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Friday, August 10, 2001

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Legislators Work To Save Sayreville Jobs

PARLIN — US Senator Robert Torricelli, Congressman Frank Pallone, Assemblyman John Wisniewski, State Senator



Assemblyman John Wisniewski addresses workers at the Green Tree Chemical Plant, Parlin.

Joseph Vitale, and Assemblywoman Arline Friscia outlined their joint plan of action to save jobs at the Green Tree Chemical plant, Sayreville.

Assemblyman Wisniewski (D-Sayreville) traveled to Washington, DC to meet with Torricelli, Pallone and Green Tree officials to discuss the actions of the Department of Defense which has caused Green Tree to lose all of its contracts for smokeless nitrocellulose.

"When Sayreville faced the loss of these jobs at Hercules, Green Tree was the white knight to rescue this operation and jobs," said Assemblyman Wis-

niewski. "But the policies of the US Government may still undo all the good Green Tree has done here. I am glad that Senators Torricelli and Corzine and Representative Pallone are willing to load up and work with these employers and the people of Sayreville to reverse the fedplant and these families."

Green Tree is a Parlin-based nitrocellulose manufacturer that employs over 100 people. CEO Bruce Edge and investors purchased the plant from Hercules 1 1/2 years ago at a time when Hercules was considering closing the plant. In addition to

other products, nitrocellulose is used to produce smokeless gunpowder and ammunition propellant for the defense industry. Twenty-five percent of Green Tree's manufacturing of nitrocellulose is directly for the defense industry.

"You would think that the eral policies which threaten this federal government would support competition as a way of lowering costs to taxpayers, providing jobs, and ensuring efficiencies. This is one example of how they can make that happen," said Senator Joe Vitale, who, along with Assemblyman Wisniewski, met with Green Tree officials.

Physician Joins Clara Maass Staff

PARLIN—Yan Li, M.D., a resident of Parlin, has joined the Medical Staff of Clara Mass Medical Center. A pediatrician, Dr. Li graduated from Shanxi Medical College and completed

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Clara Maass Medical Center, an affiliate of the St. Barnabas Health Care System, provides a complete continuum of care to residents of northern New Jersey. Located in Belleville, Clara Maass offers acute-care services through Clara Maass Medical Center; skilled, rehabilitative and long-term care through the Continuing Care Center at Belleville; assisted living and



Yan Li, M.D.

long-term care through the Continuing Care Center at Kearny; home care through JerseyCare Home Health; and diagnostic radiology services through Progressive Imaging Center.

For more information on Clara Maass programs and services, call 1-800-CLARA MAASS or to take a virtual tour of the Medical Center, visit www.saintbarnabas.com.

K Of C Sooks Youth League Bowlers

SAYREVILLE — Our Lady of Victory Council 2061 Knights of Columbus, Sayreville, is continuing its Youth Bowling League. Boys and girls 8-16 years-old have fun and compete in a Middlesex County Youth Bowling Association sanctioned bowling league for approximately 32 weeks on Saturdays at Mid-State Lanes, East Brunswick. The K of C league first meeting is at 11 a.m. on Sept. 8 and in following weeks are meeting at 11:30 a.m. The cost per week includes bowling shoes is \$7.35.

Boys and girls of all skill levels from beginner to advanced who like to bowl are welcome.

Teams of bowlers are made of boys, girls or co-ed. Weekly bowlers and substitutes are needed so singles or groups can join. Parents or guardians should contact John Brusich at (732) 257-1449 or (732) 257-2061, leave a message to register or for additional information about this fun, yet educational, league sport.

The Knights of Columbus is an international Catholic organization with more than 1.5 million members working for the Catholic Church, community and fellowman. O.L.V. Council 2061 Knights sponsor local youth programs, church and community activities and charitable causes.

YOUR LOCAL NEWS

VFW Offers Contests

COLONIA—Barbara Taylor, newly elected President of the Ladies Auxiliary VFW, District 8 has appointed Doris Morecroft of the Colonia Auxiliary as the Voice of Democracy and Youth Essay Chairman.

Morecroft said, "The Voice of Democracy Contest is offered to all High School students nationally. A 3-5 minute audio essay, cassette tape is submitted to the high school of the local VFW Post for judging using the current theme."

The incoming National Commander VFW announced the themes for the 2001-02 year, Voice of Democracy is "Reaching Out To America's Future."

Students interested in this scholarship program should contact their local high school guidance office or the Veterans of Foreign Wars in their area.

The first place National Scholarship is \$25,000, the total scholarships given Nationally is \$140,000 annually. Deadline for entries is Nov. 1.

The Youth Essay theme announced by the incoming Commander James Goldsmith is "Is Freedom Really Free?" A \$10,000 Savings Bond is the first place award given by National VFW and a total of \$48,500 in other awards.

This program is offered to all seventh and eighth grade students, a 300-400 words, typed essay must be submitted to the local grade school or the VFW, deadline is Dec. 1.

Both programs are endorsed by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. In addition to the National Awards, thousands of dollars can be won on local and state levels.

Jewish Perth Amboy Day At JHSCJ

PERTH AMBOY—A Perth Amboy Day has been scheduled in the JHSCJ New Brunswick office on Sunday, Aug. 26 from 10 a.m.—noon. They will be enlarging their small exhibit on Perth Amboy for that day only, just before they dismantle it altogether and return the items to their archives.

People, especially with a Perth Amboy background, are invited to come in that morning to view the exhibit which has been on display since early spring, meet and reminisce with old friends and be interviewed on tape on the subject of "Growing Up Jewish in Perth Amboy."

We encourage all Amboyites to bring in archival materials and memorabilia that they might have to be incorporated in the collection. Manny Goldfarb, erstwhile Perth Amboyite, will chair that special day and is looking forward to seeing you.

For more information, contact Rachel Weintraub at the Jewish Historical Society at (732) 249-4894 or e-mail: jhscj@cs.com.



W00DBRIDGE MUSICWORKS 2001—The Capri's performed a free concert on the field of the Woodbridge Public Library and High School field recently. The group started in 1958, lead by original singer and songwriter Nick Santo, whose famous hits included "There's a Moon Out Tonight," "Morse Code of Love," Frank Reina and Tom Ferrara, vocalists. They also had raffles for the Buddy Ball kids, helping handicapped children from the Woodbridge Recreation. The sponsors of the concert were Rt. 1 Auto Mall and Sansone's. Photo by Cheri Rogowsky.

Weichert's Edison Office Honors Top Associates

EDISON—Fernando Gonzalez, manager of Weichert, Realtors' Edison Office, announced that two sales associates were recognized for their industry accomplishments in the month of July.

Jackie Bennett led the office in listings and was named marketing agent of the month. Bennett earned recognition in 2000 as the office's mentor of the year. As a mentor, Bennett coaches new associates and helps them to learn the real estate business. An experienced real estate professional, Bennett has earned numerous honors throughout her career. In addition to sales, Bennett serves as the office's public relations coordinator.

Roger Meador led the office in sales. A member of Weichert's Million Dollar and Sales Clubs,

Meador earned membership in the New Jersey State Million Dollar Sales Club in the year 2000 at the silver level. A member of Weichert's Ambassador's Club, Meador is recognized in the top two percent of the company's 7,500 sales associates. In addition, he was named the office's top agent and top selling agent in 2000.

To reach these top producing real estate professionals, call Weichert's Edison Office, (732) 494-6800, located at 123 Lincoln Highway.

To find out more about the services Weichert Realtors has to offer, call the Weichert sales office nearest you or visit Weichert's Web site on the Internet at http://www.weichert.com

Military Briefs...

Louis-Jacques Joins Delayed Entry Program

PARLIN — Christopher J. Louis-Jacques has joined the United States Army under the Delayed Entry Program. The program gives young men and women the opportunity to delay entering active duty for up to one year.

The enlistment gives the new soldier the option to learn a new skill, travel and become eligible to receive as much as \$50,000 toward a college education. After completion of basic military training, soldiers receive advanced individual training in their career job specialty.

Louis-Jacques, a 1999 graduate of Old Bridge High School, will report to Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga., for basic training.

He is the son of Marie and Nemours Louis-Jacques of Parlin.

Lopez Joins Army Delayed Entry Program

PARLIN—Fabyan Lopez has joined the United States Army under the Delayed Entry Program. The program gives young men and women the opportunity to delay entering active duty for up to one year.

The enlistment gives the new soldier the option to learn a new skill, travel and become eligible to receive as much as \$50,000 toward a college education. After completion of basic military training, soldiers receive advanced individual training in their career job specialty.

Lopez will report to Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. for basic training.

He is the son of Gumersindo and Irma Lopez of Parlin.

The ATOM TABLOID

&Citizen~Gazette

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Plays-In-The-Park's 2001 Season To Present "Peter Pan"

MIDDLESEX COUNTY—
Freeholder Stephen J. "Pete"
Dalina announced that Middlesex
County's prestigious theater,
Plays-In-The-Park, will present
the third show of the 2001

Summer Season: the classic family musical "Peter Pan."

The show will open on Wednesday evening, Aug. 15 at 8:30 p.m. and play for ten performances, closing on Saturday

night, Aug. 25. There will be no performance on Sunday, Aug. 19.

The box office at the Stephen J. Capestro Theater in Roosevelt Park, Edison, opens at 5:30 p.m. on performance nights and stays open until 9 p.m. Patrons may place their lawn chairs out on the seating area immediately after

purchasing a ticket. Adult admission is \$3 with children 12 and under admitted free. The flying effects are by ZFX, who did the recent Cathy Rigby video version. Holly Logue is directing the show, with choreography by Lorinda Haver and musical direction by Vince Zito. The theater is located off of Rou the Menlo Roosevelt there informs site at www or call the 2884.

Adult admisoff of Route 1 South, 1 block past the Menlo Park Shopping Mall, Roosevelt Park, Edison. For further information, visit their webvideo version. Site at www.plays inthepark.com or call the theater at (732) 548-2884.

The theater is handicapped



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Clinton • Colonia • Edison • Flemington Highland Park • Linden • North Plainfield Scotch Plains • South Plainfield Springfield • Union • Whitehouse

MEMBER FDIC

YOUR AREA & STATE NEWS

Republican Budget **Shortchanges** Local Towns

STATE -- State Senator Joseph F. Vitale said that the new Republican State budget shortchanges beleaguered property taxpayers by eliminating a Senate-approved increase in the State's Municipal Block Grant Program.

"This budget funds \$150 million in pet projects for Republicans legislators at the same time it shortchanges New Jersey's taxpayers," said Senator Vitale (D-Middlesex). "In March the senate passed legislation that would have increased the Block Grant program by \$100 million over the next three years. In June, however, we found that the increase has not been implemented, and that instead of property tax relief the money is being used special projects in Republican legislators' home districts."

