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YOUR COUNTY NEWS

2001 Senior Farm Market Project

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — The Senior Farm Market Nutrition Pilot Project was funded under the United States Department of Agriculture's Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC) in eleven states, including New Jersey, in 2001. Middlesex County was one of seven counties in New Jersey that received the funding in 2000.

The Senior Farm Market program helps seniors to obtain fresh, healthy and nutritious New Jersey "home grown" produce from local farms. Every income eligible senior enrolled receives four \$5 vouchers for the purchase of fruits, vegetables and herbs from June to October. The dollar value of these vouchers is \$23,000, which goes directly to eligible participants.

During April and May, participating communities will be identified and partnerships developed. The State has provided a list of approved farms and farm markets to the Office on Aging, which will contact County farmers to determine their interest and capacity in working with these communities.

The Office on Aging coordinates the nutrition program with local senior networks. Last year the project was so successful in New Brunswick and Perth Amboy, the State expanded the program into other areas. In 2000, the program assisted 150 seniors. This year it will be expanded to 1,150 seniors.

The Senior Farm Market program looks forward to another eventful year of helping seniors to obtain fresh from the vine New Jersey fruits and vegetables. For details, contact Pearl Charles at (732) 745-3295.

Brauth Nominated To Executive Board

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — Edison resident Marvin J. Brauth, Esq., a shareholder in the Woodbridge-based Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A. has been nominated to the Executive Board of the Middlesex County Regional Chamber of Commerce for the 2001-02 year in the position of counselor.

Marvin Brauth has been associated with the firm since 1974 and a shareholder since 1981. He practices in the area of corporate and commercial litigation in state and federal courts in New Jersey and New York.

Brauth has litigated numerous issues involving franchise agreements and franchise laws as counsel to motor vehicle dealers, The New Jersey Coalition of Automobile Retailers (NJ CAR) and other franchisees. He has had the opportunity, also, to be involved in the drafting of franchise legislation.

Brauth has also served as counsel to the Professional Insurance Agents (PIA) in New

Jersey for several years. He has been a guest lecturer for this association on agency contracts and terminations.

He recently wrote two articles for the NJ CAR annual magazine, interpreting the 1993 Amendments to the New Jersey Franchise Practices Act and manufacturers plans for the year 2000.

He received his J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1974 and his B.A. from Colgate University in 1971.

LAWRENCEVILLE — The deans of Rider University's College of Business Administration; Continuing Studies; and Liberal Arts, Education and Sciences have announced the names of undergraduate students who have been placed on the Dean's List for academic excellence for the fall 2000 semester.

Area Dean's List students are:

College of Business Administration: Leigh Huson, Port Reading; Olushola Ijalana, Metuchen; Vishal Jhaveri, Edison; Derek Krause, Parlin; Joseph Lombardi, Edison; Shaun Lyons, Edison; Cheryl O'Neill,

South Amboy; Marie Papacharalambos, Sayreville; Kathleen Walliser, Port Reading.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences: Thomas Bodnar, Carteret; Michael McDonald, Edison; Haley Ross, Perth Amboy; Rachel Samely, Edison; Donald Stanzione, Edison.

College of Education: Lori Bobertz, Parlin; Caitriona Duggan, Edison; Shannon Fitzmorris, Edison.

College of Continuing Studies: Kenneth DaPonte, Metuchen; Christine DeSa, Edison; James Tocco, Edison.

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The Search Is On

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — The Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission is seeking former terra cotta, brick, and tile workers willing to share their experiences with us. Commission staffers, working on a compilation of oral histories, and audio/video interviews, are searching for former employees, as well as spouses, friends and children of these trade workers. The information should be specific to those with stories or experi-

ences related to New Jersey terra cotta, brick and tile companies and their works.

"We are hoping the media, senior centers, libraries and recreation centers will assist us in spreading the word to local residents who may have information for this unique project," said Cynthia Hertlik, the Commission's Publicist, about the call for help.

These New Jersey industries, at one time, dominated the United States in terms of factories, tradesman, materials

and production. Since that time, the terra cotta trade has almost entirely disappeared due to the increased use of other decorative building materials. It is thought that in twenty years or so, almost no one will be able to provide the information and first-hand experiences that relate to this regional business. The Commission believes it is an important part of our region's heritage and preservation is now necessary, if not imperative.

If you, or someone you know, has information to share with the Commission, we encourage you to contact Hillary Murtha, Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission's Museum Curator at (732) 745-4177. Those with hearing disabilities may dial (732) 745-3888 TTY, or 711 via the New Jersey Relay Service. Funding for this project is provided by the New Jersey Historical Commission, a Division of Cultural Affairs in the Department of State, Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

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Community Health Nurses Praised

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — Dare to believe in your own individuality, but hold fast to the enduring values of community health nursing. That was the challenge presented to 150 Monmouth and Middlesex county community health nurses at the Nurses' Day celebration sponsored by Visiting Nurse Association of Central New Jersey at the PNC Bank Arts Center.

Featured speaker Maris Lown, director of health sciences at Brookdale Community college, Lincroft, and a member of the New Jersey Board of Nursing, noted that nurses in community health are autonomous, manage their patients' care and are passionate advocates for their patients and professional nursing practice.

Lown, who was an intensive care nurse before becoming an educator, observed that in their autonomy community health nurses "have established a tradition that is the gold standard for the entire discipline of nursing." She noted that nurses in the community health arena have historically provided prenatal care,

cases and made referrals for specialized care. "You have been pioneers in the delivery of innovative health services for vulnerable populations," Lown said.

Chief Operating Officer Mary Ann Christopher announced the selection of Margaret Anne (Peggy) Reynolds, Edison, as the agency's nurse of the year, and Linda Nill, Ocean, as the recipient of the Marcia Granucci Award for nursing leadership.

Reynolds, who has been a VNACJ nurse for 10 years, "strives to make sure that her patients achieve their goals, and works to keep them at home and as independent as possible," Christopher said.

