

The ATOM TABLOID & Citizen-Gazette

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Council Continues To Fight Tenure

SAYREVILLE—Republican Borough Council members recently agreed to have special counsel Robert Blanda review the legality of the ordinance granting tenure to the public-works chief after five years.

Republican Mayor Kennedy O'Brien said, "I think there are some points in there that would make it invalid."

Bernard Bailey, appointed to the post in 1995 by a Democrat-controlled council, is the benefi-

ciary of the ordinance. Bailey earns \$84,000 a year as public works chief.

Democrats approved the ordinance in December before losing their 4-2 majority on the council.

Democrats say that Bailey is a qualified professional who should not lose his job over politics. Bailey has received positive evaluations from his supervisor and the state Treasury Department in a

review of borough finances.

Republicans feel that the Democratic majority was aiding a party ally. Bailey is a minority shareholder of Hunka Bunka Ballroom, a nightclub where Democrats have held political functions.

Jeff Pawlowski, one of the council's two remaining Democrats, objected to having Blanda review the ordinance, calling him a "political appointment." Pawlowski added, "I hate to

spend taxpayers' money on a hunting trip."

Republican Council President Frank Makransky noted that the review would cost the borough a maximum of \$1,000 and said he thought it was a good investment.

"A lot of people are dissatisfied with it (the ordinance)," Makransky said, adding that he was personally opposed to tenure for municipal employees.

Church Is Making Its Mark

SOUTH AMBOY—The Christ Church Episcopal is in the midst of a five-year capital improvement program. The most prominent addition, a three-foot-tall stone wall, may seem an odd choice for a church trying to be more receptive to the growing community.

"You put a wall up and people get the wrong idea," said the church's warden, George Armstrong. "Our hope is to open things up, not close them off."

The effort to make the church's landscaping more attractive is a direct result of a problem noticed two years ago when George Campbell became

minister. Six large trees blocked the view of the church from the street and there were no signs. The congregation knew the church existed, but anyone else would probably miss it as they passed by.

Two years later, the trees are gone, signs are there and masons Peter Caron of Caron Crafted in Saratoga Springs, NY and Ernie Orsini of Ernstone in Albany, N.Y. have begun building the stone wall.

"People are coming to watch the work," said Campbell. "It's based on the same techniques the Romans used 2,000 years ago," he explained. "In the last

month, we've gotten so many comments about what an asset this is."

The wall, being built in four sections, 50 to 70 feet long each, runs parallel to the front of the church. The wall is being hand-laid and is made from interlocking gray Pennsylvania field stones. "I explain to people that it's like doing a jigsaw puzzle with all the pieces the same color," said Caron.

In addition to the new landscaping, the church members also raised money to pay for much-needed repairs to the roofs, heating and electrical system and driveway.

The church also moved its traditional Sunday School classes to Wednesdays and expanded their offerings to include adult classes.

Campbell said, "With all the other development going on in the area, including a new rail station and ferry service, the area is growing."

"We have to open our doors and welcome everyone," said Robin Martincavage of Sayreville, a church member for 32 years.

The church expects to reach 1,000 members in the next five years.

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YOUR COUNTY NEWS

Bishop Honors 160 For Service

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — For Joseph Brzozowski of St. Mary Parish, South River, receiving the Regina Nostra Award from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Metuchen "was like winning Olympic Gold."

The former coach of St. Mary youth basketball said that "it is an honor beyond description. I told my pastor, thank you very much, but I have to tell you that it is a pleasure working for such a great 'company.'"

Brzozowski was one of 160 men and women from Catholic parishes in Middlesex, Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties who received the prestigious medal from Bishop

Vincent De Paul Breen during a special evening of prayer and song Jan. 7 in St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral, Metuchen.

The award, which was instituted in 1986 by Metuchen's first bishop; now Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington, D.C., is presented approximately every five years in acknowledgement of the extraordinary contributions of individual Catholics to the life of the diocese, directly or through their respective parishes. This is only the fourth time the medals have been awarded in the diocese's 19-year history.

In his homily, Bishop Breen described the awardees as "men and women dedicated to the Church of Metuchen," and "as generous, caring, loving and responsible members of the faithful."

Each recipient was called forth and greeted individually by Bishop Breen, who presented them with the heavy medal bear-

ing the symbol of the Queenship of Mary, patroness of the Diocese of Metuchen. The recipients were recognized for their service to the Church in such capacities as hospital visitor, choir member, food pantry worker, religious educator, youth minister and office volunteer.

During the same service, which drew nearly 1,000 members of the diocesan community, Bishop Breen also closed the Holy Year door in the cathedral, marking the end of the Jubilee year. The congregation prayed together that Catholics open their hearts "to see the need for the Gospel in each life, in our nation and on our planet."

Following the service, Brzozowski, who also serves his parish as an Eucharistic minister, religious education teacher, usher and president of the Holy Name Society, stated, "The hours are long and the frustration is there but when you look

at it in retrospect, you stop and think about all the people you helped," he said.

Regina Nostra Awards for January 2001 were also awarded to:

Albert Abatemarco, St. Joseph, Carteret; Ann Debbie Ascolese, Holy Family, Carteret; Mary Bohn, St. Matthew the Apostle, Edison; Mary Breef, Holy Trinity, Perth Amboy; Patricia Christensen, St. Andrew, Avenel; Margaret Corallo, Our Lady of Hungary, Perth Amboy; Fernando Costa, Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, Perth Amboy; Patricia Daly, Our Lady of Victories, Sayreville; Pedro De Armas, La Asuncion, Perth Amboy; Ellen DeRosa, St. John Vianney, Colonia; Filippini Sister Jeanette DeSena, Most Holy Rosary, Perth Amboy; Mario DoCoito, Our Lady of the Rosary of Fatima, Perth Amboy; Robert "Pat" Ebert, Sacred Heart, Carteret; Marge Ebert,

Sacred Heart, Carteret; Julia Fedorka, St. Mary, Perth Amboy; Martha Fielek, St. Stephen, Perth Amboy; Carl Gargano, St. James, Woodbridge; Margaret Herron, St. Mary, Perth Amboy; Carla Johnson, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Woodbridge; Susan Kaylor, St. Joseph, Carteret; Margaret Kopelock, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Woodbridge; John W. Koper, Our Lady of Peace, Fords; John Marek, Holy Family, Carteret; Matthew Martin, St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral, Metuchen; Gloria McArdle, Holy Spirit, Perth Amboy; Tadeusz Szeliga, St. Stephen, Perth Amboy; Anthony Testa, St. Mary, South Amboy; Jean Theriksen, St. John Vianney, Colonia; Evelyn Wonski, St. Cecelia, Iselin; Sacred Heart Brother Robert Ziobro, St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral, Metuchen; and Edward Zrebioc, Sacred Heart, South Amboy.

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Strategic Planning Meeting

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — A public meeting on the Middlesex County Strategic Planning Process is scheduled for Wed., Jan. 31 at 5:30 p.m. at the Middlesex County Planning Board Meeting Center, on the first floor of the Elks Building at the corner of Livingston Avenue and New Street, New Brunswick.

Everyone interested in participating in the development of plans for the future growth and infrastructure needed to support the future growth of Middlesex

County is invited to this important public meeting. The status of Middlesex County's effort to complete strategic plans for seven strategic planning areas will be presented at the public meeting.

The meeting will provide the public, interested agencies and

municipal officials with an overview of the strategic planning process that is now underway to prepare strategic plans for the seven major growth regions of Middlesex County. This will be a thought provoking and informative meeting. If you care about the future, please

plan to attend.

The meeting will also provide an opportunity for individuals to volunteer to participate in the Task Forces needed to provide input to the development of the plans for the growth region, or "strategic planning areas." (SPAs).



GIVING THE GIFT OF LIFE—Barbara Vene-Anderson, M.S., C.C.C., a speech therapist in the Brain Trauma Unit of JFK Medical Center, Edison, lying on a stretcher, was one of 150 people who recently volunteered to roll up their sleeves and give the gift of life at a blood drive sponsored by JFK Medical Center and American Red Cross. Blood is often in short supply during the holiday season, but thanks to the incredible success of this blood drive, 100 pints were collected—enough to benefit 400 patients in hospitals throughout Middlesex and Mercer counties, as well as the Philadelphia area. With Vene-Anderson and the Red Cross nurse collecting the blood are (L.-R.) Judith Gillingham, manager of Community Health at JFK Medical Center; Nancy Taylor, senior account manager of the American Red Cross' PA/NJ Blood Donation Region; Michele Mount, branch manager for the American Red Cross Middlesex County; and Sue Franson, senior program director of the American Red Cross of Central New Jersey.

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YOUR AREA NEWS

Student Set For New Challenge: Leadership Conference

COLONIA—Miss Roseann Lake of Colonia High School has been selected to attend the National Young Leaders Conference (NYLC) from Feb. 13-18, in Washington, D.C. The NYLC is a unique leadership development program for high school students who have demonstrated leadership potential and scholastic merit. Lake will be among 340 outstanding National Scholars from around the country to attend the conference.

The theme of the NYLC is the *Leaders of Tomorrow Meeting the Leaders of Today*. Throughout the six-day conference, she will interact with key

leaders and newsmakers from the three branches of government, the media and the diplomatic corps.

"The National Young Leaders Conference provides an opportunity for students like Roseann Lake to distinguish themselves as tomorrow's leaders," said Michael Lasday, executive director of the Congressional Youth Leadership Council, the organization that sponsors the NYLC. The CYLC is a non-profit, non-partisan education organization. Founded in 1985, it is committed to fostering and inspiring young people to achieve their full leadership potential.

Edison Asked To Join Trash Suit

EDISON—Metuchen Mayor Edmund O'Brien has asked Edison to join in its suit against the Union County Board of Freeholders to stop plans that would send New York City's trash on trains through northern Middlesex County.

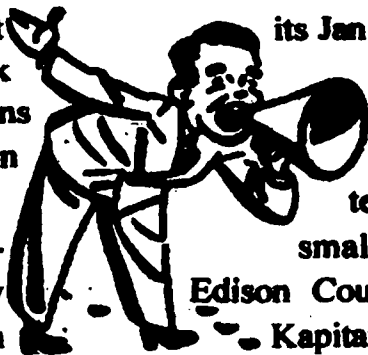
Officials in northern Middlesex County oppose the plan because it calls for trains to use the Port Reading Line through Metuchen, Edison, Carteret, Woodbridge, South Plainfield, Piscataway and Middlesex Borough.

At the request of Councilman Peter J. Barnes III, the Edison Township Council is scheduled to introduce the trash-train measure at its Jan. 24 meeting.

"The more communities doing this is better than just one small community," Edison Councilwoman Joan

Kapitan said in support of the Metuchen's suit.

Metuchen opposes the "trash train" plan because of potential accidents and spills that could affect the environment.



CLUB NEWS

AARP NEWS

ISELIN Chapter #3810—The Iselin Chapter of AARP #3810 has announced the following trips from Jan.-Nov., 2001.

Jan. 25—Social meeting at 12 noon. Business meeting at 1 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Grant Ave., Iselin.

Feb. 17—Broadway Show, "Chicago."

Spring: 3 days/2 nights—Rhode Island, Block Island and Foxwood.

Apr. 1—Smorgasbord & Show at Woodlock Pines.

WOODBIDGE Chapter #3869—The Woodbridge Chapter of AARP #3869 has announced the following schedule:

Jan. 29 and Feb. 26—Trump Plaza, Atlantic City

Feb. 6—Hunterdon Hills Playhouse with lunch and the play, "Nuptials."

Feb. 7—Meeting 1 p.m. at the Cameo. Program: Hope O'Neill from the Peer Review Organization. Topic: Medicare and Patient's Rights.

Citizen CPR Offered In February

AREA—Courses in Adult and Pediatric Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation will be offered by St. Peter's University Hospital on Saturday, Feb. 17 from 10 a.m.—noon or from 1-3 p.m.

The courses will be taught in the hospital's conference center, 254 Easton Ave., New Brunswick. Course fee is \$10 to cover materials. A course participation card will be given at completion.

For more information or to register, call the CPR Department at (732) 745-6672.



CONGRATULATIONS!

IT'S A BOY! Melanie and Eric Jacob of Milford are proud to announce the birth of their son, Christopher Kurt, born December 1, 2000 at Hunterdon Medical Center, Flemington. Christopher Kurt weighed 7 lbs 7 ozs. He has a 4-year-old sister, Kelly. The maternal grandparents are Martha and Ted Rocca of Colonia. The paternal grandparents are Rae and Herb Jacob of Lawrenceville, GA.

