlesex County are open to men and women.

These leagues begin in late August and run into October or early November, depending on rainouts and playoff schedules.

Men's leagues play at Thomas Edison Park in Edison and Warren Park in Woodbridge. The men's single-game league plays at 6:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday. The men's double-header league plays at 6:45 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

A women's league plays at Warren Park in Woodbridge; games are at 10:30 and 11:45 a.m. Sunday.

Rosters must be submitted by Aug. 4 to the Middlesex County Parks & Recreation Department. For more, e-mail Erin.Carroll@co.middlesex.nj.us or call (732) 745-4222.

A special gift



COURTESY SOUTH PLAINFIELD KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #6203
The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 made a surprise visit to Father John Skwara, second from left, former pastor of the Our Lady of Czesstochowa Church in South Plainfield, at his assisted living home in Franklin on June 24. Pictured with Skwara are Past Grand Knight Joe Scrudato, left, Faithful Navigator Gene Buldowski, second from right and Knights member Ed Kubala, right. Not pictured, but also in attendance, is Frank Mikorski. The Knights presented Skwara with a new wheelchair because his old one had become unusable. The Knights had given Skwara a used wheelchair until they could buy him a new wheelchair. The Knights thanked Mary Ann Hennigan from Delcrest Medical Services for her help in getting the wheelchair.

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. Crabiel 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.

Both awards were based on academic achievement and extracurricular activities.

Middlesex County College held its Celebration Day convocation May 16 to recognize special faculty members and longtime employees.

Honored as the Alumnus of the Year was **Paul Avery**, who graduated from MCC in 1979 and is now chief operating officer of Outback Steakhouse Inc. He shared some of his college experiences to the audience of more than 250 faculty and staff.

Before the main program, the college held a luncheon at which President Joann LaPerla-Morales presented gifts of appreciation to each employee celebrating an anniversary. Among these employees, with department and length of service:

Louis Egly of Edison, facilities maintenance, 40 years.

Elliot L. Pasternack of Highland Park, assistant professor of history and social behavior, 40 years.

Francis J. Burke of Edison, chairman of the computer science department, 35 years.

Michael Greenhouse of Metuchen, associate professor of history and social behavior, 35 years.

Niki L. Luther of Edison, assistant in media services, 35 years.

Doris C. Morgan of South Plainfield, associate professor of biology, 35 years.

Brian DeUriarte of Edison, assistant professor of business administration and management, 20 years.

Gary V. Noto of Edison, general mechanic, facilities main-

tenance, 20 years.

Mark A. Banyacski of Edison, assistant to the director of finance, 10 years.

Raymond Battaglia of Highland Park, programmer analysis, information technology, 10 years.

Jameson E. Eichert of Metuchen, facilities maintenance, warehouse, 10 years.

Shunfu Gao of Edison, assistant professor of chemistry and physics, 10 years.

Joseph J. Misuraca of Piscataway, assistant professor of mechanical and civil/construction engineering technology, 10 years.

Shannon Clegg of Piscataway was named to the dean's list for the spring 2006 term at Springfield College in Springfield, Mass. She is a senior majoring in athletic training.

Nineteen area students were named to the dean's list for the fall 2005 semester at Rider University in Lawrenceville. They are:

Jason Bellew of Piscataway,

a junior majoring in secondary education and biology.

Ashley Benham of Edison, a junior majoring in finance.

Rafal Bielecki of Edison, a junior majoring in finance and accounting.

Shannon Boyles of South Plainfield, a sophomore majoring in elementary education and psychology.

Megan Bozzomo of Middlesex, a junior majoring in elementary education and psychology.

Hlona Brodetsky of Metuchen, a senior majoring in political science.

Suzie Chu of Edison, a freshman majoring in journalism.

Sandra Cortes of Edison, a senior majoring in management.

Brian Fabiano of Highland Park, a senior majoring in marketing.

Beth Gard of Edison, a junior majoring in journalism.

Shelly Helfgott of Edison, a junior majoring in elementary education and communication.

Jessica Mortenson of Edison, a sophomore majoring

in elementary education and psychology.

Christopher Papp of Metuchen, a senior majoring in management.

Grishma Patel of Edison, a senior majoring in finance and management.

Meaghan Schweers of South Plainfield, a junior majoring in elementary education and psychology.

Joseph Seaton of Edison, a freshman majoring in actuarial science and finance.

Marisa Tavesat of Edison, a junior majoring in English.

James Tocco of Edison, a postgraduate student in accounting.

Stephen Trainor of Piscataway, a freshman majoring in secondary education and physics.

Six students from Edison were named to the dean's list for the fall 2005 semester at Boston University in Boston, Mass.

They are **Rachel M. Bien**, **Eric G. Chu**, **Sudeep Pal**, **Paras N. Patel**, **Matthew D. Rogers** and **Victoria Yen**.



