

Good effort

Post 435's Brian Cirri tossed a complete game as Edison defeated Musconetcong 14-6 in the American Legion State Tournament Sunday. Edison won again Monday, but was eliminated Tuesday. For story see page C-1.



Baby gift

Marjorie Bailey crochets a baby blanket during the adult crafts program Monday at the South Plainfield Senior Center. More pictures appear on Page A-3.



Flight of fancy at **Balloon Festival**

A reporter goes up with the balloons this year despite a fear of heights. For the full story on the New Jersey Festival of Ballooning and one reporter's ride, see page B-1.

Tonight's the Night

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop will present the Gershwin musical "Crazy for You" at 7 p.m. tonight and tomorrow and at 2 p.m. Sunday in the air-conditioned South Plainfield High School auditorium. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for student and seniors. For more information, call (908) 561-5255 and leave a mes-

A-4
B-1
C-1
B-2
A-6
C-6
A-8

Suit seeks tests for older drivers

By KATHLEEN G. SUTCLIFFE

EDISON — In what may turn out to be a precedent-setting case, an Edison resident has sued the State of New Jersey for failing to test elderly drivers.

A lawsuit was filed in Middlesex County Superior County on July 23 on behalf of Vincent Corso, an Edison resident who remains hospitalized after he was struck by an elderly driver in December 2001.

Jersey, by issuing licenses and not re-testing, is putting people on the road that shouldn't be driving," said Corso's lawyer, Robert Linder.

The suit alleges that Phillip Piracci, the 80-year old who hit Corso while he was crossing a Cresskill street, was not in sufficient physical, mental or emotional health at the time he last received a driver's license.

The lawsuit was filed after an elderly driver killed 10 pedestrians at a farmer's market in patient in JFK's head trauma Santa Monica, Calif. The incident attracted national attention, but Linder said the suit's timing is purely coincidental.

According to Linder, Piracci was not even aware that he'd struck a pedestrian and was tracked down afterward through eyewitness accounts. Piracci, who is now deceased, reportedly surrendered his license after the incident and criminal charges were never filed. Corso, 36, remains in a wheelchair and is a

"The state tests people once when they are 17 and then automatically re-issues licenses every year thereafter. It is grossly negligent of the state to empower people to drive year after year without making sure that they are physically and mentally able to operate a motor vehicle, or even alive for that matter," Linder said in a press

Spokespersons for the state thing.

Department of Motor Vehicles had no comment on the lawsuit.

The estate of Phillip Piracci is also named as a defendant in the suit which seeks compensation for medical costs and pain and

suffering. But Linder says he hopes the suit will push the state to change the law and require elderly drivers to be tested. "We're looking for compensation from the State of New Jersey and we're looking for the DMV to do the right

Residents upset by tit-for-tat deal in Edison

By KATHLEEN G. SUTCLIFFE

EDISON — Residents gathered at the July 14 Planning Board meeting and again at the July 23 council meeting to oppose what they perceived as deal-making between the township and the developers of a property at 75 Glendale Ave.

During the July 14 presentation to the Planning Board, the developer of a Raritan riverfront industrial property, Glendale Properties, offered to donate 9.89 wooded waterfront acres of its property along the Raritan and the Deep Gully Brook to the township in return for a waiver on the township's tree conservation ordinance.

Glendale Properties is hoping to prepare the industrial property for a railroad construction company which will use it for

storing construction and maintenance equipment.

During questions posed by the Planning Board, the developer also conceded that the land donation would also mean the developer would not need to obtain waterfront development and stream encroachment permits.

The proposed deal drew criticism from residents and activists, including Bill Stephens, president of the South Edison Community Association.

"It's kind of funny when somebody's telling you they're giving you something to get away from getting a lot of permits they would need if they kept the piece of property," Stephens said. "In reality, in my humble opinion, they're doing them a favor by taking that piece of property because of the permitting they won't have to deal with."

(Continued on page A-2)

for park cleanup

By CHERYL ORSON

CORRESPONDENT

SOUTH PLAINFIELD - The Borough Council appropriated funds and awarded a contract to clean up Veterans Park during a special meeting Monday,

PCBs and asbestos were found in the park and it has been closed since last year.

The council appropriated \$250,000 from the state Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Livable Communities Grant for the cleanup and awarded nearly Clean \$970,000 to Environmental Services.

Cleanup is expected to take 60 days and will begin shortly.

In a special meeting July 2, the council adopted an ordinance approving a \$950,000 bond to clean up the park. The borough will actually bond for \$902,500 making a 5-percent down payment of \$47,000 from a cash reserve in the capital budget.

Administrator Glenn Cullen said the borough will borrow the \$902,500 using a combination of both short- and long-term notes at 1 to 2 percent interest.

Cullen said the bond will pay for the removal and disposal of PCB- and tar- contaminated soil. The \$250,000 state grant will be used for asbestos removal. The operations will be conducted simultaneously.

After the cleanup is completed, Cullen said the rest of the bond will be used for other park improvements including new roads, fencing and landscaping.

"Hopefully, it will be done quickly and we'll get our park back," said Mayor Daniel Gallagher. "It's taken a little bit longer than I would have liked." Gallagher said working with state agencies took longer than expected, but "the commitment that the council made has been

(Continued on page A-2)

Edison residents' pleas fall on sympathetic ears

By KATHLEEN G. SUTCLIFFE STAFF WRITER

Build it,

and they

will come

Construction is almost com-

plete on a sports complex called Level Playing Fields at

Roosevelt Park in Edison. The

complex, which is being built

by Middlesex County, includes

baseball fields, soccer fields, an ice skating rink and a picnic

area as seen above. At right,

the third-base foul line seems

to stretch a mile. No date has

been set for the opening of the

GEORGE PACCIELLO/

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

EDISON — Residents pleaded with council members to block a proposed office building development on Route 27 across from

Metro Park. The development's applicant, Rukh Enterprises, appeared before the Planning Board on July 14 with a proposal to build two, two-story office buildings between Phillip and Cedar streets. The Planning Board did not grant approval, but held the application for further study after neighbors presented a host of concerns.

But residents were not content to await the Planning Board's final decision and took their protest to a Township Council meeting July 23.

Organizer Ken Gaylin presented a petition signed by 86 residents to the Township Council opposing the development and detailed a list of the residents' objections.

At the top of the list was the commercial development's effect on traffic when combined with the proposed construction of a Route 27 overpass and the dead-

ending of Cedar Street. Resident Janine Russo spoke at the meeting, saying she worried traffic spillover would drastically alter the neighborhood's atmosphere and endanger her hearing-impaired child.

Residents also complained that the developers' plans to

uproot trees to make room for the our community." two structures would erase a buffer between their quiet neighborhood and the commercial area across Route 27.

"It's our sound barrier, ever since the buildings and the trains (were built). It's the last thing we have left," said resident Joan McCook.

"I love the trees. I watched them grow from that high," said resident Jim Logan as he motioned to his waist, "to 60

"Our understanding of the Edison Master Plan is that it looks to preserve the character of existing communities," added resident Mike Harmon. "Any action to cut down the trees will severely damage the character of

At the earlier Planning Board meeting, Bill Stephens, president of the South Edison Community Association, had proposed an alternative to the development, saying "I recommend that we do the same thing we did with Meyer Road — that is, not cheat these people out of their investment, but in fact condemn that property and maintain it as open

The idea sat well with many residents who also included a plea for open space in their appeal to the council.

But council members were hesitant to make any premature pledges to preserve the land. matter would be studied.

"I don't want to make a promise to you now that would perhaps be superficial," said Council President Peter Barnes, adding "but there's a couple of things we can do, that we will do.'

Barnes then requested that Township Attorney Louis Rainone commission an assessment of the property and report back to the council.

Barnes also asked the Open Space Advisory Committee, which had identified the property on its open space priority list, to assess the open space value, "I want an evaluation in exactly how this property stacks up against others.'

Barnes also suggested the par-They did assure residents the "cel's proximity to the Edison (Continued on page A-2)

Highland Park Library offers forum for book reviews

By VALERI DRACH WEIDMANN CORRESPONDENT

HIGHLAND PARK - The borough library has added a new component to its website, www.hpplnj.org.

In addition to providing details about events, programs and exhibits, it now offers an interactive book club, Each month, different staff members will write reviews of books they have recently enjoyed.

designed the new interactive

"Highland Park is such a friendly community," Auguste said. "People love to come into the library and talk about books. I thought it would also be nice if we could also interact with patrons about books on the web.'

During the month of August, nonfiction books that read like fiction are featured, and titles are

Margaret Auguste, computer suggested. People are invited to don't let go until the last page is specialist and a librarian, read the books and offer their read. own critiques at the website.

According to the library staff, you don't always have to go to the fiction section for books that keep you riveted. Nonfiction books that read like fiction are great for the summer. There are a number of award-winning writers, especially journalists, who are excellent at fleshing out characters, plot and description. The true stories they tell pull you in and

Truman Capote was one of the pioneers of this writing style and in 1965 published "In Cold Blood," a true account of two murderers who invaded a home in Kansas and killed a family. The entire book reads like a novel, but all of the vivid details and facts were researched through a reporter's eyes and written with a novelist's flare for place and character. The genre

some of the other earlier writers were Gay Talese, Hunter Thompson and Tom Wolfe.

The following titles are some of the featured books for August: "Close to Shore," Michael Capuzzo; "The Minister and the Choir Singer," William M. Kunstler; and "Random Family: Love, Drugs, Trouble and Coming of Age in the Bronx," Adrian Nicole LeBlanc.

To see the staff reviews, visit

was called "New Journalism" and the Highland Park Public Library www.hpplnj.org.

"This summer we'd love for you to visit the library and our website," Auguste said. "We'd like to hear from you. And the library staff is eager to help you select a book or answer any questions you might have.'

The Highland Park Public Library is located at 31 N. Fifth Ave. and if you have any questions please call (732) 572-2750.

Edison is appealing temple land decision

By KATHLEEN G. SUTCLIFFE

(Continued from page A-1)

Coouncilman Raymond Petronko,

chairman of the Recreation

Committee, said he wants the

public to know "we moved as

"Slowly, but surely, we're tak-

ing care of every little piece of

land in town that may be ques-

tionable," said Petronko, who

promised the borough will even-

tually be a clean community.

"We're making sure that the lega-

quickly as possible."

EDISON — Council members said that the township plans to appeal a June 24 Middlesex County Superior Court decision upholding the zoning board approval of a proposed development on land currently owned by the Temple Emanu-El on James Street.

"We feel the judge's decision was against the weight of the evidence," Edison township attorney Joel Seltzer said when asked to comment on the township's basis for appeal.

In response to the objections of neighbors, the council passed a resolution last October overturning the zoning board's unanimous June 2002 approval of the proposed three-story office building. Residents, who claimed the neighborhood is plagued with drainage problems, objected to the parcel's change in use from an undeveloped wetland to an office building and accompanying parking lot.

Iggy Spina, a resident who led the opposition to the development, said, "We're delighted the town council has decided to appeal Judge Hurley's decision and stand behind the 165 area residents.

Council Member Robert Diehl said of the council's decision at the July 21 work session, "We're very sympathetic, very empathetic (to the residents). ... We're going to continue to stick with them."

After the Superior Court decision was issued, Temple Emanu-El officials had said they were pleased with the outcome and planned to use the \$800,000 proceeds from the sale to the developer for programming and the congregation's religious school. Temple officials declined to speculate on the township's decision to appeal.

"At this point we haven't been officially notified. We're going to wait and see what happens." Rabbi Victor Appell said.

Council assured museum will be rebuilt

By CHERYL ORSON

CORRESPONDENT

PISCATAWAY — Councilman James Huben told the Township Council Tuesday night that he has been assured by members of the state Historic Commission that it would attempt to reconstruct the Metlar-Bodine House in keeping with the time period in which it was built.

The historic home and museum was heavily damaged in a fire July 17. The blaze was reported shortly after a meeting there had broken up.

Business Administrator Lynn Evers said the township insured the building's contents while the Department

Transportation, which owns the building and leases it to the township, insured the structure itself. The insurance proceeds will fund the reconstruction, she

"Our risk management adjusters said it can be rebuilt," said Evers, who added that the building was "brick lined."

"They don't build them like they used to," she added.

DEP Commissioner Brad Campbell for making the park a

"top priority." He also said bring-

ing the park back into use before

will follow last year's revamped route, ending at the PAL building

on Maple Avenue. The park,

which had previously been used

for a picnic after the parade, will

still be off-limits.

This year's Labor Day Parade

the end of the year is "terrific."

Evers said it was important the museum be rebuilt "to make sure we don't lose our grants for the porches." The Historic Commission was giving the township a \$200,000 grant to refurbish the museum's porches. The fire "didn't affect the structural integrity of these porches."

"We'll be bringing that treasure of Piscataway back as it once was," Evers said.

However, Acting Director Carl Nittinger of the New Jersey Historic Trust Commission said last week that the organization does not fund "replication reconstruction." He said the decision will depend on the results of the insurance investigation determining the extent of the damage and how much will be covered by

Nittinger said if it is determined the damage is limited and the house can be rehabilitated, then the grant money, currently being held in trust pending Gov. James E. McGreevey's signature, could be issued.

If the building is found to be "a total loss," then, he said, "there's no building to invest

The commission's 15-member board of trustees, which will ultimately determine the fate of the \$200,000 grant, is scheduled to have a special meeting this month on an unrelated topic, but is expected to discuss the Metlar/Bodine House fire.

Built in sections over many years, the portion of the museum built in the 1870s, where the fire likely started in a back room, was described as "a total loss." The earliest section of the house built in 1728 suffered smoke, water and fire damage, but is probably salvageable, along with a section built in the

Employees from All Risk Insurance Co. have already removed some artifacts which the company will restore as provided for under the township's insurance policy.

The historic home served as Piscataway's only township museum, housing many of its earliest artifacts.

Residents upset by deal in Edison

(Continued from page A-1)

"This has not been done in a vacuum," the attorney for the developer said. "There has been significant discussion with (township attorney) Rainone.

Planning Board members were hesitant to accept the deal and held the application for further study, only after deciding to consult the Township Council on the land donation.

"Inferences were made and conclusions drawn that council had agreed to 696 trees being cut down," Councilman and Planning Board liaison Anthony Massaro announced at the July 21 council work session meeting, explaining why the matter was brought before the council. "I did not want the Planning Board to make a decision based on pre-

But Township Attorney Louis Rainone advised the council members at the work session not to accept the applicant's request for a tree waiver, maintaining that it was strictly a Planning Board decision.

Rainone also responded to the charge that he'd kept Planning Board members uninformed of his discussions with developers regarding the land

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that because the property is included in the township's open space plan, he'd advised the developers that their application "should have a component of preservation." But, he claimed the request for tree conservation waiver was a recent development and one he had not discussed with developers in advance.

Watchful neighbors in attendance at both meetings protested the very existence of the industrial site, asking Planning Board members and council members to impede the developer's application.

Concerns revolved around truck traffic generated by the

industrial property. Fern Proflis, a 43-year resident who lives on Silver Lake Avenue, complained of the truck traffic already being routed through her neighborhood en route to the dead-end industrial site. "When traffic is coming down the street people are literally locked into their neighborhoods ... right now the potholes are the only thing slowing anyone down."

At the July 23 council meeting, Council President Peter Barnes assured residents the township would investigate the truck traffic, but did not say whether the township would look into curbing the property's industrial use.

Edison residents' pleas fall on sympathetic ears

(Continued from page A-1) Tower might make it a suitable location for a recreation of Thomas Edison's laboratory.

"We're going to take a good hard look at this property and assess the property the best we take the steps to at least study the issue," assured Councilmember Robert Diehl, the council's liaison to the Open

Space Committee.

But Walter Stochel, chair of the Open Space Advisory Committee, said before the township considered using open space funds to purchase the property they should contact the Department of Transportation, adding the proposed development might overlap the Route 27 expansion plan and might therefore be included in the department's land buyout. "I don't see how you can build a building there" and still have room for DOT expansion, Stochel said. "It just won't work.

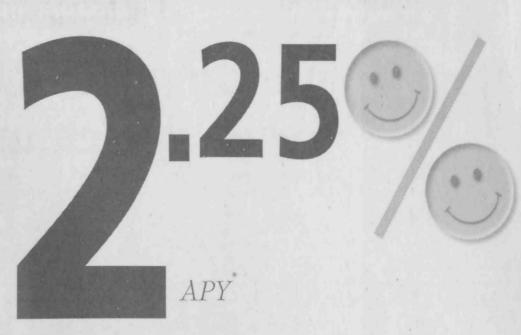
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Funding OK'd for park cleanup

cy of the Industrial Age doesn't come back to haunt us," he said.

government can respond," said

Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan,

who worked on behalf of the

municipality to secure the state

grant. "I think it's remarkable the

work will be starting within one

year of the actual confirmation of

Diegnan credited Gallagher,

the contamination," he said.

Borough

"It's a model of how quickly

Attorney

and

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Briefs

S. Plainfield OKs subdivision plan

SOUTH PLAINFIELD --The Planning Board has approved the subdivision of a lot at 1405 Peek Street into two 100-foot by 100-foot lots.

Brian Capparelli and Mario Porchetta plan to demolish the house on the lot and build two

The applicants were told to reappear before the board if they plan to hook up to the Barone Street sewer line - a line that has had backup prob-

Magic show planned at library

PISCATAWAY - A Read and Grow Magic Show, presented by Conrad Productions, will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the J.F. Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes

Using magic, puppets, ventriloquism and audience participation, the 45-minute program examines the exciting things that can be found in a book. No registration is necessary.

For more information, call (732) 463-1633, Ext. 1.

Vacation school set at Methodist Church

SOUTH PLAINFIELD -Wesley United Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave., will host its summer vacation bible school from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Aug. 11-16. The week promises to be fun, with music, crafts and refreshments.

theme is This year's Lighthouse Kids. Children will learn how to shine God's Light in the world.

Register by calling the Rev. Nehemiah Thompson at the church office at (908) 757-2838.

Kiddie Keep Well plans gala event

EDISON - The John E. Toolan Kiddie Keep Well Camp will hold a gala celebration on board the Cornucopia Princess on Sunday, Sept. 7.

The guest of honor will be Stepher J. "Pete" Dalina, deputy director of the Board of Freeholders and chairman of the Committee of Parks and

Recreation. "Mr. Dalina has been a sup-

porter of the camp and its programs as both a private citizen as well as a freeholder for many years. He exemplifies what a civic leader is all about," said Stanley Lease, board president of the camp.

To purchase tickets, call the camp at (732) 548-6542.

National Night Out event in Metuchen

METUCHEN - Beginning at 6 p.m. Tuesday, residents in the borough and across the nation are asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights and spend the evening outside with neighbors and police for National Night Out.

The borough Recreation Commission, Police Department and PBA Local 60 will lead a walk from the Senior Citizen Center, 12 Center St., for a pizza and a dip in the pool.

The event is free to borough residents; pre-registration is not necessary.

For more information, call the commission at (732) 632-

The Reporter

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NICOLE DIMELLA/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sharing their talent

Betty Jane Tingley, Elsie Ohl, Lillian Deene, Eleanor Painton and Marge Machat are some of the senior citizens who meet Monday mornings at the South Plainfield Senior Center to knit, crochet and embroider. Many of the projects the woman and other page. are donated to local hospitals, nursing home and other charities. Above, Painton sews a crocheted border on a hand towel.

Highland Park has a new vision of itself

By VALERI DRACH WEIDMANN

HIGHLAND PARK - The borough has a new vision of

This spring, members of the community joined professional designers to provide a wish list and specific goals for their borough. The findings were recently released.

More than 300 Highland Park residents, merchants and property owners participated in a Development and a Smart Downtown Design Workshop Growth grant from the New

SOUTH PLAINFIELD -

Klein Outdoor Advertising is

seeking permission to construct a two-faced billboard on the

parking lot of Caffe Piancone on

call for using the space now occu-

tall and 14 feet wide, the maxi-

mum allowed by borough ordi-

pied by 4 parking spaces.

five lights on each side.

Planning Board.