Senator Vitale said that residents of the 19th Legislative District lost more than \$800,000 in direct property tax relief when the Republicans removed the increased Block Grants for the State budget.

"Four months ago the Republican leadership was telling New Jersey that property tax relief was on the way," said Senator Vitale. "Now we know that in the budget they forced through the Legislature, they have eliminated one of the key relief programs. The taxpayers of the New Jersey deserve to know how much this is costing them."

Following are the projected benefits for each town in Senator Vitale's district had the increased Municipal Block Grant Program not been removed from the budget: Carteret (\$79,085), Perth Amboy (\$174,452), Sayreville (\$145,483), South Amboy (\$32,636) and Woodbridge (\$386,972).

Legal Services

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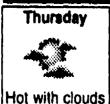
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OCAL 7-DAY FORECAST Thursday



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NATIONAL SUMMARY





84/62



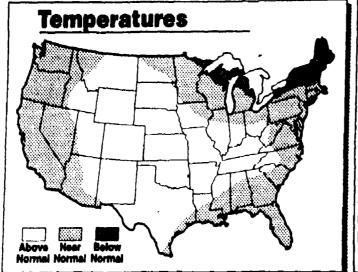
Tuesday Mostly cloudy.



84/62 80/68

Cloudy and humid. 82/72

THE WEEK AHEAD ...



Hot weather will continue to dominate the Plains and Rocky Mountains during the period. Temperatures across the central and southern Plains are forecasted to average 10 to 15 degrees above Showers normal. thunderstorms will be common across the Southeast and Gulf Coast. Cooler air will push southward from Canada into the northern Great Lakes and northern New England.

THE WEEK AHEAD... **Precipitation**

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
City	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W
Atlanta	90 70 pc	93 72 t	91 72 t	89 71 1
Boston	93 70 pc	90 68 c	82 66 sh	80 56 pc
Chicago	90 68 pc	84 64 sh	82 62 pc	· 81 54 pc
Cleveland	90 66 pc	88 62 pc	86 60 pc	82 58 s
Denver	82 56 pc	82 56 pc	84 58 pc	86 58 p
Des Moines	93 67 t	90 65 i	81 63 i	81 63 c
Detroit	98 68 t	93 66 pc	81 61 s	79 50 p
Houston	96 76 pc	96 76 pc	96 76 pc	94 74 p
ndianapolis	92 68 t	92 66 sh	84 65 c	84 60 p
Kansas City	88 66 pc	84 62 pc	82 64 c	82 64 t
Los Angeles	94 64 8	92 64 s	91 62 s	95 58 s
Miami T	90 78 pc	90 79 t	90 80 c	92 75 p
Minn St. Pau	1 86 68 pc	84 66 t	84 64 sh	86 66 p
New Orleans	90 78 t	91 77 sh	92 77 t	93 73 p
New York City		90 74 t	90 74 sh	83 64 8
Omaha -	86 64 pc	80 60 pc	80 60 s	82 62 p
Phoenix	104 84 pc	104 84 s	106 84 s	106 82 s
Şan Francisc	o 73 57 pc	71 56 pc	71 56 pc	71 51 p
Seattle	82 58 s	82 58 s	79 57 s	· 78 60 s
Washington	96 78 pc	94 76 sh	94 76 sh	87 71 c

SUN	& Moon	
	Sunrise	Sure
		8:03 p.m.
Fri.	6:03 a.m.	8:02 p.m.
	Moonrise	Moonset
		10:56 a.m.
Fri.	11:24 p.m.	11:55 a.m.
Moo	n Phases	
Las	t New F	irst Full
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Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain,

WORLD IR	AELEK	S CITIES	عيد ويواندا الماداد	
	Thursda	y Friday	Saturday	Sunday
City	Hi Lo V		Hi Lo Ŵ	Hi Lo W
Amsterdam			62 57 c	66 60 sh
Berlin			65 51 c	63 58 sh
Buenos Aires			63 50 c	64 53 r
	100 72 8			96 73 \$
Jerusalem	89 63			89 64 8
Johannesburg				73 42 \$
London			68 60 c	72 61 c
Madrid	91 60 p			89 66 pc
	77 55			
MEDICU CRY			74 55 r	77 55 c
Moscow	80 61 p		84 65 pc	77 63 t
Paris	62 49 c		65 50 pc	72 53 pc
Rio de Janeiro			71 58 pc	70 58 pc
Rome	89 67 8		83 58 s	76 56 s
San Juan	88 77 p		89 77 pc	88 78 c
Secul	84 72 p	c 81 70 c	81 70 c	82 73 sh
Sydney	64 47 E	69 51 s	69 52 8	70 52 8
Takyo	84 78 c		83 75 r	85 76 c
Toronto	92 60 p		79 51 pc	71 44 8
Winnipeg	77 51	c 73 47 pc	72 46 pc	
Zurich	72 63	h 71 47 c	69 50 pc	72 57 pc

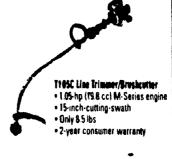
A DEERE FOR ALL SEASONS

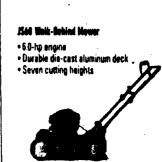
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YOUR HEALTH NEWS

Managing Your Medication

by Stephanie Fitzsimmons, RNC, GNP

AREA — I do not frequently make home visits, but when I do I am amazed at the amount of medications people keep in their home. They have kept every prescription and over-the-counter medicines that they have ever purchased. My husband subscribes to the philosophy that "if I paid for it, it's good forever." I want to tell you that this philosophy is wrong, and that if there is an expiration date, it cancels out the cost of the drug.

As a group, people over age 50 receive more prescriptions than people of other ages. Because of changes in many body processes, your body absorbs and uses medications differently as you age. Managing your medications is even more important as you get older. You weight less, and your body composition changes in ways that affect the amount of medication you may need, and how long it stays in your body. Your circulation system, liver, and kidneys may work more slowly, which changes how quickly medications are used and disposed of by the body. If you take several different medications, the risk of drug interactions increases with age. Good medication management begins in your doctor's office when a prescription is written, but it doesn't stop there.

Keep a medication record with the name of the medicine and the dose. Include prescription and over-the-counter medications. Take the record to every doctor's visit. Know the side effects of the drug and how long to take it. Never stop an antibiotic until the mediation is finished.

Ask about other treatment options besides medication. Exercise, diet changes, and stress management can provide many of the benefits of medication for some problems. At times, a few pounds of weight loss can impact your blood pressure. Re-evaluate your mediations regularly. Check for outdated prescriptions and possible interactions.

Good medication management also means organizing your bottles and pills. Taking three or four different drugs at different times each day can be confusing, but taking your medications exactly as prescribed helps them work better.

- Develop a system to keep track of when and how you take each medication.
- Show your doctor a complete list of the drugs you take and the times you now take them. Ask if other medications or doses can be used to reduce the number of times you take pills each day.
- List your medication schedule on a daily planner that has spaces for hourly notations. Post it in a prominent place near your medicine cabinet. Take it with you when you travel.
- Use a pillbox designed to hold a week's worth of pills. You can also label empty egg cartons and use them to organize a day's or week's worth of medications.
- Ask if your pharmacist can help you with color-coated containers, easy-open caps, and

large-print labels.

- Post reminders near clocks or on the bathroom mirror to help keep you on schedule. Set an alarm clock or kitchen timer to remind you to take your media-
- Keep medications in a cool, dry place. Hot, steamy bathrooms cause medications to lose their strength. Some drugs need refrigeration. Ask your pharmacist.
- Store drugs in their original containers. Clearly label any drugs that you put in different bottles.
- Do not share medications with others.

This is a good time to inspect

your medication for your annual "Spring cleaning." Dispose of expired, unused, unlabeled, or discolored drugs by flushing them down the toilet. Treat overthe-counter drugs with the same precautions as you would treat prescription medicine.

I would like to finish up with a thought about where to purchase your mediations. If you order your medication through the mail, please do so in a timely manner. When you select a pharmacy, see if they deliver for days you are not feeling well. Always remember, you are in control of your medication and your health.

CPR And First Aid Classes Scheduled

AREA — The Basic Life Support Training Center at Saint Peter's University Hospital, 254 Easton Ave., New Brunswick is offering the following CPR and first aid classes during August and September:

Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers: Aug. 15 and 22 (two sessions), 6:30-10 p.m.; Aug. 25, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.; Aug. 28, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sept. 12 and 19 (two sessions), 6:30-10 p.m.; Sept. 15, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sept. 28, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Basic Life Support Renewal: Aug. 21, 8:30 a.m.noon, or 1-4:30 p.m., or 6:30-10 call 732-745-6672.

p.m.; Sept. 6, 8:30 a.m.-noon, or 1-4:30 p.m., or 6:30-10 p.m.; Sept. 25, 8:30 a.m.-noon, or 1-4:30 p.m., or 6:30-10 p.m.

CPR for Family and Friends: Aug. 18, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; Sept. 7, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; Sept. 27 (pediatric only), 7-9 p.m.

Public Access Defibrillation: Aug. 23, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

First Aid: Aug. 27, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

CPR Instructor Course: Sept. 22 and 23 (two sessions), 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For more information or to register for any of the classes,

Contact Lons Summer Tips

AREA — With summer here. contact lens wearers — like everyone else — are looking for good ways to beat the heat. The Contact Lens Council (CLC) offers some tips to help users get the most out of their summer fun without giving up the convenience of contacts over glasses or more expensive laser surgery.

"Contact lenses and summer seem to be made for each other," says Edward Schilling, Executive Director of the CLC. "Many people in need of eye care correction have given up dealing with fogging glasses caused by moving from the heat into airconditioning, or the uncomfortable slipping that comes from perspiration build-up. By following these tips, contact lens wearers can get the most out of their summer days and nights."

For people who wear the more expensive specialty con-

tact lenses. Schilling suggests temporarily switching to inexpensive, one-day disposable lenses. "It is easy to lose or forget your lenses while on vacation, or standing in the surf at your favorite beach," he says. "Check with your eye care professional about the suitability of these less expensive lenses as a vacation alternative. While your vision may not be perfect, it will often be good enough for the leisure activities we all enjoy."

Daily disposables offer other advantages to the vacationer and traveler as well. Risk of eye infection increases when wearing contacts in the pool or in other environments where dust and air pollution are present. While these risks can be minimized with regular cleaning and disinfecting, temporary disposable contacts can also be discarded after use.

UV protection is also important for people who care about good vision. Newer contact lenses now offer UV absorption and provide excellent vision correction, both in and out of the water. Schilling recommends users also wear sunglasses. "With contacts, you can take advantage of the extra protection sunglasses offer, and easily change your look or style without having to buy extra pairs of expensive prescription sunglass-

For more information on contact lenses, visit the Contact Lens Council web site at: www.contactlens council.org or call 1-800-884-4CLC.