Woodbridge mayor and gubernatorial candidate James E. McGreevey presented the award to Reynolds, who is based at the VNACJ's Woodbridge Regional Office. McGreevey pledged his ongoing support for cost-effi-

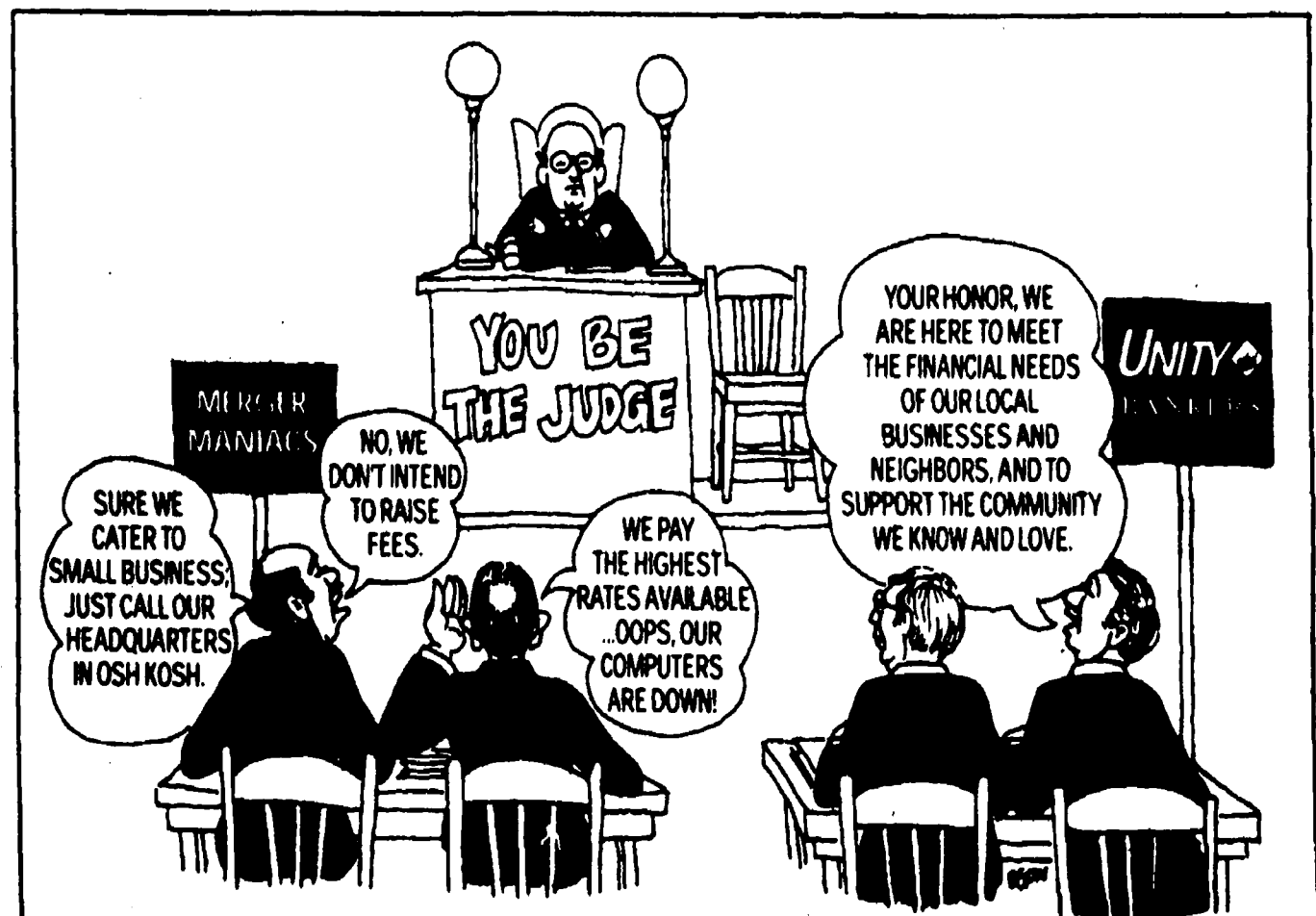
cient home care and community health nursing. N.J. Sen. Joseph F. Vitale (D-19), presented resolutions from the New Jersey Senate in honor of the agency's celebration of Nurses Day and the nurse of the year. Vitale, a VNA of Central Jersey trustee,

was warmly applauded by the nurses for his sponsorship of several bills, currently pending in the N.J. Legislature, to address the nursing shortage through scholarships, loans and the expansion of opportunities in nursing education.

VNA of Central Jersey is a Medicare-certified home health agency serving the residents of Middlesex and Monmouth counties. The organization provides 700,000 visits to more than 140,000 community-based patients annually.



NURSE OF THE YEAR—Gubernatorial candidate James E. McGreevey congratulated Margaret Anne (Peggy) Reynolds as she was named VNA of Central Jersey's 2001 Nurse of the Year. McGreevey is the current Mayor of Woodbridge. Reynolds is on staff at the VNACJ's Woodbridge Regional Office.



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COMING SOON
SUNDAY HOURS!

YOUR LOCAL NEWS**Dems Honor Mary and Frank DeStefano**

COLONIA - The Greater Colonia Democratic Club is honoring Mary and Frank DeStefano on their retirement after many years of service to the residents of Woodbridge township.

A brunch will be held at Aliperti's Restaurant in Clark on Sunday, June 3.

Mary was employed in the Woodbridge Free Public Library system for 20 years prior to her retirement earlier this year. Most of her service was at the Henry Inman Library in Colonia.

Frank worked in the purchasing department at Town Hall. He was Township Purchasing Agent at the time of his retirement, after 13½ years of service.

County Roads To Be Resurfaced

WOODBIDGE—Improve ments to a series of county roadways in Woodbridge township will be conducted by Middlesex County this year, Mayor James E. McGreevey announced.

"The need to keep Woodbridge thoroughfares in proper condition is critical to the safety of all who travel through our community," McGreevey said. "The resurfacing and reconstruction will result in safe traffic flow for residents of our community."

The Woodbridge roads which will be improved under the Middlesex County Department of Highways' 2001 Resurfacing Program include:

- * Main Street from Amboy Avenue to Erik Drive;
- * Oak Tree Road from the Garden State Parkway bridge to Wood Avenue;
- * Port Reading Avenue from the New Jersey Turnpike to 455 feet east of the bridge; and
- * Rahway Avenue from Randolph Avenue to the railroad tracks;
- * Smith Street from Convery Boulevard to the Keasbey Post Office;
- * West Avenue from Arbor Street to Port Reading Avenue; and
- * Wood Avenue from Oak Tree Road to the traffic light at Thornall Avenue.