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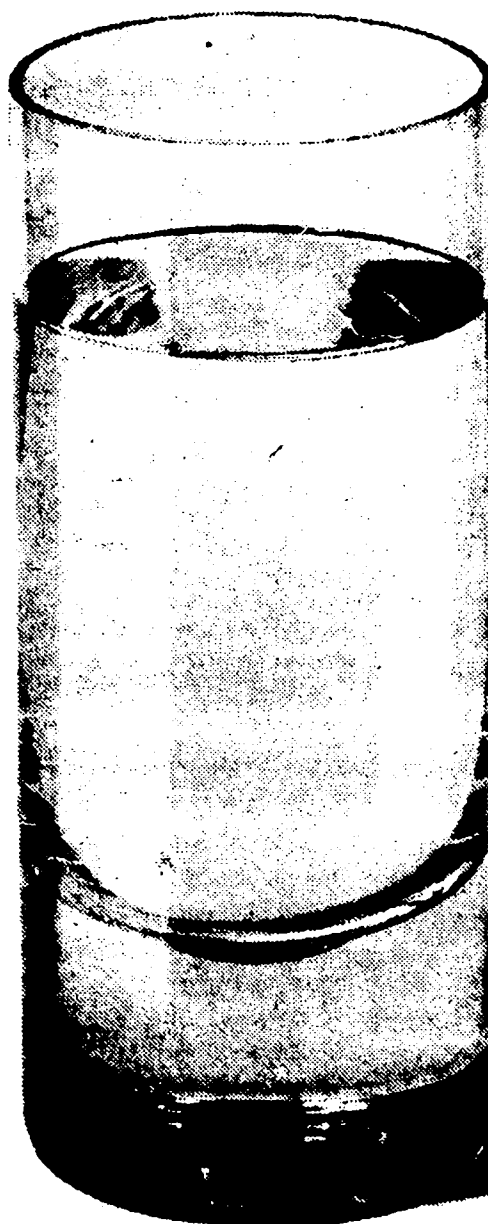
If you are out of work for more than seven (7) days for an injury which occurred in 1999, you are entitled to 70% of your wages or \$539.00 per week, whichever amount is less.

You are also eligible to receive an award for permanent disability benefits if your injury leaves you with a permanent disability.

For more information please call Stephen A. Spitzer, Esq. at 732.855.6089.



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YOUR AREA & STATE NEWS

Gov't Money Available Helps Pay Heating Bills

STATE — New Jersey Financial Assistance Network has just published a booklet, "How To Get Government Help To Pay Your Energy Bills." The booklet gives information on how and where to get government help to pay your heating bills.

"The federal government has budgeted over one billion dollars to help people who are struggling to pay their heating bills. Many people do not know that this money is available or how to get it," says Edmund Billings, a researcher at Financial Assistance Network's headquarters in Washington, DC. "We published a booklet that explains the program and tells consumers how and where to apply for assistance in their area. The booklet also has a special section for homeowners to get up to \$25,000 of government money to help reduce their energy bills, even if they have no equity in their home."

Consumers can receive a copy by sending \$5 to cover the cost of printing, postage and handling to NJ Financial Assistance Network, Government Help For Energy Bills, Dept. GHEB-0108, P.O. Box 60848, Washington, DC 20039-0848. Consumers can also get information by calling 202-595-1027 or by visiting Financial Assistance Network's Internet web site: www.FinancialAssistanceNetwork.org.

Financial Assistance Network is an organization established by volunteers dedicated to assisting individuals of all ages who need financial assistance to help pay for energy bills, prescription drugs and medical care. The primary purposes of Financial Assistance Network are to inform potentially qualified applicants about the financial assistance programs for which they appear eligible and assist them in the enrollment process.

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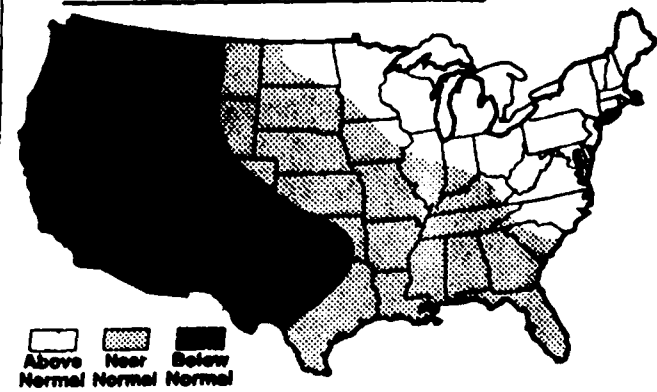
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LOCAL 7-DAY FORECAST

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
							
Breezy and cold. 36	Very windy and cold. 21	Sunny and windy. 40/26	Partly sunny. 42/30	Cloudy with a shower. 43/35	Mostly cloudy. 49/34	Some sun. 50/35	Cloudy with a few showers. 50/35

THE WEEK AHEAD...

Temperatures

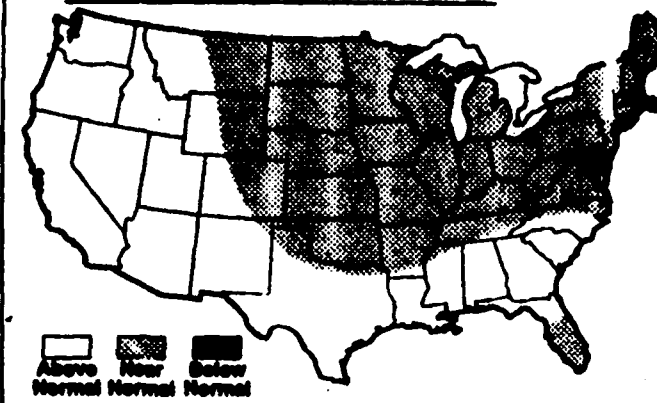


NATIONAL SUMMARY

A stormy weather pattern will dominate the western third of the nation during the period. Storms will bring rain and mountain snow to the Pacific Northwest and Southwest. The storm will track from the Southwest into the southern Plains and Gulf Coast. Meanwhile, mild air will cover the Northeast, Midwest and Middle Atlantic. Temperatures are expected to be 5 to 10 degrees above normal over the regions.

THE WEEK AHEAD...

Precipitation







U.S. TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Atlanta	51	31	s	52	36	pc	58	40	c	53	43	r
Boston	34	23	c	34	23	s	40	28	c	39	33	c
Chicago	32	16	s	38	28	pc	37	28	c	37	20	c
Cleveland	24	20	c	38	24	pc	38	29	c	40	29	sn
Denver	40	20	c	31	16	c	40	21	pc	48	12	pc
Des Moines	33	21	s	33	21	c	39	24	c	38	22	c
Detroit	32	18	pc	37	22	pc	36	26	c	38	27	c
Houston	60	42	c	64	42	sh	64	48	sh	63	39	sh
Indianapolis	35	18	c	39	25	pc	41	28	c	40	29	c
Kansas City	41	28	pc	36	28	c	47	28	c	40	25	c
Los Angeles	63	45	pc	63	43	pc	64	45	pc	65	30	c
Miami	72	54	pc	71	61	pc	75	64	s	74	57	pc
Minn.- St. Paul	30	14	pc	28	17	c	31	17	c	28	16	c
New Orleans	59	41	s	62	53	c	67	52	c	65	53	r
New York City	32	22	pc	36	28	s	40	30	pc	42	36	c
Omaha	37	23	pc	35	23	c	40	21	c	38	23	c
Phoenix	62	41	pc	58	41	pc	62	42	pc	63	37	pc
San Francisco	53	44	c	57	45	pc	55	47	c	55	32	c
Seattle	48	36	c	48	38	c	47	39	sh	45	33	sh
Washington	36	24	pc	40	28	s	46	32	pc	48	38	c

SUN & MOON

	Sunrise	Sunset
Thu.	7:13 a.m.	5:08 p.m.
Fri.	7:12 a.m.	5:08 p.m.
	Moonrise	Moonset
Thu.	8:03 a.m.	6:13 p.m.
Fri.	8:36 a.m.	7:11 p.m.

Moon Phases				
Now	First	Full	Last	
				
Jan	24	Feb 1	Feb 8	
Feb	14			

Weather (W):

s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy,
c-cloudy, sh-showers,
t-thunderstorms, r-rain,
si-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice

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WORLD TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Amsterdam	44	39	pc	44	36	pc	46	41	c	42	34	sh
Berlin	45	39	pc	46	38	c	41	36	c	39	34	sn
Buenos Aires	92	70	pc	87	59	pc	84	59	s	85	68	pc
Cairo	63	50	pc	63	51	pc	66	51	pc	64	51	pc
Jerusalem	43	31	pc	50	38	pc	53	42	c	54	43	pc
Johannesburg	78	57	sh	81	54	s	83	55	s	87	60	s
London	43	37	r	46	43	pc	49	42	r	44	39	c
Madrid	42	33	sh	39	37	pc	55	28	c	43	26	c
Mexico City	70	42	pc	71	42	s	68	43	pc	64	47	c
Moscow	22	21	sn	29	25	sn	26	15	c	24	13	pc
Paris	40	35	sn	40	34	c	38	35	sn	38	30	sn
Rio de Janeiro	82	70	pc	83	72	pc	85	73	pc	81	72	sh
Rome	65	48	pc	59	43	sh	51	47	sh	56	47	r
San Juan	85	72	pc	84	71	pc	79	68	pc	77	68	s
Seoul	36	27	c	33	28	c	41	28	s	33	17	c
Sydney	91	80	pc	92	71	s	73	65	c	75	62	pc
Tokyo	43	40	c	47	46	r	50	42	r	49	39	pc
Toronto	15	7	c	30	18	pc	34	26	c	36	24	sn
Winnipeg	22	9	pc	18	8	sn	14	6	sn	21	4	c
Zurich	47	39	c	41	32	sh	44	32	c	36	30	sn

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8888-01-7801

'Michelle's Law' To Upgrade Penalty For Leaving Scene Of Accident

STATE — Legislation has been introduced that will increase the penalty for anyone convicted of leaving the scene of a fatal accident.

"The punishment has to fit the crime," said Assemblyman Neil Cohen (D-Union). "If someone is behind the wheel and strikes a pedestrian without stopping to

Mutual-Aid Emergency

Action Becomes Law

STATE-Governor Whitman signed into law legislation to better define the command structure in multiple-town responses to fires and other emergencies.

The new law (A-1710) sets up a clearly delineated plan of procedures for fire companies or other emergency services that engage in joint or mutual-aid efforts. In addition, the law requires that deputy and battalion chiefs and fire company officers be included in county mutual-aid fire response plans.

"In an emergency that requires a regionalized response, communication and structure are the two keys for a successful operation," said Assemblyman John Wisniewski (D-Sayreville). "An

assist or check on the welfare of that person, then a crime has been committed. In the case of a hit and run where a pedestrian has been killed, then a more stringent punishment is required."

The bill (A-3132) was drafted last week after Cohen was contacted by the mother of a young woman who died in a tragic acci-

emergency action plan will give direct chain of command and create a quick response team."

Up until now, only a limited number of fire chiefs have taken part in such planning work. The law will ward against confusion and turf battles, and encourage inclusion of all decision-making fire officials.

The new law will improve communication among fire companies.

"A coordinated and organized effort of multiple fire departments can quickly respond and control an emergency situation," said Wisniewski. "A cooperative emergency response team benefits both the community and the firefighters responding to a call."

Eligible Families Encouraged To Apply For 2000 E.I.T.C.

AREA — With the tax season right around the corner, the State of New Jersey is launching a major public awareness campaign promoting the federal and state earned income tax credit (EITC) for 2000. This year New Jersey became the 13th state to enact legislation offering a State earned income tax credit to low- and moderate-income working families. The goal of the campaign is to ensure that those who are eligible for the credit learn about it and take advantage of it.

Leading the campaign are the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS); Public Service Electric & Gas Company, the Association for Children of New Jersey, the Internal Revenue Service and the Division of Taxation. As the private sector partner in the campaign, PSE&G has funded the printing of 200,000 flyers and 300,000 envelope inserts

distributed to over 210 state and local agencies.

In 1998, some 400,000 families and individuals in New Jersey received more than \$660 million in federal EITC benefits. It's estimated that approximately 280,000 New Jersey working families who receive the federal EITC will be eligible for \$48 million state EITC benefits this year.

This year's campaign is important to New Jersey since Federal and State welfare reform and a stronger economy have dramatically reduced welfare rolls and increased the low-wage labor market. As a result, the DHS has expanded its outreach to include presentations on the federal and state EITC to community-based organizations, local employers and businesses. For more information about the EITC or to arrange a presentation contact Steve Valli at 609-292-4750.

dent that took place this past summer on Route 22 in Mountainside.

On Aug. 1, Michelle Marie Margaritonda and her boyfriend, Chris Leone, were returning from a friend's house late in the evening and were legally crossing the highway when a motorist ran a red light, struck Margaritonda, and carried her body 100 feet down the roadway. She died several hours later at University Hospital in Newark.

The driver, who never stopped after hitting the woman, continued down the highway but was apprehended shortly afterward near his workplace in Elizabeth and was charged with leaving the scene of a fatal accident — a third-degree crime that carries a maximum

penalty of five years in prison. The driver had changed his automobile to use another motor vehicle. He also was found to have several different driver's licenses from other states.

Under current law, if someone has a clean record and no additional charges are filed, the defendant will more than likely not serve any substantial time in prison.