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CENTRAL JERSEY
BASEBALLTorrid
S'ville
keeps
winning

With just about everyone in its lineup clicking, Somerville continued to dominate opposing Central Jersey Baseball League hurlers last week.

Gaining more confidence with each game, the young Somerville squad had its way for 51 runs on 51 hits while winning four times during a seven-day stretch in CJBL High School Division play, pushing its winning streak to six with an 11-1 five-inning romp over Ridge White Sunday night.

After an 0-3 start Somerville has won eight of nine to improve to 8-4 for the season. During its six-game victory tear the Somerville attack has averaged 14.3 runs per game and finished in double figures in hits each game.

And while the hitting has been outstanding, the pitching hasn't been too shabby, either, especially against Ridge as Sean Cruz fired a five-inning two-hitter, losing his bid for a no-hitter with two out in the top of the fifth when Ridge scored its only run. Cruz struck out four and walked three.

After losing his no-hitter and the shutout in the fifth when Ridge drew within 4-1, the offense made sure Cruz wouldn't have to retake the mound in the sixth as Somerville ended the game with seven runs in the home half of the stanza.

A bases-loaded walk to Danny Reynolds following a single by Eric Fowler, a double by Cruz and a walk to Will Haddock started the scoring in the fifth. Bryan Mantie then doubled home a pair and Chris Venditto followed with a two-run single.

After a single by Colin Klika and a walk to Bryce Gibbons reloaded the bases, Fowler's two-out fly ball was dropped, allowing the final two runs to score and end the game.

Cruz finished the game 3 for 3 at the plate, collecting RBI singles in the first and third innings, while Fowler went 3 for 4. Reynolds added a run-scoring single in the fourth and had a 2-for-2 game, and Mantie went 2 for 3. Venditto picked up the first of his three RBI on a ground-out in the second.

Somerville 4, Dunellen 2 — Facing one of the league's better teams Saturday, Somerville needed eight innings to get the job done but survived on the solid pitching of Klika and Fowler along with five straight hits in the top of the eighth inning that decided the outcome.

Klika and Fowler finished with matching lines of four innings pitched, one run allowed, three strikeouts and three walks while combining on a six-hitter. Fowler earned the victory.

Gibbons, Fowler, Reynolds (2 for 4), Haddock and Mantie (2 for 4) put together the consecutive singles in the eighth with Reynolds and Mantie picking up the RBI. Somerville grabbed a 2-1 edge in the third when Reynolds followed singles by Craig Bellucci (2 for 3) and Eric Karpinski with a two-run double.

Somerville 15, Bernards 4 — After spotting Bernards a 2-0 lead July 14, Somerville scored 13 times over its final three at-bats to end the game in five innings as Cruz and Haddock paced the winners' 10-hit attack with 3-for-3 performances and five RBI between them.

Mantie's two-run double and a two-run single by Karpinski (2 for 3) highlighted a five-run third inning that gave Somerville a 6-2 lead, while Fowler doubled in a pair and Cruz added a run-scoring single when Somerville scored three times in the fourth. In a six-run fifth, Cruz delivered a two-run double, while Gibbons and Haddock singled in two apiece.

Stanley hitting his stride for Pats

By ALLAN CONOVER
Sports Editor

BRIDGEWATER — After seven years in minor league baseball, he knows the drill well enough by now.

When Henri Stanley signed with the Somerset Patriots a month ago, he was taking over the center field spot that had been occupied so capably by Mike Lockwood, who'd just departed the squad to play in the Taiwan Professional League.

So, were there any particular greetings or expectations discussed between he and Patriots Manager Sparky Lyle?

"He didn't say and I didn't ask," said Stanley. "I just go out and try to play when I'm in the lineup, which I hope is on a consistent basis, and I just try to play as hard as I can."

Stanley has been doing exactly that with solid results thus far. After going 7 for 12 last weekend against Bridgeport in the opening series of the second-half season, he entered the week hitting .303 in his first 19 Atlantic League of Professional Baseball games for Somerset.