Very Special Event

PERTH AMBOY — On Sunday, June 3 at 2 p.m., author, Amy Wilentz, will discuss her latest book "*Martyrs' Crossing*" at the Perth Amboy YMHA, 316 Madison Avenue.

The program is co-sponsored by The Perth Amboy YMHA, The Jewish Community Center of Edison, Temple Beth Mordecai, Congregation Shaarey Tefilah and the Jewish Federation of Greater Middlesex County.

A dessert reception will follow the talk.

Reservations are requested and can be made by phoning

the YMHA at (732) 442-0365 or any of the other sponsors. The cost is \$10.

Become A Poet (And You'll Know It)

EDISON—The next meeting of the Poetry Club will take place on Tuesday evening, June 5 at 7 p.m. at the Main Library, 340 Plainfield Avenue. If you've been writing poetry all your life or if you have always wanted to write, join our group for help and encouragement.

For further information, call Roberta at (732) 287-2298, ext. 227.

Prize Winning Author Amy Wilentz To Be Guest Speaker At YMHA

PERTH AMBOY — Amy Wilentz, the daughter of a renowned local family, and an acclaimed author, will be the guest speaker on Sunday, June 3 at 2 p.m. at the Perth Amboy YMHA. Wilentz will be discussing her latest book, "*Martyrs' Crossing*," a poignant story of the turbulence of the never ending Mid-East War. The book, reviewed by the media throughout the nation, including the New York Times and Time Magazine, tells a story of love, fear, divided loyalties, ruined friendships and personal sacrifice—against a backdrop of raging war in the Holy Land.

Wilentz grew up in Perth Amboy, where she attended No. 7 School. She also attended Rutgers Preparatory School, New

Brunswick. She is returning to her hometown for this engagement.

The event is to be held at the Perth Amboy YMHA, 316 Madison Avenue. For further information, you may contact the YMHA at (732) 442-0365; Jewish Community Center of Edison at (732) 494-3232; Temple Beth Mordecai at (732) 442-1373; or Congregation Shaarey Tefilah at (732) 826-2977.

Donation of \$10 to attend. Reservations are requested. The event is sponsored by the Perth Amboy YMHA, the Jewish Community Center of Edison, Temple Beth Mordecai, Congregation Shaarey Tefilah and the Jewish Federation of Greater Middlesex County.

Council Uses Surplus To Cut Budget

SAYREVILLE—The borough council recommended that the school tax levy for the 2001-02 school year be cut by \$400,000. The reduction was possible because the General Fund Surplus was larger than anticipated.

Mayor Kennedy O'Brien said, "I believe this resolution serves as the best solution to all parties involved...This decision cuts no programs. It leaves intact full day kindergarten and courtesy busing. It allows trailers to be placed at the Middle

School and helps alleviate the overcrowding there."

The school budget, rejected by voters in the school election on April 17, called for a tax levy of \$34,688,127 based on a total budget of \$50,683,688. The original budget anticipated a General Fund Surplus of only \$2,492,278 at the end of the current school year.

The accounting firm of Samuel Klein & Co. reviewed the 2001-02 budget and determined that the actual surplus would be at least \$3,916,428.

The Council voted 5-1 to use the surplus to reduce the tax levy by \$400,000. Councilman Pawlowski was the lone dissenting vote.

O'Brien said that while the decision reduces the surplus funds, it does maintain the surplus at the recommended 3% of expenditures. "I feel that this decision represents the best medium for the taxpayers and takes into account what is best for the children and their education."

Mathematics At The Fair

COUNTY—On May 8, Middlesex County Vocational and Technical Schools, Woodbridge campus, participated in the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) Seventh World's Largest Main Event, *Mathematics at the Fair*.

Students engaged in enriching mathematical investigations and problems about

games, food and other activities typical of fairs, ranging from using geometry to find the amount of popcorn held by a container, the circumference and area of a pie, probability to determine winners on a wheel, estimating and averaging the number of tries needed to reach a specific score with darts, finding the percent of success at a ring toss game, as

well as using proportions to guess the number of items in a box and mentally adding signed numbers pulled out of a fish pond.

Founded in 1914, Middlesex County Vocational and Technical Schools offer Middlesex County residents quality vocational and technical education programs at no cost to county high school students. In keeping with our commitment to providing the best vocational and technological education, we have infused technology throughout the district.

For further information, call Dr. Frances Borkes, Principal, Woodbridge campus, Middlesex County Vocational and Technical Schools at (732) 634-5858.

Directory of Professional Services**"Car Accident Victims Get A Crash Course On Their Rights!"**

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

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City Awards \$50,000 To Integrate Schools

PERTH AMBOY—Perth Amboy has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs' Smart Growth Community School Planning Grant Program. The grant is intended to support the city's collaborative effort with the Perth Amboy Board of Education by creating a two-phase plan for the effective incorporation of new school facilities into existing neighborhoods.

Phase I will support development of a comprehensive plan, involving significant community participation, to coordinate the Board of Education's Five-Year Facility Plan with the city's FOCUS 2000 Redevelopment Plan and the city's Master Plan. This effort will establish a process for school site selection that maximizes the achievement of other municipal goals such as economic, social, cultural and environmental development, while linking educational and cultural programs, recreation, job training, community improvement and service activities.

A key task will be to integrate

this plan with the development of educational specifications for the new high school planned for Perth Amboy. To guide this effort, a technical advisory committee will be formed comprised of representation from a wide range of agencies and communities. The Phase I guidelines will form the basis of the planning and design guidelines for a juried competition that is part of Phase II.

This competition will be for an urban design, which integrates the new high school as a set of relationships and educational specifications with the community, rather than simply creating a building. Funding from the grant will support the city's application to the National Endowment for the Arts design Grant Program that, if approved, will help fund the urban design competition.

Subsequently, three nationally prominent design teams will be invited to participate and three teams will be selected through the procurement process established by the NJ Economic Development Authority (EDA), which is responsible for construction and financing of all school projects in Abbott districts, of which Perth Amboy is one.

The winning submission, which could involve a single building, a cluster of adjacent facilities, or a decentralized network of sites, will be incorporated in both the district's Five-Year Facility Plan and the city's redevelopment plan and submitted to the Department of Education for authorization.