Cohen's legislation would upgrade the crime of leaving the scene of a fatal accident from a crime of the third degree to a crime of the second degree — which is punishable by up to ten years imprisonment and fines of up to \$150,000.

In addition, if a police officer

has reason to believe that a person was operating a vehicle while intoxicated, Cohen's bill would require that officer to take samples of a person's breath to determine the content of alcohol in that person's blood, or require a drug test.

"The motorist who struck and caused the death of Michelle Marie Margaritonda will be sentenced shortly in Union County," said Cohen. "In a case like this, where an innocent life has been taken and under the circumstances herein, probation is unjustified. We must ensure that Michelle Margaritonda did not die in vain and that we do everything in our power to see to it that such a tragedy never occurs again."

Employment Opportunities Through Resume Writing

AREA—With 2001 swinging in, it's a perfect time to get started on an employment search for the position of your choice. Union County College will help you through the first step by presenting two, single-session workshops on resume writing and job interview techniques during late January and early February. This semester, the workshops will be conducted on Saturday mornings to afford those who work late weeknight hours the opportunity to benefit from the important information presented.

The workshops are designed for persons who wish to upgrade their status in a chosen field, as well as for those who look to change direction and start an entirely new career path. New graduates are also assisted through the workshops. The seminars are practically oriented and provide participants with significant opportunity to address their own personal concerns. Considerable dialogue is encouraged to enable participants

to learn from their peers as well as from the instructor.


Sponsored by the College's Division of Continuing Education and Community Services, the workshops will afford participants the opportunity to take one or both seminars depending upon their individual needs.

"Make Your Resume Work For You" will enable students to discover the rationale behind effective resume writing and how it can be worked to the individual's advantage. The class will review the mechanics of writing a resume and cover letter that are clear, concise, and highlight one's individuality. Participants will learn to balance marketability with accuracy, and become familiar with the dos and don'ts of good editing practices, layout and professional printing strategies. The College will conduct the seminar from 10 a.m.-12 noon on Saturday, Jan. 27 at its Cranford Campus.


"Developing Confidence for

the Job Interview" will enable participants to develop strategic selling skills for the employment marketplace. They will learn techniques to prepare effectively for the job interview. This effort can thus help to ease the stress of the experience and equip participants with the ability to refine their presentation for optimal impact. Participants will learn to conduct preliminary research, the importance of networking, handling "trick" questions, types of questions the interviewee needs to ask, negotiating for the salary and how to close the interview to one's advantage. Role playing will be included as time permits. The College will conduct the seminar from 10 a.m.-12 noon on Saturday, Feb. 3, also at the Cranford Campus.

Those interested in further information should call the College's Division of Continuing Education and Community Services at (908) 709-7600.



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YOUR HEALTH NEWS**Measure Requiring Health Coverage For Birth Control Clears Committee**

STATE — The Assembly Health Committee has released legislation that would require health insurers to cover the costs of prescription birth control aids.

The Bill (A-180/A-2167) would require health insurance groups to provide coverage for prescription drugs and medical devices.

This issue recently made headlines as women's groups, notably Planned Parenthood questioned the contradictory policies of insurers covering costs of the impotence drug

Viagra while denying women coverage for contraceptives. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists also has cited this inconsistency and has urged federal legislators to craft legislation resembling the Gusciora measure.

"It is a double standard. New Jersey endorses anti-impotency pills for men but denies women access to contraceptives," said Assemblyman Reed Gusciora (D-Princeton).

"As population figures spiral higher and higher, we should assure that women have the abil-

ity to protect themselves against unwanted pregnancies," said Assembly Neil M. Cohen (D-Union).

Two years ago, Rutgers University released a study showing that abortion numbers have increased as a result of the state's 'family cap' welfare rules. According to the report, abortions among welfare recipients rose by about 240 abortions a year between 1991-96.

"As the state takes food from the mouths of welfare children, they deny women the opportunity to prevent unwanted births by

not covering costs for contraceptives," said Gusciora. "In the wake of results from a Rutgers survey showing that more welfare recipients are having abortions, we need to take a proactive approach to prevent this problem. Requiring insurance companies to cover the cost of birth control is a step in the right direction to lower these startling statistics."

Gusciora said this measure would work to combat teen pregnancies. Many sexually active teenagers do not use birth control due to its excessive costs. And according to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancies, a sexually active teen who does not use

contraception has a 90 percent chance of pregnancy within one year.

"Teenagers also fall victims to a system that does not support the need for women to control their own bodies by arming themselves with reliable contraceptives," said Gusciora. "As much as we discourage teens to have intercourse, reality has proven that it happens. The least the state can do is make sure they can be protected from unwanted pregnancies by having their health insurers cover birth control."

Currently, seven other states have passed similar legislation requiring at least partial coverage of contraceptive products.

Free CPR Training Offered

AREA — According to the American Heart Association, close to 80% of cardiac emergencies occur in the home. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is a basic lifesaving skill that in an emergency could help save the life of a family member, friend, coworker or bystander. Featuring the slogan "Heroes Aren't Born. They're Trained. Learn CPR!" the American Heart Association will hold the first-ever National CPR Day on Saturday, April 28. CPR Day in New Jersey will be hosted by The College of New Jersey in Ewing Township and is absolutely free to the public.

National CPR Day is a community-based mass CPR training event to increase awareness about the importance of CPR training and to support the American Heart Association's national effort to strengthen the "chain of survival" — a critical four-step process that can mean

the difference between life and death for someone experiencing sudden cardiac arrest, heart attack, stroke or other medical emergencies.

Early CPR is the second "link" in the chain of survival. The association believes that a strong chain of survival nationwide, featuring more people trained in CPR and the widespread availability of automated external defibrillators (AEDs), could result in 50,000 or more lives saved each year from sudden cardiac arrest.

National CPR Day will take place the final Saturday of April each year. In New Jersey, it will be held at The College of New Jersey in Ewing Township on April 28. Free CPR training will be offered to the public from 8-11 a.m. and from 2-4 p.m. Supporting National CPR Day in New Jersey is gold sponsor Bristol-Myers Squibb and official media sponsor News 12 New Jersey.

Reservations are required for National CPR Day and space will be limited to about 1,500 people for the two sessions combined. Call 732-821-2610 to reserve spaces for you, your family or for school and company teams.

National CPR Day will feature the American Heart Association's new course — CPR For Family and Friends — a 2-hour CPR training program designed to teach the lay public the basic lifesaving skills of adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation — a technique combining mouth-to-mouth breathing and external chest compressions using hands-on practice with manikins.

It's estimated that 40,000 or more people in New Jersey will experience sudden cardiac arrest or heart attack annually. Become a hero. Learn CPR! Space is limited, so register today for National CPR Day in New Jersey. Call 732-821-2610 today. Bring a friend, coworkers or family members, but learn CPR! Call the New Jersey office of the American Heart Association.

Start The New Year With A Fundraiser

AREA — Attention All Schools: The Northern NJ Chapter of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society welcomes your school to participate in a fundraising event for the new year. Why? Did you know that leukemia is the number one killer of children ages 1 to 15? Only accidents kill more children. The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society has dedicated itself to being one of the top rated voluntary agencies in terms of dollars which directly fund our mission. Approximately 80% of our funds are spent on research, patients services and education. In 1960 the survival rate was a mere 4%. Today, thanks to research funded by many of our School & Youth Programs, the survival rate is approaching 80%.

We offer several programs for every age group, ranging from pre-school through high school and also welcome staff

members to participate. Just to name a few ... HOP for a CURE - conducted year-round; Pennies for Patients/Pasta for Pennies - Feb. 5-26, and Pajama Day - March 12.

When you register for a fundraising event, you will be provided with all of the necessary materials which include: parent letters, honored patient biography, stickers, posters, educational reading materials and educational video with a teacher's guide. Pasta & pizza parties, sweatshirts, T-shirts and sports cups are awarded for various levels of fundraising.

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society needs your help. This year, an estimated 106,700 people in the U.S. will be diagnosed with leukemia or one of its blood-related cancers and will kill an estimated 60,400. Our mission is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma and to improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

Join our team of fundraisers to help find a cure. Contact the NNJ Chapter at 973-376-9559.

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• Disc Problems	• Muscle Spasm	• Joint Pain	• Pregnancy
• Pinched Nerves	• Scoliosis	• Bursitis	• Work Injuries

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Saving Bonds: An Attractive Investment For Small Savers

by Dr. Karen M. Ensle,
RD, FADA, CFCS

AREA — What is the most widely held security today? Stocks? Mutual funds? Neither. The correct answer is U.S. savings bonds. Below is some of the information about this investment:

- Contrary to popular stereotypes, savings bonds are a competitive investment today and an excellent compliment to more volatile stocks or growth mutual funds in an investor's portfolio. They pay predictable yields that are based on current market rates.

- Interest on EE bonds is calculated every six months, in May and November, as 90% of the average five-year Treasury security yield for the proceeding six-month period. The current rate in effect from May 2000 through October 2000 is 5.73%.

- Interest on inflation-adjusted I bonds is a combination of a fixed rate (currently 3.6%), that applies for the life of a bond, and an inflation rate that is adjusted semi-annually. Inflation is measured by the "Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers" (CPI-U). The current I bond earnings rate, in effect until November 1 is 7.49% (fixed rate combined with inflation rate).

- Savings bonds interest rates compare favorably with the other cash assets such as bank money market deposit accounts, passbook accounts and interest-bearing checking accounts.

- U.S. savings bonds also provide an exemption from state and local income taxes. This increases an investor's return when compared with other cash assets. In addition, federal income tax is deferred until

bonds are redeemed or until they reach final material (30 years for newly issued bonds), whichever comes first.

- Over time, savings bond growth can be impressive. A person who invests \$25 biweekly and earns an average return of 6% will accumulate \$54,569 in 30 years. People can invest regular amounts through a payroll savings plan at work or through the Easy-Saver plan. With Easy-Saver, a person submits an enrollment form to the U.S. Treasury Department indicating the amount and frequency of bond purchases to be deducted from his or her checking or savings account. To obtain an enrollment form call 877-811-SAVE or download it from the Web site <http://www.savingsbonds.gov>.

- U.S. savings bonds are affordable. Both EE bonds and I

bonds come in eight denominations ranging from \$50 to \$10,000. EE bonds are issued at 50% of face value (e.g., a \$100 EE bond costs \$50) and I bonds are issued at full face value (e.g., a \$100 I bond costs \$100).

- Both types of bonds can be redeemed at any time after an initial 6-month holding period and earn interest for up to 30 years. There is, however, a three-month penalty for bonds redeemed before five years from their issue date. For example, if you cash a bond after 18 months, you would get only 15 months worth of interest.

- EE bonds (but not I bonds) can be exchanged for HH bonds. This allows an investor to defer the tax liability on their EE bonds for up to 20 more years. The downside is that HH bonds only pay 4% interest. This rate is set by the Secretary of the

Treasury and changes infrequently.

- Various resources can help savings bond investors. For bond rates, call 1-800-AUS-BOND. For information and forms, and savings bond wizard software program that keeps track of bond purchases and values, check the Web site: www.savingsbonds.gov. To replace a savings bond, write to Bureau of the Public Debt, P.O. Box 1328, Parkersburg, WV 26106 or call 304-480-6102.

This MONEY 2000™ message is sponsored by Rutgers Cooperative Extension. MONEY 2000™ is a program designed to increase the financial well being of New Jersey residents through increased savings and reduced household debt. For further information about MONEY 2000™ and other educational programs, contact your local Rutgers Cooperative Extension office.

Painless Ways To Reduce Household Expense

by Dr. Karen Ensle,
RD, FADA, CFCS

AREA — **INCOME = LIVING EXPENSES (including saving) + DEBT REPAYMENT.** This simple equation says it all about household cash flow. It is simply impossible to spend more than you earn without incurring additional debt. Thus, it is important to live within your means.

To make ends meet and, better still, to get ahead, you can reduce household expenses and debt, increase income, or do all three. There is no other "magic" solution.

This article will focus on reducing expenses. There are literally hundreds of books about ways to live on less. Many are organized by spending category. Below are some ideas to consider:

HOUSING

- Consider refinancing an existing mortgage if savings exceed the cost.

- Ask your mortgage lender to

cancel private mortgage insurance (PMI) when home equity reaches 20% of home value (e.g., \$20,000 of equity on a \$100,000 home).

- Purchase appliances with a high Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER).

FOOD

- Combine coupons with store sales and/or product rebates for additional savings.

- Buy in bulk when items are on sale or in season (e.g., produce).

- Buy store or generic brands if they have the cheapest price.

TRANSPORTATION

- Keep a car as long as possible to reduce depreciation and financing costs.

- Consider buying a late model used car instead of a new one.

- Purchase airline tickets during fare wars and stay over a

Saturday night to get a cheaper fare.

CLOTHING

- Shop department store clearance sales, consignment stores, factory outlets, thrift shops, and/or flea markets for clothing discounts.

- Buy washable clothing to avoid dry cleaning charges.

