VOL. 121, NO. 3

Friday, January 18, 2002

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

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USPS 501-860

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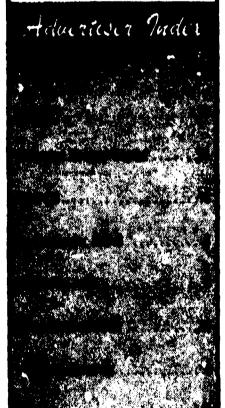
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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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Church Rocked By Confession

SOUTH AMBOY --- City resident Debra DeGregoria. 43, has been charged with stealing more than \$45,000 in cash and checks from the Christ Church on Main Street

DeGregoria had worked at the church as an adminstrative assisstant for seven years. Her duties included depositing money into the church's bank

account and purchasing.

DeGregoria confessed the theft to the church's rector, the Rev. George Campbell III, in November. Church officials were reluctant to prosecute DeGregoria, but they realized it was necessary and alerted police, according to Campbell.

"The church's reaction was,

and [still] is, shock, as it happens any time when a member of the church family has done anything upsetting. Deb was and still is a member of the church family," says Campbell.

DeGregoria, who was fired in November, was arrested on Jan 8 In addition to theft, she was also charged with forgery

because she signed the names of other church personnel on checks she made out to herself, said Detective Sgt. Darren LaVigne.

The church does not expect to recover all of the stolen money, but is looking for ways to bounce back, according to Campbell.

Additional Money For Local Shoreline Restoration Project

PERTH AMBOY — The City of Perth Amboy has been awarded an addition: 1 \$2.5 million by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for the city's \$9.8 million Shoreline Restoration Project. The grant, which comes form the DEP's Green Acres Trust Fund, marks a total of \$8.5 million in funding that the city has received. to date, to conduct a massive rehabilitation of its southern shoreline Already, Perth Amboy has received a \$5 million grant from the Middlesex County Open Space Program and a previous \$1 million allotment from the DEP's Green Acres Program.

focus on the portion of the city's shoreline that stretches along Sadowski Parkway from High Street to Second Street. The city recently awarded a contractor's bid on Dec. 12 in the amount of \$3.9

million to Trevcon Construction Co., Inc., for the first phase of the project, which is scheduled to get underway shortly.

The first phase will begin with widening and stabilizing of Perth Amboy's beaches through the addition of massive amounts of sand along a 2,200 linear feet stretch of beachfront. Phase I will also include the construction of two to the project's three planned fishing piers.

In addition, the five existing groins that protect the city's storm water outfalls will be reconstructed, one new groin will be installed and two additional groins will be installed underneath the fish-The entire project will ing piers. The groins will serve to strength and protect the sand in the future in order to deter erosion.

> Latter phases of the project will include the addition of a service dock for the boat launching facility, a fuel

dock, pump out station, restrooms, a bait concession stand and rehabilitation of the jetties. In addition, the former Goldberg's scrapyard on Second Street will be transformed with a boat ramp, rack storage system

and a parking lot.

The first phase of the project is expected to take at least eight months to complete. Plans for the second phase are currently being tinalized and may be constructed concurrently with Phase I.

Parlin EXPRESS **Grand Opening**

Bay FCU, with offices in Sayreville and South River, has announced the opening of their new branch office at 502 Washington Rd., Parlin. The Grand Opening is slated for January 2002. Conveniently located 1.2 miles from South Amboy and 1.3 miles from South River, this new office was designed as an EXPRESS Service Center.

Member convenience and speedy service were the key considerations that went into the innovative design of the new office. Parlin EXPRESS features three drive-thru teller lanes, two teller windows inside and a full service ATM in the lobby, accessible 24 hours a day, which Raritan Bay FCU members can use without paying any surcharges

Raritan Bay FCU is running a Parlin EXPRESS Sweep-

SAYREVILLE — Raritan stakes to promote the opening of the new branch. The Sweepstakes runs from Jan. 21-Feb. 28, 2002, in which three cash prizes will be given away, \$750, \$500 and \$250. In addition to this Sweepstakes, members in good standing with the Credit Union are eligible for the Valentine's Day Drawing. The winner will receive a romantic dinner for two, plus free limousine transportation to and from the restaurant provided by Regal Limousine Service, Sayreville. During this promotion, Raritan Bay FCU will also hold weekly drawings for \$i00 cash prizes.

