

The ATOM TABLOID

& Citizen-Gazette

- INSIDE EXCLUSIVE -
FIRST HAND STORY OF TERROR AT THE PENTAGON!

VOL. 120, NO. 39

Friday, September 28, 2001

Incorporating the Atom Tabloid, South Amboy Citizen & Perth Amboy Gazette

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USPS 501-880

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Advertiser Index

Legislation Seeks To Fully Fund NJ FamilyCare Program

STATE—Senator Joseph F. Vitale has introduced legislation that would compel the NJ FamilyCare program to re-open its eligibility low-income men and women with single coverage health benefits.

"When the Department of Human Services decided to deny coverage to men and women without dependents it made the wrong call," said Senator Vitale (D-Middlesex), a member of the Senate Health Committee and a sponsor of the legislation that created the program. "Now it's up to the Legislature to make the right one."

On Aug. 15, the Department announced new guidelines for entry into New Jersey's innova-

tive FamilyCare program. Effective Sept. 1, many low-income men and women without children were no longer accepted into the program.

"Unfortunately for New Jersey's most needy population, the Department waited until the Legislature was out of session before they took this drastic step," said Senator Vitale. "Even though we'll only be meeting a few times before the elections in November, I hope my colleagues will think about this issues and be ready to act on as soon as possible."

Senator Vitale's legislation would amend the FY 2002 budget to remove \$30 million from special legislative projects and put the money towards pro-

viding FamilyCare coverage. The bill would also delete the language placed in the budget act that allows the Department of Human Services to cap FamilyCare eligibility.

"If my bill is brought up for a vote, it will give every Senator the opportunity to make a clear choice between pork barrel projects and the health care needs of our poorest citizens," said

Senator Vitale. "The conditions that allowed this decision to be made were created by a sentence hidden in a 300 page budget document cobbled together at the last minute in the back rooms of Trenton. This bill put the cards on the table and asks the Legislature what's more important—looking out for the needy or looking out for themselves."

We Need Help Now!

PERTH AMBOY — Once again the Puerto Rican Association For Human Development, Inc., responds to an urgent call and invites Perth Amboy residents and cities nearby to contribute to the people affected by the tragedies that occurred in the City of N.Y. and Washington, DC, on Tuesday, Sept. 11. With this purpose, they have activated the "AYUDA AHORA" (HELP NOW), account #9404-004690, in the Fleet Bank, located at 211 Smith Street, Perth Amboy.

You can make your donations personally at any of the bank offices or you can send them by mail to PRAHD, 100 First Street, Perth Amboy, New Jersey 08861 in the name of "AYUDA AHORA/N.Y. 9/11 Tragedy Fund." (Checks or money orders are preferable). The funds collected will be given to the American Red Cross of N.Y., with the purpose to assist all those people involved in the tragedy.

Please Unite! We need your help now! For more information, call (732) 442-1081.

Blood Drive

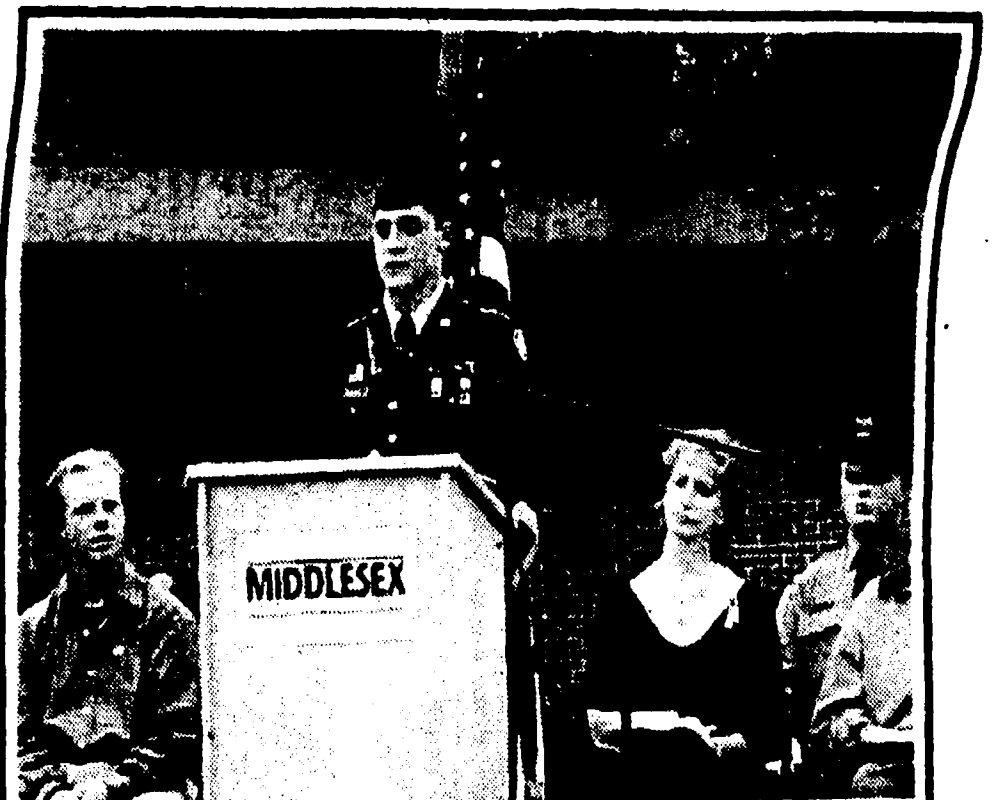
SOUTH AMBOY—A blood drive will be held at the Sayreville War Memorial High School on Tuesday, Oct. 9 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. for students and staff and from 2:30-7:30 for residents.

This blood drive is sponsored by the Sayreville War Memorial Student Council.

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HONORED SPEAKER — Michael Pizzone, of the US Army Reserve, shared his thoughts at "A Time of Remembrance" service held at Middlesex County College recently.



PROUD TO PARTICIPATE — Faculty and Staff of Middlesex County College unite at World Trade Center Memorial Service on Sept. 24.

YOUR COUNTY NEWS

27th Annual Village Street Fair

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — The 27th Annual Village of Old Bridge Street Fair will be held on Saturday, Sept. 29 at the corner of Old Bridge Turnpike, Main and Kossman Street, East Brunswick, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., admission is free. The Fair is sponsored by the local homeowners association, *The Historic Village of Old Bridge Community Group, Inc.*, located in the Old Bridge Historical District of East Brunswick.

Included in the day's activities will be: antique and collectible

vendors, handcraft items, historic displays, NASCAR collectibles, food and baked goods, children's activities and yard and garden accessories for sale.

The 3rd Annual Classic Car Show welcomes all years, makes and models of cars. Area residents and local car club members have been past participants. This year's participants will receive a certificate and dash plaque for attending. The Mayor's trophy, People's Choice trophy and others will be awarded at 4 p.m. In addition to a full day of browsing the street

exhibits and visiting with the vendors, plan to join us for the dedication of our new Historic Village Community Garden at 10:30 a.m., with Mayor William Neary and other township officials attending. Located at the corner of Old Bridge Turnpike and Kossman Street, the garden has been a cooperative effort of village homeowners, the Township of East Brunswick and local businesses. At the Community Garden, you will be able to view the Scarecrows entered in our 1st Annual Festival of Scarecrows. Area businesses and local organizations are invited to participate and enter a Scarecrow for display and judging. Cash prizes will be awarded at 4 p.m. to winners of the Scarecrow competition. The Brunswick Grove Restaurant and Tavern in East Brunswick is a co-sponsor of the Scarecrow contest. At the close of the day, the Scarecrows will be moved to the Brunswick Grove property and remain on display until Halloween, with several activities planned for the month of October. For further information regarding their activities, call (732) 254-0495.

The Historic Village of Old Bridge Community Group, Inc., is a nonprofit community organization, concerned with the quality of life and the historic integrity of the "Village." The Old Bridge Historic District was the first established Historic District in Middlesex County. Located at the foot of Old Bridge Turnpike and Main Street, East Brunswick and bordered by Rte. 18 and Old Bridge Turnpike, the South River and Chestnut Hill Cemetery, it also contains the East Brunswick Museum. It is listed on both the State and National Historic Registers. This area encompasses approximately 175 homes, some dating back to the early 1700's.

4-H Offers Project Wild Workshop

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — On Wednesday, Oct. 10, a Project Wild Workshop will be held at the Middlesex County 4-H Youth Center, Cranbury and Fern Roads, East Brunswick. The workshop will be facilitated by Laura Bovitz, Middlesex County 4-H Program Associate. Anyone interested in helping others learn about the environment may attend. This includes teachers, school age child-care providers and youth agency workers. The event takes place from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Project Wild is an environmental education curriculum offered by the Department of Fish, Game and Wildlife. It is an extensive set of lessons on wildlife, conservation and environmental ethics for grades K-12. This curriculum is available only through participation in a Project Wild Workshop facilitated by a

Project Wild trainer.

Laura Bovitz of Middlesex County 4-H says, "Project Wild is a great curriculum because it teaches environmental educational activities in a fun setting." She also wants teachers to be aware that most of the activities tie in to the New Jersey Core Curriculum standards.

The registration fee for the workshop is \$10, which covers program materials and breakfast. To obtain a registration form, contact the Middlesex County 4-H Office at (732) 745-3446. Professional Development certificates will be provided. Participants are asked to bring a bag lunch and dress casually.

4-H programs are offered to youth in grades 1-13 without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, disability or handicap, on a grade school appropriate basis.

Wisniewski Named Parade Marshall

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — Assembly Deputy Minority Conference Leader John S. Wisniewski has been honored by the Middlesex County Pulaski Day Parade Committee at their Annual Dinner Dance as this year's Middlesex County Parade Marshall.

The mood of the normally festive evening was made somber in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks this past week.

In his remarks, Wisniewski said that "In the weeks and months following this horrible tragedy, we will need to look at each other in the community for strength and solace. This tragedy didn't affect just one

group of people. It affected not only Americans of Polish descent but Americans of all races and creeds. Our entire community needs to work together, teach tolerance to our children, and rise above these acts."

The Dinner Dance was held at Knights of Columbus Hall in South River on Saturday, Sept. 15. At the dance, it was announced that the Middlesex County chapter of the Pulaski Day Parade Committee will not be marching in 63rd Annual Pulaski Day Parade out of respect for the families of the more than 5,000 people missing from last week's terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania. The Committee further announced that in lieu of marching the proceeds from their Annual Dinner Dance will be donated to the American Red Cross for disaster relief.

Thousands of Polish Americans and their friends come out for the Pulaski Day Parade and march up Fifth Avenue in New York City on the first Sunday of October each year. The Parade is a celebration of Polish heritage and ancestry.

The Pulaski Day Parade is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 7, but it unclear whether the Parade will be held in light of the ongoing rescue efforts in New York City.