- Build a wardrobe around just a few dominant colors or neutrals to enhance "mixing and matching."

UTILITIES

- Use e-mail in lieu of phone calls to reduce telephone charges.

- Sign up for a long-distance telephone savings plan.

- Close off unused rooms in the winter to conserve heat.

- Insulate your hot water heater and reduce the temperature to 120 degrees.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- Switch to credit cards with a low annual percentage rate (APR) if you revolve a balance.

- Increase collision and comprehensive deductibles and drop coverage completely on older cars.

- Inquire about insurance discounts (e.g., for buying all property insurance from the same company).

- Reorder checks and deposit slips from a mail order firm instead of a bank.

OTHER

- Eliminate "rarely-used" expenses such as health club dues,

call waiting, and premium cable channels.

- Trim gambling expenses (e.g., lottery tickets) and expensive habits (e.g., smoking).

- Always inquire about discounts, especially when traveling and paying cash for items.

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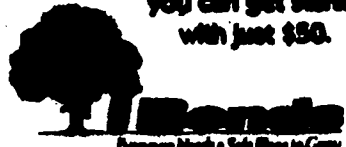
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week of 1/12/01 to 1/18/01			
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SATURDAY Jan. 13	904	\$285.50	\$47.50 \$28.50
Read our ATOM TABLOID			
SUNDAY Jan. 14	741	\$224.00	\$37.00 \$22.00
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MONDAY Jan. 15	369	\$239.59	\$39.50 \$23.00
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WEDNESDAY Jan. 17	731	\$214.50	\$35.50 \$21.00
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number	straight	box	
FRI. • Jan. 12 • Devine Media			
5228	\$2,895.00	\$241.00	
JERSEY CASH 5 ... 3-5-7-8-11			
BIG GAME ... 6-15-23-26-50/6			
SAT. • Jan. 13 • Devine Media			
2382	\$3,267.00	\$272.00	
LOTZEE ... 13-42-89-98			
SUN. • Jan. 14 • Devine Media			
0011	\$1,120.50	\$186.50	
MON. • Jan. 15 • Devine Media			
7815	\$3,259.50	\$135.50	
PICK SIX ... 10-19-22-39-44-49			
JERSEY CASH 5 ... 5-11-28-31-33			
TUE. • Jan. 16 • Devine Media			
8833	\$2,311.00	\$192.50	
JERSEY CASH 5 ... 21-22-25-28-33			
BIG GAME ... 7-8-13-36-50/28			
WED. • Jan. 17 • Devine Media			
8814	\$2,511.50	\$209.00	
JERSEY CASH 5 ... 3-4-10-24-25			
THUR. • Jan. 18 • Devine Media			
9829	\$2,180.00	\$181.50	
PICK SIX ... 3-13-19-36-41-48			
JERSEY CASH 5 ... 7-14-23-32-38			

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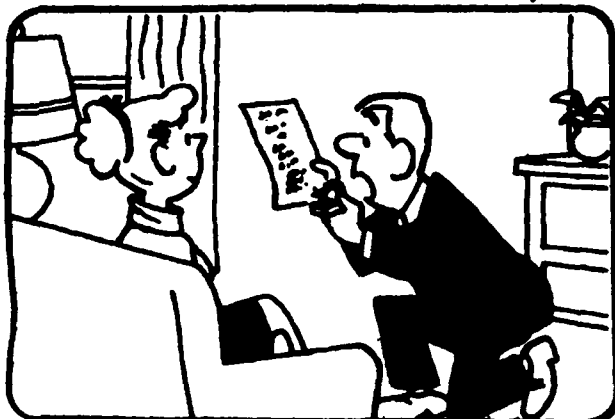
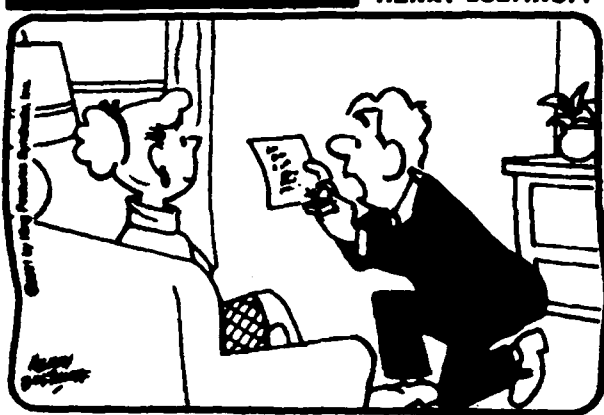
Comics & Puzzles



FOCUS-FOCUS

**BY
HENRY SOLTNOFF**

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



MAGIC MAZE HOMONYMS

UYUQNI FCYVROLHE
BXUGROLIEBYRVSQ
NKHUEBYWTREOLJG
EBYE WURPNTKIGDB
ZHORDEXVLSQOMKL
RTIRATLAGIECAYE
WIAILOTIPACULRS
SOALLIROGQPNANN
HLJLPENFWECUUAU
YXVAFUUSQPFNDOO
MKCJHFEDCBZYXVC

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

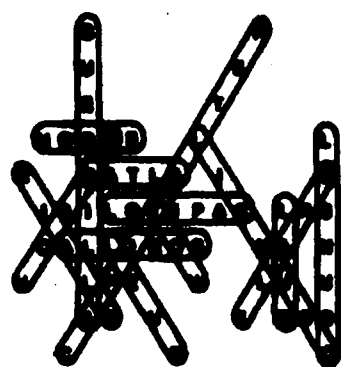
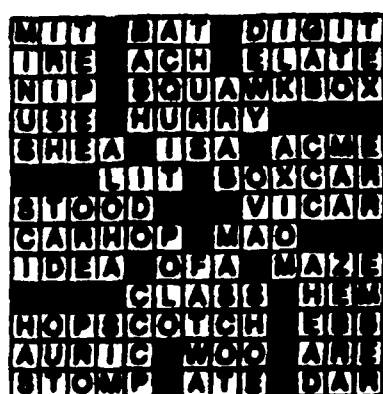
Alter
Alter
Capital
Capital

**Council
Council
Dust
Dust**

**Pair
Flare
Gorilla
Guerrilla**

Hoard Hordes Tow

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THE SPATS

by **JEFF PICKERING**

Hocus-Focus answers

Directions: 1. Leaf is removed. 2. Paper is longer. 3. Sheet is shorter. 4. Corners is wider. 5. Hair is different. 6. Printing is removed.

**Everyone loves
the comics page!**

YOUR ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

TOP OF THE CHARTS

Top 10 Pop Singles

1. Destiny's Child "Independent Women Part I" (Columbia) Last Week: No. 1
2. Dream "He Loves U Not" (Bad Boy) No. 2
3. Shaggy feat. Ricardo "Rikrok" Ducent "It Wasn't Me" (MCA) No. 3
4. Mya "Case of the Ex (Whatcha Gonna Do)" (University) No. 4
5. Creed "With Arms Wide Open" (Wind-Up) No. 5
6. OutKast "Ms. Jackson" (LaFace) No. 6
7. Faith Hill "The Way You Love Me" (Warner Bros.) No. 7
8. Debrah Morgan "Dance With Me" (The DAS Label) No. 10
9. matchbox twenty "If You're Gone" (Lava) No. 8
10. O-Town "Liquid Dreams" (J) No. 17

Top 10 Video Rentals

1. Gladiator (R) Russell Crowe (DreamWorks Home Entertainment) No. 1
2. X-Men (PG-13) Patrick Stewart (FoxVideo) No. 2
3. Mission: Impossible 2 (PG-13) Tom Cruise (Paramount Home Video) No. 3
4. The Nutty Professor 2: The Klumps (PG-13) Eddie Murphy (Universal Studios Home Video) No. 4
5. Chicken Run animated (G) (DreamWorks Home Entertainment) No. 5
6. Gone in 60 Seconds (PG-13) Nicolas Cage (Touchstone Home Video) No. 6
7. The Perfect Storm (PG-13) George Clooney (Warner Home Video) No. 7
8. The Patriot (R) Mel Gibson (Columbia TriStar Home Video) No. 8
9. High Fidelity (R) John Cusack (Touchstone Home Video) No. 9
10. Big Momma's House (PG-13) Martin Lawrence (FoxVideo) No. 10

Top 10 DVD Sales

1. Gladiator (R) (DreamWorks Home Entertainment) No. 2
2. Scary Movie (R) (Dimension Home Video) No. 1
3. Gone in 60 Seconds (PG-13) (Touchstone Home Video) No. 3
4. The Patriot (R) (Columbia TriStar Home Video) No. 6
5. The Cell (R) (New Line Home Video) New Entry
6. Road Trip (R) (DreamWorks Home Entertainment) New Entry
7. X-Men (PG-13) (FoxVideo) No. 5
8. The Perfect Storm (PG-13) (Warner Home Video) No. 7
9. Mission: Impossible 2 (PG-13) (Paramount Home Video) No. 10
10. Se7en: Two Disc Platinum Series (R) (New Line Home Video) New Entry

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POPCORN
"Traffic"

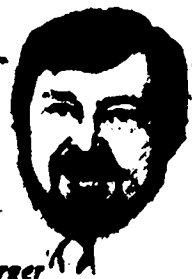
No Getting Around Its Important Message



popcorns

One Popcorn, Poor • Two Popcorns, Fair • Three Popcorns, Good • Four Popcorns, Excellent

By Michael S. Goldberger



"Traffic" can give you a real headache. This superbly filmed muckraker about the illegal drug trade poses the sort of questions that could cross Solomon's eyes.

They're Earth-shattering inquiries, like how can we free civilization from the stranglehold of the drug cartels? And what should we do to protect our children from their virulent menace?

The better a film of this type, the more difficult the questions it poses. And these are industrial strength, migraine quality noggin busters. So we speculate in frustration. How about throwing more money and manpower into the fray? Of course, it would mean raising taxes. Think that would fly?

Or how about just legalizing it all and taking the profit out of drug sales? True, it might exorcise the criminal element? But wouldn't ready availability at the State Store attract new potential addicts? And even if it didn't, what would happen to the tens of thousands of Americans who earn their daily bread by fighting the so-called War on Drugs? Scouring for solutions, thinking folk will agonize for days after seeing director Steven Soderbergh's immensely unsettling film. People with children will find it doubly disturbing.

Splendidly directed by Mr. Soderbergh, the trenchant screenplay by Steven Gaghan (adapted from the miniseries "Traffik" by Simon Moore) employs a four-pronged attack

in its tour of the drug world's manifold devastations. The director uses a different tint to identify each. First, there is the bleached out, sun-drenched atmosphere that identifies Mexico, just south of the border. There we learn about the supply side of the problem.

And to make things even more interesting, there just so happens to be a power struggle in progress between the Juarez and Tijuana cartels. Tossed into this mix is Benicio Del Toro as Javier Rodriguez, a local cop who finds himself swimming in shark infested waters when a general enlists his covert cooperation.

Mr. Del Toro supplies the film's stand-out performance.

Javier's counterpart in San Diego is Detective Montel Gordon, played by Don Cheadle. He's a determined drug-buster who manages to collar bigwig Carlos Ayala (Steven Bauer) early in the doings. But will he be able to make it stick at the trial? And will everyone who's supposed to testify still be alive by the opening gavel? The tension attendant to these two scenarios is of the seat-edged variety.

Edgy on another level, but equally savvy, is the part of the tale that deals with America's

official response to the crisis at hand. In other words, the politics. Embodied by Michael Douglas, the government's answer to the problem is Robert Wakefield, a conservative judge from Ohio just recently elevated to Drug Czar. And though this is a demotion for Douglas (after all, he was the chief executive in "The American President"), he is nonetheless convincing as the hard-nosed and dedicated public servant. But perhaps the ambitious judge was a bit too zealous in his climb to recognition.

Maybe it would have helped if he had spent a little more time at home. Which leads to the last angle of the screenplay's multifaceted approach...the most distressing of all.

It concerns Caroline, the new drug czar's daughter very ably portrayed by Erika Christensen. She's fifteen, an honor student at a posh country day school, involved in every extracurricular activity and, alas, a crack fiend. When "Traffic" is eventually shown on television and we are forewarned that certain scenes depicting drug use may prove too graphic for some viewers, it's

Caroline's squalid descent into the bowels of substance abuse that they'll be talking about.

Soderbergh's action-filled diatribe puts in high relief the vicious circle of factors that make the world's drug cartels the modern-day equivalent of the antichrist. That is, they couldn't exist were it not for human greed and weakness. Hence there is no glamorization of narcotics use, no romantic representation of gentleman drug lords. And by skillfully blending the fictional account with the harsh facts of reality, and then fluidly intertwining the various tales, the movie's dramatic impact is undeniable. Its clarion call to common sense is piercing.

The movie's intermittent use of grainy stock and washed out colors tends to get overdone in a film school sort of way. But this is a minor style flaw that doesn't keep the effort from striking a very sensitive nerve.

Artistically putting the truth out there and letting it speak for itself, the director happily avoids the sort of preachiness that can make films of social import seem both tiresome and disingenuous.