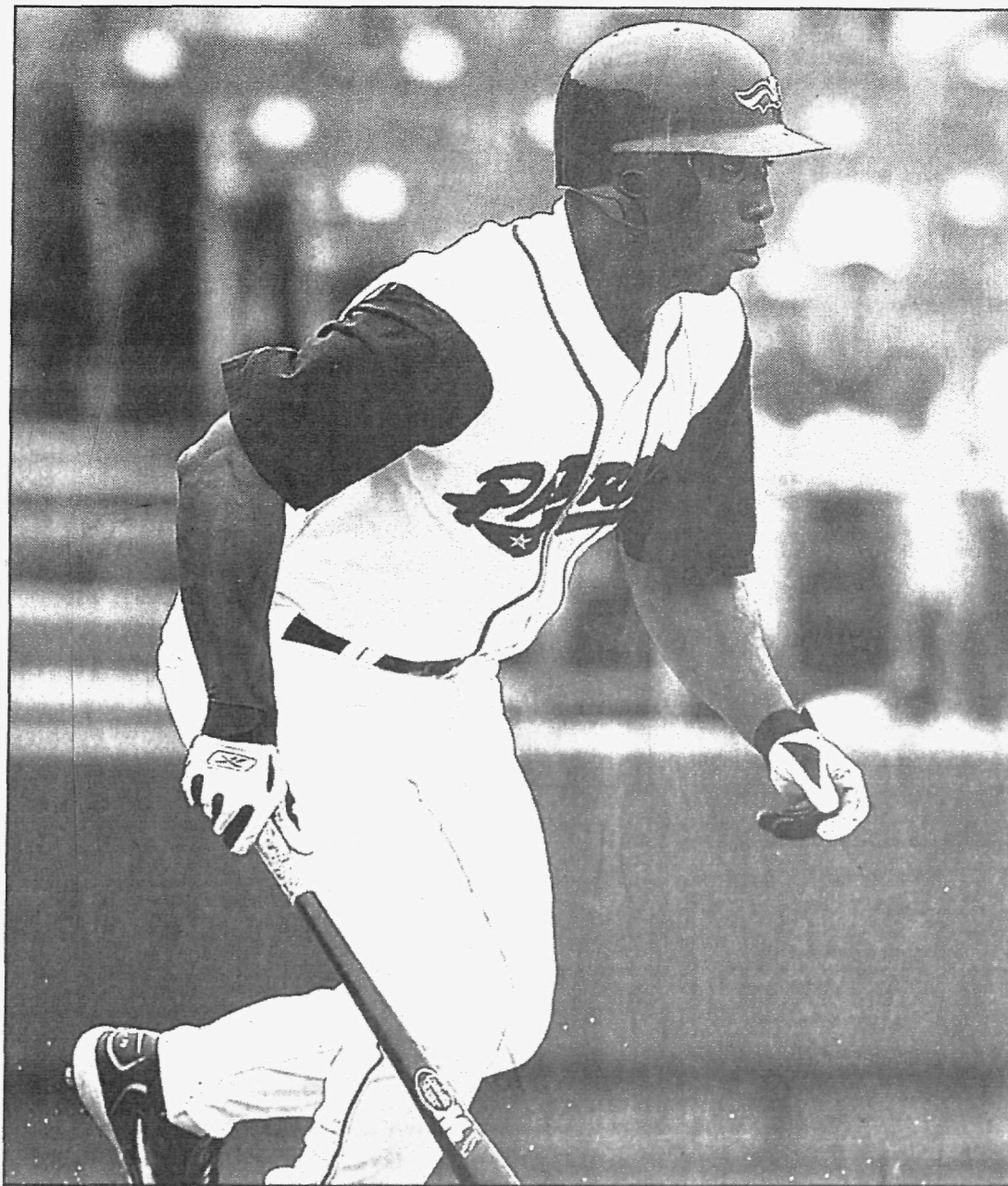
Continued success like that could put him on a path back to a major league-affiliated organization. The 28-year-old Stanley, who's played three seasons at the Triple-A level, was released by the Los Angeles Dodgers during spring training.

After waiting almost three months for a call from another major league club, Stanley opted to give the independent ALPB a shot, joining the Patriots June 22.

"I don't have any goals right now," said Stanley, a lean, muscular 5-foot-10, 185-pounder who possesses exceptional speed. "This is just a season to play ball again and hopefully a way to get back to affiliated ball, maybe get into somebody's spring training camp again next year."

"This is an opportunity to get better and put up some numbers where I can be noticed by an organization and at the same time have some fun and play the game to win."

A native and resident of Columbia, S.C., Stanley has been able to hit no matter where he's been in pro ball. Sporting a career .287 average in more than 600 games, he spent last year with the Dodgers' Triple-A Las Vegas squad, also played a full year at the same level with the



He's always hit well wherever he's played, at every level, and centerfielder Henri Stanley is doing the same for the Somerset Patriots. During the past month with the Patriots, the former Clemson University star is batting .303 at the leadoff spot.

Houston Astros and split a Triple-A campaign with the Dodgers, San Diego Padres and Boston Red Sox.

This is the first stint in independent ball for Stanley, who throws and hits lefthanded and has shown flashes of power in the past.

"A lot of these guys have had some major league time," he said, "and I would think everybody has the ultimate goal of getting back to affiliated ball. There's good talent at this level. The pitching is probably a little better in Triple-A but here it's comparable to other levels."

"But, of course, we're here because somebody's better than us at those levels. So

understandably at Triple-A there are players who are a little bit more consistent day-in and day-out than we are."

Position players in their upper 20s who've never reached the big leagues are often casualties of the numbers game when major league rosters have to be sliced just before the season, and that apparently is what happened with Stanley.

