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VOL. 129, NO. 15

Friday, April 13, 2001

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

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Middlesex County 504 Entine

TOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

**5-DIGIT 03878 SOUTHAW

00879 Dowaell Library 2nd & N. Stevens Av. South Amboy (**) 03 State Invests in Downtown SOUTH AMBOY - Officials Tuesday unveiled plans to make sure the downtown Broatlway area

does not fall behind as the massive

waterfront redevelopment plan moves forward.

Mayor John T. O'Leary said the state has awarded the city \$525,000 over five years for redevelopment efforts specific to the central business district, known as the Downtown Broadway Neigh-borhood Preservation District.

"The area includes all the streets east of the railroad tracks and what we call the '200 block' of the Second Ward, which is the ward to the west of Broadway," said Stanley Marcinczyk, city administrator.

While much attention has centered on massive plans to revitalize the city's waterfront area, city officials are committed to

"From the very beginning, it was always the intention to have Broadway remain the hub of all of our activities," said Marcinczyk.

"We are not interested in massive shopping centers, said Marcinczyk. "Our vacancy rate on Broadway has gone from about 40% occupied five years ago to somewhere between 80 and 85 percent occupies right now."

Street paving and repairs, curb and sidewalk contruction, tree planting are among chief priorities expressed by residents in a series of three neighborhood meetings.

Those sessions were used to construct the grant application which was approved by the state Department of Community Affairs

Camile Tooker has been named to spreahead the neighborhood preservation program.

Marcinczyk said Tooker is a O'Leary Boulevard. longtime resident who has substial banking experience which will serve to enable the program to coordinate citizen's efforts to improve their own properties.

Tooker will work with area residents and banks to coordinate funding for additional redevelopment activites.

"Camile has a firm grasp of the redevelopment activities in the City of South Amboy and has been actively involved with community organizations for a long time," said Marcinczyk.

South Amboy is beginning to see the results of an ongoing \$50 milhon-plus redevelopment.

Construction should begin in late summer or early fall on a recreation center with a gymnasium and swimming pool that will be built on

SeaStreak America Inc. is expected to begin shuttling commuters between the city and midtown Manhattan on two ferry boats by late summer.

Construction has already started on the Lighthouse Bay development along the Raritan Bay.

That project, which will create 185 Victorian-style homes, is being developed by Baker Residential of Pleasantville, N.Y.

A full-service marine is also planned and NJ Transit has committed to an \$18 million upgrade of the South Amboy train station.

The state grant will provide \$25,000 to launch the local program and \$100,000 for operations each year. In addition, Tooker's office will seek additional resources for other improvements.

Edison Mom Walks To Give Thanks to Marck of Dimes

EDISON—Dawn Trimpert of Edison has a very good reason for supporting the upcoming March of Dimes WalkAmerica. Her name is Haley and she is only five-years-old.

Dawn and Haley have experienced first hand the mission of the March of Dimes.

Haley and Dawn, together with Dawn's fellow employees at Chanel, will walk in March of Dimes WalkAmerica on Sunday, April 29 at Rutgers Louis Brown Athletic Center, Piscataway to raise funds for research to save newborns.

Haley was born March 25, 1996 at St. Peter's University Hospital. While Dawn was in labor, Haley's heart rate dropped down to a dangerous level, so Dawn had to have an emergency cesarean section.

Weighing 6 pounds, 8 ounces at birth, Haley appeared to be perfectly healthy. Everything was proceeding normally until Haley's fourth day of life.

"While I was nursing her she suddenly began to turn blue!" recalled Dawn. "I thought she was choking, so I screamed for my husband to get a nurse."

Haley was transferred to the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) where she received 24hour monitoring and care.

"I was out of my mind, crying, wondering, and praying and suffering from severe postpartum depression," said Dawn.

After several days, it was discovered that Haley was suffering from a serious condition, called central apnea, which makes normal breathing impossible when the medulla in the brian has not fully developed.

"I had to wait and pray day after day that my daughter would be okay. I was a complete wreck," said Dawn.

At each feeding, Haley would stop breathing.

Today, Haley is a completely healthy and active five-year-old who attends pre-school, loves to sing, and enjoys riding her bike.

"My daughter would not be here" except for care made possible through the March of Dimes, said Dawn.



For more information or to register for WalkAmerica, contact (609) 655-7400 or view the website at www.modimes.org.



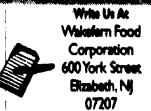




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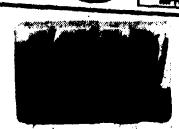








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YOUR COUNTY NEWS

Caldwell College **Names Dean's List**

MIDDLESEX COUNTY -Caldwell College recently named 178 students to the fall 2000 Dean's list, according to Paul Doulillard, Ph.D., of Randolph, vice president and dean for academic affairs. In order to achieve this honor, students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher and complete at least 12 credits during the semester. There were 56 seniors. 47 juniors, 30 sophomores and 45 freshmen named to the Dean's List.

The following Middlesex County residents were named to the Dean's list: junior Kristin Blahuta and sophomore Eden Woredekal of Edison, juniors Lora Bucior of Perth Amboy, Jodi Linfante of Old Bridge, Stephanie Little of East Brunswick, Barbara Stilwell of Woodbridge, Jeffory Wishbow of ivliddlesex and freshmen Jennifer Cordisdeo of Piscataway and Theresa Lamastro of South Plainfield.

St. Joe's Class Of 1961 Rounion Set

CARTERET — If anyone out there knows where to find any of our 8th Grade classmates, please pass on the date (June 9, 2001) and the place (Reunite's, 835 Roosevelt Ave.).

Let us know if there are any questions, suggestions, comments, or if you have any leads on anyone. We still have 50 MIAs. Some names are: Kevin Miller, Tony Musco, Bob Sabo, Paula Devitt, Nancy Page, Bernie Phillips, and Dolores Fago.

Please reply to Judi (Meyers) Roberts, e-mail: robtz@juno .com.

TABLOID TABLOID

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dificutions must be made in writing within one week of publication.

Area Students Invited To Participate In Design Contest

ISELIN — Attention All Young Artists! Middlesex Water Company is inviting fourth, fifth and sixth grade students, in its service area, to design a T-Shirt celebrating water. The Company sponsors a contest for children each year to enhance awareness and appreciation for tap water...a precious natural resource.

Students in grades 4, 5 and 6 are invited to submit a T-shirt design (on paper) on one of two themes 1) Water...the Liquid of Life or 2) Water...Every Drop Counts!

Caldwell College Doom's List

AREA—Caldwell College recently named 178 students to the fail 2000 Dean's List, according to Paul Douillard, Ph.D., of Randolph, vice president and dean for academic affairs. In order to achieve this honor, students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher and complete at least 12 credits during the semester. There were 56 seniors, 47 juniors, 30 sophomores and 45 freshmen named to the Dean's List.