Phase I of the project will take place between February and July 2001. Educational specifications for the high school will then be submitted to the Department of Education, with Phase II scheduled to begin by November 2001. Pre-competition planning is anticipated to require four months. Competitors will have six months to develop their proposals. One month is planned for competition compliance evaluation and an additional month for design evaluation. The design contract is expected to be awarded by January 2003.

McGreevey Sworn In At Conference Of Mayors

WOODBIDGE—Mayor James E. McGreevey was sworn in as President of the New Jersey Conference of Mayors, the largest statewide organization in the nation to exclusively represent the interests of Mayors to the State and Federal Legislatures and Administrations.

"I look forward to leading this prestigious organization as we share ideas and develop policies and initiatives to meet the challenges confronting government in the 21st Century," McGreevey said.

McGreevey, who previously served as Vice President of the N.J. Conference of Mayors, was sworn in to his new position during the organization's 38th Annual Conference and Exposition.

He has been an active member of the N.J. Conference of mayors, arranging a wide-ranging series of policy conferences on issues such as con-

temporary health care needs, the ongoing evolution of new technologies, educational improvements, jobs and the new economy, transportation and the environment.

The N.J. Conference of Mayors works to provide a unified approach an open line of communication to the State Legislature and Administration in an effort to improve the quality of life within the State.

The organization was founded in 1963 by a group of leading Mayors who believed their collective voices should be heard in Trenton and Washington.

McGreevey, 43, has served as Woodbridge Mayor since 1992, winning re-election by record margins in 1995 and 1999. He also has served as a N.J. State Senator and Assemblyman, representing the 19th Legislative District (Middlesex County).

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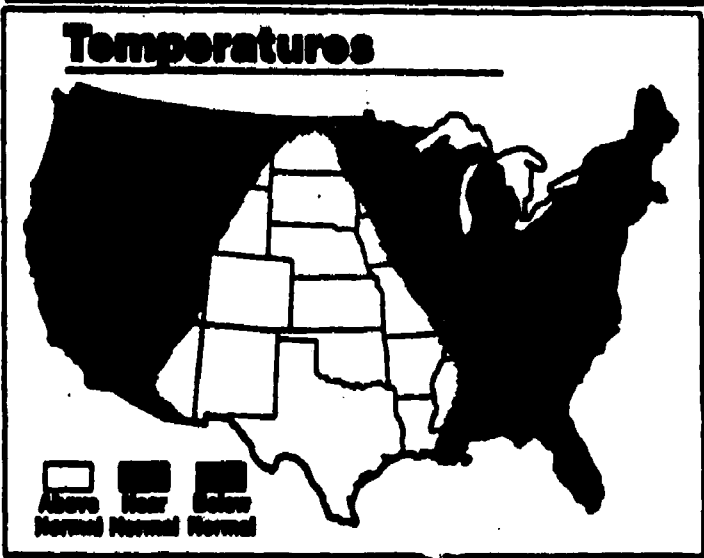
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LOCAL 7-DAY FORECAST

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
68	52	70/53	70/52	69/47	65/50	69/55	78/61

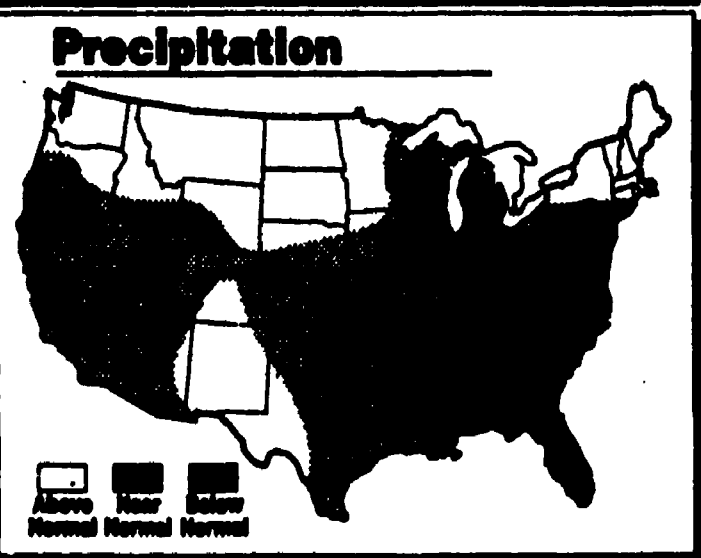
THE WEEK AHEAD...



NATIONAL SUMMARY

The jet stream will guide storms into the Pacific Northwest and northern Rocky Mountains. The wet, unsettled weather will keep temperatures cool across Washington, Oregon and Idaho. Dry weather will continue to plague the Southeast and Florida. Meanwhile, warm air will cover the Plains. Temperatures across the central and southern Plains may average 10 to 15 degrees above normal.

THE WEEK AHEAD...



U.S. TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Atlanta	68 50 c	65 48 c	70 54 pc	74 50 pc
Boston	58 48 c	60 48 c	62 50 c	66 44 c
Chicago	58 41 c	58 47 pc	67 48 pc	71 48 c
Cleveland	59 43 c	60 48 r	60 48 pc	65 40 s
Denver	60 48 s	62 50 s	78 48 pc	78 48 pc
Des Moines	55 42 pc	67 48 pc	70 53 s	74 48 s
Detroit	60 43 c	59 45 r	65 48 c	67 43 c
Houston	84 60 pc	82 58 pc	84 62 c	85 60 c
Indianapolis	58 42 c	55 45 c	65 49 c	70 48 c
Kansas City	66 46 pc	70 56 pc	74 56 pc	77 50 pc
Los Angeles	90 58 s	81 57 pc	76 55 c	75 48 c
Miami	86 70 pc	88 71 pc	86 72 pc	87 73 pc
Minn.-St. Paul	58 42 pc	62 44 pc	64 48 sh	66 48 sh
New Orleans	80 62 pc	82 64 s	82 62 s	83 58 s
New York City	64 52 sh	64 52 sh	64 54 sh	66 52 c
Omaha	64 44 pc	70 50 pc	72 52 pc	77 51 s
Phoenix	108 78 s	106 78 s	104 74 s	100 72 s
San Francisco	66 51 pc	68 51 pc	67 52 pc	68 49 pc
Seattle	66 50 pc	66 48 pc	66 50 c	66 48 c
Washington	66 54 sh	66 54 sh	70 58 sh	70 50 pc

SUN & MOON

Sunrise		Sunset	
Thu.	5:33 a.m.	8:15 p.m.	
Fri.	5:32 a.m.	8:16 p.m.	
Moonrise		Moonset	
Thu.	6:51 a.m.	10:10 p.m.	
Fri.	7:43 a.m.	11:13 p.m.	
Moon Phases			
New	First	Full	Last
May 22	May 29	June 5	June 13
Weather (W): s-sunny, p-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.			

