



Head of the staff

SOMERVILLE - Dr. Kathleen C. Toomey, an oncologist who is medical director of The Steeplechase Cancer Center at Somerset Medical Center, was recently chosen to head the medical center's 600-member medical/dental staff. Page A6.



Sicilian native is honored by his hometown

EDISON - Emanuel di English at Middlesex County College, was hon- he said. "It was a glorious ored by his native village with its "Ragusani nel mondo" award.

The ceremony was held in Battista, where thousands of people gathered to celebrate the six honorees who returned to Ragusa from their homes around the world.

"They honored us as chilnew world," said di Street, a physician who Pasquale, who emigrated to

"The whole town turned Pasquale, who was born in out to cheer us, church poverty in Sicily and rose bells rang in the piazza, a to become a professor of band played and there was live television coverage," and festive event and we were very proud to come home."

Among those honored at the piazza of San Giovanni the September ceremony was Susan Sarandon, the actress and activist who graduated from Edison High School. Her grandfather is a Sicilian native.

The other honorees included the man who dren of Ragusa who left the designed the statue of the island but did well in the bull symbolizing Wall

Continued on page A2

Showtime at the Apollo

NEW BRUNSWICK - The State Theatre is looking for 14 talented amateur acts to perform for its first "Showtime at the Apollo on Tour" show. Performers and entertainers of all kinds - solos, duos, trios and groups - are welcome to audition. The producers are looking for vocalists, musicians, dancers, comedians, rappers and spoken word artists. Auditions take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 13 at the theater, 15 Livingston Ave.

Each audition will last up to 90 seconds. Auditions are first come, first served. People who are auditioning must perform self-contained and must bring their own tracks (CD preferred). Comedians must keep their routine clean with no profanity. Children under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult. "Showtime at the Apollo on Tour" hits the State Theatre stage at 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10. It incorporates many of the features that TV viewers have come to know and love. It also features the world-class Apollo house band, Ray Chew & The Crew, an Apollo comedian host who keeps the show moving with lots of laughter and the formidable Executioner to do the infamous audience's bidding! Visit www.statetheatrenj.org or call (732) 246-7469 for additional information.



GEORGE PACCIELLO STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Moises Diaz and Hilda Julda are the proud parents of Jennifer, the first baby born in Somerset County in 2007. Jennifer, 8 pounds, 11.5 ounces, was born 5:26 a.m. at Somerset Medical Center

Jan. 1, 2007: It's a girl!

By ALLISON ELYSE GUALTIERI Staff Writer

SOMERVILLE - Hilda Julda watched the world ring in the New Year from her hospital bed in the Somerset Medical Center maternity ward. New York, Los Angeles, Miami, Mexico, Puerto Rico ----2007 was starting, but her baby had yet to arrive.

Finally, at 5:26 a.m., Jennifer, Julda's second child, was born by Caesarian section to become the first baby of 2007 born in Somerset County.

Jennifer's father, Moises Diaz, said that the two were excited to have the first baby in the county. The Bound Brook family knew that they would be the first, but it was still an exciting moment.

Diaz said that the two arrived at the hospital at Jennifer on Tuesday, and baby about 4 p.m. on New Year's Eve. Jennifer, who was expected to be born today, made things a bit difficult.

"She was having a problem, because the head was too big," said Diaz. "Three hours later, the doctor told us she needed it (a c-section)."

Jennifer weighed 8 pounds, 11.5 ounces, and joins Diaz, Julda, and 6-year-old big sister contest.

Stephanie. At the hospital Tuesday, Julda said through Diaz that she knew ahead of time that the baby would be a girl.

The two settled on the name and riother were resting at the hospital. Jennifer sported a rink and blue cap as the proud parents spent time with Fer.

As the first baby born in 2007 at the hospital, Jennifer got a \$100 gift basket from Babies "R" Us filled with baby necessities as part of their first baby of the year

Historic churches subject of area man's latest book

By JENNIFER ROSENBAUM

Nine years ago, when Frank Greenagel couldn't get out to the southwest for his yearly backpacking trip because of constraints at work, he needed something new to pass his free time. During those annual trips, Greenagel, a former college professor of psychology in Minnesota and Colorado and now a general manager of a company called Guided Learning, would photograph magnificent cliff dwellings

and countless other outdoor subjects. So, the first year he didn't go on his trip, he began shooting local churches in Hunterdon County where he resides, simply because "I wanted to take great photographs," he said.

But somewhere along the 67year-old's endeavor, his intention of only capturing fasci-

EXEMPLES AND A CONTRACT OF A

nating architecture was altered. "At a certain point, my goal

changed from taking great photographs to taking social and economic history."

Since the very beginning of his "hobby" until now, Greenagel, who lives in Phillipsburg, has written eight books. His latest offering, which was published by the History Press, is entitled Churches of County New "Historic of Somerset Jersey.'

In his book, Greenagel documents 18th and 19th century churches and meetinghouses within the county. Through his fieldwork and research, Greenagel has documented trends in the way churches and meetinghouses were constructed and materials that were used, which he believes

can classify the social status of the congregation.

Greenagel sights St. John's church in Somerville, an Episcopalian congregation founded in 1850, that the selfacclaimed sociologist and anthropologist says in his most recent book is "interesting to see a church with battlements, an element of the very early Gothic but not much in vogue by the end of the century." When he first began taking

photographs of the churches, Greenagel never imagined his project becoming such a vast undertaking. Currently, he has researched 1,200 churches or meetinghouses of approximately 1,350 in the state.

would be so many (churches),"

Continued on page A2

America at age 13

Outstanding business sought for recognition

Know a Middlesex County employer that offers strong support to help employees balance job and family responsibilities; offers benefits and/or policies that support and strengthen working families; and supports or sponsors community programs that benefit children and working families?

If so, that employer could be the Middlesex County Department of Workforce Development's recipient of the 2007 Family Friendly Business Award, which will be presented at the Middlesex County Regional Chamber of Commerce's Business Week Awards Breakfast on Tuesday, March 13 at the Sheraton Edison Hotel in Raritan Center.

Qualified businesses nominated will also be listed on a page in Middlesex County's Family Friendly Web site section.

Nominations for this award must come from an employee and will be judged on the company's provi-

Continued on page A2



"I never thought there Area author and photographer Frank Greenagel stands outside St. John's Church in Somerville. His latest book, "Historic Churches of Somerset County New Jersey," is available in bookstores now





Churches

Continued from page A1

a modest Greenagel said.

The time commitment to his project exemplifies Greenagel's dedication to his ambition as well. Greenagel hopes to write a book on each county and their historic churches. When describing Greenagel's intention, he knows he can't preserve the churches, but he can capture them. Greenagel believes that old churches are being threatened and may be lost to development.

Greenagel hopes to document the differences in architecture is extensive, though, he said he and reflect on what the buildonly works on the project when ings meant to the respective he isn't busy. He said he somesocieties they served. times will take a few days to travel down to the location of a

"The churches differ remarkably in architecture," he said. "You being to wonder why they are so different."

Sicilian

Continued from page A1

now lives in India, an inventor

from Venezuela and a business-

man from Northern New

"My father had died sudden-

ly, leaving my mother with four children," di Pasquale said of

"I was the youngest and my

mother thought that there

would be no opportunities for

his childhood in Sicily.