The plans for the billboard

The billboard would be 45 feet

It would be illuminated by

Department

Transportation has approved

site, planner and engineer

Angelo J. Valetutto told the

30 Min. Fitness & Weight Loss Center

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By LIBBY BARSKY

Hamilton Avenue.

held by Main Street Highland Park in April. Professional designers led the reception-style public meetings at the Raritan Valley YM-YWHA. The professionals and the community discussed architecture, traffic safety, public art, lighting and other issues affecting the future look of Raritan Avenue.

The workshops, which were funded by the Fund for Highland Park, the Highland Park Department Economic of

2-faced billboard is proposed

for Caffe Piancone parking lot

has reservations. He is con-

cerned that drivers at the inter-

section of Hamilton Boulevard

and Clinton Avenue would see

"Is this the best possible place for the billboard? Our ordinance

says to create the least impact -

why should we look at the back of the sign?" asked zoning officer

Board attorney Chris Nelson suggested that if the billboard

were moved to a wooded area on the Piancone lot, it would not interfere with the line of sight

for those driving past.

David Klein defended the pro-

"There was no other approved

Klein noted that other compa-

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the billboard's columns.

John Pabst.

posed location.

site," he said.

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BOARD OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF VACANCY

The Piscataway Township Board of Education seeks two (2) qualified

candidates for the position of Board Member. The selected candidates

will serve as members of the Board of Education in unexpired terms

through April 2005. Those individuals interested in being considered

Must be a resident of Piscataway Township and must have

Must be registered to vote in Piscataway Township and not

disqualified from voting pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:4-1

Cannot concurrently hold office as a member of the

governing body of Piscataway Township.

Those interested in being considered for the vacancies must submit a letter

of application outlining interest and qualifications for serving on the Board

Applications must be received in the Board Office by 4:00 PM on Friday,

August 15. Please submit the application to:

Piscataway Township Board of Education

c/o Ms. Arlene Biesiada, Board Secretary

for the positions must meet all of the following qualifications:

Must be a citizen of the United States.

been such for at least one year.

Must be able to read and write.

But Mayor Daniel Gallagher nies are applying for billboard s reservations. He is consites and if his billboard were

Jersey Department, provided participants with sketches, photos, maps and other displays of Highland Park streets and downtown locations.

The workshops occurred over a four-day period, April 6-8, with open sessions for the community on April 6 and April 7.

The 12- to 18-month goals include: new facades for some buildings, conversion of the old Berman's Hardware store building into a four-story structure with retail on the street level and

moved, it could be too close to

another billboard and would no

longer conform to Department of

The hearing was continued to

Transportation requirements.

upper floors, bump-outs at the Second and Fourth Avenue intersections, and widening of the Doughboy Park on both Raritan and Woodbridge avenues.

Some longer-term goals will be to install "Walk/Don't walk" lights at every intersection from the river to the Doughboy statue, to re-open the stairs from the Raritan Valley YMHA to Raritan Avenue and to create a mural on the YMHA wall as an attractive entrance to the community.

Many other suggestions to improve the community were noted, including shuttle service connecting New Brunswick and Highland Park shopping districts, landmarks at both ends of Raritan Avenue and landscaping at intersections and parking lots.

The following professionals led the workshops: Tony Nelessen, facilitator; Regional Plan Dallessio, Association; Josh Kaplan, Kaplan Companies; Bruce Koch, PE, CME Associates; Denise Nickel, Middlesex County Improvement Association; Lynn Russo, New Department Jersey Transportation; Kristina Selles,

Emphasis Design; Joel Schwartz, Landmark Comm.; and Paul Stridick, Main Street NJ.

In 2002, Highland Park received Main Street designation through the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs along with 18 other New Jersey municipalities that have become local chapters in both a national and state organization designed to protect and enhance the natural assets of main streets while raising the equity value of downtown properties and busi-

The national and state levels of the Main Street organization include a four-point approach: organization, economics, promotions and design.

More findings from the workshops will be reported at the Borough Council and Planning Board meetings during the next

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Commentary

A waste of good opportunities

It is unfortunate that Gov. James E. McGreevey may not be remembered for many of his policy innovations during his first years in office. Instead, he has been tainted by a number of senseless and embarrassing missteps that unfortunately cast a pall over his administration.

The latest blunder was McGreevey accepting first-class airfare and a five-night stay for his family for a speaking engagement in Puerto Rico from the International Longshoreman's Union. First McGreevey was criticized for a potential conflict of interest by accepting the free trip to the union's convention. To add more fuel to the fire, it was learned during the convention that the union was being investigated for racketeering.

Unfortunately, this is not the first time during McGreevey's still relatively brief tenure that a trip has generated criticism. A trade mission to Ireland cost more than \$100,000, including a \$3,200 family reunion. The taxpayers originally footed the bill for this fiasco, but pressure forced the governor to reimburse the state with surplus campaign funds.

McGreevey has also made a number of appointments to high state offices that were, at best, puzzling. Why was an unqualified friend, Golan Cipel, appointed as the governor's homeland security adviser? Why was Joseph Santiago, who enjoyed an erratic record as police director in Newark, appointed as state police superintendent? How about McGreevey's largest campaign contributor, developer Charles Kushner, who was named to the Port Authority only to withdraw when the state began investigating his

campaign donations? And now the billboard business of two former chief aides, Gary Taffet and Paul Levinsohn, are being investigated by

a federal grand jury.

McGreevey has achieved much in his first 18 months in office. In difficult fiscal times, he has managed to balance the state budget without increasing the income or sales taxes. He has taken the first steps toward putting more teeth into the state's master plan and controlling the rampant growth threatening New Jersey's quality of life. He has restored integrity to the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) that had suffered under the Whitman administration. The Garden State Parkway and New Jersey Turnpike are now under the same umbrel-

These are impressive achievements. Unfortunately they are overshadowed by the clumsy blunders that may be acceptable in the culture of Middlesex County Democratic politics but in the larger state arena, damages McGreevey's credibility throughout the state. And that, in turn, threatens his ability to tackle the difficult issues - such as property tax reform — that are still on his agenda.

For a reputed micromanager, McGreevey has made too many mistakes. If he wants to reverse the tide of public opinion or continue implementing solutions to the state's most stubborn problems, he needs to gain better control of his administration and keep a closer eye on where he steps.

We're here for you

Deadline

The deadline for submitting releases and letters is 5 p.m. Friday.

Correction policy

The newspaper will correct errors of fact, context or presentation and clarify any news content that confuses or misleads readers. Please report errors to Executive Editor Michael Deak at (908) 575-6685.

Wedding, engagements, anniversaries and births are printed without charge. Send your news and photo to P.O. Box 699, Somerville, N.J. 08876.

We accept color or black and white photographs. Please do not send irreplaceable photographs. If you would like your photo returned, send along a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Announcements

If you would like help organizing your announcement, call Pat Udzielak at (908) 575-6703 and ask for a form.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD The Reporter

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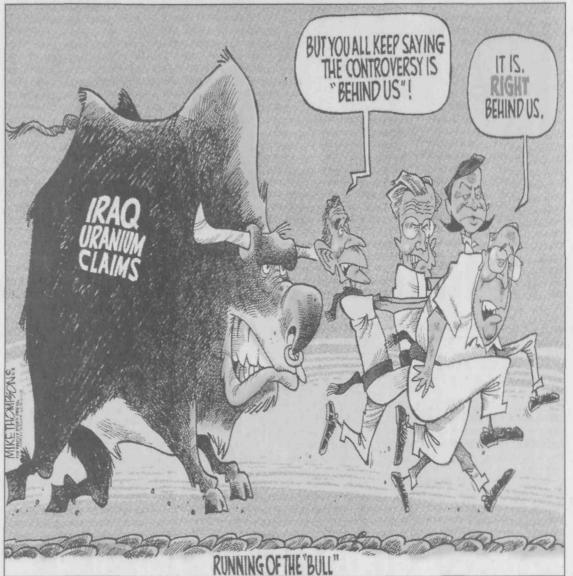
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Letters to the editor

Many thanks for saving the museum

Many of us were devastated over the recent fire that destroyed portions of the Metlar-Bodine House. This museum, a local treasure, served as Piscataway's link to its distinguished past. It was through the quick and decisive actions of police and fire personnel that more was not lost. Retrieved from the flames was the judge's robe from the Halls-Mills murder trial, the nation's first crime of the 20th century that riveted the world's attention to the area, the deed from 1741 and many other priceless artifacts.

Our sincerest gratitude is extended to those who not only saved the museum, but those who also expressed sympathy and renewed interest in its historical programs and educational activities.

People are often amazed to learn that Piscataway Township is one of the 50 oldest townships in the nation. The original land grant to Piscataway Township was more than 300 square miles, so in a sense, the fire companies from surrounding communities who responded to the fire to give mutual aid were back in their mother township, preserving a piece of their own history as well! Although we do remember the important battles of Monmouth and Trenton, what is often forgotten

is that Central New Jersey is often called the "Crossroads of the Revolution" and the significant contributions that our region made to the American War for Independence.

Metlar House, build in 1728, bore witness to some of the most significant events in our nation's

history. On July 4, 1778, George Washington and 12,000 American patriots spent what historians believe to be the nation's first actual commemoration of America's Independence on the banks of the

Also in Revolutionary times, the Americans built the Upper Road as the main artery between New York and Philadelphia. The Landing Lane Bridge was built to replace a cumbersome ferry system. In concert with the D&R Canal and Port of New Brunswick, this made the Raritan Landing in Piscataway one of the busiest transportation hubs in the region.

At a time when cultural and historic resources are too often seen as expendable, we were able, with the support of our elected officials, to secure additional funding for the museum, highlighting its statewide importance.

We are our history and we must join together to ensure that it is preserved for generations to come. Your financial support through membership would be appreciated, but your continued pride in Piscataway and New Jersey and your appreciation of its remarkable history is of paramount importance. Together, we will rebuild our past and make the museum an even better place to celebrate and learn from our area's vibrant history!

For more information, visit us at www.MetlarBodine.org.

Christine Mosier

Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees for the Fellowship for Metlar House

Ward system is divisive, costly

Quoting Anthony Russomano, "set aside politics." The ward petition drive is being conducted by a group of disgruntled individuals, who were not winners when they ran for political office. Russomano, William Stephens and Eilleen Teffenhart were losers at the polls and this is their way of getting back into local government.

The ward system, if approved by the Edison voters, allows them easy access to win in an election. These individuals are instigators and sore losers,

who have no competition from their feudal neighborhoods. They would be the representatives of only their fiefdoms, not representing all the citizens of

Wake up Edison, smell the coffee, a ward system will polarize the township.

Finally, local government costs will increase for salaries and benefits by increasing the seven councilpersons to nine in the ward system.

Edison

Peter Barnes should be ashamed

I am writing out of concern for the manner in which the Edison Democrats, generally, and Council President Peter Barnes, specifically, have conducted themselves at recent council meetings. Republican candidate Satish Poondi attended

the council meeting last night to discuss the ward system. He asked the council president if he would be willing to put the ward system on the ballot by ordinance in lieu of the fact that Mr. Barnes says he is willing to sign a petition asking that the ward system be placed on the ballot.

What many people do not realize is that the council has the power to put the question on the ballot itself, but up until now the council has been unwilling to take that step. Mr. Poondi was simply asking whether Mr. Barnes would be willing to give the people of Edison the power to determine the shape of their own government.

I was disappointed by the council president's reaction to Mr. Poondi's legitimate question. Specifically, rather than sticking to the issue, he personally attacked Mr. Poondi. He questioned Mr. Poondi's right to speak on the issue, suggesting that only people who have been attending council meetings for the past 10 years should speak on the ward system. I find this tactic to be disturbing. Mr. Poondi has been active in our community for the past three years, and not to mention he was 11 years old 10 years ago.

Nasty attacks like this have a real dampening effect on democracy. Many people at the meeting who were there to speak on other issues did not speak up after witnessing the council president's treatment of Mr. Poondi. Should our seniors and other people have to fear the treatment they will get at a public meeting at the hands of their elected representatives?

Moreover, Council President Barnes used the attack as a diversionary tactic. He never did answer Mr. Poondi's question. If the Spadoro Democrats fear that they will lose power if a ward system is put in place, they should honestly and openly oppose it. Meanwhile, the bipartisan coalition of Republicans and Democrats who support the ward system can fight for better representation for the people of Edison.

But at the very least, our publicly elected representatives should not embarrass us. They should conduct the public's business with a certain amount of civility and decorum, and not diverge from debating issues important to Edison's residents. The ward system and the future of Edison are too important to get lost in invective and personal attacks. The people of Edison deserve better, and the people of Edison deserve a chance to decide what form their government should take.

Paul da Costa Edison Jersey Bo

Mike Deak

Secrets of a good marriage

Just because I haven't been married doesn't mean I'm not qualified to offer advice on matrimony.

In fact, because I'm still a bache-

lor, I may have an advantage because I am not tainted by personal experience, good or bad. (As one person once said, "Marriage is a matter of give and take, but so far I haven't been able to find anybody who'll take what I have to give." On the other hand, "A good marriage is like a casserole — only those responsible for it really know what goes in

Being single has allowed me to develop an objective view of marriage. I've known marriages that have lasted more than 50 years. And I've known marriages that haven't survived a year. I've been caught in the middle of marriages falling apart, with both the husband and wife alternating crying on my shoulder and cursing their spouse. I've also witnessed fragile marriages coming slowly apart at the seams before the participants knew it was happening, like a car accident you can't stop. I also know perfect marriages where the husband and wife are as ecstatic today as when they first began dating years ago.

The key to any good marriage is to ask yourself why you are getting married. In these times, you don't have to get married if you really love someone - look at Prince Charles and Carmilla Parker-Bowles. Society no longer frowns upon those who live together without the benefit of a marriage license. Even ultra-conservative insurance companies recognize that what was once considered a life of sin is grudgingly acceptable. A few of my friends went into disastrous marriages simply because they saw marriage as just another step in their lives, a requirement to be fulfilled in the core curriculum of life. They marry just to be married.

That also applies to those who get married because they are afraid they will eventually never get married. In many cases, their biological clocks are clicking like time bombs and they calculate this relationship better be the right one because there might not be another one as we near two-decade warning. Sometimes these marriages work, especially if both the husband and wife have the same motivation and they accept their passion has it boundaries. Companionship and mutual respect are the keys to this kind of matrimony designed to ease the fear of loneliness as we creep toward mortality. To quote the Beatles song from Sgt. Pepper, "Will you still need me, will you still feed me when I'm sixty-four?

But at the heart of the best marriages — here I shed my cynicism like a snake — is, well, the heart. I'm not talking about the boiling lust you see in hot tubs on television. The marriages of those who confuse lust and love often end in disappointment and bitterness; sadly many are doomed to repeat their mistakes in second and third marriages. They extravagantly enjoy the surface advantages of marriage - the trophy wife, the husband's salary, etc., without examining the foundation of the relationship for the inevitable cracks. Love may not conquer all, but it sure gives you a head start in tackling the problems both husband and wife will face.

But it's not as simple as just falling in love. How many times in our lives have we convinced ourselves that we have fallen in love? Something more is necessary. Bruce Springsteen, in the album about his failing first marriage (before he wised up and married a proper Jersey girl), wrote the following

lyrics:
"It ought to be easy, ought to be simple enough "Man meets woman and they fall

"But the house is haunted and the ride gets rough

"And you've got to learn to live with what you can't rise above if you want to ride on down in through this tunnel of love." So how do you know whether to

get married? It's the smile that greets you at the door after a long day at work, the secrets shared in the dark, the tears you will never allow anyone else to see.

It's falling in love again with the same person every day for the rest of your life.

Should the state test older drivers?



ERON AIFUWA Edison "No. After so many years of driving, they should know their stuff."



RENUKA KOTA Edison "Yes. Even the elderly drivers themselves think they should be



AMIN KHATRI Works in Metuchen "No. Why should they be? They need some independence.'

life that as people get older,

Some people have proposed

their sensory abilities and reac-

that the solution to this prob-

lem is to prohibit drivers over a

certain age from renewing their

licenses. I believe this dracon-

ian measure would be unneces-

sarily harsh and contrary to

the American values of freedom

responsibility to ensure that

our roads are safe to drive on

for drivers of all ages. New

Jersey lags behind many other

states in this regard. Some of

the programs that have been

implemented around the nation

include vision testing for

license renewal, mandatory

medical exams, limited driver's

licenses for seniors, reduced

renewal periods, and incentives

for seniors to participate in

driver improvement courses.

Yet, clearly, the state has a

tion times diminish.

and individual liberty.



Edison The older people don't have a lot of reflexes. After 65 or 70, they should return for the test. Too many people are sick and causing accidents."



DON JOHNSTON visiting Metuchen "It depends on the person. know people working at 83 years and it's as if they're 40. I think if a doctor sees a man is driving who he feels in incapable then he should decide."



NABIL BEKHIT Edison "It depends on the vision, they should test the vision."

Senate bill addresses senior drivers

By SEN. BOB SMITH

GUEST COMMENTATOR

In an age of astonishing medical advances and a heightened awareness of healthy living habits, many of our senior citizens are living longer, healthier and more active lives. As beneficial as this is for the quality of life for these individuals and their families, it does present some new problems that we as a society as a whole must contend with. Namely, a more active senior lifestyle leads to more people driving later in life.

Recent statistics indicate that the number of seniors between the ages of 75 and 84 driving has increased by 33 percent since 1992 to 314,000 drivers. As the "baby boom" generation gets older, this number is expected to double by

The recent tragedy in California, where an 86-year- not.

Guest commentary

old man accidentally killed 10 pedestrians and injured many more as he drove through a crowded farmer's market illustrates the public policy dilemma that these demographics present.

Corresponding to increasing number of elderly drivers, the New Jersey State Police reported that the rate of seniors involved in, injured in, or dying in an accident has increased from 22.5 percent of drivers in 1995 to 26.3 percent in 1999. Additionally, older drivers are more likely to experience severe medical complications and fatalities from involvement in an accident, whether they are at fault or

I was surprised to learn that even the laws that we already have on the books, such as the statutory requirement for all drivers to have vision tests every 10 years, have not been implemented by the DMV!

This is a situation that cannot be allowed to continue.

The realities of an aging driving population are already catching up to us.

I have recently introduced legislation that would begin to address these problems. S-2202 first requires that the New Jersey Department of and Piscataway Township.

It is an unfortunate fact of Transportation formulate a comprehensive action plan to assess the transportation needs of senior citizens. This plan will develop strategies to promote seniors' safety and well being while driving on New Jersey's roadways.

Secondly, it would establish "Senior Citizens Safe Driving Health Centers" and provide seniors with a 10 percent premium reduction on their automobile insurance as an incentive to encourage seniors to participate in the program. These centers would not only monitor their physical and mental health as it relates to driving ability, but also equip seniors with the tools and information they need to compensate for their changing capacities. They would be fund-

ed by an \$8 surcharge on all

fines for driving offenses. The comprehensive solution should not be punitive to the elderly, rather the goal is to help elders voluntarily, with dignity, professionalism and privacy help themselves to drive longer. I hope to see this important legislation taken up by the Legislature in the fall. New Jersey must be proactive in ensuring that the roadways are safe for drivers of all ages so that we can all enjoy a longer, happier, and more active quality of life.

Bob Smith is a state senator representing Highland Park

6:00 a.m.

8:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Letters to the editor

Let the voters decide the ward question

Set politics aside, the ward system effort being conducted by a group of bipartisan residents in Edison is about giving Edison residents a choice and if it should pass it will allow neighborhoods a voice in their geographic area.

As a petitioner of the ward question, I find the dialogue between politicians disturbing. From the beginning it was made clear by all involved Democrats, Republicans and Independents that the ward effort would be about Edison's people.

I would ask both political parties in town to keep out of what I consider The Peoples Choice. It is apparent that politicians should not be leading the charge with such an important question. Not unlike the talk of term limits, campaign finance reform or property tax relief, incumbent politicians

have fallen short.

I believe that a ward system in Edison will ensure important neighborhood problems will receive quick attention. Residents will learn to know their representative on a firstname basis. It's about leadership and a voice in our neighborhoods, something much of Edison is lacking. It allows you or your neighborhood a chance to participate in local government. It allows independent thinking. It's about people taking charge and working together for the betterment of their neighborhoods and Edison as a

So I would ask that if politicians say anything further about this effort of the people it should be "Let's get this on the ballot in November and let the people decide!"

