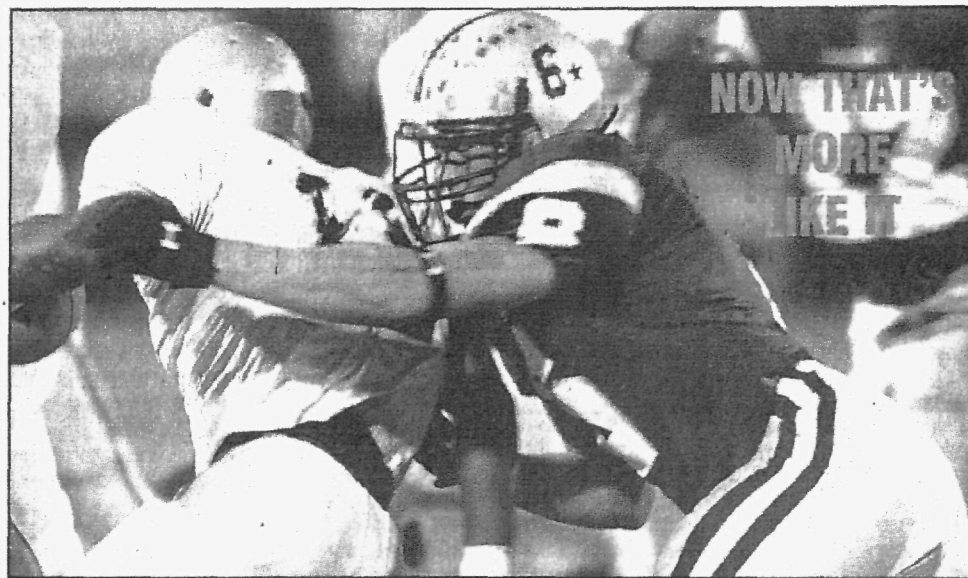


RESIDENTS SPEAK OUT

Some creative sign writing was employed during last Sunday's protest of Pathmark at the Landmark Shopping Center in Somerville. Borough residents are saying Pathmark's legal action against redevelopment plans at the center is delaying the start of



After a not-so-resounding opening-round playoff victory, Immaculata High's unbeaten football team bounced back Nov. 17 to thoroughly dismantle Holy Spirit by a 35-6 difference. The Spartans will take on Delbarton for the Non-Public Schools Group 3 title Dec. 2 at Rutgers Stadium in Piscataway.

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The Chronicle

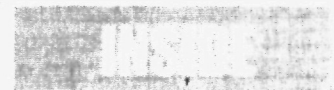
Since 1862

Vol. 145, No. 47

Saturday, November 25, 2006

NOV 29 2006

50 cents



A classic tale retold

The Theatre at Raritan Valley Community College in North Branch will present the Nebraska Theatre Caravan's production of the holiday classic "A Christmas Carol," 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2. For more about this performance, see Page A2.

Signs of the season

METUCHEN — The Metuchen Area Chamber of Commerce holds its Winter Festival this week. The 53rd annual Winter Festival Parade is on Sunday. The theme of this year's parade is "Children of the World." Solaris Health System/JFK Medical Center is delighted to once again be the principal sponsor of this fun-filled family event. Renaissance Properties Inc. (Silver Sponsor), Black Belt Institute and Common Interests Inc. (Bronze Sponsors) all invite you to celebrate the children of the world. The parade begins at 2 p.m. from Brunswick Avenue and Main Street. Participants will travel north on Main and turn onto New Street to end at the Pearl Street parking lot. A visit with Santa Claus at the Metuchen Senior Center follows the parade with hot chocolate provided by the Recreation Department. If the weather is questionable, call (732) 548-2964 or visit www.metuchenchamber.com after 11 a.m. for an update. The Winter Festival Tree lighting ceremony is at 7 p.m. Friday. For more information, call (732) 548-2964.

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Sports.....	A5
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Main Street group honors volunteers

HIGHLAND PARK — Main Street Highland Park took time away from promoting the downtown to show its appreciation to the Highland Park volunteers whose efforts over the past year have done so much for the renaissance of Highland Park's downtown and the organization.

Mayor Meryl Frank, along with the Main Street Highland Park board of directors and staff, gathered

recently at Charlie Brown's Steakhouse on Raritan Avenue to officially recognize its many volunteers with awards of appreciation.

Those given particular mention were:

— Duane Beers, who received the 2006 Outstanding Contribution Award for his tireless work and long tenure as chairman of the Promotions Committee.

— Debbie Convery and

Elizabeth McCandlish, co-recipients of the Volunteer of the Year Award for the Organization Committee.

— Ira Grasgreen, honored as Volunteer of the Year from the Design Committee.

— Michael Ritz, named the Volunteer of the Year for the Promotions Committee.

— Lee Lensky and Stan Fessant, co-recipients of the

Continued on page A2

Diocese names marketing head

The Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski, bishop of the Diocese of Metuchen, has appointed Peter Connolly to a new marketing position in the diocese. Connolly will serve as director of Marketing for the diocese and as executive vice president, chief marketing officer for Saint Peter's University Hospital.

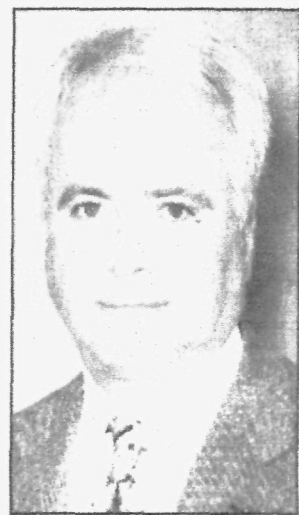
A high level marketing professional, Connolly had implemented programs that have transcended a wide range of industries and resulted in significant growth and increased revenue.

"These are challenging times for our diocese as well as our hospital. We need someone of Peter's caliber to enhance our efforts and position us for the 21st century," Bishop Bootkoski said. "This year our diocese celebrates its 25th anniversary and next year our hospital will be 100 years old, so we are pleased Peter has joined us now."

In the diocese, Connolly will assist in a broad range of new initiatives. At Saint Peter's, he will be responsible for advertising, public relations, government relations, research, strategic planning, network development, community outreach, customer service and fund-raising.

Ronald Rak, chairman of the board of trustees at Saint Peter's and general secretary for the diocese, called Connolly the marketing expert who will bring a new dynamic to both the diocese and the hospital. "Peter has served admirably on the board of the hospital for the past two years, so we are very pleased that a man of his talent will be working for us full-time," Rak said. "We have a broad agenda to accomplish and Peter will play a critical role in developing that agenda."

On Diocesan matters Connolly will report to the Bishop and Rak, who is



Peter Connolly

general secretary for Administrative and Legal Services for the Diocese, and at Saint Peter's to Rak.

For the past eight years, Connolly was president of Worldwide Marketing and Communications with the Tommy Hilfiger Corporation. Previously he held several senior level marketing positions including, senior vice president of World Wide Marketing at Polo Ralph Lauren; senior vice president of Marketing at CNBC Television Network and chief marketing officer for Ikea North America.

Over the years, Connolly's marketing and communications programs have garnered national and international coverage, as well as recognition in both the consumer and trade press.

Sheryl Slonim, president and chief executive officer of Saint Peter's, said that she is looking forward to working with Connolly. "Peter's impressive skills and vast expertise will ensure that all our efforts will resonate with our various constituencies."

Connolly is a graduate of Boston College. He lives in Cranbury with his wife, Susan, and their two children, Jackie and Thomas.

All I want for Christmas . . .



GEORGE PACCIOLLO STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Santa talks with Peyton Moore, 3, and her sister Carly, 6, during their visit to St. Johns Episcopal Church in Somerville last Saturday. This weekend Santa will officially arrive in the borough on a fire truck and attend the annual tree lighting, taking place 5:30 p.m. today at Borough Hall, 25 West End Ave. Following the lighting, Santa will stroll down Main Street from 6-8 p.m. Most stores will be open until 8 p.m. Live music will be performed at Mannion's Pub & Restaurant, Verve Restaurant and the United Reformed Church. Kids can munch on free gingerbread men cookies and listen to live music at The Dessert Plate. There will also be an ice carver, who will sculpt with a chainsaw from 6-8 p.m. outside Wishes and Dreams.

South Bound Brook names costume contest winners

SOUTH BOUND BROOK — The borough's Recreation and Social Committee, which sponsors the annual Halloween parade, recently named the costume contest winners.

The committee thanked the mayor and Borough Council, South Bound Brook Police Department, South Bound Brook Fire Company and the South Bound Brook First Aid Squad for their help, participation and continued support in making this evening a huge success. The committee also thanked everyone who volunteered their time and assistance.

Judging of the costumes took place after the parade in the Robert Morris School gymnasium. The committee said it appreciated the efforts of those who volunteered their time to act as judges: Nancy Ambrose,

Sharon Barber Fell and Nancy Kordell. Prizes of pizzas (from Domino's and Bella Roma) and subs (from Joe's Meat Market) were awarded. After the judging of costumes, doughnuts and cider were served to everyone by members of the Recreation Committee and volunteers.

Halloween costume winners, listed by age:

INFANTS AND 1-YEAR-OLDS

Cuddliest: caterpillar, Jade Allen, 5 months.

Most Original: parachuter, Lennix Horsburgh, 6 weeks.

Cutest: sunflower, Sara Thiessen, 9 months.

Funniest: yellow duck, Natalia Badilla, 20 months.

Handcrafted: Tootsie Roll, Laura

Vanatwerp, 5 1/2 weeks.

Prettiest: black and white cat, Winter Schroeder, 21 months.

2- AND 3-YEAR-OLDS

Most Original: chicken, Antonio DeGiralamo, 2 years.

Spookiest: witch, Sophia Diblasio, 3 years, and The Hulk, Luke Koschelski, 3 years.

Prettiest: Snow Princess, Emily Kowallo, 3 1/2 years.

Handcrafted: clown, Janiece Holmes, 2 years, and ladybug, Megan VanAntwerp, 3 years.

Cutest: Raggedy Ann, Madison Reeves, 2 years, Buzz Lightyear, Christopher Chacon, 3 years, and pirate, Alan Lopez, 3 years.