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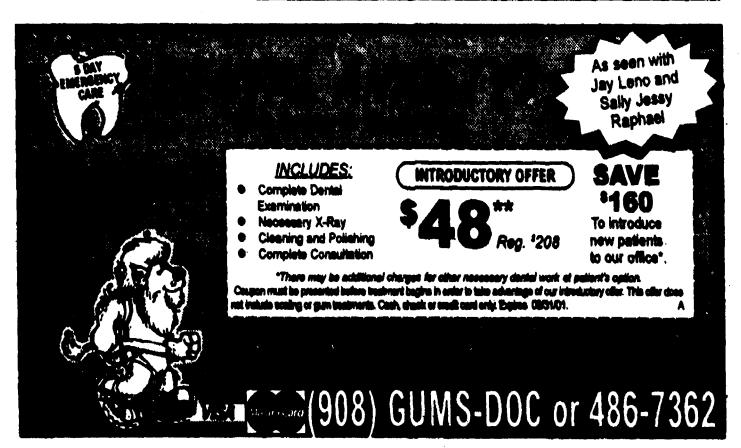
Diabetic Supply Program

Toll Free 1-888-466-2678 (No HMO patients, please.)

Golf Outing To Benefit Hospital Services

AREA — The 15th annual Golf Outing to benefit Saint Peter's University Hospital, New Brunswick, will be held on Sept. 10 at Fiddler's Elbow Country Club, Bedminster.

Breakfast will begin at 7:30 a.m.; golf shotgun start, scramble format at 10 a.m.; awards dinner at 3:30 p.m. RSVP by Aug. 31. For more information, call 732-745-8542.



YOUR SCHOOL NEWS

Drew University Names Student To Dean's List

AREA — Peter Miraldo of Colonia, a local Drew University student, has been named to the Dean's List for the Spring Semester 2001. He earned a minimum of a 3.4 grade point average, equivalent to or better than a B+ on a scale in which A=4.0.

Founded in 1867, Drew University is a selective, independ-

ent, coeducational university with a total enrollment of 2412 students in its College of Liberal Arts, Graduate School, and Theological School There are 1537 students in the College of Liberal Arts. The College of Liberal Arts offers the Bachelor of Arts degree in 28 fields.

Drew is one of only three uni-

versities in New Jersey with a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's most prestigious academic honor society. In 1998, a Drew student was named a Rhodes Scholar, a distinction few universities share.

Drew was one of the first universities in the nation to promote off-campus study. For more than 25 years, Drew University students have studied the European Community in Brussels and British government

and British theatre and literature in London. Through Drew's innovative International Seminar Program, in 2000-01 students are students are studying about and in Cuba/Puerto Rico, Egypt, Ireland, Chile, Eritrea, Russia, and Tunisia as a regular part of tuition costs.

Under the leadership of President Tom Kean, former NJ Governor, Drew has made many improvements to the campus infrastructure, including the

construction of the \$12 million William E. and Carol G. Simon Forum and Athletic Center, which includes a 200-meter indoor track, an eight-lane NCAA pool, basketball, squash, and racquethall courts, and exercise, weight, and dance rooms. In total, during the past five years, more than \$30 million has been spent on new buildings and improvements to existing structures, including to student residence halls.

Area Students Receive Degrees

AREA — Rider University celebrated its 136th commencement recently. Dr. J. Barton Luedeke, president of the University, awarded more than 1,000 graduate and undergraduate degrees to students who complete their degree requirements during the 2000-01 academic year.

Receiving honorary degrees at commencement were U.S. Senator Jon S. Corzine (D-NJ) and Corella A. Bonner, cofounder with her late husband and chairperson of the Corella

and Bertram F. Bonner Foundation. Corzine received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree, Bonner received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

DEGREE KEY:

MA.... Master of Arts
MBA... Master of Business
Administration

M.Acc. Master of Accountancy
BSBA... Bachelor of Science in
Business Administra

BS..... Bachelor of Science in

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Area degree recipients in-

Illona Aronovich, BSBA in Finance, from Edison; James Boelhower, BSBA in Management/Human Resources, from Sewaren; Christine DeSa, BSBA in Human Resource Management, from Edison;

Candice Genua, BA in Elemen-

Education/Psychology, from Sayreville; Angela Ladopoulos, BA in Elementary Education/Communications, from Parlin; Joseph Lombardi, BSBA in Business Administration, from Edison, Shaun Lyons, BSBA in Management, from Edison, Vanesa Macchione, BA in Psychology, from Edison; Albert Martins, BSBA in from Management, South Amboy; Cherilyn O'Neill, BSBA in Marketing/Business Economics, from South Amboy:

Brian Parfitt, BSBA Accounting, from Edison; Matthew Petersen, MBA in Business Administration, from Colonia; Nancy Rosado, MBA in Business Administration, from Edison; Donald Stanzione, BA in Psychology, from Edison; Steven Barbesh, MBA in Business Adminsitration, from Woodbridge; Adriane Berrier, BA in History, from Colonia; and Hitesh Patel, BSBA in Business Administration, from Edison.

Local Residents Graduate From Bloomfield College

AREA — Erica L. James of Rahway, Omerkiam P. Baksh and Kristin Bonczek of Edison, and Gerald G. Colatrella of Woodbridge participated in Bloomfield College's 128th Commencement exercises on May 24 and received bachelor's degrees in nursing. A total of 265 students participated in the ceremony in which the independent, four-year, co-educational institution conferred Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor

of Science degrees.

Honorary doctorates were awarded to internationally-recognized religious leader and political activist Rev. Moses

William Howard, Merck drug pioneer Arthur A. Patchett, author and philanthropist Elizabeth Penick-Schmitz, and Lucent physicist Magaly Spector.

Founded in 1868 as a Presbyterian seminary, Bloomfield College has renewed itself to meet the changing needs of the community. The College has earned national recognition for

AREA — Sixty-four Rut-

gers-Newark students were hon-

ored at May commencement

ceremonies on the Newark cam-

demic and co-curricular programs and for its commitment to serve students from all backgrounds, particularly those who have traditionally been excluded from higher education. Its mission is to prepare students to attain academic, personal and professional excellence in a multicultural and global society.

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Rutgers-Newark Honors Graduate

Honorees include graduates from the Newark College of Arts and Sciences (NCAS) and University College-Newark (UC-N), the evening division.

The Newark campus of Rutgers was founded in 1946. Today, Rutgers-Newark is a doctoral-granting research institution that is one of New Jersey's leading education and research centers, and one of the leading universities in the nation. For four consecutive years, U.S. News & World Report has named Rutgers-Newark the most diverse national university in the country.

Rutgers University is a member of the Association of American Universities, consisting of the nation's top research universities.

William Shaver of Sayreville received the Keschav C. Sondhi Memorial Award.

YOUR FINANCIAL NEWS

Social Security Trust Funds Gain One Additional Year Of Solvency

AREA — The Social Security Board of Trustees has released its annual report on the long-term financial health of the Social Security Trust Funds. The 2001 Trustees' Report projects that the Social Security program will remain solvent until 2038 — one year later than reported last year.

"The additional year of solvency is good news," said William A. Halter, Acting Commissioner of Social Security. "However, we should both maintain fiscal discipline and move forward on a bipartisan basis to strengthen Social Security to face the challenges presented by the Baby Boom generation's retirement."

Social Security ran a surplus of \$153 billion in 2000 and ended the year with \$1.049 trillion in assets. Annual Trust Fund revenues are projected to

exceed expenditures until 2016, a year later than estimated in last year's Trustees' report.

Acting Commissioner Halter stated, "Social Security is the major source of income for twothirds of older Americans and virtually the only source of income for one-third of older Americans. In a real sense, Social Security is the most important income security program in American history. We should utilize this period of Social Security surpluses to fashion the legislative changes necessary to extend the solvency of the system for future generations."

Beginning in 2025, assets of the combined Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Disability Insurance Trust Funds will be drawn down to pay benefits until the funds are exhausted in 2038. Over the 75-year longrange actuarial period, the pro-

jected actuarial balance is a deficit of 1.86% of taxable payroll, compared to 1.89% project. to \$407.6 billion in calendar ed in 2000.

Based on the most recent experience, the Social Security Trustees made some small adjustments in the demographic and disability assumptions used in last year's report, resulting in the one-year change to the exhaustion date of the combined trust funds. Data accumulated since last year's report indicate that the death rate declined recently at a slower pace than estimated for the 2000 report. An update of disability data resulted in a lower overall rate of disability incidence than was projected in last year's report.

In their 2001 Annual Report to Congress, the Trustees also reported the following:

• The Old-Age and Survivors,

and Disability Insurance Trust Funds paid benefits amounting year 2000, and there were 45.4 million beneficiaries on the rolls at the end of 2000. In 2000, an estimated 154 million people worked in jobs covered by Social Security,

- Income to the combined Trust Funds amounted to \$568.4 billion in 2000 and expenditures were \$415.1 billion, increasing the assets of the combined funds by \$153.3 billion to \$1,049.4 billion at the end of 2000;
- Interest earned on the invested assets of the combined Trust Funds was \$64.5 billion in 2000, representing an effective annual interest rate of 6.9%. The average interest rate on the new securities purchased by the Trust Funds was 6.2%; and
 - Administrative expenses

were \$3.8 billion in 2000, or about .6% of total income for the year For OASI, administrative expenses were about 4% of total income for the year.

The Board of Trustees is composed of six members, four of whom serve automatically by virtue of their positions with the federal government: the Secretary of the Treasury, who is the managing Trustee, the Secretary of Labor; the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Commissioner of Social Security. The other two members are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate to serve as public representatives: John L. Palmer and Thomas R. Saving.

For the Trustee Report go to http://www.ssa.gov/OACT/TR/ TR01/index.html.

Downpayment Assistance Is Available From The Government

AREA — Financial Assistance Network in Washington, DC has published a new booklet, "How To Collect Government Money For Housing & Real Estate - Even If You Don't Have Perfect Credit." The booklet includes information on a how-and-where-to-get government money to help people realize the American dream of owning their own home.

"The 2002 federal budget dedicates more than 30 billion to the Department of Housing and Urban Development," says Jim Surasak, a researcher at Financial Assistance Network. "The American Dream Downpayment Fund will provide \$200 million in downpayment assistance to help 130,000 lowincome families buy homes. In addition, the Bush administration recently announced a program to allow people who receive low income rental assistance to bundle a year's worth of

payments and use the money for a downpayment, or to make monthly payments on a new mortgage." Consumers can receive a

copy by sending \$5 to cover the cost of printing, postage and handling to: Financial Assistance Network -Government Money For Housing & Real Estate -Dept. HR 621, P.O. Box

60848, Washington, DC 20039. Consumers can get more information by calling 202-747-7447 or from Financial Assistance Network's Internet web site: www.FinancialAssistance Network.org.

