

The ATOM TABLOID

& Citizen-Gazette

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Developer Buys Hospital

SOUTH AMBOY - A father and son team of developers has bought the hospital where the two of them were born with an eye toward giving the facility a new life as home for people in their twilight years.

Memorial Medical Center at South Amboy for has been purchased by Hillcrest Development & Management Corp. for \$2.6 million, according to sources familiar with the sale.

Hillcrest plans to spend another \$6 million on renovations to convert the Bordentown Avenue facility into a 100-bed assisted-living community for seniors and office space for medical practices.

The the 120,000-square-foot building will also house day-care programs for adults and children.

Andrew Piscatelli, president of the Cliffwood-based company, said he and his son, Drew, the company's vice president, were both born at the defunct hospital.

However, the younger Piscatelli noted that the company's decision to buy the former hospital property was "99 percent business, 1 percent sentimental."

Still, the father & son team admitted that they would have been reluctant to lay out approximately \$100,000 required for legal and engineering services if the building was not located in South Amboy.

A 63-unit independent-living facility for seniors is now under construction by Hillcrest on the site of the California Motel, across Route 35 from the hospital.

That \$3 million apartment complex in South Amboy will compliment another 100-bed assisted-living community being built in Old Bridge, according to the developers.

Memorial Medical Center at South Amboy filed for bankruptcy last year in November.

The bankruptcy court approved

Hillcrest's \$2.6 million offer for the property on April 23. The buyers expect to close on the transaction in less than one month.

While it may take six months or more to open the assisted-living facility, Piscatelli said some doctors' offices could begin moving into the building within three months.

In order to reopen the South Amboy facility, Andrew Piscatelli said the company will spend about \$6 million to completely renovate the interior of the building, install a new heating system and make repairs to floors and ceilings.

There are no plans to change the exterior of the building.

While one of the problems that burdened the old hospital was the area's lack of parking, the issue will not effect the assisted-living center because few residents will need parking spaces, according to the elder Piscatelli.

The company did not project

how many jobs will be created by the new facility, but the developers say it will not equal the staff of 600 employed by the hospital.

An exuberant Mayor John T. O'Leary expressed satisfaction that the old hospital will be put back into use serving the health-care needs of the community.

O'Leary has made finding a use for the property a key priority since the bankrupt hospital closed in the summer of 1999.

"It's nice to see that somebody who is from South Amboy has come back and is going to do some major improvements to the facility," the mayor said.

O'Leary applauded the lienholder on the building, Amboy National Bank, for its patience while the sale was completed.

"Most banks would have just pulled the plug and forced liquidation," O'Leary said.

Have Your Cake And Eat It Too!

EDISON—From Butterscotch Krimpets to Raspberry Danish and Doughnuts, Tastykakes have become part of many peoples' breakfast and dessert menus. Now consumers looking for a bargain can "have their cake and eat it too," when Tasty Baking Company opens its new Thrift Outlet store in Edison.

On Saturday, May 12, a grand opening event will take place with activities planned for the entire family, especially moms on Mother's Day.

From 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at 1745 Route 27 (Lincoln Highway), Edison, customers can take part in this special grand opening event. It includes: free giveaways, a chance to win free Tastykakes for a year, visits by "Kirbee the Krimpet," and the original 1914 antique Tastykake delivery truck. Mothers will also be

eligible to win free "Tastykake" gift boxes as well.

"We've currently opened 14 Thrift Outlet stores in Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey and Delaware, and the response from the public has been overwhelming," said Dan Nagle, vice president for sales and marketing of Tasty Baking Company. "This new store marks our 5th store in New Jersey and we're looking to open a total of 20 by the end of the year."

Nagle said the Thrift Outlet stores feature a complete selection of the company's signature snack cakes, 40-70 percent off the retail price, as well as the expanded "Classic Baked Goods," which are large multi-serve cakes, pies and doughnuts that are baked for consumers to enjoy for all eating occasions.

"It's been very rewarding for us to see how

customers have taken to this concept, many of them stopping by our stores everyday," Nagle added.

Tasty Baking Company, founded in 1914, is one of the largest independent baking companies in the United States with annual sales of \$250 million and distribution in 49 states, plus Puerto Rico and Canada.

Tasty Baking Company operates three bakeries in the Mid-Atlantic region offering more than 100 different products under the Tastykake, Dutch Mill, Aunt Sweeties and Snak N' Fresh labels. Information on Tasty Baking is also available on its website, www.tastykake.com and consumers can send products anywhere in the United States by calling 1-800-33-TASTY.

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YOUR COUNTY NEWS

16th Annual POW WOW

AREA—This enlightening event will feature Native American dancing, crafts, singing, drumming and storytelling. Over 200 dancers and artists will participate. All are welcome to this gathering.

The POW WOW is to take place at Kennedy Park on Washington Road, in the Borough of Sayreville on Friday, May 25 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., show times are 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Saturday, May 26 from 10 a.m.-7 p.m., shows all day starting at 11 a.m.; and Sunday, May 27, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., shows all day starting at 11 a.m.

Donation cost are as shown: Adults-\$5; children-\$2; sen-

iors-\$4; students (Friday only)-\$2 and children under 5 free.

Activities will include: American Indian food sale, arts and crafts sale, dancing, drumming, singing, story-telling and flute playing.

This program has been made possible in part by the Middlesex County Cultural Heritage Commission and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

For more information, call (732) 786-0977.

Annual Spring Brunch

MIDDLESEX COUNTY—The Middlesex County Women's GOP will hold their annual spring brunch on Sunday, May 20

from 10 a.m.-noon at Cryan's, located on 660 Middlesex Avenue, Metuchen. The cost will be \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members.

For more information, call Sherine El-Abd at (732)572-1211 or Gloria Kempf at (732) 548-0147.

County Residents Receive Military Award

MIDDLESEX COUNTY—The Distinguished Service Medal, New Jersey's top military award, were presented to 259 state residents in a special award ceremony on May 9 at the Sea Girt Interactive Community Resource Center.

In order to be eligible for the Distinguished Service Medal, recipients must currently be a resident of New Jersey and also have been a resident of the state at the time that they entered into military service. They must have been honorably discharged and they must have proof of serving in combat while on active duty during wartime.

Recipients whose service was recognized by the award of the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Air Medal, or equivalent medal

receive a NJ Distinguished Service Medal with an oak leaf cluster.

County residents recognized include:

Petty Officer Third Class Raymond F. Dillon, Edison, a Navy veteran of World War II; Petty Officer Second Class John J. Durkin, Jr., Woodbridge, a Navy veteran of the Korean War; Second Lieutenant Paul W. Bongard, Jr., Colonia, an Army veteran of the Korean War; and Seaman Second Class Walter E. Ellis, Parlin, a Navy veteran of World War II.

Sergeant Joseph M. DeLucia, Sayreville, an Army veteran of World War II, received the Medal with an oak leaf cluster.

The NJ Distinguished Service Medal was originally

issued in 1858 for those who had distinguished themselves in the New Jersey Militia, but was infrequently used until re-authorized for use by Governor Kean in 1988.

After the Spanish American War, the Mexican Border Expedition and again after World War I, New Jersey minted special medals for returning NJ veterans to honor their service. After World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and subsequent combat actions, no such medal was available. In 1988, the NJ Distinguished Service Medal was authorized for that purpose.

Since its re-authorization, about 3500 medals have been awarded to New Jersey combat veterans of World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf War.

Anyone interested in applying for the NJ Distinguished Service Medal should send a written request together with copies of all pertinent information, discharge document (e.g. DD 214), award citation, honorable discharge, etc. to: NJDMAVA, Attn: CIO-GS-PA, P.O. Box 340, Trenton, NJ 08625-0340. Be sure to include full name, home address, and daytime telephone number.

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Business Park Construction To Commence By November

PERTH AMBOY—The City of Perth Amboy took another giant step towards reclaiming its economic prominence as Mayor Joseph Vas hosted a ceremony to officially sign the redevelopment agreement with Matrix Perth Amboy Industrial, LLC, (a subsidiary of Matrix Development Group of Crabsbury) for construction of a state-of-the-art business park on a 26-acre parcel of land formerly owned by Chevron.

Mayor Vas first announced plans for the project in September of last year when the city selected Matrix from among three developers who had submitted a response to a

Request for Proposals (RFP) issued by the Perth Amboy Redevelopment Agency. Since that time, the city has been working to finalize the details on the project, which will now be known as "Perth Amboy Business Park."

The \$20 million project will include up to 540,000 square feet that will encompass one or two buildings suitable for light manufacturing or flex-type users. The project will be constructed on Amboy Avenue where Chevron's former twin smoke stacks were demolished last June to clear the way for development.

Under the redevelopment

agreement, construction of the project must commence by Nov. 1, 2001 and be completed in its entirety by Dec. 31, 2003. The agreement also targets Oct. 1, 2002 as the date when completion of a "shell" or the first project component must be completed. Once this is accomplished, Matrix will then begin to identify a tenant to lease or purchase the facility and craft the final design specifications to meet their needs.

"We, at Matrix, look forward to working with Mayor Vas to develop the Perth Amboy Business Park," said Joseph S. Taylor, President and CEO of Matrix Development Group. "A

project like this will not only complement the city's overall redevelopment plan, but will also positively impact the viability of Perth Amboy by generating more than 500 new jobs and contributing significant economic rates."

Matrix Development Group is one of the Northeast's leading real estate services investment and development firms. Over the last 21 years Matrix has developed a diversified portfolio of over 13 million square feet of real estate including: commercial office space, light industrial properties, golf and hospitality and residential properties.

When completed, Perth Amboy Business Park is expected to generate up to 500 new jobs, a \$13.5 million boost to the city's tax base and annual taxes of over \$400,000. The light manufacturing nature of

the project will also serve as a buffer between the heavy industry to its east and the planned commercial and cultural redevelopment to its west.