Of course we knew going in that ultimately education is the answer.

And now we've learned even more. Hopefully it's enough to keep our children from getting stuck in "Traffic."

"Traffic," rated R, is a USA Films release directed by Steven Soderbergh and stars Michael Douglas, Benicio Del Toro, and Erika Christensen.

Running time: 147 minutes



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YOUR SCHOOL NEWS

Helping Special Education Students Succeed

(NAPSA) — Help! That's what a recent report shows special education teachers need to do their job.

The report by the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) shows that students with disabilities sometimes receive less than adequate instruction, and that the fault may lie with a system that loads special education teachers down with paperwork and caseloads, preventing them from doing what they do best, teach.

According to the report, more than 60 percent of special edu-

cation teachers spend approximately 20 percent of their time, or up to 11½ days a week completing paperwork, such as forms, letters and reports.

Special education teachers in a resource room have an average caseload of 38 students while teachers in a self-contained classroom have 18 students.

Often these caseloads do not take into account each child's disability and needs or the combination of varying disabilities teachers are responsible for.

Such high caseloads make it nearly impossible to individual-

ize and provide quality instruction.

More than 50 percent of special education teachers report that they spend only one to two hours a week in one-on-one instruction with each of their students with disabilities.

In some schools, special education teachers have few opportunities to collaborate with general or other special educators. As a result, they cannot effectively implement appropriate curriculum modifications or adaptations for their students.

The report, *Bright Futures for Exceptional Learners: An Action Agenda to Achieve Quality Conditions for Teaching and Learning*, calls on schools, districts, states, administrators, businesses, federal agencies, professional associations, parents and teachers to take action to remedy the current situation. Some of the report's recommendations include providing technology and clerical supports to reduce the paperwork burden, and administrative support for special education teachers.

For a copy of *Bright Futures for Exceptional Learners: An Action Agenda to Achieve Quality Conditions for Teaching and Learning*, see www.cec.sped.org or call 888/CEC-SPED.

The Council for Exceptional Children, a professional association for special education related service providers and parents, works to improve the educational success of individuals with disabilities and/or gifts and talents.

For Non-Profit Groups, Flowers Offer Fresh Idea For Raising Funds

(NAPSA) — When it comes to raising funds during the Valentine's Day season, a growing number of non-profit organizations are putting the "petal" to the "mettle" and coming up with creative ideas that may blossom into successful campaigns.

That's because some of the most effective fundraising efforts are very time specific—such as wrapping paper sales prior to Christmas and Chanukah, or candy sales around Easter and Passover. And for lovebirds who want to send a special message come February 14, a bountiful bouquet of flowers can say quite a lot.

FundRaising.Com — a leading Internet service specializing in helping groups get their fund drives started and keeping them organized — has teamed up with Proflowers.com to introduce "fresh flower fund raising" to schools, school groups, religious organizations and charities. This fresh approach to fund raising has never before been available at a national level.

Through this partnership, red,

white, pink and yellow roses and carnations are delivered overnight via Fed Ex-fresh from the grower in boxes of 100. The group can set its selling price for individual blooms and bouquets, thereby determining its own profits.

Fresh flowers can be a terrific enterprise for schools, especially middle and high schools. For example, the cheerleading squad could sponsor a fund-raising program in which they deliver flowers to friends and teachers during lunchtime or homeroom periods.

Flowers can also be used to raise funds at other times of year. A school's student council could sell fresh roses for homecoming, the prom or Sweetest Day (an October celebration). Religious organizations and charities could offer flowers for the holidays or for special events.

"Selling fresh flowers is a great way for a non-profit group to make money," says Judy Raddatz, president of FundRaising.Com. "The roses and carnations we get from Pro-

flowers.com are 100% guaranteed to be beautiful! They last a long time because they are shipped overnight, direct from the grower to the group. It's a great new way to raise money and have fun at the same time."

For an extra-sweet fundraising endeavor, Raddatz recommends two other Valentine's Day products:

- Chocolate Roses-Long-stemmed chocolate roses are a tasty and inexpensive way to say "Happy Valentine's Day" to that special someone. These classical confections are available in white, yellow, pink, red and milk chocolate, and are great for school groups to sell during lunchtime. In addition, through FundRaising.Com, this tasty idea provides a 40% profit margin to the group.

- Heart-Shaped Lollipops - These cute and yummy suckers are available in eight delicious flavors (Bubble Gum, Cherry Cheesecake, Cherry Snow, Strawberry Shake, Watermelon Slice, Wild Cherry, Cinnamon and Red Raspberry) and present groups with a sweet 50% profit margin.

For more fundraising tips, for Valentine's Day or any other time of year, visit the FundRaising.Com Web site at www.fundraising.com.



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O'Neill Named To 'Who's Who'

SOUTH AMBOY—Three Middlesex County residents are among 33 Rider University seniors selected for inclusions in the 2001 edition of *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*, a publication that recognizes national outstanding campus leaders.

Students are selected based on their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success.

Cherilyn M. O'Neill of South Amboy, a marketing/economics double major, is one of the 33.

They join an elite group of students from more than 2,300 institutions of higher learning in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and several foreign nations. Outstanding students have been honored in the annual directory since it was first published in 1954.



ANDREWMAN
John S. Wisniewski's
**Report
From
Trenton**

When most of us think of a New Jersey vacation what pops to mind? That's right the Jersey Shore. And while we all have wonderful memories of sun-drenched ocean beaches, playing in the surf, skeeball and sausage sandwiches on the Boardwalk, New Jersey is also a winter vacation wonderland. Whether its swooshing your way down the mountain at one of our many ski resorts or cross-country skiing at one of our many state parks, New Jersey offers endless opportunities for the winter sports lover. Located in the northern end of Sussex County are two of our finest ski resorts, Mountain Creek and Hidden Valley. Both offer a full range of skiing and snowboarding opportunities. Whether your an expert or just a "bunny slope" beginner these resorts have terrains to match your ability. If your not up to skiing but just want to enjoy the clear, crisp winter air, visit one of our 38 state parks and see mother nature in all her winter beauty.

If indoor activities are more to your liking our state has plenty to offer. New Jersey is rich in history and culture.

SnigLe'ts

LINT FOR THE BRAIN BY HENRY DAMEN

Discriminating Laws

If you live on an acre of land, you're a racist. So says a U.S. District Court Judge.

According to Judge Jerry Buchmeyer, Sunnyvale, Texas's ordinance setting a one-acre minimum for residential lots, as well as the city's 1971 ban on apartments, were written to discriminate against minorities.

Moreover, Sunnyvale itself is a racist creation, the result of fear of "residential development planned for black households." The judge offered officials to adopt new laws to encourage development of apartments and low-income housing.

He also ordered Sunnyvale to "take affirmative action to change its reputation as a municipality hostile to minorities."

Mayor Jim Phaup objected,

"It's all about open spaces and country fields. It has nothing to do about discriminatory practices." But as every good liberal knows, most racists don't even realize they're racists.

Buchmeyer was appointed to the federal bench by President Carter in 1979, and he's an old hand at judicial imperialism. For instance, he overturned the city council system approved by Dallas voters and forced the city to draw its districts on a racial basis an act later determined to be unconstitutional. Dallas's D magazine reports that Buchmeyer's racial mandates have cost Dallas \$190 million.

As for the judge himself, he lives north of Dallas in the lily white suburb of Park Cities. Lost of open spaces and country fields.

With more than 75 museums statewide, most free or with a modest entrance fee, our rich and diverse past is on display from one end of our state to the other. Visit George Washington's headquarters in Morristown or in Perth Amboy discover our nation's last remaining Colonial Governor's residence the Proprietary House. If more modern history is to your liking try the Toms River Seaport Society Maritime Museum or the Barnegat Bay Decoy and Baymen's Museum in



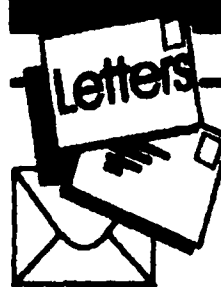
Tuckerton which has one of the world's finest collection of duck decoys. For art lovers the newly renovated Zimmerilli Art Museum on the campus of Rutgers University in New Brunswick or the Newark Museum, that houses the largest collection of Tibetan Art in the western hemisphere, should fit the bill. Add to these the scores of local and regional museums and galleries, its clear that New Jersey has something to offer everyone from world-class

artist to local amateur.

And if entertainment is your thing, the Garden State has something to fit any taste and budget. Since the advent of casino gaming more than twenty years ago, Atlantic City has once again become one the world's great seaside resorts. If you like the sound of the symphony or the hot licks of a jazz quartet, the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark offers top notch entertainment in a world class facility. Additionally the state has several smaller venues like the State Theater in New Brunswick, the John Harnes Theater in Englewood and the Count Bassie Theater in Red Bank. If you are looking to enjoy a drama or musical, try the Paper Mill Playhouse in Milburn, the George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick or catch top flight amateur theater in community playhouses throughout the state.

These activities and venues are just a small sampling of what our great state has to offer. More information is available in the newly published New Jersey Winter Guide. If you would like to receive a free copy please contact my district office at 732-316-1885 to learn why, regardless of the season, the saying is true "New Jersey and You Perfect Together."

READERS COMMENTARY



Operation Recognition

Dear Editor,
The New Jersey

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMAVA), in a joint effort with the New Jersey Department of Education, has launched a program called "Operation Recognition" in which veterans of World War II who left high school to enter the military before receiving their diploma, can now be issued a state endorsed high school diploma. Michael Warner, deputy commissioner of the DMAVA, stated, "This is a small recognition we can give in appreciation to those who sacrificed their education to ensure our freedoms."

All branches of service are



Dear Editor,

"Henry, the way you complain about liberals, you'd think they were trying to get government to control how much sleep people get." Exactly. The National Sleep Foundation is urging schools to start later in the day....to allow teenagers to get more sleep. It also recommends establishing a "sleep education" curriculum. (Whatever that is).

So California Democrat Zoe Lofgren has taken it upon herself to make it the job of big government to ensure teens get more sleep. Her "Z's" to A's Act—can you believe it?—would give school districts considering later school times Federal Grants up to \$125,000. So there you have a typical liberal idea: Taxpayers paying schools to let students sleep in.

eligible, as well as those who have already received a GED Certificate. The high school diplomas can be issued posthumously and surviving family members are urged to apply.

For more information concerning this program, contact Carl J. Asszony, the Middlesex County Veterans Services Coordinator at 1-800-591-9867 or Ann Richter (DMAVA) at (609) 530-6868. Similar programs have been established in Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Massachusetts, Nebraska, North Carolina and West Virginia.

Carl J. Asszony
Middlesex County
Veterans' Services
Coordinator

In addition to boosting academic performance, Ms. Lofgren says, "adjusting school hours solves another problem: juvenile crime." How she doesn't say. She says that "pubescent children require about nine-and-a-half hours (of sleep because) melatonin (the hormone which induces sleep) is secreted at later times (of the day) in adolescents....Zoe adds that it may be "impossible for teens to go to sleep before 10 p.m."

What hogwash! The teen years are exactly when people should be pushed—not pampered—so kids can learn how great their potential is. American teenagers do not need to be lulled to sleep. They need to Wake Up!

Henry Damen
Edison

Got something to say? Why not write a letter to our "Readers Commentary" column? Tell us how you feel about current situations both locally and nationally.

send to: AT/CG, "Readers Commentary", PO Box 1061, Rahway, NJ 07065

Exercise In The New Year

PERTH AMBOY — On Wednesday, January 31, an exercise class will be held at 11:45 a.m. led by Lois Tobias for members and guests of the Perth Amboy YMHA Senior Club.

A light, free lunch will be served followed by guest speaker, Lisa Blum, Social Worker of Jewish Family and Vocational Services of Edison. Mrs. Blum will discuss the activities and some specific pro-

grams of the Star-on Site Session.

This program brings together a close-knit group who listen to and discuss different items of interest each week.

Currently, a free lunch is served to members of the YMHA, but reservations must be made in advance.

Call (732) 442-0365 to try out our program.

OBITUARIES

Elizabeth Kennedy of Avenel

Mrs. Elizabeth Helen Butter Kennedy of Avenel died December 18 at home. She was 86.

Born in Philadelphia, she had resided in Avenel most of her life.

Mrs. Kennedy was a communicant of St. Andrew's R.C. Church, Avenel.

Her husband, Edward D. Kennedy, died in 1966. A grandson, Timmy Lowe, is also deceased.

Surviving are two daughters, Priscilla Siecinski of Avenel and Patricia Lowe of Ocean Gate; two sisters, Eva Schmidt of Ocean Gate and Helen Stutski of Toms River; 10 grandchildren, Jimmy, Dawn, Kelly, Tammy, Priscilla, Eddie, Terry, Bernie, Kathy and Davy; and 16 great-grandchildren, Jessica, Michael, Nicole, Amanda, Bernie III, Cory, Chaz, Campbell, Brian, Lauren, Cate, Eddie, Caitlin, Timmy, Jacob and Chelsea.