Financial Assistance Network is an organization established by volunteers dedicated to helping people with limited financial means take advantage of programs that they may not be aware of. 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.

Drive-in banks were established so most of the cars today could see their real owners.

– E. Joseph Cossman

first paychecks. They're happy

First, tell them that federal law requires you to deduct 7.65% from their salary for Social Security and Medicare taxes. And be sure to tell your employees the law requires you to match the 7.65 and send the entire 15.3% to the Internal Revenue Service. If an employer decides to bend the rules and pay an employee "under the table," everyone loses. The employer can't count the employee's salary as a business expense and the employee doesn't earn Social Security credit toward his or her financial future.

You do your employees a favor when you stress the importance of Social Security in

Summer Employees Should Know Social Security **Deductions A Downpayment On The Future**

their lives. Although they're a

long way from retirement, your

teenage employees may not be a

long way from disability. While,

this is something they won't

want to hear, studies do show

that a 20-year-old has a one in

three chance of becoming dis-

abled sometime before reaching

retirement age. We never know

when or whether a disability

AREA — Your summer employees have just received their teenagers as they embark on their first job. However, they'll earn money only until school resumes in the fall and they're disappointed because you're deducting Social Security and Medicare tax from their pay. What do you tell them?

> could occur. Some day, when your young workers are ready to retire and enjoy the fruits of their working lifetime, their monthly Social Security retirement benefits will help them have a comfortable retirement. You also may want to remind your young workers that they probably have family members — grandparents, for

example — who already are enjoying Social Security benefits.

And here's another reminder. Throughout the years to come, your employees probably will have several jobs. But they'll have only one Social Security record and it's beginning right now. From the day a worker starts paying into Social Security, his or her Social Security earnings record continues from ju' to job. This is not the case with many employee benefits or pensions.

Don't forget as suggest to your employees that when surfing the "net" they should visu www. ssa.gov to see what Social Security is all about.

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Our consumer research company is looking for sharp individuals to gather information for our on-going national study. Travel to various parts of the country to conduct interviews in consumers' homes (air travel may be required). Qualified individuals should be able to read fluently, speak clearly, and carefully record answers. Top candidates will be self-motivated, friendly, persistent, and detailed-oriented. No experience is required. We offer a comprehensive, paid training program, excellent income, paid work-related expenses, and flexible hours. To learn more about this exciting opportunity, call our office:

The American Institute of Consumer Studies 1-800-298-9837



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To Respond to an AD: Responding to any ad costs \$2.00 each. Simply write your letter(s), place the letter(s) in an envelope (you can respond to more than one) with proper postage affixed and write the ID# on the front of the envelope(s). Mail your letter in a larger envelope along with your fee of \$2.00 per each response to: Devine Media Enterprises c/o Singles, P.O. Box 1061, Rahway, NJ 07065.

* NOTE-We cannot guarantee you will get any response fromads placed or ads you are responding to.

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See coupon this page!

WOMEN SEEKING MEN

DWF 43, Mom of one -Seeking tall dark and handsome male for long term friendship. Please have a sense of humor as well as large amount of cash. (First time I married for love...ha-ha) Serious inquiries only. Lots to learn about me, so choose this ad...ID# 1803

SWF 41, -Enjoys drives to the country, hiking, reading, and quiet times at home. Seeking SWM 35-52, for dating and possible relationship. Only serious inquiries will be considered. Non-smoker, please...ID# 1004

WOMEN SEEKING MEN

Attractive nice lady - A widow in late sixties, seeking a nice man for companionship right now, maybe more later on... I enjoy movies, dining out, shows, walking. I am an animal lover. Prefer a man to be between 65-70 years of age. ID# 1010

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

SWM 45 - Never-married, 5'10", 160lbs. Kind, considerate, open-minded, honest. Enjoys art, music, movies, reading, traveling and bicycling. Seeks vivacious SWF, 35-45, to share life with. ID# 1005

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

Marriage-minded WWM 50- 6' 190 lbs, blue eyes, brown hair, sensitive, humorous, down to earth, no children, financially secure. Looking for same 45-55 yrs old, kids ok, smoker ok. Middlesex County area. Lets live life. 10# 1009

DBM 47-Enjoys dancing, music and quiet times at home, movies. Race doesn't matter. Seeking any race 21-47 years old for dating and relationship. ID# 1998

DWPM 39-Educated, handsome with blue eyes smoker/social drinker into politics and conversation and good food. Seeking a single female who likes same and loves kids and the simple pleasures of life. Union County area. 10# 1881

26 yr old - Hispanic male looking for someone in her 20's, who likes to have fun and enjoys romance. I like dancing, romantic walks, sports and motorcycle riding. So if you are someone who likes these things and is looking for a companion, please respond. ID# 1006

DWM 46 - Would like to meet a woman who is athletic, enjoys the outdoors as well as a good movie. I enjoy playing guitar, tennis, karate, all sports, playing more than watching. For dating. 10# 1011

FRIENDS

ARTIST 38 -Seeks other artists for life drawing classes. Need about 10-15 serious artists committed to improving their drawing skills. Models F/M 18-55

needed as well, paying \$15/hr for 3 hrs once a week. ID# 1002

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PICK-II STRAIGHT

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ATURDAY
SATURDAY

TUESDAY

July 31 526 \$259.00 \$43.00 \$25.50

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Aug. 1 926 \$195.50 \$32.50 \$19.50
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Aug. 2 087 \$266.00 \$44.00 \$26.50

number straight box FRL • July 27 • Dovine Medie 3073 \$3,551.00 \$295.50 JERSEY CASH 5 ...4-11-13-20-21 BIG GAME ...28-29-43-46-47/3

3AT. • July 28 • Device Mode 2251 \$2,460.50 \$205.00 LOTZEE ...1-10-21-78

\$UN. • July 29 • Device Medie 4300 \$3,108.00 \$259.00 MON. • July 39 • Device Media

4316 \$2,306.00 \$96.00 PICK SIX..5-8-14-31-35-49 JERSEY CASH 5...6-8-26-29-36

TUE. • July 31 • Double Medie 8971 \$3,296.00 \$137.00 JERSEY CASH 5 ...6-16-23-34-36 BIG GAME ...4-6-8-22-26/14

WED. • Aug 1 • Dovine Medie 1185 \$1,633.00 \$136.00 JERSEY CASH 5...7-11-15-22-34

THUR. • Aug. 2 • Dovine Media 9510 \$1,651.00 \$68.50 PICK SIX ...7-17-21-24-38-40 JERSEY CASH 5 ...7-12-14-29-31

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Raritan Bay Waterfront Park • September 22rd, 2001

(Raindate September 29th)

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Food Vendors, Artists, Crafters of all Mediums... For more information please call (732) 525-5968



YOUR ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

Cornell Hall Resident Wins Contest

UNION—Cornell Hall Nursing and Rehabilitation Center resident, 91-year-old Josephine Fortenbacher, was recently honored by friends and family at the long-term care facility for receiving the honor of having a painting she composed appear in the 2001 NeighborCare Pharmacy Calendar.

Cornell Hall's Recreation Department received a letter from the organization, which provides pharmacy services to the facility, announcing a contest it was holding for longterm care residents in New Jersey. "My mother loved to fish, sew, crochet and knit," said Josephine's son Charles Fortenbacher. "As far as I know, this is the first time she ever took a stab at painting." With the encouragement and guidance of Cornell Recreation Assistant Desi Vito, Josephine was motivated to dive into the project.

Besides having the print placed in the NeighborCare calendar, the staff at Cornell

Hall had the painting professionally framed and presented Josephine with her favorite desserts, a homemade jelly roll cake from the Brookdale Bakeshop in Union.

Cornell Hall Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, a 177bed long-term care facility located at 234 Chestnut Street, Union, is an affiliate of the St. Barnabas Health Care System.

For more information, call (800) 222-9147 or visit them on the web at www.saintbarnabas.com.



Pictured here from (L.-R.) Cornell Hall **Recreation Assistant** Desi Vitto presents Josephine with her wining painting, Memories of the Beach, as her son Charles Fortenbacher and daughter-in-law AnnaMarie look on proudly. Josephine's sister-in-law Alma Fortenbacher also attended the celebration.

Woodbridge School Of Dance Begins 24th Year

WOODBRIDGE—The Woodbridge School of Dance is proud to announce the commencement of its 24th year in the Woodbridge area. The Studio was established by its director, Jacqui O'Shaughnessy in a small storefront on Main Street, Woodbridge and has grown to a three-dance room facility on Rt. 35, Avenel. Jacqui appears in the National Registry for Who's Who in recognition of her exemplary service, both to her community and her profession.

The dance studios all have viewing windows and wood floors. There is a large waiting area, central air and ample parking to add to the convenience of this location. The large teaching staff offers a variety of dance styles and techniques for dancers of all levels. WSD offers a full range of dance classes in Ballet/Pointe, Tap, Hip-Hop, Jazz, Acro-Gymnastics, Lyrical and Theater. There are adult classes in Step Aerobics as well as dance. Classes are available to dancers 2 1/2-Adult.

age groups with pre-dance offered to 2 1/2-3 1/2 year-old dancers and Ballet-Tumble or Ballet-Tap classes for 4-5 yearold dancers. There is a Tumble class for 3-5 year-old boys and Acro-Gymnastics for older

Dance classes are offered for beginner and advanced students. Classes for the advanced students are complemented by dance workshops offered at the studio with New York performers. The staff and students attend conventions throughout the year to add to the students' exposure to the dance world. There are also audition opportunities for the students who wish to perform.