"Beyond economics, this project will provide a much-needed aesthetic boost to the surrounding neighborhood. Matrix has a proven track record of creating state-of-the-art facilities and we look forward to having an attractive showplace at one of the major gateways to our city," concluded Mayor Vas.

In the near future, the city is looking to issue an RFP to redevelop another 70 acres of Chevron's property, which lie west of this site between Amboy Avenue and Convery Boulevard.

For additional information, contact Mayor Vas at (732) 826-7121.

Science Fair Winners

COLONIA—St. John Vianney School of Colonia, conducted a Science Fair for all the students in grades 4-8. Each grade was judged and awards given to first, second and third place as well as honorable mention. Each child has given a ribbon and an award.

Winners by grade are:

Eighth Grade: First Place—Kelly Campanella; Second Place—Julie Roderick; Third

Place—Elizabeth Columbo and Honorable Mention—Dana Kinney.

Seventh Grade: First Place—Kelly Fenney; Second Place—Bradley Gelles; Third Place—Anthony McDonough; and Honorable Mention—Thomas Bacsik.

Sixth Grade: First Place—Timothy Furey; Second Place—Kara Miller; Third Place—Daniel Palinsky; and Honor-

able Mention—Brianna Dugan.

Fifth Grade: First Place—Sara Murphy; Second Place—Kayla Santos; Third Place—Caitlin Dugan; and Honorable Mention—Matthew Furey.

Fourth Grade: First Place—Nicholas Figueroa; Second Place—Anthony Fabrizio; Third Place—Michael Hamel; Honorable Mention—Taylor Carvalho and Jackie Campanella.

Congratulations to all!



St. John Vianney School of Colonia conducted a Science Fair for all of the students in grades 4-8. Pictured are the seventh grade winners.

Correction Notice

Please be advised that on page one of last week's Carteret edition of the Atom Tabloid & Citizen-Gazette the name Dennis Turk, who is the project maintenance manager, was inadvertently misspelled. We apologize for this error.

Kenneth Vercammen, Esq.

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YOUR AREA & STATE NEWS

Bill To Put Bigger Elevators In Apartment Buildings

STATE—The Assembly approved legislation Assembly Democratic Deputy Conference leader John S. Wisniewski sponsored that would require apartment building elevators to fit first-aid stretchers.

Wisniewski's measure (A-1706) is in response to problems that local first-aid personnel have encountered at the senior citizen residence at Shore Gate Village condominiums in South Amboy. The South Amboy First Aid Squad have complained that the building's elevator does not accommodate a stretcher in the horizontal position, a factor that could create problems in an emergency situation.

Squad members have said that precious life-saving minutes would be wasted if victims are carried down the stairs.

"The size of elevators is an important safety factor in residential buildings," said Wisniewski (D-Sayreville). "In a life or death situation, the elevator is the fastest way down in a multi-level building."

The bill would require the commissioner of Community Affairs to modify the State Uniform Construction Code to require all newly constructed building elevators accommodate a dimension of 24 inches by 76 inches, which would allow an ambulance stretcher to lie flat in the horizontal position.

News articles in recent months have outlined the problem the South Amboy First Aid Squad encountered in multi-level apartment buildings like Shore Gate Village. The squad members said their stretchers don't fit in the elevator when a patient is lying down.

Squad members said they would have to resort to rushing the patient down the four-story building, stopping at each floor to perform CPR or other treatment.

"Bigger elevators are necessary and can save lives..."said Wisniewski.

The bill now goes to the Senate for further consideration.

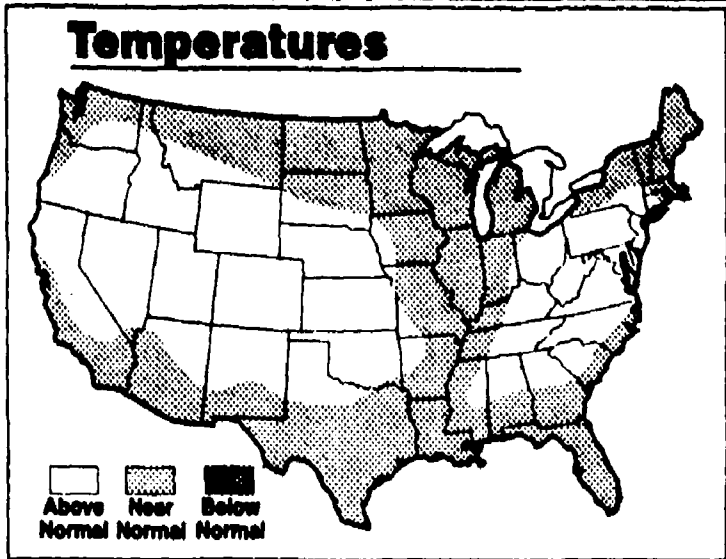
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LOCAL 7-DAY FORECAST

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
 Cloudy.	 Cloudy; it may shower.	 Cloudy; it may shower.	 Cloudy with a shower.	 Cloudy with a shower.	 Cloudy with drizzle.	 Mostly cloudy.	 Variable clouds.
72	54	75/55	69/53	68/56	68/52	67/52	68/56

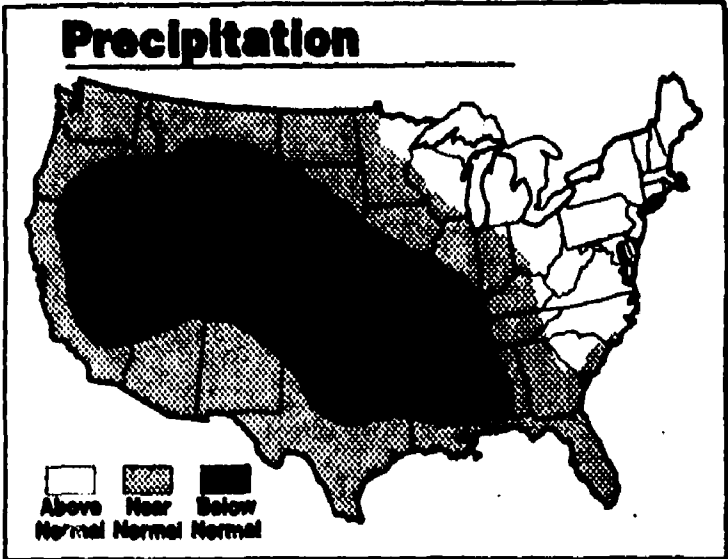
THE WEEK AHEAD...



NATIONAL SUMMARY

Dry weather will dominate the western third of the nation during the period. High pressure centered over the West will keep the region dry and create warm weather across California and Nevada. Unsettled weather is expected across the East and Southeast. A series of storms may bring rain to the Middle Atlantic, Northeast and lower Mississippi Valley.

THE WEEK AHEAD...



U.S. TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W
Atlanta	78 60 pc	78 59 pc	79 59 pc	79 62 pc
Boston	68 50 pc	68 50 pc	70 48 c	62 56 c
Chicago	71 50 s	70 48 r	68 49 c	70 48 c
Cleveland	70 48 pc	68 48 pc	65 48 c	69 50 c
Denver	74 42 pc	74 42 pc	78 44 s	80 46 s
Des Moines	65 48 t	64 48 c	68 53 pc	72 55 pc
Detroit	74 49 pc	72 48 c	64 48 c	69 49 sh
Houston	84 66 pc	84 66 pc	86 64 pc	86 62 pc
Indianapolis	70 53 pc	71 51 c	69 50 c	71 51 c
Kansas City	70 52 t	72 52 sh	72 56 s	76 60 pc
Los Angeles	80 54 c	75 55 pc	74 55 pc	73 48 c
Miami	84 72 s	85 71 pc	85 70 pc	85 74 sh
Minn.- St. Paul	68 50 t	66 46 r	68 46 c	70 50 c
New Orleans	82 66 pc	82 64 s	82 64 s	84 62 s
New York City	74 56 pc	74 56 pc	72 58 pc	66 54 sh
Omaha	74 48 t	72 48 sh	74 50 pc	78 60 pc
Phoenix	104 72 s	104 72 s	106 74 s	104 72 s
San Francisco	73 50 s	72 50 c	67 50 pc	67 49 pc
Seattle	62 45 pc	61 44 c	62 45 pc	65 43 sh
Washington	76 54 pc	78 56 pc	76 56 pc	75 60 c