Anthony Russomanno



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Councilman Huben is doing a fine job

To The Editor:

I would like to thank the Township of Piscataway for Councilman Jim Huben. It is with sincere thanks that I commend Huben for the fine and outstanding service he provides to the residents of the town-

Huben is working hard to pro- mitted to providing. vide residents of Piscataway with sincerity and hospitality

that we all do deserve.

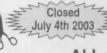
It is truly an honor to have Huben as our councilperson. In the political turmoil of the 21st century, it is important to have the commitment that Huben provides to residents of this

It is with my sincere thanks In today's troubling times, I that I commend Huben for the feel I could rest assured that outstanding service he is com-

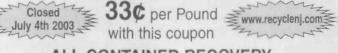
> Lisa Valle Piscataway

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Margaret Graham Sopko

Graham Sopko, 86, died Friday, July 25, 2003, at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

Born in Garwood, she lived in Plainfield for 50 years and in Edison for seven years before entering the Woodlands in Plainfield in January 2002.

She worked at the former Diamond Expansion of Garwood as an assembler. She later chose to stay home and raise her chil-

Her mother was the longtime

EDISON — Margaret A. housekeeper of St. Ann's Church in Garwood.

Her husband Michael died in Surviving are three sons, Dennis of Newark, David of Monroe Township and Michael of

South Plainfield; and a grandson, Michael Robert. Services were Tuesday at

McCriskin Home for Funerals, South Plainfield, followed by a Mass at 10 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church, South Plainfield. Interment was at St. Gertrude's Cemetery, Colonia.

Frances Massimei Frances

Massimei, 60, died Saturday, July 26, 2003, at home here. Born in Jersey City, she lived in Edison for 38 years.

She was a Eucharistic minister, lector and pre-Cana instructor at St. Matthew the Apostle Church, where she also was a

Mrs. Massimei was a graduate of Douglass College.

Surviving are her husband, Eric S., a deacon at St. Matthew's; two daughters, Marysusan of Edison and Lauren Massimei-Rowe and her husband Robert of Maryland; a son, Eric S. Jr. of Edison; two

brothers, Leon Kukla and his wife Donna of North Brunswick and John Kukla and his wife Donna of Hillsborough; a sister, Mary Ann Cavalli of Lakehurst; and four grandchildren, Zachary, Emily, Anthony and Julie Rowe.

Mass was at 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. Matthew the Apostle Church after the funeral from the Costello-Runyon Funeral Home, Metuchen. Interment was at Resurrection Burial Park in Piscataway.

Memorial contributions may be made to Haven Hospice at JFK Medical Center, 80 James St., Edison, NJ 08818.

Christopher L. Yoos Sr.

PISCATAWAY — Christopher L. Yoos Sr., 36, died Tuesday, July 22, 2003, at his home in Pocono Summit, Pa.

Born in Perth Amboy, he grew up in Piscataway and was a 1985 graduate of Piscataway High School. He moved to Pocono Summit eight years ago.

He was a construction worker Lear Brothers and CRC Builders, both of Piscataway. Surviving are his wife, Lorraine Ettere Yoos; three children, Natalie, Anne Marie and Christopher Jr., all Piscataway; his mother and stepfather, Ann Infusino Young and Robert Young of Bayville; his father, William, and brother, David, both of Pennsylvania.

Funeral services were at 11 a.m. Monday at McCriskin Home for Funerals in South Plainfield. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery in Scotch Plains.

Richard C. Jaeger

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Jaeger, 84, died Tuesday, July 22, 2003 in Rahway Hospital. Born in Elizabeth, he had

lived in Edison since 1959. Mr. Jaeger was an assistant manager in the toll department of N.J. Bell Telephone Home.

EDISON - Richard C. Co., where he worked for 43 years, retiring in 1979.

He was a member of the H.G. McCulley Telephone Co. Pioneers of Elizabeth.

Services were at 10 a.m. July 25 at Gosselin Funeral

Obituaries

Mary Phillips Mason

M. Phillips Mason, 95, died Friday, July 25, 2003 at her daughter's home in Asbury.

Born in South Plainfield, she lived there most of her life. When she married in 1945, she and her husband John moved to New York City before moving back to South Plainfield in 1955. In 1978, she moved to Manahawkin.

She worked at Silvers 5&10 store in Plainfield as a bookkeeper for 20 years. She was also employed by the South Plainfield Post Office and B. Altman's Department Store.

She was a former member of Sacred Heart Church and its Altar

SOUTH PLAINFIELD - Mary Rosary Sodality and a former Girl Scout leader. She was a member of St. Mary's Church of Barnegat.

home.

Born in Metuchen, Mr.

He attended St. Peter's High

School where he was a member of

the football team, The Cardinals.

He and some of the friends from

the football team continued to

Army from 1951-54. He was a life member of South Plainfield VFW

Mr. Squindo served in the

He started his career with the

retired as a foreman from United

meet on a regular basis.

Memorial Post 6763.

Her husband died in 1981. Surviving are her daughter Kathleen and husband John Propsner of Asbury; her son John and wife Darlene of California; a sister, Natalie Keslosky of Maryland; four grandchildren, Kimberly Kirsten, Amy and Emily; and two great-grandchildren, Mason and Madilyn.

Mass was offered at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Sacred Heart Church following services at McCriskin Home for Funerals. Interment was in Holy Redeemer Cemetery.

Estelle Cybowski

SOUTH PLAINFIELD Estelle Cybowski, 78, a lifelong resident of South Plainfield, died Saturday, July 26, 2003, in Cedar Oaks Care Center, South Plainfield.

The daughter of the late Paul and Leonora, Miss Cybowski was a florist working with her sister Jean at Sternador's Florist, South Plainfield, for 20 years before retiring in 1987. Previously, she was an assembler at the former Diehl Manufacturing Bridgewater, for 19 years.

Her siblings, Paul, Lucille Rogers, Jean Sternador and Helen Gryniak, predeceased her.

Surviving are a brother, Adolf, and his wife Stella of South Plainfield; three nephews and six nieces and many great and greatgreat nieces and nephews.

Mass was offered at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, South Plainfield, after the funeral from the James W. Conroy Funeral Home. Burial was in Holy Redeemer Cemetery.

Helen Steup Marhoffer

PISCATAWAY — Helen C. Klimko Steup Marhoffer, 94, died Monday, July 21, 2003 at Woodlands Genesis Eldercare, Plainfield.

She was born March 24, 1909 in New York City and had lived in Plainfield for many years and in Piscataway for 17 years before entering Woodlands in 1995.

Mrs. Marhoffer was a homemaker and a member of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Plainfield for many years.

Her husband Walter Steup died in 1937; her second husband Peter Marhoffer died in 1975.

Surviving are a son, Wallace E Marhoffer and his wife, Carol of DeBary, Fla.; a daughter, Carole Anderson of Piscataway; four granddaughters, Linda Magvas and her husband Fred of Piscataway, Terri Marhoffer and Mike of Woodbridge, Kathleen Marhoffer of West Palm Beach, Fla., and Dawn Swita and her husband John of Lebanon; and two great-grandsons, Brian and Eric Magvas.

Services were at noon July 25 Redeemer Cemetery, South

Audrey Meidhof Negra

SOUTH PLAINFIELD Audrey Meidhof Negra, 75, died Monday, July 28, 2003, at McCarrick Care Center in

Born in Jersey City, she spent much of her early life in Metuchen before moving to South Plainfield more than 50 years ago.

She was an officer worker at Loupassakis Insurance Co. in South Plainfield during the late 1960s and 1970s.

Mrs. Negra was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church.

Her husband, John S., died in August 2000; her sister, Annette Stolte also predeceased her.

Surviving are two sisters, Gloria Steele of Florida and Sister Patricia Meidhof of Ridgefield Park; four brothers, Herbert Meidhof Jr. of South Plainfield, Paul Meidhof of Edison, George Meidhof of Forked River and Allen Meidhof of Middlesex; and many nieces and nephews and greatnieces and great-nephews.

Services will be at 9:15 a.m. at McCriskin Home for Funerals. 2425 Plainfield Ave., followed by a Mass at 10 a.m. at Sacred Heart

Memorial donations may be made to the Sisters of Charity Villa, Convent Station, NJ 07961.

at The Mundy Funeral Home, Dunellen. Interment was at Holy

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., he lived in the borough for the past 42 years.

Mr. Marciniak was a member of Sacred Heart Church and a

life member of the Polish National Home, both of South Plainfield. He was also an avid

fisherman and hunter. Surviving are his wife, Joan

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — 65. He also worked with heavy Frank F. Squindo Jr., 72, died construction equipment as a Wednesday, July 23, 2003, at his mechanic and as a driver.

Mr. Squindo was a member of the Loyal Order of the Moose of Perth Amboy and was a fisherman, hunter and traveler.

Squindo grew up in New Brunswick and had, for a short He lived his life according to time, lived in Warren before moving to South Plainfield in the midthe phrase, "Live well, love much and laugh often.'

Surviving are his wife, Carol Colvin Squindo; three sons; three Elizabeth Bulfin, Margaret Petrillo and Ann Marie Koch; and four brothers, Joseph, Thomas, Peter and Richard.

Services were at 9:15 a.m. Monday at McCriskin Home for Funerals, followed by a Mass at 10 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church. Interment was at Hillside Cemetery in Scotch Plains.

Pennsylvania Railroad, where he was known as "Gandy." Later, he worked at William Meeker Memorial contributions may be made to the NJ Cancer Trucking of South Plainfield and Development Institute Department, 195 Little Albany Steel Deck of South Plainfield at St., New Brunswick, NJ 08903.

Donna Patalano

Frank F. Squindo Jr.

EDISON — Donna Patalano, 45, died Friday, July 25, 2003, at Mary Anne Hale Pavilion Haven

Born in Teaneck, she also lived in New Milford before moving to Edison 20 years ago.

She was a registered nurse for years at The Woman's Healthcare Association of Central N.J., until 2002.

father, Dominick Her Santangelo, died in 1992; her brother, Frank Santangelo, died

Surviving are her husband,

Vincent J.; two children, Douglas V. and Valerie R., both of Edison; her mother, Rose Santangelo of Dayton; and a brother, John Santangelo of Ridgefield Park. Services were at 8:15 a.m.

Monday at Costello-Runyon Funeral Home, Metuchen. Interment was at Resurrection Cemetery in Piscataway. Memorial contributions may

be made to Mary Anne Hale Pavilion Haven Hospice, c/o JFK Medical Center Foundation, 80 James St., Edison, NJ 08818-

Stanley M. Marciniak

SOUTH PLAINFIELD -Stanley M. Marciniak, 70, died July 22, 2003, at home.

He was a millwright for the

Millwright & Carpenters Union, Local 740 of New York City, retiring in 1980.

H.; his daughters, Susan and husband Michael Spangler of South Plainfield, Karen and husband Steven McGill of South Plainfield and Katherine and husband Lawrence Nealan of Piscataway; a son, Steven and wife Margaret of South Plainfield; and five grandchildren, Nicole, Michael, Andrew, Erin and Adam.

Services were at 10:45 a.m. July 25 at McCriskin Home for Funerals, followed by a Mass at Sacred Heard Church. Interment at Holy was Redeemer Cemetery

James Kilroy

EDISON - James Kilroy, 82, died Friday, July 25, 2003, in Hershey Medical Center in Hershey Pa. Born in Newark, he moved to

Edison 52 years ago. Mr. Kilroy worked in the

maintenance department of Public Service Electric & Gas, Springfield, for 35 years.

He was a Eucharistic minister at St. Matthew's Church.

an of World War II. Surviving are his wife, Vivian; daughters, Barbara K. Zvolensky and Victoria K. Harned; a brother, Joseph; a sister, Josephine Leight; four grandchildren and three great-

a.m. Saturday in St. Matthew's Church, Edison, after the funeral from Boylan Funeral Home,

Armand Pollifrone

METUCHEN — Armand "Al" Pollifrone, 85, died Tuesday, July

Born in Jersey City, he lived in Toms River and Perth Amboy before moving to Metuchen three

dry business and later was a selfemployed orthopedic show tech-

Surviving are his wife of 62 years, Rose Cirillo Pollifrone; a daughter, Theresa Pollifrone-Sinatra and her husband Frank M. Sinatra of Perth Amboy; a son, Joseph and his wife Denise of Rutherford; three grandchildren, Nicole, Marc and Amanda; 11 nieces and nephews; and nine godchildren.

Services will be at 9:15 a.m. at Costello-Runyon Funeral Home, 568 Middlesex Ave., followed by a 10 a.m. liturgy at Most Holy Rosary Church in Hopelawn. Interment will be at Hillside Cemetery in

Metuchen. Memorial donations may be made to The Multiple Myeloma Association, 3 Forrest St., New Canaan, CT 06840.

Briefs

Women in Song concert Sept. 12

METUCHEN Werner will perform Women in Song, the first in a benefit concert series, at 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12, at the First Presbyterian Church Social Hall, 270 Woodbridge Ave.

Proceeds from the yearlong series of concerts will go to Women Helping Women, the nonprofit organization providing affordable therapy and support services to women, young girls and teens in need.

Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. For more information, or to order tickets, call (732) 549-6000.

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grandchildren.

Mass will be offered at 9:30 Mr. Kilroy was a Navy veter- 10 Wooding Ave., Edison.

29, 2003, at home here.

Mr. Pollifrone was in the laun-

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SATURDAY AUG. 2

FISHING DERBY Tommy's Pond, Metuchen. 9 a.m. \$1 per child. Adult companions required. (732) 632-8502.

GUIDED TOUR - United States Naval Academy and Annapolis, Md. Bus leaves Piscataway High School, Behmer Rd., Piscataway, 7 a.m. \$49. Reservations: (732) 572-

SUNDAY

AUG. 3 OUTDOOR MUSIC - Dave

Wilson Quartet. Johnson Park, River Rd., Piscataway, 3 p.m. Free. (732) 745-3900.

GAZEBO MUSIC Band Express. Spring Lake Park, Maple Ave., South Plainfield, 6:30 p.m. Free. (732) 745-3900.

MONDAY AUG. 4

FOREIGN FLICK — "Same Old Song" (France, 1997). Metuchen Public Library, 480 Middlesex Ave., Metuchen, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Free. Tickets required: (732) 632-8526.

TUESDAY

IN THE SWIM — Metuchen will mark National Night Out with a walk, pizza and a dip in the pool, 6 p.m., Senior Citizen Center, 12 Center St. (732) 632-

MAGIC SHOW - Read and Grow Magic Show, 7 p.m., J.F. Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes Lane, Piscataway. No registration necessary. (732) 463-1633

WEDNESDAY

AUG. 6

DO LUNCH - with the librarians, noon, Westergard Library, 20 Murray Ave., Piscataway, (732) 752-

FOREIGN FLICK - "Same Old Song" (France, 1997). North Edison branch, Edison Free Public Library, 777 Grove Ave., p.m. Free. Registration: (732) 548-3045,

PLUGGING IN?

Buying 'Understand Computer in 75 Minutes." South Plainfield Public Library, 2484 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, 7 p.m. Free. Registration required: (908) 754-7885.

SUMMER TWIST "Wednesday Night Sunday School." North Stelton AME Church, 123 Craig Ave., Piscataway, 7 p.m. Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27, Sept. 3 (732) 287-5184.

THURSDAY

AUG. 7

FOREIGN FLICK - "Nine Queens" (Argentina, 2001). Westergard Library, 20 Murray Ave., Piscataway, 7 p.m. Free. Tickets required: (732) 752-

OUTDOOR MUSIC - Ron Kraemer & the Hurricanes. Senior Citizens Center, 15 Center St., Metuchen, 8 p.m. Free. (732) 632-8502.

SATURDAY

AUG. 9

PICNIC — Friends of Nepal sponsor. 2-9 p.m., Roosevelt Park, Admission, \$15.

SUNDAY

AUG. 10

COMPUTER SHOW — electronics as well. Hilton Garden Inn, Raritan Center, Edison, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Adults \$7; teens \$3; under 12 free. Vendors: www.megafair.com or (732) 821-

KIDS DAY - craft project for ages 6-11. East Jersey Olde Towne, 1050 River Rd., Piscataway, 1 p.m. Registration required: (732)

STORY TIME - "Trickster and Soothsayer Tales" for ages

6-11. East Jersey Olde Towne, 1050 River Rd., Piscataway, 2 Registration Free. required: (732) 745-3030.

OUTDOOR MUSIC Danny Mecca Quartet. Johnson Park, River Rd., Piscataway, 3 p.m. Free. (732) 745-3900.

GAZEBO MUSIC - The Associates featuring Art Smith. Spring Lake Park, Maple Ave., South Plainfield, 6:30 p.m. Free. (732) 745-3900.

COMING UP

BIBLE SCHOOL — 6:30-8:30 p.m. Aug. 11-16, Wesley United Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave., (908) 7575-2838.

DIVE 'SCUBA' - Vacation Bible School for ages 3-12. United Methodist Church, 485 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, 9 a.m.-noon Aug. 11-15. Registration: (732) 463-

FOREIGN FLICK - "Nine Queens" (Argentina, 2002). Metuchen Public Library, 480 Middlesex Ave., Metuchen, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Aug. 11. Free. Tickets required: (732) 632-

FOREIGN FLICK — "Nine Queens" (Argentina, 2002). North Edison branch, Edison Free Public Library, 777 Grove Ave., Edison, 7 p.m. Aug. 13. Free. Registration: (732) 548-3045, Ext. 1

'RAPUNZEL' Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes Lane, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., Aug. 13, (732) 463-1633, Ext. 2.

NEW TO THE NET? "Understand the Windows Operating System in 75 South Plainfield Minutes." Public Library, 2484 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, 7 p.m. Aug. 13. Free. Registration

required: (908) 754-7885. 'THE WIZARD OF OZ musical from Plays in the Park. Roosevelt Park, Edison, 8:30 p.m. Aug. 13-16, 18-23. Adults \$3, under 12 free; bring lawn chairs. (732) 548-2884 or

www.playsinthepark.com. INTERNET MARKETING class for newbies. Small Business Development Center, 120 New England Ave., Piscataway, noon Aug. 14. \$25. Registration: wbcnj@njawbo.org

or (609) 581-2220. OUTDOOR MUSIC Supreme Court. Senior Citizens Center, 15 Center St.,

Metuchen, 8 p.m. Aug. 14. Free. (732) 632-8502. OUTDOOR MUSIC - Paul Dehne Band, Johnson Park, River Rd., Piscataway, 3 p.m.

Aug. 17. Free. (732) 745-3900. GAZEBO MUSIC - The Verstyles. Spring Lake Park, Maple Ave., South Plainfield, 6:30 p.m. Aug. 17. Free. (732)

COUNTY FAIR - Theme weeklong event at 6000.

Community Presbyterian Church on Glenville Road, Aug. 18-22. Free. (732) 287-1666.

FOREIGN FLICK "Beijing Bicycle" (China, 2002). Metuchen Public Library, 480 Middlesex Ave., Metuchen, 2. and 7:30 p.m. Aug. 18. Free. Tickets required: (732) 632-8526.

BERRY TALK "Blueberries — New Jersey's Wonder Fruit," 11 a.m., YMNA, 2 S. Adelaide Rd., Highland Park, (732) 249-2012.

CRASHED? — "Understand Keeping Your Computer Running in 75 Minutes." South Plainfield Public Library, 2484 Plainfield Ave., Plainfield, 7 p.m. Aug. 20. Free. Registration required: (908) 754-7885.

FOREIGN FLICK "Beijing Bicycle" (China, 2002). North Edison branch, Edison Free Public Library, 777 Grove Ave., Edison, 7 p.m. Aug. 20. Free. Registration: (732) 548-3045, Ext. 1.

OUTDOOR MUSIC - The VooDudes. Senior Citizens Center, 15 Center St., Metuchen, 8 p.m. Aug. 21. Free. (732) 632-8502.

CARNIVAL - on Aug. 23 at North Stelton AME Church, 123 Craig Ave., Piscataway, benefits building fund (732) 287-5184.