Funniest: The Incredible, Jared Allan, 3 years.

Judges Choice: witch, Jolana

Zaccardi, 2 years.

4- AND 5-YEAR-OLDS

Most Original: astronaut, Joshua Lopez, 4 years.

Spookiest: Batman, Brandon Manley, 4 years.

Prettiest: fairy princess, Joelle Killough, 5 years.

Handcrafted: robot, Mason Horsburgh, 5 years.

Cutest: rock star, Morgan Tomaro, 5 years.

Funniest: Monster Inc., Javonne Jackson, 5 years.

Judges Choice: female police officer, Jenna Thiessen, 4 years.

6- AND 7-YEAR-OLDS

Most Original: The Tree, Sophie Bischoff, 7 years.

Continued on page A2

★★★Police News★★★

MIDDLESEX

Two teens face criminal charges amid a vandalism spree on Halloween.

Matthew Glancey, 18, and Shaun DiMura, 18, both of Middlesex, were arrested Oct. 31 and charged with criminal mischief at the Absolute Auto and Truck Salvage yard on Mountain Avenue.

They allegedly used a pipe to break 21 windows on 16 vehicles at the salvage yard, according to a release from borough police. The damage was estimated at \$1,800.

Glancey posted \$500 bail and was

released pending a court hearing. DiMura was taken to the Middlesex County Adult Correction Center on \$500 bail.

An unlocked bicycle was stolen Oct. 25 from the bicycle rack at Von E. Mauger Middle School. Police said the bike is valued at \$150.

A purse belonging to a student at Middlesex High School was stolen from an MHS hallway Oct. 27.

Police were told an iPod and cell phone were inside the purse, with the total value of all the items at \$713.

Christmas classic



COURTESY RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The Theatre at Raritan Valley Community College in North Branch will present the Nebraska Theatre Caravan's production of the holiday classic "A Christmas Carol," 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2. The performance is part of the Theatre's Major Artists Series. Tickets cost \$35 and \$40. Welcome to the London of Charles Dickens, artfully created by the Nebraska Theatre Caravan. The period's chilling poverty and luxurious wealth both serve as a thrilling backdrop to this stage production. The best-known and best-loved phantoms in literature are the spirit guides who magically transport the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge through time and space in a quest for the true meaning of Christmas. To purchase tickets or for more information, call the box office at (908) 725-3420 or order online at www.rvccArts.org. Senior citizen, student and group discounts also are available for a variety of performances.

Shape a book for a needy child

PISCATAWAY — Teens are invited to a book making program at Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes Lane.

This two-part project is at 3 p.m. Tuesday and Dec. 5. Teens get a choice of subjects the first week and assemble the book the second week. Each finished book will be in the shape of its subject and given to a needy child.

Registration is required; visit the reference desk or call (732) 463-1633, option 6.

Symposium open to public

NEW BRUNSWICK — A free symposium on Catholic-Jewish relations is at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Saint Peter's University Hospital in New Brunswick.

Speakers are Rev. James Loughran, director of the Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute; Rabbi Leon Klenicki, director emeritus of interfaith affairs, Anti-Defamation League; Monsignor William Benwell, vicar general for the Diocese of Metuchen; and Rabbi Nathan Langer of Congregation Anshe Emeth, South River.

For more information, call (732) 745-8565. Dairy refreshments will be served.

'Off the Job Safety'

topic of free seminar

MONMOUTH JUNCTION — "Off the Job Safety Programs That Work" is the theme of a seminar at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Middlesex County Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The seminar is sponsored by the chamber's Human Resource Council and by the Edison Chamber of Commerce. Presenter William Margareta is president of the New Jersey State Safety Council.

Admission is free. For registration, call Debbie at (732) 821-1700.

Library display

for anniversary

PISCATAWAY — The Piscataway Public Library has an exhibit this month "Celebrating 45 Years of Public Library Service" in the township.

This historical display can be

seen through Thursday at Kennedy Library, located on Hoes Lane near the Municipal Complex.

Railroad show seeks volunteers

The Barron Arts Center in Woodbridge is seeking volunteers to help out with its annual model railroad exhibit.

The show opens Sunday, Nov. 26 and can be seen through Dec. 23. If you are interested, call (732) 634-0413 between 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Death penalty is pro-gram topic

KENDALL PARK — The Diocese of Metuchen sponsors a seminar on "The Culture of Life and the Penalty of Death."

This presentation is at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at St. Augustine of Canterbury Church in Kendall Park. Speakers are Celeste Fitzgerald, director of New Jerseyans for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, and Kirk Bloodworth, who spent nine years in prison for a murder he did not commit.

For registration, call (732) 562-1990.

Business events open to public

The Middlesex County Regional Chamber of Commerce has these December events open to the public:

Human Resources Council seminar, 8:30 a.m. Wednesday at the chamber office in Monmouth Junction. William Margareta speaks about "Off the Job Safety Programs That Work." Admission is free. For registration, e-mail debbie@mcrc.org or call (732) 821-1700, Ext. 202.

"The Creative Classroom: Integrating Math and Technology," 8:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 8 at Middlesex County College in Edison. Cost of \$25 includes breakfast and lunch. For registration, call (732) 548-6000, Ext. 3144 by Thursday, Nov. 30.

"Emergency Preparedness and Bird Flu," 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12 at the chamber office in Monmouth Junction. Cost is free for chamber members and \$25 for non-members. Call (732) 821-1700, Ext. 202.

Contest

Continued from page A1

Spookiest: Chucky, David Mendosa, 7 years, witch, Isabella Dulat, 7 years, and Witch, Brittany Smith, 7 years.

Handcrafted: Bazaro, Cameron Cronheim, 7 years. Cutest: Dorothy, Christina Messner, 7 years, and cheerleader, Jessiya White, 6 years. Judges Choice: brown kitty cat, Nicole Sayfiart, 7 years.

8- AND 9-YEAR-OLDS
Most Original: Marilyn Monroe, Anna Simoncelli, 9 years.

Spookiest: Warlock witch, Peter Seyfiart, 9 years. Prettiest: golden witch,

"Good Morning Middlesex," 7:45 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 14 at CareOne at East Brunswick. Cost for members is \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Cost for non-members is \$25. Call (732) 821-1700, Ext. 203.

"Third Thursdays Leadership Luncheon," 11:45 a.m. Dec. 14 at the Pines Manor in Edison. Cost is \$40 for members and \$55 for non-members. Call (732) 821-1700, Ext. 202.

Knights hold annual breakfast with Santa

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The Knights of Columbus hold their annual Breakfast with Santa from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, Dec. 2 in their council hall at 304 Hamilton Blvd.

Cost is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children and \$15 per family. The menu includes eggs, bacon and French toast.

Reservations are required; call Steve Belanger at (908) 791-0640.

Also on Dec. 2 the Knights are holding a Christmas tree lighting ceremony at the council hall from 7-9 p.m.

Christmas show is free for all

DUNELLEN — Everyone is invited to "An Old-Fashioned Christmas" on the weekend after Thanksgiving.

This free show is at 1 and 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2 at the Dunellen Theatre, 458 North Ave. Christmas carols and other holiday songs are presented in a sing-along format. Andy the Angel appears in a re-enactment of the Christmas story.

All who come receive a free gift.

For more information call the show's sponsor, the First Presbyterian Church, at (732) 968-3844.

Holiday Show for Edison kids

EDISON — The Recreation Department presents its 26th annual Holiday Show at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7 at the Minnie B. Veal Community Center, 1070 Grove Ave.

All Edison children age 2 years through Grade 6 are invited; children must be accompanied by an adult. Performers are from the Harry Blackstone Magic Society and Yvonne's School of Dance.

After the show the township's

Christmas tree will be lighted at 7 p.m. in Elder Park outside the community center.

Tickets are available only at the Dorothy K. Drwal Stelton Community Center, 328 Plainfield Ave., and at the Minnie B. Veal Community Center. Registration fee is a new unwrapped toy valued at no less than \$5.

For more information, call (732) 248-7312.

Unemployed? Meet up with Job Seekers

EDISON — The Nova Job Seekers support group is open to unemployed professionals.

This group meets at 10 a.m. Thursday at the Jewish Family and Vocational Service of Middlesex County, 515 Plainfield Ave. For reservations, e-mail d.markowitz@jfv.org or call (732) 777-1940.

Go skating at the rink in the Roosevelt Park

EDISON — The family ice skating rink in Roosevelt Park is open for the season.

The rink is 185 feet long by 85 feet wide along the lake next to the Level Playing Fields. Hours are 5-9 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday; noon-4 p.m. and 5-9 p.m. Saturday and holidays; noon-3 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. Sunday. The rink is closed Christmas Day.

Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for senior citizens and children ages 17-under. Skates can be rented for \$4 a pair. Skates can be sharpened for \$6.50.

The rink can be rented for a private party; call (732) 494-2980. For rink information, call (732) 494-3785.

Symphony has holiday concert

EDISON — The Edison Symphony Orchestra presents its holiday concert at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10 in the Performing Arts Center at Middlesex County College.

Judith Morse conducts the 70-piece symphony. Singing the "Hallelujah Chorus" from "Messiah" are the Edison High School Choir, under the direction of Kenneth Brown, and the John P. Stevens High School Choir, under the direction of Diane Wions.

Admission is \$25 with group discounts available. For tickets in advance, call (908) 753-2787.

The Chronicle

◆ Since 1862 ◆

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Main Street group honors volunteers

Continued from page A1

Volunteer of the Year award from the Economic Restructuring Committee.

"Our volunteers are truly the backbone of this organization," said Graham Copeland, executive director of Main Street Highland Park.

"Downtown Highland Park would not be the same without the dedication, hard work and passion these and our

many other volunteers show for this town," he said.

Also, current Main Street Highland Park Chairman Brian Taxman, owner of Pino's Fruit Basket Shoppe and Wine Cellar, presented founding Chairman Ed Guttenplan with the Outstanding Leadership award for 2006.

Frank also gave her "Salute to the Main Street," discussing the beginning history of the program, how it has evolved and how valuable its volunteers really are to the organization.