William Villanueva of Perth Amboy

Mr. William Villanueva of Perth Amboy died December 17 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy Division. He was 53. Born in San Sebastian, Puerto Rico, he lived in Perth Amboy for the past 50 years.

Surviving are his wife, Lydia Villanueva; a daughter, Annette Villanueva of Perth Amboy; a grandson, Curtis Jefferson, also of Perth Amboy; his parents, Teodoro and Restituta Villanueva of Puerto Rico; a brother, Benjamin Villanueva of Massachusetts; and two sisters, Lucy Ramirez of Puerto Rico and Miriam Arocho of Florida.

Alfred Kaplan, 61 of Metuchen

Mr. Alfred A. Kaplan of Coral Springs, Fla. (formerly of Metuchen) died December 9 in Lauderdale Lakes, Fla. He was 61.

Born in New Brunswick, he lived in North Plainfield, Edison and Metuchen before moving to Coral Spings, Fla. in 1992.

Surviving are his wife, Ronna Birnbaum of Coral Springs, Fla.; his father, Rubin Kaplan of Coral Springs, Fla.; three sons, Alex of Coral Springs, Fla., Corey of Chicago and Jeffrey of Melbourne, Fla.; a daughter, Allison of New York City; and five grandchildren.

A. T. Shanahan, 85 of Edison

Mrs. Annette T. Shanahan of Hightstown (formerly of Edison) died December 3. She was 85.

Born in New York City, she lived in Edison for 23 years before moving to Meadow Lakes from Rossmoor.

She was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church, Metuchen, the Quiet Hour, International Chapter PEO Sisterhood, Meals on Wheels, and various book and garden clubs.

Her first husband of 50 years, Arthur J. Wheaton, died in 1983. Her second husband, John L. Shanahan, died in 1995. A son, Thomas W. Wheaton, died in 1980.

Surviving are a daughter, Natalie W. Fox of Franklin; a brother, Robert N. Taylor of Richardson, Texas; eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

John J. Skarzynski of South River

Mr. John J. Skarzynski of South River, died November 18 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Old Bridge Division. He was 84.

He was a lifelong resident of South River. He retired for 19 years from Middlesex County College, Edison, where he worked as a maintenance supervisor for 24 years. Mr. Skarzynski was an Army veteran of World War II.

His wife, the former Gertrude Walczak; and a sister, Jessie, are deceased.

Surviving are a daughter, Carol Kline of Herndon, Va.; a son, John of South River and two grandchildren.

Claude Wilkins, Jr. of Edison

Mr. Claude L. Wilkins Jr. of Edison died December 19 at JFK Medical Center, Edison. He was 73. Born in Morris Township, he lived in Orange before moving to Edison 39 years ago.

He was a sheet metal worker at All Metal Food Equipment Co., Mountainside, for 20 years before retiring in 1994.

He was an Army veteran of World War II. He was a member of the VFW Post 3117 and the Lindenau Senior Citizens, both in Edison.

Surviving are his wife, the former Rita Stadlman; a son, David Wilkins of Edison; a daughter, Claudette Klimczak of South Brunswick; a brother, Richard Wilkins of Edison; two sister, Peggy Hodgettes of Forked River and Sharon Illario of Edison; and four grandchildren.

Louise Biesiada of Carteret

Mrs. Louise Sokolowski Biesiada of Carteret died December 9 at Jersey Shore Medical Center, Neptune. She was 76. Born in Jersey City, she lived in Carteret for 40 years before moving to Manasquan five years ago.

Mrs. Biesiada was a communicant of Holy Family R.C. Church, Carteret. She retired from Bamberger's-Macy's in Menlo Park after 25 years as a salesperson.

Her husband, Adam Biesiada, died in 1980.

Surviving are a son Ron Biesiada and a granddaughter, Jamie Biesiada, both of Manasquan.

Adeline Sparks, 88 of Colonia

Mrs. Adeline Verner Sparks of Colonia died December 17 at Inglemoor Nursing Home, Livingston. She was 88.

Born in The Bronx, N.Y., she lived in Colonia since 1940.

A graduate of Linden High School and Douglas College, she was employed as a school teacher.

Mrs. Sparks was also a guidance counselor for the Woodbridge Board of Education for many years before retiring in 1976.

Surviving are her daughter, Jacqueline Coy of Gilette; a son, William E. Sparks, Jr. of Houston; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Irene Smith, 88 of Parlin

Mrs. Irene E. Dorner Smith of Freehold (formerly of Parlin) died December 17 at Freehold Rehabilitation and Nursing Center. She was 88.

Born in Newark, she lived in Parlin for 40 years before moving to Freehold in 1988.

Before her retirement, she was an inspector at Monroe Calculator Company in Orange for 15 years.

Her husband, Joseph, died in 1978. A son, Joseph Smith, is also deceased.

Surviving are two sons, James of Forked River and Thomas of California; a sister, Doris Lyons of Florida; two brothers, Robert McGeachen of Florida and Edward McGeachen of Millville; nine grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

Esther Kalfus, 75 of Colonia

Mrs. Esther Kalfus (nee Sherman) of Colonia died December 17 at JFK Medical Center, Edison. She was 75.

Born in Poland, she came to the United States after World War II. She was a Holocaust survivor.

Mrs. Kalfus lived in Hillside before moving to Colonia 28 years ago.

She was a life member of the B'nai B'rith and Hadassah. She was also a member of the Congregation Ohev Shalom, Colonia.

Surviving are her husband, Emil; a son, Richard of Colonia; and a brother-in-law, Bernard Kalfus of Colonia.

Osvaldo Mauro, 61 of Carteret

Mr. Osvaldo Mauro of Carteret died December 11 at Rahway Hospital. He was 61.

Born in Villa Mercedes, San Luis, Argentina, he lived in Carteret for the past 20 years.

He worked for Joule Staffing Services in Edison, as a driver.

Mr. Mauro was a parishioner of St. Joseph's R.C. Church, Carteret and a parishioner of Las Asuncion R.C. Church, Perth Amboy.

Surviving are his wife, Gladi; two daughters, Rosana Lopera of Carteret and Carina Houde of Avenel; a son, Osvaldo O. Mauro, Jr. of Carteret; and a granddaughter.

Rosa Alusik, 67 of Woodbridge

Mrs. Rosa Ann Ziesemer "The Rock" Alusik of Woodbridge died December 16 at JFK Medical Center, Edison. She was 67.

She was a lifelong resident of Woodbridge.

She graduated Woodbridge High School in 1957.

She was employed by Wonderbread of Woodbridge, California Oil of Perth Amboy and in various temporary jobs, working as a bookkeeper and office worker.

Mrs. Alusik was a communicant of St. Cecelia's R.C. Church, Iselin.

She was a member of the Rainbow Girls (a Masonic organization) and an active member of the Woodbridge High School Reunion Committee.

John C. Fowler, Jr. of Edison

Mr. John C. Fowler, Jr. of Edison died November 30 at Rahway Hospital. He was 79.

Born in New York City, he lived in Boston before moving to Edison in 1995. He was an Army veteran of World War II.

His son, John H. Fowler, died in 1994. Surviving are two sons, George E. of Randolph, Mass. and Robert K. of Dorchester, Mass.; three daughters, Ruth Fowler of Edison, Lillie Wilson of Mattapan, Mass. and Gloria J. Pierce of Manhattan; a brother, Tyrone Fowler of The Bronx, N.Y.; a sister, Bernice Davis of The Bronx, N.Y.; ten grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

MID-DAY INSPIRATION

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Bishop Donald Hilliard Jr., Senior Pastor
The Rev. Bernadette Glover-Williams, Assistant Pastor

OBITUARIES

Giuseppe Nicchitta
of Perth Amboy

Mr. Giuseppe Nicchitta of Perth Amboy died December 16 at the Perth Amboy Nursing Home. He was 94.

Born in Sicily, he resided in Perth Amboy for the past 41 years.

He was an employee at Daval Handbag Co., Perth Amboy, for 10 years, retiring in 1969. Mr. Nicchitta served in the Italian Army.

He was a communicant of Most Holy Rosary R.C. Church, Hopelawn. He was a past member of the church's Senior Citizens.

His wife, Mary Trombatori Rossi Nicchitta, is deceased.

Surviving are two stepdaughters, Rita Bilka of Deerfield, Fla. and Joan Fazzolari of Brigantine; five grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and another family member in Italy.

Michael J. Smith
of Edison

Mr. Michael J. Smith of Edison died December 4 at JFK Hospital, Edison. He was 44.

Born in Edison, he was a lifelong resident of the township.

He was a self-employed builder for 18 years.

Surviving are his wife, the former Barbara Leone; two sons, Michael II and Sean, both of Edison; two daughters, Melissa and Shelby Smith of Edison; his parents, Leroy and Virginia Smith of Edison; four brothers, Gregory of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., David of Houston, Martin of Edison and Jeffrey of Fort Lauderdale, Fla. and several nieces and nephews.

John Petryszyn, 79
of Carteret

Mr. John Petryszyn of Carteret died December 29 at Jackson Health Care Center, Jackson Township. He was 79.

Born in Poland, he had lived in Carteret for over 30 years. He retired in 1986 after many years with American Agricultural Chemical Co., Carteret.

Mr. Petryszyn was a parishioner of St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church, Carteret.

He was a member of the Providence Association of Ukrainian Catholics in America, Branch 74, Middlesex County.

George J. Schnabel
of Metuchen

Mr. George J. Schnabel of Metuchen died December 18 at home. He was 84.

Born in Texas, he resided in Fords for 15 years before moving to Metuchen in 1960.

He was an engineer for Public Service Electric and Gas Co. Mr. Schnabel had the notable distinction of also designed nuclear plants before retiring.

He was a member of the Society of Professional Engineers.

Mr. Schnabel was a communicant of Ukrainian R.C. Church of the Assumption and a member of the church's Holy Name Society.

Surviving are his wife of 60 years, the former Irene Kordiak; a son, George of Cedar Run; and two grandchildren, Bonnie and Stephen.

Gloria J. Munson
of Perth Amboy

Mrs. Gloria J. Munson of Perth Amboy died December 16 at JFK Hartwyck Nursing Home of Edison Estates, Edison. She was 55.

Born in Jersey City, she lived in Rahway before moving to Perth Amboy ten years ago.

She was a waitress for many years, working the past seven years at the Superior Diner, Perth Amboy. Prior to that, she worked for 14 years at the Reo Diner, Woodbridge.

Surviving are two sisters, Paulette Dempsey and Marie Kram; and a brother, Adam Kram; two nieces, Heather and Angela; and three nephews, David, Adam and Adam.

Theresa Lupis, 86
of Parlin

Mrs. Theresa M. Curti Lupis of Parlin died December 6 at Carriage House Manor, Sayreville. She was 86.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., she lived in Parlin for the past 30 years.

Surviving are her husband, Marcell Lupis; two daughters, Pauline Harrington of Manchester and Marcella DeLoose of Rockland County, N.Y.; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Miriam Coogan, 76
of Perth Amboy

Mrs. Miriam Johansen Coogan of Perth Amboy died December 19 at home. She was 76.

Born in Perth Amboy, she was a lifelong resident.

She graduated from Perth Amboy High School and was also a 1945 graduate of Katherine Gibbs Secretarial School, Newark.

She lived in Fords for the past 31 years and was a homemaker.

Mrs. Coogan was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Perth Amboy.

A son, James Keith Coogan, died in 1952.

Surviving are her husband of 57 years, James B. Coogan; a son, Kenneth J. Coogan of Fords; a brother, George Johansen of Woodbridge; two grandchildren, Christopher Coogan of Hawaii and Scott Coogan of Sewaren.

Lauretta DeMuro
of Woodbridge

Mrs. Lauretta DeMuro of Woodbridge died January 15 at home. She was 74.

Born in Chicago, she moved to Woodbridge 51 years ago.

She worked for many years at Woodbridge Deli before retiring five years ago. Earlier, she had worked at Stern's Department Store, Woodbridge.

Surviving are her husband of 51 years, Nicholas; four sons, Thomas, Allabaugh, Joseph and Nicholas, Jr.; two daughters, Mrs. Joan Pastor and Mrs. Theresa McLaughlin; eight grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Frank Devita, 88
of Iselin

Mr. Frank DeVita of Iselin died January 15 in Perth Amboy Nursing Home. He was 88.

Born in Newark, he lived in Brick before moving to Iselin 16 years ago.

He was a salesperson for 25 years with Electrolux Vacuums in East Orange before retiring 25 years ago.

Surviving are his wife, Marie; a son, Paul; a daughter, Mrs. Joanne DelVecchio; two brothers, John and Joseph; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Marion F. Cahill, 99
of Edison

Mrs. Marion F. Cahill of Edison died December 8 at McCarrick Care Center, Somerset. She was 99.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., she lived there and in Queens, N.Y., before moving to Edison where Mrs. Cahill has resided for the past ten years.

She was a clerk for Aetna Insurance in New York City for 15 years until her retirement in 1966.

Mrs. Cahill was a member of St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral in Metuchen. Her husband, James J. Cahill, died in 1948.