> Raritan Bay Federal Credit Union, charted in 1941, serves the communities of Sayreville, South Amboy and South River They are a non-profit financial institution, owned and operated by their members.

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YOUR COUNTY NEWS



A PEDALING PRESENCE—The Middlesex County College Police Department received a \$1,200 grant from the County Prosecutor's office for two bicycles to be used by officers patrolling the campus. The grant is from the prosecutor's forfeiture fund, which consists of money seized from drug transactions and other criminal activity. The Prosecutor's office makes the awards to law enforcement agencies in the county. The College Police Department now has four police bicycles, which gives the officers more mobility as they patrol. They are also more visible and accessible to the students. "It's a big part of community policing," said George Bandics, director of the College Police. From (L.-R.): Officer Brian Burns, Officer Mike Calabrese, Police Director George Bandics, Officer John Sisolak and Officer Jim Holovacko.

Statewide Partners In The Arts Festival

MIDDLESEX COUNTY--VSA arts of New Jersey will hold the 19th Annual Statewide Partners in the Arts Festival on Wednesday, May 15 at Middlesex County College in Edison from 9:30 a.m. 2:30 p.m.

Partners in the Arts is a festival that fosters the integration of individuals with and without disabilities in the celebration of the arts. Children and adults, individuals and school groups are invited to this enjoyable, enriching, funfilled day of performances, arts workshops, exhibits and much more. Interested participants are aiso invited to register to present exhibits and performances for the festival audience. This event is offered free of charge.

The festival is one of the many projects of VSA arts of New Jersey, statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching the lives and promoting the creative power of individuals with disabilities throughout New Jersey. Cosponsors for this event are the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission and Middlesex County College. This program is made possible in part by funds from the N.J. State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts and by funds from the National Endownient for the Arts; and the central office of VSA arts, under an award from the U.S. Department of Education. VSA arts is an affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts.

Individuals, schools and organizations are invited to participate in this event. Please contact Karen Singer at VSA arts of New Jersey for registration materials at 703 Jersey Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901, (732) 745-3885, 745-5935, 745-3913 (TTY), info@vsanj.org., FAX: (732) 745-4524. Registration deadline is April 22, 2002.

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Winter Recycling Tips From The MCIA

MIDDLESEX COUNTY—Neither rain, nor **snow, nor dead of night stops** the recycling process in Middlesex County, but winter weather does present some

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special challenges. Edward Windas, the Middlesex County Improvement Authority's (MCIA) recycling manager offered the following winter weather recycling tips to residents.

Department holidays do not (1450 AM), WMGQ (98.3 affect the recycling collection schedule. Recyclables will be collected to Martin Luther King Day (Monday, Jan. 21), Lincoln's Birthday (Tuesday, Feb. 12) and Presidents' Day (Monday, Feb. 18).

"If your regular collection day falls on any of these holidays, put your recyclables out at the curb as you normally would," Windas said.

Changes in collection schedules due to weather emergencies will be announced early in the morning • Municipal Public Works on the radio stations WCTC FM) and NJ 101.5 (101.5 FM). Changes may also announced on your local cable television community bulletin board.

> "The determining factor is usually the early morning road conditions; but your best bet is to assume that the recyclables will be collected, unless you hear otherwise on the radio," said Windas.

He noted that collection cancelled because of weather emergencies will not be rescheduled for other days.

When snow drifts are present, or when plowed snow is piled on the curbs, make sure your recyclable containers are placed so that they can be

seen by the driver and he can reach them.

"If the plowed snow at the curb is higher than the container, try digging out a small space on the street side where you can place your bins, or put them at the end of your drive-

"Don't put them on the sidewalk behind the piled-up snow; the driver won't be able to see them. And try not to put them in the street, where they could be a hazard to motorists," he said.

Windas also urged residents not to attempt to balance recyclable containers atop snow piles.

"It's dangerous and it's also hard for the driver to reach. Remember that your driver makes about 500 stops a day, and climbing over 500 snow banks is really tough," he said.