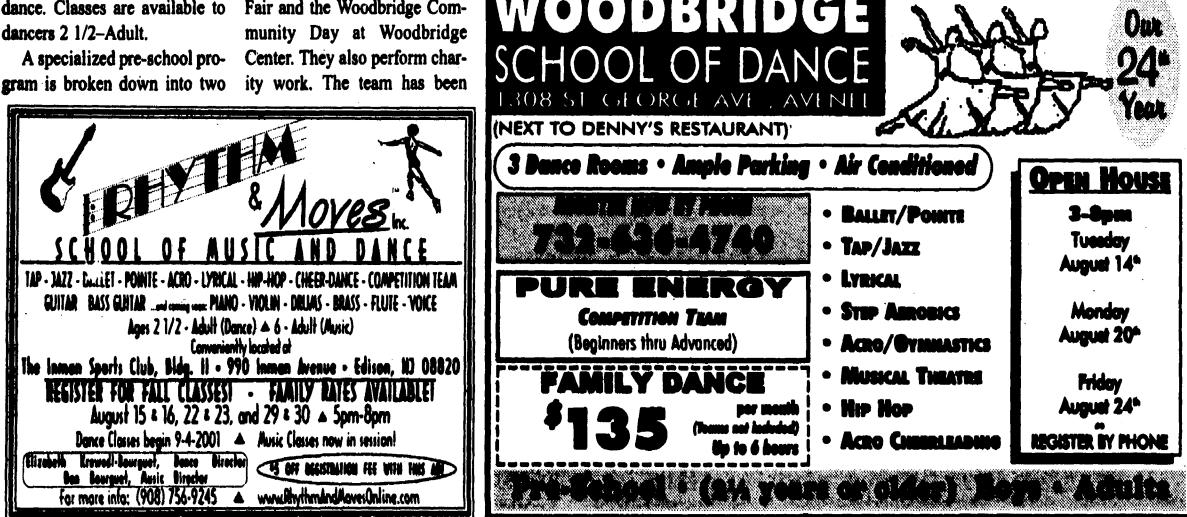
"Pure Energy" dance team offers serious dancers a chance compete and perform throughout the tri-state area. The team and its coaches have won many prestigious awards including choreographic awards, precision awards and high score awards. The team performs at the St. James Street Fair and the Woodbridge Cominvited to perform in Disney and Universal Studios in Florida.

Registration for the 2000-01 season will be held throughout the month of August. There are two open house dates for new students and their families to see the studio, Monday, Aug. 20 and Friday, Aug. 24 from 3-8

p.m. The studio is open Monday- Friday, 4:30-8:30 p.m. if you would like to stop by or call (732) 636-4740 for more information.



These boys were "Bad to the Bone" at the Woodbridge School of Dance "Show of Shows" June 23. For information about the fall program, call (732) 636-4740. Classes begin Sept. 5.



EDITORIAL

Readers Commentary



Help Us To Help You

Dear Editor.

On Sept. 13, 2000 the City Council passed an ordinance requiring all alarm owners to register their alarm with the Perth Amboy Police Department. There is a fee to register your alarm, however, the City Council allowed a window of opportunity for all residents to register their alarm free of charge. This window of opportunity is until Dec. 31, 2001.

It is recommended that if you have not registered your alarm with the Perth Amboy Police Department, please do so immediately. You will need to complete an application and mail it to the Perth Amboy Police Department. If you know of anyone else that requires an application, please advise them. Applications may be picked up at the following locations: City Clerks Office, City Hall,

Perth Amboy Police Department and the Perth Amboy Public Library.

As stated before the ordinance does not take effect until Jan. 1, 2002. This ordinance will assist the Perth Amboy Police Department in maintaining a record of emergency contacts, in case of an activation of an alarm. It will also reduce the number of false alarms the police respond to each year.

We urge everyone to take advantage of this opportunity in registering your alarm prior to Dec. 31, 2001.

> Thomas Cetnar, Police Director Michael Kohut. **Deputy Chief**

It Doesn't Cost Anyting To Offer A Smile

Dear Editor.

I have been a resident of Woodbridge since 1966 and for many years I have wanted to publically say thank you to a special group of people.

The staff at Woodbridge Medical Associates, Green St., Woodbridge, consistently remained constant in their kindness and understanding. Regardless of how often Health Insurance Companies have made changes, these people have always been extremely helpful, kind and always offer a smile.

Thanks to all at Woodbridge Medical Associates.

> Irene Kokodis Woodbridge

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, Rohway, NJ 07065

LINT FOR THE BRAIN BY HENRY DAMEN

SUV DOA

"We can no longer allow the rich to parade around in their armored existence, leaving a wasteland behind in their tracks," reads a statement released by the ultra wacko Earth Liberation Front (elf). on behalf of a bunch of anonymous eco-terrorists who set fire to 57 SUVs parked at a dealership in Eugene, Or. last month. According to the Associated Press, the fire at Romania Chevrolet caused about \$1 million in damage. "Romania Chevrolet is the same location that was targeted last June, for which two earth warriors, Free and Critter, are being persecuted," the statement read. "The fire that burns within Free and Critter burns within all of us and cannot be extinguished by locking them up." Jeffrey Michael ("Free") has been charged on several counts including first degree arson; while Craig Andrew Marshall ("Critter") pleaded guilty last November to conspiracy to commit arson and possession of a destructive device.

Craig Rosebraugh, spokesman for ELF, gives his blessing to the destruction of SUVs. To Rosebraugh, SUVs are "a completely disgusting part of the consumer culture. I naturally support anything that would get rid of them."

Time to get the paddy wagon. And I hope it's a nice big, gas guzzling SUV.

and then there's...

Did I not tell you that SUVs would soon become the targets of environmental wackos? It's already happening. In the San Francisco Bay Area, Robert Lind, who runs a deer-repellent business and Charles Dines, a construction worker, have taken to marking all the SUVs they can. The "mad taggers" slap on home-made black and white bumper stickers: "I'm changing the climate! Ask me how!"

"We look at the bumper sticker as a way to punish these vile people," Lind told the Associated Press. "They think their status trinket is more important than the environment I have to share with these types." But to their annoyance, many SUV owners don't want their consciousness raised. "You don't know the facts," one mother with kids in tow said after the wackos stickered her SUV a second time. "There's no other car that has enough shoulder belts for booster seats and has cargo space." Come on lady. The environmental wackon have as much respect for facts as they do for property.

Zip, Zero, Nadall

Giving Just For The Sake Giving

Dear Editor.

Below are various phrases taken from a letter written by the director of a food pantry to the director of a food bank (food from government and private sources).

"On our first evening, we had four needy families come. We faithfully continued this ministry every week, and now we have an average of 70-80 families come, sometimes as many as 100 families before special holidays. Jesus said that "man shall not live on bread alone" and thus we enhanced our program by giving families more than just groceries. We started offering a short time of fellowship with music and singing, reading from the Word of God and sharing

of testimonies.

We presently have a team of about twenty volunteers who pick up the groceries...packed bags, distribute, prepare refreshments, sing and lead the fellowship service."

This church pays for the food with money contributed by private persons and is entitled to preach their faith.

However, if financed with government funds, the giving should not be tied to the recipients needing to be subjected to the "spreading of the world!"

Philip M. Peck Woodbridge

Reunion Camp Reinforces Youth Exuberance

Dear Editor.

Camp Tecumseh in Pittstown is The Salvation Army's Camp for New Jersey families. Since 1964, the camp has been a haven of love and care for over one thousand children each summer.

Our Special Needs Reunion Camp is a highlight of the Camp Tecumseh season. Over the past six years with the help of the public, 500 children have attended this session. We continue to receive a growing number of requests for this session and I am asking the public for help so more deserving children can attend.

Our Reunion Camp is for children in foster care or under state supervision because of family crisis and abuse. A primary goal is to reunite brothers and sisters separated by the foster care system so they may have a week of family fun and sharing. Many of these children are dealing with issues of loss and separation. Our program encourages family togetherness, character building and social development activities that include boating, hiking, swimming, sports, crafts and nature lore.

Our camp staff and on site professional counselors are trained to recognize and address the needs of these children. With loving care and reassurance, we teach them their significance and value. This year we will hold a "Happy Birthday Barbeque" to reinforce the specialness of each camper. Children will also be given the opportunity to purchase "back to school" supplies and clothing through "credits" received in our behavior modification program during the week.

This year we have 116 children who want to participate. Our goal is to locate camperships at a cost of \$275 per child. This will cover seven days and six nights at camp and other related programs. Anyone interested in helping can send their check made out to: The Salvation Army and marked "Reunion Camp," P.O. Box 3170, Union, N.J. 07083 or call (908) 851-8237 for more information. We will be accepting gifts all summer.

Lt. Colonel Norman E. Wood State Commander

Questions Answered

Dear Editor,

A recent letter questioned some building going on in Woodbridge Township and blamed the administration for what was being done. I decided to check into the questions that were raised and received instant answers from town hall.

The Fox Run apartments were approved prior to the administration of Mayor Jim McGreevey. Nothing like that has been approved since he took office.

The digging on Avenel Street is being done for fiber optic wires that are also outside of the control of the Township. Woodbridge has no control over the hours they work and the taxpayers are not paying for the digging as was implied in the recent letter.

I think people should at least attempt to get the facts before writing a letter that thousands will read which casts doubt on the actions of our elected officials. I for one was completely satisfied with the answers I received.

> Bill Morgan Avenei

YOUR LOCAL NEWS

WOODBRIDGE-First Savings Bank has expanded its business banking development team and launched an initiative to attract new business banking customers.

The Bank's new business development outreach is headed by two experienced business banking specialists, Richard deGroot and Yvonne Taylor, who have joined First Savings as Vice Presidents. Business Development. DeGroot was formerly with PNC Bank and Taylor was with Sovereign Bank. They are working with First Savings' branch managers to identify and reach out to businesses banking prospects.

During August, the Bank will be offering "Summer Business

include free checking, free checks, a bonus introductory rate on business statement savings, and a gift for business owners and mangers who meet with the Bank's representatives to discuss their business banking needs.

which

Banking Specials,"

Besides business checking, savings, money market and retirement accounts, First Savings also offers business loans and lines of credit, escrow management and trust accounts and credit card processing. Founded in 1901, the Bank is currently headquartered in Woodbridge and has 22 retail banking offices in Middlesex. Monmouth. Union and Somserset Counties.

Vitale Thankful For Labor Award

WOODBRIDGE—Senator Joseph F. Vitale recently expressed his gratitude to the District 1199J National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees for awarding him with the "Distinguished Legislative Award."

"I feel extremely honored and grateful that such a well-respected organization would choose to single out my legislative initiatives," Senator Vitale, (D-Middlesex). "I have worked hard on behalf of health care workers and patients, and it's nice to have someone notice these efforts. With the help of committed advocates such as District 1199J, I hope we can achieve better conditions for patients and workers who care for them across New Jersey."

District 1199J cited a number of issues Senator Vitale sponsors, including: S-2093, which limits the use of mandatory overtime in health care facilities (passed the Senate on June 28); S-2227, requiring hospitals to use only safe needles (signed into law Jan. 4, 2000); and a package of bills he introduced along with the needlesafety bill to promote patient safety. ,

District 1199J plans to present the award at its 10th Annual Aberdeen Solomon David Scholarship Awards Dinner at the Atrium Country Club, West Orange.

"Senator Vitale has been one of the Legislature's strongest advocates on behalf of health care employees and their patients," said Joseph Franklin, President of District 1199J. "He has held a strong and vocal position that hospitals and other health-care facilities must take steps to improve care to patients. Health care workers always advocate on behalf of patients and consumers, and we are encouraged to have a legislator who advocates for patients and nurses as well."

Carteret, Perth Amboy, Sayreville, South Amboy and Woodbridge in the state Senate's 19th Legislative District.