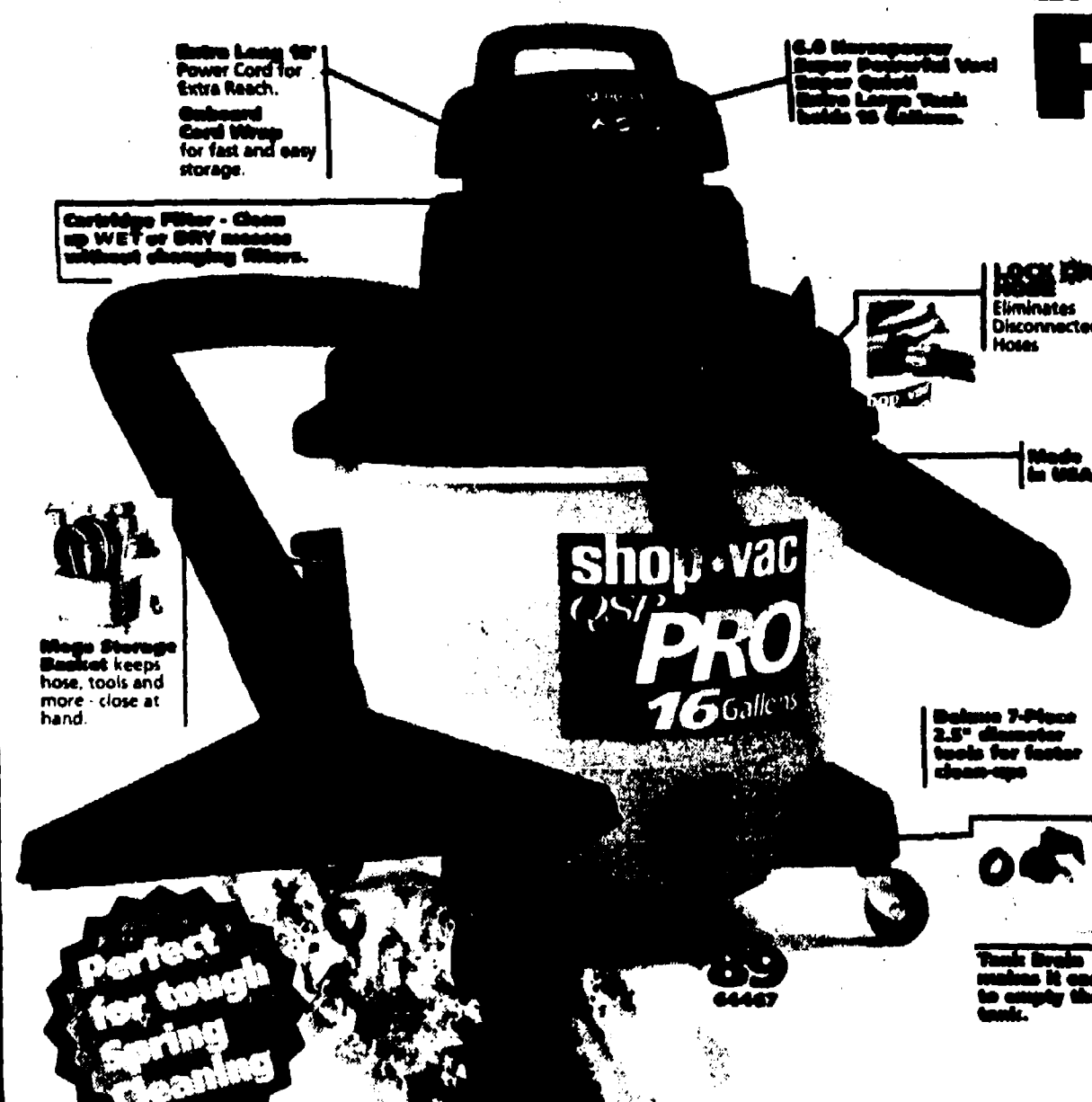
SUN & MOON

	Sunrise	Sunset	
Thu.	5:45 a.m.	8:02 p.m.	
Fri.	5:44 a.m.	8:03 p.m.	
	Moonrise	Moonsat	
Thu.	11:22 p.m.	8:01 a.m.	
Fri.	none	8:48 a.m.	
Moon Phases			
Full	Last	New	First
			
May 7 22	May May	15 29	May
Weather (W):			
s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy,			
c-cloudy, sh-showers,			
t-thunderstorms, r-rain,			
sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice			

WORLD TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W
Amsterdam	73 53 pc	68 42 pc	52 35 pc	50 44 r
Berlin	71 50 pc	58 32 pc	51 45 sh	53 51 r
Buenos Aires	61 44 pc	61 41 pc	57 39 pc	57 43 pc
Cairo	86 57 s	89 61 s	99 86 s	93 87 s
Jerusalem	68 45 pc	68 48 pc	82 58 s	81 52 s
Johannesburg	75 46 s	74 45 pc	74 47 s	73 48 s
London	74 54 pc	72 49 pc	62 35 s	51 43 c
Madrid	62 47 c	67 50 c	62 52 r	64 43 c
Mexico City	67 52 sh	72 50 c	70 51 r	72 51 c
Moscow	50 45 sh	56 45 c	55 40 r	52 35 c
Paris	71 54 c	71 49 pc	61 35 s	53 40 sh
Rio de Janeiro	73 61 s	74 64 pc	81 69 pc	74 59 c
Rome	72 57 c	61 52 r	68 54 r	62 52 r
San Juan	86 76 c	87 75 pc	87 73 pc	86 73 pc
Seoul	72 51 s	73 55 s	74 56 s	79 58 pc
Sydney	67 51 pc	66 51 s	67 55 s	70 58 s
Tokyo	76 60 pc	66 54 c	65 53 s	69 57 s
Toronto	68 48 pc	66 46 c	55 48 r	58 51 r
Winnipeg	49 35 sh	57 32 pc	57 41 pc	58 41 c
Zurich	72 50 c	68 42 pc	53 38 c	53 46 sh

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Brunswick Bank & Trust Announces Formation Of First Asian Bank

EDISON—Brunswick Bank & Trust, a community bank serving consumers and small businesses in central New Jersey since 1902, has announced the formation of First Asian Bank, a Division of Brunswick Bank & Trust. First Asian Bank is a full service banking operation serving the Asian community from the Edison Branch of Brunswick Bank & Trust located at 1 Metroplex Plaza across from the Edison Train Station on Plainfield Avenue.

Julie Wong will head up the First Asian Bank as President and CEO. Recently, Wong was

the President/CEO of United Heritage Bank, Edison. Previously, she was founder, former President and CEO of Asian Bank, and former Chair of the holding company, Asian Financial Corporation. Wong was also the founder and former Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer of First Commercial Bank of Philadelphia (the first Asian American bank in the Tri-State area).

"The population of Edison is 33 percent Asian," said Wong. "This community will benefit tremendously from having access to the resources

of a full service Commercial Bank like Brunswick Bank & Trust. The bank has been around for nearly 100 years, has over \$125 million in assets and operates six branches throughout Middlesex and Monmouth Counties. For over six years, Brunswick Bank & Trust has consistently earned a Five Star Rating from Bauer Financial Reports, Inc., an independent bank monitoring

organization located in Coral Gables, Florida.

First Asian Bank is already up and running. Interested parties may call Julie Wong, President & CEO, at (732) 819-7700 or stop by the Edison branch any weekday between 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Extended hours are offered between 3-7 p.m. on Friday evenings and 9 a.m.-12 p.m. on Saturdays.

Class of '36 To Meet

PERTH AMBOY — The Perth Amboy High School Class of 1936 has planned a 65th reunion on Friday, June 1 at the Raritan Yacht Club, Water Street, Perth Amboy from Noon until 4:30 p.m. Cost is just \$25 for a buffet luncheon, music, etc.

Talking and catching up is included.

If you have not received an invitation, kindly call (732) 636-0354 for further information.



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Director and Manager Gary Earl Rumpf, Director Emeritus Gustav J. Novak and Director Timothy J. Gall will carry out services, memorials, burials, shippings, cremations and other arrangements with dignity and genuine concern. Located in Perth Amboy at 419 Barclay Street, their facilities can accommodate any size or type of service designed to your religious faith and specific wishes. By making pre-arrangements for your funeral needs, you will save money and spare surviving family members additional pain. Veteran, Social Security and insurance benefits are honored. Call Gustav J. Novak Funeral Home at 826-4525 to schedule a free and confidential consultation.

Planning for family services could be one of the most thoughtful gestures you could bestow to your loved ones, benefiting their emotional and financial well-being. The professionalism of Gustav J. Novak Funeral Home explains why they are so well respected by area residents.

United Poles Federal Credit Union

Celebrating Their 36th Year

United Poles Federal Credit Union is a not-for-profit financial organization that is owned by its members and operated by a professional staff under the guidance of a member-elected board of directors. Their purpose is to encourage systematic savings which earn above-average dividends, provide a source for low-interest loans and provide additional financial services as needed by the membership.

Credit union membership is open to all employees, retirees and members of the United Poles in America. As a member, you share in the ownership of the credit union. Once you join the credit union, you may remain a member for life, regardless of where you live or work. Membership is also open to any and all relatives of their primary members. The credit union offers a wide range of services including regular savings accounts, checking accounts, IRAs, Certificates of Deposits, new and used auto loans, first and second mortgage loans, home equity loans, credit cards and ATM service. Your funds are safe and secure because accounts are insured to \$100,000.00 by the National Credit Union Administration, an agency of the federal government.

To find out more about United Poles Federal Credit Union's financial services or to see if you are eligible to join the credit union, simply call them at (732) 442-5648, or visit them in Perth Amboy at 412 New Brunswick Avenue, or visit their most recent location in Linden at 225 South Wood Avenue or call (908) 523-0008.

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They are open six days a week and accept most major credit cards. If you or someone you know are in need of transmission repair, first call the pros at Lee Myles Transmissions, where no one does transmissions better. Clip this reader ad and receive a 10% discount off any internal transmission repair (not to be used in conjunction with any other offer).

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For that year-round summer look, now would be a great time to build up a beautiful, natural tan that's sure to get you noticed. Why wait for the hot, sultry summer months to tan when Tan America can give you a golden glow without the burning, flaking and peeling that comes with the scorching rays of the summer sun? Their fully certified S.A.E. staff will sit down with you and help you select an effective "tan plan" tailored to your individual needs.

They have made it a point to offer the lowest prices and the most effective systems available that can give you a beautiful tan with soft and comfortable UVA lighting. They also offer a full line of tanning products to enhance your golden tan. Stop by today, and let the tanning experts at Tan America show you how quickly and inexpensively you can achieve a tanned, summer look all year long.

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John Craven, Managing Director

Home is the most comfortable place to be. Often, our aging parents or grandparents have lived in their homes for 30, 40 or 50 years. Many are medically stable and not in need of skilled nursing and have no desire to leave the homes they love solely for companionship or housekeeping assistance. Our work or other commitments may make it difficult or impossible to provide the assistance our loved one needs.

This is precisely the purpose for which Home Instead Senior Care was created. Located in Woodbridge at 73 Main Street, phone 634-6770, Home Instead Senior Care provides a variety of services to the elderly. They can transport your loved one to doctor appointments, the grocery store, post office or on other errands. Their carefully screened, bonded and insured personnel can provide companionship during the long hours when family members are at work. On either an hourly or live-in basis, their services include cleaning, cooking and beauty services.