"The Dodgers weren't interested in keeping me around because they were making a movement toward some other guys and prospects they'd acquired during the off-season," he said. "They'd moved some guys to the outfield to speed up their development

towards the big leagues, so I guess I became an expendable person."

He's been a valuable person with the Patriots, stepping into the leadoff slot in the batting order — something he had plenty of experience with in Triple-A — and playing well defensively. In his first 66 at-bats he had 20 hits, including four doubles and two triples, and had scored 14 times while stealing three bases in four attempts.

"I like the stadium," he said of Commerce Bank Park, "and I'm pretty sure the fans would probably be more energetic. I guess I can say, if we were winning a bit more. But they attend the games and support

us. "So far I don't do much except sit in my room until it's time to come to the park every day. I haven't tried to explore the area too much, but I know how to get from the hotel to the field and I know a couple of restaurants here and there, and that's about it."

Stanley, hobbled by back spasms when he first arrived at Somerset, gave the Patriots a scare Saturday night when he aggravated his left hamstring muscle while fouling off the first pitch thrown to him leading off the seventh inning during a 10-3 loss to Bridgeport.

After fouling out three pitches later, he limped to the dugout and left the lineup. Later in the locker room, he indicated the hamstring wasn't pulled or torn — which often involves a lengthy, frustrating healing process — but had just tightened up in the heat and humidity.

"I was cramping up all over all day," he said. "My toes were cramping, my hand was cramping. I don't have a lot of body fat on me, so that doesn't help. Hydration is always my main thing, and when a muscle goes, to me, it just goes. So when my hamstring tightened up, I got ice on it real quick and relaxed and settled down, and it went away."

Stanley had provided Somerset with a couple of its few offensive highlights earlier Saturday, smacking a run-scoring hit off the second baseman's glove with two out in the second and then lining another RBI single to left with two out in the fourth.

A four-year standout at Clemson University, Stanley wasn't taken in the major league amateur draft but did sign with Houston as a free agent shortly after graduating in 2000.

The following year, playing for the Astros' Single-A club in Michigan, he hit .300 with 24 doubles, 12 triples, 14 home runs, 76 runs batted in and 30 stolen bases.

Moving up to Double-A with the Round Rock Express in 2002, he was selected as a Texas League All-Star and finished the season with a .314 average, 36 doubles, 10 triples, 16 homers and 72 RBI. He hit .292 in Triple-A the next year but was released by the Astros, then signed with San Diego for the 2004 campaign, when he also played for the Red Sox and Dodgers farm clubs.

Foley sharp in
national event

With a number of big victories already dotting his resume the past few years, Kevin Foley entered the U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship ready to add another.

He didn't, but the Somerville resident continued to solidify his sterling reputation on the golf course.

"My mind was focused on making it to the final match and to win," said Foley. "After all, that's why you're playing in a tournament, because you have to think you can win it."

The Immaculata High graduate reached the round of 16 in one of the U.S. Golf Association's biggest national events before being eliminated Thursday at Gold Mountain Golf Club in Bremerton, Wash.

"Overall I think I did pretty well, making it to the top 16 in the whole country," said Foley. "This is the biggest tournament you're going to get for public golfers, and it was my first USGA event. The first step was getting in the top 64 and then you take it one at a time from there. I just didn't try to get overly excited while I was playing."

"As far as what I took from this experience, you learn something every time you go out there. You can always learn from your mistakes and you can always learn more about your game. I just gained a lot more confidence going into the rest of my summer schedule and then into college."

Foley, who was among the state's top interscholastic golfers and is headed for Penn State in the fall, took his first two meetings in the match-play tourney but fell behind a torrid-putting Sihwan Kim of Buena Park, Calif. from the outset in the round of 16 and ultimately lost 4 and 3.