Senator Vitale represents,

Summer Specials

PERTH AMBOY — Members and guests are invited to a summer special, "The Ragtimers," a three piece, lap-slapping, hand-clapping, rollicking good-time band who will be at the YMHA's summer program on Wednesday, Aug. 15.

A picnic style menu will be served at noon followed by the band. Cost for members is \$4 and guests, \$8. Reservations must be made by Aug. 10 for the event.

The Y is located at 316 Madison Ave., Perth Amboy. Reservations may be phoned in followed by your payment. Call (732) 442-0365 to enjoy a lovely afternoon.

Local Student Earns Degree At Rensselaer

FORDS—Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute has announced the names of students who were awarded undergraduate and graduate degrees at its 195th commencement exercises on Saturday, May 12, at the Pepsi Arena in Albany, N.Y.

Todd Michael Bonalsky of Fords, received a BS degree in Electric Power Engineering.

Approximately 745 bachelor's degrees, 317 master's degrees and 32 doctoral degrees were presented.

Entertainer and educator Bill Cosby addressed the graduates. He was joined by Senior United States Senator Charles E. Schumer.

Cosby urged the graduates to change the world by being honest, remaining humble, and continuing to learn from others. "Regardless of your education, I want you to remain a human being, thinking that there is always something to learn from

anybody-the janitor, the person bringing coffee, the person speaking with a broken accent," Cosby said.

Rensselaer President Shirley Ann Jackson conferred on Cosby an Honorary Doctorate of Arts and Humane Letters. She also conferred an Honorary Doctorate of Engineering on Vinton G. Cerf, widely known as the "Father of the Internet." and an Honorary Doctorate of Laws on renowned sociologist William Julius Wilson.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, founded in 1824, is the nation's oldest technological university. The school offers degrees in engineering, the sciences, information technology, architecture, management, and the humanities and social sciences.

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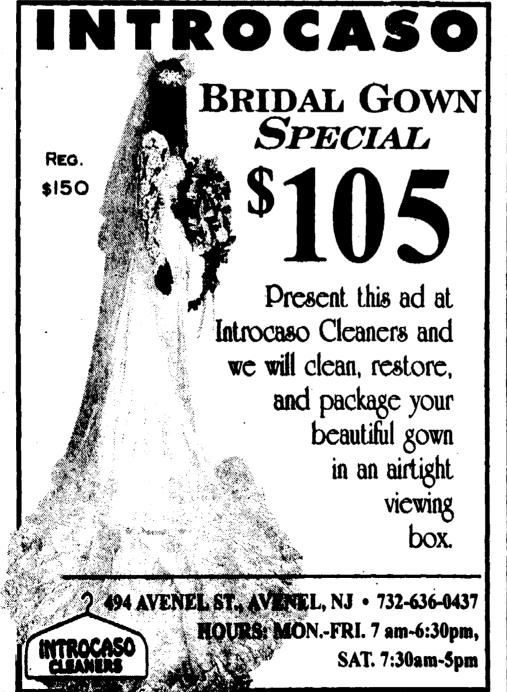
"Car Accident Victims Get A Crash Course On Their Rights!"

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 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.

'fender bender" can cause pain, headaches, even arthritis.

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...what will you find in our CLASSIFIEDS?

OBITUARIES

Josephine Fendt, 96 Lifelong resident

Mrs. Josephine (Wissel) Fendt of Edison died July 22 at home. She was 96.

Born in Newark, she lived in Jersey City. Since 1929, she had resided in Edison.

She attended Egan Business College. She worked for Bell Telephone, Macy's in New York and retired from Bamberger's in Edison in 1964.

Mrs. Fendt was a committeewoman in Edison for many years and was a charter member of the Edison Democratic Association.

She was a life member of Deborah Hospital and a member of the Oak Tree Seniors, Edison.

Her husband, John, died in 1962; a brother, John Wissel and a sister, Florence Morris are also deceased. Other deceased brothers and sisters are William Pess, Frank and Adam Tietchen, Ann Wikens, Florence Pepin and Helen Quinlan.

Surviving are two daughters, Eleanor Jaros of Edison and Florence McLane of Manalapan; a son, Arthur Fendt of Browns Mills; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandson; four sisters, Marion Rykowski, Margaret Ruggiero, Betty Davis and Madeline Taylor; and a brother. Edward Tietchen and many nieces and nephews.

Inez E. Brossy, 95 of Metuchen

Mrs. Inez E. Brossy of Metuchen died July 22 at Maine General Medical Center, Augusta, Maine. She was 95.

Born in Long Island City, N.Y., she lived in Metuchen most of her life before moving to Maine in 1997.

She was a homemaker.

She worked in various secretarial positions.

Mrs. Brossy was a member of St. Francis Xavior Catholic Church, Winthrop, Maine and the Four Leaf Clover Club, Gardiner, Maine.

Her husband, Hugh Leslie Brossy; a son, Hugh Richard Brossy; an infant daughter, Mary Angela; a sister, Elizabeth Rohow Siry and a nephew, Robert Siry, are all deceased.

Surviving are a son, Charles Alan Brossy of Readfield; six grandchildren, Cynthia Brossy Hart of Fort Myers, Fla., Diane Brossy Jablonski of Ringoes, James Brossy of Philadelphia, Penelope Brossy Wolper of Chalfont, Pa., Eric Brossy de Dios of Monterey Pary, Calif., and Kristin Brossy Linsey of Kinderhood, N.Y.; a niece, ~Virginia Streeter of Opelika, Ala.; daughter-in-law, Lois Brossy Eisenberg of Fort Myers, Fla.; a sister-in-law, Margaret Brossy of Burke, Va.; 14 greatgrandchildren; and a greatgreat-grandson, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Virginia.

Mildred Reick, 94 of Metuchen

Mrs. Mildred Reick of Metuchen died July 27 at the Highlands in Edison. She was 94.

Born in Newark, she resided in Metuchen most of her lie.

Mrs. Reick was a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Perth Amboy and the Eastern Star in Metuchen.

She was employed by Metropolitan Life Insurance in Metuchen for 40 years before retiring many years ago.

Her husband, Theodore Harrison Reick, died in 1977.

Surviving are many nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and nephews.



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Dorothea Paros, 93 of Perth Amboy

Mrs. Dorothea Paros of Perth Amboy died July 30 at Roosevelt Care Center, Edison. She was 93.

Born in Vessa Chios, Greece, she lived there before moving to Perth Amboy in 1948.

St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox

Catherine Petrulsky, 92 of Iselin

iselin died July 6 at home. She in 1971. was 92.

Born in McAdoo, Pa., she moved to Iselin 15 years ago.

She was a seamstress with the McAdoo Manufacturing

Church, Perth Amboy and belonged to the Ladies Philoptochos Society of the church.

Her husband, James Paros, died in 1982.

Surviving are two sons, Eleftheri Paros of Parlin and Manny Paros of Somerset; Mrs. Paros was a member of three grandchildren, James, Christopher and Jennifer Paros.

Mrs. Catherine Petrulsky of Co. for 20 years before retiring

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Rita McAloose; six grandchildren; and 11 greatgrandchildren.

Sebastian DeVito 91 of Carteret

Mr. Sebastian DeVito of Carteret died July 27 at Union Memorial Hospital. He was 91.

Born in New York, he lived in Newark and Hillside before moving to Carteret 25 years ago.

He was a self-employed oil and coal distributor in Newark

for 25 years before retiring.

He had worked at Monroe Calculating and Orange Roller Bearing, both in Orange.

Surviving are his wife, Caroline; a son, Morris; a daughter, Mrs. Ann Giampolo; 19 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

Gesine Franz, 90 of Colonia

Mrs. Gesine "Susie" Mertes Franz of Lancaster, Pa., (formerly of Colonia) died July 15 Regional Hospital, Lancaster, Pa. She was 90.

Born in Bremen, Germany, she came to the United States in 1928 and became a naturalized citizen in 1972. She lived in Colonia from 1944-78. She then moved to Largo, Fla., where she lived from 1979 until 2001. She lived in Lancaster since April of this year.

She was a homemaker.

Her first husband, Hubert Mertes Sr., as well as her second husband. Matthew Franz.

Surviving are a son, Hubert Mertes of Hillsborough; a daughter, Henrietta Mazzur of Lancaster; a stepson, Robert Franz of Edison; a sister, Henrietta Milewski of Homosassa, Fla.; nine grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Gladys Meek, 89 of Edison

Mrs. Gladys Mary Strowe Meek of Edison died June 24 at her niece's home in Metuchen. She was 89.

Born in Montreal, Canada, she lived in Massachusetts before moving to Newark, where she lived for 62 years. She resided in Edison since 1992.

She retired in 1975 after 46 years in the medical claims department of Prudential Insurance Co., Newark. She was a member of the Prudential Retired Employees Association, Newark.

She was also a member of

Trinity Episcopal Church, Woodbridge, and was a member of the National Turner's Association, Irvington.

Her husband, George Meek, died in 1977. Three brothers, Herbert, William and Douglas Strowe and three sisters, Doris Strowe, Maude Robinson and Olga Grandjean, are all deceased.

Surviving are a brother, Arthur Strowe of Fort Pierce, Fla.; many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, great-grandnieces and greatgrandnephews.

Angela Battito, 88

of Port Reading

Mrs. Angela Caggiano Battito of Port Reading died July 20 at JFK Hartwyck at Edison Estates, Edison. She was 88.

Born in Montclair, she resided in Port Reading for many years before moving to Lakewood and then back to Port Reading in 1998.

She was a cafeteria worker at Woodbridge High School for many years.

Mrs. Battito was a communicant of St. Anthony of Padua R.C. Church, Port Reading and was a former Rosarian at the church.

In addition to membership in the Rosary Society, she belonged to the Port Reading Senior Citizens.

Her husband, Frank Battito Sr., died in April of this year. A daughter, Nancy Louise Battito, died in 1957. Two brothers, Michael and Anthony Caggiano and two sisters, Theresa Marchese and Mary Caruso, are all deceased.

Surviving are a son, Frank Jr. of Port Reading; five sisters, Louise Gerrizo of Montclair, Antoinette Mercuro of Hernet, Calif., Matilda Di Rocco of Port Reading, Mildred Tesia of Nutley and Josephine De Palma of Fords; two grandsons, Sean Battito of Richmond, Ind. and Navy Petty Officer Anthony Battito of Port Reading; and a granddaughter, Heather Canfield of Wayne.

Louis S. Mazza, 87 of Metuchen

Mr. Louis S. Mazza of Metuchen died July 11 at St. Peter's University Hospital, New Brunswick. He was 87.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., he lived in Brooklyn until 1955, when he moved to Metuchen.

Mr. Mazza was employed by W.T. Grant in Edison for 20 years before retiring in 1975. He previously worked as a furniture designer in Brooklyn for 22 years.