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COUPON EXPIRES 12/6/06



Some creative sign writing was employed during Sunday's protest of Pathmark at the Landmark Shopping Center in Somerville. Borough residents are saying Pathmark's legal action against redevelopment plans at the center is delaying the start of a what they feel is a beneficial project.

Protesters: Pathmark is delaying redevelopment

By ALLISON ELYSE GUALTIERI
Staff Writer

SOMERVILLE — Somerville residents came to the Landmark Shopping Center on Sunday to voice their complaints about the role of Pathmark in the lack of progress on the redevelopment project.

"The motive behind Pathmark's actions are financial gain," said resident Dennis Garot, speaking on a bullhorn to a crowd of several dozen people. "Pathmark is holding the future of Somerville hostage."

Carrying hand-lettered signs bearing messages such as "Boycott Pathmark" and "Somerville Needs Rateables," the members of the demonstration expressed their displeasure with what they see as Pathmark's obstruction of the redevelopment project.

"All Somerville wants to do is see something start. This is our town and you want us to remain loyal to you, because you've been loyal to us, then let something start," said resident Kim Braukmann, referring to Pathmark. "Who wants to look at this anymore?"

Braukmann, who has shopped at Pathmark for over 20 years, said that she was no longer patronizing the supermarket.

Neither is her friend and fellow borough resident

Sandy Dibble, who said the only thing she has purchased from the store in the past few months has been food coloring as a last-minute errand.

"Why should I give them my money?" she said.

The redevelopment of the shopping center into a new mixed-use center has hit a snag, as Pathmark had brought its objections over the proposed plan to court and the borough is making preliminary steps toward acquiring their lease through eminent domain.

The lack of progress on the center, which has been largely empty of stores for months, has hit a nerve with the residents who were out Sunday to demonstrate. "It's the people in Somerville who started to talk, because the consensus was that two years was long enough," said Garot.

The demonstration also attracted the support of several borough council members and Mayor Brian Gallagher, who was present on Sunday.

"I'm here to show my support for people that are showing their support of the future of Somerville," said council president Robert Wilson. "I'm hoping Pathmark receives the message that a majority of people in Somerville want to see this development go forward."

The mayor, who was accompanied by his family, said he

was at the protest both as an elected official and as a resident, and echoed Wilson's sentiments about the protest.

"I hope it gives Pathmark a reality check that the people of Somerville are not happy," he said. His family of seven no longer shops at the supermarket, said his wife Lisa, after years of regularly shopping at the market.

Pathmark spokesman Rich Savner said that there are always two sides to the story.

"We want to be here, but not under the circumstances the developer is trying to dictate," he said. "If the agree last November were put in writing, we would have signed. We're not reneging on our promise... It's unfortunate we're at the situation we're at, but we're protecting our customers and Pathmark."

One of those customers was in the parking lot on Sunday, and disagreed with the demonstrators.

Local resident Cindy Gattone has been shopping at the supermarket for 21 years, and Sunday was no exception.

"I think it's ridiculous, because this is the only store in town. There's a lot of people in Somerville living in shelters, or who don't have cars," she said. "Some aren't so fortunate as the people standing there. I hope they don't close this store; I love this store."

Military Honors

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Nicholas J. D'Andrea was recently awarded the Legion of Merit medal for meritorious service and conduct throughout his 31 year military career.

The Legion of Merit medal is awarded to members of the armed forces who distinguish themselves by exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of service or achievement toward a specific achievement or succession of important positions.

The Legion of Merit medal ranks seventh in the order of U.S. military decorations.

D'Andrea has held various billets during his career, to include helicopter air crewman, training non-commissioned officers, administrative affairs officer and public affairs officer.

As air operations officer for HMH-772, marine aircraft group 49, headquartered in Willow Grove, PA., he assisted disaster relief efforts during the crash of TWA Flight 800 in Long Island, New York.

D'Andrea is currently assigned to Mobilization Training Unit New Jersey 2, headquartered in Metuchen, as the special operations officer and anti-terrorism advisor.

In addition to receiving the Legion of Merit, D'Andrea was also awarded the outstanding volunteer service medal for his exceptional community support over time and not of a single act of achievement. D'Andrea and his wife and two children live in Edison.

Army Reserve Pfc. Jaime A. Mendez has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

He is the son of Gustavo Mendez and Nubia Medina of North Plainfield.

Army National Guard Pvt. Michael R. Wolf has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

He is the son of Phillip and Cheryl Wolf of Middlesex.

In The Towns

Holiday weekend brings train show

EDISON — Immerse yourself in the world of model railroads at the Great Train Expo.

This two-day show runs over Thanksgiving weekend at the New Jersey Convention Center in Raritan Center. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Admission is \$7 for adults and free for children under age 12. For full information, visit www.greattrainexpo.com or call (732) 417-1400.

Public invited to 'business' meeting

The Middlesex County Regional Chamber of Commerce has the following event open to the public: Human Resources Council seminar, 8:30 a.m. Wednesday

at the chamber office in South Brunswick. President William Margareta is president of the New Jersey State Safety Council.

For registration, e-mail deb@mcrc.org or call (732) 821-1700, Ext. 202.

Holiday music and theater for disabled

MONMOUTH JUNCTION — The Unlimited Potential Theater Company holds a "Holiday Music and Theatre Event" to celebrate International Disability Awareness Day.

This program is in two parts on Saturday, Dec. 2 at the South Brunswick Public Library in Monmouth Junction.

Part 1 is at 1 p.m. and features drama exercises, including a performance of the musical "Promise of the Park." Music for Hanukkah, Christmas and

Kwanzaa follows the musical. This segment is for people ages 7-up and will be interpreted in sign language.

Part 2 at 3 p.m. is a workshop on "The Theory of Multiple Intelligences" with Leslie Fanelli. This segment is aimed at adults and older students.

Admission to each part is \$20 for adults, \$15 for senior citizens and students. Registration is required; e-mail info@vsan.org or call (732) 745-3885 by Monday, Nov. 27.

Library issues receipts for books

PISCATAWAY — The Piscataway Public Library now provides printed receipts when patrons check out books and DVDs.

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Santa Claus sets up his shop

Traditions may come and go, but Old St. Nick remains

By AMY S. BOBROWSKI
Staff Writer

BRIDGEWATER — From mid-November to Christmas Eve, Ron Collins makes a room at a Somerset County hotel his home. But he doesn't dress it up with decorations or go sight-seeing in the area.

The retired Collins is too busy putting smiles on the faces of children as the Santa Claus at the Bridgewater Commons.

The magic happens in the former Chico's store, where sheets of large brown paper cover up the windows. That's where Collins becomes Santa Claus.

Collins, a contracted Santa with Cherry Hill Photography, has played the beloved figure at the Bridgewater Commons Mall for the past five years. The 71-year-old Pipe Creek, Texas resident typically arrives at the mall around 8 a.m. each day. He'll get his gear ready and visit with employees at the mall before donning his big red suit — actually, he'll put on one of the five Santa suits he owns.

"I do a rotation and I have a special one for pet day that I don't wear when I'm with the kids," Collins said of the suits. Each includes boot covers, red suspenders, red wool pants, a red wool coat, a large black belt, white gloves and a fluffy red and white hat.

As soon as the mall opens, his nine hour day starts. He strolls down to the Santa set in the middle of the first floor. If there is a long line, Collins speaks to each child before taking a seat on the green and gold couch where child-upon-child hops on his lap and tell him their Christmas wishes.

"I hear everything," he said. "I have kids request that daddy move back home or mommy and daddy stop fighting. But 65 percent of my requests are for the toys of the market that year... Adults, they all want Mercedes or BMWs."

Collins greets children in three, three-hour shifts. During his hour-long breaks, he'll head back to the

vacant Chico's and grab a bite to eat and cool off.

With a real white fluffy beard, rosy cheeks and a warm smile, Collins looks like the real deal.

"I've always had a beard since 1970," he said.

This Santa, however, has two tattoos on his forearm, but he makes sure they remain covered by using first aid tape to keep his gloves in place.

With the Santa gig, Collins is a celebrity. In his 12 years, as the holiday figure, there have been days when more than 700 children have rushed to sit on his lap. In 2001, his contract took him to Hong Kong.

"They treated me like royalty," he said. "I had seven workers on the set with me at all times. They told me I was the most popular man in China. I guess they hadn't seen a lot of Santa's like me."

When Collins isn't making children's dreams come true, he's enjoying retirement. The retired Navy veteran has five children and 15 grandchildren.

Because he's busy from November until Christmas, Collins completes his holiday shopping earlier than most and celebrates Thanksgiving with his family several weeks before the actual holiday. There are days that can be long, even for a well-loved icon.

"The downs are when the parents are irritated at the child or upset with the photographer because the child was crying," he said.

Additionally, even for a Texas native, a day in a wool suit can be a bit steamy.

"People don't realize how hot it can be for Santa," said Collins. "I have a fan set up on the set. I drink a lot of water. But it's hot and I sweat a lot...Each night, when I'm done, I turn my coat inside out so it can dry out."

But Collins can't complain.

"I have the best job in the world," he said. "When a little kids sits on my lap and says 'I love you Santa,' that's the best thing in the world."



PHOTOS BY GEORGE PACCIOLLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

For the last five years, Ron Collins has come from his Texas home to portray Santa at Bridgewater Commons. His real white beard helps him look the part, and his warm heart helps him be it. Being a Santa in a mall does have its perks, like the variety of food choices at the Commons' food court and the chance to meet lots of shoppers. But when it comes time to eat lunch Santa prefers to spend time with his assistants, seen at bottom left, Mark Kanzler, left, Jamie Dunham, center, and Susan Risco, right. The backroom accommodations may lack ambience, but Santa's front parlor, a giant green sofa with gold edging located in the mall's center court, more than makes up for that.



"I have the best job in the world. When a little kids sits on my lap and says 'I love you Santa,' that's the best thing in the world."

Ron Collins





The Reporter Somerset Messenger-Gazette • The Chronicle

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Sharp Spartans romp to playoff victory

Immaculata advances to group final

By ALLAN CONOVER
Sports Editor

BRIDGEWATER — They may have gotten away with one the previous week, and they knew it.