The 4th Annual Community Fire and Life Safety Expo



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P.O. Box 3095, South Amboy, New Jersey 08879

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The Atom Tabloid & Citizen-Gazette (USPS 501-680) is published weekly on Friday by Devine Media Enterprises, Inc. Subscription rates are \$15 per year, \$50 outside Middlesex County. Periodicals postage paid at South Amboy, NJ, and other post offices.

POSTMASTER - Send address changes to:

Atom Tabloid & Citizen-Gazette, P.O. Box 3095, South Amboy, NJ, 08879.

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YOUR COUNTY NEWS

8/40 Officers Installed

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — The Middlesex Salon #28 Eight et Forty officers for the 2001-02 administration were installed by Le Chapeau Departemental Dorothea Warrick of Burlington #458. Le Petit Chapeau Viola Augustine of Unit 324, Edison; Le Demi Chapeau Deuxieme Kathryn Hollywood of Unit 401, Monmouth Junction; La Petite Cassiere Anna Stickley of Unit 324; L'Aumonier Helen Lesniewski of Unit 127, Jamesburg; La Concierge Mary Kamienski of Unit 263, Carteret; and

Pouvoir Member Viola Augustine. Assisting Le Chapeau Departemental Dorothea Warrick were: Le Demi Chapeau Premiere Jean DuBois of Monmouth Salon #59 and National Pouvoir Member Regina Elio of Morris Salon #22. Also attending was Sue Kodilla of Monmouth Salon.

The evening included a covered dish dinner, Memorial Service and a Country Store fundraiser.

The Eight et Forty is a subsidiary organization of the American Legion Auxiliary. Its purpose is to raise funds for research and aid for the prevention and control of tuberculosis, cystic fibrosis, lung and other respiratory diseases in children and for nurses scholarships for those working with these children.

The next meeting of Salon #28 will be held on Oct. 22 at 8 p.m. at The American Legion Post 435, Edison.

Baseball Old Timers Reunion

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — Members of the Middlesex County Baseball Old Timers will be hosting the Seventeenth Annual Dinner Reunion at Buddies Tavern, Sayreville. Make it a point to bring a friend, a relative or another old timer.

We welcome you to share with us an unforgettable experience of a lifetime.

Come and get together with The Old Timers.

A hot and cold buffet dinner is planned. Guest speakers are invited and prizes are available to the lucky winner.

The event will be held on Sunday, Oct. 28 from 1-5 p.m. at Buddies Tavern, 277 Johnson's Lane, Parlin. The cost is \$15 per person.

Beer and soda will be avail-

able along with the dinner. Please send your money in on time, or call one of the following if you expect to pay at the door. Allie Clark at 721-0345, J. Horvath at 849-4090, J. Krilla, 826-7242, Mickey Sedlak at 254-1587, Eugene Barbieri at 408-9418 or Ed Rappleyea at 257-1184.

Send your check by Oct. 22 to: John Krilla, 197 High Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861.

Must have check or phone confirmation. Make checks payable to: Middlesex County Baseball Reunion. Directions: Route 9 to Sayreville. Off Washington Road (President Park).

March Of Dimes Pick A Pumpkin Returns

"Pick A Pumpkin is a great way for businesses to show they care about the community and about helping babies. It also gives our customers an opportunity to support programs that actually help save babies lives,"

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — The annual March of Dimes Pick A Pumpkin is now running through October to support March of Dimes programs that improve the health of mothers and babies. For the ninth year Sovereign Bank is participating in the promotion. Sovereign Bank will be selling bright orange paper pumpkins in their branches throughout the Middlesex County area. Customers may purchase these pumpkins at their local Sovereign Bank for \$1-\$5 each, then write their names on them and have them displayed at their Sovereign Bank branch.

"Pick A Pumpkin is a great way for businesses to show they care about the community and about helping babies. It also gives our customers an opportunity to support programs that actually help save babies lives," said Keith Buscio, spokesperson from Sovereign Bank.

Along with selling pumpkins, the businesses will be distributing March of Dimes pamphlets to educate women of childbearing age about the importance of taking the B vitamin folic acid. When taken daily *before* and during the early weeks of pregnancy, folic acid can prevent serious birth defects of the brain and spine, such as spina bifida. Spina bifida is among the most common severe birth

defects in the country, affecting some 1,500 babies each year. The March of Dimes is currently promoting folic acid education nationwide, urging women to take a multivitamin containing 400 micrograms of folic acid every day, in addition to eating a healthy diet.

Funds raised through Pick A Pumpkin support research and programs which will help the March of Dimes address critical issues facing the Central Jersey area, including low birthweight babies, access to prenatal care, and teen pregnancy.

Businesses and companies who would like to participate in the Pick A Pumpkin Promotion can call the March of Dimes Central Jersey Division at (609) 655-7400.

The March of Dimes is a national voluntary health agency whose mission is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects and infant mortality. Founded in 1938, the March of Dimes Funds programs of research, community services, education and advocacy to save babies. Information on pregnancy and related topics may be found at our Cannon Resource Center at 1-888-MODIMES. For more information on March of Dimes programs visit the March of Dimes web page at www.modimes.org or call (609) 655-7400.

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YOUR LOCAL NEWS

Senior Computer Program Receives National Recognition

"Teachers and students from Woodbridge High School came to the agency's Campus of Learners program and worked one-one-one with more than 50 seniors,"

WOODBIDGE—Local efforts to bring computers and Internet access to the senior community have received national recognition.

Mayor James E. McGreevey has said Woodbridge Township partnered with the Housing Authority to bring intergenerational computer learning to senior residents who had little or no computer knowledge.

"Teachers and students from Woodbridge High School came to the agency's Campus of Learners program and worked one-one-one with more than 50 seniors," said Housing Authority Executive Director Donna Brightman.

The Campus of Learners program, which opened in 1999, was established to provide educational and employment education and assistance to Housing Authority residents seeking higher levels of employment.

Located in the Authority's Administration Building on Bunns Lane, the Campus serves as a base for computer and software courses, small business entrepreneurship training and educational opportunities.

"The new high-speed connections allow the Campus of Learners to conduct classes in which 10-15 students access

the Internet simultaneously, an option which was not practical with individualized dialup service," added Information Systems Director Michael D. Esolda.

Esolda said additional connections can be added if the program expands.

The senior computer program is part of Woodbridge Tech 2000, a program that is providing computers and internet access in Township schools.

When Mayor McGreevey announced Woodbridge Tech 2000 in his State of the Township Address in 1999, he also proposed a plan to include the senior community as part of the effort to provide Woodbridge residents with the tools and facilities they need to keep up with the latest in technology and computers.

Since then, six computer workstations have been installed at the Evergreen Senior Center for training for seniors. The machines include Windows, office products and the Internet.

One computer workstation has also been installed at each of the six Senior Housing Buildings, also including Windows, office products, and Internet capability as well as cable modems for fast Internet connections.

Award Given To St. Joseph's High School Student

WOODBIDGE—Ryan Christopher Daly, son of Mr. and Mrs. Daly of Woodbridge, and a student of St. Joseph's High School, Metuchen, was named the year 2001 recipient of the St. Michael's College Scholarship and Service Book Award. The award recognizes students who demonstrate a commitment to volunteerism and leadership through community service. St. Michael's, located in the Burlington area of Vermont, was founded on the belief that serving others is part of its Catholic tradition, and

through the award seeks to honor those who demonstrate the true spirit of volunteerism.

Award recipients, named at schools throughout the country, are high school juniors who are inductees of the National Honor Society or an equivalent school-sponsored honors organization. They must demonstrate a commitment to service activities in high school or community organizations, taking leadership roles in these activities.

Daly was presented the book *The Call of Service: A Witness to Idealism* by Robert Coles, a

Pulitzer Prize-winning author. Described as "a moving and inspiring work," *The Call of Service* looks at how individuals take responsibility for their world.

St. Michael's College, founded in 1904 by the Society of St. Edmund and headed by President Marc A. vander-Heyden, has been identified by *U.S. News & World Report* for 11 consecutive years as one of the top 15 North Regional Universities in the nation.

New And Used Stuffed Animals Needed

EDISON—Solaris Health System is requesting that new and used stuffed animals be donated for use in their Teddy Bear Clinic. This community outreach program helps children overcome any fears they may have about visiting hospitals or doctor's offices by taking their newly adopted stuffed animal, provided by your donation, through a realistic clinic setting. The stuffed animal is given a pretend check up by our staff of volunteers and sent on its way with a clean bill of health. The child now knows that visiting a hospital or doctor's office isn't so frightening.

Donations of new and used stuffed animals may be brought to: Solaris Health System, Community Health Improvement, 80 James St., 2nd Floor, Edison, NJ 08840.

If you have any questions, feel free to call Solaris Health System's Community Health Improvement Department at (732) 321-7089.

Listen And Learn

EDISON—A program on "Breast Cancer" will be presented at the Edison Township Free Public Library, 340 Plainfield Avenue, on Wednesday evening, Oct. 10 at 7 p.m.

Ms. Charlotte Shipley, Breast Cancer Coordinator at St. Peter's University Hospital, will speak about the latest studies on the disease and will leave time for questions and answers.

To register for this free program, call the library at (732) 287-2298, ext. 1 or you may sign up at the circulation desk.

Children's Dental Care Halloween Extravaganza

AREA—On Saturday, Oct. 20, the Old Bridge Parks and Recreation at the Route 516 Municipal Complex will be magically transformed into a hauntingly healthy Halloween carnival. Children and parents will be entertained with music, games and a special stage show of talented performers. The Children's Dental Care staff will highlight this year's theme, "Mardi Gras." Tooth-friendly refreshments will be served at the dental health snackateria.

Dr. Brunsdon's 15 year tradition of Halloween parties has covered many of his patients favorite themes, including a trip to Oz—complete with yellow brick road; as well as movies, magic shows, Snow White and the Dental Dwarfs and the King and Queen of Dental Health. Doctors Brunsdon, Reynolds and Villa and the staff of Children's Dental Care want you to join them and celebrate with a healthy smile.

35th H.S. Reunion

PERTH AMBOY—The Perth Amboy High School Class of 1966 Reunion will be held on Nov. 24. It will be held at The Forge, Route 9, Woodbridge, from 7 p.m.-midnight.

The reunion will feature 1-hour butler-style hors d'oeuvres, a buffet dinner, free soda and coffee, an all cash bar, and music by a DJ. The cost is \$50 per person.

If you have any questions, please email Dotty G. Chiera-Jensen at dgmaxdj@bellatlantic.net.

Edison Graduates Receive Degrees

EDISON—Boston University awarded academic degrees to 5,022 students this spring.

Receiving degrees were Edison residents, Lindsay A. Fallano, B.A. in History; Aditi Kinkhabwala, M.D. in Medicine, cum laude; Karen L. Konuary, B.A. in Psychology, cum laude; Neha Madhok, B.A. in Medical Science, cum laude; Tejash P. Shah, B.A. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, magna cum laude; Tejash P. Shah, B.A. in Economics; and Neil P. Tejani, B.A. in Economics.