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& Citizen~Gazette

To participate, students must request and submit a contest entry form. Students are to draw their design on the actual contest entry form. Contest forms may be obtained by calling Middlesex Water Company's External

Affairs Dept. at (732) 634-1500.

Contest entries will be judged on neatness, originality, creativity and use of color. The student's name, grade, school name, school address and phone number should be printed on the back of the entry form. All entries must be postmarked by April 18. Six winners will be awarded \$100 U.S. Savings Bonds. Winners, accompanied by their parents and/or teacher, will be presented their awards at the Company's annual luncheon on May 9 in observance of Drinking Water Week, May 6-12.

All entries should be mailed to: Middlesex Water Company, "T-Shirt Contest," 1500 Ronson Road, Iselin, N.J. 08830. For more information, call (732) 634-1500.

Middlesex Water is a water utility that provides water service to a population of more than 300,000 in Middlesex and The Monmouth Counties. Company has been collecting, treating and distributing water since its founding in 1897.

April Is Addiction Awareness Month

MIDDLESEX COUNTY -Freeholder Director David B. Crabiel, recently proclaimed April is Addiction Awareness Month in Middlesex County and joined a national campaign to bring attention to an important issue with a focus on youth. Hundreds of communities across the country will participate in this grassroots effort to recognize and encourage teen efforts to remain free of alcohol and other drugs.

"Young teens are particularly vulnerable, with peer pressure and easy access to alcohol,

tobacco, and other drugs," said Steven G. Liga, Executive Director of the National Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependence (NCADD) of Middlesex County, Inc. "Children are starting to use alcohol at age 13 and marijuana at 14," he continued. According to the Centers for Disease Control, use of alcohol and other drugs is associated with the leading causes of death and injury (e.g., motor vehicle crashes, homicides, and suicides) among teenagers and

(continued on page...5)

10° OF



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YOUR AREA & STATE NEWS

Join Hadassah's Speaker Club

AREA-Chug Ivrit (Hebrew speaker's club) sponsored by Raritan Valley Chapter of Hadassah, will meet Sunday, April 29 at 10:15 a.m. at a private residence in the Highland Park area. This group is for intermediate to advanced Hebrew speakers and is free and open to the public (both male and female). We chat in Hebrew and read a short photocopied article.

For more info, contact Rachel Weintraub at (732) 819-9298 or e-mail rachelw@ eclipse.net.

Receive Ten Free Shade Trees

AREA—Ten free shade trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation during April 2001 as part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

The ten shade trees are Red Oak, Sugar Maple, Weeping Willow, Green Ash, Thornless Honeylocust, Pin Oak, River Birch, Tuliptree, Silver Maple, and Red Maple.

"These trees were selected to provide shade and beauty and a variety of forms, leaf shapes, and beautiful fall colors," John Rosenow, the Foundation's president, said.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting in April or May with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

To become a member of the Foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to Ten Free Shade Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68401 by April 30.

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OCAL 7-DAY FORECAST

Thursday Frequent

showers;

breezy.

55

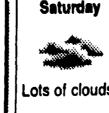
THE WEEK AHEAD...

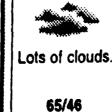
Temperatures

Thu. night Cloudy and windy.



68/46



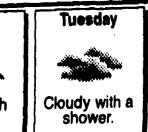




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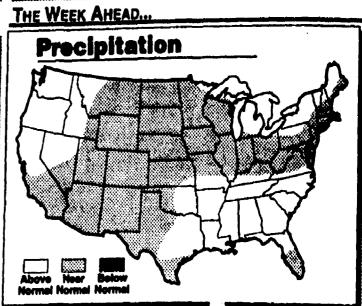
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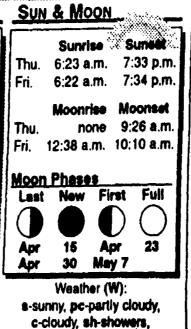
52/35

NATIONAL SUMMARY

The storm track will shift towards the southern half of the nation during the period. As a result, precipitation will average above normal across the southern Plains and Southeast. Cool air will spread across the Great Lakes and Northeast. Meanwhile, stormy weather will move into the Pacific Northwest. Warm air will surge northward into the Rocky Mountains and western Plains.

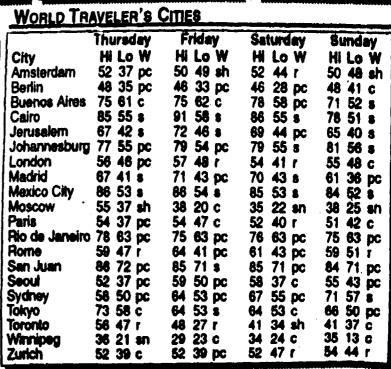


U.S. TRAVELER'S CITIES						
	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday		
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Boston	50 39 pc	56 42 r	58 43 c	56 37 c		
Chicago	62 44 t	56 38 c	56 40 c	59 36 c		
Cleveland	68 48 sh	58 38 c	56 40 pc	58 42 c		
Denver	56 32 pc	60 32 pc	64 34 pc	64 34 pc		
Des Moines	58 40 c	57 40 c	63 40 c	58 39 c		
Detroit	64 48 t	56 36 c	55 41 c	59 39 c		
Houston	82 64 pc	80 66 c	78 66 c	80 68 c		
Indianapolis	71 50 c	65 43 c	63 44 c	64 41 c		
Kansas City	64 44 C	63 45 c	64 46 c	64 42 c		
Los Angeles	65 46 pc	68 45 s	70 46 s	70 39 pc		
Miami	86 74 s	87 75 pc	87 73 s	85 70 pc		
Minn St. Paul	1 52 36 r	50 34 c	54 36 c	56 38 C		
New Orleans	84 71 pc	83 68 c	82 65 c	82 65 s		
New York City	54 48 c	64 48 sh	64 48 pc	62 44 C		
Omaha	55 35 c	59 40 c	64 40 c	60 40 c		
Phoenix	76 54 s	82 56 s	86 60 s	90 62 s		
San Francisco	58 46 pc	59 46 pc	59 46 pc	59 41 pc		
	54 40 c	54 40 sh	56 41 c	56 41 c		
Washington	64 54 sh	70 52 c	70 50 pc	66 54 C		



t-thunderstorms, r-rain

sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, 1-ice.







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YOUR LOCAL NEWS

Indian Cultural Festival

WOODBRIDGE-Join us for the dance/drama: "India: India The Eternal" presented by Manjari: School of Performing Arts. There will be folk songs. costumes and regional expressions of contemporary India.