His wife, Catherine Giordano Mazza, is deceased.

Surviving are two sons, Frank L. Mazza of Raleigh, N.C. and Nicholas J. Mazza of Tallahassec, Fla.; a daughter, Jeanette C. Malone of Edison; five granddaughters, Catherine J. Malone, Jenniser Diane Mazza, Christa Ann Love, Collecen Rence Mazza and Nichole Marie Mazza: a grandson, Christopher John Mazza; a great-granddaughter, Caela Lenhardt; two sisters, Rose Mary Mazza of Buffalo, N.Y. and Mary Perez of Brooklyn; and two brothers, Carmine Mazza of Brooklyn and Anthony Mazza of Orlando, Fla.

Thomas J. Bell, 86 of Woodbridge

Mr. Thomas J. Bell (formerly of Woodbridge) died July 17 in Lehighton, Pa., He was 86.

He was a retired machinist and worked for Union Carbide in Princeton and later for Princeton University.

Mr. Bell was a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Edison.

He was also a member of the Americus Free & Raritan Accepted Masons Lodge 61. Raritan.

His wife, Irma (Palmer) Bell, died in 1983.

Surviving are three daughters. Marianne Stanney of Florida. Linda Carpenter of Tennessee and Cusmano Bonnie Manahawkin; A twin brother. William Jr. of Texas; a sister, Helen Leswing of Red Bank; five grandchildren; and two greatgrandchild**ren**.

John A. Brzychcy, 85 of Fords

Mr. John A. Brzychcy of Fords died June **28 at home**. He was 85. Born in Perth Amboy, he lived in Fords since 1925.

He served with the Coast Guard as an electrical foreman on Governor's Island, New York City, for nine years before retiring in 1975. Earlier, he worked in the civil service at the Raritan in Edison Arsenal from 1939-1961.

Mr. Brzychcy was a member of the National Association of Retired Persons. Federal Employees and the American rederation of Electricians Union.

He was a past president of the Fords/Keasbey Senior Citizens and a life member of the Knights of Columbus, San Salvador Council #299, Perth Amboy.

Mr. Brzychcy was a president of the Holy Name Society, a member of the choir and lecturer, all at Our Lady of Peace Church.

Surviving are two sons, John A. Brixie Jr. and Joseph J. Brzychcy; a sister, Mrs. Helen Zeliskovics; two brothers, Joseph and Frank; four grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Warren Evans, 84 of Perth Amboy

Mr. Warren Evans of Perth Amboy died July 13 at home. He was 84. Born in Perth Amboy, he was a lifelong resident of Perth Amboy.

He was a statistical clerk for Dupont in Parlin. He retired in 1984 after 48 years. Mr. Evans was an Army veteran of World War II. His brother, Wesley Evans, died in 1999.

Surviving are a sister, Elvira Vivian Madsen of Edison; a nephew, Thomas W. Madsen of Piscatatway; and his companion of 54 years, Jennie Petrovski of Perth Amboy.

Margaret Cyrus, 83 of Fords

Mrs. Margaret Cyrus of Fords died June 27 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Old Bridge Division. She was 83.

Born in Perth Amboy, she had resided in Fords since 1940.

Mrs. Cyrus worked for Gulton Industries in Metuchen for many years before retiring in 1978.

Her husband, Stephen Cyrus, died in 1997.

Surviving are a son, Stephen Cyrus Jr. of Freehold; a sister, Anne Revere of Perth Amboy: three grandchildren, Keith Cyrus of New York City, Kevin Cyrus of Freehold and Lauren Boyer of California.

Frank Alfonso, 82 of Edison

Mr. Frank J. Alfonso of Edison died June 26 at home. He was 82.

Born in Jersey City, he lived in Edison all his life.

Before retiring in 1976, he was a driver for Hermann Trucking in South Brunswick for 35 years and a member of International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 701 of South Brunswick.

Mr. Alfonso was an Army veteran of World War II.

Guardian Angels R.C. Church in Edison.

Mr. Alfonso was also a member of the Italian American Club of Edison.

His brother, Louis Alfonso, and a sister, Peggy King are both deceased.

Surviving are his wife, the former Margaret Biczi; a son, Frank A. Alfonso of Edison; a Margaret daughter, Kordusky of Franklin Park; a sister, Lottie; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Julius Azanger, 81 of Edison

Mr. Julius Azanger of Edison died July 2 at home. He was 81.

Born in Hungary, he came to the United States in 1956, settling in Edison, where he resided for most of his life.

In 1986, he retired after 26 years as a quality inspector at General Motors in Linden. He also was a member of the United Auto Workers Local 595, Linden.

Mr. Azanger was a commu-

nicant of St. Ladislaus R.C. Church, New Brunswick.

Surviving are his wife, the former Maria Nemeth; a son, Richard Azanger of South Lyon, Mich.; a daughter, Mary Czopek of Edison; two sisters, Juliana Kalamar and Mary Szabo, both of Hungary; and five grandchildren, Michael and Megan Czopek and Ryan, Christopher and Kevin Azanger.

Alex Soboleski, 80 of Perth Amboy

Mr. Alex J. Soboleski of Perth Amboy died July 17 at home. He was 80.

Born in Shenandoah, Pa., he lived in Perth Amboy for the past 49 years.

He worked as a security watchman with the Jersey Central Power & Light Company, South Amboy, for over 30 years before retiring in 1985.

Mr. Soboleski was a communicant of Sts. Cyril & Methodius National Catholic Church, Perth Amboy.

He was a member of the American Legion Robert Wilentz Post 45, Perth Amboy.

His wife, Mary (Kapichak) Soboleski, died in 1998.

Surviving are a daughter, Susan Davis of Reseda, Calif.; three stepchildren, Darlene Niemiec of Arlington, Texas, John L. Puerschner of Metuchen and Lawrence S. Puerschner of Colonia; and six grandchildren.

Mary Gallant, 79 of Edison

Mrs. Mary Gallant of Edison died July 28 at Roosevelt Hospital, Edison. She was 79.

Born in Spangler, Pa., she resided in Edison for the past

She was employed by the Stokes Company, Clark, for 10 years, retiring in 1981.

Mrs. Gallant was a member of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Assumption in Perth Amboy.

A brother, Stephen Gallant, died in 1999.

Surviving are a brother, John Gallant of Edison; two sisters, Agnes Poberezny of Elizabeth and Dolores Getto of Union.

Robert Brill Sr., 78 of Colonia

Colonia died June 26 at King James Care Center, Chatham Township. He was 78.

Born in New Brunswick, he lived in Colonia since 1955.

He was an insurance salesman for John Hancock Insurance Co. for many years before retiring in 1991.

Mr. Brill served in the Army as an Army movie photographer during World War II. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He continued to pursue photogra-

Mr. Robert Brill Sr. of phy as a life-long hobby and was also adept in ceramics.

OBITUARIES

Surviving are his wife of 55 years, Vivian Van Buskirk-Brill; a son, Robert Brill Jr. of Sparta; three daughters, Debbie Prater of Austin, Texas, Diane Reid of Basking Ridge and Donna Morgan of Hartford, Conn.; a brother, Joseph Brill of North Brunswick; two sisters, Marie of Florida and Elizabeth of Georgia; and two grandchildren, Whitney and B.J. Reid.

Joseph Gavigan, 77 of Edison

Edison died July 19 at Port St. Lodge 15, all in Edison. Lucie Nursing Facility, Port St. Lucie, Fla. He was 77.

Born in Pittston, Pa., he lived in Edison for most of his life before moving to Florida 12 years ago.

He worked for Western Electric as an installer for 40 years before retiring in 1984.

For 10 years, he had worked for the New York/Florida Mets. For 29 years, he was a coach for Edison Boys Baseball, which named a field in Edison in his honor.

Mr. Gavigan served in the Army Engineers in the Pacific theater. He was a charter member of the American Legion Father & Son Post, a member of

Mr. Joseph W. Gavigan of the Loyal Order of Moose

He was a communicant of St. Matthew's R.C. Church, Edison.

His parents, Patrick J. and Elizabeth Gavigan are deceased. Two sons, Gerald Gavigan, died in 1955 and Francis X. Gavigan and two sisters, and a brother. are all deceased.

Surviving are his wife, Eurleen M. (Coyle) Gavigan; two daughters Marilyn Federici of Somerset and Carolyn Stefanchik of Perrineville; two sons, James Gavigan of Harmony and Patrick Gavigan of Matawan; a daughter-in-law, Barbara Gavigan of Edison; a sister, Mary Price of Rahway; six grandchildren; and a greatgranddaughter.

Mildred Mrozek, 76 of Fords

Mrs. Mildred Mrozek of Hopelawn Senior Citizens. Fords died July 10 at JFK Medical Center, Edison. She of RCA, Edison. was 76.

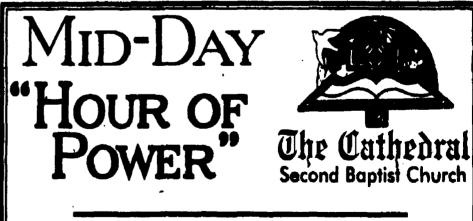
lived in Fords for 62 years.

Mrs. Mrozek was a member of St. Stephen's R.C. Church Perth Amboy and the and nephews.

She was a retired employee

Her husband, Walter, and Born in Braddack, Pa., she two brothers, John Simun Jr. and Joseph Simun, deceased.

Surviving are several nieces



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'92 Pontiec Sunbird LE, red, 4 dr. 115K. 2nd owner, serviced regularly. \$1300 or B.O. 732-388-1321

'91 Olds 88-Rovale 4-dr White all power, A/C, trailer hitch, 91K mi Garaged. Good condition. \$3,450 (732) 382-3599

191 Buick Le Sabre, a/c, all power, 1 owner, exc. cond., asking \$3350. Call between 10-6 732-388-5533

'91 Mercury Topaz, 1 owner, good cond., loaded, 4 dr., alarm, \$2395 732-388-5818

90' Mercury Grand Marquis Exc. condition Loaded, only 19k miles Must See 732 968-7251 or 732 603-8760

'90 Cadiflac Coupe de Ville, 1 owner, 66,500 mi., exc. cond., \$7500 or B.O.