Familiar surroundings, comfort and security are important. Home Instead Senior Care is committed to ensuring that their clients can remain safely, for as long as they are medically able, in the home that has been so much a part of their lives. Contact Home Instead Senior Care for more information on their services and rates.

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Who is the full-service heating and air conditioning specialist in this area? Who can you rely on for prompt and reasonably priced air conditioning repair and servicing? Ben-Aire Heating & Cooling, located in Colonia, phone 381-7908, is the company many people recommend.

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YOUR SCHOOL NEWS

Acting Gov. DiFrancesco To Chair Special Education Week

STATE — The Honorable Donald T. DiFrancesco will serve as honorary chairperson of the 17th annual celebration of Special Education Week in New Jersey, May 13-19, the event's sponsors announced recently.

Special Education Week in New Jersey recognizes the achievements of the state's 200,000 learning disabled stu-

dents and the commitment of their parents and teachers. The N.J. School Boards Association and "ASAH... Serving Individuals With Special Needs" have sponsored the event since 1985.

An event to celebrate Special Education Week will take place on Fri., May 18, at The Children's Institute in Verona. "The Children's Institute is proud to

host this year's observation of Special Education Week in New Jersey," said Bruce Ettinger, the school's executive director.

Approximately 1,200 students, parents and teachers, as well as key state officials and education leaders, will attend the May 18 celebration. The theme of Special Education Week 2001 is "Turning Dreams Into Reality."

The event will include a lunch, music, crafts, games and other fun and learning activities. Corporate and private donations fund almost the entire event.

The Children's Institute (TCI) is a private, non-profit school approved by the N.J. State Board of Education. Since 1963, TCI serves children from northern New Jersey, including Essex, Union, Morris, Hudson, Middlesex, Passaic, Bergen and adjoining counties. TCI is committed to facilitating the successful return of our children, based on their potential, to their local school districts through programs of specialized education, care and counseling

in a supportive environment.

A statewide, advocacy organization, the N.J. School Boards Association is a federation of more than 602 local boards of education. NJSBA represents the education and related health and safety interests of New Jersey's public school students and advocates the positions of local school districts. The Association also provides in-service training and technical assistance to the 4,800 unpaid volunteers who serve as members of New Jersey's local boards of education.

"ASAH... Serving Individuals with Special Needs" represents 114 private schools that provide educational and therapeutic services to over 9,000 special needs children and adults.

College-Bound Students & Their Families Invited To FREE Financial Aid Workshop

AREA — Local high school students and their families are invited to a free workshop on planning and paying for college, Sat., May 12, 1 p.m., at Plainfield High School, 950 Park Ave., Plainfield. Attendees also will be eligible to receive a \$500

scholarship toward the cost of higher education.

This program will give students and their families information to help them with one of the biggest hurdles facing college-bound students: paying for the college or university of their

choice. Congressman Mike Ferguson, a former high school teacher, is the honorary co-host of the event.

Students and their families will learn about applying for and qualifying for financial aid; understanding financial aid awards; borrowing for college; the differences in federal student loan programs and more. Attendees also will be provided with free resources that detail the financial aid process.

Individuals interested in attending should call (toll-free) 877-840-8224 or visit www.salliemae.com/seminars to RSVP. Seating is limited.

Gagliardi Sworn In As Commissioner Of Education

STATE — Dr. Vito A. Gagliardi recently took the oath of office at the State Museum auditorium to become the 26th New Jersey Commissioner of Education. In his remarks, he stated that he couldn't by himself, improve education, but needed to work with as many shareholders as possible. His particular focus as commissioner will be teacher recruitment and retention.

Addressing the audience before the swearing-in ceremony, Acting Governor Donald T. DiFrancesco pointed out that nearly one-third of the state

budget goes toward education. "I think it is important to trust someone who understands all facets of the education business," he said. The acting governor noted that Gagliardi had that kind of understanding because he has been a teacher in Westfield, a principal and superintendent of schools in Washington Township (Mercer County), the Union County superintendent of schools and an adjunct professor at Kean University. Gagliardi has also served as an education policy advisor to DiFrancesco in his capacity as Senate president.

Deadline Approaching To Apply For School Grants

AREA — Rahway teachers looking for money to fund activities that encourage family involvement in education can turn to their local McDonald's restaurant for help. McDonald's Tri-State Owners are offering \$50,000 in grants to help teachers execute programs or activities, such as parent newsletters, parent field days, parent-student assemblies and education programs for

families, that "tie" parents back to the schools and help encourage family participation at school.

Educators throughout the New York Tri-State area are eligible and can go to www.mcdonaldsnymetro.com or their principal for information and an application. If teachers have questions, please call 516-872-1480, ext. 773. The deadline is May 25.

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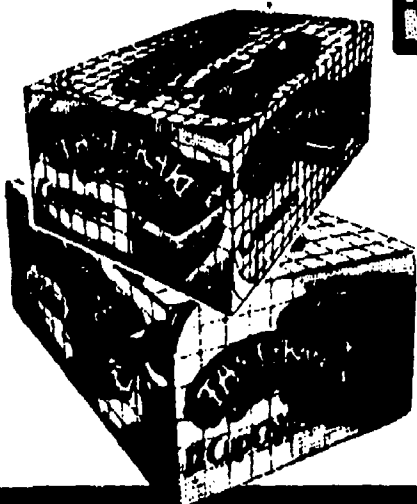
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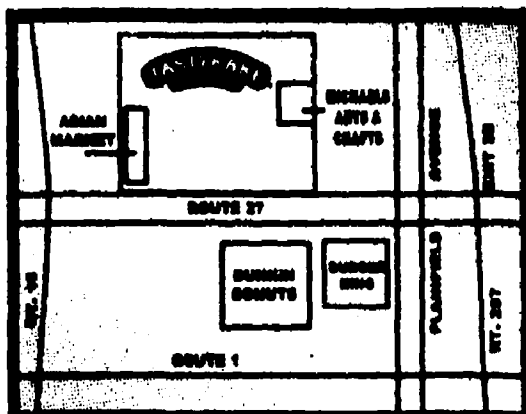
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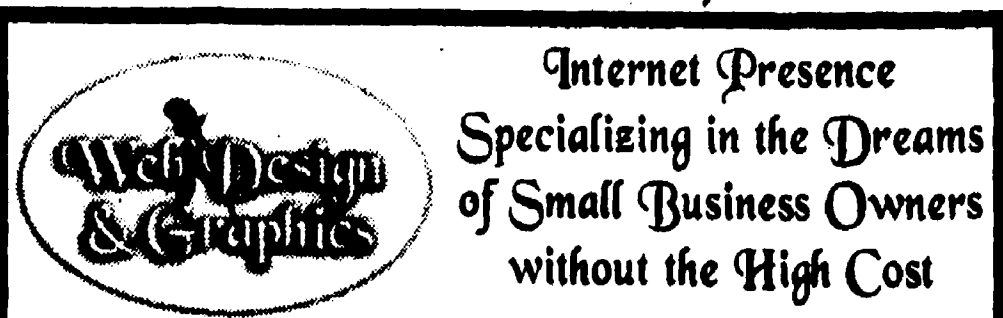
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MOST BARTERS WELCOME

Jump-N-Jive At JAZZ, Etc. 2001 Concert

From the wilds of Manhattan to the shores of Japan and Germany, Jazz Guitarist Vic Juris has covered an impressive range of territory, musically as well as geographically.

AREA—JAZZ, Etc., The 2001 Concert series at The Arts Guild of Rahway will present Vic Juris, Jazz Guitarist and vocalist Kate Baker on Friday, May 11 at 8 p.m. All seats are \$10; seating is limited and reservations are recommended. Call (732) 381-7511 for information or reservations.

From the wilds of Manhattan to the shores of Japan and Germany, Jazz Guitarist Vic Juris has covered an impressive range of territory, musically as well as geographically. Inspired by rock and roll legend Chuck Berry, the Jersey City native first picked up a guitar at the age of ten. He taught himself to play and was soon appearing with rock and roll and R&B bands throughout the Tri-State area. But the young rocker's taste soon changed.

From the beginning Vic's voracious appetite for new musical experiences led him

to explore any and every jazz artist he could hope to learn from. He drew on other idioms as well: blues, swing, bebop. Eagerly sought out by his fellow musicians, he has provided accompaniment for numerous recordings.

With her distinctive style, Kate Baker is more than just another vocalist. Her voice resonates with a love of diverse musical inspiration including Jazz, Brazilian, Latin and the Blues. From a Cole Porter standard to a Jobim bossa, Kate makes it her own. Considered a

musician's singer, she is one with the band, whether in duo with Guitarist Vic Juris or fronting a five-piece ensemble. She has performed with such artists as Norman Simmons, Mark Murphy, Harvie Swartz, Nilson Matta, Duduka Da-Fonseca, Dick Oatts and many others.

Baker's distinct and authentic sound has excited audiences world wide. She has been a featured vocalist at numerous European jazz festivals and her U.S. concert and festival credits are extensive. She has also

played to packed houses in many NYC area clubs including: The Blue Note, Birdland, Visiones, Tumpets and the Watchung Arts Center.

The Arts Guild of Rahway is a non-profit arts organization which offers ongoing exhibits of contemporary New Jersey visual arts, music programs and art classes. the Guild is located

at 1670 Irving Street, Rahway, at the corner of Seminary Avenue. Call (732) 381-7511 for information/directions.