Jersey

me if we were to stay," he said. "We made our way to the new world, leaving my brother and two sisters, and settled in Tarrytown, N.Y."

church, take a few shots and

find out what he can about its

history using the local library.

points out that there are sever-

al stone churches in the

Somerville area, but fewer in

the southern part of New

Jersey. During his research, Greenagel has also considered

many other factors when learn-

ing about the history of a

church. He wants to know

whether the land was desirable

when the congregation was

able to first obtain the land,

what the building of the church

was used for prior to the pur-

pose of a meetinghouse, how

large the building is, whether

the architect was local and if

those planning to build the church had an architect at all?

Greenagel's research process

Years later, after he became an American citizen, di Pasquale brought his sisters to the United States. His brother, who attended the September festivities, has been a baker in Ragusa for over 60 years.

"I learned English pretty much out of my love for the language and the loving ways of American education," the professor said.

site day care, after-school and

For example, Greenagel Other times, while working on the text content of his research, he will spend 24 hours writing because he said it's easy to keep the thoughts flowing. As Greenagel looks forward to

the completion of his project, he said he first must tackle what he considers to be two of the most difficult counties in the state: Monmouth and Ocean.

"All the counties have had "history of" books which has a "church" section listing the churches within the county, except for Monmouth and Ocean," he said.

But Greenagel has spent nine years accomplishing his objective and won't let the lack of a church inventory get in his way. He said he is up to the task. "Historic Churches of

"Historic Somerset County New Jersey" is available at local bookstores and on Amazon.com.

For more information about historic churches in the area, visit www.njchurchscape.com.

He has published poems in English, Italian and a Sicilian dialect. All three languages are incorporated in "NaVota," a book of poems about Sicily and Ragusa that was published in 2005 and led to his receiving the award in Ragusa. He also is among the editors of "The Poets of New Jersey" antholo-

Di Pasquale began teaching at MCC in 1968 after receiving bachelor's degree from Adelphi University and a master's degree from New York University.

Outstanding

Continued from page A1

sion of any combination, formally or informally, of a variety of benefits, such as: - Schedule Flexibility: flex-

time, part-time, job sharing, compressed work weeks - all ways to ease the schedule conflicts that parents face. · Telecommuting: whether

it is an everyday arrangement, available on an as-needed basis or somewhere in and elder care. between, telecommuting is another way to provide flexibility to workers.

supporting essential child nars on everything from man-

summer programs, as well as sick and emergency child care programs that allow parents to have one less thing to worry about in their day. Maternity/Paternity Leave Policy: stretching the

standard six weeks out to accommodate parents who want to be home with their infants and extending the benefit to dads, too. It may also be extended to adoption

- Wellness Programs: providing fitness centers, yoga classes, massages and health-- Child Care Programs: oriented workshops and semi-

care through financial assisaging stress to feng shui. - Work/Life Programs: pet tance programs, on-site or off-

care, dry cleaning, psychologists, referral services - all of these extras are designed to assist employees with everyday tasks that can add up.

For additional information or to make a nomination, contact the Regional Chamber of Commerce at (732) 821-1700 for a nomination form, which must be submitted by Saturday, Jan. 13.

The chamber is also seeking nominations for Business Person of the Year, Business Woman of the Year, Entrepreneur of the Year, County Service Award and a Special Recognition Award.

*****Police News*****

MIDDLESEX

Lisa Tomilio, 26, of Piscataway was arrested Dec. 26 at Drug Fair on Union Avenue and charged with simple assault.

PI

EB

girl in the face and pulled the girl's at \$3,500, police said. hair while police were taking a report of a shoplifting at 10:04 a.m. The

reported stolen Dec. 27 from behind D&B Auto Parts on Lincoln Boulevard. According to police, a padlock was cut so the chain could be pulled off the rear wheels and the She allegedly punched a teenage ATV carted away. The ATV is valued

Jessica Hamilton, 18, of New York

Oldsmobile Cutlass driven north bound by Consandra Bugg, 31, o Plainfield hit Swami as he was walking northbound.

Swami was treated at the scene but died of his injuries at Rober Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.

Robert Stark, 50, of Dunellen

book

The Chronicle

Cooling and Controls (10 wks-\$90) Introduction to HVAC (12 wks-\$110)	PI	Herrigerant Handling Certification (5 wks-\$150)	PI
	GIGN 8	APPAREL SERVICES	
Decorative Sewing for the Home (9 wks-\$80) Dressmaking (9 wks-\$80) Learning to Sew (9 wks-\$80)	EB	Dressmaking (9 wks-\$80) Introduction to Interior Design (9 wks-\$80) Quilting & Patchwork (9 wks-\$80)	EB EB
and the second		E TRADES	LD
Hydraulics/Pneumatics II (10 wks-\$90)	EB	Metalworking Project (9wks-\$80)	EB
MA: Block Masonry Basics (9 wks-\$80)	SONR EB	Y TRADES	
		IALL ENGINE REPAIR	
Motorcycle Maintenance & Repair (9 wks-\$80) Small Engine Repair (9 wks-\$80)	PI PI	Motorcycle Rider Safety Call 1-800-8WE-RIE)E PI
	PLUM	IBING	
Master Plumber Renewal Cont. Ed (6 hrs-\$150) Plumbing I (12 wks-\$110)	PI PI	Plumbing Code (9 wks-\$80)	PI
STATION	VARY	ENGINEERING	
Stationary Eng. I Low Pressure (12 wks-\$110)	Pl		
Tutoring (Call 732-257-3300 ext. 1923)	ALL	DRING	
		ARTS/DANCE	
Creative Origami (9 wks-\$80) Guitar Instruction (9 wks-\$90)		Drawing & Sketching II (9 wks-\$80) Oil Painting Beginning/Intermediate (9 wks-\$80)	EB EB
		DING	
Introduction to Basic & Adv. Welding (9 wks-\$80) PI		
Middlesex County Vocational and Technical to earn a high school diploma. The Adult H the Perth Amboy campus locations. Don't wait	School ligh Sc any lo	CHOOL Is provide adults an opportunity to return to school hool program is offered at the East Brunswick and nger, Call the Adult High School Principal to scheol step you will be on your way.	
CERTIF	ICATE	PROGRAMS	
Bldg Property Maintenance Mech (5 months-\$1,360 Commercial Art/Advet. Design (Sept. 2007) Computer Applications for Business (Sept. 2007) Culinary Arts (Sept. 2007) Electrical Technology (5 months-\$1,360) Health Technology Prep (9 wks-\$205) Health Unit Coordinator (5 months-\$620)	EB	Heating, Ventilation & AC (5 months-\$1,585) Home Inspection (5 months-\$3,000) Manicuring (300 hrs-\$620) Pharmacy Technician ((5 months-\$200) Plumbing (5 months-\$1,360) Skin Care Specialist (Sept. 2007)	PI EB PI PI PI
In-Person Registration: R	egiste	r at the school where the course is offered.	
WHEN: Monday, Jan. 8; Tuesday, Jan. 9; Wedr	nesday,	Jan. 10 and Thursday, Jan. 11 from 5:00pm - 8:00pm	
		Campus, 457 High Street; Piscataway Campus, 21 Sutions La	
A REAL PROPERTY AND A REAL	Cou	rse Descriptions at www.mcvts.net	
Extended Special Fees: As Noted • Out-of-Gor Payment by check to: Middle	unty – Co esex Col	OTHER FEES urse Fee Plus \$30 • Materials Fees ~ See Catalog or www.mcvts.n mty Vocational Schools • FEES ARE NOT REFUNDABLE	et
		SCHOOL LOCATIONS	
PA - Perth Amboy Campus • 457 High Stree	i, Perth	Brunswick • Ms. Judy Alexander, Principal, 732-254-8700, ext. 180 Amboy • Ms. Darlene Morrison, Principal • 732-396-6300 way • Mr. Paul Hankins, Principal • 732-985-0717, ext. 2214	22
	Construction of	732-257-3300 ext.1924 for Program Informat	ion