Boston University is the fourth largest independent university in the United States, with an enrollment of nearly 30,000 students in its 15 schools and colleges. The University offers an exceptional grounding in the liberal arts, a broad range of programs in the arts, engineering, science and professional areas, and state-of-the-art facilities for teaching and research. Located in the heart of a city rich in cultural and intellectual attractions, the University is one of the nation's preeminent institutions of higher learning.

Class Of 1951 Reunion

PERTH AMBOY—Perth Amboy High School Class of 1951 plans a fun-filled fiftieth reunion, commencing with a dinner/dance on Saturday, Oct. 6 at the Cameo on Rahway Avenue, Woodbridge.

On Sunday, Oct. 7, classmates and guests will meet at 11 a.m. aboard the Cornucopia Princess for a nostalgic brunch/cruise. Anyone who can furnish a current address of classmates, contact Gloria Rusin Petenko at (732) 548-5634.

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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YOUR LOCAL NEWS

October Library Events

EDISON—Come visit the Children's Room of the Edison Public Libraries in October. The librarians have planned some exciting programs including:

Reading is a Monster-ous Adventure **Coloring Contest:** Children from pre-school through grade 6 are invited to pick up a monster-ous coloring sheet from any of the Edison Township branch libraries. Take it home and decorate it with your usual flair and return it any time from Oct. 1-31. Upon returning your picture, your child will receive a special box of crayons to take home with them. Each picture will be your entry into a drawing at the end of the month and will be displayed during the month. No judgements will be made on the artistic work. All children in Edison are unique and we wish to just enjoy the fruits of your talents.

Fun for 4's and 5's: A program for children 4-5 years of age. Registration, in person or by phone, began on Sept. 24. Join our 4 week series of children's stories, crafts, films and fingerplays on a variety of topics.

Main Library: Tuesdays, Oct. 2-23 at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Clara Barton Branch: Wednesdays, Oct. 3-24 at 1:30 p.m.; North

Edison Branch: Tuesdays, Oct. 2-23 at 1:30 p.m. and Wednesdays, Oct. 3-24 at 10:30 a.m.

Down on the Library Farm: A program for children 2-5 years of age with their parent or caregiver. (Please do not bring other siblings. Thank you). Registration will begin in person or by phone on Oct. 8. The program includes stories, finger plays, songs, crafts and films. Program dates and times: Main Library: Monday, Oct. 22 at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; North Edison Branch: Monday, Oct. 15 at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. and Clara Barton Branch: Thursday, Oct. 25 at 1:30 p.m.

Harry Potter Party: A special party for children in grades 3-6 featuring special crafts, games and other events based on the Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowlings. Registration will begin in person or by phone on Oct. 16. North Edison: Tuesday, Oct. 23 at 6 p.m.

Locations of the Edison Public Libraries are:

Main Library, 340 Plainfield Avenue, (732) 287-2351, ext. 3; North Edison Branch, 777 Grove Avenue, (732) 548-4759, ext. 228 and Clara Barton Library, 141 Hoover Avenue, (732) 738-0748.

Discounts On Dining And More

CARTERET—The Carteret Elks Lodge #2235 is selling copies of the popular Entertainment 2002 coupon book to raise funds for the scholarships given out by the lodge each year to deserving high school seniors.

The books can be used immediately and contain hundreds of 50 percent-off and two-for-one discount offers on fine dining, fast food, movies,

sporting events, hotels and attractions. Books cost \$30 with a portion of the proceeds from every book supporting the Elks.

For more information on the scholarships or to order an Entertainment Book, call Ray Wizna at (732) 969-0396. To order a book online, go to entertainment.com and when prompted, enter account #167728.

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YOUR AREA & STATE NEWS

Salvation Army Seeks To Serve Victims

AREA — Lt. Colonel Norman E. Wood, New Jersey Division Commander of The Salvation Army stated, "We would like to extend heartfelt sympathy to all those involved in the Twin Towers disaster. Our prayers are offered to the victims as well as their loved ones. We would like to assure everyone that our support will be a devoted effort, for as long as it takes, to support rescue workers, fire and police, the injured and their families."

The New Jersey Division of The Salvation Army has mobilized resources to aid in the relief effort. Canteens have been on round the clock duty at Liberty State Park, the Meadowlands and multiple new York City locations. Salvation Army officers, staff, volunteers and trained counselors accompany each canteen to its location serving meals and refreshments as well as providing grief counseling to rescue workers and family members.

The Salvation Army is also managing the Golden Dome Shelter, a Rutgers facility in Newark, which is currently a staging and support center for emergency personnel. Helping in other ways, two Salvation Army officers are stationed at the Trenton Office of Emergency Management Command Center.

The New Jersey Division of The Salvation Army is committed to administering aid during the entire relief effort. Donations for disaster relief may be made to The Salvation Army, NJ Division, 4 Gary Road, P.O. Box 3170, Union, NJ 07083 or by calling 1-877-NJS-ARMY. For information on how you can help, call 1-908-851-9300.

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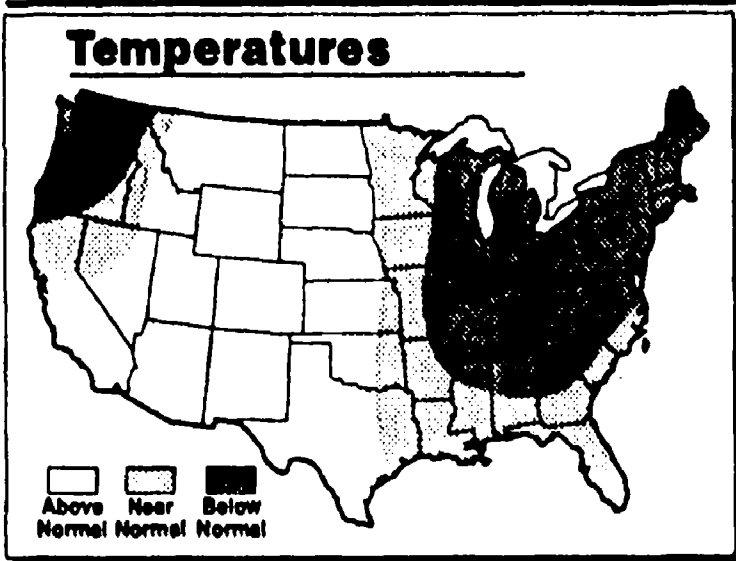
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LOCAL 7-DAY FORECAST

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Some sun and breezy.	Mainly clear.	Lots of sun.	A good deal of sun.	Lots of sun.	Plenty of sunshine.	Partly sunny.	Rather cloudy.
67	51	71/51	70/52	70/47	68/49	68/50	66/58

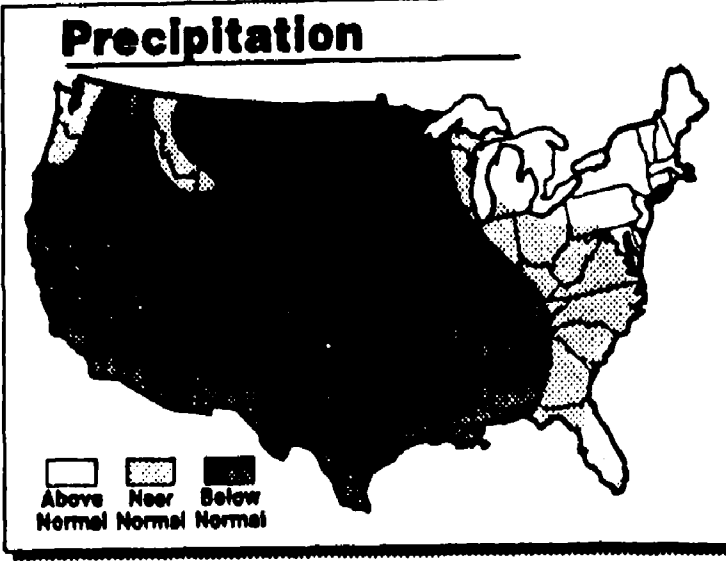
THE WEEK AHEAD...



NATIONAL SUMMARY

Unseasonably cool weather is expected from the Northeast through the Great Lakes, mid-Atlantic, Ohio and Tennessee valleys and across the central Gulf Coast states during the period. It will be rather wet across the Northeast, parts of the mid-Atlantic and parts of Florida, while the northern Plains through the central and southern Rockies are warm.

THE WEEK AHEAD...



U.S. TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W
Atlanta	74 54 s	76 54 s	76 56 s	74 46 s
Boston	66 52 c	69 50 pc	66 51 s	65 48 s
Chicago	66 48 s	68 45 s	65 46 s	68 44 pc
Cleveland	60 46 pc	66 46 pc	68 46 s	68 46 pc
Denver	84 48 pc	82 48 pc	80 46 s	78 48 s
Des Moines	74 52 s	76 50 s	69 48 s	68 47 s
Detroit	63 46 pc	70 44 s	65 47 s	66 44 s
Houston	82 60 s	84 64 s	86 66 s	86 66 s
Indianapolis	67 46 s	71 46 s	71 45 s	68 45 s
Kansas City	72 50 s	74 50 s	74 52 s	72 52 pc
Los Angeles	90 62 s	88 58 s	87 58 s	85 54 s
Miami	86 74 t	86 74 r	86 74 c	85 66 c
Minn.- St. Paul	66 46 pc	68 48 pc	70 50 sh	68 48 sh
New Orleans	82 60 s	83 63 s	83 64 s	80 56 s
New York City	66 54 pc	66 52 pc	68 54 s	68 50 s
Omaha	72 48 s	74 48 s	74 50 s	71 51 s
Phoenix	104 74 s	102 74 s	100 72 s	100 70 s
San Francisco	73 56 s	72 55 s	73 56 pc	72 43 pc
Seattle	66 51 pc	66 51 c	62 50 c	60 40 sh
Washington	66 52 s	68 52 s	70 54 s	73 48 s

SUN & MOON

	Sunrise	Sunset	
Thu.	6:49 a.m.	6:46 p.m.	
Fri.	6:50 a.m.	6:44 p.m.	
	Moonrise	Moonset	
Thu.	4:50 p.m.	1:48 a.m.	
Fri.	5:23 p.m.	2:47 a.m.	
Moon Phases			
First	Full	Last	New
			
Sep 10	24 Oct	Oct 2 16	Oct
Weather (W):			
s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.			