Three sisters, Ellen Curry, Virginia O'Connor, Janet Tobin and a brother Gerard Martin, are all deceased.

Hilton Cooper, 53
of Avenel

Mr. Hilton Cooper of Avenel died January 13 in Trinitas Hospital, Elizabeth. He was 53.

Born in McRae, Ga., he lived in Elizabeth for 12 years and Roselle for four years before moving to Avenel five years ago.

He was a painter with Grief Brothers, Carteret for 23 years.

Mr. Cooper served as a deacon at Second Macedonia Baptist Church.

Surviving are five daughters, Mrs. Eronica Glover, Mrs. Tina Standack, Tiffany and Ebony; a sister, Mrs. Helen Dupree; and three brothers, J.B., Otis and Bobby.

Josephine Sciortino
of Perth Amboy

Mrs. Josephine De Rasmi Sciortino of Perth Amboy died January 18 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy Division. She was 83.

Born in Perth Amboy, she was a lifelong resident. She owned and operated Sciortino Baking Company, Avenel, for 30 years until her retirement in 1987. She also had worked as a secretary at Revlon in Edison for 27 years until her retirement in 1981.

Mrs. Sciortino was a communicant of Most Holy Rosary R.C. Church, Hopelawn. She was also a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of Sgt. John B. Egan VFW Post 663, Perth Amboy.

Her husband, Fred F. Sciortino, died in 1984. She was also predeceased by a brother, Orlando De Rasmi, in 1997.

Surviving are two daughters, Lauretta Thompson and Francene Kopas, both of Perth Amboy; a brother, Anthony De Rasmi of St. Petersburg, Fla.; and three grandchildren, Kristina M. Christini, Laura D. Thompson and Stevie Marie Kopas.

Josephine Sciortino is the Mother of our Director of Advertising Sales, Francene Kopas. The staff of Devine Media would like to take this moment to extend our sincere sympathies for their loss to the family of Mrs. Sciortino.


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INTERESTING
Single white widowed female, 59, attractive, slim. Would like to meet an interesting man, widower. For a interesting relationship. BOX 10818

GREAT LOOKING LADY
White female, seeking gentleman, 64 to 73. I like to dine out, dance, travel and many other things. I would like someone sincere and honest, for possible long term relationship. Middlesex County. BOX 26712

45 YEARS OF LIVING
Divorced, successful, professional, white female looking to share. Enjoys talking, walking, jazz, theater, arts, city country water. I like new adventure, touching souls and honest folks. If you are looking for a relationship to complement your life, let's talk. Hudson County. BOX 29242

WE SHOULD MEET!
Divorced white female, 65 yr old, 5'2", 106 lbs, enjoys movies, reading, dancing, the outdoors, all music, animal, and much more. Seeking a single male, for great conversation to a night out on the town. BOX 10733

LET'S GET TOGETHER!
Single white female, 5'3", fit, attractive, dark brown hair and light brown eyes. Enjoys animals, movies, reading, the outdoors, music and much more. Is seeking a single white male, 30 to 40, for dating and possible relationship. BOX 10771

ONLY YOU!
40 yr old, 5'4", slim, good looking, single mother who enjoys movies, reading, biking, hiking and much more, is seeking a Irish single male, 36 to 46, fit, non-smoker, family oriented, to share good times and maybe more. BOX 15739

FRIEND WANTED
40 yr old female, attractive, enjoys dating, walking, dining, dancing, looking to meet new friends. BOX 37646

EX ASIAN MODEL
32 yr old, 5'5", ex model, very slender, affectionate, caring, good sense of humor. Looking forward to meeting a down to earth, financially secure, college educated and family oriented male, who's also loving and caring. Enjoys swimming, tennis, music, movies, traveling, cooking and dining out. BOX 29232

HEART OF GOLD
Divorced white female, 59 yr old, attractive, 5', short hair, medium build, with a heart of gold. Looking for the same in a male, 5'10", non-smoker, social drinking okay. Looking for friendship, leading to a LTR, who likes flea markets, dining out, and movies etc... BOX 42630

SECURABLE ROMANTIC
51 yr old, single white female, attractive, honest and sincere. Looking for a single gentleman to share good and bad times together, for friendship first. Let's grow old together as a couple and enjoys what life has to offer. BOX 39582

DOUBLE YOUR FUN...
With this divorced female, 5'7", medium build, brown hair and eyes, enjoys the outdoors, New York City, the arts and much more. Is seeking a caring, loving, sincere, single male, to develop a long term relationship. BOX 37659

WOMEN SEEKING MEN
Single white female, red hair, brown eyes, 125 lbs, who enjoys dining out, dancing, traveling and many other things. Seeking a male, 65 to 75, who's sincere and honest with similar interests, for possible relationship. Middlesex County. BOX 30763

CALL ME
Single white female, 5'4", enjoys the outdoors, music, reading, movies and more. Seeking a single male, with similar interests. BOX 37555

LOVE HAS NO COLOR
Single professional black, full figured female, 53, who enjoys theater, movies, traveling, and fine dining. Seeking a single or divorced professional male, non-smoker, fun loving, and enjoys life, for friendship, possible relationship. BOX 16030

ONE MAN WOMAN
Single white female, 63, affectionate, caring, faithful, full figured woman, in search of marriage minded, single or divorced, white male, for everlasting love and happiness. BOX 29259

IMPETUOUS WIDOW
Union County area Afro American widow, mid 50's, thin/medium build. Loyal, kind, honest, sensitive, independent, unpretentious, social drinker, no baggage. Enjoys chess, cards, walks, dining in and out, dancing, theater and much more! Seeking widowed or divorced male, 65 to 70, race not important. BOX 30755



Respond to an ad call 1-900-407-0034
or your FREE ad call toll free 1-888-829-6362

GRAND EXPECTATIONS
31 yr old female, 5'2", long blonde hair, blue eyes, physically fit, petite, college educated, likes tennis, rollerblading, biking, the beach, and more. Looking for a single white professional male, 30 to 39, who's college educated, fit and knows what he wants out of life. BOX 36604

BRING MY BILL!
Single black female, 56 yr old, brown hair and eyes. Enjoys dancing, movies, AC, and dining out. Seeking a single black male, 55 to 65, that has similar interests. I would really like to develop a long term relationship. BOX 37561

HONEST & SINCERE
Single white female, classy, attractive professional, 59, 5'2", non-drinker, non-smoker. Enjoys dancing, theater, the Jersey shore. In search of a single white professional male, 55 to 65, non-smoker, honest, emotionally and financially secure. BOX 37739

ANGEL FROM UP ABOVE
Single white professional female, mid 40's, warm, sincere, and honest, non-smoker, social drinker, emotionally/financially secured. Looking for a male, with similar interests, and qualities for a monogamous relationship. BOX 13785

INTERESTED?
Seeking a tall, fit, single or divorced, spiritually sensitive, humorous, caring male, 50 to 60, for a possible long term relationship. Enjoys conversation, quiet evenings, music, dining out, theater. 5'8", 47 yr old, single attractive black female, 155 lbs, with no children. BOX 13807

GIVE ME A CALL
Single white female, active, attractive, seeking single white male, medium build, on the go, fit, 38 to 52, to spend quality times with, who enjoys walks on the beach, travel, dining out, quiet romantic evenings, dancing a plus, if you are a special someone, looking to be appreciated by that special someone, please call. BOX 34622

SEEKING ME, RIGHT?
Attractive, single white female, nice, warm, personable, college educated. Seeking someone who is financially secure, and knows how to treat a lady. For a possible long term commitment. BOX 37564

NEEDS TRAVEL PARTNER
60 yr old female, attractive, 5'5", enjoys the outdoors, fishing, walking, golf, gardening, reading, cooking, sports, and more. Seeking a male for some good times. BOX 37581

GIVE ME A CALL!
40 yr old female, mother of one, Irish/American, 5'7", 130 lbs, attractive, looking for a male with a good sense of humor for dating. BOX 37624

NEW BEGINNING
Divorced white professional female, 39 yrs old, Mother of one, 5'6", blonde with blue eyes, compassionate, attractive, non-smoker, great personality, good sense of humor. Seeking attractive, clean cut, tall, caring, affectionate, male, 35 to 45, to share everything life has to offer. Let's talk. Hudson County. BOX 29233

ROMANTIC AT HEART
Widowed female, 67 yr old, 5'7", slim, easy going, brunette hair, blue eyes, likes books, music, conversation and new experiences. Looking for an active, intelligent, good natured man, 65 to 75, from Union or Essex County. All calls answered. BOX 37020

LET'S MEET
Single white, professional female, 27, enjoys nature hiking, traveling, theater, music and more. Seeking a single male, non-smoker with similar interests. BOX 11946

NEELED ROMANTIC
Big green eyes, 5'4", 117 lbs, fit, 50, Law Enforcement professional, interests are: hiking, dining, dancing, movies, theatre, quiet times and more. Looking for a male, who's assertive, with salt/pepper hair and mustache. BOX 13318

DESTINY CALLS
Youthful, attractive, slim, brunette, 50 yr old female, with good sense of humor, enjoys movies, theater, fine dining, beach and oldies seeking single, attractive white male, 48 to 58, non-smoker, for friendship and possible long term relationship. Please be caring, honest, educated and financially comfortable. BOX 13489

LIMITED TIME ONLY!
40 yr old, 5'5", 125 lbs, fit, divorced white mother of one, hard working, sport minded, with a good sense of humor. Looking for a physically fit, single white male, who likes working out, the beach and more. BOX 37387

WINTER'S NOBLESSE
35 yr old female, blonde hair, blue eyes, petite. Enjoys cross-country skiing, hiking, camping, poetry readings, traveling and museums. If you are interested, give me a call. BOX 39254



COULD BE FATE!
Single, widowed female, in her 50's, attractive, slim, professional, enjoys, outdoors, biking, hiking and long walks. Looking for a single or widow male with similar interest for a possible long term relationship. BOX 40886

LOVE CAN'T WAIT
Looking for older Oriental man is this mid 50's, widowed, Italian lady, blonde hair, artist, attractive, intelligent, talented, gorgeous figure, excellent quality background, self employed, with a lot to offer. Enjoys ballroom dancing, painting portraits. Looking for non-smoker, accomplished person. BOX 13106

ON THE MINT
Are you looking for single white female, who's intelligent, attractive, and fun loving. If you are a single white male, non-smoker, between the ages 56 and 64, who likes dancing, New York and Atlantic City and live in the Union County area, give me a call. BOX 13253

FREE SPIRIT
47 yr old, attractive single white female, is seeking a spiritual relationship with a sensitive and caring, single or divorced Hispanic or black male, 47 to 58, with a good sense of humor. I enjoy good conversations, movies, music and dining out. BOX 13535

LET'S HAVE FUN
Single white female, 29, 5'7", 130 lbs, short hair, hazel eyes, enjoys walks, partying and more. Seeking a single male, 21 to 30, with similar interests, for fun times and more. BOX 13648

ATTRACTIVE LADY
Vivacious, attractive, shapely, red-head, green eyes, early 50's, 5'4", 112 lbs, enjoys the theatre, dining out, and travel. Seeking professional, intelligent, attractive man, 53 to 62, for possible relationship. BOX 26617

HEAVY SET GUY WANTED
Single white female, heavy set, 34, long blonde hair, blue green eyes, attractive, non-smoker. Enjoys movies, dining, flea markets, travel and more. Seeking single white male, 30 to 45, non-smoker, with similar interests, for dating and possibly a long term relationship. Monmouth county. BOX 26633

WOMEN SEEKING MEN
Call 1-900-407-0034
\$1.99 per min.