So Immaculata High's unbeaten Spartans weren't taking any chances Nov. 17, which is why senior linebacker Tom DeSchaine was taking a little informal poll in the locker room prior to their state playoff clash with Holy Spirit.

"I said to everyone, 'If you're ready, put your hands up,'" he recalled, standing near mid-field following Immaculata's stunning 35-6 rout. "I told them, 'Get your hands up. We have to be ready to go all-out tonight and show them we're ready to play.'"

"We were so fired up, and we hadn't been fired up in a while. It was a good feeling."

Except for the visitors from Atlantic County, who felt the full brunt of the Spartans' hungry urgency.

Following Michael Kuhn's 43-yard return of the opening kickoff, the Spartans needed just four plays to negotiate the remaining 48 yards to the end zone, and that was about as competitive as things ever got at Basilone Memorial Field.

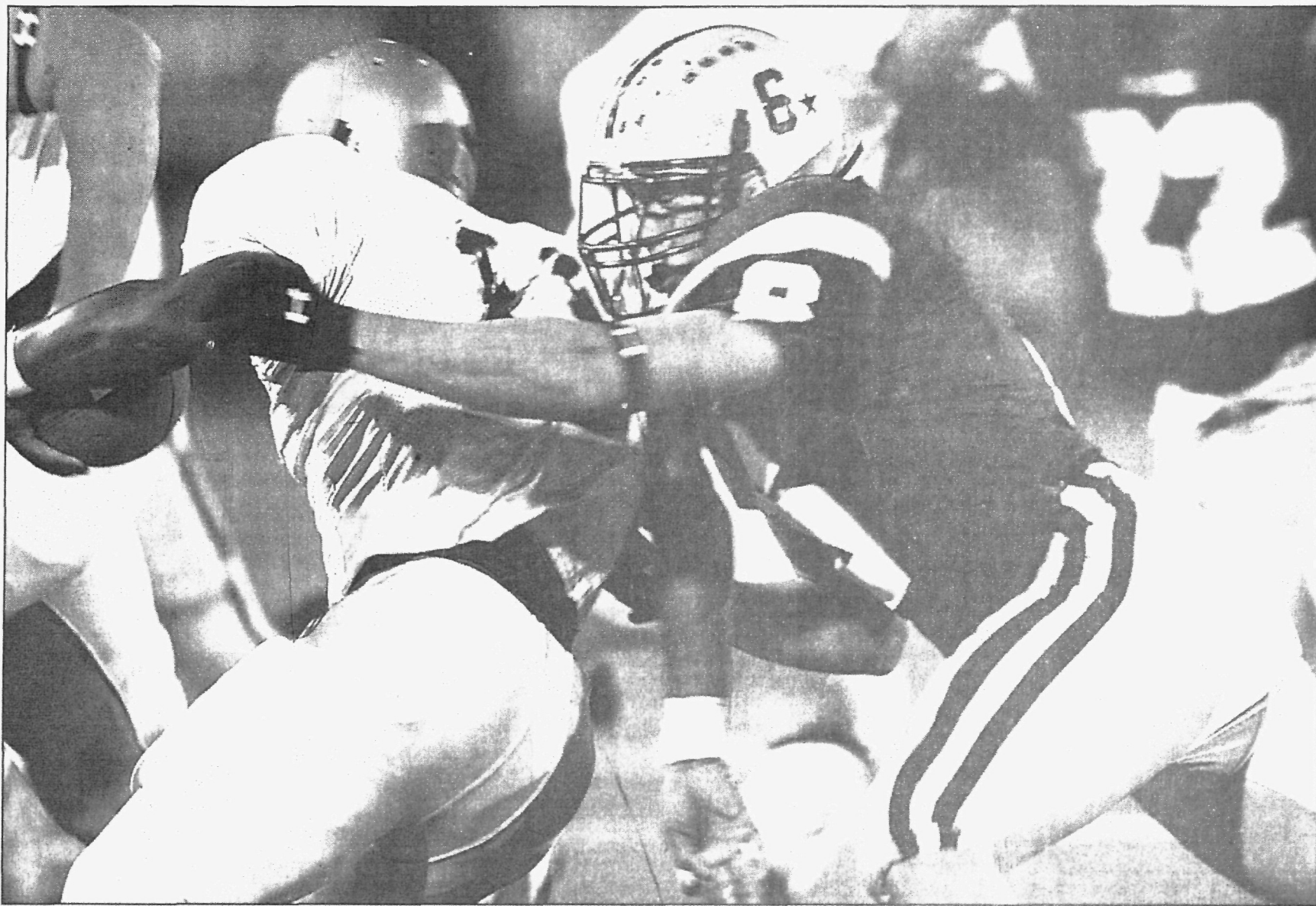
Top-seeded Immaculata built up a 21-0 halftime advantage and coasted from there, putting the Spartans one step from their first sectional playoff championship since 1994. They'll face Delbarton for the Non-Public Schools Group 3 title 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2 at Rutgers Stadium in Piscataway.

While Immaculata (11-0) may have struggled at times while ousting last-seeded St. John Vianney 21-13 in the previous week's opening round, there was precious little drama in this encounter, and the Spartans couldn't have chosen a more ideal time to put all facets of their game together considering this was a milestone evening for Pierce Frauenheim. This was his 400th game as the one and only head coach in school history.

They totaled 361 yards — 265 on the ground — and fifth-seeded Holy Spirit (7-3) never made it past the Immaculata 45-yard line until it trailed 21-0 in the waning moments of the second quarter. Junior running back William Washington, who entered the game with a Holy Spirit-record 1588 rushing yards, turned out to be a complete non-factor.

"I think this was our best overall effort of the season," said Frauenheim. "On offense, defense, and special teams, they all played great. It was just a total team effort."

"We felt St. John Vianney and Holy Spirit were both real good football teams," he added. "If you win six, seven, eight games during the season, you're a good football team. But the thing that wins these games are our assistant coaches. They prepared these



Flying to the ball is what Immaculata High's defense was doing plenty of Nov. 17, as displayed here by senior cornerback Justin Jones chasing down Holy Spirit running back William Washington in the opening half. The unbeaten Spartans breezed to a 35-6 decision in the Non-Public Schools Group 3 semifinal and will take on Delbarton for the title Saturday, Dec. 2 at Rutgers Stadium.

kids for everything during the week and they do a great job week-in and week-out."

Bill Walsh, Holy Spirit's head coach, wasn't about to disagree after watching his troops get manhandled on both sides of the ball.

"They're a big, physical team," he said, "and we haven't seen an offensive line like that. We haven't played against an offensive line like that. No one has a line like that. So the credit goes to them and their coaches. And I'll also say this is the classiest team we've played."

Senior tight end Chris Peltack is a key cog in that burly, experienced offensive line, and for the second straight week he also got himself free in the end zone to snag a touchdown pass from Frank DeNick.

"Some people said we couldn't do this," he said afterwards, still emotionally charged-up. "We didn't play our best against Vianney but we came out ready this week. We had no doubt. It was just a total team effort. The line blocked, the backs ran hard, everyone got open on their routes."

"That first drive got us going, and we didn't lose our fire the whole game. There was a lot of talking on the field but we kept our cool and our poise."

The quick, powerful 5-foot-9, 190-pound Washington, regarded as one of South Jersey's top juniors, never made an impact.

Figuring Immaculata might stack up its defense to stop him, Walsh frequently lined him up out at flanker as a

receiving target during the opening half and used another junior, Nick Hall, as HS's lone setback.

Washington did slip past the Spartans' secondary on the visitors' second series but dropped a deep pass in Immaculata territory.

"We had to try to utilize him in open space a bit," said Walsh, "and on that play it worked. But he dropped it, and in a game like this you can't have that happen. There goes any possible momentum."

On most other passing ventures, Washington was either covered well by backs like Mike Sena, Chris Leo or Justin Jones, or junior quarterback A.J. Holland missed him.

He concluded the game with only a single reception for 16 yards — which put Holy Spirit at the Immaculata 20-yard line late in the first half — and ran 26 times for 125 yards, but that's a misleading figure. During the opening half, when the game was basically decided, he carried nine times for just 28 yards.

"Washington didn't really affect us too much," said DeSchaine, who sacked Holland for a 13-yard loss in the first quarter. "But we were still watching Number 26 (Hall). He's fast, too. We watched a lot of film yesterday and saw how much they run the counter. That's all they did, so we knew every play that was coming at us. We were real well-prepared."

Holy Spirit had also prepared to chase down a pair of superb running backs, but in this case

the South Jersey Spartans weren't nearly as successful.

Immaculata sophomore Theo Riddick was sensational, accumulating 144 yards on 23 carries and scoring two touchdowns although he again was playing with a soft cast on his left hand, the result of a broken thumb incurred against Hunterdon Central three weeks ago. Senior tailback A.J. Albert added 99 yards on 13 tries and also had two TDs.

"They're as good a backfield pair as any I've had here," said Frauenheim.

Albert rambled 37 yards on the fourth play from scrimmage to begin the scoring and several minutes later the host Spartans capitalized on some HS miscommunication to start a second touchdown drive.

Washington was back to apparently punt the ball away on fourth-and-six at the Immaculata 47-yard line but instead threw a pass which was intercepted by Jack Rice, who returned it 12 yards to the 50.

"No, no, no, it wasn't supposed to be a fake punt," said Walsh with a resigned laugh. "The poor kid looks to the sideline and I guess it was kind of hard to see, and the call he thought he saw wasn't the call we were making. What are you going to do?"

Immaculata was going to take advantage of it. In 10 plays, eight on the ground, the Spartans marched to their second TD. Riddick blasting in from three yards out with 9:26 left in the second period and Mike Brownett drilling

through his second conversion kick for a 14-0 cushion.

On Immaculata's next series, on second-and-three from its 38, the Spartans used the old "hook-and-lateral" to put their third TD on the board. DeNick tossed a short pass to wideout Brad McAdam on the right side and he quickly flipped the ball back to Riddick coming behind him. Riddick outraced HS defenders to paydirt for a 21-0 lead.

Reverting to its more standard offensive modus operandi, Holy Spirit took the second-half kickoff and began an impressive drive by keeping Washington in the backfield and giving him the ball most of the time.