OUTDOOR MUSIC - Rich Radice Quartet. Johnson Park, River Rd., Piscataway, 3 p.m. Aug. 24. Free. (732) 745-3900.

GAZEBO MUSIC — Magic featuring Richie Aiello. Spring Lake Park, Maple Ave., South Plainfield, 6:30 p.m. Aug. 24.

Free. (732) 745-3900. ROAD TRIP - Yankees and Baltimore Orioles, Aug. 25, bus leaves Metuchen Borough Hall at 4:30 p.m., \$48 per person, (732) 632-8502.

OUTDOOR MUSIC Christopher Dean Band. Senior Citizens Center, 15 Center St., Metuchen, 8 p.m. Aug. 28. Free.

(732) 632-8502. OUTDOOR MUSIC - The Roadies. Senior Citizens Center, 15 Center St., Metuchen, 8 p.m. Sept. 4. Free.

(732) 632-8502.

ITALIAN FESTIVAL along Amboy Ave., Edison, 2-11 p.m. Sept. 6 (rain date Sept. 13). Vendors wanted: (201) 998-8331

GALA EVENT - John E. Toolan Kiddie Keep Well Camp sponsoring cruise aboard Cornucopia Princess Sept. 7. (732) 632-8502.

p.m. Sept. First Presbyterian Church Social Hall, 270 Woodbridge Ave., Metuchen, benefits Women Helping Women, \$20 in advance, \$25 at door. (732) 549-



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Changing fashion

Girls clothes from 1900 are on display as part of the 300 Years of Clothing Style in Middlesex County: 1650-1950"exhibit at East Jersey Olde Town in Piscataway. The exhibit is open from 8:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m. Tuesday-Friday through Oct. 31.

Golden Nuggets S F N I

Metuchen

Metuchen Seniors

The club holds its 10th annual dinner 6:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 22 in the pavilion of the municipal pool on Lake Avenue. Rain date is Saturday, Aug. 23.

Cost of \$20 includes a choice of entrée (chicken béarnaise, London broil, baked stuffed salmon); twice-baked potato; vegetable; salad; beverage; and New York-style cheesecake. Music for dancing will be provided and door prizes awarded. Dress is informal.

Reservations are accepted in writing to Metuchen Seniors Inc., 15 Center St., Metuchen, NJ 08840 through Aug. 14. Indicate the number in your party, your choice of entrée and whom you want to sit.

For more information, phone Rena Mullin at (732) 548-6287 or Claire Eisenstein at (732) 549-

South Plainfield

Senior Center

The Senior Center at 90 Maple Ave. is open 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday CONCERT - Women in and 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday. Song, Susan Werner concert, 8 For full information, phone (908) 756-4135. Activities:

> Monday — Adult crafts, 9:30 a.m. Yoga, 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday — Bingo plus lunch, 10 a.m. Ladies Social Group, 10

Wednesday — Exercise Club,

your home "looking good."

8:45 a.m. Line dancing, 10 a.m. Movie, 11:30 a.m. (no movie July 9). AARP crafts, 1 p.m.

Thursday — Shopping, 9 a.m. Video exercise, 9:30 a.m. Practical crafts, 10 a.m.

Friday — Bingo, 10 a.m. Pizza lunch, 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 6 — Atlantic City. Cost is \$15 and reservations are required. The bus leaves the Senior Center 9 a.m.

Sept. 28-29 — Cape May. Cost is \$172 per person, double occu-Reservations are required.

Edison

AARP Chapter 3446

The chapter is forming a golf group. If you are interested, phone Don Maloney at (732) 969-0942.

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Naughty children toss rocks, break library's windows

PISCATAWAY

Four children who were misbehaving in the Westergard Library between 3 and 4 p.m. July 25 were asked to leave. The children then threw rocks at windows, breaking four windows on the south side of the building.

A black and gold bicycle with chrome handles was stolen July 20 from Stelton Road.

A fire was reported in a trash bin on Stelton Road. Only the bin was damaged.

A Coastal Gas Station attendant was surprised by a masked, knife-wielding robber July 25. The attendant was sitting in the office at the River Road Station when he was threatened. He gave the robber \$400.

Five fist punch holes were found in the drywall at a parking space on Sabrina Lane.

A mugging victim told police he was walking home from work at 4 a.m. Saturday at West Sixth Street and Clinton Avenue when he noticed he was being followed by three men on bicycles. Before he could react, one of the men pushed him to the ground and demanded valuables. One of the robbers held a knife by his side. The three took \$350.

Sunglasses and a wallet containing credit cards, a driver's license and other personal papers were stolen from a Ford Taurus parked on Division

Burglars entered a Ford Ranger parked on Nelson Avenue South Monday through a rear sliding window, cut the alarm system wire and stole a Pioneer AVX-P7300 DVD player.

EDISON

A thief stole a pair of platinum diamond earrings from a display case at Menlo Park lights off a 2001 Acura 3.2 TL

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replaced them with another pair of earrings.

A vandal scratched the paint of a 2002 Mitsubishi Lancer July 19 while the car was parked in a Woodbridge Avenue parking lot.

A thief stole the headlights off two 2003 Acuras parked on Edison Glen Terrace. One incident occurred between July 18 and 21, the other either July 20

A vandal smashed a glass panel of a township bus stop on Ethel Road July 21.

A stolen 1997 Honda Civic belonging to a Fords resident was recovered on King George Post Road July 21. The car was missing four tires and rims.

A thief stole a purse from an employee of an Amboy Avenue business July 21. The purse contained \$250.

A thief stole a pair of headlights from a 2003 Nissan Maxima either July 21 or 22 while the car was parked on Forest Haven Boulevard.

A vandal smashed the windshield of a 1977 Mercedes 280 SE either July 21 or 22 while it was parked in the parking lot of European Motor Services awaiting repairs.

A thief stole a 1996 Volkswagen Jetta July 21 or 22 while the car was parked on Cricket Circle.

A thief stole a 2001 Audi S4 between July 16 and 23 while the car was parked in front of Building 16 of Raspberry Court.

A vandal scratched the pain of a 2002 Chrysler PT between July 21-23 while it was parked on Reading Road.

A thief stole a pair of head-

Terrace.

A vandal smashed the windshield of a 1997 Ford Explorer July 23 at the Menlo Park Mall.

A thief stole an estimated 40 cell phones from a locked display case in the Mobil Media's kiosk at the Menlo Park Mall July 23. A male caller reportedly called the kiosk after the incident and said "I stole your phones." The caller did not identify himself and the call could not be traced.

Two boys were seen stealing a bicycle from the driveway of an Apple Street house July 23.

A thief stole a bicycle from the front porch of a Woodbury Road residence either July 23 or 24.

A thief broke into a 2000 Jeep Cherokee July 24 while the vehicle was parked on the secondfloor parking deck of the Menlo Park Mall. The car's ignition had been damaged in an apparent

was parked at Edison Glen stole a cell phone and a wallet containing \$250.

> A thief stole a Hewlett Packard computer with a flat screen monitor from a Radio Shack display at the Menlo Park Mall July 24.

Lyndon S. Storace, 43, of Edison, was arrested July 24 and charged with burglary when the owner of a 1991 Chevy Blazer caught Storace ransacking the vehicle which was parked at the Tano Mall. Storace ran toward Pierson Avenue and was apprehended by the car's owner who detained him until police arrived.

Jason Hagerty, 18, of Edison, was arrested July 25 and charged with possession of marijuana at Crestwood Park.

A thief stole a 1995 Honda Accord July 25 while the car was parked at the Menlo Park Mall.

A 1994 Plymouth Voyager

Mall's Kay Jewelers July 19 and either July 22 or 23 while the car attempt to steal the car. A thief stolen from a Paramus resident was recovered in the Ramada Inn parking lot July 25.

> A thief stole an outboard motor from an Edison resident's boat while the boat was stored at a Starkin Road property between July 23 and 25.

> A thief stole \$125 from the Photo Fantasy Booth at the Menlo Park Mall between July 23 and 26.

A thief damaged the front bumper of a 2001 Acura 3.2 TL either July 25 or 26 in an apparent attempt to steal the cars headlights. The vehicle was parked on Hana Road at the time of the incident.

A vandal broke into a 1987 Oldsmobile Cutlass and poured road tar throughout the vehicle's interior either July 25 or 26 while the car was parked on Grandview Avenue.

charged with shoplifting \$127 worth of filet mignon from Costco.

A thief stole a 1993 Plymouth Voyager July 26 while the car

was parked at the Menlo Park A thief broke into three cars parked at the Menlo Park Mall on July 26, a 1996 Toyota, a 1991

Volkswagen, and a 1996 Honda,

and stole the cars stereos. A thief broke into three delivery trucks parked behind Stop & Shop July 26 and stole cell phones from two of the truck's

Anthony Tamburro, 42, of Keansburg, was arrested July 27 and charged with shoplifting after Home Depot personnel reported Tamburro switched price tags and paid \$47 for \$836 worth of merchandise.

A thief stole a briefcase con-Nabeel Chihadeh, 32, of taining \$300 from the lobby of Edison, was arrested July 26 and the Sheraton July 27.

Future Stars Pre-K needs new sponsor

By LIBBY BARSKY

CORRESPONDENT

SOUTH PLAINFIELD - The Board of Education has been told to stop sponsoring a popular preschool program.

The matter affects the Future Stars preschool that has been in operation since 1980. School officials were notified in a letter from Patrick Piegara, acting superintendent of Middlesex County schools.

According to South Plainfield Superintendent Robert Rosado, the New Jersey run an educational pro-Department of Education will allow the district for it." up to one year to find another sponsor Future Stars.

"The state Supreme Court ruled that if you run an educa- classes in the 2002-03 school year. tional program, you cannot charge for it," he told the Board of Education July 15.

He said that because the preschool was not free for all, the district had to drop the program as the board cannot accept tuition.

The high court decision is based on a 1996 case involving the Montclair Board of Education which was operating a preschool in that township. The preschool is now run by the Montclair Recreation Department.

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Future Stars will continue with the same teachers it has now, according to James Lenox, who supervises the preschool as director of adult and continuing education. The only difference is that tuition will not be funneled into the school board budget.

"We are looking for direction and looking for ways that tuition won't have the same exact context," he said. "Everything has to be clarified. "I had to

advertise more "The state Supreme than once to have enough ... chil-dren in the pro-Court ruled that if you gram the first year," Lenox said. "Now all the gram, you cannot charge spaces are given out through a lot-Robert Rosado

tery system." Nearly South Plainfield schools superintendent pupils 2-4 years attended Future

> Until June the preschool had halfday sessions at Grant School. In September, the preschool moves to Roosevelt School, where the board offices are located.

Vice President Sue Peck suggested that the board ask the Assembly in Trenton "to take a look" at the situation with an eye to a hill that would allow the district to run a nonprofit preschool.

"It never hurts to try," said Nicholas Celso, the board's attor-

Italian Festival to transform Amboy Ave.

EDISON — The Italian American Club of Edison and Mayor George A. Spadoro and the Township Council have announced there will be an Italian Music and Food Festival from 2 to 11 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6, along Amboy Avenue. Rain date is Sept. 13.

A wide variety of Italian foods and ethnic favorites, including zeppoles, sausage and peppers, Italian hot dogs, ice cream, pastries and much more will be provided by the Italian American Club and vendors in a food court in the entertainment area.

Along with the food court, local restaurants will transform their establishments into open air cafes featuring their specialty foods.

A DJ and karaoke of Italian music are planned. There will be live entertainment throughout the day with a variety of singers and comedians. The highlight of the day will feature the well known group Desederio who will perform Italian, Latin and American music beginning at 7

Local merchants from Amboy Avenue and throughout Edison, along with street vendors will be displaying a wide variety of goods for sale. Children can have their face painted and will especially enjoy the climbing wall and other kiddie rides and pony

Vendors interested in participating, are asked to call J & C MarketPlaces, coordinator of the Edison Italian Food and Music Festival, at (201) 998-8331.



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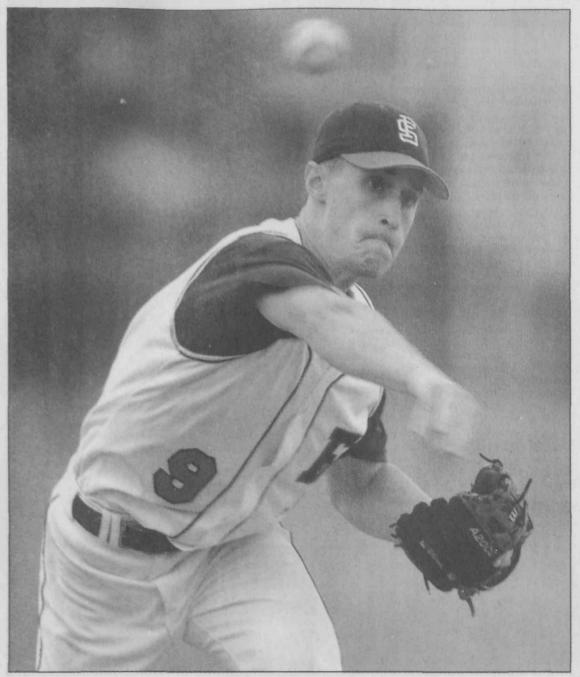
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Sports



GEORGE APCCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Post 435's Brian Cirri tossed a complete game as Edison defeated Musconetcong 14-6 in the American Legion State Tournament Sunday.

Post 435's run stalls one game from final

STAFF WRITER

UNION — Trying to come all the way through the losers' brack-et can prove to be quite taxing as

Post 435 unfortunately discovered earlier this

Saturday to fall quickly into the losers' bracket, Edison bounced back to win its next pair but was

After dropping its opening game in American Legion Baseball State Tournament District 2 play

then eliminated Tuesday night with an 8-6 loss to West Windsor-Plainsboro. Edison (19-6-1) found its stroke in the last three games it played, but a four-hit showing in a 6-2 11inning loss to Nutley Saturday proved fatal to its bid to reach the state tournament's final eight as

they were knocked out in the semifinals. "We gave it a good run, but we just ran out of gas at the end," Head Coach Chris Banos said. "Maybe one or two more big hits we might have been able to

win the last game, but we just didn't get them.
"Except for the first game when we didn't hit the ball at all, we played very well. It feels good as a coach that the guys were able to fight back through the losers' bracket and win a couple of games after losing the first one. You're always disappointed when you lose, but we went pretty far. I was

Against West Windsor-Plainsboro Post 435 had to start Alex Albelo on the mound despite his having seen limited action previously. Albelo allowed five runs on six hits while striking out three and

walking two in 31/3 innings. Kevin Dalton followed and pitched into the

eighth as Edison trailed 5-4. After giving up a leadoff double, Banos called on Joe Augustine, who had thrown 62/3 innings Saturday against Nutley, and Augustine surrendered a two-year homer that gave WWP some breathing room.

"Alex actually pitched well," Banos said. "We

SENIOR LEGION BASEBALL

that weren't called errors. At one point it was a 4-4 and it should have been 4-1.'

Both teams scored twice in the first inning with walks to Lucas Cittone and Jake Schuck and an error on Dalton's grounder loading the bases for Post 435. Mike Shymanski's fly ball plated one run and the second scored in an infield single by Derek Gianakas.

WWP went up 3-2 after two innings but Edison scored twice in the third. Dalton and Shymanski singled, and after Albelo hit into a fielder's choice Giankas doubled in a run and Robert Hrapsky knocked in the second with a ground ball. Ryan Klouser doubled and scored in the fifth on Dalton's

WWP, meanwhile, scored single runs in the second through fifth innings for a 6-5 edge, and that lead stood up as the Edison offense stalled after the fourth. Gianakas belted a solo homer in the ninth to make it a two-run game but it was not nearly enough. Gianakas finished 3-for-4 with three RBI, while Schuck went 2-for-3.

"Our best chance late in the game came in the seventh when we had runners on first and second with two outs," Banos said. "We got a couple of guys on, but usually with two outs. We hit a lot balls

hard, but we didn't get a couple of breaks."

Monday Post 435 went against Cranford and claimed a 9-7 victory as Billy Alec (5-1) scattered nine hits and allowed four runs over 71/3 innings while striking out six and walking three, and the offense took advantage of some errors as four runs crossed on Cranford miscues while putting together a 10-hit attack

Dalton and Hrapsky collected two hits apiece with Dalton knocking in a run with a double. Shymanski, Gianakas and Klouser each had an RBI single, while Schuck drew a bases-loaded walk for an RBI in the ninth when Edison scored three

(Continued on page C-2)

Cesare's pitching keeps Bulls alive

By DAVE ALLENA

STAFF WRITER

HIGHTSTOWN - After initially failing to take advantage of their reprieve, the Bulls looked to they should just go out and have carry over the momentum from fun. their first on-field victory.

Sent to the losers' bracket in the second round of the American Baseball Tournament after picking up a forfeit following a 9-5 loss in the opening round, Ball-Kirch Post 265 of North Plainfield kept its hopes alive Monday afternoon by crushing Jackson 12-2 in seven

That decision moved the Bulls two victories away from a spot in the state tourney's final eight, but they needed to defeat Chester — the team Ball-Kirch protested against and won for the use of an illegal player - and then either perennial state power Brooklawn or Hamilton, which defeated North Plainfield 13-3 in the second round.

After suffering two losses on the field (one to Chester before the protest took effect), the Bulls found their stride against Jackson as Nick Cesare turned in an outstanding effort on the mound and the Ball-Kirch offense pounded out 14 hits.

"After the way we'd played against Hamilton it was great to come back and play a game like this," Head Coach Rob Tumolo said. "I told the kids they had to forget about that game. Monday

SENIOR LEGION BASEBALL

"Nick pitched a great game. (Sunday's) game was one of those games where nothing went right. Today we got good pitching, we made all the plays in the field and we got some hits. It was a good game going into tomorrow's war (against Chester).'

Buoyed by an eight-run second inning that made it a 9-0 game, Cesare breezed to his third victory without a loss as he scattered six hits, fanning eight and walking two in going the distance. He pitched five shutout innings before allowing single runs in the sixth and seven

"Cesare's performance was huge," Tumolo said. "It put everybody back on the positive side. It was very uplifting going into tomorrow. It was good to win a game on the scoreboard. I knew he had the ability to go out and throw the way he did, so I'm not surprised he went out and got the

job done.' "He threw a great game against Montgomery, but as far as knowing what he was doing he

and (catcher Bill) Merkler had it going. He was throwing strikes. He was getting his change and curve over, and he was getting ahead. Those pitches made his is the start of a new week and (Continued on page C-2)

Defense wrecks Post 261 in consecutive setbacks

By DAVE ALLENA

STAFF WRITER

LYNDURST - Of all the times to come up with back-toback horrendous defensive performances Post 261 could not have picked a worst one.

After opening the American Legion State Tournament with a seven-error showing that wasted superb effort by Dave Hemmerly, Piscataway was eliminated from district play with a five-error game in a 12-7 loss

Having played well in the field in posting a 22-3 record to reach the state tourney, Post 261 didn't have it in a 6-5 loss to Parsippany Saturday and the defensive sloppiness in the defeat to Oakhurst Sunday was compounded by nine

SENIOR LEGION BASEBALL

walks and two hit batters by the pitchers.

"You make 12 errors in two games and it kills you," Head Coach Tony Danella said. "The kids gave no indication that was going to happen. We just picked the wrong days to have bad

"I don't what it was. It wasn't the field. I don't think the pressure got to them. These kids are used to playing in big games. Most of these guys were with us last year, and they played some big games during the high school

(Continued on page C-2)



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER Edison catcher Stefano Vargas blocks the plate against East Brunswick and tags out the runner, but Post 435 fell 12-2 in the Middlesex County Junior American Legion Baseball League playoff game last Friday night.

Edison, Fords VFW defeated in playoffs

By DAVE ALLENA

STAFF WRITER

Single-game elimination playoffs can present a thrill for the winner and a sudden end to the season for the other. A pair of Edison clubs experienced the later during this past weekend.

With spots in the state tournament on the line in the Middlesex County Junior American Legion Baseball League playoffs, regular-season runnerup Edison was stunned by seventh-place East Brunswick 12-2 last Friday night, while Fords VFW dropped a 7-4 verdict to Holmdel Saturday.