PI OSHA 30 Hr - Gen. Industry (10 wks \$90)

EB Yoga (9 wks-\$45)

HEATING, VENTILATION & AIR CONDITIONING

OSHA 30 Hr Program-Constr. Industry (10 wks-\$90)

Standard First Aid with AED (5.5 hrs-\$50)

parked his car at the Cedarcroft Bible suspect and the teen had to be state was arrested Dec. 28 and charged with driving while intoxicat-Chapel on Kenyon Avenue at 3:15 pulled apart by patrolmen on the ed following a traffic stop at Union .p.m. Dec. 23. A 2004 GMC Envo scene. Tomilio, identified in a police news and Hazelwood avenues at 2:29 driven by Deborah Winters, 44, a.m. She also was cited for allegedly South Plainfield turned off eastboun release as a Drug Fair employee, altering the date of birth on her driwas released on her own recog-Rahway Avenue onto Kenyon and hi Stark as he was crossing the stree nizance pending a Municipal Court ver's license. Hamilton was released to a relative's house. hearing. The store manager declined on her own recognizance pending a to press shoplifting charges against Municipal Court hearing. Stark was taken to Robert Wood SOUTH PLAINFIELD Johnson University Hospital wit the teen. . . . One man was killed and another head and leg injuries. Preliminar A total of \$9,000 in jewelry and seriously injured in separate pedesresults indicated that he was under trian accidents over Christmas weekthe influence of alcohol, according to cash was stolen Dec. 19 in a burglary of a house on Pershing a release from South Plainfiel end. police about his accident. Vasantour Swami, Avenue. Police said the burglars 53. of Piscataway was walking to the White pushed in the basement door to gain Investigations into both accident are ongoing. Anyone with informa Castle restaurant on the South entry. . . . tion should contact Lt. Kevin Murtag Plainfield side of Stelton Road A green 1999 Yamaha ATV was around 10:30 p.m. Dec. 22. A 1990 at (908) 226-7679. Press. She has also completed outlet; but as a mother, she Dunellen writer has wanted to write a book that the book's chapter illustrareleased second book tions, and with the help of her children would love. Six graphic designer, Frank years later, with her mother by Jennifer Troulis, a resident Dunellen, released Bridges, the cover design. her side as her editor for the "Penelope and Priscilla and When Troulis decided to write second time, Troulis is opti the City of the Banished," the a book about twin sisters, she mistic about the future of the second book in her middle had hoped to connect with series and looks forward to grade children's series, the girls on many different levels promoting her new book. and emphasize important Penelope and Priscilla series. Troulis' first In the book, readers are "Penelope and Priscilla and points. In addition to entertaken on an adventure with taining them, she wanted to the Enchanted House of identical twin sisters, remind them of how powerful Whispers," is now available in Penelope and Priscilla, as they they can be as women. paperback on Amazon and are faced with challenges through Barnes & Noble and Troulis began writing the Borders stores. related to growing up as well series in December 2000 when as battling evil forces. "Penelope and Priscilla and her own set of twins, Justin Troulis, who is also an artist, and Samantha, were just 3 the City of the Banished" self-published the book under also available in bookstores years old. As an artist, she was the name of Twin Monkeys Reviews and excerpts from searching for a new creative both of the books can be found at www.twinmon keyspress.com. INFO NE of Middlesex County The Chronicle ♦ Since 1862 ♦ A Penn Jersey Advance, Inc. newspaper HELP IS ONLY A PHONE CALL AWAY. NJN Publishing @ 2003 Now also The Homeless Hotline of Middlesex County. The Chronicle (U.S.P.S. 061-800) ISSN 1047-3351 is published Saturday by Info Line of Middlesex County can help you locate services for: NJN Publishing, 44 Veterans Memorial Drive East, Somerville, N.J. 08876, 908-Counseling Healthcare Financial Assistance 575-6660. Periodicals postage paid al Food/Clothing Housing Support groups Somervilla and additional mailing Senior Services HIV/AIDS Addiction Services offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NJN Publishing. Fulfillment ... and much more. Office, P.O. Box 699 Somerville, NJ 08876. 24 Hours A Day ... 7 Days A Week. Subscription rates per year: \$28 in Somerset & Middlesex County; \$33 in Dial Toll Free 2-1-1 or 1-888-908-4636 NJ; \$36 out of state. To subscribe call 1-800-300-9321

Visit our on-line directory at: www.info-line.org

The Chronicle

In The Towns

MLK poster

contest is on EDISON — The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. poster contest is open to Edison elementary school pupils in Grades 1-5.

Entries will be judged on creativity and presentation. Posters must be delivered by Monday to the Dorothy K. Drwal Stelton Community Center, 328 Plainfield Ave., or the Minnie B. Veal Community Center, 1070 Grove Ave.

There will be one winner from each school in the township. Winners will be honored at the township's Martin Luther King program at noon Saturday, Jan. 13 at John P. Stevens High School

For more information, call (732) 248-7313 or (732) 248-7316.

Watershed group schedules meeting

The Lower Raritan-Middlesex County Water Resources Association is the watershed management group for the Lower Raritan Watershed.

The association holds a regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. Monday at the Elks lodge at 40 Livingston Ave., New Brunswick, in the Planning Board Meeting Center on the first floor. A review of the Areawide Water Quality Management Plan and any amendments is scheduled.

Book group

open to adults

PISCATAWAY - An adult book discussion group is at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes Lane. The book to be discussed is

"The Kite Runner" by Khaled Hosseini For registration, visit the

library's reference desk or call (732) 463-1633, option 6. Space is limited

Bedtime stories

filled with rhyme PISCATAWAY --- "Bedtime Rhyme Time" is a fast-paced story time for children ages 6-36 months old, accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

This program is at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes Lane.

Arrive early to play in the children's room. No registration is necessary.

Mystery dinner ... theater at HFA

BOUND BROOK - Holy Family Academy presents a mystery dinner theater for

grownups at 6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 14 Cost of \$42 includes cocktails, appetizers, a buffet dinner and

dessert. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the school, 120 E. Second St. For more information, call (732) 356-1151.

'Twilight' stories for parent, child

PISCATAWAY - "Twilight Tales" are stories and activities for parents to share with their children ages 3-5 years old.

The program is at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16 at Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes Lane. No registration is necessary. Also being held is "Once Upon

a Story," a half-hour of stories and songs for preschoolers and kindergarteners ages 3-5.

This story hour is at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 17 at Kennedy Library. No registration

is necessary. Bar association holds

dinner and seminar

EDISON — The Middlesex County Bar Association holds a joint dinner meeting with the Union County Bar Association and the Legal Secretaries of Middlesex County.