With Washington carrying on six of the eight plays, the South Jersey Spartans advanced from their 25 to the

Immaculata 12. Following a first-down incomplete pass, Washington busted off right tackle and scored a TD but an illegal procedure penalty nullified the play, putting Holy Spirit back at the 17.

This is where the lack of a reliable passing attack hurt the Absecon school. Two Washington carries picked up seven yards, and on fourth-and-eight, they tried a reverse but Hall encountered a bunch of defenders in the backfield before scrambling to the 7 as Immaculata took over.

That was the last legitimate chance HS had at getting back into the game. DeNick hit Peltack with a 13-yard scoring pass on the second play of the final period to cap a 53-yard drive and on Immaculata's next possession it marched 75 yards for the final TD.

IMMACULATA 35, HOLY SPIRIT 6	
Holy Spirit 6, 0, 0, 0 — 6	
Immaculata 7, 14, 9, 14 — 35	
First Quarter	
1 — 10:00 27-yard Brownett kick, 10:04 kickoff	
Drive: 48 yards, 11 plays	
Second Quarter	
1 — 10:00 10:00 Brownett kick, 10:00	
Drive: 10 yards, 10 plays (10:00 play) — 10:00 10:00	
2 — 10:00 10:00 Brownett kick, 10:00	
Drive: 10 yards, 10 plays (10:00 play) — 10:00 10:00	
Fourth Quarter	
1 — 10:00 10:00 Brownett kick, 10:00	
Drive: 10 yards, 10 plays (10:00 play) — 10:00 10:00	
2 — 10:00 10:00 Brownett kick, 10:00	
Drive: 10 yards, 10 plays (10:00 play) — 10:00 10:00	
3 — 10:00 10:00 Brownett kick, 10:00	
Drive: 10 yards, 10 plays (10:00 play) — 10:00 10:00	
Immaculata Leaders	
Rushing — Theo Riddick 144, A.J. Albert 99, Justin Jones 13	
Passing — Theo Riddick 144, A.J. Albert 99	
Receiving — Theo Riddick 144, A.J. Albert 99, Justin Jones 13	

Milestone game a gem for coach

BRIDGEWATER — Immaculata High's Spartans did all they could to make certain there would be nothing but winning smiles during the brief post-game celebration of Pierce Frauenheim's 400th game as the school's head football coach.

The unbeaten Spartans put together perhaps their finest all-around performance of the season Nov. 17 to wallop Holy Spirit 35-6 in the semifinal round of the NJSIAA Non-Public Schools Group 3 playoffs.

Afterwards near the middle of the field, the entire squad and coaches gathered around Frauenheim and his wife Ann Marie, while Immaculata fans remained in the Basilone Memorial Field stands as a black banner was brought out with the message, in white and yellow lettering,

"Congrats Coach . . . 400 and counting."

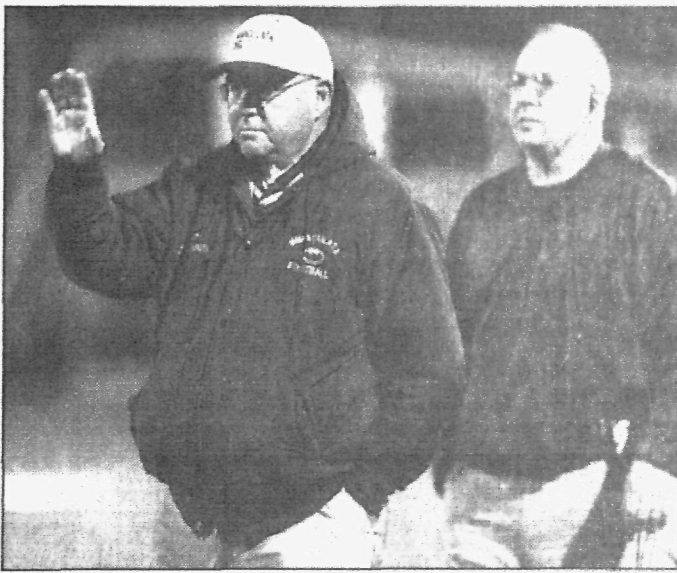
Kenny Greig, speaking into a microphone on the field, filled everyone in on Frauenheim's background at the school and how he'd built Immaculata into a power by the late-1970s.

Frauenheim, a former Rutgers University defensive back, was stalking the sideline as Immaculata's head coach when the Spartans began varsity play in 1966 and he's still there 41 seasons later, compiling a 273-125-2 record along the way which includes an ongoing stretch of 29 straight non-losing seasons.

And, at the age of 65, there are no imminent plans to stop.

"God willing," he said with a smile.

Later, after discussing the game with the assembled



Coaching his 400th game at Immaculata, Pierce Frauenheim signals his team during the Spartans' 35-6 state playoff triumph over Holy Spirit. Next to him is his son, David, the Spartans' defensive coordinator.

media, Frauenheim mentioned how important this milestone was to him.

"Besides my family, Immaculata has been my life and I'm very appreciative and grateful," said Frauenheim,

whose four sons all played for him. "It's been a good run."

A run that now will conclude the 2006 campaign with a shot at the school's first playoff championship in a dozen years.

Trick play is a Spartan favorite

Often referred to as the "hook and ladder," the trick play could be just called "The Immaculata Special" when state playoff time rolls around.

The play that seems to have become a staple in the Spartans' post-season playbook pretty much broke Holy Spirit's spirit Nov. 17.

With Immaculata High, already ahead 14-0, at its 38-yard line and facing a second-and-three situation in the second quarter, head coach Pierce Frauenheim and offensive coordinator Brett Lyons, a former Spartan quarterback who graduated in 1992, both sensed it might be the right time to hand the "hook-and-lateral" out of the old bag of tricks.

"Brett played for me and has been coaching with me five or six years," said Frauenheim, "and this is the second year he's really taken over the

offense. So it's really ironic both of us at the very same time said let's move the ball to the left side of the field a bit, and then throw the hook-and-pitch (to the right side).

"That's exactly what happened. We were on the same page."

Quarterback Frank DeNick tossed a pass to junior wideout Brad McAdam, who'd run a hook pattern in the right flat, and as defenders converged on him, he flipped the ball to speedy sophomore back Theo Riddick coming around behind him. Riddick took it from there, sprinting past several defenders to the goal line to complete a 62-yard touchdown play with 9:02 remaining before the half-time break.

"All I know is the corner missed the tackle and after that it was just me running to the end zone," said Riddick.

Senior Citizens Calendar

Bound Brook

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

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

For more information about the planned trips, call Frank at (732) 356-6310.

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

THE SENIOR LEISURE CLUB OF ST. MARY'S Bound Brook club sponsors Atlantic City trips to the Taj Mahal casino the fourth Tuesday of each month. The bus departs from the church parking lot at 10:15 a.m.

The Senior Leisure Club of St. Mary's meets at 1 p.m. the second Monday of every month (Oct. 8) in the cafeteria of Holy Family Academy, 201 Vosseller Ave., Bound Brook. For further information, call President Sal Barbati at (908) 725-5444.

Nov. 28 — Atlantic City trip to Taj Mahal Casino

Dec. 10 — Membership meeting, 2 p.m., school cafeteria

Dec. 18 — Christmas dinner, 1-5 p.m., Rosina's Restaurant

Dec. 19 — Atlantic City trip to Taj Mahal Casino

Dunellen

THE DUNELLEN SENIOR CITIZEN CLUB is open to all Dunellen residents 60 years and older. Meetings are held at 10 a.m. each Friday at the new seniors building on Orange Street in Columbia Park. Bingo is played each Friday after the meeting. Bus transportation is provided. New members are welcome. Coffee and tea are provided; bring your own sandwiches.

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

Edison

Edison Chapter of AARP #3346 meets the third Monday of the month at 1 p.m. at the Edison Job Corps center, located at 500 Plainfield Ave. New applications are being accepted.

Jewish Family and Vocational Services — The volunteer program at Elderday, "Chef for the Day" needs volunteers to prepare lunch for the elderly members of the social adult day program in Edison from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call E.J. Berman at (732) 777-1940, Ext. 122.

Elderday Care (a Social Day Care Program) for folks with memory loss and various degrees of dementia has a few immediate openings available. Transportation is provided with sliding scale fees. Interesting program includes meals, snacks; and activities that all can easily participate. Consider this a great safe way to provide social activities for your loved one. Call (732) 777-1940 for information.

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

Middlesex Borough BUS TRANSPORTATION is available for borough seniors. Sign up by calling (732) 356-0414. Wednesdays are Senior Day at the club.

For information and to register for any of the above programs or issues of interest to the senior population in Middlesex Borough, contact Sheila at (732) 356-0414.

OUR LADY OF MOUNT VIRGIN SENIORS meet at 1 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in the church hall. Members are asked to bring pasta for F.I.S.H.

Upcoming events:

THE OLDER ADULTS FELLOWSHIP OF THE MIDDLESEX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MEET on the first and third Tuesday of each month, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Older adults are invited to the Middlesex Presbyterian Church located at 1190 Mountain Ave. (between Rt. 28 and Lincoln Boulevard, adjacent to Middlesex Borough Hall) for lunch, fellowship, hymn singing and Scripture reading. All are welcome. Contact the church office at (732) 469-4498 if you

would like to attend.

Piscataway

THE PISCATAWAY SENIOR CENTER has announced its schedule of upcoming events at the center, 700 Buena Vista Ave., off Hoes Lane behind the Kennedy Library.

Group meetings for Tai Chi will be from 10-11 a.m. Wednesday. This is a drop-in class. Sign up at the reception desk.

The Visiting Nurse Association will visit the center at 1 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month at no cost. Sign up at the Reception Desk at the center.

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 13 — Washington DC trip until Dec. 14. \$290 for single, \$215 double pp. Call (732) 562-1133 for details.

Jan. 10 — Zimmerli Art Museum, New Brunswick. Cost is \$3.

Feb. 7-8 — Mohegan Sun trip. Cost is \$99 per person, double occupancy. Travelers must sign up by Dec. 13.