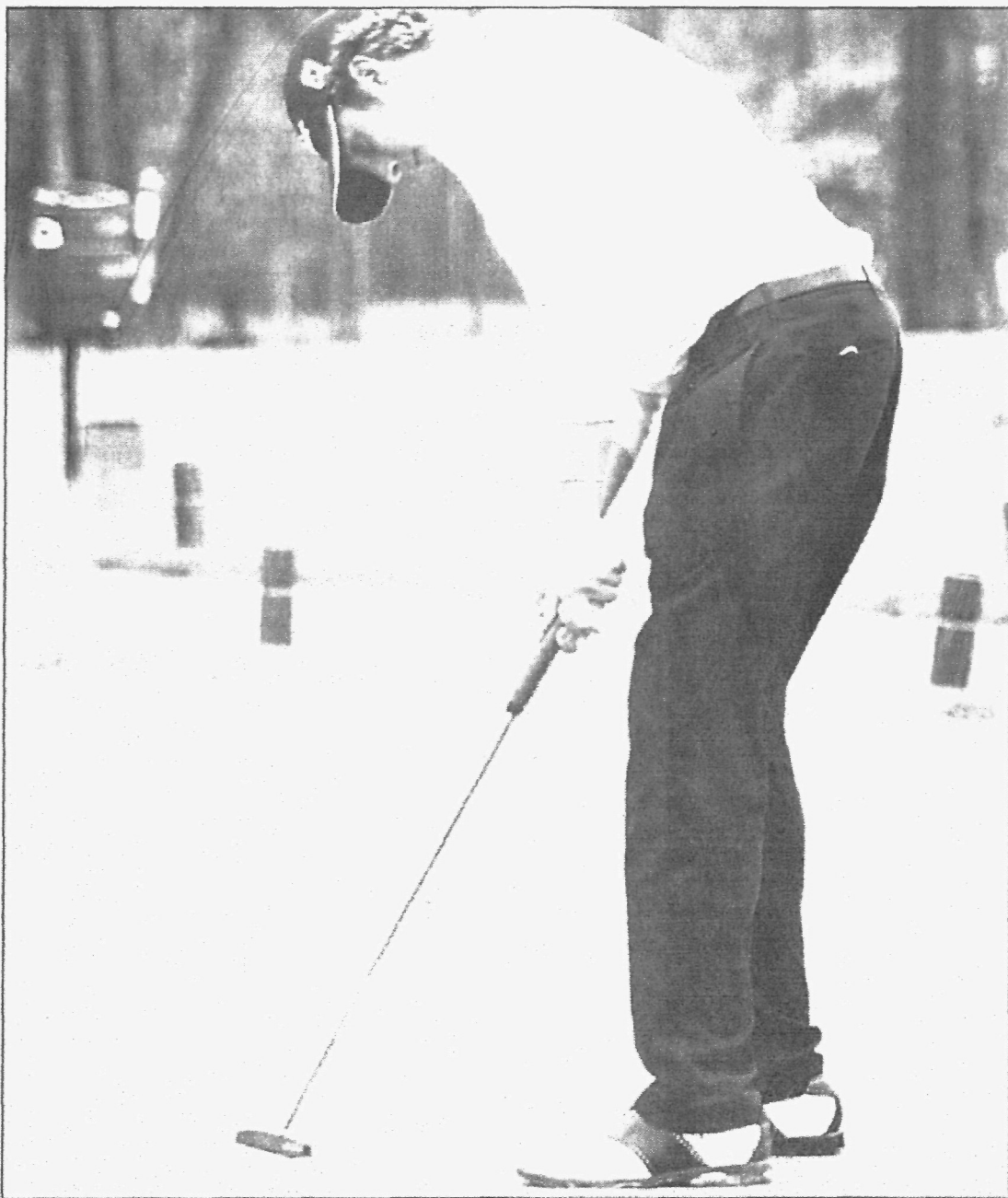
The 18th-seeded Kim sank birdies on four of the first six holes to gain a 3-up cushion and Foley never could catch up.

"I never trailed in my first two matches but here I was three down after six," said Foley, the No. 32 seed, "and it's sort of hard to come back when you're down like that so quickly. It's not that I was making any major mistakes. I was playing all right, but when you get down like that you can't really afford to make any kind of mistakes. And I wasn't really executing the putts I needed to stay in it."

Earlier in the day Foley took a first-hole lead over second-seeded Mitch Cohlmi of Tulsa, Okla. and went on to prevail 3 and 1.

Foley, 19, birdied the eighth hole for a 2-up advantage but lost on No. 11 and 12, leaving the match up for grabs. But he again moved ahead with a birdie on the 14th and also won the next hole for a commanding 2-up lead.

Foley began the tourney July 12 by knocking off No. 31 seed Tadd Fujikawa of Honolulu, Hawaii 3 and 2 after grabbing a 2-up lead on the fourth hole.



Kevin Foley, here sending off a putt while competing for Immaculata High in May, competed in his first USGA tournament last week, reaching the round of 16 in the U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship in Washington.

Obituaries

Joseph A. Marotto

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — Joseph A. Marotto, 71, died July 13, 2006 at the Haven Hospice of Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Plainfield, he lived in North Plainfield and Piscataway before moving to South Plainfield in 2002.

Mr. Marotto was a machinist with Personal Products Co. in

Milltown and Ethicon Inc. in Bridgewater until his retirement in 1992. He was in the Army from 1954-56 and the service officer of American Legion Post 261 in Piscataway. He also was a member of the Edison Moose lodge.

Preceding him in death were a sister, Philomena DiMarcello; and a brother, Patrick.

Surviving are his wife of 20 years, Barbara A. Howell Marotto; a daughter, a son and three grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was held Monday at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, following services at the McCrisky Home for Funerals. Entombment was in the Resurrection Burial Park mausoleum, Piscataway.

Edward Dizon

PISCATAWAY — Edward V. Dizon, 85, died July 12, 2006 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville.

Mr. Dizon was born in Manila, Philippines, and settled in Newark when he came to the

United States in 1938. He lived in Middlesex before moving to Piscataway in 1972.