WORLD TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W
Amsterdam	57 53 sh	64 52 pc	65 55 c	62 50 r
Berlin	57 46 pc	59 51 c	68 56 pc	67 59 c
Buenos Aires	64 57 c	64 50 r	64 43 s	61 47 pc
Cairo	93 64 s	88 63 s	84 58 s	83 60 s
Jerusalem	80 55 s	74 52 s	71 51 s	72 51 s
Johannesburg	85 61 pc	70 59 c	80 58 s	88 58 s
London	63 55 c	67 58 pc	61 57 r	63 54 c
Madrid	68 57 c	69 54 c	64 45 r	65 51 c
Mexico City	66 58 sh	63 54 r	67 52 r	68 51 sh
Moscow	49 35 s	54 39 pc	50 34 pc	46 39 c
Paris	60 50 c	65 51 pc	63 57 c	60 46 r
Rio de Janeiro	77 66 c	75 65 pc	77 73 c	75 70 r
Rome	74 53 s	76 63 pc	74 65 t	81 70 t
San Juan	88 76 c	89 75 pc	88 76 c	88 75 c
Seoul	76 59 pc	77 57 s	74 62 c	73 63 c
Sydney	67 50 pc	73 54 pc	75 61 pc	84 60 c
Tokyo	73 64 pc	74 64 pc	73 62 s	73 72 r
Toronto	53 32 pc	59 34 pc	63 40 pc	64 41 s
Winnipeg	63 49 pc	65 48 c	67 47 pc	63 47 c
Zurich	60 50 c	68 49 pc	66 53 c	65 55 r

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Trinitas School of Nursing Graduates 38 Nurses This Year

AREA—Thirty-eight graduates received nursing pins and diplomas from the Trinitas School of Nursing during convocation exercises held this year at Union County College, Cranford.

Of the thirteen students of the 126th graduating class of May 2001, Roselle resident Janet D. Tate-Brown attained the Dean's List of Nursing Honors earning a cumulative average of 3.0 or higher in the required nursing courses. She also attained Honors in the Cooperative Nursing Program and was the recipient of the First Scholarship Award.

Another graduate who attained Honors in the Cooperative Nursing Program was Irvington resident Rose Kelscart Pierre who was also the recipient of the General Proficiency

and Lily Bierstein Memorial Awards.

Other members of the School of Nursing's Class of May, 2001 include: Carrie A. Epley Hamm of Linden; Michelle Figueredo of Hillside who was also the recipient of the 2001 Nursing Service Professional Transformation Award; Jenny Cardoso Merendino of Union who as also the recipient of the Trinitas Alumni Association Award; Anna Rozalski of Colonia who was also the recipient of the Auxiliary Award and Lani A. Valdez of Elizabeth, who was also the recipient of the June Palmieri Crincoli Memorial Award.

Of the twenty-five students of the 125th graduating class of

January 2001, the following attained the Dean's List of Nursing Honors earning a cumulative average of 3.0 or higher in the required nursing courses: Kerri Ann Cartrick of Cranford, who was also the recipient of the Lily Bierstein Memorial Award; Dominique Joseph of Roselle, who also attained Honors in the Cooperative Nursing Program and was the recipient of the First Scholarship Award and the General Proficiency Award; and Ivet Rivas of Elizabeth, who also attained Honors in the Cooperative Nursing Program and was the recipient of the Second Scholarship Award and the Auxiliary Award.

Another graduate who attained Honors in the Cooperative Nursing Program was Nana

Myers of Hillside, who was also the recipient of the Gerontological Nursing Award.

Other members of the School of Nursing's Class of January, 2001 include: Maria Beauvais of Roselle; Gina Bonavia of Edison and Karen DeGregorio of Colonia. Elizabeth residents, Angela Romero and Nuria A. Vargas who were also the recipients of the Trinitas Alumni Association Award.

The Trinitas School of Nursing conducts a cooperative nursing program with Union County

College and confers both a nursing diploma and an associate science degree to its graduates. The graduates continually score high on the nursing boards with the graduating classes of January and May of 2000 scoring a perfect 100 percent pass rate on the registered nurse licensing exam. The program offers full time day and part time evening and weekend programs of study. For more information, call the School of Nursing at (908) 994-8144 or Union County College at (908) 709-7518.

Targeting High Risk Groups First During Flu Season

AREA — In accordance with guidelines from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, VNA of Central Jersey's 2001-02 influenza campaign will begin in November by targeting those individuals identified as belonging to groups at highest risk.

In May 2001, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices issued a report recommending that high-risk individuals be vaccinated until the end of November. Employee-based campaigns that target primarily healthy, younger populations were asked to postpone their campaigns until December so those high-risk individuals may be immunized first. The report

also stated that individuals might continue to be immunized through December and later, even if influenza is occurring in the community.

The CDC identified the following as high-risk groups for vaccination: persons aged 50 years or older; adults and children who have a chronic illness such as diabetes, heart disease, lung disease or asthma; children and teenagers (aged 6 months to 18 years) who receive long-term aspirin therapy and might be at risk for developing Reyes syndrome after influenza infection; women who will be in the second or third trimester of pregnancy during the influenza season;

healthcare workers and employees of nursing homes, chronic-care facilities or assisted living residences.

The CDC stated that during the 2000-01 influenza season, manufacturing problems resulted in a significant delay of influenza vaccine availability. As a result, a substantial amount of vaccine reached providers much later than usual. Because influenza vaccine is newly produced for each influenza season, numerous factors may affect manufacturer's vaccine production and distribution.

The VNA of Central Jersey intends to publish its 2001-02 flu schedule in the local media in October.

For more information about the VNACJ flu program or the CDC guidelines for vaccination, please call public health manager, Sandra Van Sant, at 732-933-3989.

"Giving The Gift Of Life"

AREA — In conjunction with Stacy Brodsky, D.C. & Associates in Female Health Care, P.A., The Sharing Network, NJ Organ and Tissue Donation Services proudly presents a Women to Women seminar on: GIVING THE GIFT OF LIFE ... a woman's legal, religious and personal perspective on organ and tissue donation, to be held Wed., Oct. 3, at 7:30 p.m., 235 Millburn Ave., Millburn, (in The Commons).

Seating is limited and is available on a first come, first served basis. Please RSVP to The Sharing Network by Mon., Oct. 1. A \$10 reservation fee applies.

Refreshments will be provided, compliments of Basilico and La Strada Restaurants

The Sharing Network is NJ's non-profit organ procurement organization responsible for the recovery of organs and tissue for transplant in NJ. We are also dedicated to educating the public about the life saving benefits of organ donation. For more information please call 1-800-SHARE-NJ or visit our website at www.sharenj.org.

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~ Frederick Koenig

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YOUR FINANCIAL NEWS

Treasury, IRS Announce Relief For Victims Of Attack

STATE — The Treasury Dept. and the IRS recently announced initial administrative tax relief for individual and business taxpayers who are unable to meet their federal tax obligations because they were affected by Tuesday's terrorist attacks.

The IRS and Treasury are providing relief to all taxpayers — regardless of where they reside — who are directly affected by the terrorist attacks. For example, this includes relief workers, the victims on the airplanes, taxpayers whose place of employment is in a disaster area, and taxpayers with records

maintained in a disaster area.

In addition, the agencies are providing relief to all taxpayers in the five boroughs of New York City declared disaster areas by the President. They are also providing relief to taxpayers located in Arlington County, Virginia, home of the Pentagon, which was also declared a disaster area.

In the aftermath of Sept. 11's tragedy, the IRS and Treasury want to assure taxpayers, businesses and tax practitioners that they are working aggressively to monitor the situation and resolve other potential tax administration

issues as they are identified.

Affected taxpayers who have an original filing deadline between Sept. 11 and Nov. 30 have an additional six months plus 120 days of time to file that return and make any payment due with that return. Taxpayers who are currently on an extension that expires between Sept. 11 and Nov. 30, will have an additional 120 days to file that return.

Affected individual taxpayers who face an estimated tax payment date on Sept. 17 may postpone that payment by including the amount with their final estimated payments for Tax Year 2001, which are due on Jan. 15, 2002.

Affected corporate taxpayers who face an estimated tax pay-

ment after Sept. 10 and before Jan. 15, 2002, may postpone that payment until Jan. 15, 2002.

In addition, for six months the IRS will suspend many enforcement activities — such as levies, seizures and summonses — for affected taxpayers.

Taxpayers who are entitled to the relief described above should add the following designation in red ink at the top of returns they file: "Sept. 11, 2001-Terrorist Attack." If they receive a notice from the IRS, they should contact the IRS as indicated on the notice to explain why they are entitled to relief.

Although the IRS cannot extend the deadline for employment or excise tax deposits, the IRS will provide relief for busi-

nesses unable to make these deposits because of the terrorist attacks. The IRS will waive penalties on tax deposits required to be made by these businesses between Sept. 11 and Oct. 31 if those deposits are made by Nov. 15.

The IRS will provide additional details on this relief in Notice 2001-61.

Due to the unprecedented scope and breadth of this tragedy, the agencies will continue to monitor the situation and may issue additional guidance as appropriate.

The entire Treasury family extends its prayers and sympathies to the families, friends, government workers and others affected by this attack.

Coping With The Financial Aftermath Of Terrorism

by Dr. Karen Ensle, RD, FADA, CFCs

AREA — The acts of terrorism on Sept. 11 have directly impacted the lives of thousands of Americans who have lost a loved one and indirectly affected us all. One of the areas of people's lives that has been affected is their personal finances:

- Some people lost a spouse or partner who provided all or part of their household's income.
- Some people, who worked in lower Manhattan and elsewhere (e.g., Midway Airlines) lost their jobs.
- Some people also lost their health insurance, as well as their job. If their employer no longer exists, they have no way to access group health insurance on their own through the federal COBRA law.
- Some people have incurred

unanticipated expenses for hotels and meals while stranded away from home during airport closings or costs for alternative methods of travel.

- All investors are affected by the impact of the terrorism upon financial markets.

Below is a list of financial tips during these difficult times or any other financial emergency:

Contact Your Creditors Immediately - If you will have difficulty paying your bills as a result of a loss of household income, let your creditors know now, before you become delinquent on bills. Tell them the circumstances that have caused you difficulty and negotiate for a reduced or delayed payment. Note the name of the person that you speak to and the date and follow up all phone calls in writing summarizing the agreed upon terms.

Apply For and Obtain Available Payments - This includes life insurance benefits, compensation payments announced by airlines and government agencies, and final payments from an employer.

Dust off Your Resume - Unfortunately, for many unemployed survivors, there will not be a severance pay. Their company no longer exists. Experts suggest developing a one-page resume that stresses job skills, rather than chronological dates of employment. If you have samples of your work available on the Internet, add the Web links so those employers can easily learn more about you online.

Sign up For Available Benefits - This includes state unemployment benefits and any other payments available to unemployed workers through their union or trade association.

Seek Alternative Health Insurance - Check if health insurance is available through a spouse's employer, union, or professional or trade association. Another source of coverage, for uninsured people who qualify by income and family size, is the NJ Family Care program. For additional information, call 1-800-701-0710 or check the

Web Site www.njfamilycare.org.

Reconstruct Records If Necessary - While some of the employers and financial firms that were affected in the World Trade Center collapse kept backup records at a secondary location, others did not. Workers whose employer no longer exists may need to organize and rely upon their own records to document their employment history or prove eligibility for benefits.

Reduce Discretionary Spending - This is the time to reduce household expenses until income stabilizes. Good candidates are "flexible" expenses such as food, transportation, and clothing.