Feb. 17 — Flower show in Edison. Cost is \$14.

March 5 — Trip to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse to see "Branson 2007." Cost is \$62. Sign-up by Jan. 15.

South Bound Brook

THE SOUTH BOUND BROOK SENIOR CITIZENS COMMUNITY CLUB meets at 2 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month, at Our Lady of Mercy Church Hall, 122 High St. Bingo is played from 2 to 4 p.m. every Wednesday, and refreshments are served. Blood pressure screening is scheduled for the second Wednesday every other month. A box of pasta per member will be collected at the meeting for the food bank. The club is open to all seniors, 55 years and older residing in South Bound Brook. For information, call Catherine (732) 356-4080.

SOUTH BOUND BROOK SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER, 113 Clinton Ave., offers the following programs: Call (732) 271-1646 for further information.

Exercise — 10:30 a.m. every Monday and Wednesday; bingo and cards — 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays; librarian — 11:30 a.m. second Wednesday of the month; post office visit — 10:30 a.m. fourth Wednesday of the month; liquid embroidery — 10 a.m. to noon every Tuesday and Thursday; outreach specialist at center — 10-11 a.m. third Thursday of the month; and cards, games or dominoes — every Friday.

Dunellen library offering programs

DUNELLEN — The Dunellen Public Library has these programs for the public:

"Baby Buddies," 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays. This play group is for children under age 3, accompanied by an adult. No registration is necessary.

"Imagination Station," 10:30 a.m. Thursdays. This storytime program is for children ages 3-5. Registration is required.

Fly-tying, 6:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 27. Learn how this method is used on fishing reels. No registration is necessary.

Holiday party, 6:30 p.m. Dec. 11. This open house features music from the Banjo Rascals.

For registration where it is required, call (732) 968-4585 or visit the library on New Market Road.

'Evening Out' for Sisterhood

METUCHEN — The Sisterhood of Congregation Neve Shalom has "An Evening Out with the Girls" right after Thanksgiving.

This social event is at 7 p.m. Monday in the synagogue at 250 Grove Ave. Dairy dessert and entertainment are provided.

Medicaid rules

EDISON — The Edison Free Public Library sponsors a seminar on "New Medicaid Rules for Long-Term Care Planning."

Elder law attorney Donald Vanarelli conducts the seminar at 1 and 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Main Branch, 340 Plainfield Ave. For registration, call (732) 287-2298, option 1.

FISH seeking

food donations

MIDDLESEX — FISH Inc. helps feed families who are in need, especially at Christmas.

Donations of food are accepted any time at the Middlesex Public Library on Mountain Avenue next to the Municipal Building. You can also bring donations from 9 a.m. to noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday to the FISH food pantry at 456 New Market Road, Piscataway, adjacent to the First Baptist Church of New Market.

Among the foodstuffs most needed are powdered milk, hot cereal (not sugared), high-protein cereal, canned tuna, canned ham, canned chicken, peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti, canned tomato sauce, canned fruit, canned vegetables, beans of any type, canned soup (especially low-sodium), infant food, infant formula and cran-

berry juice.

Financial contributions are always welcome and can be sent to FISH Inc., P.O. Box 8565, Piscataway, NJ 08855-8006.

For more information, call (732) 356-0081.

Dunellen library starts book drive

DUNELLEN — The Dunellen Public Library is participating in the annual "Books to Keep" book drive.

Bring new books to the library on New Market Road any day until Dec. 15. All books will be given to needy children in Middlesex County.

For more information, call (732) 968-4585.

Synagogue events open to the public

METUCHEN — Two events in December are open to the public at Congregation Neve Shalom, 250 Grove Ave.

Cantor Faith Steinsnyder speaks on "Niggunim and Spirituality" following Sabbath-evening services at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8. She is a lecturer at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Manhattan. A question-and-answer period will follow.

A "Sephardic Shabbat" at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 16 includes the dedication of a new Torah. Galeet Dardashti is the guest cantorial soloist. Lunch with Sephardic food follows the service.

For more information, e-mail can2r11@aol.com or call (732) 548-2238.

New Year's Eve party sponsored by club

METUCHEN — A New Year's Eve party at 9 p.m. Dec. 31 is sponsored by the Men's Club of Congregation Neve Shalom, 250 Grove Ave.

Cost is \$75 per couple or \$37.50 per person, BYOB. Food, music and dancing are included.

For reservations, call Lou at (732) 381-0014 or Abe at (732) 494-6427 by Monday, Dec. 11.

Need volunteers for adult programs

EDISON — Volunteers are needed to work with older adults in adult day programs sponsored by the Jewish Family & Vocational Service of Middlesex County.

These programs meet three days a week at Temple Emanuel on James Street. Programs cover arts and crafts, music, cultural activities, lectures, demonstrations, book reviews, dance and poetry. Volunteers are also needed to help pre-

pare and serve lunch.

If you are interested, e-mail ej.berman@jvsv.org or call (732) 777-1540, Ext. 122.

Reserve now for Elks dance

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The Elks are holding a dinner-dance with music by Bill Turner & Blue Smoke.

The dinner-dance is at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9 in the Elks lodge at 1254 New Market Ave. Dinner includes chicken, ribs, potatoes, baked beans, vegetable, dessert, coffee, tea and soda. There will be a cash bar.

Cost is \$20. For tickets, call Debbie Czech at (732) 491-5310. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Dunellen library starts book drive

DUNELLEN — The Dunellen Public Library is participating in the annual "Books to Keep" book drive.

Bring new books to the library on New Market Road between Nov. 1 and Dec. 15. All books will be given to needy children in Middlesex County.

For more information, call (732) 968-4585.

Symphony has Rutgers alumni

The Rutgers Alumni Wind Symphony holds its annual holiday concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9 in the Nicholas Music Center, on the New Brunswick campus of Rutgers University.

The symphony is a nonprofit entity with musicians who are Rutgers alumni and people who live in nearby towns. This ensemble is under the direction of Nicholas Santoro and Nanette O'Neal, both of whom are Rutgers alumni.

Admission is free. For more information, call William E. Mele at (732) 951-1993.

Learn Braille, sign language in 4-H club

Your young ones can learn sign language and Braille without having to travel very far.

The "Communication Sensation" 4-H club is seeking new members who would like to learn sign language and Braille. Meetings are held Tuesday evenings in East Brunswick. Guest speakers include blind people and deaf people.

Children of any age are welcome, whether they are blind, deaf, sighted or hearing. Parents' participation in meetings and activities is also welcome.

For more information, leave a message for Joyce Pacholek at (732) 246-4775.



New Town NJ
Find your next job in the classifieds online at NJ.com

Employment

Education 201

MATH TEACHER
Tutor HS Math at Learning Ctr in Raritan. Certified. PT even. Good pay. 908-725-5454

Child Care 202

ASSISTANT TEACHERS
PT & FT All Age groups Child Care exp. neces. sary. Great Pay. Call: 908-231-8600

Childcare Director

DIRECTOR
With prior center directing experience, for learning center in Bridgewater. 800-905-3276

Teacher Assistant

ASSISTANT
Full time: Childcare center in Branchburg/Somerville area. Call: 908-231-7800

Employment Agencies 205

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

Count On Us Classifieds

Drivers 230

AUTO FLATBED DRIVER

CDL Not required Exp. Preferred but will train Must have clean DL Must know tri-state area and be able to read a map. Apply in Person 1600 Lower Road Linden, NJ 07035

Drivers CHAUFFEURS NEEDED

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

General Help 240

BILLING SPECIALIST

Needed for a fast-paced service company specializing in HVAC and food equipment installation and repair. If you can handle a busy work environment this is a job for you! Excellent salary and benefits including 401K. Please fax resume to: 908-450-1211 or email: esisiml@butenskysservices.com

CHILD CARE

Work in your own home. Apply at Monday Morning Inc. 908/526-4884

FENCE

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

General Help 240

CUSTOMER ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVE

National HVAC & Industrial Machinery Svc. Co. is seeking professionals w/exp. in related fields. Excellent salary, benefits, 401K, starting bonus. Call For Immediate Interview: 1-800-447-3784 x101 Or Fax Resume to: 908-450-1211

FIRST TIME AD

EXECUTIVE ASST/MGR

Landscape const. and tree serv. firm in Watchung. Seeks min. 5 yrs. exp. Quick books, Word & Excel req. To run office with owner and assist. Email to: sageandscaping@verizon.net or Fax to: 908-688-7575 or Call: 732-433-5876

HAIR STYLIST

Salon for est. looking for F/T stylists for all ways busy salon. In creditable pay, great tips, 2 weeks vacation, bonuses, health insurance available. Call Tony 908-906-0800

MOVIE EXTRAS, ACTORS, MODELS

Make up to \$250/day, all looks, and ages. 1-800-714-7341

24/7

24/7

General Help 240

FOAL NURSES NEEDED:

Part-time/Seasonal: February - June Mid-Atlantic Equine Medical Center, in Ringoes, NJ is seeking to employ nurses to help care for new born foals and high risk mares. Experience as a veterinary technician or human nurse required. Duties include administering medications, monitoring vital signs and assisting doctors with procedures. Available shifts include: Sun. - Sat. 12am - 9am Weekdays 4pm - 12 am Please fax resume to: (609) 397-0661. Attn: Kathy Brady

LP GAS PLANT OPERATOR

Highly motivated person needed for LP Gas facility. Various duties, merch. ability is necessary. Outside work, extensive training provided, and occasional OT required. Competitive salary/benefits and 401k plan. Call Monday thru Thursday 9am-3pm 908-722-2572

OFFICE CLERK- MULTI TASK

Mid size Union County CPA firm seeks a FT multi-task clerk for professional office. Phone ability a must. Accounts payable and accounts receivable experience needed. Email resume to: tocastellano@moorecpa.com or fax to 908-272-7301 Attn: T. Castellano.