If you normally keep your recycling bins outside, and snow or ice has accumulated on top of the containers,

please clean off them before placing them at the curb.

"The driver has to open the Remember containers to tents into the makes about truck. Snow 500 stops a and ice make much climbing over them heavier to lift, and harder to open and handle," Windas

said.

Especially on windy or stormy days, make sure the lid on your rectangular mixedpaper comainer is tightly closed. Placing your newspaper bundles on top of the container helps secure the lid too.

In your round commingled rccyclables container, put the heavier items, such as glass bottles and jars, at the top of the pile, so that the lighter items such as aluminum cans and plastic bottles won't blow away.

For more information on recycling in Middlesex County, visit the MCIA's award-winning web site, www.mciauth.com, e-mail the MCIA Recycling Division at mciarecy@superlink.net, or call 1-800-488-MCIA.



& Citizen~Gazette - Published by Devine Media Enterprises, Inc.

P.O. Box 3095, South Amboy, New Jersey 08879 **Phone: (732) 574-1200** – Fax: (732) 388-4143 – E-mail: devine@usa.net

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The Atom Tabloid & Citizen-Gazette (USPS 501-860) 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

Bears Take Two Of Three From Bearcats

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ---All three Bearcat squads were in action on Saturday, Jan. 5 at the Bearcats' Den, but only the 7/8 grade team came away with a victory, 40-39.

After giving up 30 points in forfeits the Big B-Cats retaliated with four pins, one major decision, two decisions and a forfeit to nip th East Brunswick team.

Captain Brett **Epps** (120/:59) was joined in the Pinners' Circle Vin

Maglione (HWT/:25), Peter Buttitta (70/:50) and newcomer Louis Chavarry (125/1:45). Matt Hart (75) posted a major and Mike Hart and Matt Sabin earned decisions. Ross Santana picked up a forfeit at 139.

Bearcats A team Captain, Peter Buttitta and Kacy Epps, both posted pins to start their seasons and M.ke Hart delivered a decision, but they weren't enough to overcome

pins registered by the Bears. The B-Cats dropped to 0-1 after a 36-30 loss.

The Bearcats C team tried to pick up where it left off against Monroe two nights earlier, but fell short to the Bears C squad by a score of 39-27.

Earning victories for the little B-Cats were Jason Sins (67-F:2:10), Collin (50) and Ryan Farley (63), and Mike Brennan (105). Tom Farley and CJ Hart picked up forfeits.

Those Busy, Busy Seniors

COUNTY--Fitness after 50. the newest fitness class at the Jewish Community Center is for those over 50 who want to get or keep in shape is offered on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:15-10 a.m. The class involves stretching, muscle toning, light weights and basic calisthenics. The class runs for ten sessions over five weeks at a cost of \$35 for JCC members and \$45 for non-members. Call (732) 494-3232 to register.

The next Senior Lounge Days at the Jewish Community Center will be held on Jan. 24 and Feb. 28 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. On these days, seniors are invited to a nonformal get together where they can meet new people or visit with old friends. You may play games such as scrabble, bridge, mah jongg, or chess. A minimal charge of

M I D D L E S E X \$1 per member or \$3.50 for non-members is collected in advance. Register at the front desk.

> On Tuesday, Jan. 29, at 10:30 a.m., The Jewish Community Center presents the program "Kol Ishah: Women in Jewish Music," featuring Dr. Marsha Bryan Edelman, Professor of Music and Education, Gratz College, speaking about the role of women in Jewish Music. This program is funded by the Learning Throughout Life program of the JCC and a grant from the Sidney J. Harris Charitable Trust. The Jewish Community Center is located at 1775 Oak Tree Rd., Edison, telephone (732) 494-3232. Pre-registration is required in person or by phone; the cost is \$4 for members, \$5 for non-members.

United Way Offers Helping Hands

MIDDLESEX COUNTY - United Way of Central Jersey is a voluntary agency developed over the past 70 years to raise funds efficiently, to allocate those funds effectively, and to plan and coordinate human service programs competently.

The organization supports over 126 health and human service programs, conducted by 43 local member agencies, which are available to resiand employees of Middlesex County. Donors have the option to designate their donations to a particular agency or health and human service.

There are few people in the community who have not had contact in some way with one or more of these agencies, organizers say.