After posting a 15-5 record and going unbeaten at home, Edison fell behind early and never got untracked offensively against East Brunswick, a team it had defeated 14-6 during the regular season.

It was disappointing because the kids worked hard all year," Post 435 Head Coach John Zavistoski said. "We put together a fine regular season. We just didn't reach our goal of going to the state tournament. It is disap-

"We started Nicky (Reider)

JUNIOR LEGION BASEBALL

and he wasn't as sharp as he normally is. We fell behind 2-0 real quickly. We've been behind before and we've always been able to come back, but Friday night we just didn't hit the ball. Bishop Ahr one-hit us, but other than that we really didn't struggle at the plate this year.
"Obviously I would have pre-

ferred to have it been a best-ofthree series, because I think we could have come back and beaten then twice. We handled them pretty well during the season. This was just an off night for us.

Post 435, which finished the campaign with a 15-6 mark, fell behind 2-0 after one inning. Ed Meyer doubled with two outs in the second inning, while Stefano Vargas followed a double to Dave Zavistoski and a walk Reider with a two-run triple in the third to make it a 4-2 game.

Those, however, proved to be the only hits Edison managed as the East Brunswick pitcher retired the last 10 batters he

(Continued on page C-2)

Blue Devils' bid for title is denied

By DAVE ALLENA

STAFF WRITER

Although they were unable to match their performance of two years ago, the Blue Devils once again gave an outstanding account of themselves.

With 11 of its 13 players having younger team that captured the 2001 Pony Softball National Championship, the North Edison Blue Devils' 12-and younger squad fell one victory short of earning a spot in the final 16 during last week's action.

After a slow start in which they went 0-2-1 in pool play in Sterling, Va., the Blue Devils advanced to the final of their bracket before losing to Virginia Fire & Ice 6-4 one game after beating that same team 5-1 to force a final contest.

"I thought the girls did phenomenally well," said Assistant Coach Jerry Ferrante. "From all the teams I talked to we were the only true rec team down there. The rest of the teams were all pickup teams, either regionally or from the state. Teams were shocked they got beat by a rec team. That doesn't happen

"I think the girls were disappointed they didn't get to the Sweet 16. We had a hard draw in the preliminary round and a difficult bracket in the elimination round. These girls, because of their success in previous years, have very high expectations.

"As a team we went down with high expectations. When we clawed our way back to get to the final of the losers' bracket we thought magic might happen again. Two years ago we went through the losers bracket in the Sweet 16 and had to beat the same team twice to win the championship."

After taking its lumps a year ago in the Pony Nationals as a young 12-and-younger squad, North Edison was better prepared this year, although things didn't start out very well as it managed only three runs in pool play.

A 2-1 loss to the Prince William (Va.) Outriders started the tournament before the Blue Devils battled nationally-ranked Thunder from Bucks County, Pa. to a 1-1 standoff. North Edison then fell to the Long Island Riptide 6-2.

"I can't say we weren't getting on base," Ferrante said. "We had the bases loaded three times against Prince Williams and only scored one run. We hit line drives right at people. We were hitting the

ball but we weren't scoring. "In the first game of the elimi-

GIRLS SOFTBALL

nation round we started to score some runs. We started to find some holes rather than hit it right at people. Also I think the girls might have been pressing a little in the preliminary round.

The Devils finally did some damage at the plate when they spanked the Latham (N.Y.) Chill 9-5, but then got dropped into the losers' bracket with a 9-5 loss to the Jersey Girls, the same team it defeated in the North Brunswick Tournament final and the quarterfinals of the Edison Angels Shootout.

They rebounded to edge the Grand Rapid (Mich.) Blaze 2-0 and then beat the Chill again, this time 7-2. An 8-0 victory over the Maryland Sockers, a No. 1 seed followed, before the Devils avenged the loss to the Jersey Girls with a 7-3 victory to reach the bracket's championship round.

North Edison handed the Fire & Ice it's first loss of the elimination round, but then fell behind 3-0 after one inning of the final and could not recover, missing a chance to go for another national crown.

That last game we beat ourselves," Ferrante said. "We had two outs and no one on and we made two errors that led to three runs. In the last inning we had runners at first and second in the sixth innings, but couldn't get the big

"Our girls are good finishers. They never get down when they fall behind but they couldn't come back in that one. They had their run and took it as far as they could. We finished the season 29-6-3 and that's pretty good."

North Edison played 11 games in five days and used two pitchers to do it as Kim Shjarback and Toni Ferrante alternated assignments. Maureen Sharlow Shjarback, while Leah Ferrante, Tori's older sister was behind the plate for her sister. Sharlow and Leah Ferrante also shared first

Shjback played shortstop when not in the circle, while Caroline Vitale was either at shortstop or third base. Lindsay Brown was the team's full-time second baseman, while Kelly Prendergast played third when Shjarback pitched.

Laura Sharlow was the regular centerfielder, while Mel Galella, Missy Lang, Brenna Dean, Jessica Ballate amd Ashley Krusucki alternated in the other two outfield slots. Tori Ferrante, Galella and Lang were the only 11-year-olds on

Post 261

(Continued from page C-1) season.

Whatever the reason for Piscataway's severe breakdown, it certainly left everyone with a bad taste, especially Danella, who was left wondering what might have happened with a better performance in the field.

"I was very disappointed and I thing the team is very disappointed. They were pretty disgusted with the way they played," he said. "In my heart I felt we had the best team on paper, but you play the games on the field and that's the way it goes sometimes.

"You never know how you're going to do before a tournament, but once I got there and saw the competition I thought we had a very good chance even without Carlton Smith available, If we threw strikes and fielded fairly well I felt we would win because I knew we would hit. We scored enough runs to win both games.

Post 261 led Parsiappny 3-0 after scoring single runs in each of the first three innings and led 5-3 after scoring twice in the top of the seventh. Parsippany, however, rallied for two runs in the eighth and one in the ninth to win.

Hemmerly, who turned in an outstanding game during last year's state district tournament, struck out six and did not walk a batter while scattering eight hits. Only one of the six runs scored against him was earned with the tying and winning runs crossing

"Parsippany was a good, solid ball club and they beat us, but they weren't any better than the top teams we faced in our league," Danella said. "Wasting a great effort (by Hemmerly) with so many errors has happened before, but never in as big a game as this. The kid did a great job."

Matt Goumas and Andy Campana produced RBI singles in the first and second innings, respectively, while Brandon Renkart's RBI fielder's choice made it 3-0.

In the seventh David Gernea opened the inning with his second double of the game and Bobby Abreu singled. Robert Rose snapped the tie with a sacrifice fly, while Derrick McCain (2-for-3) doubled in a run to make it 5-3. Kwesi Mitchell finished the game 3-for-3 as Piscataway heldf an 11-8 advantage in hits.

Appearing to shrug off that game, Piscataway bounced back to score four runs in the top of the first inning against Oakhurst (Ocean County) and led 7-2 after four innings, but then Oakhurst took over as Campana tired on the mound and the defense got sloppy again.

'I don't think there was any carryover from the previous day because we went out and scored four runs right away," Danella said. "After we went up 7-2 we stopped hitting. We were playing well, but then we had some walks, hit a couple of batters and started to kick the ball around."

Ray Rose, Mitchell, Goumas and Renkart each delivered a run-scoring single in the first, while McCain (3-for-3) followed singles by Robert Rose and Campana with a two-run single in the third. After steakling two bases McCain scored on Mitchell's

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The Metuchen Rampage recently completed an 8-1-1 season to capture Flight II of the Mid-New Jersey Youth Soccer Association's 14-yearold-and-younger division. The Rampage clinched first place with a 1-0 victory over West Windsor in its final game, and finished the campaign with 22 goals against 13 surrendered.

Formed in 199 by Head Coach Larry Kalmanson and Assistant Coaches Joe Keepers and Bob McCutcheon, the team made a steady climb from the league's bottom to Flight II and the

The team featured a strong defense The team featured a strong defense anchored by goalie Frank Pinho, who recorded four shutouts and was aided by the play of Jonathan Azzarra, Mike Bindleglass, Adam Floeck, Greg Gartenfeld, Mike Mackus, Ryan Moy, Colly Muwald and Kevin Stetter. The offense, meanwhile, was led by leading scoring of Joe Keepers and Lea Garay along with Todd Kalmanson, Mac McCutcheon and Seb

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDISON TRACK & FIELD CLINICS

The Edison Recreation Department will sponsor a track & field clinic through Wednesday, Aug 20, for township children. Sessions will be held Mondays at Elder Park on Grove Avenue and Wednesdays at Edison High School, and they will

be broken down into groups of kindergarten-fourth grade and fifth-eighth grade. For applications and information call the Stelton Community Center 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays at 732-248-7309 or the Minnie B. Veal Community Center 8:30 a.m.-10 p.m. at 732-248-

TOP GUN TRYOUTS

The Top Gun fast-pitch softball organization will hold tryouts for the fall and 2004 tournament season for age groups 13-14, 15-16 and 17-18 Sundays Aug. 17 and 24 and Sept. 7. For more information e-mail TopgunSoftball@Hotmail.com PISCATAWAY GOLF LESSONS

The Piscataway Recreation Department and Middlesex County's Raritan Landing Golf Course will offer free golf lessons to township residents 9-17 years old Wednesdayat Raritan Landing on Sidney Road. Pro Randy Luberecki of Tamarack and Raritan Landing will conduct the sessions. Registration will be limited to the first 25 in two age groups — 9-11 years old which will have a 9-

10 a.m. lesson and 12-17 with the lesson 10:30-11:30 a.m. — and will only be accepted at the Piscataway Recreation Department. For more information call 732-562-2382.

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Edison, Fords

(Continued from page C-1) faced in the six-inning game ended by the mercy rule.

While Edison did not have many chances against East Brunswick, Fords VFW had a number of opportunities but just could not finish and left almost a dozen runners on bases while hitting into three double plays.

Twice the twin-killings ended threats, included a bases-loaded chance in the top of the second after Holmdel (16-5) had scored four times in the first for a 4-1 lead. Fords managed to close to within 4-2, but Holmdel maintained a lead the rest of the way.

"We had some bad luck," Head Coach Tom Medler said. "We had some opportunities, but we had those double plays. We also hit line drives with runners on base to end a couple of innings.

"I thought we hit the ball as well as they did and we played good defense. The ball just didn't bounce our way. A couple of runs in that second inning would have made a difference, but Holmdel hit the ball pretty well for the first three-four innings.

Doug Wallner started and last only an inning and a third before Gary Turner took over and allowed two runs over four innings. Jason Bonnel collected a double and a single, while Turner and Nick Triano added two singles apiece. Sean Hdlacky delivered a two-run single and Andrew Biancosino singled in a run.

"Doug made a couple of mistakes that hurt him. He was ahead of three batters with 1-2 counts and hung a couple of pitchers and that hurt him. Gary

looked good in the time he was in

The setback closed out the Fords VFW campaign at 12-8 as the team qualified for the playoffs but like last summer failed to advance to the state tourney.

"We were inconsistent. We were hot and cold all year," Medler said. 'It's definitely disappointing having the season end like this. We usually have a winning season, but I thought we'd have a little better record. With all the kids coming and going it was tough to develop any consistency.

REGULAR SEASON

Chris Beyer, Jonathan Book and Triano notched two hits and an RBI each, while Biacosino earned his three victory as he struck as six as Fords VFW spanked Metuchen 12-7. Turner added a double and a single, while Adam Kramen doubled in a run.

Cesare

(Continued from page C-1) fastball better when he spotted

Cesare also collected three hits to help himself at the plate as he singled home the game's first run in the first inning after Chris Hewitt singled and stole second. North Plainfield then exploded in the second inning.

Merkler started the outburst with a double and after Andy Cupido singled and swiped second, Dave Dickerson delivered a two-run single. Following a walk to Hewitt and a single by Chris Bumback which loaded the bases, Cesare made it 5-0 with a two-run single.

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Frank Veglatte then doubled in a run, while Matt Senna followed with a two-run triple. Merkler's RBI fielder's choice completed the inning. Hewitt doubled home Angel Roman, who had singled, and scored on an error in the fifth, while Cupido singled and scored when Hewitt was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded in the sev-

Hewitt, Senna and Cupido followed Cesare's three-hit effort with two hits apiece for the Bulls, who had managed only five hits against Hamilton, which took advantage of 11 walks and five errors to win in five innings Sunday (regulation legion state tourney games go nine innings).

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Post 435

(Continued from page C-1) times, the last two on errors.

Musconetcong Facing Sunday, Edison trailed 6-5 entering the ninth inning before erupting for nine runs. Brian Cirri (5-2) went the distance, scattering six hits and allowing four earned runs while striking out seven and walking three.

Gianakas started the uprising in the ninth with a gametying solo homer, while Dalton doubled home a pair. Shymanski and Hrapsky added RBI singles. Cittone led a 15-hit attack with a 4-for-7 effort, while Gianakas (RBI double) and Kyle Hart (2 RBI) added two hits.

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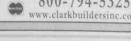
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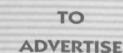
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Briefs

Friends of Nepal hosting picnic

EDISON - Friends of Nepal-New Jersey, a nonprofit organization promoting the social and cultural heritage of the kingdom of Nepal, will hold a picnic in Roosevelt Park from 2 to 9 p.m. Aug. 9 Admission will be \$15 per

Highland Park wins bike safety grant

HIGHLAND PARK - The borough has been awarded a grant of more than \$492,000 to fund its Pedestrian and Bike Safety Linkage Project.

called a The grant, Enhancement Transportation Grant, is provided by the New Department Transportation and is funded through federal funds set aside in the Surface Transportation Program.

The transportation enhancement projects are designed to foster more livable communities, preserve and protect environmental and cultural resources and to promote alternative modes of transportation.

Edison church to host county fair

EDISON Community Presbyterian Church on Glenville Road will host its county fair Aug. 18-22. There is no charge

Bible stories crafts, food and farm activities are available from 10 a.m.-noon. Children must be accompanied by a guardian.

Preregistration is required for the traditional vacation Bible school from 6-9 p.m. for ages 4-

For more information, call the church office at (732) 287-1666.

Metuchen Rec hosts Yankees trip

METUCHEN — The Metuchen Recreation Commission is sponsoring a bus trip to Yankee Stadium to see the New York Yankees play the Baltimore Orioles on Monday, Aug. 25.

The bus will leave from Metuchen Borough Hall, 212 Durham Ave., at 4:30 p.m. for the 7:05 p.m. game. The bus will return immediately following the

Price for a reserved seat and transportation is \$48 per person. For more information, or to make reservations, call the commission at (732) 632-8502.

Grant awarded to Piscataway woman

PISCATAWAY — Township resident Priyanka Upadyaya of Mumbai, India, is the first recipient of a New Jersey Psychological Association Foundation grant totaling \$6,000.

The grant is to be used to support low-fee psychotherapy services to the community and training for two graduate students. The second recipient will be named

Upadhyaya is working on her doctorate in clinical psychology after completing her master's in

"International students are not permitted, under their student visa, to be employed outside of their course of study in the United States. This grant provides her financial support, as well as allows her to provide more services to clients," said Don Morgan, director of the psychological clinic on the Busch campus of Rutgers University.

Children welcome to lunch at library

PISCATAWAY - Children 4 and older are invited to have lunch with the librarians at noon Wednesday in J.W. Westergard Library, 20 Murray Ave.
Children should bring lunch, the librarians will provide an hour

of stories, songs and games.

For more information, call (732)

Fishing derby planned Aug. 2

METUCHEN — The Metuchen Recreation Commission is partnering with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Fish and Wildlife to run a children's fishing derby at Tommy's Pond on Lake

Avenue Aug. 2. The pond will be stocked at 9 a.m. by the Division of Fish and Wildlife, from its Hackettstown Hatchery, and include about 200 sunfish, bass, catfish and crappies, raised especially for the event. Youngsters will be able to help in

the stocking. Registration begins at 8:45 a.m. Fee is \$1 per child; all children must be accompanied by an adult. Trophies will be awarded.

Campus notes

Brian Koza, son of Barbara and the late John Koza Jr., graduated magna cum laude from Montclair State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology and a minor in music. He's listed in "Who's Who in American Universities" and will attend Columbia University for his master's degree in organizational psychology.

Elizabeth Kuchar of Metuchen received a bachelor's degree in athletic training from Kean University. She has been accepted in the Master of Business Administration program at Wagner College on Staten Island, where she will be a graduate assistant in athletic training in the fall.

Thomas Troia of South Plainfield was named to the Dean's List for the spring semester at Pratt Institute, School of Art and Design, Brooklyn. The son of Thomas Sr. and Gina Troia will be a sophomore next semester, majoring in communications

Erin M. Walter of South Plainfield graduated with honors in April from Southeastern College of the Assemblies of God in Lakeland, Fla. She earned a Bachelor of Science in psychology with a minor in business. In her senior year, she served as president of Psi Chi National Honor Society. She was nominated for the National Dean's List.

Patricia A. Walter of South Plainfield graduated in April with honors from Southeastern College of the Assemblies of God in Lakeland, Fla. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in psychology with a minor in the Bible. In her senior year, she served as senior administrator of the senior class. She was nominated for the National Dean's List.

Jennifer Dudeck Metuchen received a master's degree in college student person- spring 2003 semester.

nel May 23 from the University of Maryland in College Park.

Seven area students have graduated from Rider University in Lawrenceville. Receiving their degrees at the 138th commencement exercises May 16:

Andrea Brooks of Edison, bachelor's degree in communica-

Nancy Capasso of Edison, bachelor's degree in French.

Caitriona Duggan of Edison, bachelor's degree in Spanish. Lisa Hurst of Edison, bache-

lor of science in business administration degree with emphasis in marketing

Olushola Ijalana of Metuchen, bachelor of science in business administration degree with emphasis in accounting.

Kush Patel of Piscataway, bachelor's degree in chemistry.

Wayne Saldanha of Edison, bachelor of science in business administration degree with emphasis in advertising.

William J. Pabst of Piscataway received a bachelor's degree from Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I., at commencement exercises May 17.

Hazel Barnes of Piscataway and Marilyn Pisano of South Plainfield have completed studies in the software applications specialist program at the Cittone Institute in Edison.

Three area students graduated this spring from Boston University in Boston, Mass. The graduates and their degrees:

Steve J. Deppe of Metuchen, bachelor's degree in business administration and management. Kenneth C. Lam of Edison,

bachelor's degree in athletic Atul Malhotra of Edison,

bachelor's degree in business

administration and management. Separately, Shilpa Amara of Edison was named to the Boston University dean's list for the

Milica Kecmanovic of Piscataway has received a bachelor's degree in economics from Clark University in Worcester, Mass. Kecmanovic also earned second honors in the spring 2003 semester with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a scale of 4.

Qiaqia Wu of Edison was named to the dean's list for the spring 2003 term at Choate Rosemary Hall, a preparatory school in Wallingford, Conn. She is the daughter of Yong Wu.

Mitesh Patel is an intern this summer at Pep Boys in Edison under the supervision of service manager Buddy Freel. Patel is majoring in automotive technology at the Lincoln Technical Institute in Union.

Three recent high school alumni have been accepted for the fall 2003 semester on the Teaneck campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University. They are:

McCarty Larysa Piscataway. The daughter of Myra and Ryk McCarty graduated in June from Bishop George Ahr High School in Edison. Vroman Theresa

Piscataway, who plans to study nursing. The daughter of Hilda and William Vroman graduated from Piscataway High School in

Turek Wallace of Edison, who plans to study business and has been named a Col. Fairleigh S. Dickinson Scholar. He graduated from Piscataway High School in

The following students have been named to the spring 2003 Dean's List at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia:

Shital Patel of Edison, a doctor of pharmacy student; Michele Wojcki of South

Plainfield, an occupational thera-

M. Patel of Alpesh Piscataway, a doctor of pharmacy student;

Jigna G. Patel of Piscataway, a doctor of pharmacy student; Michele D. Vergara of

Piscataway, a physical therapy



MR. AND MRS. CHRISTOPHER G. FELICE

Christina Ruszala weds Christopher G. Felice

Ruszala of Edison and Christopher G. Felice of Sayreville were married June 28, 2003 during a Mass at St. Matthew's Church in Edison. The Rev. McCoughin officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Cindy and Anthony Ruszala of Edison and the bridegroom is the son of Mary and Gerard Felice of Sayreville. The bride was given in marriage by her father, Anthony Ruszala.