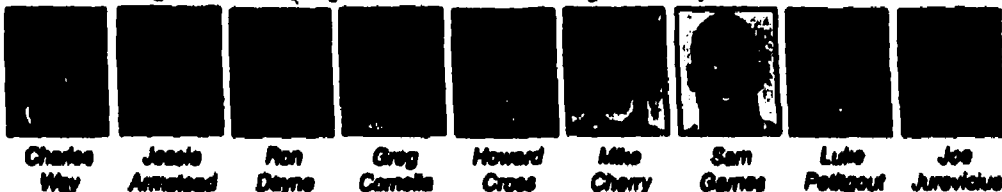
This program is made possible in part by the NJ State Council on The Arts, Department of State through a grant administered by The Union County Division of Cultural & Heritage Affairs.

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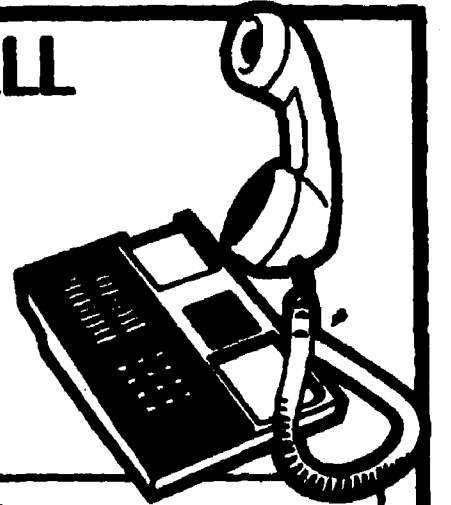
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YOUR FINANCIAL NEWS

Older Americans Month 2001: The Many Faces Of Aging

AREA — May is Older Americans Month and Social Security joins the Administration on Aging and organizations around the nation in celebrating the contributions of older Americans to society, according to Dennis Mass, Social Security manager in Elizabeth.

"The theme for this year is "The Many Faces of Aging." It acknowledges the promise and the challenge posed by the United States' rapidly increasing multi-cultural aging popu-

lation," Mass stated.

Social Security pays monthly retirement benefits to more than 31 million retired workers and their family members. More than nine in ten Americans who are age 65 or older get Social Security benefits," he said.

He noted that by 2030, minorities will represent 25% of the elder population. By the middle of the twenty-first century, every third older person will be from a minority group.

"Social Security contributes

greatly to the financial security of minority communities as well as all older Americans," Mass stated.

Social Security benefits generally represent a larger share of the income of minority communities. Social Security benefits are about 33-1/3% of the income of elderly Americans in the society at large; for African Americans, the figure is 40% and for Hispanics, 39%.

"Thanks to Social Security, less than 10% of American senior citizens live in poverty; without it,

nearly 50% would live in poverty. For minority communities, the figure ranges from 65% for African Americans, 59% for Hispanics and American Indians, and 34% for Asians/Pacific Islanders."

Mass said that the fact that Social Security retirement benefits are for life and increase annually with the cost of living is particularly important to some minority communities whose life expectancies are generally longer at age 65 than the national aver-

age. These include American Indians, Hispanics and Asian/Pacific Islander Americans.

Mass said that, in addition to Social Security retirement benefits, Social Security administers the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program. SSI pays monthly checks to people who are 65 or older who don't own much or have a limited monthly income.

For more information, visit our website at www.ssa.gov, or call our toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213.

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Tax Tips For Education Expenses

AREA — While meeting the costs of higher education may seem challenging, there are a number of tax benefits that are designed to help families during the college years by providing significant savings. The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA) offers the following tips to consider when completing federal and state tax returns.

• Take Advantage of Tax Credits

There are two federal tax credits for parents with students pursuing postsecondary education. The Hope Scholarship offers a credit of up to \$1,500, which may be claimed on returns for tuition and fees paid for the first two years of postsecondary study. The Lifetime Learning Tax Credit offers an income tax credit of up to \$1,000 for educational expenses to attend a broad range of schooling, including graduate

school, and may be claimed for an unlimited number of years. Taxpayers may choose to claim only one of the two credits on their returns.

• Deduct College Loan Interest

To help ease college loan repayment, parent and student borrowers may be eligible to deduct on federal returns as much as \$2,000 of the interest paid on their loans. Borrowers generally may deduct interest paid during the first 60 months that interest payments are required on the loan.

• Claim Additional State Tax Exemptions

Parents may claim an additional exemption on their New Jersey income tax returns for each dependent under the age of 22 who is attending college full-time. To claim the exemption, the parent must have paid at least one-half of the student's tuition and maintenance costs.

• Remember, Earnings on College Savings are State Tax-Free

Investment earnings on withdrawals from the state's college savings plan, the New Jersey Better Educational Savings Trust (NJBEST), are state tax-free. When withdrawn, investment earnings are taxed by the federal government at the student's lower tax rate.

• Consult a Tax Adviser

The information contained in this article is only a summary of certain aspects of federal and state income tax. It is not exhaustive and is not intended as tax advice. You may wish to consult a qualified tax adviser regarding the application of tax rules to your individual circumstance.

For More Information

For federal tax questions, call the Internal Revenue Service at 1-800-829-1040 or visit the IRS on the web at www.irs.ustreas.gov. For information regarding your state tax return, contact the New Jersey Department of the Treasury, Division of Taxation, at 609-292-6400 or visit its web site www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation.

Score More Business Knowledge

AREA — SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives) presents a seminar "Starting and Managing Your Own Business" on Tues., May 15, from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at SCORE Office, 2 Gateway Center, 15th Floor, Newark.

Subjects include: business plans, record keeping, tax obligations, marketing, legal requirements and financing. Registration fee is \$20, which includes a free copy of the revised 140-page book "Starting and Managing Your Own Business."

Call SCORE at 973-645-3982 between 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. for further details and to register.

Directory of Professional Services

"Car Accident Victims Get A Crash Course On Their Rights!"

Carteret, NJ- A new free report has recently been released that reveals information every car accident victim should have before they speak to anyone. Research shows that even a "fender bender" can cause pain, headaches, even arthritis. Many car accident victims worry more about their car than they do their rights. If you have been involved in an auto accident listen to the 24 hour toll-free recorded message by calling 1-888-721-8231. The call is FREE and so is the report.

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Guest Editorials

Needs To Be More Awareness

I ask you to publish this letter for your readers because it's important information for anyone that exercises or works out at fitness centers, gyms, or health clubs of any kind. Last year, on April 9, 2000, my husband, Michael, died of cardiac arrest while working out at our local health club. He was 41. Though 9-1-1 was called, it took more than 15 minutes for an ambulance to arrive.

Michael was a survivor of two prior heart attacks. He exercised regularly to stay in shape and strengthen his heart. He was an American Heart Association volunteer, as I am.

It's possible that Michael could have survived if the health club was better prepared for cardiac emergencies and if they had a

defibrillator. Other husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, should not have to go through what our family experienced. And they don't need to if health clubs take the steps to be better prepared.

I urge all New Jersey health clubs, gyms and fitness centers to be better prepared for cardiac emergencies. A study was released last November at the American Heart Association Scientific Sessions that said many gyms are not prepared for cardiac emergencies. A majority fail to pre-screen members for heart disease and don't have a written and practiced medical emergency response plan in place. Some New Jersey newspapers have written about the study, but there needs to be more awareness and action among health clubs and fitness centers.

Having such a plan and pre-screening members at health clubs were recommended in the 1998 American Heart Association Recommendations for Cardiovascular Screening, Staffing, and Emergency Policies at Health/Fitness Facilities. I believe the November 2000 study said that 82 percent of the health club staffs surveyed were unaware of the American Heart Association recommendations, which were published in two medical journals. Being prepared for a cardiac emergency may save the life of a loved one or friend. Call your local American Heart Association office for more information.

Mary Palma
American Heart Association
Volunteer

Families Need To Have Flexibility

Dear Editor,

Balancing the demands of family and work life when two adults are employed outside of the home is a challenge that deserves more of our attention and less of our criticism.

Families need flexibility to raise their children and help take care of aging parents. Paid Family Leave legislation (A-3049/S-1923) calls for up to 12 weeks of paid leave for new parents to bond with their babies. The bill, sponsored by Senators Jack Sinagra and John Lynch of Middlesex County, does not address the full problem facing families today. The struggle that many families have does not end in twelve weeks; it is ongoing. Many "baby boomer" or "sandwich generation" families with young children and aging parents face a multitude of work-related problems because of their family obligations. Paid

Family leave does not help a working mother who receives a phone call at work that her school-age child is sick. It does not help the employee who must tend to a parent who is chronically ill and may live out of the area or out of state. These types of emergency phone calls and attempts to handle personal problems while on the job require our immediate attention. While these are unplanned and not intentional disruptions, they may negatively impact on employee productivity and quality of work. These are the broader issues that society, lawmakers, employers and families must address.

One way that the Middlesex County Regional Chamber of Commerce brought the various parts of this complicated issue together was at our annual Work Family Fair. Addressed were a number of issues that small and large companies have to manage as our society and families face

new challenges (www.mcrcc.org). The ability to hire, train and retain workers is a major issue for small business owners. They suffer financial losses and slowdowns in productivity and quality when they have to deal with high turnover and trainings for people who leave to find bigger and better perks (i.e., child care, adult day care, wellness counseling, concierge services) that large corporations can offer.

This broad issue goes beyond the twelve weeks of Paid Family Leave. It gets to the root of new challenges that we as a society must face together. New ideas, creative legislation and flexibility are the keys if we are to succeed individually and together.

Nancy Ostlin,
President,
Middlesex County Regional
Chamber of Commerce



America has always been called a melting pot and with good reason. Our nation has a wonderful mixture of people of all nationalities, races and creeds. America is a melting pot because America represents hope and symbolizes the future for everyone looking for a better life. Because this mixture is so important to our strength as a nation, it is important for us to celebrate our differences, our diversity, and the heritages of all Americans so that we may better understand them and in so doing, better understand ourselves.