He retired in 2003 after 53 years with Thermoelectric Products in North Plainfield. His wife of 49 years, Anne,

died in 2003. A son-in-law, Vincent A. Lella, died in 1995.

Surviving are a son, Ronald "Stoney" and wife Dorothy of Hampton; a daughter, Carol A. "Gaby" Lella of Piscataway; seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Services were held Saturday at the Middlesex Funeral Home. Burial was in Resurrection Burial Park. To send a condolence, visit www.middlesexfuneralhome.com.



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It Fast

FINZ

In The Classifieds

In The Towns

Hospital will hold a blood drive Tuesday

NEW BRUNSWICK — Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital will hold a blood drive 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday 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 appointment.

Pets ought to be in pictures, too

PISCATAWAY — "Your Pet Ought to Be in Pictures" with the Piscataway Public Library.

Boys and girls can submit a photo of their pet animal or favorite stuffed animal as part of a summer-long display. A photo of the pet or stuffed animal reading a book would be better.

Bring the photo to Kennedy Library on Hoes Lane or Westergard Library off Stelton Road. Include the pet's name and child's full name on the back of each photo. Pictures will be returned at the end of the summer on request.

The display ties in with "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales," the theme of the Summer Reading Club.

Crafters wanted for fall show

BOUND BROOK — Holy Family Academy is seeking crafters for the Fall Carnival and Craft Show, scheduled for 2-9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 23-24.

Cost is \$35 per 10-foot space. Vendors provide their own table.

For more information, call

(732) 369-3711.

A wolf is seen in Piscataway

PISCATAWAY — The Piscataway Public Library has found a mascot for the Young Adult Summer Reading Club.

Griffin the Wolf is a 26-inch puppet, gray and white in color. He will be traveling around the township all summer long.

Want to know where Griffin the Wolf is? Visit Kennedy Library on Hoes Lane, Westergard Library off Stelton Road or any Bookmobile stop each week. Guess the correct location and be in a drawing to win Griffin the Wolf at the end of the summer.

All Piscataway teens are eligible to enter each week.

Middlesex launches bike safety program

MIDDLESEX — The Police Department of Middlesex will be participating in a Middlesex County program for bicycle safety named "Wheels Under Your Feet? Helmet on Your Head."

Officers on patrol will be given coupons to distribute to children they observe complying with the New Jersey State Helmet Law requiring children under the age of 17 to wear a helmet while bicycling, skateboarding and roller skating.

The coupon will reward the child with a free slice of pizza and soda donated by Luca's Pizza on Harris Ave.

Middlesex and their name will be entered in an end of summer raffle where they have a chance to win a \$200 gift certificate towards a purchase at Kim's Bike Shop in New Brunswick.

This program is made possible because of to the partnership between Luca's Pizza and Kim's Bike Shop and the Middlesex Police Department.

Bookmobile adds summertime stop

PISCATAWAY — The library's Bookmobile will roll out its summer schedule in July with a new stop at Camp Cabrini on Tuesday afternoons.

In addition to the regular neighborhood stops, the Bookmobile will also return to Piscataway Township's "What's Up Youth Center" on alternative Monday afternoons; the Piscataway School Summer Camp at Martin Luther King School on Thursday afternoons, and the Piscataway Recreation Department park sites at Tara and Irishtown Parks on Friday mornings.

Copies of the Bookmobile summer schedule will be available at all Library locations and on the Library web site at www.piscatawaylibrary.org. For further information about the Library and its programs, contact the Reference Department at (732) 463-1633, ext. six.

Summer Reading prizes are showcased

PISCATAWAY — The public library will showcase the 2006 Summer Reading Club prizes in the display case at the John F. Kennedy library located at 500 Hoes Lane during the summer.

Children and teens are invited to join the library and over 300 libraries in New Jersey for a fun filled summer by participating in the statewide summer reading clubs.

Registration for both programs continues throughout the summer.

Children from birth through grade six (infants and preschoolers can be read to) are invited to explore Paws, Claw Scales and Tales with the Children's Reading Club; teens from grades seven through 12 are invited to Creature Feature, the Young Adult reading club.

South Bound Brook center hosts tire drop-off

SOUTH BOUND BROOK — Got a spare tire to lose?

If that tire comes from a car, truck, minivan or SUV, you can drop the tire off next week at Robert Morris School, 122 Elizabeth Ave. Hours are 8 a.m. to noon today.

The Somerset County Division of Solid Waste Management and the South Bound Brook Department of Public Works are collecting these tires. There is no charge to county residents and a limit of eight tires per household.

"It is important to properly dispose of tires," said Freeholder Denise Coyle, solid waste management liaison. "By

doing so, residents will be removing items from their property that have the potential to collect standing water and attract mosquitoes, which may carry the West Nile virus."

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

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

You can also dispose of old tires at the Somerset County recycling center in Bridgewater between 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. the first Saturday of each month.