The bride graduated with honors from Rutgers University in May 2002 with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology. She was on the dean's list and earned a teaching certificate in all sciences. She will be working at John P. Stevens High School

EDISON - Christina Marie in Edison as a chemistry teacher in September.

The bridegroom graduated with honors from Rutgers University in May 2000 with a Bachelor of Science degree in political science and criminal justice. He received a master's degree in education in May 2003 from East Stroudsburg University. He is a history teacher at Immaculata High School in Somerville.

The couple met as co-employees at Costco Wholesale, in Edison.

The reception was held at the Clarion Hotel, Edison, and the couple took a 12-day cruise to the Caribbean.

The couple will reside in

Grant Central School names its top students

Grant Central Sixth School has issued its Grade 6 honor roll for the fourth marking period of the 2002-03 academic year.

Named to the high honor

Francesca Bayak, Vikash Budhan, Michael D. Bumback, Suneet Chandler, Audrey L. Cupo, Jared A. Czech, Jeannine DeAndrea, Rebecca A. fler, Michael J. Dezmin, Quynhnhu T. Doan, Courtney Easterday, Lindsay B. Maricela Fredericks, Gonzalez, Keri D. Gould, Jessica L. Handwerger, Richard A. Harzula, Caitlin J. Herriott, Zane P. Lesky, Christopher M. Lesniak, Patrick R. Nolty, Eric C. Nuber, Timothy R. Ratti, Rachel C. Smith, Nicole B.

E. Thomas, David V. Valerio, Isabel E. Vordzorgbe and Kristin M. Yorkanis. Named to the honor roll:

Jonathan Addesa, Daniel B. Alligier, Jorge A. Alvarez, Marie Armand, Arielle Katherine Baldasarre, John P. Barry, Samantha W. Barthel, Lindsay J. Barton, Cori M. Black, Jacqueline Bosse, Michael H. Boyle, Kyle R. Buck, Giulianny Burgos, Michael B. Burton, Maxwell K. Butler, Danielle M. Butrico, Ashley L. Capparelli, Ashley Cardinale, Kurt P. Carlson, Michelle M. Kobilis, Catherine Henry A. Carrillo, Steven Chen, Alex E. Cihanowyz, Allison R. Clawans, Sean P. Coffey, Lacerda, Jonathan E. Conroy, Christina Stephanie M. Cornelius, Gina M. Curcio, Jacqueline R. Laverne, Sheryl

Dang, Taylor A. Deskins, Lauren A. Diana, Steven Diaz, Stephanie D. DiCindio, Justin A. Ditmars, Faryn M. Evans, Tina Foscolo, Wayne P. Francis, Sara K. Frazzano, Kelliann Friday, Christopher D. Fulton, Ashley Galan, Allen G. Garcia, Stephen M. Garry, Cindy Garzon, Jennifer L. Gustafson, Cindy J. Hernandez, Terry C. Chelsea Christopher M. Izzi, Nicholas A. Jankoski, Nicholas F. Jeglinski, Cristopher Kedmenec, Garrett A. Kelly, M. Krawiec, Jaclyn M. Kukuch, Alexa R. Kunch, Joseph A. Lacerda, Phong H. Lai,

Michael A. Dandola, Ann Thao L. LiPuma, Anthony J. Louise, Kenneth Luckey, Daniel Maistickle, Kelly McCormack, Alyssa M. McCreesh, Joseph M. Mennuti, Lisa A. Migliore, Stephanie F. Milicia, Tramane J. Miller, Alberto Miranda, Cornelius C. Mootoo, Timothy W. Moskal, Jessica A. Murtagh, Lyndsey A. Murtagh, Joanna N. Nastarowicz, Alex T. Nieradka, Kirsten M. Nuber, Nosavoen Ogbevoen, Brittany B. Okoszko Timothy R. Oppelt, Emily R. Orlandini, Eric M. Pantaleon, Dharti C. Patel, Parth P. Patel, Nicholas A. Pauls, Rachel A. Pinto, Sandra A. Pleeter, Douglas A. Porzio, Matthew J. Praul, Brian F. Pullen, Kyle M. Quail, Wilfred M. Quesada, Nicole A. Rann, Jessica L. Rosocha, Anthony R. Salerno,

Alexa A. Sambat, Parvatan Sami, Jeric C. Santos, Kyle P. Schroeder, Amber E. Scott, Rocco A. Severini, Saira Sheikh, Richard J. Sierzega, Sagar P. Sindha, Theodore J. Skwiat, Michelle L. Slover, Christine A. Snogans, Mark T. Sprenger, Vincent J. Stark, Nora T. Stasio, Andrew R. Staynings, Spencer Stubbs, Alyssa A. Sutherland, Susan Tian, Elizabeth A. Tran K. Tran, Victoria B. Tran, Anthony V. Usuriello, Christine M. Usuriello, Alexander J. Vajda, Nicholas V. Vallone, Andrea Vedutis, Gina M. Viola, Stephen W. Wagner, Richard D. Walton, Erik D. White, Kaleigh M. White, Steven J. Wieczorek, Jelissa S. Williams, Robert A. Yulick and Paul D. Zushma.

South Plainfield resident wins honor from the Republicans

WASHINGTON, D.C. — ational Republican National Congressional Committee Chairman Tom Reynolds announced this week that South Plainfield resident Marge Reedy has been named to the 2003 Republican Chairman's Honor

Reedy, a candidate for South Plainfield Borough Council, is a former school board president and president of the South Plainfield Education Foundation, a group that raises scholarship money for graduating seniors. She is also a pastpresident and active volunteer for the South Plainfield Music

On a national level, Reedy serves as a co-chair of the Congressional Committee's Business Advisory Council. As a member of the Honor Roll, she will have her name displayed at Republican Headquarters in Washington, D.C., and she qualifies to receive the committee's highest honor, the prestigious Republican Gold Medal, which will be presented at the nation's capital during an upcoming awards ceremony later this

"Nobody deserves this more than Marge," said Ray Rusnak, her running mate for Borough Council. "She's done so much for South Plainfield, and it's great to see her get recognized nationally. Under her leader-



MARGE REEDY ship, our schools became a

model for others in New Jersey.' Plainfield GOP Chairman Bob Jones agreed: "Marge has done a super job for South Plainfield's families. I'm sure most people know that she, along with her fellow board members, upgraded the schools by adding much-needed 21stcentury technology to the classrooms. Moreover, school taxes remained flat during seven of the nine years Marge was on the board. But Marge refuses to take the credit: She says it was a team effort by each of the board members and the administration. That kind of modesty is refreshing."

Reedy served on almost every board committee during her

three terms and was president for two of those years.

She lives on Oxford Avenue with her husband Michael. They have three children, Sandy, James and Patrick.



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· Check out the resources and information about nursing home quality on the Medicare Nursing Home Compare Website at www.medicare.gov, or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

· Visit nursing homes, speak with staff and residents, and ask questions.

· Talk to people who know about nursing home care, such as the New Jersey Office of the Ombudsman at 1-877-582-6995.

This message was prepared by PRONI, The Healthcare Quality Improvement Organization of New Jersey, Inc. under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The content does not necessarily reflect CMS policy.

C-4

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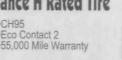


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Getting down to business

Piscataway resident Sandra N. Salter, financial adviser and co-owner with Karen E. Schmidt of an American Express Financial Advisors branch office, recently celebrated the opening of their business at 550 Broad St. in Newark with an evening reception. From left, are Salter; Carla DeBose, marketing and recruiting manager for American Express' New Jersey Market Group; and Karen E.

Middlesex College will offer personal training certification

County College and Momentum Fitness Center of Montgomery have teamed up to offer preparation for the American Council on Exercise (ACE) Personal Trainer certification in a new course beginning Tuesday, Sept. 30. This 12-session course includes seven sessions on the Edison campus of the college, followed by five sessions at Momentum, a state-of-the-art fitness center. ACE certification is one of the most respected credentials in the fitness industry.

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Middlesex tion offers challenging opportunities to fitness professionals who want to broaden and deepen their skills, to individuals with exercise science degrees and to floor trainers who want to become personal trainers. People in the field are encouraged to obtain ACE certification, demonstrating that they have the requisite level of knowledge, skill and competence to design and implement safe, effective and efficient exercise programs.

The classroom portion held at Middlesex County College con-

■ woodplay

ence, screening and evaluation, principles and methods of training, individualized program design, injury prevention and legal responsibilities. The hands-on gym portion, held at Momentum Fitness, includes learning how to conduct client fitness assessments, how to design and modify programs and recommended ways to teach strength training and flexibility.

"There's never been a better or more exciting time to be part of the fitness industry," said Lynn Lederer, Middlesex County College director of Professional and Community Programs. "With the emphasis on feeling and looking good and the Surgeon General's report on the importance of physical activity, an increased number of people are making fitness a part of their lives, and that means lots of job opportunities."

For registration and information on the ACE exam preparation course, contact the Middlesex County College Division of Professional and Community Programs at (732) 906.2556. Although there are no prerequisites, students are strongly encouraged to have approximately 100 hours of practical experience in the health and fitness field.

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NOTICE OF ABSENT DEFENDANTS (L.S.) STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO: FLORENCE JOHNSON

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upd. SHAPJRO & DIAZ, LLP, Plaintiff's Attorney, whos address is 406 Lippincott Drive, Suite J, Mariton, N 08053, an answer to the complaint (and amendment to

Clerk of the Superior Court M60 1T 8/01/03

Public **Notices** Online

www.njpublicnotices.com

Acupuncturist gets role on TV cable station

EDISON - Ken Andes, a licensed acupuncturist with a practice in the township, is featured on the Discovery Channel's new medical talk show "Second Opinion with Dr. Oz.'

The series, hosted by cardiac surgeon Dr. Mehmet Oz, will educate viewers on conventional and alternative treatment options for conditions such as heart disease, cancer, diabetes, arthritis and chronic pain.

The show airs at 3 p.m. every Saturday.

Andes, who was raised in South Plainfield and attended St. Joseph's High School in Metuchen, was selected to be the show's consultant on acupuncture and Chinese medicine due to his expertise on pain management and integrative medicine.

"I'm very excited to be working with the Discovery Cannel toward educating the public about alternative and holistic medicine," said Andes, a magna cum laude graduate of the Pacific College of Oriental Medicine. Andes holds master's and doctoral degrees in acupuncture.

The new medical talk show features Andes giving demonstrations and lectures on acupuncture techniques and theories.

Revised C-4

HOW TO TALK TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT DRUGS.

The best thing about this subject is that you don't have to do it well. You simply have to try.

If you try, your kids will get the message.

That you care about them.

That you understand something about the conflicts they face.

That you're there when they need you.

The alternative is to ignore the subject. Which means your kids are going to be listening to others who have strong opinions about the subject. Including those who use drugs. And those who sell them.

ACCEPT REBELLION.

At the heart of it, drugs, alcohol, wild hairstyles, trendy clothes, ear-splitting music, outrageous language are different ways of expressing teen-age rebellion.

That's not all bad. Part of growing up is to create a separate identity, apart from parents – a process which ultimately leads to feelings of self worth. A step along that path is rebellion of one kind or another – which is to say rejecting parental values, and staking out new ones.

You did it. They're doing it. And that's the way it is.

The problem comes when kids choose a path of rebellion that hurts them, destroys their self worth, and can ultimately kill them.

That's the reality of drugs.

DON'T GET DISCOURAGED.

When you talk to your kids about drugs, it may seem as though nothing is getting through.

Don't you believe it.

The very fact you say it gives special weight to whatever you say.

But whether or not your kids let on they've heard you, whether or not they play back your words weeks or months later, keep trying.

START ANYWHERE.

"Have you heard about any kids using drugs?"

"What kind of drugs?"

"How do you feel about that?"



It's never too early to start.

"Why do you think kids get involved with drugs?"

"How do other kids deal with peer pressure to use drugs? Which approaches make sense to you?"

"Have you talked about any of this in school?"

However you get into the subject, it's important to state exactly how strongly you feel about it.

Not in threatening tones. But in matter-of-fact, unmistakably clear language:

"Drugs are a way of hurting yourself."

"Drugs take all the promise of being young and destroy it."

"I love you too much to see you throw your life down the drain."

SOME DO'S AND DON'TS.

The do's are as simple as speaking from the heart.

The biggest don't is don't do all the talking. If you listen to your kids – really listen and read between the lines – you'll learn a lot about what they think. About drugs. About themselves. About the world. And about you. They'll also feel heard and that, too, is a step along the path towards self esteem.

There are other do's and don'ts: Don't threaten. Don't badger them. Don't put your kid on the spot by asking directly if he or she has ever tried drugs. They'll probably lie which undermines your whole conversation.

If you suspect your child is on drugs – there are all sorts of symptoms – that's a different matter. Then you've got to confront the subject directly. (This will be another ad in this continuing series.)

In the meantime, just talk to them.

It's okay if you don't know much about drugs.

Your kids do.

But they need to know how you feel about the subject.

And whether you care.

For more information on how to talk with your kids about drugs, ask for a free copy of "A Parent's Guide to Prevention." Call 1-800-675-1127.

Partnership For A Drug-Free New Jersey

In Cooperation With The Governor's Council On Alcoholism & Drug Abuse
The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services & Partnership For A Drug-Free America

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74 Academy St. from Haresh Patel to Hongwei Sun et.al. for \$229,000.

2203 Amanda Court from Thalia Woodson to Luigi Sgambetterra et.al. for

35 Ballas Lane from Joseph J. Oh to Alvin L. & Kerri L. Minor for \$411,000.

23 Barbour Place from Robert Jr. & Lisa Mann to Sandip & Jeeni Patel for

196 Barclay Court from Maple Grove to Tapan Debroy for \$227,900.

197 Barclay Court from Maple Grove to Yong Liu et.al. for \$212,900.

198 Barclay Court from Maple Grove to Paul Rubbe Jr. for \$207,900.

199 Barclay Court from Maple Grove to Genevieve Orleans for \$232,900.

202 Barclay Court from Maple Grove at Piscataway L.L.C. to Carol Smith for

4 Barnett Place from Darnell M. & Patricia Toliver to Patricia Zorrilla for \$165,000.

12 Barnett Place from Robert Gray to Joseph & Phyllis Sica for \$162,500. 50 Bayberry Close from Gary W. &

Denise P. Grant to Mohammad Saeed for 5109 Beatty St. from Raymond Harold

to Thomas & Raquel Torres for \$294,900. 131 Berkshire Court from Diana Kochan to Jung Kim for \$200,000.

5 Birch Run Drive from Anthony W. & Dorothy J. Conte to Haining H. Fang for \$275,600.

121 Brewster Ave. from Kathy & Aif-Klen Burnat et.al. to Harry Luther for

5 Brian Court from Richard Peters to Mohammad Rahman et.al. for \$284,000. 1802 Brunella Ave. from Dorothy H. Peters to Douglas & Cherese Muller for

601 Buckingham Drive from Kenny Doan & Jennifer C. Lee to David D.C. Shue

et.al. for \$331,000. 617 Buckingham Drive from Julio & Diane Pitalue to Mahesh & Avantika Patel

111 Castle Pointe Blvd. from Bertram Walsh et.al. to Saeed A. Khan et.al. for

32 Charles Terrace from Gregory J. & Karen E. Forbes to Kevin Davis for

16 Charlton Ave. from Michael

Nightingale to Clarence & Gail Bates for \$280,000 208 Chestnut Place from Richard A.

Somerville to Ivy Grovy Inc. for \$90,000. 22 Church St. from BankOne N.A. to

Benjamin Ortiz for \$165,000. 22 Church St. from Benjamin Ortiz to Noel & Olga Morales for \$172,100.

26 Clara Drive from James R. Jr. & Michelle Michael to Alan Bordeaux for

27 Concord Ave. from Stephanie A. Carter to William Paylor et.al. for

301 Crestwood St. from Brian Smith to Albert Spry et.al. for \$349,000.

210 Davis Ave. from Prashant Patel to

Trevor Scott for \$280,000. 244 Davis Ave. from Property VII L.L.C. to Jay Patel for \$280,000.

249 Davis Ave. from Preston D. & Tina L. Robinson to Rodney & Nichole West for

14 Deborah Drive from Fen-Li & Shu-

Hui Chen to Kent J. Chen for \$250,000. 255 Deep Brook Court from Jennifer M. Kim to Richard R. & Ruth J. Kurtz for

30 Deerfield Ave. from John & Diana Cooke to Cliff & Marie L. Zamor for

11 Demarest Place from Enriquero Rodriguez to Logan & Eulette McFarlane for \$280,000.

5 Dennis Court from Mary Kimberlin to David & Linda Cohen for \$470,000.

5116 Dey St. from Giovanni Caccavelli et.al. to Shirley Klem for \$320,000. 621 Dial Ave. from Paula Waters to

Quan Nguyen et.al. for \$225,900. 19 Dickerson Drive from Nery Pineda to

James Morales for \$265,000. 1519 Dogwood Drive from Earl N. & Cheryl A. Fesely to Doreen Mitchell for

387 Draco Road from Mark W. & Diane Skerbertz to Izzet Gulsen for \$195,000.

419 Draco Road from Frank & Mandy Bennett to Ketan A. & Darshana A. Patel for \$217,000.

146 Dunellen Ave. from William & Francia Obregon to Robert J. & Lisa Lane 121 Edwards Ave. from Gertrude Sforzo

to Tunison Home Improvement Inc. for \$130,000. 322 Elizabeth Ave. from Thomas

Badolato to Michael & Valerie Pasquale for 29 Ellis Parkway from Frank Camacho

to Samuel Mann et.al. for \$227,500. 386 Evona Ave. from Mel Martinez to

Shawn E. Carden for \$109,102. 105 Exeter Court from Sung H. Kim & My T. Pham to Jan M. Aquino for \$190,000.

106 Exeter Court from Khaled Osman et.al. to Rajinder & Ranbir K. Bhatti for 600 Fairview Ave. from Linda A. Squires

to Maria L. Staana for \$179,000. 647 Fairview Ave. from Michael

Normand to Miguel Sr. & Dawn Ojeda for \$184,900. 27 Franklin St. from Rosario & Eva

Machado to Carmen Roman for \$115,000. 18 Franko Ave. from John Kmety to Nivardo & Donna Martinez for \$200,000. 36 Franko Ave. from Ronald C. Gruver

to John Y. Wei et.al. for \$359,900. 14 Gibson St. from Anthony & Lisa Zullo to Andrew F. & Paula Albury for

1520 Glenwood Drive from Secretary of VA to Deutsche Bank National Trust Co.

242 Grandview Ave. from Gerald & Patricia Williamson to Angie Paez for

267 Grandview Ave. from James A. Osborn to Kilmainham Builders L.L.C. for

17 Haight St. from Szucena Sumallo et.al. to Loretto P. Sumallo et.al. for

120 Haines Ave. from Stephen & Kerlene Donaldson to Romeo & Genevieve

Liwang for \$347,000. 208 Hamilton Blvd. from Van & Jeanine lliams to V.V. & Thu-Hat N. Truong et.al.

for \$247,000. 257 Hamilton Blvd. from Joseph Borges to Dennis Colon et.al. for \$250,000.

201 Hampshire Court from Philip Zmuda to Lynn M. Donnelly for \$175,000. 255 Hampshire Court from David

Spitzer to Norman & Regine R. Bowen for

266 Hampshire Court from Todd R. & Stacey A. Bacote to Pamela L. Germain for

293 Hampshire Court from Eleanor R. Sudol to Luz E. Parra for \$72,736.

325 Hampshire Court from Santosh K. Nair & Priya Joshi to David Walker for

206 Hidden Woods Court from John Buico to Pranay & Ritika Naik for \$230,000.

136 High St. from Richard Steele to BLB Builders L.L.C. for \$90,000.

Highland Ave. from Township of Piscataway to Macedonia Original Freewill Baptist Church for \$13,900. 185 Hillside Ave. from Cecilia C.