The meeting is at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 17 at the Pines Manor, Route 27 South and Talmadge Road. John Paone Jr. from the law firm Paone & Zaleski speaks about the new child support guidelines

A pre-dinner seminar at 4:15 p.m. is a review of family law opinions and trends in the law. Speakers include Glenn Berman, presiding judge of the Family Division of New Jersey Superior Court in New Brunswick

Cost for the dinner and seminar is \$40 for members of the Young Lawyers Committee, \$45 for Bar Association members and \$55 for non-members. Cost for the seminar only is \$15 for members of the Young Lawyers Committee, \$25 for Bar Association members and \$35 for non-members.

Reservations are required; call (732) 828-3433, Ext. 102.

Sephardic tunes

in HP synagogue HIGHLAND PARK - Rabbi Moshe Tessone & Ensemble perform Sephardic music at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 20 in Congregation Etz Ahaim, 230 Denison St.

He is director of Sephardic community programs at Yeshiva University and an instructor at

its Belz School of Jewish Music. Tessone also is cantor of the Ahi Ezer Congregation in Brooklyn.

Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$26 at the door. For more information, visit www.etzahaim.org or call (732) 247-3839.

Hebrew school pupils

taking part in services METUCHEN - Two Hebrew school classes of Congregation

Neve Shalom are scheduled to participate in Sabbath-day services.

The Daled and Hai classes will take part in services at 9:30 a.m. Saturday. Jan. 20. Parents are invited to take verbal or non-verbal honors.

A luncheon follows services. Any families that would like to cosponsor the luncheon should contact Jayne Sklon at (732) 548-2238. Ext. 12.

Learn to bake 'traditional bread'

PISCATAWAY --- Jane

Chrysostom covers "Traditional Bread Making" at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 21 at East Jersey Olde Towne Village, 1050 River Road.

You'll be able to grind wholewheat grain into flour and knead the dough, then taste the freshly baked bread when it's baked. A nutritional analysis and benefits of whole grain are also covered. The program is free.

Registration is required; call (732) 745-4489.

HP Zoning Board reorganization held

HIGHLAND PARK --- The Zoning Board of Adjustment holds its annual reorganization meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 22 in the council chambers at Borough Hall, 221 S. Fifth Ave. A regular meeting of the Zoning Board follows the reor-

ganization meeting. PTO plans

Pasta Night

Watchung School PTO holds its second annual Pasta Night from 5:30-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 26 at Von E. Mauger Middle School on Fisher Avenue.

seniors, \$5 for children ages 3-12 and free for children under 3. The menu includes spaghetti, meatballs, salad, beverage and dessert. There also will be a 50-50 raffle.

Tickets are by reservation

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 nonresidents. 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. Nonmembers 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 in the cafeteria of Holy Family Academy, 201 Vosseller Ave., Bound Brook. For further information, call President Sal Barbati at (908) 725-5444.

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. Middlesex Borough

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

The Middlesex Borough Office on Aging is collecting old cell phones to distribute to the homebound for 911 use. If you have one to donate, call the office at (732) 356-0414.

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 VIR-GIN 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.

THE OLDER ADULTS FEL-LOWSHIP OF THE MIDDLE-SEX PRESBYTERIAN third Tuesday of each month.

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.

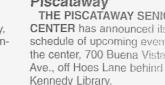
be from 10-11 a.m. Wednesday. This is a drop-in class. Sign up at the reception desk.

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:

Jan. 10 - Zimmerli Arl Museum, New Brunswick. Cost

is \$3 Feb. 7-8 -- Mohegan Sun trip. Cost is \$99 per person, double occupancy.

CHURCH MEET on the first and from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Older adults are invited to the Middlesex Presbyterian Church located at 1190 Mountain Ave. Piscataway



Group meetings for Tai Chi will



A-3

MIDDLESEX - The

Cost is \$8 for adults, \$6 for

only; call Karyn Guiducci at (732) 271-1562. Proceeds benefit Watchung School and its students.



JAN. 12th 13th 14th 15th

Everything Jersey



The Chronicle

This Weekend

Saturday, Jan. 6

BRIDGEWATER - Unload It: monthly recycling dropoff for Somerset County residents. Recycling Center, 40 Polhemus Lane, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. (732) 469-3363

SOMERVILLE - Rabies Clinic to vaccinate cats and dogs. West End Hose Company, 133 W. High St., 10 a.m.noon. Free. (908) 725-2300, Ext. 1981. WARREN - Fairy Tales: "Cinderella, Cinderella" for ages 4-up. Warren Township Library, 42 Mountain Blvd., 3 p.m. Registration required: (908) 754-5554

Sunday, Jan. 7

BRIDGEWATER - Blood Drive at St. Bernard of Clairvaux Church, 500 Route 22 East, 7:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Donor requirements: (800) 933-BLOOD.

Monday, Jan. 8

BRIDGEWATER - Open House dances for those new to square dancing. Adamsville School, 400 Union Ave., 7:30 p.m. Jan. 8, 22. Free; singles, couples welcome. (908) 369-3418 or www.squaredancenj.org.

BRIDGEWATER - "Butterflies, Birds and Wonders of Peru" with Chris and Paula Williams. Somerset County Library, 1 Vogt Drive, 8 p.m. Free. (732) 356-2428.

SOMERVILLE - Family Mentoring: first session of training for new volunteers. Jewish Family Service, 150 W. High St., 9:30 a.m. (908) 725-7799. SOMERVILLE - Blood Drive at The Only Game in Town, 211 W. Main St., 2-8 p.m. Donor requirements: (800) BLOOD NJ.

WARREN - Trump: meeting of Bridge Club for Warren Township Library, 42 Mountain Blvd., 7 p.m. Bring a deck of cards. (908) 754-5554

WATCHUNG - Chill: "Monday Morning Moms" for those with young children. Watchung Public Library, 12 Stirling Road, 10 a.m. Jan. 8, 22. Registration: (908) 561-0117.

WATCHUNG - Book Group discussing "Women of the Silk" by Gail Tsukiyama. Watchung Public Library, 12 Stirling Road, 7:30 p.m. (908) 561-0117.

Tuesday, Jan. 9

BRIDGEWATER - Monthly Meeting of Bridgewater Woman's Club. Somerset County Library, 1 Vogt Drive, 9:30 a.m. (908) 685-1348.

WATCHUNG - Cooked Up: "Baking and Books" for ages 6-up. Watchung Public Library, 12 Stirling Road, 4 p.m. Jan. 9. Registration: (908) 561-0117. WATCHUNG - Check: Chess Club for players in Grade 2-up. Watchung Public Library, 12 Stirling Road, 6 p.m. Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30. Registration: (908) 561-0117

BASKING RIDGE - Business Card exchange and social. Somerset Hills YMCA, 140 Mount Airy Road, noon, \$25. Registration: (908) 218-4300. HILLSBOROUGH - Recruiting: "information session" of Raritan Valley Community College. Hillsborougin Public Library, 379 South Branch Road, 5-7 p.m. (908) 253-6688 or recruit-

Sundance School experience sticks with students Learning center marks 30 years



Donna Turlik, above, a teacher at the Sundance School in North Plainfield, works with students combining math, language arts and social studies. The school marks its 30th anniversary this year.

By AMY S. BOBROWSKI Staff Writer

NORTH PLAINFIELD — As Jeff Tobey wandered the halls of the Trinity Reformed Church, he noticed the small, child-sized facilities.

"I remember seeing a water foun-tain that was placed at the height for a little kid and the little commodes," said Tobey, who at the time was just in sixth grade. "When I was a senior in high school, I would talk to my friends about my plan of becoming a teacher for little children and starting a school in that church."