Avoid Knee-Jerk Investment Decisions - An already volatile financial market before the acts of terrorism will undoubtedly become even more so as trading resumes. Remember that investing

is a long-term proposition and history tells us that there can be prolonged periods of declining stock prices. That is why stocks are not recommended for short-term (less than five-years away) financial goals. The stock market is very efficient and share prices generally reflect events such as this.

Budget For Unanticipated Expenses - Add the costs for alternative forms of transportation and other expenses to your household spending plan and adjust other items as need.

Reach Out For Financial (As Well as Emotional) Support - Many churches and community organizations are assisting victims of this terrible tragedy. Everyone in the country has been affected by this event in some way and the level of compassion and support is high.

Businesses Can E-Mail Disaster Questions

AREA — The Internal Revenue Service today activated an electronic mailbox to provide assistance and answers to business taxpayers affected by the

Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Businesses can send their questions to corp.disaster.relief@irs.gov.

"Because of the breadth and scope of the tragic events of Sept. 11, taxpayers face many questions," said IRS Commissioner Charles O. Rossotti. "Businesses can get the answers about extensions and other tax relief stemming from these disasters by e-mailing their questions to us."

The e-mail address was established to respond to questions businesses might have that were not addressed in the technical guidance — Notice 2001-61 and Notice 2001-63. The notices explain the extensions and other tax relief available to those affected by the terrorist attacks and are available at www.irs.gov.

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JERSEY CASH 5 ...1-10-20-29-35

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0824 \$3,260.50 \$135.50

JERSEY CASH 5 ...4-5-15-21-31

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4193 \$2,307.00 \$96.00

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0830 \$3,077.50 \$256.00

PICK SIX ...2-10-11-22-29-36

JERSEY CASH 5 ...1-4-7-8-16

YOUR SCHOOL NEWS**New High School Graduation Test To Be Given For First Time In 2001-02 School Year**

STATE — The new High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) will be administered as the graduation test of record to the state's eleventh-grade students for the first time in March 2002. The eleventh graders will have three opportunities to pass the HSPA to meet the graduation requirement. Students who do not pass the HSPA next March will have additional opportunities to be retested in the fall of 2002 and the spring of 2003. The HSPA will initially be administered in the subject areas of language arts literacy and mathematics. Additional subject

areas will be phased in over the next several years.

Also, the state's fifth- and eighth-grade students will, for the first time, take a test in social studies. Fifth graders will take the exam in Oct. of 2001, while the eighth graders will take the test in the spring of 2002. Both fourth- and eighth-grade students will continue to test in language arts literacy, science and math — the eighth graders in March of 2002 and the fourth graders in May 2002.

"I believe that our state's system of assessments is the most

important measure of accountability in our schools," said Commissioner of Education Vito A. Gagliardi, Sr. "We have worked very hard to craft rigorous academic standards that reflect what students ought to know and be able to do at the fourth-, eighth- and eleventh-grade levels, and we have worked diligently to link a rigorous system of assessments to our standards.

"I believe that this system of standards and assessments will provide our children with a world-class education that will prepare them for successful futures in col-

lege and the working world."

In the 2001-02 school year, the Department of Education will also for the first time disaggregate testing data. This will allow school districts to compare test performance within several demographic groups. The state will disaggregate data by race, gender, limited English proficient, special education and socio-economic group. The United States Department of Education requires that this information be produced. The data will allow school districts to analyze student performance so that curriculum and programs can be introduced that are designed to address deficiencies.

"This information will be a great help to school districts," said Jay Doolan, acting assistant

commissioner for Academic and Career Standards. "For the first time, gaps in performance within individual demographic groups can be addressed using hard data."

The new HSPA will be administered on March 5-7, 2002 for high school juniors. The HSPT will be administered from Oct. 2-4 for any retained juniors, seniors, adult high school, or returning students who still need to pass one or more sections of the HSPT 11.

The eighth-grade test (GEPA) will be administered from March 11-15, 2002 and the fourth-grade test (ESPA) will be administered from April 29-May 3, 2002. The social studies test for fifth graders will be given on Oct. 16, 2001.

Nominations Sought For Heroism Scholarship

AREA — The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA) is accepting applications and nominations for the 2002 Dana Christmas Scholarship for Heroism, which is designed to honor young New Jerseyans for exceptional acts of heroism.

Named after the Seton Hall University student who is credited with saving many lives during a dormitory fire at the school, the scholarship provides a one-time award of up to \$10,000 for up to five deserving recipients each year. Awards may be used at any eligible institution to pay for undergraduate or graduate education expenses. For any recipients who are not yet of college age, their funds will be held in escrow until they enroll in a postsecondary institution.

To be eligible for the schol-

arship, a recipient must be:

- a New Jersey resident (both at the time of the act of heroism and upon application);
- age of 21 or younger at the time of his or her heroic act; and
- a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen and registered with the Selective Service (if required).

How to Apply

Candidates must complete a scholarship application form and submit at least one supporting nomination to be considered for the award. HESAA will also accept nominations made on behalf of another individual; however, an application completed by the candidate is also required. The submission of supporting documentation such as newspaper articles is encouraged. The deadline for applications and nominations is Oct. 15. The application/nomination

form is available by calling HESAA's toll-free hotline (800) 792-8670 or may be obtained from colleges, high schools, fire and police departments.

Selections

Eligible candidates will be reviewed by a scholarship committee for selection of up to 10 semi-finalists. The Executive Committee of the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority Board will then select up to five recipients whose acts of heroism are deemed to be the most extraordinary as the final scholarship recipients. These individuals will be notified of their selection in writing and will be required to submit proof of enrollment at an eligible postsecondary institution before payment may be issued.

For questions or information, please call (800) 792-8670.

Local Students On Rensselaer Dean's List

AREA — Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute announced the students who made the Institute's dean's list for the spring semester. The dean's list recognizes full-time students who maintain grade-point averages of a minimum of 3.0 out of a possible 4.0

and have no grades below "C".

The following students from our area made the list: Carlos A. Arauz, a sophomore from Carteret, majoring in Undeclared Engineering; Thomas M. Smith, a senior from Metuchen, majoring in Computer Science.

University Of Scranton Dean's List

AREA — The University of Scranton has announced the Dean's List, which recognizes students for academic excellence, during the 2001 spring semester. A student must have a grade point average of 3.5 or better with a minimum number of credit hours to make the Dean's List. The list includes students from the College of Arts and Sciences, the Kania School of Management, the Panuska College of Professional Studies and Dexter Hanley College.

Area residents named to the Dean's List are:

Thomas J. Boychuk, Parlin, Freshman, Accounting; Sarah J. DeRollo, Metuchen, Junior, Secondary Education;

Allison L. Dunham, Sayreville, Senior, Early Childhood Education; Doreen M. Grzelak, Colonia, Senior, Accounting; Michael J. Hanley, Colonia, Senior, Criminal Justice; Lauren K.

Krulik, Edison, Freshman, Elementary Education; Deana M. Rackley, Edison, Senior, Marketing; and Meagan M. Ross, Edison, Junior, Physical Therapy.

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EDITORIAL

Readers Commentary



Testing Helps Teaching

by Jeanne Allen, President
The Center for Education
Reform

Congress isn't expected to come out with a final compromise over President Bush's education plan until September, and much of the disagreement centers around his proposal for annual tests, using the National Assessment of Educational Progress, or NAEP tests, as an "audit" of state standardized tests.

Opponents to using any national tests for any reason are an odd coalition of liberals and conservatives: Liberals seem opposed to anything with the word "test"; conservatives seem to oppose anything with the word "national." But on the basis of recent reports from around the country, it's clear that both need to put aside their opposition for the sake of our children.

There is a consensus that the NAEP exams are an accurate reflection of student achievement. And without a "national audit" of state tests by an accepted national tool, parents will be left to wonder whether their state's examination is a good one or not. Consider—

- * Mandatory annual testing was first proposed by Senator Robert Kennedy (D-NY) in 1965. It was then that he urged that the new Elementary and Secondary Education Act include a provision that districts report testing results to the federal government. Unfortunately, because it was left to districts to decide, it didn't work and according to historian Diane Ravitch, the tests were spotty and not consistently applied.

- * Having a national benchmark can reveal which standards work well and which do not: NAEP scores over the last decade reveal that in Virginia, where there is a rigorous set of Standards of Learning, the gap between high and low achievers has decreased. Meanwhile, in Maryland, where the curriculum and the tests trend more toward the "touchy-feely" constructivist approach, the gap between high and low performance has widened.

- * This phenomenon isn't new: Because of NAEP, we know that many state tests really do not tell us anything about

how our children are performing. Even as far back as 1997, there were massive differences between NAEP scores and the state tests. That year, parents in South Carolina were told that 82 percent of the students were passing, but when they looked at the NAEP exam they discovered that only 20 percent were meeting a rigorous standard. The same "credibility gap" existed for other states: In Louisiana, there was a 70 percent difference in seventh grade math exams.

State tests—and a national audit of those tests—are vital to educating students in high-poverty, inner city areas. Research shows that "A" students in high poverty schools test at about the same level as "C" or "D" students in wealthy communities. For children in low-performing schools, an intense focus on well-defined, measurable educational outcomes is long overdue. Without a standardized test, there will always be a concern of college admissions officers and employment counselors: that if a student went to school in Harlem, the grades are going to be inflated.

Perhaps Education Secretary Rod Paige said it best in response to the charge that students will be "tested to death": "That's a charge made by people who feel that testing is somehow external to teaching. But it isn't. It's the other side of the same coin. If you don't assess where you are, what the students have learned or not learned, you're teaching in the dark. That's analogous to driving at night without headlights. Do you ever hear anyone saying we're teaching them to death?"

The Center for Education Reform is a national, independent, non-profit advocacy organization providing support and guidance to individuals, community and civic groups, policy-makers and others who are working to bring fundamental reforms to their schools. For further information, call (202) 822-9000 or visit our website at <http://edreform.com>.



September 11, 2001 is a date that will live in infamy. The bright late summer day started like any other—and ended with nearly 7,000 innocent lives lost.

Up until that day we all knew we were Americans. But it wasn't until that day that we realized what it means to be an American. Being an American carries new weight in the aftermath of that terrible tragedy. It invokes a sense of pride, camaraderie, and purpose. I'm not simply talking about flag waving. I'm talking about the people who stood for hours to donate blood the very night of the attack -- all across the country. I'm talking about people who traveled from states as far away as California, when there was no easy plane ride from coast to coast, volunteering their services and talents in the search and recovery efforts at the World Trade Center in lower Manhattan. I'm talking about people who wrote out checks for the survivors of loved ones who died in the attack and subsequent building collapse. Fellow citizens -- neighbors -- they never knew. I'm talking about a country of people -- from different ethnic backgrounds, different religions, different economic classes, different political leanings -- pulling together at a time of need.

It is this commitment, this common bond of purpose through diversity, that shows the world what is the very best about America. Diversity is what sets us apart from the shadowy forces of hate that would do us harm.