Gochenour to Kenneth A. Poray for

215 Hillside Ave. from Deborah A. Brown to Martha C. Soto et.al. for

338 Hoes Lane from Julia Brazina to Softdomain Inc. for \$208,000. 851 Hoes Lane West from Richard Sabo

to Darryl S. Vaz et.al. for \$235,000. 40 Hopkinson Ave. from Kristine Kraus

to William J. Glancey Jr. for \$220,000. 1778 Hughes Terrace from Marvin S. &

Joanne Heavens to Kendall & Dawn Hairston for \$266,900. 13 International Ave. from Lavern Bynes to Alan & Ina Greene for \$285,000.

1642 Jerome St. from Eustace Baptiste to Terence Walden for \$239,000. 502 Jesse Way from Edwin & Pauline

Waithe to George D. Hrunka for \$186,750.
701 Jesse Way from Ernest L.
Henderson et.al. to John & Rosario Tan for \$185,000.

1104 Jesse Way from Richard Hinterstein to Shailesh Patel for \$71,287. 1503 Jesse Way from Justin M. & Caryn R. Rapp to Santos Lopez for \$148,900. 2403 Jesse Way from Noel & Mi J. Yoon

to Jennifer Whitaker for \$143,500. 39 Johnson Ave. from Jaime Luardo to David S. & Amy S. Josef for \$237,000.

8 Joyce Drive from Benigno Solomon Jr. to Romeo & Susana Solomon for \$182,000. 9 Juniper Lane from Ruth MacDonald

to Theresa Scala et.al. for \$315,000. 15 Karen Court from Sterling & Mishaela Johnson to Terence R. Clerk for

86 Kensington Drive from Jacqueline Sokalski et.al. to Mohammad S. & Nudrat F. Ayub for \$159,900.

1119 Kerwin St. from Wayne Galle to Carl & Denise Bettinger for \$235,000. 136 Keswick Drive from Geraldine F. Galle to Kingsley Barreto for \$245,000.

144 Keswick Drive from Chirag & Purve Patel et.al. to Tejas & Heena Dhruv for \$202,000.

176 Keswick Drive from Shyam Bhushan et.al. to Gary Watkins for 304 Kilmer Court from Florence

Troiano to Ruth Martinez for \$205,000. 1 Knollwood St. from Rajesh Kaikini to Mary Wasielewski for \$320,000.

138 Lackland Ave. from Pradeep & Kavita T. Somayaji to Jigar Parikh et.al. for

148 Lackland Ave. from John C. Overton Ir to Shil A & She A Patel et al for \$220,000. 172 Lackland Ave. from Maple Grove at

Piscataway L.L.C. to Keith E. & Kim G. Williams for \$239,900. 35 Lake Park Drive from Seth & Ann

Hand to Victor Reyes et.al. for \$237,500.

63 Lakeside Drive South from Eugene

959 E. Lincoln Ave. from Pankaj & Smita P. Desai to Christopher A. & S. Needham for \$319,900. 6 Long St. from Suresh K. & Arathi S. Kamath to Shiju & Leeza Mathews for

Peters to Michael & Jill Polilli for \$214,900.

Jada F. Cole to Garfield E. Storah for

420 Lancaster Court from Sampson Brown to Nicole Tully for \$147,000.

419 Lancaster Court from Bernard &

335 Lunar Road from Jung M. & Nicole A. Kim to Bharatkumar R. & H. Patel for

337 Lunar Road from Paul & Deborah Raiti to Julian & Anna I. Torres for \$220,000.

11 Lund Court from Etervina Rivera to Patrick Ludovico for \$285,000.

31 Meredith Road from Ruben & Julia Johnson to Patricia Toliver for \$275,000. 133 Metlars Lane from Tracey Marko to Sanjeev & Jayshree Sachdeva for

376 Metlars Lane from Juan A. Sr. & Melba E. Cotto to Peter & Lynda Kos for \$188,500

393 Metlars Lane from Walter Ferri to Cornelius Ereksen for \$105,000.

514 Metlars Lane from Beatrice V. Brechka to Jill O. Medinets for \$259,900. 5 Mitchell Ave. from Tyrone Howard et.al. to Juanita Jones for \$320,000.

801 Mohill Place from Joanne DuCuollo to Dominick J. Harrison for \$260,000. 153 Mountain Ave. from Ronald T. & Ruth E. Cwiakala to Steven M. Bosko for

\$224,500. 134 Nebula Road from Mel Martinez to Mahesh Patel et.al. for \$98,174.

146 Nebula Road from U.S. Bank Home Mortgage to Shailesh Doshi for \$170,672. 29 Nelson Ave. South from Patricia A. Pavol to Joseph A. & Janet Chervenyak for

119 Netherwood Ave. from Willis E. Jr. & Lucille Jones to Andrew J. Fox for \$220,000.

417 Netherwood Ave. from Mildred Potenza to KDP Developers Inc. for 49 New Brook Drive from Geraldine H.

McClure et.al. to Robert & Beverly Bye for 50 New Brook Drive from Valerie McGhie to Thomas & Carrie King for

\$249,000. 1208 New Brunswick Ave. from Paul Drake to Filipiniano Espiritu et.al. for \$184,000

1352 New Brunswick Ave. from Joseph Spicuzzo to HVR Investment L.L.C. for

55 Normandy Drive from Jennifer L. Fendt et.al. to Tom J. & Monica M. Isenovski for \$290,000.

70 Nova Drive from Sidney Horowitz to Pathik & Dharti Shah for \$130,000. 155 Old New Brunswick Road from Philip Schell to Eric Hillmann et.al. for

155 Old New Brunswick Road from Eric Hillman et.al. to ADDA Realty

cataway L.L.C. for \$400,000. 75 Orion Road from Rodney Adams to Ming F. Wang et.al. for \$195,000. 25 Orris Ave. from Andrew Lombardo to

KDP Developers Inc. for \$130,000. 54 Palisade Ave. from Leroy & Betty J. Bradley to Gregory & Rona McCoy for

\$267,000.

419 Park Ave. from Horace G. & Karen D. Walker to Cendant Mobility Financial for \$255,000.

14 Peabody St. from Michael Patane to Michael J. Uszacki et.al. for \$359,900. 296 Pegasus Road from Stephen Youll

et.al. to Jong M. Son for \$265,000. 23 Pelmont Place from Donald C. &

Deirdre C. Zeni to Mukunda & S. Krishnaswamy for \$310,100.

1735 Pinewood Drive from Kilmainham Builders to Edilio Jimenez et.al. for

\$320,000. 515 Plainfield Ave. from Brandon W. &

Arika Winward to Nixon & Jacqueline Putal for \$250,000. 214 Poe Place from Michael & Elizabeth

Salerno to Carlota Fuentes for \$200,000. 67 N. Randolphville Road from Bruce Zuckerman to Todd & Lisa Dennison for

160 Richards Ave. from Raymond J. Uszacki Jr. et.al. to Chris & Heather

English for \$211,000. 402 Ripley Court from Willie & Carla J. Wyatt to Ryan Greer for \$181,000.

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Black River Mortgage Co. 877-276-2656				Investors Savi	ngs Bai	nk		800-	-252-8119	Pan Am Morto	gage			800-6	660-7987		
30 YR FIXED	5.375	0.00	5.440	5%	60 DAY	30 YR FIXED	6.250	0.00	6.330	5%	90 DAY	30 YR FIXED	5.125	2.00	5.260	5%	30 DAY
15 YR FIXED	4.750	0.00	4.850	5%	60 DAY	15 YR FIXED	4.875	0.00	4.990	5%	90 DAY	15 YR FIXED	4.500	2.00	4.710	5%	30 DAY
5 YR FIXED	2.450	0.00	3.890	20%	60 DAY	5/1-30 YR	4.125	0.00	3.860	5%	90 DAY	OPTION ARM	1.950	1.00	3.290	10%	30 DAY
	MANAGEMENT	ck rate				Loans to \$1.5 mill											
Columbia Ban	k			800-	962-4989	Kentwood Fina	ancial			800-	-353-6896	Partners Mort	gage			732-6	
30 YR FIXED	6.000	0.00	6.011	20%	60 DAY	30 YR FIXED	6.000	0.00	6.130	5%	60 DAY	30 YR FIXED	5.250	0.00	5.290	5%	60 DAY
15 YR FIXED	5.000	0.00	5.080	20%	60 DAY	15 YR FIXED	5.250	0.00	5.380	5%	60 DAY	15 YR FIXED	4.625	0.00	4.670	5%	60 DAY
1 YR ARM	3.625	0.00	3.416	20%	60 DAY	30 YR JUMBO			6.380	10%		30 YR JUMBO			5.670	5%	60 DAY
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Comnet/Fmr (Commo	nweal	th Bk	800-	924-9091	Lighthouse Mo	ortgage			800		Penn Federal					
30 YR FIXED	5.750	0.00	5.790	5%	45 DAY	30 YR FIXED	5.250	3.00	5.280	5%	45 DAY		5.875	1.00		10%	60 DAY
15 YR FIXED	5.250		5.290	5%	45 DAY	15 YR FIXED	4.500	3.00	4.580	5%	45 DAY		5.250	0.00	5.280	10%	60 DAY
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30 YR FIXED	5.500			5%	60 DAY	25 YR FIXED	5.500		5.550	10%	60 DAY		6.000		6.102	5%	45 DAY
15 YR FIXED			5.139	5%	60 DAY	15 YR FIXED	4.880		4.930	10%	90 DAY	15 YR FIXED	5.250	0.00	5.320	5%	45 DAY
5/1-30 YR			4.057	5%	75 DAY	30 YR JUMBO	5.880		5.910	5%	90 DAY		2.250		2.130	5%	45 DAY
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15,YR FIXED		0.00	N/P	N/P	40 DAY		5.000	0.00	5.190	0%	60 DAY		4.875	0.00	4.905	5%	60 DAY
		0.00	N/P	N/P	40 DAY	The state of the s	6.000		6.190	0%	60 DAY	20 YR FIXED	5.375	0.00	5.399	5%	60 DAY
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Dodge Tomahawk concept cycle takes off like a missile

By LAURA BYRD

COPLEY NEWS SERVICE

There it sat like a computer-generated caricature out of a James Bond movie. A gleaming brushed aluminum motorcycle crouched in an angular, menacing package that only a designer with audacity would dare create.

It was stunning and bizarre at the same time.

The Dodge Tomahawk concept motorcycle is a Viper V-10 engine with just enough bike wrapped around it to qualify as a motor vehicle.

"I've been everywhere around the world with this bike," says Bud Bennett, owner of Restoration Motorsports in Wixom, Mich., the fabricators of the Dodge Tomahawk concept motorcycle. "And its appeal spans all generations and every coun-

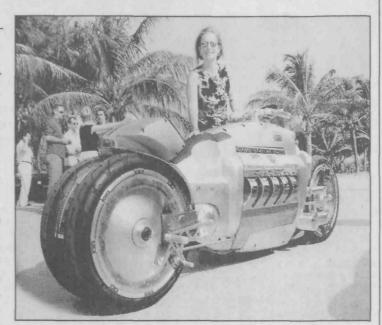
It's an appeal that includes automotive journalists so bent on midlife crisis they become Harley-Davidson owners and avid riders, as I have.

Apparently, gear heads and people in crisis recognize each other, so Bud offered me the chance to fire up the Tomahawk and climb aboard.

A Harley never sounded like this: Squeezing the clutch was a grit-your-teeth effort, and praying that I was in neutral took my breath away.

That is until the V-10 thundered to life, and I couldn't stop the grin that spread from ear to ear.

Wow! A rev of the throttle,



The Dodge Tomahawk is a real beauty.

and the Tomahawk is like a missile ready to launch. It squirreled with torque, and I decided to pass for now on the chance to set the rocket in

It's wonderful, but it's over the top. Completely and totally, over the top.

"It's the weirdest thing we've ever built, and we've done all sorts of outrageous things," Bennett says.

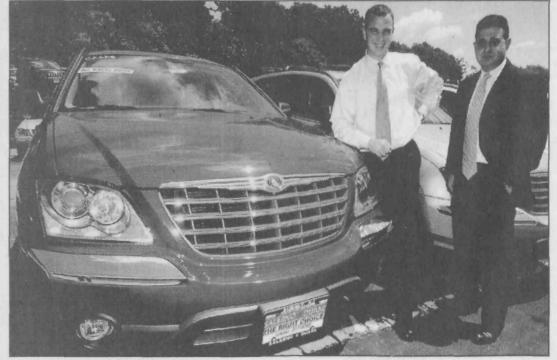
Outrageous is a fitting considering the Tomahawk has only two gears, an excessive four wheels and brake calipers the size of dinner plates. And despite its considerable size and weight, there's no kick stand.

The rear wheel has two independent drives on swing arms that are locked together by a hydraulic cylinder at the push of a button. This creates a stability between the two rear wheels that holds the bike in place.

The exhaust, head and taillights are arranged vertically between the two front and rear wheels.

It is air-cooled with the help of two 18-inch radiators on either side of the body. They force air from the front end to the back, preventing the aluminum frame from heating up. The fuel cap is in the front fender, and the turn signals at the tips of the grips.

Technically, the Tomahawk is a car. Motorcycles have two wheels, not four, and that's something the designer will change should the bike actually go into production.



GEORGE PACCIELLO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Showing off one of their new Chrysler cars are Salerno Duane Vice President Christopher Duane and sales manager Joseph Cipolla.

Salerno Duane now has new Chrysler dealership in Summit

SUMMIT - Salerno Duane has welcomed Chrysler to its family of automotive franchises.

What started out as a modest Pontiac and AMC dealer in 1986 has grown to be one of New Jersey's largest and most respected automotive dealership groups. Salerno Duane now represents ten different manufacturers with multiple showrooms, service and parts departments as well as a full service multi-manufacturer body shop.

With the addition of Chrysler, the dealership will now be able to offer a choice of more than 100 different models of cars, sport utilities, trucks and

Expansion is nothing new to Salerno Duane In Summit. In 1992 Salerno Duane brought Mitsubishi on board followed by GMC Truck in 2001 and finally this year the addition of Chrysler.

Even as the dealership expands, the sales and service staffs still operate as a local, friendly, full service dealership concentrating on personal attention.

The customer friendly auto dealership has been awarded the "People Magazine Award" for outstanding sales and service for two separate years. No other Automotive Dealer in the Tri-State area has ever won this award. Salerno Duane In Summit has also won both the Chrysler-Jeep 5 star Sales and Service Award and the Mitsubishi Diamond Excellence Award.

For friendly Pontiac, GMC, Mitsubishi, Jeep, and now Chrysler sales, leasing and service see the professionals at Salerno Duane Pontiac GMC Chrysler Jeep Mitsubishi located at 245 and 267 Broad Street (just off Route 78) in Summit. For more information call (908) 277-6700.

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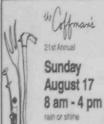
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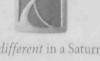
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Rt.611 to 212w 1.5 miles L on Mine Hill Rd, L ork, .5ml to 274 Mine Hill Antiques, Housewares, Antiques, Housewares, Electronics, Boys Clothing, Toys, Sports Equipment Slipcovers & Curtains, Books, Wood-Burning

 $\star\star\star$ WHITEHOUSE STATION Mutli-Fam Sale, Sat. Aug 2. 8am-1pm. No earl birds please. #9 Re-adington Rd. Follow signs in from Rt. 523. Rain date Sun. Aug. 3 Same time.

Coming Events

CRAFTERS WANTED Quality crafts and arts non-juried festival:

Anderson House Seafood Festival August 9 and 10 Deer Path Park

Flemington, NJ This family festival at tracts over 6,000 peo le. Benefits women early recovery from alcohol & drug dependency. Space: \$50 for 2 days \$30 for 1 day. No other fees. Bring own able and canopy 10x10') To reserve (908) 534-5818; www. Anderson House.org, to Events, Seafood Fest val, vendor application.

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BUILDING SALE "FINAL CLEARANCE" 20x24 \$2,900, 25x30 \$3,900, 30x40 \$5,200, 32x44 \$6,500, 35x50 \$6,900, OTHERS, Pionee 1-800-668-5422 or visit www.pioneersteel.com

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(908)782-7792 2 yr old Dog Run 8x12

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and Sun Aug. 2/3. 8a-2p.

Part of Neshanic town grg sale. Baby items, clothing,

HH, furn. All items in exc

Someone to supply pony rides for Octoberfest. Must be responsible

cond. #26 Lehigh Rd. Rt. 202S to left on Summer to right on Fairview, right on Lehigh.

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\$25,595 2000 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SPORT CD, 43,000 miles, VIN#YR599495.

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/2 and Sun 8/3 :30-4:30. From Flem igton 202 N, right a com Hillsborough Am well Rd, right at 3-way stop. 287 N to 22 W to 202 S left on Old York Rd, 1st right. Maps at

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Town Yard Sale-

25. Please call 908-782

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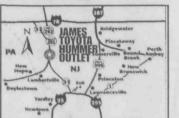
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Community Life

Taking a fancy to flight in a balloon

Reporter overcomes fear at the Balloon Festival

I remember as a child lying in bed on a Sunday morning and hearing the loud huff and puff of a hot air balloon passing over

I ran outside, waved to the balloonists and then wondered why anyone would volunteer — or even pay for that matter — to stand in a tiny basket floating hundreds of feet in the atmosphere

I am scared of heights; I don't like to ride Ferris wheels or anything that dangles in the sky. Maybe it's the motion. Maybe it's the fear of not being able to get down when I want. Whatever it was, I never wanted to take a balloon ride.

Until Friday morning.
Photographer Nicole DiMella
and I climbed into a basket 6:30
a.m. Friday with balloonists

Mark Fritze and Gail Morton.
The couple drove up last week

Nicole and I climbed into the four-foot wide basket with Fritze, Morton, and crew member Susan Steer. Seconds later we lifted off and I dug my head into Nicole's armpit.

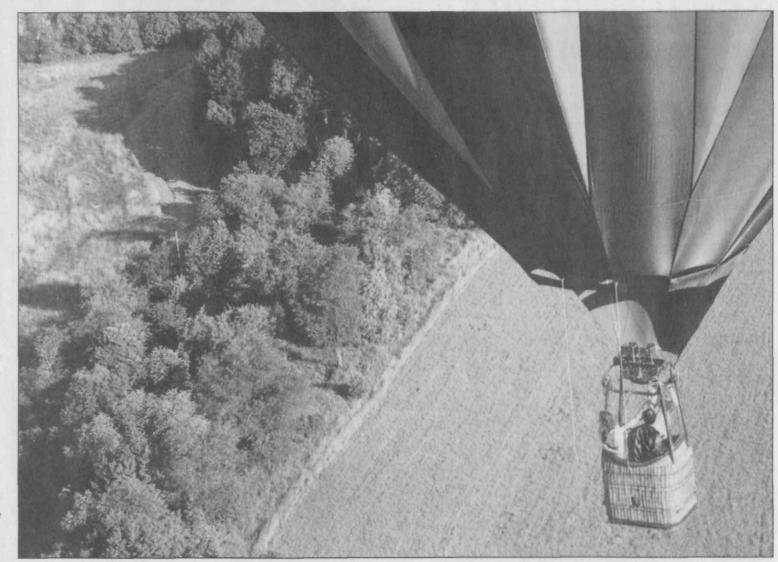
"Are we in the air yet? Are we still moving?" I asked.

"Yes, we're up. You can look now," Nicole said.

I slowly turned around and saw an incredible view of Central Jersey. As we started drifting eastward I noticed people standing in their driveways or on their balconies, waving with the hope of having us land next to their homes.

As I waved back at the people down below, Fritze, owner of Tropical Breezes Ballooning Adventures, began telling us the history of balloon

"When the first balloon, built by the Montgolfier brothers, flew over France it had King Louis's



Everything is beautiful - from 600 feet.

farms in Branchburg, Wegman's on Route 202 in Bridgewater, early morning traffic and Bradley Gardens. We compared patio styles and the varieties of in-ground pools. We saw plenty of animals — deer, sheep, dogs and horses — all running away from the sound of the balloon.