A Board of Trustees works with other volunteer committees to establish policies and determine goals.

United Way volunteers engage in four diverse, but interdependent activities: fund-raising to raise the necessary funds for human service programs; allocations to channel campaign funds to those programs which meet the most current, urgent needs of the community; human service planning to assess community needs and coordinate the delivery of human services in the community; and communications to keep community members informed of United Way activities and the programs and services available to them.

An annual campaign solicits contributions from area businesses and employees, who are encouraged to contribute through the payroll deduction process. Area residents, pro-

fessionals, service groups and other organizations are also contacted for contributions.

the combination of forfeits and

United Way allocates funds to programs provided by member and, in some cases, nonmember agencies based on identified community service needs.

Hundreds of volunteers are involved in assessing the community's needs and allocating these resources through the United Way's Citizen Review Process. These volunteers review extensive planning research, agency program budgets, funding requests and meet year-round to monitor spending by agencies. They ensure that the funds distributed through the United Way are used responsibly. Funds designated are distributed to agencies as identified and directed by the donor.

The group is affiliated with United Way of America, a national association which provides a variety of support services to local chapters. United Way of America coordinates the National Football League marketing effort on behalf of local United Ways and provides training in the four principal activities. The national organization also monitors and reports on federal legislative action that impacts on the delivery of human services.

Individuals who live and/or work in Central Jersey are encouraged to volunteer for one of the communities that help to make this organization work effectively and efficiently. Contributions to United Way of Central Jersey help to support services of the Colonia-based Woodbridge Multi-Service Program on Aging, the Edison Job Corps

Women Center, Helping Women in Metuchen, the Perth Amboy Housing Development Corporation, the Middlesex County Office of Emergency Management in Sayreville and the South Amboy-based Easter Seals. Readers may contact the United Way of Central Jersey by telephone at (732) 247-3727 or via E-mail at info@ uwcj.org.

The organization has a web site at www.uwcj.org.

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> The Outpatient Center at Monroe (609) 409-1170

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YOUR LOCAL NEWS

Train Kills South Amboy Man

SOUTH AMBOY A 22year-old city man was killed last week after being struck by a NJ Transit train in Woodbridge. Joseph Wulffen Jr. is believed to have jumped onto the North Jersey Coast Line tracks from a platform on the eastbound side of the Woodbridge train station to retrieve a bag at about 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 3, but he was hit by

a six-car train heading back to pick up passengers in New York. The train, which had no passengers aboard at the time, was traveling about 60 mph according to a spokesperson for NJ Transit.

NJ Transit police determined the death was an accident after pronouncing Wulffen dead at the scene.

Chamber Toots Its Horn

EDISON — The Edison Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the 11th Annual State of the Township Dinner on Monday, Jan. 28 at 6 p.m. at the Clarion Hotel, Lincoln Highway, Edison.

A cocktail hour will precede an elegant surf and turf dinner featuring filet mignon at 7 p.m.- all for \$40 per person. Mayor Spadoro will discuss his vision for 2002 and present a Resolution to the Edison Chamber for

their 50 years of service to the community.

A student from Edison High School will sing the national anthem and Ms. Ermine Plotkin, an Inter-national Poet of Merit recipient, will do a reading of an original poem.

Reservations can be made by calling the Edison Chamber of Commerce at (732) 738-9482. They accept VISA and MasterCard.

Are You A Free Throw Champ?

COLONIA The Colonia **Knights** of Columbus is sponsoring its annual Free Throw Championship on Friday, Jan. 25 from 7-9 p.m. for boys and girls ages 10-14 in the St. John Vianney Parish Center. Participants are required to provide parental consent and proof of date of birth. Questions, call Joe Pampalone at (H) (732) 499-8495 or (W) (908) 931-4807.

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Strangle Danger Brings (rib Recall

EDISON - An Edison company is recalling about 400 baby cribs sold nationwide because of end panel cutouts that could strangle young children.

LaJobi Industries, Inc., has received no reports of injuries, but there have been deaths in the past associated with wooden cutouts in cribs, the Consumer Product Safety Commission has said.