This month, May, is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. In 1979, President Carter signed a joint Congressional resolution declaring the first week in May of that year to be Asian Pacific American Heritage Week. In 1990, President Bush extended the week into a month long celebration. In 1992, Congress passed a law that declared every May to be Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

Exactly who are Asian Pacific Americans? Asia is a big place. So is the Pacific. Asian Pacific Americans are many different people with different heritages, customs, races, and creeds. Asian Pacific Americans are people from Pakistan to the Philippines and from Japan to Juno, Alaska. Almost one third of the entire world.

Asian Pacific Americans have contributed a great deal to our country. Author Stephen Ambrose recounts how the need for labor on the transcontinental railroad was filled, in a large measure, by the Chinese. Without their efficient labor that railroad may have never been

built and our country never united. In our area, businesses owned by Asian Pacific Americans help fuel our robust local economy. Middlesex County has seen an explosion of immigrants from the Indian sub-continent to the point that we now have one of the largest Asian-Indian populations in the country. Our county is much richer because of the diversity they have created. They have brought cultural fairs and ethnic restaurants to our area not to mention an entire business district in Iselin and other towns that serves members of the Asian Indian community and that welcomes everyone.

Asian Pacific Americans have had to endure a great deal of prejudice and discrimination in America over the last two hundred years. The transcontinental railroad was built by the back-breaking labor of Asian people. They were not treated humanely and were often not paid fairly. During WWII, at the same time that Senator Inouye from Hawaii was bravely fighting for his country, other Americans of Japanese descent, many of whom were here for generations, were sent to desert internment camps.

But if history's not your thing, then turn to current events. For example, Tiger Woods, four-time PGA tour Champion, Patsy Mink, Congresswoman from Hawaii, Ann Curry, news anchor, are just a few Asian Pacific American that we see in the spotlight today.

So celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month by learning more about Asian Pacific American cultures. PBS, in recognition of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, will be hosting various programs aimed at learning more about Asian ancestry. If you have access to the Internet, check out www.pbs.org or www.doc.gov/ocr/apam.html.

Nine Months And Counting

The members of New Jersey's congressional delegation must act quickly to stop the Tauzin-Dingell Broadband bill (H.R. 1524), that would be the final nail in the coffin for local DSL providers by giving phone monopolies like Verizon unfettered access to New Jersey broadband market.

Tauzin-Dingell, named after its chief sponsors in the House, would loosen regulations on the Baby Bells that its supporters say will speed the deployment of high speed Internet service. The reality is, this bill will crush smaller companies offering DSL or high speed Internet service by

enabling monopolistic Baby Bells like Verizon to shut competitors out of the market. This legislation, being pushed by huge special interests, will significantly hurt New Jersey's economy—especially the future of small businesses in our state.

Already we've read countless stories about DSL service providers like Northpoint falling because of difficulties in accessing Verizon's network to provide service. At my own office, our DSL service took nearly nine months to install—not because of our Internet provider but because Verizon simply could not get the proper lines installed in our building any quicker. Nine months! And now, Rep. Billy Tauzin and

Rep. John Dingell want to reward Verizon by lessening their accountability to regulators and consumers alike.

That's why *New Jerseyans for Technology & Economic Growth* strongly urge all of the New Jersey delegation to vote against the anti-competition, anti-consumer Tauzin and Dingell's anti-competitive broadband bill. This bill would effectively end the high-technology competitive edge Garden State businesses now enjoy by ending competition in the broadband marketplace.

Richard Thigpen
Spokesman
New Jerseyans for
Technology &
Economic Growth

Are you in need of a Fix?



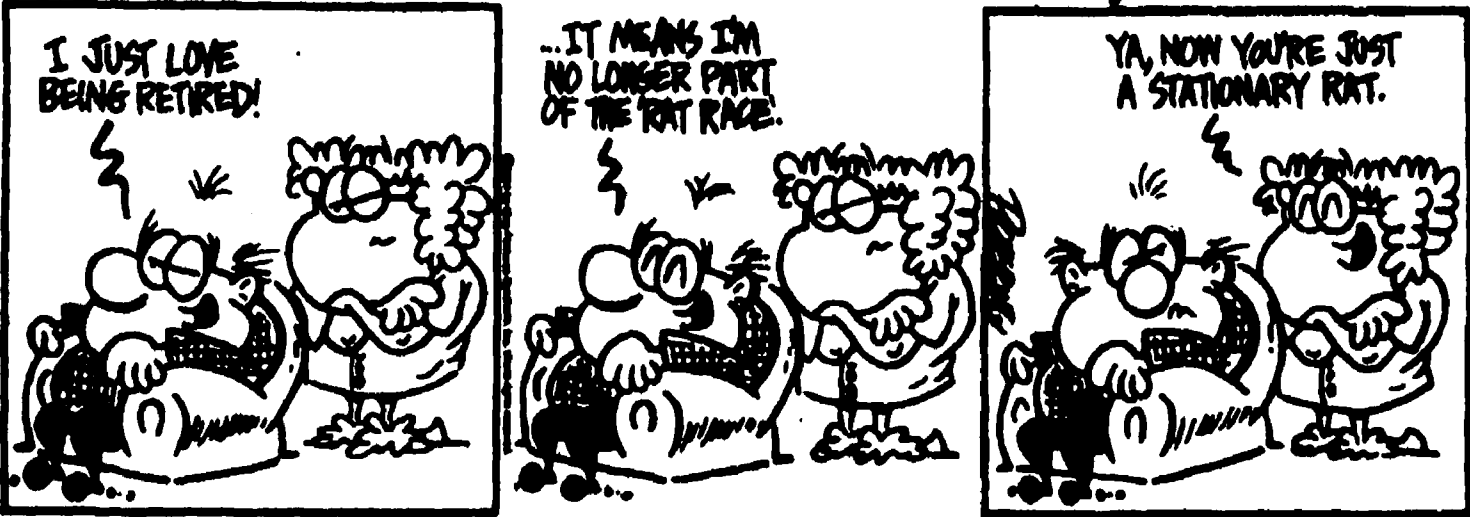
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Comics & Puzzles

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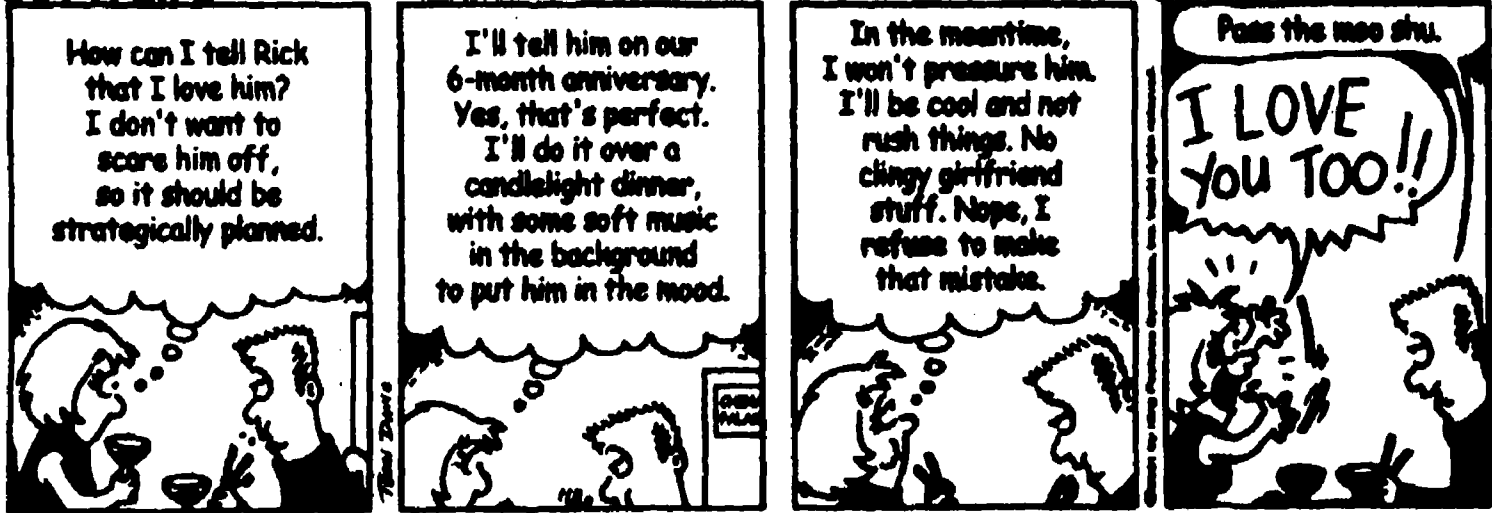
AMBER WAVES

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GOT A LIFE

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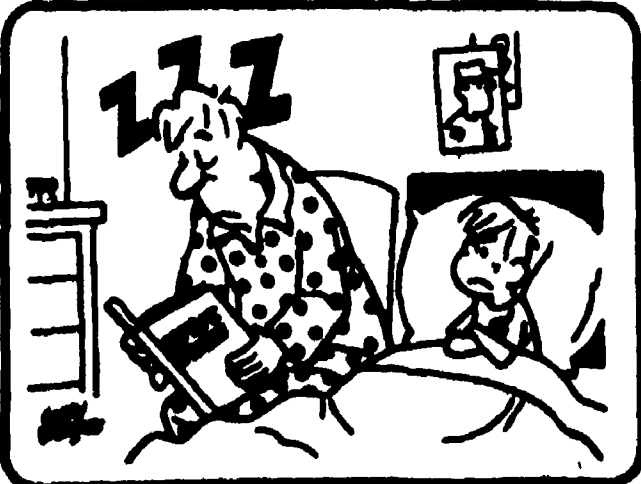