Medical Help 250

CHHAs CNAs CAREGIVERS

Certification program available. Earn top dollar. Must be willing to travel within Hunterdon & Somerset Counties. Open Arms 908-823-0639

FRONT DESK

FT. for Oncology practice in Summit. Excellent opportunity for responsible, caring, professional person with front desk experience. Fax Resume to: 732-3820402

Employment Trades 275

HVAC SERVICE/INSTALL MECHANIC

Local company seeking to hire exp't. hard working detail oriented person. Must have valid DL and own hand tools. Salary based on experience. Health benefits. 100% Commission. Provided, profit sharing, & vacation. Call 609-577-4171 or Fax 609-333-0927

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HUGE SELECTION WORTH THE TRIP
PELICAN
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Visit pelicanpool.com for a \$500 coupon

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF CO-OP APARTMENT

BY VIRTUE OF A DEFAULT UNDER that certain Security Agreement recorded January 7, 2005 and made by Valen Edelman (the "Debtor") in favor of Everbank ("Secured Party")

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code the Secured Party will sell the collateral hereinafter described at public auction on Wednesday, December 6, 2006.

Said public auction will commence at 10:00 a.m. at the offices of Summit Agency, Inc., Robert Theodore Bricker, 97 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Chatham, NJ at which time the following collateral will be sold:

All share certificates, assets, stock powers, assignments of leases, and other agreements, instruments and documents, pursuant to which certain rights or benefits have been granted to the Debtor, all in connection with or pursuant to certain Promissory Notes and Security Agreements, collectively the "Collateral" representing the Debtor's interest in the following property:

6 Oak Drive, #1A, Edison, New Jersey

The underlying indebtedness in the approximate amount of \$66,002.95 plus accrued interest, legal fees and costs of sale, as represented by a "Promissory Note" or any other form of repayment agreement between the Debtor and Secured Party, is not part of this auction and is not being sold.

The Co-op Apartment will be sold as is, subject to superior liens, if any, subject to rights of tenants or occupants

in possession of any, and subject to rights of the cooperative corporation. Possession is to be obtained by the purchaser.

Please direct all inquiries with respect to the collateral to:

PLEASE BECKER & SALTZMAN
Attention: Robert F. Thomas, Esquire
Attorneys for Secured Party
20000 Hunter Way, Suite 500
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

\$24.02 B142-4T-11-11,15,25,12/06

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 20TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No. 06-DR-05265 Judge: Carlton R. Thomas

MARTHA L. DESSIAN MONROE, Petitioner

and FERNANDO GUTIERREZ, Respondent

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE

To: Fernando Gutierrez

Address: UNKNOWN

YOU ARE NOTICED that an action has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to I on P. Michael V. Johnson, attorney for Martha Guzman Monroy, whose address is 2107 Cleveland Ave. Fort Myers, FL 33901 On or before December 12, 2006, and file the original with the clerk of court at 1700 Monroe Street Fort Myers, FL 33901 before service of petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition. Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of Circuit Courts office. You may review the documents upon request. You must keep the Clerk of Circuit Courts office notified of your current address. (You may

file Notice of Current Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915) Future Papers in this lawsuit will be mailed to the address on record of the clerk's office, 20000 Hunter Way, Suite 500, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054. Failure to comply with this notice constitutes contempt of court and may result in sanctions, including contempt or striking of pleadings.

DATED: November 2, 2006

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

By: s/ Deputy Clerk, s/ Deputy Clerk

\$68.00 B142-4T-11-11,15,25,12/06

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 20TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

PLACE YOUR AD 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK AT: **800.559.9495**



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Somerset County

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Classification 1385

Employment Classification 201

Merchandise Classification 550

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

Announcements

Announcements 110

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The Reporter, Messenger-Gazette & The Chronicle reserves the right to edit, reclassify or reject any classified advertising at any time and will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. The Reporter, Messenger-Gazette & The Chronicle liability shall be limited to the cost of the space occupied by the error and will not be liable for failure to publish an ad.

Employment

Education 201

MATH TEACHER

Tutor HS Math at Learning Ctr in Raritan. Certified. PT eves. Good pay. 908-725-5454

Child Care 202

ASSISTANT TEACHERS

PT & FT All Age groups Child Care exp. necssary. Great Pay. Call: 908-231-8600

CHILDCARE DIRECTOR

With prior center directing experience, for learning center in Bridgewater. 800-905-3276

TEACHER ASSISTANT

Full Time: Childcare center in Branchburg/Somerville area. Call: 908-231-7800

Employment Agencies 205

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

Drivers 230

AUTO FLATBED DRIVER

CDL Not required Exp. Preferred but will train Must have clean DL Must know tristate area and be able to read a map. Apply In Person 1600 Lower Road Linden, NJ 07035

Drivers CHAUFFEURS NEEDED

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

General Help 240

BILLING SPECIALIST

Needed for a fast-paced service company specializing in HVAC and food equipment installation and repair. If you can handle a busy work environment this is a job for you! Excellent salary and benefits including 401k. Please fax resume to: 908-450-1211 or email: eslam@butensky.com

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Work in your own home. Apply at: Monday Morning Inc 908/526-4884

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National HVAC & Industrial Machinery Sys. co. is seeking professionals w/exp. in related fields. Excellent salary, benefits, 401K, starting bonus. Call For Immediate Interview: 1-800-447-3784 x101 Or Fax Resume to: 908-450-1211

FIRST TIME AD

EXECUTIVE ASST/MGR

Landscape constr. and tree care. firm in Watchung. Seeks min 5 yrs. of exp. Quick turn. To run office with owner and assistant. Email to: seglendesign@verizon.net or Fax to: 908-668-7575 or Call: 732-433-5076

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

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HAIR STYLIST

Salon for kids looking for PT/FT cutter for all ways busy salon. In creditable pay, great tips, 2 weeks vacation, bonuses, health insurance available. Call Tony 908-596-0800

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Highly motivated person needed for LP Gas facility. Various duties, mech. ability is necessary. Outside work, extensive training provided, and occasional OT required. Competitive salary benefits and 401k plan. Call Monday thru Thursday 9am-3pm 908-722-2572

MOVIE EXTRAS, ACTORS, MODELS!

Make up to \$250/day, all looks and ages. 1-800-714-7341

OFFICE CLERK-MULTI TASK

Mid size Union County CPA firm seeks a FT multi-task clerk for professional office. Phone ability a must. Accounts payable and accounts receivable experience needed. Email resume to: tostellano@moore-cpa.com or fax to 908-272-7101 Attn: T. Castellano.

YOU TOO CAN BE A BIG WINNER!

But not if you answer ads that promise easy riches. Call 1-800-876-7060 and learn how to spot telemarketing fraud. It's easy, it's free, and you can do it at home.

PARTNERSHIP FOR CONSUMER EDUCATION

A public service message brought to you by the Division of Consumer Affairs, New Jersey State Police

Medical Help 250

CHHAs & CNAs

CAREGIVERS Certification program available. Earn top dollar. Must be willing to travel within Hurdston & Somerset Counties. Open Arms 908-822-0659

FRONT DESK

FT: For Oncology practice in Summit. Excellent opportunity for responsible, caring, professional person with front desk experience. Fax Resume to: 732-3820402

Employment Trades 275

HVAC SERVICE/INSTALL MECHANIC

Local company seeking to hire exp'd, hard working detail oriented person. Must have valid DL and own hand tools. Salary based on experience. Health benefits 100%. Uniforms Provided, profit sharing, & vacation. Call 609-577-4171 or Fax 609-333-0927

Real Estate Sales

Condos & Townhouses 320

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Amendments 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, marital status, or ancestry. In addition to the protections noted above, New Jersey law prohibits discrimination based on creed, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, or nationality and Pennsylvania law prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, disability or ancestry.

The newspaper will not knowingly accept or print any advertising for residential real estate which violates the law. To report housing discrimination, call the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at 1-800-659-9777. The HUD TTY telephone number for the hearing impaired is 212-708-1455.

NEW ON THE MARKET

GLEN GARDNER - 2 BR, 1.5 BA condo, near 78, C/A, W.D., dw, fridge, stove. Move-in cond. \$204,900. 732-470-7877

for a looking job?

Check the classified ads first. Whether you're opening a store or changing corporate leaders, your new career starts in the classified section. Make an executive decision. Check the classified ads first.

BEST LOCAL JOBS

Existing Career Opportunities CLOSE TO HOME

Animal Technician

Biotech company in North Branch, NJ to care for small rodents, documentation, accurate counts, etc. Small animals experience is a plus. FT \$10.50/hr. Contact: Human Resource at 908-722-9443 or fax resume to 908-575-1925.

Warehouse Help

Green Color, Lambertville. Various duties including shipping and receiving. Forklift experience a plus. Must have a valid driver's license. Starting rate commensurate with experience. Benefits, including 401K.

Please Call Jim: 609-397-6316

Property Manager

Seeking experienced on-site community association manager for Somerset county locations. Must be computer literate with strong organizational and communication skills. Salary negotiable based on qualifications and experience. Please fax resume to RCP Management Company at 609-683-5495 or email to: rcpmanagement@rcpmanagement.com

HELP WANTED

Best Local Jobs | SOMERSET COUNTY

Homes For Sale 330

BANK FORECLOSURES!

Homes from \$10,000! 1-3 bedroom available! Repos, REO's, FDIC, FSD, FHA, etc. These homes must sell For Listings Call 1-800-425-1620 ex.3421

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"Count On Us For Results"

To Advertise Your Listings Call

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PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

All residential real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination and Pennsylvania's Human Relations Act. These laws prohibit discrimination in the sale, rental or financing of dwellings.

Real Estate Rentals

Apartment 405

BOUND BROOK: 1/2 duplex, 2 BR, Exc. Cond., \$1100/mo + utils. No pets. 908-704-8723

CLINTON GARDENS

Spacious 1BR apt. d.w. a/c, patio, balcony, laundry. Apple prg. Junction of 22, 31 & 78. Walk to town. 908-735-2994 or 908-337-1749

High Bridge - Quiet 1st Floor Updated Apt. In 3 Family Home. Off Str Pkg. FREE Laundry. Close to Town, Train & Park. HUD ok. \$950/Mo. call Ken 908-413-4371

N. PLAINFIELD 3 & 4 room apts \$745-\$945 + utils, prkg. NO PETS. 908-561-5085 after 6pm

Commercial Property For Rent 410

Competitive Pricing

MUST SEE!