'90 Hande Civic LX, 123,000 mi. auto., pf. 8, pfw, \$2000 732-541-8087

732-382-1988

'90 Pontiac Grand Am, 2 dr. sport coupe LE pAv, pA, pAb, cruise control, a/c, bucket seats, f.w.d., 4 cyl., am/fm cass, stereo, alum, sports wheeli, 83,000 mi., \$2500 732-548-8846

'90 Plymouth Grand Voyager V6, a/c, p/s, p/b, 103,000 mi., \$2200 or B.O. Details, 732-396-3400

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'88 Ford Bronco Eddie Bauer Series \$7900 or B/O. 732-541-9275

'88 Honda Accord LX1 auto, 2 dr. 12CD disk, 141,000 mi., \$3000 732-247-3442

'88 Jeep Wrangler with western plow, hardtop with bikini. Exc. cond., \$6500 732-969-1347

'88 Olds Delta 88, 6 cyl., 2 dr., auto, 3.8 engine, 124,481 mi., exc. trans., asking \$1600 732-541-0629

86 Dodge Van, good working condition, bern doors, \$1200, 908-351-1954

'84 S10 Blezer, good condition, \$1600 or Best Offer 732-750-4446

'84 Buick Regal, good condition, black, 76,800 mi., original owner. \$2000, Call RON 732-636-5654

184 Honda Civic, manual, 5 speed. A/C. \$400. Great car - keeps on running! 732-541-6441

'83 Olds Toronado, good body, many new parts, \$450 or Beet Offer 732-574-8914

'83 Chev. Melibu classic wagon, blue, rune great, 6 cyl. 3.8, dependable, \$1175 908-686-3735

82 Buick Century, 1 corner, rebuilt, 75,000 mi. \$1295, 388-7404

'82 Buick Regal, 4 dr., A1 condition, gray, 74,000 mi., all power, \$800 firm 732-381-3429

'77 Buick Regal, Just had new brakes & front end work. Strong motor. Asking \$300. Make offer. Call 5-9pm, leave msg. 732-969-9256

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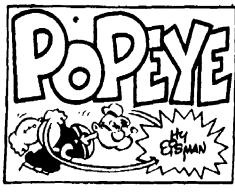
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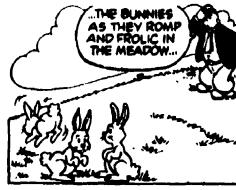




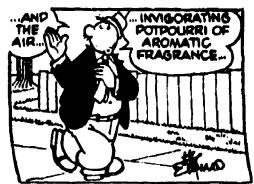










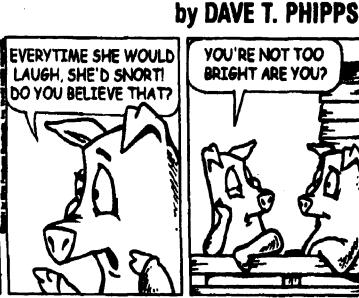




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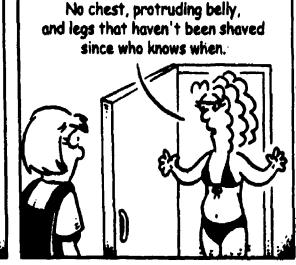


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by TERRI DAVIS



HENRY BOLTINOFF HOCUS-FOCUS





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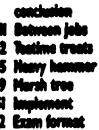
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ACROSS



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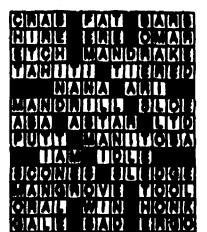
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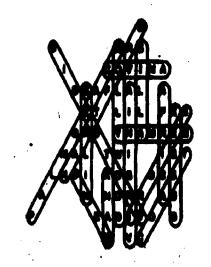
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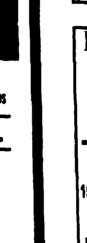


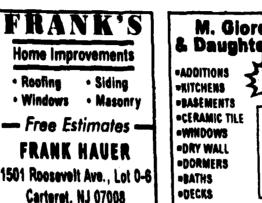
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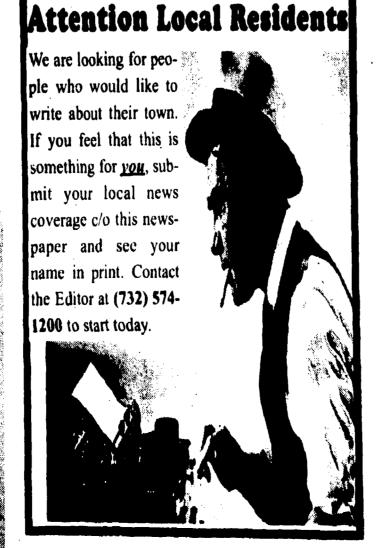






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Larger Kitchens, Better Appliances Stir Up Home Entertainers

(NAPSA)-They say home is where the heart is-and increasingly, the heart of today's home is the kitchen. Today's kitchens are larger then ever. According to the National Kitchen and Bath Association, 69 percent of the kitchens remodeled in 1998 were more than 150 square feet compared to 36 percent in 1996.

Barbara Stowers, vice president of sales and marketing for Taylor Woodrow Homes, upscale homebuilders in California, said she has seen the kitchen play an increasingly important role in selling homes.

"Ten years ago our clients said the most important room in their home was the living room," she explained. "Now, they say the room where they spend the most time is the kitchen. They are asking for larger kitchens with premium, professional style appliances. We also know high-end appliances increase the resale value of a home. That's why our kitchen size has increased and we are including Viking premium appliances in our homes."

James Beard Award-winning Chef Bobby Flay, host of The Food Network's Hot Off the Grill with Bobby Flay

and Grillin' and Chillin', said that people are entertaining in the home more because they are becoming more interested in proper cooking techniques and equipment.

"With the popularity of today's television cooking shows, people can watch how to prepare something instead of just reading about it," comments Flay. "People are translating that into home entertaining. They want their friends to see how they prepare the meal."

Nathalie Dupree, host of the PBS show Nathalie Dupree's Comfortable Entertaining and award-winning author of Comfortable Entertaining, says people are realizing the process of preparing a meal is as much fun as serving it.

Many new kitchens feature party prep areas, including a bar sink, an undercounter refrigerator, a wine cooler, a dishwasher and a storage area for extra food and dishes. Dupree says these extras make for easier home entertaining.

"My two Viking dishwashers allow me to load one after prep work, while leaving the second one free for



Since cooking for family and friends has become a form of entertaining, "weekend chefs" now have larger kitchens with premium appliances.

after dinner cleanup," says Dupree. "This gives me time to enjoy my guests and it keeps my sink and countertops clutter-free."

If the kitchen is indeed the heart of the home, today many homeowners have a lot more heart to come home

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YOUR LOCAL NEWS

Menendez Joins Mayor At Housing Authority Dedication Ceremony

"These new townhouses fill a great need in our community for affordable housing, particularly for larger families..."

PERTH AMBOY — Rep. Bob Menendez (D-NJ) joined Perth Amboy Mayor Joseph Vas and the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Perth Amboy at the dedication of the new Douglas G. Dzema Gardens housing development. The housing development will provide homes for 18 large families. It was developed as conventional public housing and will be initially rented to lowincome families. Menendez made the following remarks:

"This new housing development rightly reflects our growing, changing and increasingly

diverse community in Perth Amboy and it deservedly recognizes Doug Dzema for his years of service to the Perth Amboy Housing Authority and to the many people who have benefited from his innovation and commitment over the years.

"These new townhouses fill a great need in our community for affordable housing, particularly for larger families. These families face the highest housing costs and have the most difficulty finding family accommodations. Just recently, I had a group of constituents in my office and one of them raised a concern about the many extend-

ed families in our communities who live in a cramped one- or two-bedroom apartments because they can't afford an appropriately-sized home for their family.

"With the soaring housing costs in this area, the problem is not going to be solved anytime soon. Over the past few years, we've seen double-digit increases in housing costs, which shut the door to homeownership for more and more families and make it just as difficult for them to rent.

"A recent study by the National Low Income Housing Coalition found that New Jersey is the least affordable state in the nation for 2-bedroom rentals. The Housing Wage needed to

afford a 2-bedroom Fair Market Rent in New Jersey is \$16.88 an hour-more than 8 times the current minimum wage. For 3-bedroom in New Jersey, the Housing Wage rises to \$21.87 an hour.

"Middlesex County has the dubious distinction of the highest Housing Wage in the state-\$24.96 an hour for 3-bedroom, or almost 5 times the current minimum wage. That means that at today's minimum wage of \$5.15 an hour, a person would have to work 194 hours a week to afford the Fair Market Rent on a 3-bedroom home. As a result, in Middlesex County, almost half of all renters are unable to afford a 3-bedroom home.

"Obviously, it will take a lot more Dzema Gardens to solve the problem of affordability. But Rome wasn't built in a day, nor will we solve this problem with just one project. But with the efforts of people like Doug Dzema and his staff, we can make significant strides in getting families into affordable housing, helping them become self-sufficient, and eventually making them community stakeholders in their very own home.

"This housing development also recognizes the unmet affordable housing needs of the disabled by making one of the homes fully accessible for a disabled family member. For any family, it's a significant challenge just to pay the monthly bills while caring for a disabled family member. For a lowincome family, that challenge is magnified and can be almost impossible. This new home, dedicated to the memory of the Very Reverend Monsignor Rura, will provide relief for at least one family facing this struggle.

"Finally, I want to recognize Doug Dzema and his decades of commitment and service to the City of Perth Amboy. His career clearly demonstrates his commitment to progress, improvement and innovation. He has led the agency through many challenges and through it all, he has remained focused on one goal-making the agency more responsive to the needs of the community. It is fitting to honor him today with the dedication of these new homes, which represent the progress and opportunity he has worked decades to achieve."



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Friends for Life

WTT-35 Receives Video Award

WOODBRIDGE—WTT-35. Barron Arts Center. Woodbridge Township's television station, has received an award for its role with Access New Jersey, a magazine program produced by the Jersey Access Group.

The Jersey Access Group is a consortium of 18 area community-run television stations, including WTT-35. Access New • Jersey features segments on events in the communities represented in the organization. The winning entry consisted of segments supplied by Woodbridge, Piscataway, Metuchen and South Brunswick.

"The award-and the many others which have come before it-are a tribute to the talents and diligence of WTT-35 Director of Operations Lee Beckerman, his staff and the many volunteers who contribute to the quality of the station," Mayor James E. McGreevey has said.

WTT-35, which has a record of producing award-winning programming, received an Honorable Mention at the Hometown USA Video Festival for its coverage of the All Seasons Chamber Players at the

The station garnered Telly awards for its program on the construction of the Woodbridge Community Playground and its coverage of a concert series at the Barron Arts Center.

In addition, WTT-35 received a Cable Award for Programming Excellence from the Cable Television Network of New Jersey for Condolences, a 30-minute docudrama designed to increase awareness of home repair scams.

WTT-35 also was nominated for a Cable ACE award for Too Much Static, a docudrama produced to help teens learn to resolve conflicts without violence, drugs and or alcohol.

"Woodbridge Township takes great pride in the success of WTT-35," said Councilman Frank G. Pelzman, a member of the Woodbridge Township Cable Television Committee.

The station underscores our commitment to keeping the community well-informed and educated," Pelzman said.

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