WORLD TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Amsterdam	68 50 pc	69 52 pc	62 47 pc	63 55 c
Berlin	71 51 pc	73 55 pc	64 47 r	58 50 c
Buenos Aires	68 57 pc	68 55 c	70 55 c	67 58 r
Cairo	102 64 s	99 64 s	99 64 s	98 67 s
Jerusalem	86 55 s	84 54 s	84 55 s	86 58 s
Johannesburg	69 48 pc	69 48 pc	78 46 pc	74 47 pc
London	73 58 pc	63 48 r	68 51 pc	66 57 sh
Madrid	80 50 pc	82 54 s	86 58 s	87 60 pc
Mexico City	76 56 c	71 57 r	73 55 sh	75 58 c
Moscow	50 36 pc	51 34 pc	53 36 c	57 55 c
Paris	72 53 pc	69 47 pc	65 47 pc	70 57 c
Rio de Janeiro	71 61 pc	72 61 pc	71 61 c	72 61 pc
Rome	71 57 c	71 55 pc	74 58 e	77 57 s
San Juan	88 75 pc	88 73 s	87 75 pc	88 74 s
Seoul	78 60 pc	79 65 pc	77 55 c	68 51 pc
Sydney	62 47 s	61 47 s	63 50 s	62 53 c
Tokyo	74 65 sh	72 63 c	78 68 pc	77 66 pc
Toronto	49 41 c	51 40 c	53 39 sh	58 39 c
Winnipeg	61 38 pc	68 38 s	69 44 s	76 53 s
Zurich	72 55 c	71 53 pc	66 46 c	69 54 pc

YOUR AREA & STATE NEWS

Fun & Exciting Summer Camp Jobs

AREA—Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp, located in the northwest corner of New Jersey, has positions open for summer 2001. Available positions are camp nurse, counselors, lifeguards, shooting sports specialist, outdoor living skills specialist, arts & crafts staff, kitchen staff and more. Members of the staff must be available to live and work at camp from June 25-August 11.

Salaries for this seven-week period range from \$1,300 to \$3,200, depending on position and experience. For more information call or write Taras Ferencevych at: Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp, 100A Struble Road, Branchville, NJ 07826, (973) 948-3550, ext. 21 or fax to (973) 948-0735 or e-mail to 4hcamp@aesop.rutgers.edu.

For an online application, go to the website: www.nj4h.rutgers.edu/camp/summerjobs.html. Rutgers Cooperative Extension provides information and educational services to all people without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). Rutgers Cooperative Extension is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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ASSEMBLYMAN
JOHN WISNIEWSKI'S
Report
From
Trenton

Memorial Day weekend, to many, is the official beginning of the summer season. This is the weekend that the beaches and pools open, the lifeguards are on duty, and there are countless barbecues and picnics. But among the hot dogs and pool parties, the true meaning of Memorial Day sometimes gets lost.

Originally called Decoration Day, Memorial Day was created to pay homage to fallen Civil War soldiers. The day was observed by decorating the graves of Civil War soldiers with wreaths to honor the sacrifice they made to our country. Decoration Day eventually became known as Memorial Day. It has come to be known as the day we remember all Americans who were either killed or missing in action in all wars.

It is a solemn holiday. Unlike the Fourth of July, when we celebrate the birth of our country, it is a time to mourn and honor those who have fought and died for our country. It is a time to remember the brave men and women of the United States who served our country in its time of need.

On Memorial Day we can show our appreciation for our veterans by attending memorial services and by attending parades. But the best way for us to show our appreciation to these brave men and women of the Armed Forces is to make sure that the members of New Jersey's veteran community receive all the care and support they need. New Jersey has a system of nursing homes for our veterans, with locations in Paramus, Vineland, and Menlo Park. Like other healthcare facilities in our state, our veter-

ans' homes are experiencing an acute shortage of nurses.

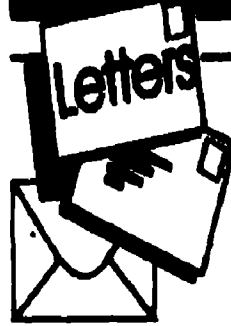
This shortage is so acute that the Veterans Home in Menlo Park has an entire wing that remains unused. Sixty beds in a new facility unused because there aren't enough nurses to staff it. Sixty beds that could serve sixty veterans, if only there were enough nurses.

There are many explanations offered for this shortage. Long hours and forced overtime are often given as reasons for this shortage. But the reason that many people agree on is economics. Simply put, the economics of pay cause nurses to work elsewhere.

I have been working on legislation that will enable places like Menlo Park to attract more nurses. A-3294, which was approved by the Assembly Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, creates a nurse recruitment program within the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to alleviate the nurse shortage we currently have. This legislation will establish a program that will increase recruitment of nurses and increase the training and retention of nurses at veterans' hospitals. Hopefully, this program will make it so that we will not have to worry about the care of veterans suffering because of the lack of nurses.

By their willingness to sacrifice themselves to protect our freedom and democracy, our veterans have improved our lives in many ways that we take for granted. While we can never repay the debt that we owe to our veterans, it says a lot for us as a nation and as a state if we acknowledge their sacrifices and try to show our gratitude not only in what we say but in what we do. As such, there is no effort too great that we can do to help our veterans and give them the rights, privileges, and care they deserve.

READERS COMMENTARY



Grateful No Matter What The Season

Dear Editor,
On April the 28th, I was

overwhelmed. My front and back yards and roof were filled with people. These people were volunteers who gave up their Saturday to help someone in need. As described by my neighbors, my property swarmed with people and materials. They were all there to participate in the first undertaking in Woodbridge Township of Christmas in April.

Financially, I was faced with the prospect of selling my home as I could not afford the

repairs necessary being on a fixed income.

I would like to thank several individuals...Carol Ehrlich, Donna Brightman, John McCormac, Gayle Marchetti, Eddie McSherry, Lee Beckerman and TV35 crew and Mayor James E. McGreevey.