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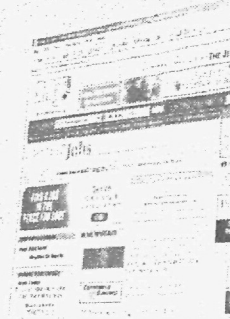
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Classification 1385

Employment Classification 201

Merchandise Classification 550

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

Announcements 110

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Employment Agencies 205

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Drivers 230

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General Help 240

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Ask for Ed

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General Help 240

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NJN Publishing, which includes The Hunterdon County Democrat, Observer, Delaware Valley News, Horse News, Warren Reporter and Somerset Reporter, is seeking an organized, motivated, self-starter to join the outside sales team.

We are looking for a talented professional with newspaper advertising sales experience who is eager to develop new relationships, demonstrate the ability to be creative in developing new ideas for customers, loves a challenge, and is goal oriented.

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E-mail resume and salary requirements to: Jobs@NJNPublishing.com
NJN PUBLISHING

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Min. 3 years experience. Pay commensurate w/exp. Steady work, must have hand tools & trans. 908-879-8042

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23 yrs. exp. Benefits, 401k. Immed. 908-534-2404 or 908-256-0727

General Help 240

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Flemington Block & Supply seeks person with building materials background for block, brick and concrete dispatch. Excellent salary and benefits. Call Al Brong at 908-782-8545.

FENCE

Installers, Laborers, Subcontractors & Sales. 1-800-262-3245

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Busy Family Restaurant is currently seeking an experienced General Manager. Must have Strong F.O.H. scheduling & P.O.S. skills. (Digital Dining). Excellent salary, benefits and growth potential. The Hunterdon County Democrat Attn: M-1338 171 State Route 173 Suite 300 Asbury, NJ 08802

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Call Tony 908-598-0800

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General Help 240

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Is seeking a

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General Help 240

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Immed. openings for FT/PT physical therapist to work in the school systems in Warren & Hunterdon Co. \$50K/yr. brnts. Fax resume to: Sam's Kids Physical Therapy, 908-454-6279

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Situations Wanted 280

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Real Estate Sales

Condos & Townhouses 320
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act and the New Jersey Civil Rights Law, which make it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap, familial status, creed, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, or nationality, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. To report discrimination, call the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at 1-800-669-9777. The HUD TTY telephone number for the hearing impaired is 212-708-1455.