A REAL LADY
Single white male, attractive, dimples, sense of humor, resides in New Jersey, as well as central park New York and Manhattan. Business owner and comfortable. Looking for lady, 30 to 40, with a sense of humor and who enjoys life. Hudson County. BOX 29238

MARRIAGE MINDSET
Single white professional male, 29, 6', hazel eyes, brown hair, well built. Loves dining out, movies, plays, traveling, boating. Seeking single white female, 23 to 30, for a long lasting relationship. Hudson County. BOX 29244

LOVER BY CHOICE
Single white male, 35, 5'10", 170 lbs, handsome, loyal, low keyed, home body, smoker, non-drinker, no drugs, contractor. Likes camping, concerts. Seeking child free, independent woman, maybe move out West, maybe not. Warren County. BOX 30767

PLEASURES OF LIFE
Divorced white male, 51, 6'4", 230 lbs, happy, secure, professional, looking for a tall, thin, single female, 43 to 50, who enjoys the simple pleasures of life, for a possible relationship. BOX 13083

LET'S GET TOGETHER!
Single white professional male, 51, 5'8", fit, humorous, warm, caring, seeking single white female, 35 to 48, warm, attractive, fit, down to earth, for friendship, good times, possibly more. BOX 36016

READY FOR REAL LOVE?
45 yr old, 5'11", 170 lbs, brown eyes and light brown hair, divorced professional, white father of two, college educated, financially educated, enjoys movies, biking, music, and much more. Seeking a caring, loving, Christian, single female, 38 to 48, fit to enjoy interests and friendship. BOX 37354

YOU'RE GOOD THEN!
48 yr old, 5'6", fit, single Jewish male with brown hair and blue eyes, non smoker, enjoys movies, reading, dancing, hiking and much more, is seeking a single female, intelligent, fit, attractive, classy, to share friendship and maybe more. BOX 39473

BE READY?
Single white male, 43, 5'8", 190 lbs, brown hair, green/brown eyes, enjoys sports, movies, talks, the outdoors, quiet times and more. Seeking a single female, with similar interests, for friendship and a possible relationship. BOX 13830

LOOKING FOR YOU
37 yr old, white male, 5'11", 200 lbs, attractive and fit with a good sense of humor, enjoys the outdoors. Looking for black or Hispanic female, smoking, children, age and looks are not important, just a good personality. BOX 37711

GIVE ME A CALL!
Single white male, 28, 5'11", blonde hair, blue eyes, seeking a single white female, 18 to 26, for possible relationship. BOX 39026

EXCLUSIVE BY CHOICE
35 yr old, 5'10", 170 lb, single white male, contractor, handsome, low key, loyal with no children, loner, smoker and non-drinker. Likes camping, concerts, considering moving out west. Seeks child-free, independent woman, 18 to 40. BOX 40268

LADY OF MY DREAM
Single white male, 38, shy, 5'11", 175 lbs, smoker, home owner, employed, also has depression disability. Seeks a single female, child free, age open, for friendship and companion. BOX 11755

EXCLUSIVE BY CHOICE
Single white male, 38, 5'10", 170 lbs, handsome, loyal, low keyed, loner type, no children, smoker, non-drinker, no drugs, home body, financially secure. Likes camping, rock/country concerts. Seeking a female, 18 to 40, with no children, for a relationship, would consider moving out west. BOX 26523

BLONDE AND BEAUTIFUL
Single attractive comedian, 27 yrs old, brown hair and blue eyes, looking for an attractive, blonde white female, 18 to 22, for fun and laughter. BOX 13815

THINKL BEHIND
Single male, drug-free, sense of humor, enjoys taking walks, the beach, movies and trying new things. Looking for a female, 25 to 40, with similar interests. BOX 13822

A SPECIAL GUY
Divorced white father of two adult children, 49, 5'10", 190 lbs, considered attractive, emotionally/financially stable and a non-smoker. Interests include: theatre, movies, and other activities. Seeking a white female, 45 to 51, honest, caring, and attractive for possible long term relationship. Middlesex County. BOX 26704

NEW TO THE AREA
Originally from Boston. Started school early pre med, law, CPA. Eventually worked for government. Moved to New York to start my own business. Enjoys movies, dancing, fencing, music, bars, very athletic. Looking for attractive young lady, with a sense of humor, 30 to 48. BOX 29225

NO MAKE UPS
48 yr old, 6', 210 lbs, white divorced male, with brown hair and eyes. Enjoys movies, dining and fun times. Seeking a single female, 35 to 55, for fun and good times. BOX 37438

CAN WE TALK?
Single white male, 6'1", enjoys poetry and more, seeking a single female, with similar interests. BOX 10424

INTERESTED?
Single white male, 34, 5'11", 195 lbs, enjoys dining out, movies and more. Seeking a single black or Hispanic female, with similar interests, for possible relationship. BOX 13769

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Single male, drug-free, sense of humor, enjoys taking walks, the beach, movies and trying new things. Looking for a female, 25 to 40, with similar interests. BOX 13822

PICK MY BRANCH
Single male, certified tree surgeon, 6', 210 lbs, business owner, enjoys the city, mountains, the outdoors, the beaches and more. Looking for a female with similar interests to show me the city. BOX 37544

WALK INTO MY LIFE
Single male, looking for a down to earth, warm hearted female, non-smoker. Enjoys the outdoors, walks, movies, and more. Children okay. For possible relationship. BOX 37621

LIGHT UP MY LIFE
Single male, 6', 190 lbs, French/Italian. Electrician by trade, so let me light up your life. We can get together to have some fun. I enjoy laughter, dancing, and more. BOX 37751

OLD FASHION MARRIAGE
Single male, old fashion type, 44 yrs old, blonde hair, 5'10", 165 lbs, enjoys dinners with a view, holding hands, flowers, making my sweetheart laugh. Looking for an single female, 35 to 50, for long term relationship. Hudson County. BOX 39338

MARRIAGE ORIENTED
44, 5'10", 170 lbs, blonde/blue, trim, athletic build, Irish/German, handsome, financially established, soft spoken gentleman, with traditional Mid Western values. Enjoys country drives and quaint towns. Seeks warm, caring, woman, 34 to 42, with attractive figure, family oriented. Children welcome. BOX 29250

ALL CALLS ANSWERED
39, 6', 175 lbs, divorced male, professional, with one child, enjoys the outdoors, skiing and more. Looking for that special someone, to share my life with, my success with, and start a family with. BOX 13326

ORIENTED UP MY LIFE
Recently widower, retired youth service professional, healthy, non-smoker, 63, 5'11", 150 lbs, disease and drug free. Would like to meet an attractive, fit, honest female, to cuddle, pamper, spoil and bring love and happiness to each other's life. BOX 36615

LOVE IS IN THE AIR
51 yr old, single white male, handsome, fit, enjoys dining out, golf, walks, movies and the beach. Seeking a single white female, 41 to 52, for a long term loving relationship. BOX 11657

DOESN'T MISS THE BOAT
52 yr old white male, fit, enjoys movies, long walks, the beach, traveling, arts & crafts and more. Seeking a white female, 45 to 53, who's slim and in good shape. BOX 13282

FIRST TIME AD
Youthful, 45 yr old, attractive, single Italian white male is seeking an attractive, single female, to develop a long term relationship. BOX 13565

LET'S MEET
Wanted. A white female, school bus driver, who has free time in between runs to share a special polite relationship. I'm a white self-employed business man. Let's have lunch. BOX 13757

WOMAN OF MY DREAMS
White male, mid 40's, 5'9", 190 lbs, outgoing, likeable, nice looking, with a fantastic personality and a sense of humor. Enjoys movies, sports, music, dining out, good conversations, outdoors and just quiet times. Seeking an open, motivated, single female, for friendship, companionship and more. BOX 36037

NEVER TO LATE
Single male, 74, 5'6", enjoys dining out, movies, theater, Broadway play and good conversation. Seeking a single female, 50 to 60, with similar interests. BOX 36269

CHICKEN IN YOUR COFFIN
Divorced white Italian male, 52, 6'3", 198 lbs, black hair, green eyes. Seeking a female, 35 to 60, who is affectionate, caring and likes good conversation. Race unimportant. BOX 37445

WORTHY MEET
White male, 43, never married, no children, 5'9", 200 lbs, nice looking, fantastic personality, sense of humor, clean cut, no smoke/alcohol/drugs. Enjoys spectator/participation sports, outdoors, culture and much more, seeking single white female for companionship, possible long term. Personality/Compatibility: most important. BOX 38740

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YOUR AUTOMOTIVE NEWS

Test Drive

by Greg Zyla
2000 LINCOLN
CARTIER L TOWN CAR
BASE PRICE: \$43,330

The all-new 2000 Lincoln Cartier L is Ford Motor Company's ultimate, stretched-wheelbase version of its popular upscale Town Car. By extending the body six inches over standard Town Cars, rear-seat passengers will find an additional 7.5 cubic feet of luxurious cabin space and an overall roominess

factor we've yet to find in a non-limousine produced factory car.

Lincoln takes its Cartier L one step further, adding rear heated seats, wider rear-door openings, a folding arm rest with storage bins, rear audio and climate controls, mood lighting and a cigar-sized ashtray with illuminated lighter. It seems all that's different from standard "limo" frills is a fully stocked beverage center.

Town Car is powered by a

4.6-liter V8 that produces 215 horsepower. The engine is adequate, but we'd like to see Lincoln add a few more horsepower in the years to come. A 250-horsepower version would certainly move the "L" series car with more authority, especially in passing and merging situations. Fuel economy is very good at 18 City and 25 Highway.

In short, Lincoln's Town Car is high-style American luxury on wheels. It has no peers in true competitors, although Ford Crown Victorias and Mercury

Grand Marquis could be dubbed smaller cousins at the Ford-Lincoln-Mercury dealerships.

Redesigned in '98, all Town Cars enjoy that special "Country Club" aesthetic heritage. Whether it be pulling into a five-star restaurant or leaving the valet your keys at the opera house, Town Car is at home in its role. Built on a full-length chassis with ladder type frame, the Town Car offers both luxury and added safety when the vehicle is fully loaded.

Moreover, Lincoln's Town Car is one of the most popular

"for hire" selections in the world. From rental cars to leasing, Town Cars command 85 percent of the luxury car market, which also makes for smart, "program car" buying when these vehicles rack up 20,000 miles and are "farmed out" at Ford dealer auctions.

Greg Zyla writes weekly columns on all things automotive. Write to him in c/o King Features Weekly Service, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803 or send an e-mail to letters.kfws@hearstsc.com.

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Shop Talk

by Greg Zyla

Q: My wife and I own a 1993 Olds Achieva SCX, and we're thinking of either trading the car on a new Mustang Cobra or keeping it and restoring it as we feel it's a rare piece. Do you have any history on this car, and a value? We're going to buy a Mustang Cobra, trade-in or not. John and Jan

Ambrutis, e-mail from Pa.

A: That Olds Achieva SCX is indeed a rare piece, and was produced in very limited numbers.

It arrived late in 1992 as a '93 model, and was the hottest of the new 4-cylinder "Quad-4" coupes. It features a five-speed close ratio manual (no automatic available), a rear spoiler and a

"ABS VI" anti-lock brake system, which, at the time, was considered a "new" feature and has since become standard on every Achieva that's followed.

Olds engineers who knew of its high-performance nature dubbed this special "Quad-4" SCX. The SCX actually replaced the "442" in Olds heritage, and, although the car hasn't received much press and isn't listed in many price guides, it could become a gem in the years to come. The current

Kelley Blue Book retail value (as of 11/1/2000) for a "normal" '93 Achieva SL is about \$1,900, so add some dollars to this price if you trade.

However, I'm sure dealers aren't too interested in its heritage, so I'd keep the SCX and wait to see what happens in the future. Down the road, I'll lay odds of "2 to 1" that a true Oldsmobile collector will be interested in this rare SCX — and dish up some serious bucks, too.

Greg Zyla writes weekly columns on all things automotive. Write to him in c/o King Features Weekly Service, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803 or send an e-mail to letters.kfws@hearstsc.com.

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Help Your Car Come In From The Cold

(NAPS) — You can be proactive in protecting your car from the effects of hard weather with these tips from PartsAmerica.com's ASE-certified mechanics:

- Chances are your old windshield wipers are brittle and not effective in clearing away rain or snowfall. You don't have to find out the hard way. Replace them today with a fresh new pair.

- If it's been a while since you purchased new tires, inspect them thoroughly. Measure the tread depth by placing a penny between the treads on each side and middle of each tire. If the top of Abe's head shows on any part of the tire, it's time to check your vehicle's tire specifications and shop around. Also inspect for cracking and/or leaks, which can increase the chances of a blow-out and lessen tire traction in slippery conditions.

- If you drive through a lot of snow, rinse the exterior of your vehicle regularly. Using a hose, wash away road salt and residue from inside wheel wells and the underbody to combat rust. With a stiff brush remove anything that the hose misses. Check for loose or missing splashguards on inner fender panels. These may need to be

reattached or replaced.

- As with most rubber parts on your car, interior belts and hoses are subject to severe temperatures, oil and ozone and need to be checked periodically. When your car is cool, squeeze the hoses and inspect the belts. If the hoses are soft, cracked or bloated at any point or the belts are cracked, brittle or excessively loose, replace them immediately.

- If you live in a cold climate, you may want to consider using lighter-weight engine oil. In severe cold temperatures of 32° F or less, you want to use light oils such as a 5W-30. In temperatures 32° F to 50° F you should use a 10W-30. Consult your owner's manual for the proper oil weight for your vehicle.

- See if the battery and cable connections are corroded or loose. Just a light film of corrosion affects the battery's ability to accept a charge, so wire-brush the cable and battery terminals annually. The ground connection to the body and/or engine should also be cleaned and tightened.

- Be sure you have all the "Tools for the Road." Parts America.com mechanics sug-

gest you always carry: a phone (if possible), road flares, a flashlight, tire chains, a heavy coat, an ice scraper, a first aid kit, a good spare tire with hardware and jack and basic tools such as pliers, screw driver, ratchet, sockets and duct tape.

Should you need to replace your wiper blades, belts, hoses or splashguards visit www.PartsAmerica.com. You can save time by checking the inventory of Advance Auto, Checkers, Schuck's and Kragen stores by using Parts America.com's real-time inventory search to order



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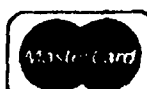
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