There will be foods of India to

sample and enjoy on May 6 at 1:30 p.m. at the Woodbridge Main Library, George Frederick Plaza, Woodbridge. It is free and open to the public.

This event is sponsored by The Friends of the libraries of Woodbridge Township.

Sayreville Woman Honored As

Deputy Minority Conference Leader John S. Wisniewski recently presented a ceremonial resolution to a Sayreville woman praising her work with special needs and brain injured children in the community. Maryann Gordon, a lifelong resident of Sayreville, is a special needs teacher in the Sayreville School District. Ms. Gordon is the first

SAYREVILLE—Assembly Director of the Sayreville Association for Brain Injured Children.

"MaryAnn Gordon has worked tirelessly for the children of Sayreville for many years," said Wisniewski.

The "Woman of Distinction" Award is given every year by legislators of the General Assembly during National Women's History Month. The resolution was read on the floor of the Assembly at the beginning of the session. This

> year, 40 women received the award.

"It was a honor to have been given this award by Assemblyman Wisniewski and the New General Jersey Assembly," said Gordon. "Being recognized for doing what I love is a wonderful yet humbling experience."

Wisniewski said. "I am pleased to have had the opportunity to present Ms. Gordon with this award. I am more pleased to have this dedicated

WOMAN OF DISTINCTION-Assemblyman woman devoting her time John S. Wisniewski presents the "Woman and energy to the people of Distinction" Award to MaryAnn Gordon. of Sayreville."

"Woman Of Distinction"

Vice President of the Savreville Education Association and is the

(continued from page...3)

young adults.

Education and communication is the key. Studies have shown that teenagers whose parents talk to them regularly about the dangers of drugs are 42 percent less likely to use drugs than those whose parents don't, yet only 1 in 4 teens reports having these conversations.

Sponsored by the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD) of Middlesex County, Addiction Awareness Month offers a month-long opportunity to reinforce important messages about addiction. Throughout Middlesex County, communities, schools, businesses and organizations will host special events to help individuals, young and old, learn more about addiction and how to prevent and reduce it. Activities include lobby dis-

plays, a walk-a-thon, community presentations, health fairs, parent education programs and

The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD) of Middlesex County, Inc., founded in 1980, is a private, nonprofit health organization dedicated to the prevention and early intervention of alcoholism, drug abuse and related problems. Located in East Brunswick they provide a Prevention Resource Center, Information and Referral Helpline, community education, training school-based prevention programs, and advocacy.

For more information on Addiction Awareness Month or to request materials, call NCADD of Middlesex County at (732) 254-3344.

New Traffic Light

WOODBRIDGE-Woodbri dge Township and Middlesex County will enter into an interlocal agreement to construct a traffic signal at the intersection of Port Reading Avenue and West Avenue in Port Reading.

Under the agreement, Middlesex County will finance all design and construction

:Engagement News -Cacchione-Munsey

AVENEL-Mr. Anthony Cacchione of Avenel announce the engagement of their son Anthony Francis Cacchione of Avenel to Stacey Munsey of Avenel daughter of Mr. Robert Munsey of Minnesota.

engagement The announced on June 10, 2000. Stacey is a graduate of William Paterson College. She is employed by a major NJ Hospital as a registered nurse.

Anthony is a graduate of Colonia High School. He is employed as an Emergency Medical Technician Supervisor for a major New Jersey Hospital.

The couple plan to be married in October 2002.

costs for the project.

"Woodbridge Township values the support and assistance which the Middlesex County Freeholders are providing for the roadways within

our community," Mayor James E. McGreevey said.

"Our roadways must be maintained at proper condition to ensure maximum safety to residents," he said.





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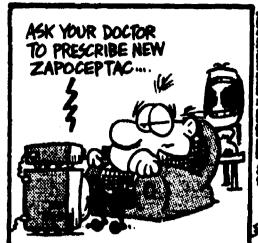


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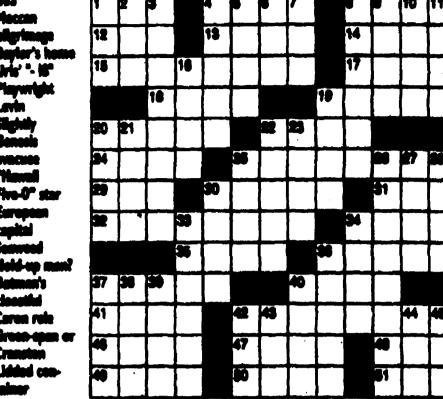
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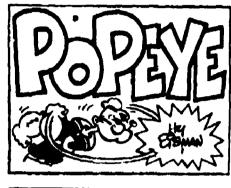
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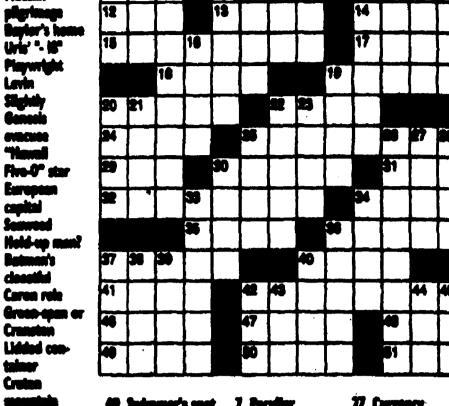








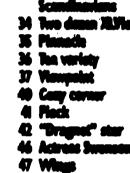












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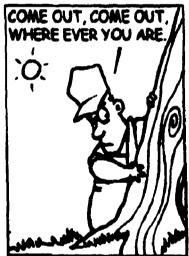
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AMBER WAVES









by DAVE T. PHIPPS











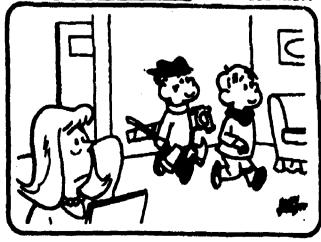
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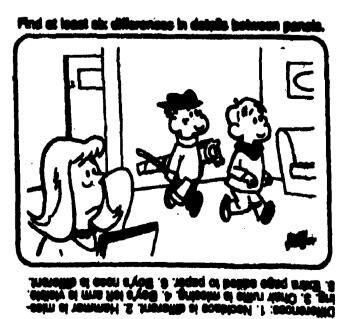
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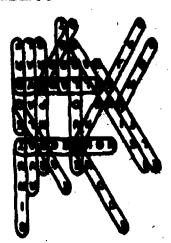






to Puzzles





The Real Deal: A Film Presentation

AREA-On Saturday, April 21 at 1 p.m., the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation will host the film presentation The Real Deal with a discussion led by Marc Levy. at the Vietnam Era Educational Center, Holmdel. The Real Deal combines visual images with the words of Levy's original poetic prose to share his Vietnam War experience.