Because of our diversity, we can cross boundaries that other countries and other cultures can't fathom. We can teach and learn from others in a mutually

Searching For Answers

Dear Editor,

I'm troubled by what seems to be easy access to the cockpit by hijackers.

How about letting pilot and crew on first? Tell pilots don't open cockpit door to anyone.

It seems the plane is surrendered to the hijackers on

request. At the first sign of trouble—land the plane immediately.

Have all the other planes that have been hijacked—surrendered to the hijackers so quickly?

Ed Pupek
Avenel

supportive effort to acquire a profound respect for the human condition. It has been said that if you gain a new language, you gain a new world. I believe the reverse also is true: If you lose a language, you lose a world.

The events of last week are now testing the strength of the cultural diversity in our community and our country. Some people, unfortunately, are lashing out at people who are -- or who appear to be -- of Middle Eastern descent. In Mesa, Arizona, an unidentified assailant shot and killed a man who had moved to the U.S. from India 10 years ago.

Other reports of physical and verbal harassment of people believed to be Middle Eastern are coming in from all parts of the country, including reports of fire bombings and the cruel harassment of children.

New Jersey has not been spared of such shame. Right next door in Mercer County, a 46-year-old man of Middle Eastern descent was threatened at knifepoint on Sunday while walking his 6-year-old son in their community of Hamilton Township.

Hate is the virus that infected the individuals who perpetrated the terror attacks at the World Trade Center and Pentagon last week. In the aftermath of those tragedies and the related airliner crash in western Pennsylvania, we will be the losers if we, in turn, surrender ourselves to the ugliness of hate.

This is perhaps the time of America's greatest challenge. We need to defeat the forces of evil and hate that would destroy us and our way of life. But in so doing we must never lose sight of the values that make us all Americans.

We must celebrate our diversity, not discourage it. We simply can't allow hate to invade and destroy us. Remember, where there is acceptance of

diversity, hate loses its stranglehold on humankind. Talk to your children about the importance of accepting different ideas, opinions, and religious convictions. And be forever mindful, that the only true long-term way to fight the cowardice of hate is with the courage of acceptance, human brotherhood, and global understanding. Let's keep this goal in mind.

May God bless all of you, and may God bless this land that we love so dearly.



Editorial Policy

The Atom Tabloid & Citizen ~ Gazette wants to hear from you. Letters to the editor will be published weekly on the editorial page, as space allows.

All letters should be typed and must include a daytime telephone number at which the writer may be reached for verification. Letters should be as concise as possible.

Letters to the editor must be in our office by noon Friday for consideration for publication the following week.

Keep us informed of your feelings and concerns so we can keep you better informed of the events that are affecting your life.

We also welcome guest columns that cover timely topics of interest to all of our readers. Columns should be no more than 500-750 words and should be typed.

The Atom Tabloid & Citizen ~ Gazette reserves the right to edit all letters and guest columns for grammar, spelling, length and questionable content.

Letters and columns may be mailed to: *The Atom Tabloid & Citizen ~ Gazette*, P.O. Box 1061, Rahway, NJ 07065. They also may be faxed to (732) 388-4143, Attn: Editor, or reach us via e-mail at editor@devinemedia.com.

First-Hand Account Of The Pentagon Attack And Its Aftermath

This is a letter written the day after the attack to Rear Admiral Mike McAfree by Lt. Chris Ludmer, USN who is Flag Lieutenant to Rear Admiral Donald J. Guter the Judge Advocate General of the United States Navy. It describes in detail the escape from the Pentagon.

As you already know by now, all of us in the front office made it out safely after [Sept. 11's] attack. I wanted to relate to you something of what we all experienced, from a first-hand perspective.

At 0900, Admirals Guter and Lohr, all the Aides and EAs, and several AJAGs were in Admiral Guter's office for the weekly AJAG meeting. We were discussing several issues, when word came in that the World Trade Center had been attacked. We turned on the TV in the Admiral's office and saw live the scene of horror as the second plane smashed into the South Tower. Everyone in the room let out a collective gasp, and stared in momentary disbelief. After coming to grips with what we were watching, Admiral Guter quickly took control of the meeting. While leaving the TV on, we moved to the next issue for discussion. Several minutes later, with a warm DC sun shining through the windows of what we all considered was the unassailable fortress of our defense establishment, a deafening explosion sounded. Just as we heard the loud crash, a shock wave ripped through the building, shaking the walls and jarring our bones where we sat. "We're under attack," and "We've been hit," were the first audible responses after a split second of stunned silence as our minds came to terms with what our bodies had just felt. What we were watching on TV in New York had just happened to us. The plane struck the opposite side from where our spaces are, and still we were battered around with tremendous force. That should give you an indication of the strength of the blast.

Immediately, the word spread through this massive complex to evacuate. We all left the office, calm mostly because we were still in shock over what was happening. For the most part, the evacuation was orderly. But we heard shouts and screams, voices shouting "Oh my God!" and "Get the hell out! Out! Out!" Panic was spreading through some, many running in all directions through the corridors. One area of the building had lost power, was dark, and black with choking smoke. Most of the fires, and collapsing ceilings and bulkheads were carried through. Balls of flame

and swarms of debris shot through rings E, D and C at the affected area, tearing through bulkheads, people, and even the spirits of those anywhere in the building.

Through the mass of bodies, pressing against each other from every direction, I found my Admiral up ahead. We had been separated by the sweeping current of blues, greens and khakis. Fighting through the press, I reached him. He was calm and resolved. As we headed down the ladder well from the 5th deck, he told me to make sure we had everyone out. We had. We finally made it outside, through the river entrance. Crossing the grass yard with thousands of others, we felt the warm sun and saw ahead of us the gleaming white of the Washington Monument across the Potomac. Turning around, I looked upon a war zone.

Thousands were still pouring out of the building. From our angle, it seemed half the building was throwing huge clouds of black smoke into the air, covering much of the sky. After staring at our burning building for a few minutes, it was really setting in that we had been attacked. My mind thought of the trip to Pearl Harbor a few short weeks ago, and our tour of the Arizona Memorial. Was this what those sailors had felt on that day—the shock, confusion, surprise, and then horror at the slow realization that they had been attacked suddenly and without warning? I didn't know, but I imagined it must have been somewhat similar. The crowd assembled stared aghast...the shock was fast turning to anger and a temporarily impotent desire for vengeance.

The soldiers and sailors were running past the throng, shouting for doctors, medics and corpsmen. They had turned the North entrance into a morgue, triage, and temporary care facility for the injured. There were many of them. Shortly after the call for medical help went out, word spread that another plane was detected headed straight for the Pentagon. The ETA was 10 minutes. Just as the World Trade Center was hit twice, so were we to be, it seemed. We were too close to the building. Orders were passed to get even farther away.

In a scene from a movie, literally thousands of Navy, Marine, Air Force and Army officers and enlisted ran from the building grounds, hopping bushes and low walls, jumping down steps two and three at a time. Along the river the hill slopes down away from the Pentagon, and it was there, in that natural trench, that

thousands threw themselves, hitting the dirt and laying down...taking cover from the imminent second attack. Just as some were screaming, "Why do we have no air cover!?" F-16 fighters out of Andrews AFB, their wings visibly packed with missiles, screamed overhead. They flew in circles over the Pentagon and the District, with word, we were told, to shoot down any airliner that came into the area, no matter how many were onboard. I looked up and thought, this indeed was war...Thousands of my fellow citizens were dead in New York, my headquarters was burning and collapsing in smoke and rubble before my eyes and jet fighters were flying combat air cover over our capital for the first time in history. I myself saw two people collapse outside from apparent heart attacks as we took cover and awaited the imminent second attack. Thankfully, it never came. Personally, I suspect that the plane that crashed outside of Pittsburgh was headed not for Camp David, as the press had speculated, but for us at the Pentagon.

Sirens from police cars, fire engines, and ambulances screamed everywhere. Helicopters, military and police, filled the sky overhead and deafened our ears. Buses packed with medical personnel brought in from Bethesda and Walter Reed skidded around armed barricades and raced to the center of the carnage. We ran into RADM Craig Quigley, the Pentagon spokesman, and he stuck with us for a while. He was as confused as the rest as to what was happening. Dozens of us surrounded a man who had a portable radio, thirsting for any news as to what was going on. A report came through, later contradicted, that the State Department and the Treasury had also been hit. No one knew what was going to happen next, or when the attacks might end. We were gathered outside the Pentagon, watching it burn, still felling the shock of the blast, and we felt impotent. No one knew what to do. We could only make sure others were safe, help those who were injured, and rage inwardly, pining for a deadly retribution. We had somehow survived a sneak attack while too many others working very close to us had paid with their lives. We would never be the same.

Late [that] night, Admiral Guter called me at home. His message was simple. "Chris, we're going in tomorrow." "Aye, Sir," I said. We sent the message to the rest of our troops. My apartment building is only a few blocks from the Pentagon, and I walk

here to work everyday. This morning, (Sept. 12) at 0545, in the same uniform I had worn when we were attacked, I headed across the street to my office. Parts of the building were still burning, smoke billowing upward in the pre-dawn hour. Police, military and civilian were everywhere, letting no one near the building without a Pentagon pass. But DOD workers, military and civilian, were heading in. We were sending a message... "You will not frighten us; you will not stop us no matter what you do."

Passing through security, I entered the south entrance of the building. Smoke and black soot were everywhere, a cloud choking me as I passed through. I walked through the NATO corridor, the end of which I could not see through the smoke. But I was not alone. Others were walking in alongside me, faces grim with determination. No one spoke, no one laughed. Only the echo of footsteps on the ash-covered floors could be heard throughout.

Passing through SECDEF corridor, the smoke cleared. I could see through the windows into the inner courtyard, jokingly referred to as "Ground Zero." It was no longer a joke, but had become reality. I stopped in my tracks and stared. Fire engines were in the courtyard. Smoke was still pouring off the roof and fires still burned on the opposite side. The

grassy areas of the courtyard were being turned into makeshift morgues, body bags covering the lawns under the trees laid out in rows like at the national cemetery not far away. They weren't full, but were obviously ready for what the rescue crews would find in our building once the collapsed wreckage was cleared away. All along the walk to our office, corridors were covered in black ash and cordoned off with yellow police tape. But I am here in our spaces, as is the entire front office. We smell smoke, we have soot all around, and firemen are yelling at us to leave, but we are here for now. It is amazing that we have power in our part of the building. I want to please Sir, ask you to pass on my thanks for all my friends down there who called my home and left messages for me yesterday. I could not return all the calls, and the phone lines in the area are still jammed and not working properly.

Please thank everyone for their concern and prayers. May God be with those who yesterday and today gave their lives in this, America's latest war.