In the fall of 1977, husband and wife Jeff and Ginny Tobey, both just 25 at the time, started the Sundance School with 28 pre-school-aged children.

Before opening, the couple painted the rooms, prepared supplies and even built the playground equipment out back By the end of the first year, enrollment grew to 100. Now, the private learning center is celebrating 30 years and has 386 students between the ages of 2 and 9. At Sundance, the classrooms aren't entirely split up by age groups. There aren't sections for first, second and third grade pupils. Rather, the children are placed in programs based on their developmental levels and learning styles. Additionally, parents have the option of enrolling their children

in programs of different lengths, including two-day instruction to the full five days of classes.

The establishment is run similarly to a high school in that pupils in the Primary and Constellation classes for children 5 and 9 --- receive instruction from several special subject teachers.

"For a teacher this is a true joy," said Carina Bellmann, language arts coordinator. "Each teacher specializes in a subject. I spend all day teaching Language Arts. My passion is poetry and I teach that to kindergarteners through third-graders. The children get the specialty of that teacher all vear. Professional musician David

Berkeley, who went on to Pingry and later Harvard University, got his start at Sundance.

'Art and expression was such a big

Although science and ar may seem like entirely different subjects, instructors at Sundance combine the courses providing for comprehensive lessons

After completing an experiment with cabbage in science class, the children used half-heads of the vegetable as a stamp in the art class. During another lesson, pupils created a goop-like substance in science class and later cut up the doughy, gel-like mixture to decorate another project.

While many public schools are cutting arts programs because of budget constraints, Sundance places a strong emphasis on education through the arts. The children participate in at least five performing arts acts and dance performances. The tact with the new school. Our chilschool even has separate rooms reserved for drama and stage instruction

Sundance student.

"We have the ability to educate and elevate the students through the art in a unique way that makes them want to learn and grow," she said. 'My daughter left the school after first grade. When she went onto her next school, people were wondering What is Sundance?' She had such a unique confidence for a little girl."

With such a wonderful educational experience, parents might wonder what the transition to a future school holds in store for their child.

'We have a 'What's Next?' meeting at the beginning of each year,' Bellmann said. "We plan and prepare for when a student transitions. We study the curriculum at the other shows each year including musical schools and our teachers stay in condren are overly prepared for their

PHOTOS BY GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHEP

ment@raritanval.edu.

HILLSBOROUGH - Book Group discussing "My Sister's Keeper" by Jodi Picoult. Hillsborough Public Library, 379 South Branch Road, 7 p.m. (908) 369-2200

HILLSBOROUGH - Getting Hyper? Michael Tansey on "Understanding ADHD and Learning Disorders." Hillsborough Public Library, 379 South Branch Road, 7 p.m. Registration required: (908) 369-2200.

part of Sundance," he wrote in a letter to the school. "We were always doing something expressive - be it dance or painting and certainly music and plays. I remember the plays the most. I was Peter in 'Peter and the Wolf' and Jiminy Cricket in 'Pinocchio.' Sundance definitely made me comfortable on stage from as early an age as I have memory. In fact, Sundance had me singing as soon as I could speak, and singing became as natural to me as talking."

"Jeff plays the dulcimer and harmonica and I play the guitar and violin," Ginny Tobey said. "We enjoy improvisation together. The arts are spontaneous. It's a key to communication.

Getting up on a stage and performing for peers and loved ones also aids the growth of a child's self-esteem, said Joann Merrigan, the school's stage director and mother of a former

next school. transitioning Students into Sundance are also accepted with open arms. "The children here are used to transitions and new things," Bellmann continued. "They'll accept that new child right away."

The school is planning a Birthday Bash in May to celebrate the anniversary and invites graduates to participate in the event. For more information, call (908) 561-5055 or visit www.sundanceschool.net.



Sports

Saturday, January 6, 2007

Panthers flex muscles in tourney romp

Six winners power B-R to county crown

By DAVE ALLENA Staff Writer

HILLSBOROUGH --- If future Skyland Conference opponents weren't quite sure how strong the Bridgewater-Raritan High wrestling squad is this season, they have a lot more information following the Somerset County Tournament.

In as dominant a performance as has been seen in the event in recent years, the Panthers ran away with the team champi-onship — their first since 1997 - by a whopping 76-point margin over two-time defending champion Watchung Hills Dec. 27

Crowning six champions and placing 11 wrestlers overall among the top three in their respective weight classes, Bridgewater-Raritan totaled an impressive 229 points, turning the competition into its personal highlight show.

In the finals, after third-place Bound Brook won three of the first six bouts, the Panthers flaunted their upper-weight power by taking six of the final eight matches, including the last four.

Roy Dragon, who captured his third SCT title, won his heavyweight crown in a walkover to cap the Bridgewater perfor-

mance. Along the way Dan Liss, Tyler Riccio, brothers Wayne and Andrew Hampton and Drew Ives each won for the first time.

Feeling no pressure entering the tournament, the Panthers performed flawlessly to easily handle the over-matched field.

"We had a really good tournament," Head Coach Greg Evans said. "In terms of who finished where, I'd be hard-pressed to find anyone who should've finished higher than they did. We just had pleasant surprises. No surprises the other way.

We had everyone advance to the quarterfinals but one, and I thought we wrestled well in the quarterfinals and semifinals. Then in the finals we wrestled extremely well. You definitely don't expect a point total like that, but if we wrestled to our potential the opportunity was certainly there.

"For the most part we received contributions from everyone. If a kid didn't place he picked up some bonus points somewhere. Up and down the lineup we achieved and placed where we expected to. We didn't catch any bad breaks. We won just about all the close matches. Things pretty much went our way the whole tournament.

SOMERSET COUNTY TOURNAMENT

Team Scores: 1. Bridgewater-Raritan (BR) 229; 2. Watchung Hills (WH) 153; 3. Bound Brook (BB) 147; 4. Hillsborough (H) 119; 5. Ridge (R) 901/2; 6. Somerville (S) 90; 7. Franklin (F) 681/2; 8. North Plainfield (NP) 58; 9. Bernards (B) 56; 10. Rutgers Prep (RP) 54; 11. Montgomery (M) 34; 12. Pingry (P) 18; 13. Manville 10.