The people who worked at my home, both men and women, were mostly town hall and public works employees. If the cooperation, dedication and work ethic displayed on the 28th are taken to work every day by these township employees, we, the township residents,

are in good hands.

I am a 73-year-old woman who can not stop worrying about the rain coming through my roof or whether I have enough pans to collect it in. I no longer have to be concerned that the 40-foot dead tree on my front lawn will fall through my bay window.

I am grateful to be a part of Christmas in April at its 1st appearance. I hope to see the program continued through the years to help other needy people.

Anna Benyei
Woodbridge

Putting Up A Good Fight

Dear Editor,

It's Thursday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m. and we are in the municipal building of Woodbridge Township. Commerce Bank repeats the strategy of March and once again gets the zoning board rescheduled for another two months, now for July 12. If the bank with its large amounts of money at its disposal and their corporate lawyers think that rescheduling of meetings will discourage us or lessen our numbers you will be disappointed.

Let's go back to our first meeting at Timothy Dacey's office (chief of staff) in the municipal building with your big guns out to get the approval of the Senior Citizen's Club of Colonia. Kevin Gillen (Senior

Vice President), Patricia Witte (Retail Marking Manager) and Gabe Rosanio (Woodbridge Branch Manager), Timothy Dacey and myself are present. I heard your advantages for the proposal of a branch office at the busy intersection of West Street and Inman Avenue in Colonia, and you heard my disadvantages and concerns for the safety of our children and senior citizens. This proposal involved the entire community, so being a fair minded person, I invited you to repeat the presentation at one of our meetings. Our community has decided to challenge your proposal for the proposed branch.

We are veterans when it comes to fighting for the good of our community. We have bat-

tle scars from the traffic signal at that very location, also from the proposed strip mall on Inman Avenue across from School 21. Withdraw your application, or meet us on the battlefield July 12. You with your large sums of money and corporate lawyers, us with our children, grandchildren, residents of Colonia, senior citizens, first aid squad, firefighters, VFW, school PTO's and all organizations within the boundaries of Colonia. We are united and we will protect our community!

George Vassiliades
President
Senior Citizen's
Club of Colonia

Heartfelt Thanks

Dear Editor,

Colonia Council #6571 extends a heartfelt "Thank You" to our community for supporting our handicap drive for

"God's Special People."

As most are aware, the Knights of Columbus throughout the state held their annual Retarded Citizens Drive and as

usual, the citizens of Colonia and New Jersey responded.

Our Council raised \$3,924.31 and every cent of that goes to this worthy cause. This is a non-denominational cause in which those that contributed have striven to aid all retarded citizens in the state. Three local organizations, Camp Pace, Special Olympics and Holy Family Handicap Boy Scouts will receive the money we collected.

Colonia Council also had another Blood Drive and 49 donors contributed which brings our total to 109 pints of blood. Thank you for caring and your support.

Charles Shaughnessy
Grand Knight

S n i g L e t t e r s

LINT FOR THE BRAIN BY HENRY DAMEN

The House I Live In

A striking story is told of a contractor who had been very successful in the building and selling of new homes. His success was partially due to his good carpenters. There was one in particular he felt deserved an award. What could he do?

He came up with a terrific idea! He would build this man and his family a new

house. What better way to reward a carpenter? As he thought about this more and more, he decided it would be really great to have the man build his own house. So, without telling the carpenter what he was planning, he had him get to work on a new house.

The man went to work on it. Since his boss had left him in charge of the whole thing he decided that he would cut costs by using second-rate materials. When com-

pleted, it looked OK on the outside, but it was really a weak, and poorly built house.

Imagine the surprise, when the contractor showed up one day and said. "Here is the deed and the key. I'm giving you this house, which you have built. Thank you for everything."

In dreams I am told, a house is a symbol of one's own self. We have to live in the house we build. We have to live with ourselves! It is a tremendous fact that each one of us continues each day to build the house we must live in tomorrow- Something to think about.

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OBITUARIES

Robert E. McKay of Iselin

Mr. Robert E. McKay of Iselin died April 22 at home. He was 69.

Born in Newark, he lived in Linden before moving to Iselin 41 years ago.

He was a sheet-metal worker with Local 28, New York, for 40 years before retiring in 1993.

He attended Union County College, Cranford.

Mr. McKay served in the Marine Corps from 1950-52, attaining the rank of corporal.

He was a commandant of the Martin Danowski Marine Corps League of Linden and a commander of American Legion Post 248, Colonia.

Mr. McKay was a Winfield Little League coach, a member of the Winfield Volunteer Police Department and the Winfield Police Softball Team.

He was the District II director and assistant director of the International Miniature Aircraft Association and assistant vice president of the Academy of Model Aeronautic International

Association.

Mr. McKay was also a member of the Mercer County Radio Club, the World Miniature Warbirds International Association, the Experimental Aircraft Association, the Resurrection Models Aircraft Club of Edison, the Scale Model Flyers International Club and the Union Radio Control Modelers Flying Club. He was president of the Jersey Giants and the West Jersey Radio Flyers Club and was a founder of the Edison Senior Citizens Indoor Flying Club.

Surviving are his wife of 44 years, Alice; two sons, Robert E. Jr. and James; four daughters, Mrs. Catherine Ennis, Mrs. Joan Risko, Mrs. Jeanne Gilsenan and Mrs. Judith McKay-Devenny; four sisters, Mrs. Elaine Schaul, Mrs. Patricia Mesgleski, Mrs. Carolyn Smith and Mrs. Virginia Massey; and six grandchildren.

Helen Harsanyi, 77 of Perth Amboy

Mrs. Helen Harsanyi of Perth Amboy died May 1 at Perth Amboy Nursing Home, Perth Amboy. She was 77.

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

She had been employed as a machine operator with William Kenyon and Sons, Piscataway, for 13 years before her retirement.

She was a communicant of St. Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church, Perth Amboy.

Her husband, William, died

in 1977. Also deceased are a son, Michael Harsanyi in 1992 and a brother, Andrew Fogas.

Surviving are three sons, William, John and Andrew Harsanyi, all of Perth Amboy; four daughters, Lynn Krasse and Marge Sabo, both of Perth Amboy, Bertha Vihonsky of Jackson and Helen Crespo of Las Vegas; three sisters, Julia Buda of Keasbey, Mary Brodniak of North Brunswick and Elizabeth Storms of Ohio; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

James Curcio, 68 of Menlo Park Terr.