Chris Ludmer Lt., JAGC, USNR Aide & Flag Lieutenant to the Judge Advocate General

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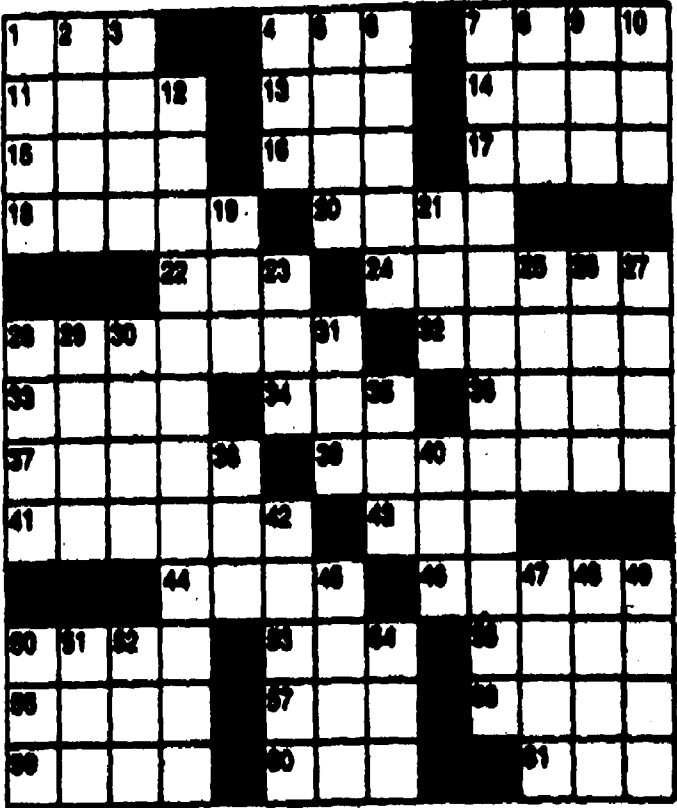
Comics & Puzzles

THE SPATS



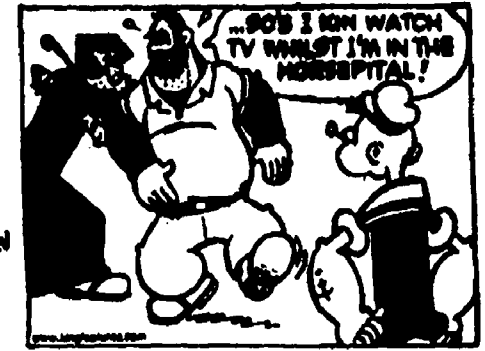
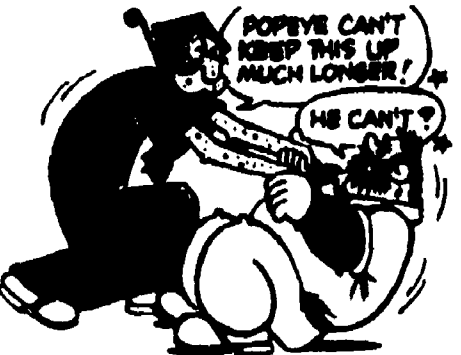
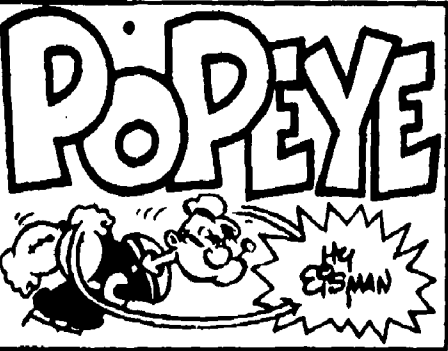
by JEFF PICKERING

- ACROSS
- 1 Chartres chum
 - 4 Bonfire
 - 7 Radar screen flash
 - 11 "Pow!"
 - 13 Swollen head
 - 14 Pinetube flow
 - 15 Draw on glass
 - 16 Marshy area
 - 17 Toted due
 - 18 U.S. resort lake
 - 20 Auto financing co.
 - 22 "No seats" sign
 - 24 Acid neutralizer
 - 28 Scoundrel
 - 32 Dogpatch lad
 - 33 Bedouin
 - 34 Clear the tables
 - 36 The - Reader
 - 37 Visitors' hand-outs
 - 39 Sad-faced hounds
 - 41 Got at least a D
 - 43 Oscar Wilde's sine qua non
 - 44 Maryland athletes, for short
 - 46 Go by him
 - 50 Total receipts
 - 53 Branch of math
 - 55 Paris or Bonheur
 - 56 Addict
 - 57 Bit of wordplay
 - 58 Witnessed
 - 59 Resorts
 - 60 Ostrich's kin



- DOWN
- 1 Help a hand
 - 2 - Mari
 - 3 Part of a foot
 - 4 Symbol of intrigue
 - 5 Head over heels
 - 6 Prescribed - doctrine
 - 7 Big hit
 - 8 Ramble
 - 9 " - Got a Secret" work
 - 10 Zoroaster review
 - 12 "Paranormal investigators"
 - 19 Koushi stat.
 - 21 Wing
 - 23 Sphere
 - 25 Chip in a chip
 - 26 Imparted for a time
 - 27 Angers
 - 28 Moist
 - 29 Vicinity
 - 30 Without
 - 31 Do soundtrack
 - 35 Aphorism
 - 38 Bishopric
 - 40 Try the lemonade
 - 42 Window cover
 - 45 Jack Horner's reward
 - 47 Accomplishes
 - 48 Cruising
 - 49 Settle down
 - 50 Retirement
 - 51 One's slayer
 - 52 " - With Mussolini"
 - 54 Whitehead

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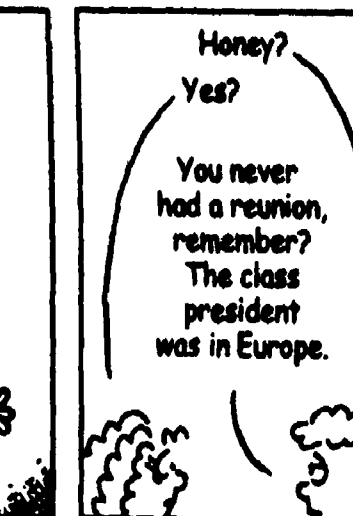
AMBER WAVES

by DAVE T. PHIPPS



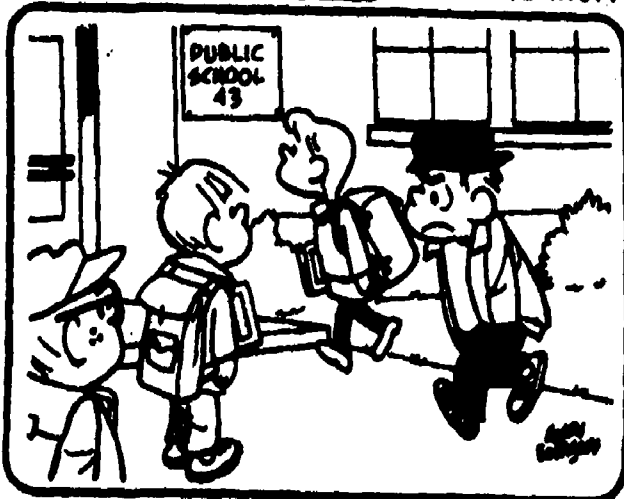
GOT A LIFE

by TERRI DAVIS

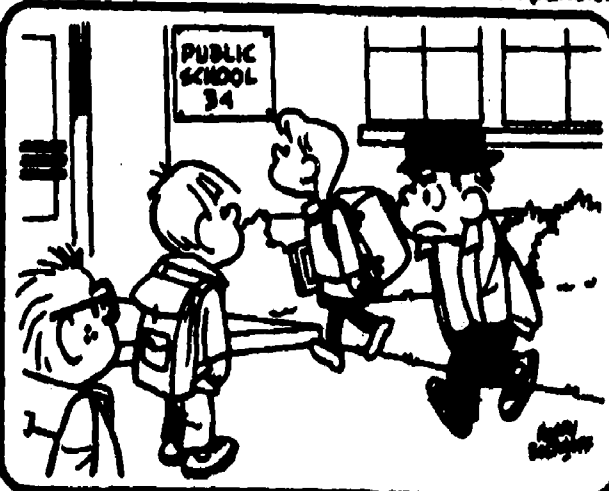


HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. School number is different. 2. Hat is missing. 3. Door has three bars. 4. Bush has been added. 5. Shirt has ruffles. 6. Boy's book is missing.

ASSOCIATED WITH THE MAGIC MAZE ● HANDS

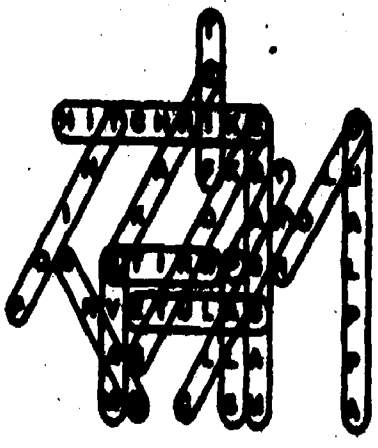
E I G C Z W T Q N J G D A X U
R O L J G D A X V S P N K I F
C A X V S Q O L T J H E C A X
V T R P N L J H S F D B Y P X
V T H I T C H H I K E R P A D
O M K N I G A E F K G T D L U
B Z I X W K U T O R A P O C A
Q O G O B T I R W P S H N L L
P J I R V E T U L A S G F D P
C A Y X A S W V L L A T S R P
P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

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

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------|--------|--------|
| Applaud | Hitchhike | Point | Stroke |
| Cleap | Hold | Salute | Wave |
| Fiat | Massage | Shake | Wipe |
| Grab | Pat | Step | |

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to Puzzles



OBITUARIES

**Adolph Bratyanski
of Perth Amboy**

Mr. Adolph Bratyanski of Toms River (formerly of Perth Amboy) died September 1 at St. Francis Medical Center, Trenton. He was 79.

Born in Perth Amboy, he lived there for most of his life before moving to Toms River in 1998.

He served in the Marine Corps during World War II in the Pacific, taking part in the Battle of Iwo Jima.

He retired in 1974 after more than 25 years with the Perth Amboy Police Department. He worked with the force as a detective with the Identification Bureau. He was a member of the Police Benevolent Association Local 13, Perth Amboy.

Mr. Bratyanski was a parishioner of St. Stephen's R.C. Church, Perth Amboy, and was an usher at the church, a member of its Holy Name Society and a member of St. Stephen's Seniors.

Five sisters, Cecelia Witek, Eleanor Grege, Florence Mazurek, Frances Gilewski and Frances Bratyanski, are all deceased.

Surviving are his wife of 55 years, Frances; two sons, Timothy of Edison and Ron of Garfield; two daughters, Janice Mauroff of Burlington and Doris Bratyanski of Guttenberg; and five grandchildren.

**Rose Parente, 77
of Fords**

Mrs. Rose (Cavallo) Parente of Fords died September 4 at Haven Hospice at JFK Medical Center, Edison. She was 77.

Born in Staten Island, N.Y., she lived on Staten Island before moving to Fords 46 years ago.

She was a saleswoman for 25 years, employed by Lerner Shops, Perth Amboy.

Mrs. Parente was a communicant of Our Lady of Peace R.C. Church, Fords.