Though there was a lot happening on the ground, the skies were tranquil. Balloonists typically fly during the early mornFritze lasted almost an hour

He tried to land the balloon several times but the wind, coupled with the hazard of utility wires, prevented us from landing right away.

I was doing fine, considering my fear of heights, until Nicole pointed down at the ground at some sheep. The animals looked like ants running away from the balloon and then my fear slowly came back.

I managed to say Nicole's name before passing out and landing on the floor of the bal-

"You're the fourth person to pass out on me," Fritze said. "We keep a rubber chicken in the

basket for people like you."

A few deep breaths and I was back up again — good thing since we were really ready to

"Brace yourself guys, this one's going to be bumpy," Fritze said as he and the crew members worked the ropes. "We're landing in a tight spot - right down there on the street. Hold on, put everything down."

I sat back down on the floor of the basket and concentrated on Nicole's camera bag. Then I felt the basket, with me on the bottom, hit Berwick Drive and stop.

stop.
"Okay, we're going to get out one at a time," Fritze said.

After landing Nicole and I helped Fritze and his crew pack up the balloon. We drove back to the airport and listened to Fritze recite "The Balloonist's Prayer."

"The winds have welcomed you with softness," Fritze said.
"The sun has blessed you with his warm hands. You have flown so high and so well, that God has joined you in laughter and has set you safely and gently back into the loving arms of Mother Earth!"



A calm blue sky welcomes the balloons.

Story by Tina Perrotta Photos by Nicole DiMella



The shadow of the balloon on a field.

from Fort Lauderdale, Fla. to participate in the Quick Chek Balloon Festival at Solberg Airport in Readington and Nicole and I were their first passengers.

"This is going to be so much fun," Nicole kept saying. "You're going to enjoy the ride."

"The bub" I said "Why do we

"Uh-huh," I said. "Why do we have to sign this form? In case we die?"

"No, we log everything," Fritze said. "You guys will be just fine." emblems on it. The French thought the balloon was sent by King Louis to collect taxes so when the balloon landed, the town's people would come out with pitchforks," Fritze said. "That's when the Montgolfier brothers decided to bring champagne and cheese to make peace with the people. And now we carry on that tradition."

From 600 feet, every home seemed beautifully landscaped and the ground looked like a patchwork quilt. We flew over ing, late afternoon, or during the winter when the weather's calm. Winds more than 10 mph can add too much risk to a balloon flight.

"A balloon can travel up to 12,000 feet but then you need special equipment like body suits and oxygen masks," Fritze said. "Gail and I have gone up to 6,000 feet."

Since the weather was calm, the basket remained stable and the balloon ride was slow and peaceful. Wherever the wind took us is where the balloon followed but thankfully Fritze and Morton kept the balloon at a low altitude.

"That's part of the magic, not knowing where you're going to go," Fritze said. "What keeps me going is taking someone up like you. You never know who you're going to meet. One time Gail and I landed in a field and met goat farmers."

Morton and Fritze met 22 years ago during a balloon ride and then they began crewing for balloonists in Fort Lauderdale. Morton, an eighth grade science teacher, and Fritze, owner of a marine shop, have purchased two balloons together.

Friday's balloon was The Second Wind and the ride with



Eleven-year-old Peter Matthews helps pilot Mark Fritze disconnect the balloon from the basket.



Jay Bernat helps the crew deflate the balloon after landing

Good seats are still available for Bennett concert

BRIDGEWATER — Good Patriots Baseball. seats remain available for the County Commission presentation of "An warm, husky tenor voice, singing Evening with Tony Bennett" at the Commerce Bank Ballpark on Sunday, Sept. 14.

"Tickets are moving very well this far in advance of the concert date," stated Cindie Sullivan, the Park Commission's deputy director of leisure services. "We expect a sellout for a very special evening with a musical legend."

Ticket prices include on-field seats at \$60 each and in the seating bowl of the Ballpark at \$50 and \$30. In addition, a very limited number of suites, including 25 tickets, remain are available at \$1,200 with a special food and beverage menu.

Tickets are on sale Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Somerset Patriots Box Office, on line at www.TicketWeb.com, or by calling the Patriots Ticket Office at (908) 252-0700 or TicketWeb toll free at (866) 468-7619.

The performance is being proby LaGuardia and Associates Entertainment.

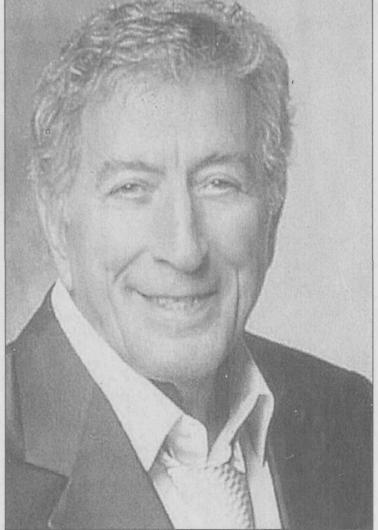
Sponsors include Commerce Bank, Courier News, Cuyler Burk LLP, the DoubleTree Hotel,

Bennett has been wowing audiences for 50 years with his classics and jazz with his spontaneous manner of playing with melodies and lyrics. He began his career after serving in the armed forces in Europe during World War II. Some of his first hits, "Rags to Riches" and "Stranger in Paradise," scored No 1 on the charts almost overnight.

n 1962, he recorded his signature song, "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," which earned him two Grammy Awards for Record of the Year and Best Male Vocal Performance. His next singles "I Wanna Be Around" and The Good Life" reached gold, as did a string of his continuous Top

In the 90's, albums "Perfectly Frank" (a tribute to Frank Sinatra) and "Stepping Out" (a tribute to Fred Astaire) went gold and won Tony Bennett back-toback Grammys for Best Traditional Pop Vocal Performance.

But his current popularity was sealed nine years ago by MTV's "Unplugged," which went platinum and won the Grammy for Album of the Year in 1994. He Flemington Car and Truck for Album of the Year in 1994. He Country, PSE&G, and Somerset then became a Grammy perenni-



The legendary Tony Bennett will perform at the Commerce Bank Ballpark in September.

al, taking home Best Traditional Pop Vocal Performance awards for "Here's to the Ladies" (1995), "On Holiday: A Tribute to Billie Holiday" (1997), and

"Playin' With My Friends: Bennett Sings the Blues" (2001),

bringing his Grammy total up to eleven, including his Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. His most recent release, "A Wonderful World," is a duets album with vocalist k.d. lang.

Somerset Patriots give support to kids' theatre series

generous contribution from the Somerset Patriots, local children will be able to enjoy live theatre right in their own neighborhood.

The Patriots are sponsors of the Sunday Sampler Series at The Theatre at Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) in North Branch. The series, which features 15 events for children and their families, is part of the theatre's 20th anniversary season.

"We are very grateful to the Somerset Patriots for their generous contribution. The donation helps the Theatre bring the joy of live performance to youngsters and families in Somerset and Hunterdon counties," said Dr. G. Jeremiah Ryan, president of RVCC.

"We are proud to be a partner with The Theatre at Raritan Valley Community College. We always look to be a strong presence in the community, and our partnership will allow the Somerset Patriots to help provide affordable family entertainment to theatre patrons throughout baseball's off-season,' said Patrick McVerry, general manager of the Somerset Patriots Baseball Club.

The 2003-2004 Sunday Sampler Series features the following artists and performances:

Circo Comedia (Smythe &

Saucier), Sept. 21. Corduroy (TheatreworksUSA),

The Gruffalo (Tall Stories), Oct.

Dragon's Tale (Nai Ni Chen

Dance Company), Nov. 9. Simple Gifts (Gould & Stearns),

The Christmas that Almost Wasn't (Child's Play), Dec. 14.

The Emperor's New Clothes (Kennedy Center IMAGINATION CELEBRATION On Tour), Jan. 11 The Snow Queen (Das Puppenspiel), Jan. 25.

Let My Stories Tell You Who I Am (Charlotte Blake Alston), Feb.

Tikki Tikki Tembo & Other Stories (Story Salad Productions), March 7.

Peacemaker (Green Thumb Theatre), March 21. Tom Sawyer (New Jersey Ballet

Company), April 4. Gizmo Guys, April 18. Tom Chapin & Friends (Tom

Chapin), May 2. Very Eric Carle (Mermaid

Theatre of Nova Scotia), May 16. All performances are at 1 and The Theatre at Raritan Valley

Community College opened in 1985

to serve the College and the community at large. The Theatre complex is composed of two performing spaces, the Edward Nash Theatre, which seats 1,000 on two levels, and the Welpe Theatre, which seats 100-150. Each season, the Theatre presents the Major Artists Series; The Merck Series, made possible by a grant from The Merck Company Foundation; School-Time Performances, a series for teachers and their students; and the Sunday Sampler Series, a series of 15 transformational events for chil-

A variety of subscribers' packages are available for all series. To purchase tickets or for more information, call the Theatre Box Office, 908-725-3420, fax your order to (908) 526-7890, or order online at www.rvccarts.org. Senior citizen, student and group discounts are also available.

dren and their families, sponsored

in part by the Somerset Patriots.

The Theatre at RVCC is now offering birthday parties. Parties cost \$15 per child (minimum of 10) and include invitations, tickets to a Sunday Sampler performance, birthday announced from the stage, use of party room for 45 minutes after the performance, refreshments and a special gift for the birthday child. Additional elements can be included for extra fees. For

more information, call (908) 725-

Richie Havens to give free concert at Duke Island

BRIDGEWATER — Folk legend Richie Havens will appear in concert on Sunday, Aug. 10 at 7 p.m. as the Somerset County Park Commission Free Summer Concert series continues at Duke Island Park on Old York

Havens is gifted with a fiery, soulful singing style that has remained unique and ageless since he first emerged from the

Greenwich Village folk scene in the early 60s. His voice has inspired audiences from his legendary three-hour performance in 1969 to the Clinton Presidential Inauguration.

Throughout his four-decade career, Havens has never stopped recording, touring and contributing to important social and environmental causes. His recordings of "Here Comes the

Sun," "The Dolphins" "Freedom" remain classics. The concert is sponsored by

DoubleTree Hotel and Philips

Concert goers are encouraged to bring chairs and blankets for seating. Ample parking is avail-

For further information, call the Somerset County Park Commission at (908) 722-1200,

Ext. 221 Monday through Friday or the Concert/Activity Hotline at Ext. 351 Friday through Sunday. Individuals with a hearing or speech impairment may use the NJ Relay Service at 711.

Information on this event and other Somerset County Park Commission activities may be found on the Internet at www.park.co.somerset.nj.us/.

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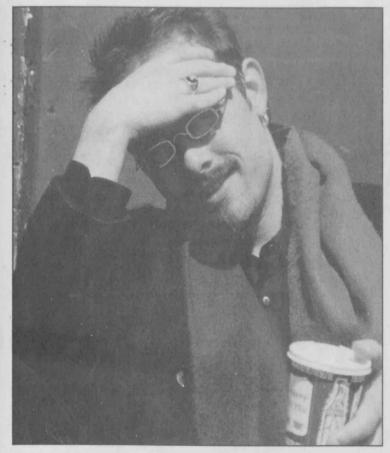
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Richard Julian will be performing in Watchung

WATCHUNG-The Watchung Polanski (who wrote a note of Arts Center Folk Concert Series, Ya Gotta Hear This, features completely unplugged, no-frills concerts by well-known national touring singer/songwriters, at the no-frills prices of \$10.

On Aug. 28, the new series will feature the witty, literate songs of Richard Julian, who Randy Newman called "one of the best songwriters I've heard in a very long time."

It's not often that a folk singer/songwriter spends the summer performing in 1000-seat theaters and festivals like the Montreal Jazz Festival.

But Julian, hand-picked by Norah Jones to open for her on her summer tour, will be doing just that from May through early August. He will have a bag full of stories when he comes to the Arts Center.

In the spirit of edgy, lyrical wordsmiths like Elvis Costello or Randy Newman, Julian writes on eclectic topics from Roman thanks when he heard the song) to the World Trade Center bombing (his "No Song" was included in Suzanne Vega's benefit CD).

His songs have been recorded Marshall Crenshaw, Art Garfunkel, and others, and his CD, Good Life, was on the Best of 2002 list of WFUV's Claudia

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Monsters, Rascals and Wonka at county park

entire family will enjoy a short step back in time when they pull their car into Duke Island Park on Old York Road to enjoy the Somerset County Park Commission's Fourth Annual Drive-In Movie.

The schedule will feature "Monsters, Inc." (G) on Wednesday, Aug. 6; "Willie Wonka & the Chocolate Factory" (G) on Wednesday, Aug. 20; and "A Night With the of family entertainment under Little Rascals"

Friday night concerts in Somerville

SOMERVILLE — The Connie Tarantino Friday night concert series is continuing through August.

During August, there will be five shows in front of borough hall. The shows and their dates are: John Nobile's Summerswing Orch, Aug. 1; The Tourists, Aug. 8; Common Ground, Aug. 15; Jim Winder & The Race, Aug. 22; and the Dixie Mix Band, Aug. 29.

In September, there will be two shows. On Sept. 5, Dixie Time will be performing, and the Somerset Valley Orchestra will be performing Sep. 12.

All of the concerts begin at 7 p.m. and end at approximately 8

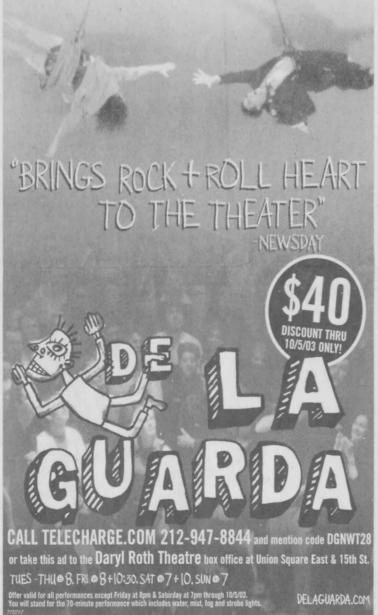
BRIDGEWATER — The Wednesday, Aug. 27. Showtime for each movie is 8:30 p.m. with a rain date of the following Thursday for each show.

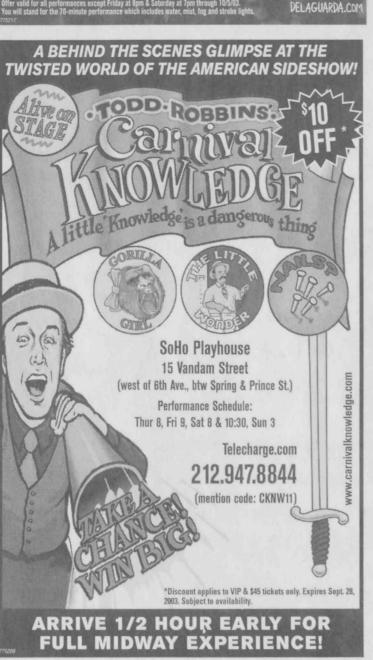
The films will be presented on a big screen in the Duke Island Band Shell and will be preceded by a cartoon. Admission is free.

Refreshments will be available and families are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets, for an enjoyable evening (G) on the stars. A call to (908) 722-1200, ext. 351 will provide weather updates during the evening prior to the show.















Cannot be combined with

any other offer. No Early Bird Specials

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314 Main St., Metuchen (732) 548-0582; www. forumtheatrecompany.com

"Jack and the Beanstalk," famous fairy tale done live and local with music. July 22-Aug. 2. Admission \$12; group rates available. Call for showtimes.

OFF-BROADSTREET THEATRE

5 S. Greenwood Ave. Hopewell (609) 466-2766

"Dr. Cook's Garden," melodrama. 7 p.m. Aug. 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16; 2:30 p.m. Aug. 3, 10.



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Admission \$24 Saturday, \$22.50 Friday; discounts available.

PAPER MILL **PLAYHOUSE** Brookside Dr., Millburn (973) 376-4343;

www.papermill.org "New Voices of 2003: Wish You Were Here," revue of 1950s musicals. 7:30 p.m. Aug. 1, 2; 3 p.m. Aug. 3. Admission \$37-\$20.

PLAYS IN THE PARK Roosevelt Park Route 1, Edison (732) 548-2884; www. playsinthepark.com

"Ragtime," musical based on the 1970s novel-turned-1980s movie. 8:30 p.m. July 31-Aug. 2. Adults \$3, under 12 free; bring lawn chairs for seating.

SOMERSET HILLS DRAMA WORKSHOP

St. James Chapel Auditorium South Finley Avenue Basking Ridge

"Godspell," musical based upon the Gospel of St, Matthew. 8 p.m. Aug. 7, 8 and 9. Advance tickets: \$10 adults, \$8 for children under 12 and seniors; Tickets at the door, \$12. All seats are reserved. For ticket information call Patti Martin at (908) 766-6428.

SOMERSET VALLEY PLAYERS Route 514, Hillsborough (908) 369-SHOW;

www.svptheatre.org "Crimes of the Heart," drama by Beth Henley. 8 p.m. Aug. 1, 2, 8, 9; 3 p.m. Aug. 3, 10. Admission

\$13; discounts available VILLAGERS THEATRE 475 DeMott Lane, Somerset (732) 873-2710;

www.villagerstheatre.com "Bye Bye Birdie," 1960s musical done with a teenage cast. 8 p.m. Aug. 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16; 2 p.m. Aug. 3, 10, 17. Admission \$14.

Events GREENBERG'S TRAIN, TOY & HOBBY SHOW

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 9 and 10 New Jersey Convention and Expo Center

Edison (732) 417 -1400 www.greenbergshows.com

trains, Trains, Admission: \$7 for adults; children 11 and under, free. **ANTIQUES WEEKEND**

11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Aug. 23 and Garden State Exhibit Center

Franklin (212) 255-0020. www.stellashows.com

More than 200 exhibitors. Seminars. Appraisals. Admission. \$6; children under 16 admitted free with an adult.

Concerts

GARY U.S. BONDS 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 3 Duke Island Park Old York Rd., Bridgewater (908) 722-1200, Ext. 351; www.park.co.somerset.nj.us

60's rock n' roller ("Quarter to and 80's Bruce Three") Springsteen crony ("Out of Work"). Free admission.

HOT ANTIC

8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2 Somerset County Vo-Tech Vogt Dr., Bridgewater (908) 526-8900, Ext. 7219; www.njjs.org

14-man big band from Europe. Admission \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Combination with "Satchmo!" (see below) \$25

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River Rd., Piscataway (732) 745-3900; www.co.middlesex.nj.us

Watchung's

Shows on the bandstand 3 p.m. Sunday. Free admission.

Davie Wilson Quartet, Aug. 3. KATE McDONNELL 8 p.m. Thursday, July 31 Watchung Arts Center Watchung Circle, Watchung (908) 753-0190;

www.watchungarts.org Singer-songwriter. Admission

SATCHMO!

2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2 Somerset County Vo-Tech Vogt Dr., Bridgewater (908) 526-8900, Ext. 7219; www.njjs.org

Louis Armstrong tribute concert, this year with Hot Antic. Admission \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Combination with

evening concert (see above) \$25. SPRING LAKE PARK CONCERTS

Maple Ave., South Plainfield (732) 745-3900; www.co.middlesex.nj.us Shows in the gazebo 6:30 p.m.

Sunday. Free admission. Big Band Express, Aug. 3. TRAVIS WETZEL Manville Public Library 100 S. 10th St.

Manville (908)722-9722. "The Mad Fiddler" in a free

concert 7 p.m. Aug. 12 Museums

EAST JERSEY OLDE TOWN VILLAGE 1050 River Rd., Piscataway (732) 745-3030

Open to the public 8:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. Guided tours 1:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. Group tours by appointment.

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OF AGRICULTURE Route 1, North Brunswick (732) 249-2077; www. agriculturemuseum.org Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-

Saturday. Free admission for members. Non-member admission: adults \$4, seniors \$3, ages 4-12 \$2, ages 3-under free.

"Insects Among Us," to Aug.

PRINCETON UNIVER-SITY ART MUSEUM (609) 258-3788; www. princetonartmuseum.org Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 1-5 p.m. Sunday. Free

admission.

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