Mr. James Vincent "Ju Ju" Curcio of the Menlo Park Terrace section of Woodbridge died April 30 at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. He was 68.

Born in Jersey City, he resided in Menlo Park Terrace for the past 36 years.

He was employed by Acme Markets Inc., Kearny, for 30 years before retiring in 1986.

Mr. Curcio was a communicant of St. Cecelia's R.C. Church, Iselin.

He served in the Army and

later served in the Navy and was a veteran of the Korean War. He was a member of the VFW Post 2636, Iselin.

Surviving are his wife of 46 years, Ann; a son, James; a daughter, Karen Carey; a son-in-law, Martin Thomas; a granddaughter, Jessica; his mother, Louisa Jobson of Old Bridge; two sisters, Jennie Riccio of Bayonne and Nancy Gurczeski of Jersey City; and several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Anton J. Pinter, 92 of Woodbridge

Mr. Anton J. Pinter of Woodbridge died May 2 at Holmdel Convalescent Center, Holmdel. He was 92.

Born in Hungary, he lived in Perth Amboy before moving to Woodbridge 60 years ago.

He was employed as a driver with Interboro Trucking in Metuchen for 45 years before retiring in 1983 and belonged to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Highway and Local Motor

Freight Drivers Dockmen and Helpers Union, Local 701, North Brunswick.

His wife, Loretta Smerecki Pinter, died in 1999. A sister, Mary Geredes is also deceased.

Surviving are a son, Richard Pinter of Lincroft; a daughter, Alice Farley of East Amherst, N.Y.; a brother, Joseph Pinter of Ormond Beach, Fla.; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

P. Ruiz Rodriguez of Perth Amboy

Mr. Prudencio Ruiz Rodriguez of Perth Amboy died May 3 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy Division. He was 87.

Born in Puerto Rico, he lived there before moving to Perth Amboy in 1971.

He had worked as a carpenter in Puerto Rico for many years before retiring.

His brother, Ramon Ruiz

Rodriguez is deceased.

Surviving are his wife, Tomasa Gonzalez; three sons, Pedro, Jorge and Angel Ruiz, all of New York City; two daughters, Carmen Lydia Ruiz, also of New York City and Maria Rivero Ruiz of Miami; a stepdaughter, Carmen Emelia Perez of Puerto Rico and 14 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

John J. Coghlan Lived in Edison

Mr. John J. Coghlan of Manchester (formerly of Edison) died April 18 at home. He was 68.

Born in Irvington, he lived in Edison before moving to Manchester three years ago.

He was an electrician at the Bristol-Myers Corp., Hillside for 40 years before retiring in 1991.

Mr. Coghlan served in the

Army during the Korean War and was a member of the American Legion, Edison and the AMVETS Post 2, Jackson.

He was also a member of the Metuchen Elks Lodge and the Moose Lodge, Edison.

Surviving are his wife, Lucille; three daughters, Mrs. Debra Senker, Mrs. Patricia Drake and Mrs. Maryjean Shine; and five grandchildren.

Ruth J. Kerr, 90 of Colonia

Mrs. Ruth J. Kerr of Flemington (formerly of Colonia) died April 30 in the Hunterdon Care Center, Flemington. She was 90.

Born in Newark, she lived in Kenilworth and Colonia before moving to Flemington in 1996.

She was a bookkeeper with the A&P supermarket in Paterson for 35 years before retiring in 1976.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Carol Caruso; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Dominick A. Volpone Am. Legion member

Mr. Dominick A. Volpone, Sr. of Jackson Township died April 17 in the Kimball Medical Center, Lakewood. He was 71.

Born in Port Reading, he lived in Spotswood before moving to Jackson Township four years ago.

He was a self-employed floor sander for 30 years, retiring in 1992.

Mr. Volpone served in the Army in 1953 and was a recipient of the Occupation Medal of Germany. He was a member of the Father and Son American Legion Post 435, Edison and the Edison Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3117.

Surviving are his wife of 51 years, Ann; a son, Dominick A. Jr.; a daughter, Mrs. Monica Olsen; two brothers, Pasquale and Nicholas; a grandchild; and a great-grandchild.

Esther E. Monaghan of Edison

Mrs. Esther E. (Sigethy) Monaghan of Edison died April 16 at home. She was 82.

Born in New Brunswick, she was a lifelong resident of Edison.

She retired in 1977 from Revlon, Inc., Edison, where she was head of security for 30 years.

Mrs. Monaghan was a communicant of Guardian Angels R.C. Church, Edison.

Her husband, Edward J. Monaghan, died in 1997.

Surviving are several nieces and nephews.



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YOUR AREA & STATE NEWS

Menendez: Bush's First 100 Days Have Failed New Jersey's Working Families

STATE-Representative Bob Menendez (D-NJ) has joined his Democratic colleagues in the House and the Senate at a rally in front of the U.S. Capitol to criticize President Bush for turning his back on America's working families in his first 100 days in office. Menendez noted that despite his campaign rhetoric of inclusiveness, the President's legislative and budget priorities have largely ignored the needs of working families in New Jersey and throughout our nation.

"The Administration's first 100 days is a story of missed opportunities, and may be indicative of the President's priorities, setting the tone for the next four years," added Menendez.

"In the past 100 days, President Bush had every opportunity to reach out to all Americans through his budget and legislative agenda to create a different tone here in Washington and throughout the United States," said Menendez. "One of his first rulings as President was to wipe out with one swipe of a pen ten years of work on workers safety rules; he decided to disregard the need for a Medicare prescription drug program that even some in his own party supported, passing off responsibility to the states; and he decided to stop in its tracks a bipartisan compromise on a Patient's Bill of

Rights that would really help patients - as a favor to the HMOs and health insurance companies."

"In just 100 days, Bush has managed to roll back 30 years of environmental progress, by blocking rules designed to protect millions of acres of national forests as a favor to the timber industry," said Menendez. "In addition, he has blocked the new Carbon Dioxide standards, is talking about drilling in the Alaskan wildlife refuge, and has rolled back regulations to reduce the amount of arsenic in our water during the week we call 'National Poison Prevention Week.'"