Championships 103 - Kyle Doerr (BB) d. Andrew Hewitt (F) 8-1 112 – Tommy Ross (WH) d. Ryan Radwanski (BR) 11-3 119 – Nestor Taffur (BB) d. Chris Valerio (WH) 12-0 125 - Jimmy Kirchner (Ś) d. Gabe Gleason 7-0 130 - Rich Russoniello (B) d. Clemment Bommier (R) 9-1 135 – Nick Murray (BB) d. Adam Friedman (BR) 17-0 (Technical fall at 4:41) 140 – Danny Liss (BR) d. Takabir Cobb (NP) 15-0 (TF at 5:10) 145 – Tyler Riccio (BR) d. Chris Jessen (WH) 12-0 152 – Frankie McLaughlin (H) d. Reggie Perry (BB) 17-5 160 – John Mangini (H) d. Brendan Ard (WH) 15-2 160 – John Mangini (H) d. Brendan Ard (WH) 15-2
171 – Wayne Hampton (BR) p. Robert Scriffiano (WH) 1:09
189 – Andrew Hampton (BR) p. Matt Birmingham (B) 4:49
215 – Drew Ives (BR) d. Steve Lawrence (BB) 13-0
HWT – Roy Dragon (BR) won by forfeit over Derrick Williams (F)
Third-Place Consolations
103 – Eric Biago (M) d. Chris Stitley (S) 15-1
112 – Joe Stitley (S) d. Yuri Urrutia (NP) 6-2
119 – Andrew Conkin (BR) d. Andrew DeSanto (H) 11-2
125 – Jon Eriedman (BB) d. Andrew DeTorres (WH) 4-3

125 – Andrew Cohkir (BR) d. Andrew DeSanto (H) 11-2
125 – Jon Friedman (BR) d. Anthony DeTorres (WH) 4-3
130 – Eric Willis (BR) d. Kyle Aldrich (WH) 4-3
135 – Fred Riesen (RP) p. Kevin McWhorter (R) 4:46
140 – Josh Alpizar (WH) d. Steve Bercik (R) 10-3 140 – Josh Alpizar (WH) d. Steve Bercik (H) 10-3 145 – Nate Arline (F) d. George Goodless (H) 3-0 152 – Payton Smith (F) d. Biagio Mineo (S) 3-2 160 – C.J. Lyons (R) p. Trevor Topf (P) :26 171 – John Lorio (R) d. Evan Storer (FP) 2-1 189 – Tom McCartney (S) d. Jared Leon (H) 7-1 215 – Max Borisenko (H) p. Chris Smith (WH) 2:23 HWT – Greg Zappacosta (RP) p. Kevin Romero (NP) :13

"I didn't feel like we had any pressure on us going in because I believe pressure comes when you're trying to win something a second time and going for your third in a row. We hadn't won in almost a decade, so there wasn't

any pressure on us." At the same time, with a large group of seniors, most of them quality performers in their fourth varsity campaign, most observers tabbed the Panthers as the team to beat, and it was something they wanted to win.

"We have a senior-laden team," said Evans. "We've won a couple of district titles, but a county title had eluded us so it was nice to see this group finally win one. They've won some big matches during their time here, so this was another feather in their cap.

"It's exciting to win this. It's one of the goals we've had for the team this year, and it's nice to accomplish it."

The SCT title is something that's been on the minds of the Panthers quite a while.

"This feels very good for the team," Ives said. "We were thinking about this during the summer. Just about all of us spent of lot of time working in the off-season trying to do whatever we could with the goal of winning the county tournament, so to win feels pretty good.

In its bid to win the crown, B-R opted to push its lineup up at the top, sacrificing individual positioning for the sake of the team. As it turned out it didn't matter as Ives and Dragon, both up a weight class they weighed in at, won anyway

And Andrew Hampton, who finals with only Adam Friedman pion. Evans wanted to get into the lineup at 189 pounds, rewarded that decision by winning his title as the third seed.

"One pleasant surprise was Andrew Hampton," the coach said. "He really got into the lineup because we moved Drew and Roy up, and he really made the most of it.

"We'd been tossing it around a while, but I wanted to see the results of other matches the finals. weekend before the county tournament. We thought it was a good move for the team, but we didn't make the final decision until the seeding meeting (Dec. 26)."

In all, B-R sent eight to the

(135), who fell to four-time champion Andrew Murray of Bound Brook, and Ryan Radwanski (112) settling for runnerup honors.

team honors.

Three Panthers made it to the third-place consolation bouts. Andrew Conkin (119), Jon Friedman (125) and Eric Willis (130) all won their matches to secure the team championship for the Panthers prior to the

B-R didn't have a lot of time to celebrate its victory, returning to dual-meet action Saturday. The Panthers visited Voorhees Thursday and today host Hackettstown, the Warren-Hunterdon Tournament cham-

"The timing of the county tournament, coming at the beginning of the season, means it's something we've already accomplished," Evans said. "Most of the kids feel it's a nice reward for all the hard work to this point.

Raritan's Ryan Radwanski in the championship round of the Somerset County Tournament. That was the

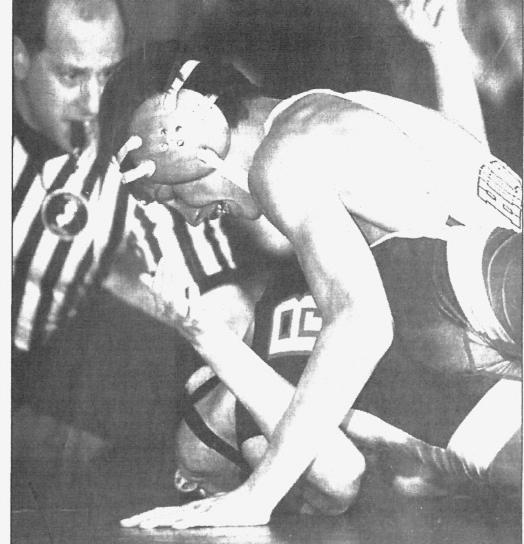
lone title claimed by the Warriors, who finished a distant second to Bridgewater-Raritan in the battle for

"It provides enough motivation to keep working hard and thriving off of this. And of course success breeds success, so it helps our confidence. As coaches and parents we're proud of the kids for what they've accomplished, but now it's time to move on to the next goal.'

For Watchung Hills, which sent five to the finals and came their advantage.

away with one champion in 112pounder Tommy Ross, it was a good performance against what was probably an unbeatable foe. "We did OK," Head Coach Danny Smith said. "We made some mistakes, but on the whole we wrestled pretty well. We didn't have a great final round, but overall it was a good tournament. Most of our kids wrestled to their best if not better.

"You don't tell your team, but going in I knew it would be very difficult to beat Bridgewater. We had some kids in the finals and Bound Brook had some kids, but up and down their lineup Bridgewater is loaded, and they even moved it around to



Watchung Hills High 112-pounder Tommy Ross, top, is on his way to an 11-3 triumph over Bridgewater-

LARRY MURPHY/CORRESPONDENT

B-R boys still need to work on offense

BRIDGEWATER - It's scary to think that after averaging 68 points for its three holiday tournament games, the Bridgewater-Raritan High boys basketball team can improve offensively.

But for Head Coach Tim Ortelli, that was the focus as the Panthers entered the New Year standing at 5-1 following their 65-34 rout of Cranford Saturday night that gave them a sweep of their games in the Vaughn Stapleton Classic at B-R.

"I think we're getting a little better," he said. "We're still inconsistent, but we're still mixing and matching. We still haven't come up with a fixed rotation yet. Other than James McNally and Andy August, this is a new team with kids getting their first varsity playing time.

"We've just got to be more consistent on offense. Our defense has been solid, and we're rebounding well, but we've got to pass the ball better and handle it better. We've also got to hit our open shots.

"We're getting open shots. We're shooting with very little defensive pressure because of the double team in the low post, but we're not hitting them. If we can start to knock some down from 15-20 feet that will really open things open. Teams will have to pick their poison, whether to stay with the double team or give us open shots."

Bridgewater-Raritan flashed some of that potential in the third quarter against Cranford. After taking a 28-18 halftime lead thanks to a strong second period (13-5), the Panthers got three-pointers from Jared Rothbard, Dave Pilla and Keith Woung-Fallon in just over a minute's time to open some daylight.