Marc Levy served as an infantry medic with Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry, First Cavalry Division, in Vietnam and Cambodia in 1970. His decorations included the Combat Medic Badge, the Silver Star and two Bronze Stars with Valor device. He has studied creative writing at the William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social

Consequences at the University of Massachusetts at Boston, His literary work has appeared in various publications such as the forthcoming Viet Nam War Generation Journal and in the Infirmary and Will Work for Peace.

The Real Deal is Marc Levy's personal expression, in words and pictures, of himself as a

George Vietnam veteran. Dickerson of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences said of The Real Deal, "His is the dark poetry of the human spirit reaching out from anthologies Stories from the Hell, asking not for pity but for remembrance. Here is pain elevated to epiphany, wreckage made art, and haunting humbling truth." Vietnam veteran author Tim O'Brien recommended the film as "a splendid addition to any college or high school syllabus that deals with the Vietnam War."

Lecture attendees are asked to R.S.V.P. one week prior to the event to (732) 335-0033. A donation of \$5 per person is suggested. The Educational Center is located adjacent to the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial off the Garden State Parkway at exit 116. The Educational Center is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Regular admission is free for veterans and activeduty military personnel. Regular adult admission is \$4; student and senior citizen admission is \$2: and children under 10 are admitted free.

DancePlus April

AREA — The dance faculty of Mason Gross School of the Arts' presents DaucePlus April, Friday through Sunday, April 20-22, at New Theater, 85 George St., on the Douglass Campus of Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick. Performances begin at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday. DancePlus April tickets range in price from \$10-\$16. Call 732-932-7511 for tickcts and information.

The DancePlus April program includes three world premicres, a revival and an excerpt from a work scheduled to premier in 2002. The original choreography for the five dances was created by five faculty members of the Mason Gross Department of Dance: Ephemeral Concerns choreographed by Patricia Mayer; without direct contact choreographed by Randy James; Animal Spirits choreographed by Stuart Loungway: Last Dance co-choreographed by Randy James and Paulette Sears; and KLEP choreographed by Julia Ritter.

About the Program

Department of Dance Chair, Patricia Mayer, revives her 1993 piece Ephemeral Concerns for the opening of DancePlus April. Against the music of Francis Poulenc. dancers Allison Schaeffer, Lisa Velasquez and Gretchen Weber perform the dance based upon ephemeral friendships, dreams and concerns of young women.

Choreographer Randy James premieres without direct contact, which features original music by Michel Wall and deals with the twestion, "What is direct contast? Contact of the physical, mental, spiritual? Not giving of oneself fully." without direct contact dancers include Michelle Connolly, Jacqueline Funari, Sara Ketrow and Jacqueline Kinaman.

The music of Bach's Chaconne in D minor accompanies the world premiere of Animal Spirits. Choreographed by Stuart Loungway and performed by James Graber, Stuart Loungway, Pittinger, David Brannan Osburn, Gianna Russillo and Tiffany Stadler. Animal Spirits, neoclassical ballet set on pointe, is a visceral exploration of the human condition.

In the world premiere Last Dance, James has teamed up with coworker and friend Paulette Sears. The duo created the choreography and performs Last Dance to the music of Jimi Hendrix and Jan Gaberak, James and Sears are working together for the first time.

The DancePlus April program closes with art excerpt from KLEP choreographed by Julia Ritter and directed by Ritter and Jonathan Wooster, Movement and music collide in this triathlen of temptation and desire set to strains of A-Ha. Modeski/Martin and Wood, Squarepusher and Joi. The cast includes Julia Ritter and Jonathan Wooster with Lisa Auerbach, Cherilyn Biogins, Megan Byrne, Gina Carbonaro, Michelle Conolly, Jacqueline Funari, Heather Hutchinson, Sara Ketrow, Jacqueline Kinsman and Wendy Thomas. KLEP is scheduled to premier in 2002.

The Design

& Graphics

About the Department of Dance

The dance program at Mason Gross School of the Arts fosters excellence in modern dance technique, performance and creative achievement. An accomplished faculty of artist-educators, including all choreographers listed above, ensures expert instruction in technique, performance, choreography and theoretical studies. The department offers both a BFA and a BA degree in dance.

About Mason Green School of the Arts

Founded in 1976, Mason Gross School of the Arts is the arts conservatory of Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. The impressive faculty and alumni rosters include arts professionals who are recognized nationally and internationally. The schools' enrollment of 625 undergraduates across four departments and 250 graduate students across three departments, combined with a faculty of 140, assures students the opportunity to work closely with accomplished artists within their

General Information

Single ticket prices for DancePlus April are \$16 for public; \$15 for senior citizens, alumni, staff and faculty; \$11 for students at the door, \$10 for stu-

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dents with advance sale; and \$10 for groups of ten or more. For more information and tickets to this and any other Mason Gross event, call the Mason Gross Performing Arts Center Ticket Office at 732-932-7511.





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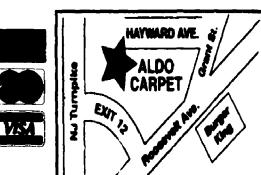
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ASSEMBLYMAN
JOHN WISHIEWSKI'S
REPORT
From
Trenton

There was a fire at the Fire House in South Amboy two weeks ago. And while the firemen were there, they didn't do anything to put out the fire. They started it. They let it burn. In fact, they fed it. The building wasn't on fire. The trees weren't on fire. But the fire covered the parking lot along the entire side of the fire house. But before you begin to think that the firemen were shirking their duty, let me tell you that the occasion was Protection Fire Company's rib cookout.

It was raining. It was windy and cold. But the fire fighters were outside barbequing ribs and the line of people just didn't stop. The rib cookout is great because it does more than just raise funds for the fire company. The cookout strengthens the ties that bind the community, and it gives us all the chance to have some really outstanding ribs!

This rib-fest began in the 1950s (although it's difficult to pinpoint exactly when) and started out as a very modest operation. It was mainly done at church carnivals and similar events, but soon grew into the huge operation that it is today. The top secret recipe came from a guy in South Old Bridge named John Szatkowski and was handed down to only a few people at a time. The CIA, NSA and the KGB tried to get this recipe, but they're no match for Fire Official Ed Szatkowski. He's now one of two people who know the original ingredients, and he's not talking!