The company's "Molly" and "Betsy" style cribs each have cutouts in the upper corners of the headboards and footboards. in which the heads of children could get caught and possibly cause strangulation, the commission said.

Model numbers involved in the recall for the "Molly" crib are: 0101327 02 (natural), 0101327 11 (antique green) and 0101327 12 (antique white); and for the "Betsy" crib: 0101257 02 (natural), 0101257 11 (antique green), and 0101257 12 (antique white). Model numbers appear at the bottom, inside of the headboard.

The cribs were sold in speciality stores from May 2000 to Sept. 2001 for about \$650-\$700. The government advised consumers to stop using cribs immediately and contact the company to receive replacement end panels.

The company, based in Edison, can be reached at 1-888-266-2848, weekdays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Best "Dressed" In The City

PERTH AMBOY- The Perth Amboy Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the winners of the Home and Business Decorating Contest for the 2001 Holiday Season. The prizes, sponsored by Maid of Perth Antiques, were awarded to the following:

Businesses: Apparel Connection, Inc., 280A Madison Ave.-1st Place in the Pusiness Entries for "Best Dressed Window." Clark the Florist, 215 Smith Street-1st Place in the Business Entries for "Most Original."

Homes: 1st Place: Carmen and Carlos Gonzalez, 111 Kearny Avenue; 2nd Place: Brian and Kathy Donnelly, 573 Carson Ave. and tied for 3rd Place: Jacqueline Perez-Rojas, 514 McKeon St. and The Stafford Family, 566 Harrington Street.

Honorable Mention: Rocky, Sonny & Ranie Palmer of 541 Hartford St.

A special recognition award was presented to the art class of Perth Amboy High School for the holiday mural on the window of Raritan Bay Medical Center.

Chamber President, Barbara J. Booz, stated, "We were delighted with the response from the community and the magnificent displays throughout the city. A special thank you to Mayor Vas and the city for transforming City Hall Park into a winter wonderland."

ROCASO

VFW Fundraiser

AVENEL The Avenel VFW Post 7164 will be hosting a fundraiser on Saturday, Jan. 19 for George J. Lisicki, who is a candidate for the high office of National Jr. Vice Commander 2005.

The time is 6-10 p.m. and a donation of \$17 per person is requested, which includes dinner, DJ music, beer and soda.

The post is located at 60 West Park Avenue, Avenel.

For more information call (732) 636-4733.

Chamber Music Concert

WOODBRIDGE—The All Seasons Chamber **Players** Baroque Continental Tour will take place on Friday, Jan. 18 at 8 p.m.

Free donations gratefully accepted. Reservations are necessary. Call (732) 634-0413 weekdays from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

The concert is to be held at the Barron Arts Center, 582 Rahway Avenue, Woodbridge. The Barron Arts Center is disabled accessible.

It is sponsored by the Woodbridge Township Cultural Arts Commission chaired by Dr. Dolores Capraro Gioffre with support from the Woodbridge Township Arts Council and the Mayor.

The Barron Arts Center director is Stephen J. Kager.

MLK **Holiday Program**

WOODBRIDGE—First Baptist Church of Woodbridge invites the community to participate in their 2002 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Program. The program will be held on Saturday, Jan. 19 at 2 p.m. at the First Baptist Church located at 130 Sewaren Ave., Sewaren.

Scheduled appearances on the program include Governor James E. McGreevey, Woodbridge Township Mayor Frank Pelzman, as well as several other elected officials. The keynote address will be by the Chairperson of New Jersey State Conference of NAACP Branches, Rev. William Rutherford. The Woodbridge High School Gospel Choir will render special musical selections, and the Woodbridge Township will provide refreshments. A local community gospel group, Selah II, will also render musical selections.

For additional information, contact, Rev. Neva Lawson at (732) 750-9475 or the church fax at (732) 750-2787.



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YOUR AREA & STATE NEWS

FBI Public Outreach **Regarding Terrorism**

AREA-The FBI continues to seek information from citizens regarding the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. If you know anything that might prove useful to federal investigators, please use the contact information below:

Contact Information: FBI Tip Hot-Line to report information related to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks: 1-866-483-5137 (TTY number for hearing impaired: 1-866550-8833).

To report information over the Internet: http://www.ifccfbi.gov

Victim/Witness Assistance related to Sept. 11: http:// www. ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/ vfa/.