She was a member of the Fords Women's Club and the Fords-Keasbey Seniors.

Surviving are her husband of 55 years, Gastano Parente of Fords; two sons, Stephen Parente, also of Fords and Thomas Parente of Medford; a daughter, Susan Izzo of North Plainfield; four grandchildren, Melissa, Angela, Stephen Jr. and Nicholas; a sister, Mary Rakowski of Staten Island and a brother, Joseph Cavallo, also of Staten Island.

**William Raji, 57
of Perth Amboy**

Mr. William J. "Willie" Raji of Perth Amboy died September 1 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy Division. He was 57.

He was a lifelong resident of Perth Amboy.

He was a truck driver for the past 34 years.

Mr. Raji was a former chief of the Perth Amboy Volunteer Fire Department, twice, serving from 1983-86 and again from 1994-97. He began his service with Lincoln Engine Company No. 1, where he was a life member and then with McClellan Engine Company No. 3.

He was a member of the Perth Amboy Exempt Firemen's Association, the Perth Amboy Fireman's Relief Association and the Perth Amboy Firemen's Parade Committee.

He was the president of the Middlesex County Exempt Firemen's Association and financial secretary of the New Jersey Volunteer Fire Chief's Association.

Mr. Raji was also a life member of the New Jersey Firemen's Relief Association and the Central New Jersey Volunteer Chief's Association.

He was a communicant of Holy Spirit R.C. Church, Perth Amboy and a member of the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge 1360, also in Perth Amboy.

A brother, Ronald Raji, died in May of this year.

Surviving are his wife, Eileen (Kennedy) Raji; a son, Perth Amboy Police Officer Thomas Raji of Perth Amboy; a sister, Rose Michaels of Sayreville; and a brother, Richard Raji of Edison.

**Clair Jakubczak, 83
of South Amboy**

Mrs. Clair Flynn Jakubczak of South Amboy died September 12 at Madison Center, Old Bridge. She was 83.

Born in South Amboy, she lived there all her life.

Her husband, Edward Jakubczak, died in 1977. A daughter, Arlene Treptow, died in 1999.

Surviving are two daughters, Edwina M. DeMatteo of Boynton Beach, Fla. and Joanne Jakubczak of Sayreville; a sister, Evelyn Freeman of South Amboy; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

George L. Gumbs of Edison

Mr. George Lionel Gumbs of Edison (and Anguilla, West Indies) died September 1 at Haven Hospice at JFK Medical Center, Edison. He was 81.

Born in Anguilla, West Indies, he came to Perth Amboy as a 10-year-old. He moved to Metuchen in 1955. For the past 20 years, he lived part of each year at residences in Anguilla and Edison.

He was a maintenance man with Celotex, Perth Amboy for more than 35 years, retiring in 1985.

He graduated in 1939 from Perth Amboy High School and earned a diploma in music composition from the Chicago Conservatory of Music.

He was a member of the Perth Amboy Chapter of American Federation of Musicians, the Perth Amboy chapter of the Anguilla Improvement Association and St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Perth Amboy.

His parents, William and Edith (Richardson) Gumbs, a brother, Samuel G. Gumbs, and a sister, Daisy Viola Gumbs.

Surviving are his wife of 55

years, Pauline Elizabeth Higginbotham Gumbs; three daughters, Monica Gumbs Bryant, Margarita G. Gumbs and Denise "Niese" Gumbs, all of Edison; two sons, Jazz Myron and Curtis Martin Gumbs, both of Perth Amboy; three brothers, William N. Gumbs of Cliffwood, Austin E. Gumbs and Franklin R. Gumbs, both of Perth Amboy; a granddaughter, Chenille Gumbs of New Brunswick; nine nieces, Gladys Connor and Beatrice Best, both of Cliffwood, Joycelyn Alsop of Metuchen, Frieda Thomas of Madison Heights, Va., Vanessa and Tacoma Higginbotham, both of Amherst, Va., Maggie Koroma of Clanton, Ala., Jasmine Bridgewater of Boston, Mass., and Geraldine Dillard of Perth Amboy; four nephews, Andre, Ashley and Tracey Higginbotham, all of Amherst, Va. and William Bridgewater of Clanton, Ala.; two grandnephews, Sean Gumbs of Old Bridge and Ian Alsop of Metuchen and a host of family and friends.

**K. Jude Gardiner
of Woodbridge**

Miss K. Jude Gardiner of Woodbridge died September 5 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick. She was 55.

Born in Perth Amboy, she was a lifelong resident of Woodbridge.

She was employed for the past 10 years as a teacher's aide at the CPC Highpoint School, Morganville. Previously, she was employed as a hairdresser at the Headhunters Salon in South Amboy.

Miss Gardiner was a volunteer for over 25 years with the Hand in Hand Program and also ran a dance program for the mentally challenged at the Evergreen Center, Colonia, for the past 10 years.

She served on the Woodbridge Township Arts Commission at the Barron Arts Center.

Miss Gardiner was a parishioner of St. James R.C. Church, Woodbridge.

Her father, William, died in 1987.

Surviving are her mother, Kathryn (Campion) Gardiner of Woodbridge; a sister, Mary Boccuzzi of Toms River and two nephews, John and James Boccuzzi, both of Toms River.

**Martin G. Gall
of Woodbridge**

Mr. Martin G. Gall of Woodbridge died September 3 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy Division.

Born in Woodbridge, he lived there all his life.

He was employed for over 25 years as a supervisor of statistical typists at Arthur Andersen and Co., Newark, before retiring in 1985.

Mr. Gall was a parishioner of St. James R.C. Church, Woodbridge.

Surviving are a sister, Eleanor Kushner of Woodbridge; a brother and sister-in-law, James R. and Joan Kushner of Bradenton, Fla. and a niece and nephew, Pamela and Robert Kushner.

**George Rowbotham
of Iselin**

Mr. George W. Rowbotham of Iselin died September 3 at home. He was 65.

Born in Newark, he lived in East Orange before moving to Iselin 37 years ago.

He was a commercial roofer with union Local 4, Newark, for 20 years before retiring in 1983.

Mr. Rowbotham was an Army veteran of the Korean War. He was a member of the American Legion of Iselin and the National Rifle Association.

A brother, Richard, died in 1999.

Surviving are his wife, Amelia (Marra) Rowbotham; a son, Stephen of Old Bridge; a stepson, Angelo Caso of Sarasota, Fla.; a stepdaughter, Linda Beninato of Clairmont, Fla.; a brother, Robert of Montclair; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

MID-DAY "HOUR OF POWER"



**WEDNESDAYS
12:05 NOON**

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God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in
my necessity. Oh, Star of the Sea, help
me and show me, herein you are my
mother. Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of
God, Queen of Heaven and earth I
humbly beseech you from the bottom of
my heart to assist me in this necessity.
There are none that can withstand your
power. Oh, show me herein you are my
mother. Oh, Mary, conceived without
sin, pray for us who have recourse to
you (3x). Holy Mother, I place this
candle in your hands (3x). Holy Spirit,
who solve all problems, light all
roads so that I can attain my goal. You
who gave me the divine gift to forgive
and forget all evil against me and that in
all instances in my life you are with me.
I want in this short prayer to thank You
for all things as you confirm once again
that I never want to be separated from
You in eternal glory. Thank You for
Your mercy towards me and mine.
The person must say this prayer 3
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L.I.

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Finding The Disclosures In "Free" Internet Service Offers

AREA—You've probably seen the ads for "free" Internet service trial periods. Maybe you've even received a CD-ROM in the mail that promises hundreds of hours of free Internet service.

If you're in the market for Internet service, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) wants you to know that some "free" offers may end up being high cost, long-term items. That's because important restrictions and conditions on these offers are not always disclosed clearly or conspicuously.

Most offers for "free" Internet service are valid for only one month. At the end of the "free" month, many providers automatically sign you up for their service, unless you cancel at the end of the free month. Unfortunately, you may not know that you have to cancel because some service providers hide this information—or don't tell you how to cancel should you want to.

Costs add up in other ways, too. For example, if you sign up for service and the Internet service provider (ISP) doesn't offer a local phone number for you to dial in to, you'll have to pay long distance telephone charges to access the Internet. Some ISPs offer a "toll free" (800, 888 or 877) number to connect to the Internet. The FTC has found that some consumers have been charged five or six dollars an hour to use a "toll free" number.

FTC officials caution consumers to ask the ISP some key questions about their service and related conditions before using any "free" offers.

- Does the free access to the Internet last longer than one month? Offers for an advertised 500 free hours of Internet service

in one month would require you to be online for more than 16 hours a day to use all the free hours in a month.

- When does the one month of free service start? When you sign up? When you start using the service?

- Does the ISP automatically subscribe you to their service at the end of the free trial period? Do you have to cancel before the end of the free trial period to avoid being charged for service?

- How do you cancel service? Can you cancel online or by calling the service provider's phone number?

- Is there a local phone number for you to use to access the Internet? When you get the number to dial from the ISP, ask your local phone company if it's a local or long distance number. Make sure the back-up phone number you choose is local, too. If you have to call long distance for Internet service, chances are you will rack up big charges.

- If you sign up for service, are you committing to paying for the service for a year? Longer? Some ISPs require you to agree to pay for their service for at least one year and may charge a fee to cancel the service before your subscription has ended.

- If you sign up for service, when are you billed each month? If you decide to cancel service, you may want to do so before your billing date so you don't incur a monthly charge for service you don't plan to use. Remember that ISPs bill you before you use the service.

- If you cancel your service, does the ISP send you a notice? Get verification (e.g., cancellation number, email or letter) that your

account has been canceled and check your next credit card statement to make sure you aren't still being billed by the ISP.

If you think you've been misled about an offer of free Internet service, contact the Federal Trade Commission. The FTC works for the consumer to prevent fraud-

ulent, deceptive and unfair business practices in the marketplace and to provide information to help consumers spot, stop and avoid them. To file a complaint, or to get free information on any of 150 consumer topics, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357) or use the complaint form at

www.ftc.gov. The FTC enters Internet, telemarketing, identity theft and other fraud-related complaints into Consumer Sentinel, a secure, online database available to hundreds of civil and criminal law enforcement agencies in the U.S. and abroad.

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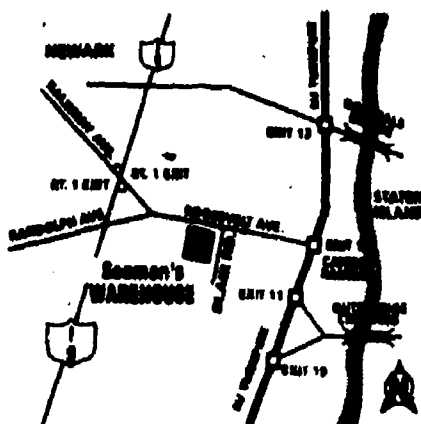
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2. South US 1-9 to Rahway Ave., go 2 lights, left on Randolph Ave. (which becomes Roosevelt Ave). Make right onto Blair Rd.

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