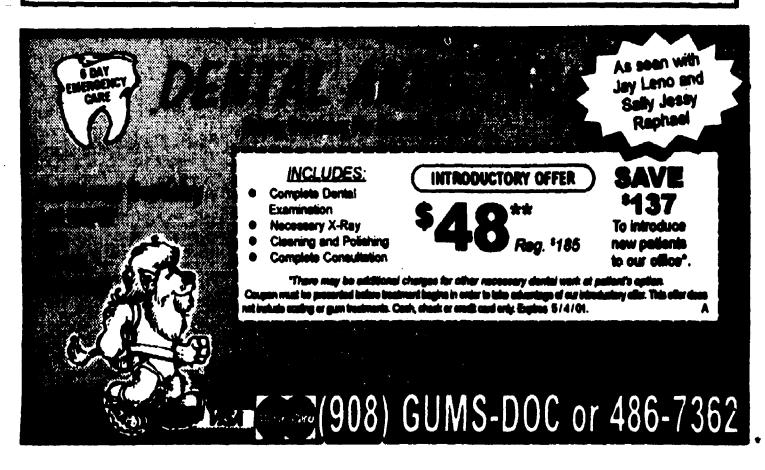
The cookout happens about six times a year, once a month in the spring and fall. The members of the fire company make a barbeque pit out of cinder

blocks that nearly covers the length of the fire house parking lot. About a dozen guys operate the pit while another few work inside preparing the ribs with the special sauce. They go through about a ton of meat in a day.

As much as I'd like to believe that these guys go through all of this work so my family and I can have some tasty ribs, it just isn't so. They do the cookout as their big fundraiser. While most volunteer fire departments and first aid squads receive financial assistance from their town. ever-changing technology and safety demands mean that there is always a need for a few extra dollars. We are fortunate in many towns in our state to have volunteer fire fighters. A volunteer force saves taxes for everyone. Could you imagine having to pay every time a fire truck rolled? Could you imagine having to pay every time an ambulance responded to a call? The cost would be tremendous. We rely on volunteer services in our community to help ease the burden on the taxpayer.

We are fortunate to have the men and women working selflessly to protect our families and homes. And while not everyone has the time to be a volunteer, we all can help.

We've all seen our volume fire departments and first aid squads trying to raise money. Next time you see the volunteers collecting money at the stop light, throw some change in the can. Next time they send a letter or call you up for some help, remember the money these volunteers are saving the town in taxes. And the next rib cook-Protection Fire out Company has on Saturday, April 21, come down and buy some ribs. I promise, they're worth it.



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YOUR AREA & STATE NEWS

'Cutting The Cord' And Going Completely Wireless

the 125th anniversary of Alexander Graham Bell's first

AREA—Here are some fun facts for Easter.

- * Easter is the second sweetened holiday/season for candy sales, closely trailing Halloween.
- In 2000 Americans spent approximately \$1.9 billion on candy treats for Easter.
- * The egg is the universal symbol of Easter celebrations throughout the world and has been dyed, painted, adorned, and embellished in the celebration of its special symbolism.
- * Originally Easter eggs were painted with bright colors to represent the sunlight of spring and were used in Easter-egg rolling contests or given as gifts.
- * The Romans celebrated the Easter season by running races on an oval track and giving eggs as prizes.
- The Easter Bunny is not a modern invention. The symbol originated with the pagan festival of Easter in the second century. The Anglo-Saxons worshiped the goddess, Easter, through her earthly symbol the rabbit.
- * Early American settlers made "Easter baskets" with nests made from twigs and leaves which the Easter Bunny filled with colored, boiled eggs.
- * The Easter bonnet got its start as a wreath of flowers. and/or leaves, the circle an expression of the roundness of the and its travel through the

AREA-This month marks telephone call to his assistant Thomas Watson, Since that first groundbreaking call, the tele-

heavens which brought it back for the return of spring.

- * Candy-filled Easter baskets did not become popular until the late 1800s, when candy became readily available from the growing number of small candy manufacturers.
- * More than 60 million chocolate bunnies, in all shapes and sizes, will be made this holiday season along with 15 billion jellybeans.
- * 15 billion jellybeans tined up end-to-end would circle the world three times.

communications industry has continued to evolve and recently reached a milestone in the increasingly wide spread use of wireless communications: the 100 millionth wireless customer signed up for service in late 2000-a mere 17 years after wireless service was first made commercially available. By comparison, it took 91 years before the 100 millionth landline telephone customer got on the line.

Today, there are more than 180 million landline customers in the U.S. Closing in fast are more than 110 million U.S. wireless users. More and more of those wireless users are "cutting the cord" and relying on

the convenience and mobility of their wireless phones for voice communication.

While wireless phones aren't expected to replace traditional phone service anytime soon, the Yankee Group reports wireless phone use has already replaced more than 10 percent of landline voice usage. Andersen Consulting predicts that 25 percent of wireless users will be "all-wireless" over the next five to seven

Currently, wireless carriers find that business executives. coilege students, and young professionals are leading the way when it comes to this landdisplacement. Those

groups include individuals who travel frequently, move often or have roommates, or who tend to embrace new technologies more readily. For them, going wireless has many advantages.

Customers are cutting the cord for a variety of reasons:

* Wireless' exploding popularity has caused airtime rates to drop nearly 40 percent industry-wide over the past four years, making wireless service more affordable than ever;

More than 30 percent of wireless phone users recently surveyed by the Yankee Group said they would consider giving up their landline phones and switching to wireless for all of their communication needs.

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YOUR SCHOOL NEWS

Your Vote Counts: FAQs About New Jersey's Annual School Election

By Patti J. Pawling, President N.J. School Boards Association

AREA — With New Jersey's strong commitment to its public schools, we can expect the quality of public education to play a prominent role during the upcoming gubernatorial election. It stands to reason: public education in New Jersey represents a state, local and federal investment of more than \$15 billion.

But finances are only part of the story. Our public school districts are currently initiating several initiatives, such as the state's Core Curriculum Content Standards, a statewide testing program for students, and mandatory continuing eduction for teachers Implementing these programs can require some hard choices at the local school district level. That's why New Jerseyans should not wait until the November election to express their beliefs and concerns about their public schools. They can start now by focusing on the education issues facing their communities and by voting in the April 17 Annual School Election.

On April 17, voters in more than 90% of New Jersey's school districts will select the men and

women who will represent them on their local boards of education. Statewide, more than 1,550 local board of education positions will be on the ballot. In addition, voters will have the opportunity to approve or reject proposed local school district budgets for 2001-02.

As president of the New Jersey School Boards Association, 1 am often asked questions about the responsibilities of local boards of education and about school elections. Here are answers to some frequently asked questions we receive at NJSBA:

What will voters decide in the New Jersey's Annual School Election?

On April 17, registered voters will be able to select school board members to oversee their public school system. Voters will also approve or reject the proposed school district budget.

What does the local school board do?