HOCUS FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



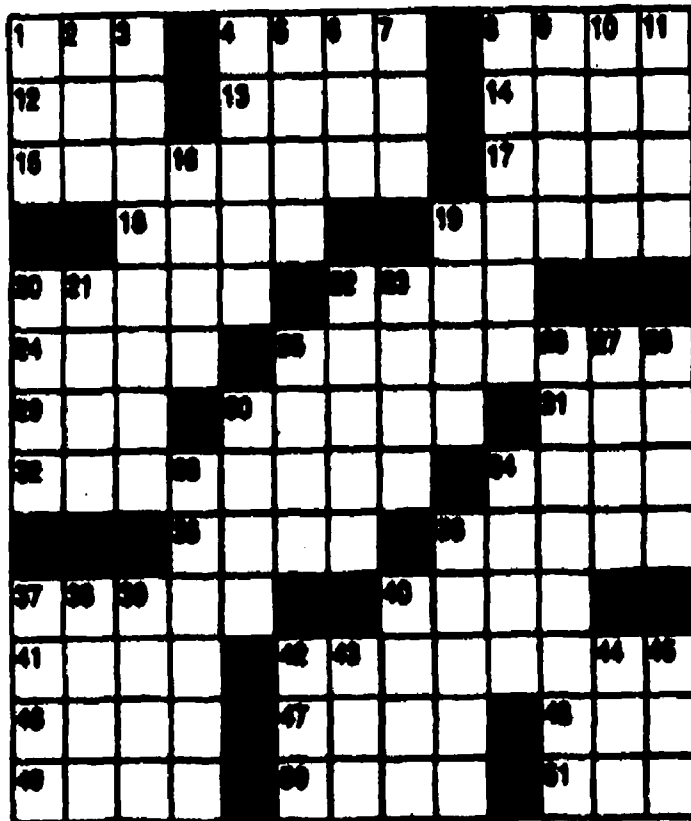
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Picture is different. 2. One 'Z' is missing. 3. Book she has been asked. 4. Dresser is wider. 5. Lamp is missing. 6. Chair back is taller.

ACROSS

- 1 Snapshot
- 4 Frost
- 6 Explosive sound
- 12 Homer Simpson's epithet
- 13 Tiddish Hoppet
- 14 Reclamation
- 15 Four-line verse
- 17 Pumps up the volume
- 18 Coral creation
- 19 Babyhood
- 20 Contrasts
- 22 Place
- 24 Puntstouch hit
- 25 Comparative
- 26 Square of speech
- 29 Afternoon social
- 30 Best man's responsibility
- 31 Old French coin
- 32 Symbolic story
- 34 FBI old full
- 35 Tonic lid
- 36 Whirling part
- 37 Shoe scratch
- 40 War alien
- 41 Puncture road
- 42 Contradiction in terms
- 46 Bubbly brother
- 47 Italian bread
- 48 Tuba sch.
- 49 Pub outside
- 50 Author Hunter
- 51 "Charlotte's -"



DOWN

- 1 Without further ado
- 2 Baker's letters
- 3 Shutter's motion
- 4 First word of 30-Across, often
- 5 Scandinavian man's name
- 6 Charles' chess
- 7 Howard or fly
- 8 Endure
- 9 What, as an excuse
- 10 Snakes
- 11 Network
- 12 - off (started)
- 13 Endover
- 14 Greek cheese
- 15 Stealing lap
- 16 Memento
- 17 - lily
- 18 Cow's herald
- 19 London airport
- 20 Numerical (Prod.)
- 21 Contribute one letter
- 22 Result
- 34 Mother
- 35 Oriental noodle
- 36 Moving-the fish
- 38 Soft-drink flavor
- 39 PC owner
- 40 Flank Bone
- 41 - Nam
- 42 Grand
- 43 - Spy
- 44 "Tom King" Look
- 45 Mind matter
- 46 Gist

ASSOCIATED MAGIC MAZE WITH PUMPKINS

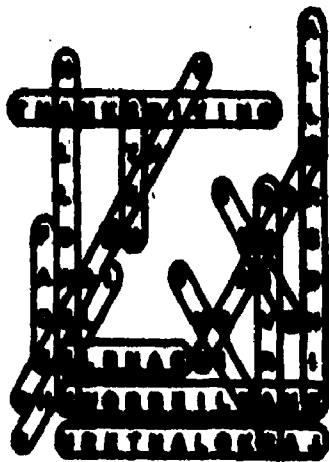
P Z W U R P M J H E C Z X U A
S Q N H L J G B C V Z X V T L
R T H A N K S G I V I N G P L
N L J L H E T N C A Y W V T E
R P N L L K E M I G S E G G R
C B F O Z S M U X W U E N S E
R P A W D L O T D M L A I J D
I G C B L E D U B N R A V P N
Y X B E L D N A C O I W R U I
T S H N W O R B E I L R A H C
S S Q N R E T N A L O K C A J

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

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|-------|--------------|
| Candle | Face | Pine | Stem |
| Carving | Halloween | Rind | Thanksgiving |
| Charlie Brown | Jack-o'-lantern | Seeds | Vines |
| Cinderella | Orange | Shell | |

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to Puzzles



OBITUARIES

**Ernest J. Woods, 89
of Colonia**

Mr. Ernest J. Woods of Colonia died April 24 in the Clark Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Clark. He was 89.

Born in Pennsylvania, he lived in Newark before moving to Colonia 51 years ago.

He was a truck driver with Wood Ply Corp., Linden for 35 years before retiring in 1975.

Surviving are his wife of 62 years, Mary; three sons, James, Robert and Paul; two daughters, Mrs. Ellen Wargo and Mrs. Suann Collins; 15 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**Effie Oakes, 71
of Edison**

Mrs. Effie Chapas Oakes of Edison died May 1 at JFK Medical Center, Edison. She was 71.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., she lived in Elizabeth, South Plainfield, Perth Amboy and Linden before settling in Edison in 1968. She also maintained a home in Pawleys Island, S.C. for the past 20 years.

She was a graduate of Baton High School, Elizabeth and attended Trenton State Teachers College and earned her master's degree in education from Rutgers University. She was a business teacher at South Plainfield High School for many years before retiring in 1995.

She was an active member of Widows Or Widowers in both Woodbridge and South Carolina and an active member of the Murrells Inlet (S.C.) VFW Ladies Auxiliary. She also belonged to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus in Linden and an active member of the New Jersey Education Association.

Mrs. Oakes was a parishioner of both St. Helen's R.C. Church, Edison and the Precious Blood of Christ Church, Pawleys Island, S.C.

Her husband, John H. Oakes, Sr., died in 1995.

Surviving are two sons, John H. Oakes, Jr. of Marlton and Thomas C. Oakes of Mesa, Ariz; a daughter, Alice Anne McMahon of Pawley Island, S.C.; two sisters, Sue Burton of Cullowhee, N.C. and Harriet Wilson of Cape May; and five grandchildren.

**Anthony J. Caruso
of Woodbridge**

Mr. Anthony J. Caruso of Woodbridge died April 21 in the Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy Division. He was 33.

Born in Orange, he lived in East Hanover before moving to Woodbridge three years ago.

He was a store manager at Spencer Gifts at the Livingston Mall for two years. Earlier, he had managed stores at the Livingston Mall and Woodbridge Center Mall.

Surviving are his mother, Mrs. Shirley V. Caruso; a brother, Vincent M.; and his grandmother, Mrs. Josephine Monica.

**John L. Connor, 91
of Woodbridge**

Mr. John L. Connor of Woodbridge died April 19 in JFK Hospice, Edison. He was 91.

Born in Pavilion, N.Y., he lived in Rochester, N.Y. before moving to Woodbridge 14 years ago.

He was a part-time employee at Floral Expressions, Woodbridge. Previously, he was employed by University Club of Rochester, N.Y., for 20 years before retiring in 1978.

Surviving are his wife of 21 years, Anna Ruth; two sons, James Olgren and John H.; three daughters, Mrs. Judith Forkell, Mrs. June Kodiak and Miss Kay Olgren; a sister, Mrs. Louise Lynch; 11 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

**Joan Donathan, 64
of Carteret**

Mrs. Joan Donathan of Muse, Fla. (formerly of Carteret) died May 1 at home. She was 64.

Born in Rahway, she lived in Westfield and Carteret before moving to Florida six years ago.

She was the former owner of the Westfield Sewing Center, Westfield, for 10 years.

Her husbands George C. Hartman, Edward Karst and Edward Donathan and a daughter, Beverly Hartman are all deceased.

Surviving are five sons, Gregory Hartman, Gary Hartman, Grant Hartman, Glenn Hartman and George Hartman; four daughters, Barbara A. Poulo, Bernadette Fredericks, Brenda Condray and Bonnie Axelman; three stepsons, John Karst, Frank Karst and Edward Karst; a sister, Carol Dooley and 14 grandchildren.

**Estelle Vernillo, 88
of Carteret**

Mrs. Estelle Vernillo of Carteret died April 30 in Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy Division. She was 88.

Born in Perth Amboy, she resided in Carteret most of her life.

She was a retired beautician, and owned and operated Estelle's Beauty Shop, Carteret, for many years.

Mrs. Vernillo was a parishioner of St. Joseph's R.C. Church, Carteret.

Her husband, Joseph Vernillo, died in 1979 and a brother, Edwin Pomanek, died last year.

Surviving is her sister, Viola Pomanek.

**Margaret C. Takacs
of Iselin**

Mrs. Margaret C. Takacs of Iselin died April 23 in the Hazlet home of her daughter, Mrs. Lisa Dubin. She was 65.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., she lived in Avenel for 24 years before moving to Iselin nine years ago.

She was a senior accountant with Exxon Oil Corp., Linden, for 25 years before retiring in 1997.

Also surviving are a son, Richard Jr.; another daughter, Mrs. Debby Woodward; five grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

**Arthur Illes, 62
of Edison**

Mr. Arthur J. Illes of Edison died May 3 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick. He was 62.

Born in Perth Amboy, he was resided in Edison for the past 38 years.