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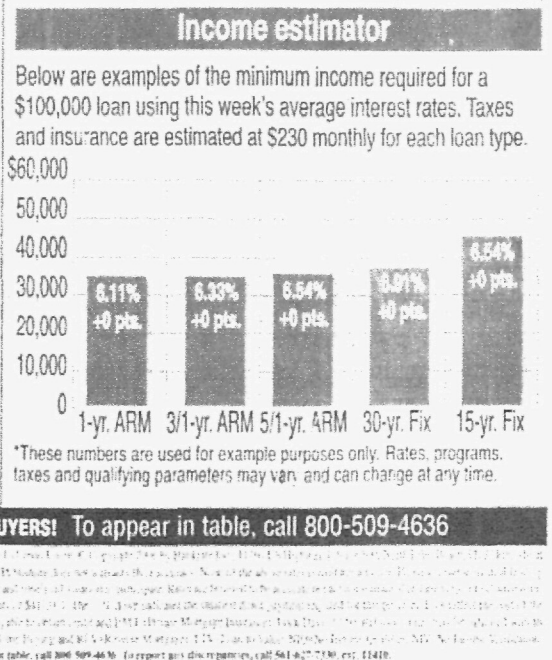
Homes For Sale 330
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15-YR FIXED	5.62%	0.00	6.14%	30	20 160-412	ARM (30 YR CALL)	15-YR FIXED	6.12%	0.00	6.12%	60 20 0-412 LISTED HERE ARE
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30-YR FIXED	6.25%	0.00	6.41%	30	20 160-412	W/	30-YR FIXED	6.25%	0.00	6.67%	60 20 160-412
15-YR FIXED	6.00%	0.00	6.12%	30	20 160-412	Community	15-YR FIXED	5.75%	0.00	5.93%	60 20 160-412
30-YR JUMBO	6.60%	0.00	6.69%	30	20 414-6360	Bank	10-YR FIXED	5.50%	0.00	5.62%	60 20 160-412
2-YR ARM	4.62%	1.00	7.12%	30	20 160-650	Values	10-YR FIXED	4.80%	2.00	5.44%	60 20 160-412
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30-YR JUMBO	6.50%	2.00	6.75%	60	20 359-15M		2-YR ARM JUMBO	Call For Current Rates			
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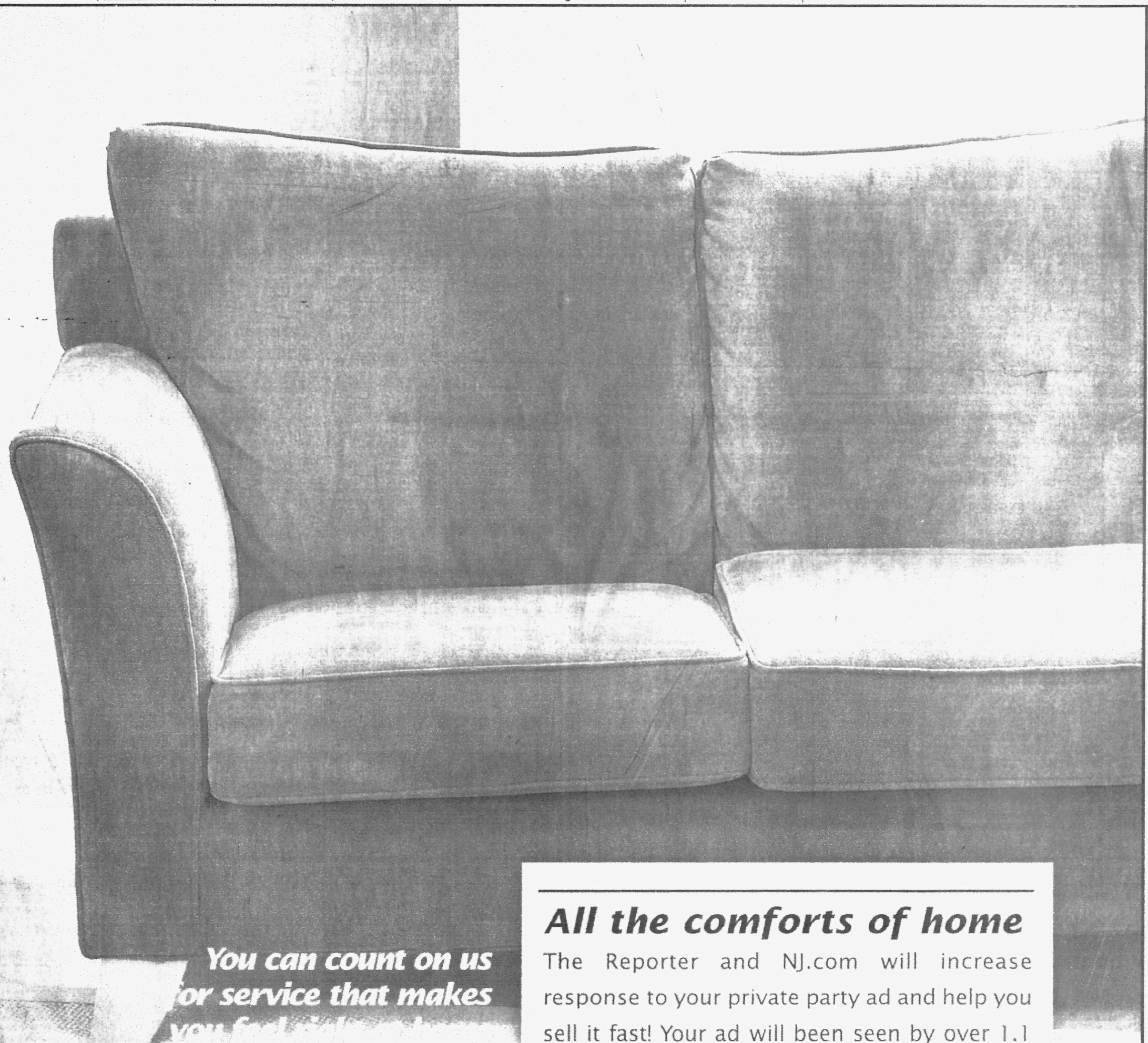
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SELL IT HERE! 1-800-559-9495	Garage / Yard Sales 605 NESHANIC STATION Garage Sale Saturday, July 22 nd 9 am - 4 pm 3 Wren Lane (Rt. 202 S to Left on Summer Rd, 2 nd Left on Robin Way, 1 st Right on Wren, 2 nd house on Left) Furniture, Tools, Household Items Wanted To Buy 625 All Lionel & Other Trains Top cash prices pd. 973-334-8709 or 201-404-8030 Financial / Business Business Opportunities 650 LOOK! 2006 POSTAL JOBS \$18/hour starting. Avg. Pay \$57k/year. Federal Benefits. No experience needed. Small upfront fee. 1-800-564-1775 Ref# P1100 Professional Services Child Care / Nursery Schools 734 MONDAY MORNING INC Reliable, insured care for infants & toddlers. 908-526-4884	Transportation Auto Parts & Accessories 1355 4 Tires - 265/70/R15 on American racing 5 lug aluminum Ford wheels. 5000 miles \$300 OBO 908-685-1545 Autos For Sale 1385 BMW 330i 2001 - prem & sport pkg, titanium silver, 47k mi, excl cond., 908-647-2075 Check this out! 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