The local board of education is the governance and policy-setting body for the local school district. New Jersey's local boards of education consist of unpaid lay representatives of the community. School board members are your

NJIT Pro-College Programs Lead Students

neighbors. They are people who care about education, and who want to make a difference for their community's children. The board does not get involved in day-today operation of the district; that is the job of the superintendent and administration. Nonetheless, the role that the local school board plays is vital to the educational process:

- The local board of education establishes policies on all areas of district operation, ranging from curriculum and student discipline to personnel and the use of school buildings.
- The school board evaluates the superintendent and represents the community in collective bargaining with school district employees.
- The board deliberates over the proposed budget formulated by the administration and oversees public expenditures under the district's finalized budget.

How important is it for citizens to vote in the Annual School Election?

Right now, many New Jersey school districts are evaluating their district's education programs to ensure that their students will

to August 6) from the CPCP office (973-596-3550). Completed applications must be re-

Since 1978, the CPCP has helped thousands of students and educators in kindergarten through twelfth grade participate in programs like FEMME. The pre-college programs especially provide opportunities for women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities to pursue technological fields that traditionally have been closed to them, says CPCP executive director and founder Howard meet the state's broad education goals. Many are planning new facilities because of increasing student enrollment or to meet educational needs. Decisions on these matters can require hard choices. It is essential, therefore, that the community express its concerns about, and its goals for, the public schools. A first step is by voting in the Annual School Election on April 17.

The candidates you select to serve on your local school board will help shape the education provided to the children of your community. The board of education is ultimately responsible to the community for ensuring that students have adequate facilities, curriculum and teaching staff. Also consider that the budget that is proposed by the school board -- and acted on by the voters - has a direct impact on your property taxes and the quality of education.

When and where do I vote?

By law, polls will be open from 5-9 p.m. on April 17. However, many school districts schedule additional hours. For exact polling hours and locations in your community, contact your local board of education office or refer to the sample ballot that you will receive in the mail.

How do I learn about the candidates and budget in my community?

As a registered voter, you will

receive a sample ballot listing the candidates and questions on the April 17 ballot. You can also find information about the candidates and the budget through other sources. Local newspapers generally write articles about the school district's proposed budget, and they often publish profiles of the candidates and their background and beliefs. In addition, community groups, such as parent organizations and the League of Women Voters, often sponsor candidates' nights to let citizens hear firsthand the views of prospective school board members. Sometimes, these debates are broadcast on public-access cable television.

By law, the proposed budget must be published in a local newspaper and the school board must hold a public hearing on the spending plan.

Does my vote matter?

New Jersey's system of school board and budget elections provides citizens with an exceptional opportunity to voice their opinion on school districts affairs. Many states do not have elected school boards; only seven provide citizens the opportunity to sound their voices on proposed school budgets. Take advantage of this opportunity. Your vote does matter, and it's needed to help your community set the direction for your public schools.

To Success In Science, Technology Fields **AREA** Engineering Methods, Motiva-Twelve-year-old tion, Experience (FEMME).

Nicole Howard of Willingboro has spent the past two summer vacations playing with airplane parts, designing web pages, and learning computer programming languages. A four-week, pre-college summer program sponsored by NJ Institute of Technology, Newark, has provided the instruction.

This coming summer Howard, a seventh grader at Hawthorne Middle School in Willingboro, will once again attend at NJIT's Mount Laurel campus, the same pre-college program: Females in

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FEMME teaches young women in grades four to eight that science, math and engineering is fun, understandable and open for success.

The NJIT Center for Pre-College Programs (CPCP) offers on NJIT Newark campus FEMME as well as 13 other summer programs in science, math, technology and engineering for youngsters in grades four to eleven. Tuition ranges from \$100 to \$650. Students may obtain an application for the session (July 2

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turned by April 18.

Kimmel, Ph.D., an NJIT chemical engineering professor. Of the precollege students, 55% are female, 45% are male.

Research has shown that early intervention makes a difference in students' lives. A recent CPCP survey shows that of the 3,407 students enrolled in pre-college programs from 1980 to 1997, 76% of them had graduated or were in an undergraduate college program in 1997. Approximately 65% of them had selected a technological career, including engineering, science, computer and information systems and math.

Lea Chan of Kearny participated in FEMME in 1994. Now in her Rensselaer fourth year at Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY, this bioengineering major fondly remembers her pre-college days. "It almost seemed like summer camp even though we were doing math problems and writing essays. Just being around the (instructors) and other talented girls made a difference in my life," she says.

Aracelis Caban of Newark, another NJIT student, credits FEMME for opening up new career paths. "The program helped me realize that I was not limited to certain careers," says Cabalis, a senior majoring in engineering management.

"Too many students stop studying science and mathematics as soon as they can and are not encouraged to pursue advanced level courses in these gate-keeping subjects," adds Kimmel. "Without this education, they are literally closed forever to the rewarding higher education programs and careers before they finish even high school. Participating in pre-college programs like FEMME can change that tide and offer more options."



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OBITUARIES

Harold Luczak, 64 of Colonia

Mr. Harold "Hai" Luczak of Colonia died March 19 at home. He was 64.

Born in Chester, Pa., he briefly lived in Collinsville, Ill. before moving to Colonia 33 years ago.

He graduated from Chester High School, where he was on the track and basketball team and president of his graduating class.

He graduated from Drexel University in Philadelphia and the Newark College of Engineers. He worked for Allied Signal Corp as a manager of maintenance and engineering at the company's Elizabeth plant. He retired a few years ago.

He was a past president of the St. Demetrius Men's Club in Carteret, a board member of the Springwood Swim Club, Colonia and a former longtime member of the Corona Construction softball team.

His parents, John and Anna Luczak, two sisters, Mary Luczak and Kathryn Basara and three brother, Nicholas, Walter and Michael, are all deceased.

Surviving are his wife, Helena Huzva Luczak; three daughters, Debbie, Donna Bodnar and Micka Droney; six grandchildren, Amanda and Jonathan Bodnar, Sara and Kenny Hoffman and Samantha and Christopher Droney; two sisters, Irene DeNight and Julia Sywy and a brother, Joe Luczak, all of Delaware; and 29 nieces and nephews.

Josephine Otlowski of Fords

Mrs. Josephine "Jeri" (Bukowski) Otlowski of Fords died March 18 at her daughter's home in Fords.

Born in Newark, she lived in Hillside for 43 years before moving to Fords in 1998.

Mrs. Otlowski was a parishioner of St. James R.C. Church, Woodbridge and a member of the church's Rosary Society.

Her husband, Leo, died in 1998 and a son, John, died in 1977.

Surviving are a daughter, Diane Hoyer of Fords; a son, Lee Otlowski of Secaucus; five grandchildren, Jason Hoyer, Brett Hoyer, Pamela Hines, Maryelee Alvarez and Eric Otlowski.

Yvonne Flicstein of Fords

Mrs. Yvonne Flicstein of Fords died March 17 at home. She was 59.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., she moved to Bayonne before moving to Fords.