He was the owner of Anchor Siding Co., South Amboy, for 23 years, before retiring in 1997.

Previously, he was employed as a credit manager for the News Tribune in Woodbridge for five years.

He served in the New Jersey National Guard.

Mr. Illes was a communicant of Holy Spirit R.C. Church, Perth Amboy.

He was an avid fisherman of both surf and streams.

His parents, Stephen and Jennie Illes are deceased.

Surviving are his wife, Arlene Krasnanski Illes; a daughter, Marta Illes of Middletown, N.Y.; a son, Corey Illes of Washington, D.C.; a brother, Stephen Illes of South Amboy; a sister, Joan Illes of Edison and a granddaughter, Gia Marie.

**Kathleen Gorny, 67
of Iselin**

Mrs. Kathleen Gorny of Jackson Township (formerly of Iselin) died April 22 in the Center for Hospice Care at Monmouth Medical Center, Long Branch. She was 67.

Born in Jersey City, she lived in Iselin before moving to Jackson Township 11 years ago.

Surviving are three daughters, Mrs. Sharon Lordi, Mrs. Kathleen Slebodnik and Mrs. Michele Sansenbach; two brothers, John and Rocco Petrino; a sister, Mrs. Ann Traina; and five grandchildren.

**F. Beauregard, 82
Worked in South Amboy**

Mrs. Florence Beauregard of Point Pleasant died May 2 at Brick Hospital, Brick. She was 82.

She was a retired proprietor of Ranch House Furniture Company, South Amboy.

Her husband, Christopher J. Beauregard is deceased.

Surviving are a son, Gary; a daughter, Linda Beauregard; three sisters, Cora White, Caroline Dukus and Dorothy Starkin; and two grandsons.

M. Grygowicz, 71 of Perth Amboy

Mrs. Margaret Grygowicz of Perth Amboy died April 28 at her daughter's home in Lutz, Fla. She was 71.

Born in Ireland, she had been a resident of Perth Amboy for many years. She worked for Con-Air in Edison in the quality-control department for 20 years before retiring in 1984.

Mrs. Grygowicz was a com-

**Marie Fedlam, 88
of Carteret**

Mrs. Marie Fedlam of Carteret died April 27 in the JFK Medical Center, Edison. She was 88.

Born in Brooklyn, she lived in Carteret most of her life.

She co-owned with her late husband, Andrew, Andy's Food Market, Carteret, before retiring. Earlier, she was a librarian with the Carteret Public Library.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Margaret Warshaw and Mrs. Mary Mahr; two sons, Andrew and Rev. James; and a sister, Mrs. Ruth Gilroy.

**Mary Splan, 92
of South Amboy**

Mrs. Mary C. (O'Connor) Splan of Memphis, Tenn. (formerly of South Amboy) died April 30 at Wesley Highland Manor, Memphis, Tenn. She was 92.

Born in Harrison, she lived there and later resided in South Amboy before moving to Memphis ten years ago.

Mrs. Splan had been a member of the South Amboy Senior Citizens.

Surviving are her husband of 45 years, Joseph Splan; a son, Brian Splan of Memphis; two granddaughters, Lisa and Laura; a long-time friend and cousin of Helen Brady; six nieces and nephews.

She was a communicant of Holy Spirit R.C. Church, Perth Amboy. Her husband, Carl Grygowicz, died in 1990.

Surviving are two daughters, Gerlyn Drake of Wethersfield, Conn. and Cathy Knoke of Lutz, Fla.; two sisters, Kathleen Mullins and Delia Fraine, both of Ireland; and three grandchildren, Caitlin, Jenna and Lauren.

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How To Prepare Your Deck For The Summer

AREA — As the warm weather approaches, you envision barbecues and lazy summer afternoons on your deck with family and friends. Yet, this pleasant thought can be quickly clouded by the daunting prospect of preparing your deck, especially after the harsh weather our region has endured this winter.

"Decks can be easily repaired, beautified and made comfortable for your enjoyment," says Larry Katz, a partner in Siperstein's Paint and Wallpaper, one of New Jersey's oldest family-owned-and-operated chains of paint and decorating centers, founded in 1904. "There are various deck products on the market today. To ready your weathered deck for summer fun, you need to choose a quality product for the job and follow several simple steps such as stripping, cleaning and finishing."

Here are some guidelines from Katz, who has more than 40 years of experience in the home decorating product business, that will give you a better understanding of the deck improvement process. They will also help you make an informed decision about deck products.

STRIPPING. Stripping agents

remove the old, beaten stain or clear finish on the deck, preparing the deck surface for refinishing. It is important that the stripping agent you choose be bleach-free as bleach can damage wood and is not compatible with the ingredients in waterproofing finishes.

CLEANING. Deck cleansers work to restore your deck to its natural color from the gray, battered hue imposed by winter. In the process, the cleanser also removes stains and mildew further readying the wood for finishing. The product should also be bleach-free as bleach can lessen the durability of the waterproofing by as much as fifty percent.

WATERPROOFING. Waterproofing your deck is essential to its longevity and appearance. It is important to use a product specifically designed for decks. Those products protect against ultraviolet (UV) rays, fight mildew and repel water. Products like Formula 77 are clear solutions that can be applied to the deck to prevent the damaging effects of the elements.

STAINING. A deck stain provides protection to the wood, while adding the hue you want, thus, helping you achieve a certain look. Deck stains can

lessen the visible wood grain. Cabot deck stains are great products that have been rated among the top quality stains on the market by a leading consumer magazine.

In addition to staining, there are a number of other options for finishing your deck, according to Katz. Among them are traditional deck paints, solid color stains and the innovative deck and wood protectors, such as Formula 77 Plus.

The crowning touches to your outdoor living environment may be flower pots, outdoor lighting and landscaping. Your rejuvenated deck is that extra room you have been dreaming about all winter. Enjoy it and have fun sprucing it up!

Siperstein's is the largest New Jersey paint store chain and the nation's 17th largest, according to the National Home Center News. The company, headquartered in Jersey City, has 17 stores throughout New Jersey, four new stores in Connecticut and one in Massachusetts.

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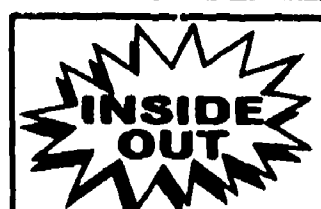
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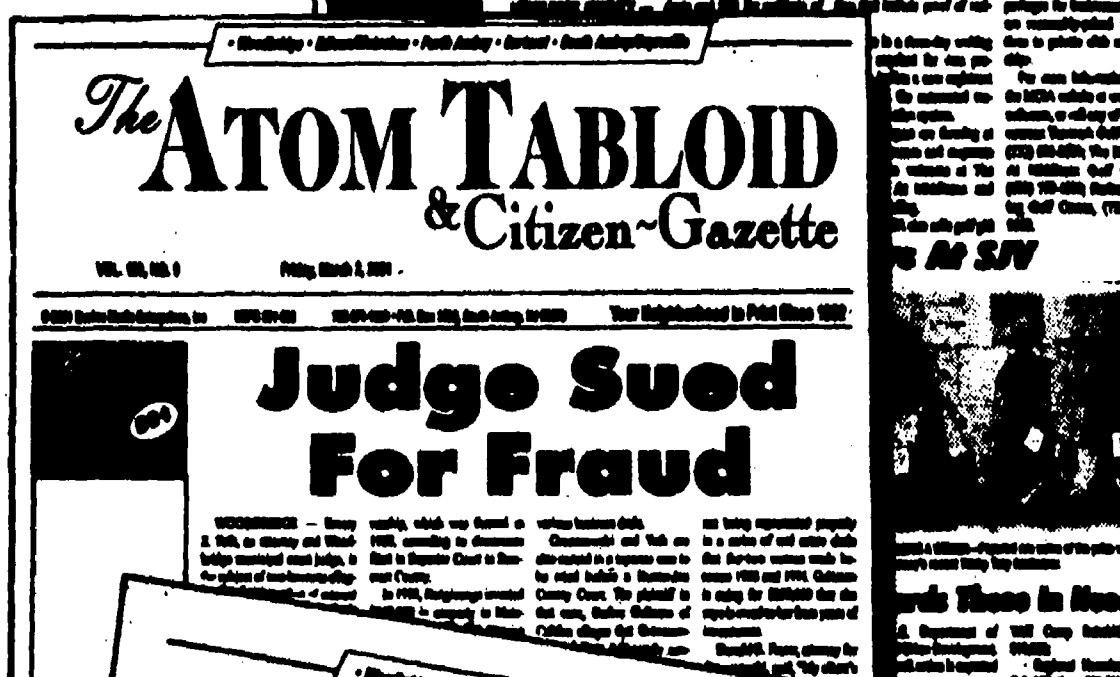
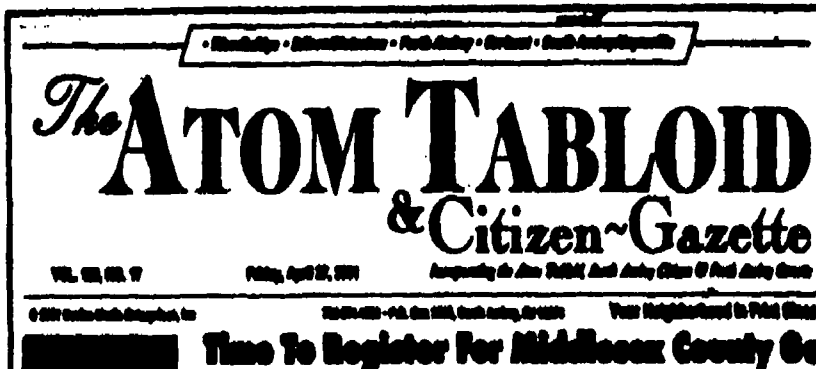
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