"To my great disappointment, the President, who said he would leave 'no child behind,' has failed to provide the resources to turn around failing schools and give every child the first-rate, public education they deserve. And in

addition to cutting cops-on-the-beat, small business assistance, and job training programs, the President's budget cuts after-school programs that make schools safer for children," added Menendez.

"Finally, Bush has failed to address the energy crisis except to come out in favor of more drilling and more production, instead of investing in conservation and renewables - his only action thus far was the appointment of a highly secretive task force led by Vice President Cheney, apparently made up of their friends in the oil industry," said Menendez.

Menendez concluded: "The President needs to change course. He needs to engage in honest, bipartisan dialogue and negotiations. We Democrats ask him to work with us to make a difference in the lives of the people we are honored to represent."

New Razor A Cut Above The Rest

AREA—Most barbers these days no longer use a straight razor when giving a client a shave and a haircut. This age-old tradition has disappeared more and more because straight razors can be dangerous in untrained hands and they can be difficult to maintain because they require regular sharpening and sterilization. Now, there is a new razor that has a replaceable blade and removes hair from an area evenly without cutting the individual's skin.

Inventor Michael D. Governale of Edison, came up with the idea for the Safety Straight Razor in 1993. He is a barber, and he wanted to create a product that would allow individuals that were unfamiliar with the technique of sharpening, strapping and sterilizing a straight razor the opportunity to offer the same service.

This original idea is now being made available for licensing to manufacturers interested in new product development, especially in the shaving products industry. Governale is hoping to have the Safety Straight Razor in full production and available to the public within the very near future.

Additional information about the Safety Straight Razor can be obtained by contacting the Publicity/Press Department of Invention Technologies, Inc. at (800) 940-9020, ext. 285 or at products@invent-tech.com. Invention Technologies, Inc. is a Coral Gables, Florida based firm that is handling the publicity and public relations for the Safety Straight Razor.

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YOUR LOCAL NEWS

Daffodil Days Raises \$31,000

PERTH AMBOY — Daffodils, the symbol of hope to cancer survivors and their families, bloomed across Middlesex County. More than \$31,000 was raised for cancer research, educational programs and support services for cancer survivors. During the week of March 26, over 18,000 daffodils were delivered by volunteers throughout the county.

Area community members, including individuals from

local businesses, hospitals and doctor's offices, schools and churches volunteered their time to Daffodil Days. Students at Robert N. Wilentz School, Perth Amboy, planted daffodils in a "Garden of Hope" in the schools' courtyard to pay tribute to a classmate battling cancer and to honor others in the school community touched by the disease.

Every dollar raised through the American Cancer Society's

Daffodil Days goes toward fighting cancer in Middlesex County communities for:

* **Research.** More than \$100 million each year—with more than \$35 million at work in New York and New Jersey.

* **Education.** Cancer prevention guidelines for breast, colorectal and prostate, are the standard used by health professionals and lay people alike.

* **Advocacy.** To change public policies to extend insurance



HOPE SPRINGS INTO BLOOM—Fourth graders at Robert N. Wilentz School, Perth Amboy, plant daffodils in a "Garden of Hope" in honor of one of their classmates who is currently battling cancer. Daffodils are a symbol of hope for cancer patients and their families. The school raised over \$700 for the American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days, a nationwide fundraiser held the last week of March. Pictured planting daffodils (foreground) are Michael Santiago and Ebony Christian.

coverage of mammograms or to reduce youth access to tobacco products.

* **Patient Services.** Numerous community-based support and counseling services to people who have been diagnosed with cancer. Our 1-800-ACS-2345 is available 24-hours day, 365 days a year, with a real, live person trained to offer information referrals.

The American Cancer

Society is the nationwide community-based voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy and service.

For more information about the American Cancer Society, call (800) ACS-2345 or visit its Web site at: www.cancer.org.

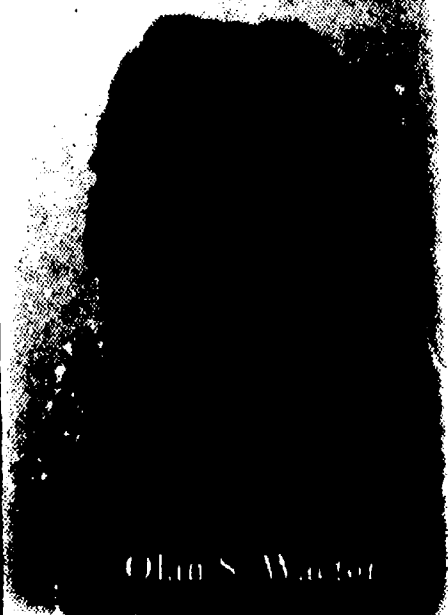
Old Bridge Wrestling Camps

AREA—The Old Bridge Parks and Recreation Department will conduct two wrestling camps at Jonas Salk Middle School. The first camp is for kids in the 3-6 grades and will be held from July 9-12 from

7-8:30 p.m. The second camp is for experienced wrestlers in the 7-12 grades and will be held July 9-13 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

For further information, call the Old Bridge Parks and Recreation Department at (732) 721-5600, ext. 4999 between 9 a.m.-4 p.m. or write: Old Bridge Parks and Recreation Department, 1 Old Bridge Plaza, Old Bridge, NJ 08857. Camp brochures will be provided upon request.

Congratulations!



Gerald and Wanda Wacter would like to announce the graduation of their daughter Olan S. Wacter from Centenary College. A lifelong resident of Perth Amboy, Olan graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Interior Design. She also received an award for her achievements in her Interior Design class. Olan is the granddaughter of retired police detective Wilfred DePeyster and retired school teacher Viola DePeyster.

Olan plans to go on to attend a Master's Degree in Architecture.

Class of '36 To Meet

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

Talking and meeting up is included.

If you have any questions or need more information, please call (732) 721-5600, ext. 4999.

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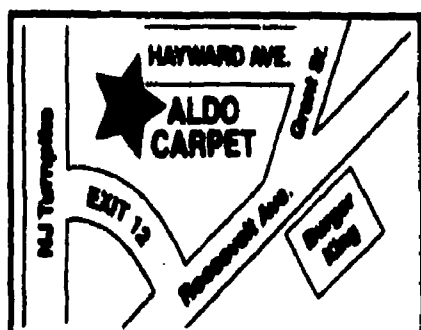
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