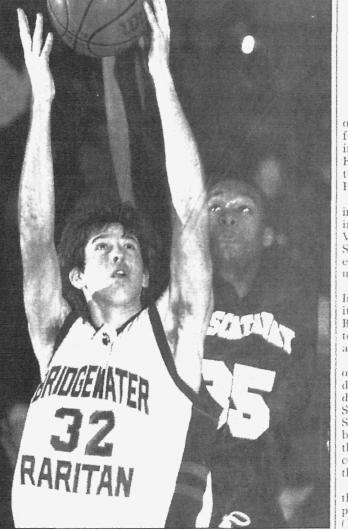
"We didn't play very well in the first quarter, but then we had a three-minute stretch in the second quarter where we started to put things together and outscored Cranford 11-1," Ortelli said. "That carried over and we played a very solid second half."

It was the third straight strong second-half performance by the Panthers, who won their fifth in a row, in the tournament.

"I don't know if there is any one reason for it," Ortelli said. "In the first game against Marlboro, we had 49 points at halftime. They just couldn't stop us. Against Piscataway, after turning the ball over eight times in the second quarter, we did a better job with that. Against Cranford we finally hit some open shots."

McNally, who's led B-R in scoring in all six games, dropped in 23 against the Cougars to finish as the only player in double figures. Woung-Fallon and Rothbard connected on three treys apiece to close with nine points apiece, while August added eight.

CRANFORD (34) Smith 2-4-8. Snyder 2-2-6, Tubelli 2-2-6, Benimeo 1-0-2, Faulcon 1-1-3, Ciecin 0-3-



LARRY MURPHY CORRESPONDENT

Junior Dave Pilla goes up for a shot during Bridgewater-Raritan High's 51-39 victory over Piscataway in the Vaughn Stapleton Holiday Classic. The Panthers won all three of their tourney games last week.

0-9. Totals: 8-3-9-34

BRIDGEWATER-RARITAN (65) August 3-2-8, McNally 7-9-23, Woung-Fallon 0-3-0-9, Merten 1-0-2, Kurtzman 1-0-2, Rothbard 0-3-0-9, Pilla 0-1-0-3, Beck 1-0-2, Long 1-0-2, Rygtel 1-0-2, Germaske 0-1-0-3. Totals: 15-8- 1-65. Cranford 13 5 10 6 - 34 Bridgewater-Raritan 15 13 17 20 -- 65

B-R 51, Piscataway 39 - After taking a 22-17 lead at halftime, the Panthers extended the margin to 37-26 with a 15-9 third quarter fueled by August's eight points to trim Piscataway

(3-2) in the middle game of tourney play Dec. 28. McNally finished with 20 points and eight rebounds while August had 12 points and seven boards, PISCATAWAY (39)

Waluk 2-1-5, White 2-2-6, Creyton 3-0-6, Benjamin 4-1-9, Smith 2-0-4, Woodall 1-0-2 Newsome 2-3-7. Totals: 16-7-39 BRIDGEWATER-RARITAN (51)

August 5-2-12, McNally 5-10-20, Woung Failon 1-0-2, Pilla 1-3-5, Merten 1-1-0-5, Kurtzman 0-1-0-3, Pothbard 2-0-4, Totals 15-2-15-51. Piscataway 5 12 9 13 - 39 Bridgewater Rantan 14 8 15 14 - 51 **Perfect Spartans** roll to sixth win

BRIDGEWATER - It's not you shouldn't."

often a wakeup call comes from a game you're not involved in, but Mike Frauenheim believes that was the case for his Immaculata High boys.

Even with Immaculata sporting an unbeaten record entering its third game of the Vaughn Stapleton Classic, the Spartans' head coach wasn't entirely pleased with the product displayed on the court.

That all changed when Immaculata saw the challenge its biggest league rival, Bridgewater-Raritan, had gotten Dec. 28 from Piscataway in a 51-39 battle.

And what it led to was an outstanding practice the next day and then a shut-down defensive performance Saturday afternoon as the Spartans raced to a 16-2 start, built a 31-point lead after three quarters finished with a convincing 54-29 triumph over the Chiefs at B-R High.

"We'd been going through the motions for the first couple of weeks but that Bridgewater-Piscataway) game got the kids' attention," Frauenheim said. "Our goal was to get into the New Year undefeated. We did that, but we didn't play that well.

"Against Piscataway we played our best game of the year. Piscataway is young, but they're very talented. I think that's a very good team. I think the level of competition got our kids focused.

"I don't know if that's good or bad. When they see the competition out there they get challenged, but at the same time when they play a team we should beat the focus hasn't always been there. That's a time when you lose a game

Immaculata, which improved to 6-0, wasted no time in assuming command with its big first quarter but Frauenheim saw the groundwork laid the previous day. "I saw it in practice," he

said. "As a team there was a lot of intensity. They understood the urgency of what we needed to do. At the start of the game I could see it in their eyes. Right from the start we did everything well. We passed the ball, we defended and we rebounded."

With top scorer Brian Kerwin playing with a fever and held to nine points, the Spartans used a balanced effort against the Chiefs as Jeff Cullinan led the way with 11 points, Jason Cimino followed with 10 and Tim Sanderson had eight. IMMACULATA SCORING

Cimino 1-2-2-10, Kerwin 3-1-0-9, Fired 3-0-6, Fagan 1-0-2, Cullinan 4-3-11, Sanderson 4-0-8, Calinan 4-3-11, Sanderson 4-0-8, Fisher 2-0-4, Lubreski 2-0-4, Totals: 20-3-5-54, Piscataway 2 9 4 14 - 29 Immaculata 16 13 17 8 - 54

Immaculata 57, Marlboro 32 - Thursday's game was decided by halftime as the Spartans built a 20-8 lead through eight minutes and opened a 34-14 advantage by halftime in easily handling Marlboro (2-4). Kerwin totaled a game-high 19 points while Cullinan turned in the best all-around performance with 18 points, nine rebounds and five blocked shots.

Immaculata 54, East Brunswick 42 - Kerwin dropped in a game-high 17 points while Cullinan finished with 15, including a 7-for-7 effort from the foul line, as the Spartans dumped East Brunswick Dec. 27.

Raritan children warm to cold-blooded creatures

By ALLISON ELYSE GUALTIERI Staff Writer

A-6

RARITAN - Dominic Rizzo stuck Spidey the tree frog on his head, both to make his audience of children from the John F. Kennedy School laugh, and to teach them something, that tree frogs have sticky feet.

It was just one of the things the pupils learned from Rizzo, who gave three assemblies to the school last week, showing and telling about some of the scaly creatures he cares for as a professional wildlife educator. "When the snow comes ---and I hope it comes - and you go outside to play, the temperature outside is maybe 20 degrees, but we're 98.6 degrees. Do you know what a lizard is?" he said. "Frozen."

Lizards, like Shakespeare, the bearded dragon from Australia, depend on the sun's warmth for their own, Rizzo explained.

"He's a desert animal. He likes it really hot, 110 degrees," Rizzo said.

Though Rizzo said that lizards like Shakespeare make great pets, 8-year-old Augie Garcia said that he wanted to

add a snake to his menagerie, which includes two birds and two pets.

Like the two corn snakes Rizzo showed off, Sherbet and Moby, who are a female and male pair of 13-year-old albino corn snakes. Corn snakes are constrictors, not poisonous snakes, and are endangered in New Jersey.