She was an assistant supervisor for Bomar Electronics in Middlesex for seven years. Previously, she worked for RCA in Avenel for 10 years and was a buyer for Supermarket Services, Linden for 15 years.

Surviving are her husband, Edward; a son, Scott of Toms River; two daughters, Audrey DeLorenzo of Laurence Harbor and Seva Hess of Laguna Beach. Calif., currently of Fords: two sisters, Joan Spano of Clark and Jean Pintyr of Pompano Beach, Fla.; five grandchildren, Dale, Jason, Robert, Leanna and Dustin.

Phyllis Carducci, 69 of Edison

Mrs. Phyllis Carducci of Edison died March 19 in JFK Medical Center, Edison. She was

Born in Jersey City, she lived in Edison since 1967.

She was the office manager for Dr. Donald Chimene in Edison, where she worked for 30 years before retiring in 1997.

She was a member of the Ladies Auxiliary at JFK Medical

Surviving are a son, John; three daughters, Mrs. Terri Scott, Mrs. Lynn Bare and Mrs. Diane Banaciski; two brothers, John and Bob Yorey; and six grandchildren.

Helen Kovacs, 80 of Edison

Mrs. Helen (Sipos) Kovacs of Edison died March 18 at home. She was 80.

Born in Keasbey, she lived in Metuchen most of her life before moving to Edison in 1995.

She was a payroll clerk for Topf's Pharmacy in Maplewood.

Mrs. Kovacs was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ in Hopelawn.

Her husband, Julius Kovacs, died in 1995. A brother, Stephen Sipos, died in 1957.

Surviving are a son, James A. Kovacs of South Orange; a daughter, Ruth Arcuri-Kovacs of Virginia; three sisters, Ethel Banyacski of Monroe Township, Ann Creevy of Penns Creek, Pa., and Elizabeth Julia Panfile of Rochester, N.Y.; and three grandchildren.

Steve Stefanick, 89 of Perth Amboy

Mr. Stephen Stefanick of Holiday, Fla. (formerly of Perth Amboy) died March 17 at home. He was 89.

Born in Perth Amboy, he lived there before moving to Florida in 1972.

He was a retired crane operator with AS&R Inc., Perth Amboy.

He was a member of the Free & Accepted Masons in both New Jersey and Florida.

Mr. Stefanick was a member of All Saint's Episcopal Church, Tarpon Springs, Fla.

Surviving are a son, Dennis Stefanick of Sayreville; a daughter, Beverly English of Holiday, Fla.; a brother, John Stefanick of Bricktown: five grandchildren; and five greatgrandchildren.

Wanda Kielmanski of Perth Amboy

Mr. Walter Kielmanski of Perth Amboy died March 14 at home. She was 71.

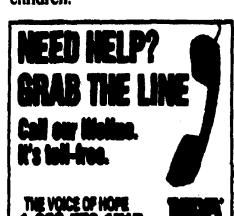
Born in Poland, she lived in Africa and England during the war years before moving to Perth Amboy in 1955.

She worked for 22 years at Lockheed Electronics in North Plainfield as an inspector before retiring in 1989.

Mrs. Kielmanski was a communicant of St. Stephens' R.C. Church, Perth Amboy and its Rosary Society and the St. Stephen's Senior Citizens.

She was also a member of the United Poles of America (ZPA) in Perth Amboy. She was a former officer in the ZPA Credit Union and an active member of the Polish Scout Group.

Surviving are her husband of 49 years, Walter Kielmanski; a son, Christopher of Parlin; a daughter, Bozena Kania of East Brunswick; two sisters, Stanislawa Bednarczyk of Edison and Wladyslawa Kowalewski of Philadelphia and four grandchildren.



1-668-672-1717

The state of

Jesse E. Wolff, 87 of Sayreville

died March 15 at Deborah Heart & Lung Center, Browns Mills. He was 87.

Born in Sayreville, he lived there all his life.

He was the owner of J&H Exterminating in Parlin for the past 50 years.

Army with the 238th Combat Engineers Battalion during World War II.

He was a member and past commander of VFW Post 4699, Sayreville, a member of Jersey Rifle & Pistol Club. the American Legion Lenape member of the 238th Combat Engineers Battalion Association.

the Free & Accepted Masons, St. Stephen's Lodge, South Amboy, a member of the Scottish Rite in Trenton and a member of the Crescent Shrine Temple, Trenton. He was past president of the Central Jersey Shriners, a member of the three granddaughters.

Mr. Jesse E. Wolff of Parlin Loyal Order of Moose, Lodge 116, South River, past president of the South Amboy Rotary Club, a charter member of the Sayreville Emergency Squad and a member of the Sons of Norway Lodge.

He also belonged to the New Jersey Pest Control Mr. Wolff served in the Association and the National Pest Control Association. He was a member of the National Rifle Association, the Parlin Buck Club, the Riverside Rod & Gun Club and the Central

Surviving are his wife of 58 Post 2.1, Sayreville and a years, Helen Miller Wolff; three sons, Randy of Reno. Nev., Scott of Mount Holly and Todd of Parlin; a daughter, He was also a member of Lorna Sommers of Barnegat Light; two brothers, Clarence Wolff of Milltown and Sheldon Wolff of Spotswood; two sisters, Ruth Wolff of Matawan and Dorothy Lawrence of Sacramento, Calif.; four grandsons and

Herman J. Hansen of Perth Ambov

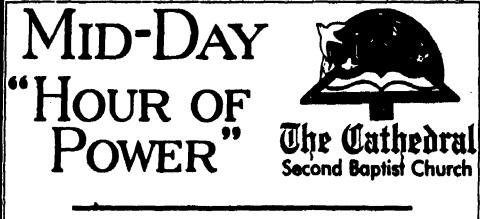
Mr. Herman J. Hansen of New Port Richey, Fla. (formerly of Perth Amboy) died March 8 at home. He was 79.

He was born in Perth Amboy. He was a 1939 graduate of Perth Amboy High School.

He retired in New Jersey from Bricklayers, Masons & **Plasterers** International Union Local 5.

Mr. Hansen served in the 8th Air Force with the 398th Bomber Group during World War II.

Surviving are his wife, Edith; a daughter, Marion Kaiser of Tarpon Springs, Fla.; a brother, J. Arnold Hansen of Ocala, Fla.; two grandchildren; and a greatgrandson.