FLEMINGTON: PLAZA I Commerce St

Various Sizes

1'Class Retail & Office Space

600-7500 s.f.

908-782-7043

Flemington Main St Ofc

3rd floor move-in cond. CAC, off str, prkg. Also 1500 sq ft Warehouse Storage 908-832-0276

Raritan Rt 202, 206 ofc

500-1,000 s.f., industrial, high ceiling, 2500 s.f. storage. Low rent. 908-371-0812

Out of State Property 355

GREAT VALUE

CLEARWATER, FL Updated, spacious 2BR, 2BA, condo, 1585sf, maple kit, new bath, nr beach, golf, shops. Motivated seller! \$199K 727-518-6231

LOOK!

MURRELLS INLET, SC Condo on 1 hole, Blackmoor Golf Course, 3 BR, 2 Ba, many upgrades, \$169,900. 908-730-9138

N.C. MOUNTAINS!!

New log cabin on secluded site, \$89,900. EZ to finish interior. Land Sale 1 to 7 acres w/ spectacular mountain views! Starting at \$49,900. Paved roads, financing. 1-828-247-9966

Real Estate Rentals

Apartment 405

BOUND BROOK: 1/2 duplex, 2 BR, Exc. Cond., \$1100/mo + utils. No pets. 908-704-8723

CLINTON GARDENS

Spacious 1BR apt. d.w. a/c, patio, balcony, laundry. Apple prg. Junction of 22, 31 & 78. Walk to town. 908-735-2994 or 908-337-1749

High Bridge - Quiet 1st Floor Updated Apt. In 3 Family Home. Off Str Pkg. FREE Laundry. Close to Town, Train & Park. HUD ok. \$950/Mo. call Ken 908-413-4371

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FLEMINGTON: PLAZA I Commerce St

Various Sizes

1'Class Retail & Office Space

600-7500 s.f.

908-782-7043

Flemington Main St Ofc

3rd floor move-in cond. CAC, off str, prkg. Also 1500 sq ft Warehouse Storage 908-832-0276

Raritan Rt 202, 206 ofc

500-1,000 s.f., industrial, high ceiling, 2500 s.f. storage. Low rent. 908-371-0812

Commercial Property For Rent 410

MUST SEE

SOMERVILLE - Davenport St. in Social Security bldg, 2500 sf ideal for professional/medical office. 732-418-1777

Garage & Storage For Rent 415

PITTSBORO

Baby It's Cold Outside! Heated storage! Motorcycles, cars, 5 month minimum. 908-730-6803 or msg.

Houses For Rent 430

Perfect

CLINTON AREA - Lovely ranch style home, 2BR, DW, WD, AC, Pkg. 5 month minimum. OFFER 1 mo. free w/1yr lease! 908-638-5099

Lebanon Township

Share large house in park setting. Must be neat and respectful. Private entrance, BR, BA, LR, Shale, Kitchen, Laundry, Storage, Garage, Storage, Internet, Immed Available. \$950 Plus share utilities. References. Deposit. Lease. 908-500-3184

Rooms 460

Branchburg Rt 22 East furnished, utility & cable incl. (kitchenette optional). \$195 & up weekly 908-328-3049

Townhouses / Condos For Rent 475

Bridgewater Condos 2BR, EIK, ba, deck, pool, CAC, central loc. Newly Renov. Reduced! 908-231-6790

CLINTON Beaver Brook

short or long term, furnished luxury 2 BR. 908-730-9066

Beautiful Readington

Crossing, BR, Den, great view, quiet, no pets. \$1300/mo + utils, & sec. tenant check & refs. required. 203-245-9340

DECKS & PATIOS

DECKS UNLIMITED We build all types of decks. All work guaranteed 30 yrs. Free Est. Ins. 908-707-4447

DECKS UNLIMITED

We build all types of decks. All work guaranteed 30 yrs. Free Est. Ins. 908-707-4447

Construction 925

DBI Construction Additions - Remodeling 908-231-0566 See our ad in Home Imp.

Decks & Patios 930

DECKS UNLIMITED We build all types of decks. All work guaranteed 30 yrs. Free Est. Ins. 908-707-4447

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We build all types of decks. All work guaranteed 30 yrs. Free Est. Ins. 908-707-4447

Merchandise Furniture 560

GORGEOUS

DINING ROOM SET "The Medallion" By Ethan Allen. Table w/2 leaves, 4 side chairs, 2 arm chairs & 2 curio. All Cherry & mint cond. \$4,650. Call 908-735-0217

Merchandise Furniture 560

DINING ROOM SET

Thomasville 8 pcs, solid mahogany, 80x45 glass top table, seats 8, 60"x80" china closet w/lighted interior, ample storage & 5th + 6th drawer, 4 side & 2 arm chairs. Perfect for traditional/formal room. MUST SELL! \$3800. 908-730-6803

Merchandise Furniture 560

Sofa + Loveseat New

\$299; Dining Room \$899; Mattress & Box \$159, all new. Can deliver 908-281-7117

General Merchandise 580

FRUSTRATED WITH Dial Up Internet? We offer broadband high-speed Internet through satellite Home, business, no phone lines. Always on Internet Access. Call 888-528-7453 www.broadband-unbound.com

Spa & Hot Tub Covers
\$99 & UP. Cover lifters
\$169. 888-772-7810

Wedding dress never worn, size 8, but runs small; strapless \$450 /obo. 908-782-0203

Lawn & Garden 581

8N Ford Tractor front end loader, 3 pt hitch + attach. \$2500. Call 732-356-2206

Musical Instruments 585

I Buy GUITARS & ALL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS. Call Rob 609-577-3337

Flea Markets 599

BIG INDOOR FLEA MARKET
Roselle Catholic H.S.
1 Raritan Rd., Roselle
SAT. DEC 2nd, 9am-4pm

Wanted To Buy 625

All Lionel & Other Trains
Top cash prices pd.
973-334-8709 or
201-404-8030

Pets

Horses 630



STALLS AVAILABLE for lease w/many extras including indoor/outdoor arenas. Just off I78. 908-454-6994

Pets 640

GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPS - AKC, exceptional quality, genetics & temperament a priority. 215-752-6969

LAB PUPPIES Yellow/Black, guaranteed. Parents on premises. 908-246-8509 or 732-463-5685.

Financial / Business

Business Opportunities 650

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Autos For Sale 1385

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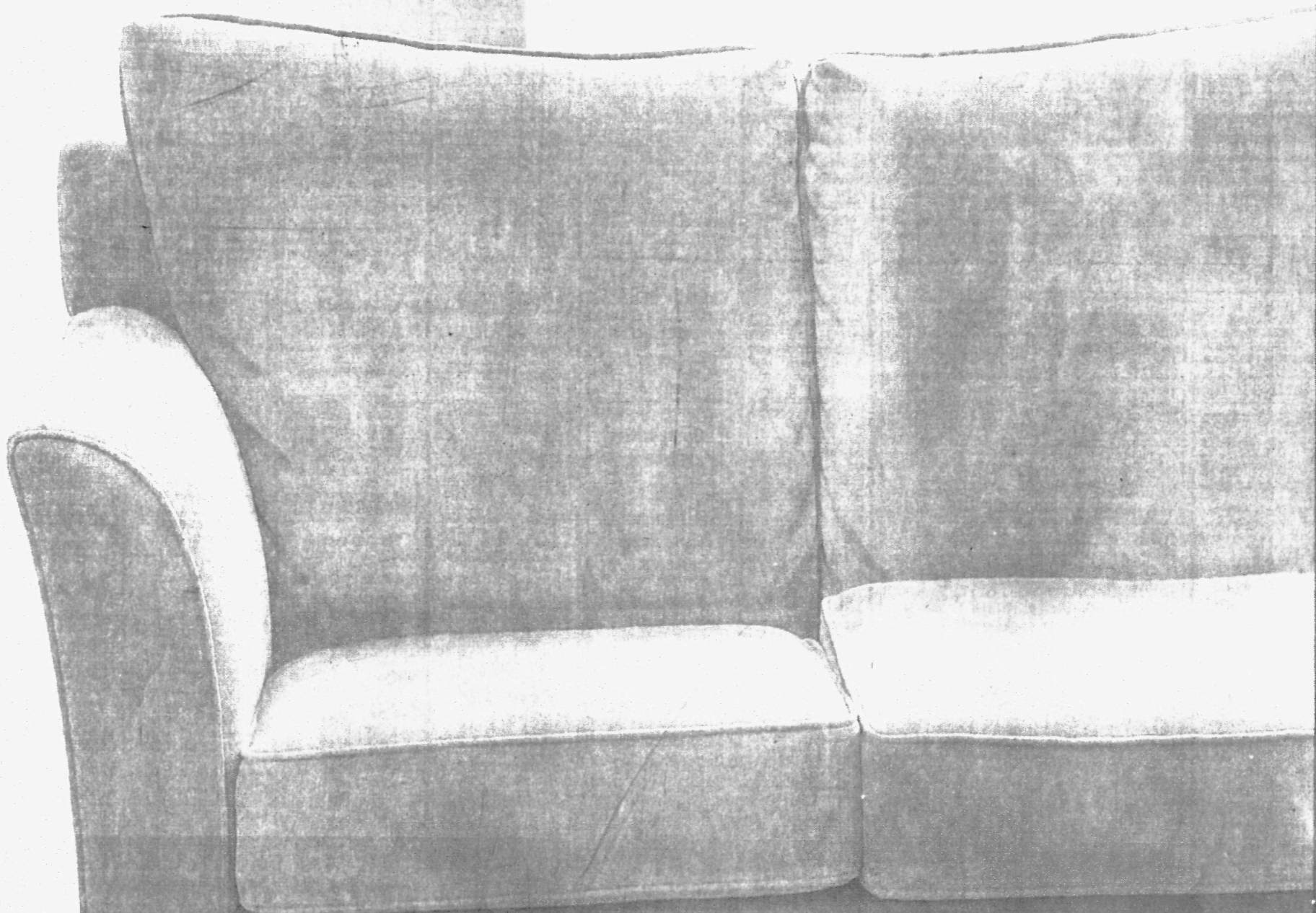
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