Butterscotch, a 3-year-old male python, also amazed the children. Rizzo called up five students and even a teacher to grab hold, as he stretched the constrictor out to his full 11foot length. Butterscotch, who gets his name from his bright yellow coloring, is native to southeast Asia. The python drew the biggest gasps from the audience, but King, the alligator snapping turtle, earned a few oohs and aahs of his own. King could take off a finger, said Rizzo. It's a good thing he, like most alligator snapping turtles, is lazy.

"They don't like to hunt, they like the food to come to them. They like delivery," Rizzo said, showing students how turtles like King inflate their tongues to use as fishing lures

William Guenther

EDISON — William H. Guenther, 64, died Dec. 25, 2006.

Born Feb. 13, 1942 in Newark, he was a son of the late William Sr. and Anna Finnegan Guenther.

Mr. Guenther lived in Linden and Edison before moving to Bridgewater. A birdwatcher, he was selected by the state of New Jersey in the past year to monitor an eagle's nest. He also was a volunteer for hawk watches at Washington Valley Park in Bridgewater and Duke Farms in Hillsborough.

He received a bachelor's

degree in management from Rutgers University.

Surviving are his wife of 41 Maryanne Misiur years. Guenther; two daughters, Laura Gardner and husband Richard of East Windsor and Melissa Cieslak and husband Thomas of Allentown; and two

grandchildren. A funeral Mass was held Friday at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Raritan, following services at the Bongiovi Funeral Home in Raritan.

Burial was in St. Gertrude Cemetery, Colonia.

Linda Ciancio

Obituaries

Linda L. Dilts Ciancio, 60, died suddenly Dec. 21, 2006 at her home in Readington. She was born in Plainfield

and had lived in Readington since 1978.

the manager of Bountiful Baskets, a division of Angelone's Florist.

1994.

Surviving are her husband of 39 years, Dominick; her mother, Gladys McGovern Dilts of South Plainfield; two sons, Anthony and wife Tracie of

Piscataway and Dominic of Readington; a daughter, Kimberly Marin and husband Juan of Jersey City; a sister, Debra Smith of Nutley; nine

Mrs. Ciancio was for 16 years

She was preceded in death

by her father, Louis Dilts, in

A funeral Mass was held Dec. 27 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Roman Catholic Church, Three Bridges, follow-

ing services at the Branchburg Funeral Home. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery, Scotch Plains. Memorial contribu-Diabetes Association, P.O. Box

nieces, nephews and cousins.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD Ruth L. Demmer Proctor, 85, died Dec. 18, 2006 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

grandchildren; and several Mrs. Proctor was born in Newark and lived in South Bound Brook before moving to Middlesex in 1950. She most recently resided in South Plainfield. She had been for 10 years a lunch aide at Middlesex High School. Mrs. Proctor also was for five years a volunteer at the former tions may be sent to American | Raritan Valley Hospital in Green Brook.

Ruth Proctor

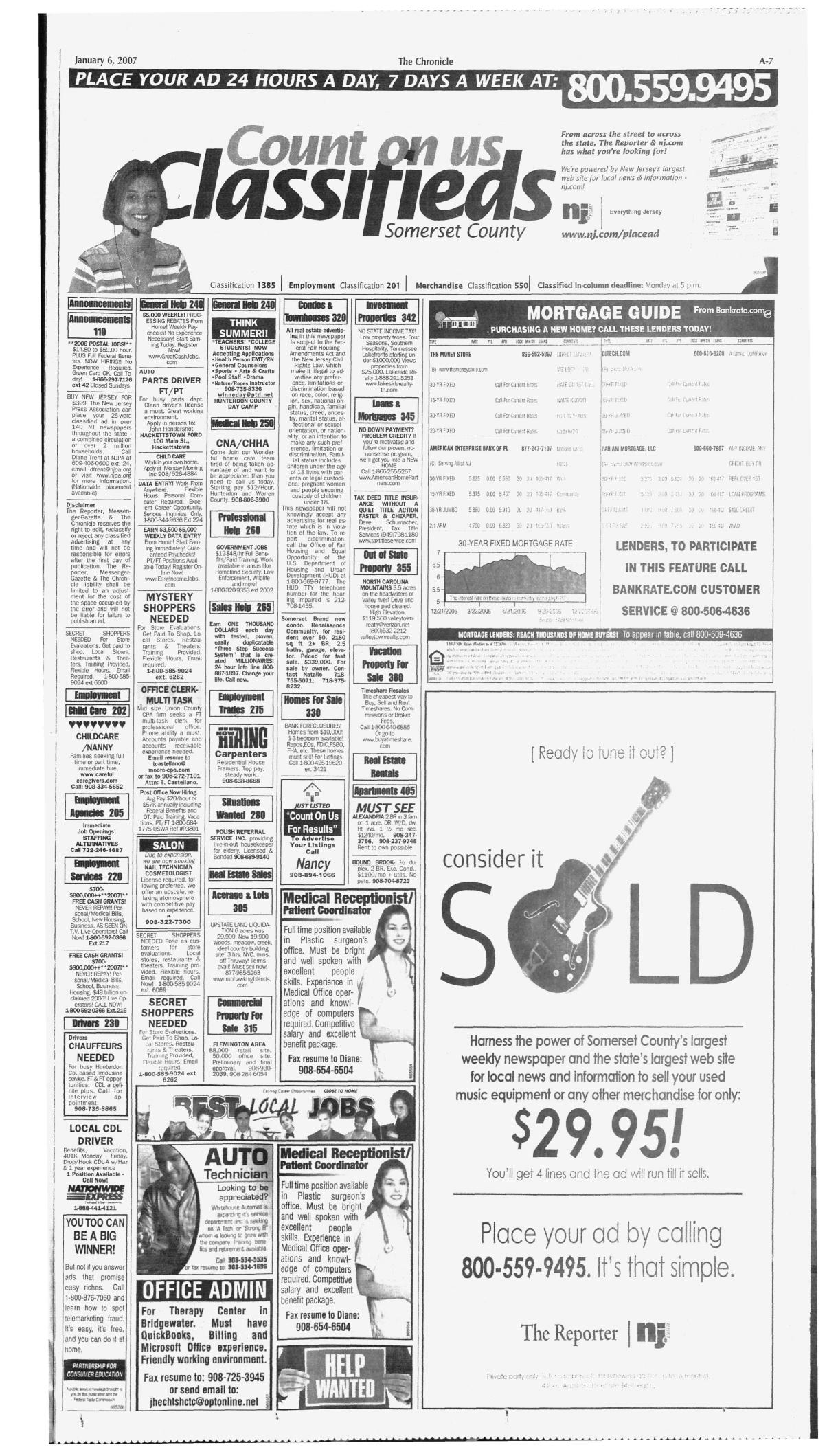
Merritt M., were charter members of the Presbyterian Church in Middlesex.

Surviving are a daughter, Cathy Newman and husband Robert of South Plainfield; a son, Robert and wife Barbara of Hillsborough; a granddaughter, Kristine Craggan and husband John of South Plainfield; a grandson, Steven Newman and wife Lisa of South Plainfield; and five great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held Thursday at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church. Arrangements by the 1131, Fairfax, VA 22038-1131. She and her late husband, McCriskin Home for Funerals.





GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTGRAPHER Dominic Rizzo shows off Butterscotch, and 11-foot python, with some help from pupils and third-grade teacher Dorothy Bogda at John F. Kennedy School in Raritan last week.



A-8



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