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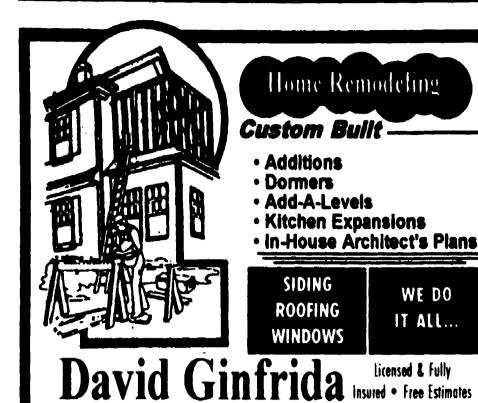
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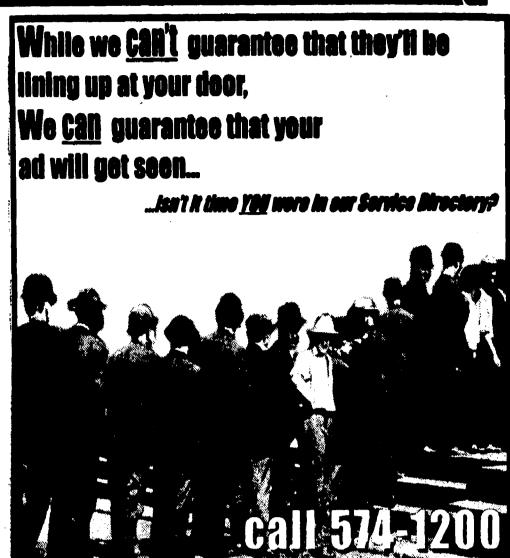
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YOUR LOCAL NEWS

2001 Bishop's Award To Edison Couple

EDISON—St. Peter's University Hospital will present Helen and Angelo Orlando with the 2001 Bishop's Award at the hospital's 21st Annual Dinner Dance Gala, Saturday, May 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, New Brunswick. The award is given to individuals who have given outstanding service to St. Peter's and their community.

The Orlando's are being recognized for their many years of giving back to their community through their active support of its institutions and the people they serve. For many years Helen and Angelo Orlando have been an integral part of the St. Peter's family.

Angelo has served his community in government, in military service and through charitable causes. Currently he is president of the Edison Arts Society and, in 2000, chaired that organization's "Artists Candlelight" fundraiser. In addition, he has served as chairman of the American Cancer Society "Jail & Bail" and chairman of "Hands Across America" (Edison).

A Korean War Veteran,
Angelo saw 15 months of active
duty with the 43rd M.A.S.H.
Hospital located on the 38th
parallel, serving as an operating
room scrub technician. Angelo
is a recipient of the Korean War
Medal and the Meritorious Unit
Citation.

Angelo serves as chairman of St. Peter's Property Corporation, member of St. Peter's Family Practice Board of Trustees, and chairman of St. Peter's Dinner Dance 50/50 Raffle. He and Helen are past co-chairpersons of the Annual Dinner Dance. From 1985-93, Angelo served on the Board of Trustees of St. Peter's University Hospital and St. Peter's Foundation.

In his professional life, Angelo was General Sales Manager for many years with Dayton Auto Center, and was named Sales Manager of the Year in 1982. Currently he is a consultant/liaison with Federal Business Center in Edison.

Angelo serves as special assistant/advisor to the mayor of Edison, having served for many years on the Edison Township Council, as its president in 1980-81, as a member of the Planning Board from 1978-85 and as chairman of numerous committees within Edison Township.

Throughout the years, Helen has participated in St. Peter's University Hospital's many functions and activities. She has always been by her husband's side in his work on behalf of the community.

For tickets or information on the Gala, call the St. Peter's Foundation at (732) 745-8542.

The Woodbridge Elks Lodge Receives Awards

WOODBRIDGE—Woodbridge Elks Lodge #2116 held its 38th Annual Charity Ball recently. The proceeds of this Ball are used to support the many services and activities that the Lodge's Handicapped Children's Committee provide for the community's special children. The Ball was attended by over 150 persons, including many high ranking officers of Elkdom, who were treated to a night of gourmet dining, dancing and entertainment. Over 60 valuable door prizes were given away, also.

Chairman, Edward Gladis, representing Sr., the received Committee, **Proclamations** the from President of the NJ Elks **Francis** Association. J. Decibus and John McCormick, representing the Mayor of Woodbridge, **James** McGreevey. The proclamations praised the HCC for "their dedication, compassion and unselfish donation of their time, efforts and resources to enrich the lives of their special children."

The Committee also sponsors their special children to a summer camp (Camp Moore), where they can enjoy the wonder of the great outdoors. They also help them with prosthetic equipment, dental, medical



WOODBRIDGE ELKS LODGE #2116-Handicapped Children's Committee Cheirman, Edward Gladis, Sr., accepts a Proclamation from NJ Elks Association President, Francis J. Decibus, on behalf of his Committee at the Charity Ball held at the Woodbridge Lodge. Photo by Martin Farricher.

and pharmaceutical needs. Christmas and Halloween parties are celebrated too, at the Lodge. One of our committee members was asked by someone why he does it. He replied, "At our last Christmas party, a father of one of our special children came up to me with tears in his eyes, laughing joy-

ously, and thanked me because his beautiful little daughter, who had never spoken or expressed an emotion, was clapping her hands and laughing happily, for the first time in her life. Does that answer your question?" the Committee Member asked the enquirer.

SCHOOL SECURITY PROGRAM



Woodbridge Mayor James E. McGreevey (C.) outlines a new school security plan developed by the Woodbridge Police Department in partnership with the Woodbridge Board of Education. Also taking part in the announcement were Deputy Police Chief Philip Dinicols (L.) and Superintendent of Schools Kenneth Kuchtyak.

Living History At Avenel Middle School

AVENEL—On April 4, AMS hosted a group of World War II Living Historians. Their visit was part of a culminating experience for sixth grade students who are working on the skills of researching history. The interest in World War II was the result of the sixth graders reading the book Snow Treasurers which tells the story of children in Norway who smuggled gold out of the country on their sleds so that the gold would not fall into the hands of the Nazis. This experience complements the research skilk that are needed to be successful in the 8th grade history classes.

The WWII Living History Program consisted of two parts. Part one was located in the school's Media Center. Living historians held discussions on various methods, strategies and materials used in research and

showed displays of actual history research.

The second plant of the program was a visit to World War II Living Historians with their vehicles (weapons carrier and jeep), equipment and displays.

Seven soldier historians discussed with the students topics dealing with the war, civilians', lives in occupied Europe, the daily life of soldiers during the war, the units in which they were assigned, and their involvement during World War II. The soldier historians were: Bruce Forum and Ed Whitman, both Belgium resistance fighters; Joe Di Giovanni, Captain of the 6th Mechanized Calvary; Ed McQuinn, Sgt. 101st Airborne Division; Bill Winslow, Lt. British Royal Artillery; Dave Peters, Sgt.-supervisor of the motor pool; and James Karlbon, Citizen Gi.