To apply for contract linguist positions: www.fbijobs.com. Please apply if you are proficient in English and one of the following languages: Arabic, Farsi or Pashto.

Helmet Legislation Looks To Exempt Some Riders

STATE—On Monday, Dec. 10, the New Jersey State Assembly voted on legislation that will exempt motorcycle operators 21 years of age or older from wearing a helmet. The riders must be licensed to operate a motorcycle for at least two years, or have completed a motorcycle rider safety course.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), concluded that in 1999, 2,472 motorcyclists died and approximately 50,000 were injured in highway crashes in the United States. The leading cause of those deaths was due to head injuries.

NHTSA estimates that wearing motorcycle helmets reduces the likelihood of being killed in a crash by 29 percent. NHTSA's data also indicates that in those states where only minors are required to wear helmets, fewer than 40 percent of those fatally injured in crashes were wearing helmets even though the law required them to do so.

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THE WEEK AHEAD ...

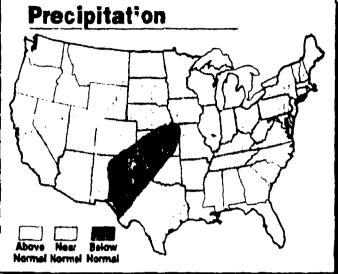
Washington

Temperatures Hear

NATIONAL SUMMARY

Unsettled weather will common across the Pacific Northwest and Southeast this period. A series of storms will bring: rain and mountain snow to Washington, Oregon and the Rocky Mountains. Storms will bring precipitation to the Southeast and the Carolinas. Colder air will move into the northern Plains and Rocky Mountains. Dry weather will cover much of the Southwest.

THE WEEK AHEAD...



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SUN & MOON Sunrise Sunset Thu. 7:18 a.m. 4:57 p.m 7:18 a.m. 4:58 p.m Moonrise Moonset Thu. 9:53 a.m. 8:58 p.m. Fri. 10:18 a.m. 9:56 p.m Moon Phases First Full Last Jan 21 Jan Feb 4 Feb 12

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy. c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, st-snow flurries, an-snow, 1-ice.

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S008-WEATHER

YOUR HEALTH NEWS

New Hip Replacement Procedure Reduces Complications

AREA - David Harwood, MD, orthopaedic surgeon at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and Clinical Assistant Professor at UMDNJ Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, along with an elite team of surgeons, has developed a new surgical pro edure for the replacement of hips that reduces the length of the required surgical incision by 75% "This less invasive procedure is a significant change in hip replacement surgery because it reduces complications. recovery time, pain and scarring, and increases the patient's mobility almost immediately after the operation," explains Dr. Harwood.

In addition to hospital and

medical school responsibilities, Dr. Harwood, who has been practicing medicine since 1984, is currently in private practice at University Orthopaedic Associates PA However, two years ago he began researching better ways to conduct hip replacement surgery and concluded that by changing the location and shape of the incision and customizing some of the surgical instruments (retractors) the incisions can be minimized thus greatly reducing pain and limitations of post-operative recovery.

Dr. Harwood's technique makes a 2 ½ to 4-inch incision rather than the typical 10 to 12-inch incision. This smaller incision requires the patient to do-

nate 75% less blood for use during the surgery and reduces the cutting of muscle tissue, which leads to a faster recovery and improved cosmetic appearance. The hip is able to bear weight much earlier in the recovery period and there is a reduction in the amount of prescription pain medication needed. The team's goal is to standardize the procedure and teach it to other surgeons throughout the country.

Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, one of the nation's leading academic health centers, is the principal hospital for UMDNJ - Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and a member of the Robert Wood Johnson Health System and

Network. For more information, please call the hospital's main phone number at 732-828-3000,

the RWJUH Physician Referral Line at 888-795-8411 or visit www.rwiuh.edu.



David Harwood, MD

Myth Lingers About Signed Organ Donor Cards

AREA — Even though 1in-4 New Jerseyans are willing
to donate their organs, a majority of state residents still
believe the myth that people
who sign organ donor cards
are treated less aggressively at
hospitals, according to a recent
poll conducted by the Eagleton
Institute of Politics.

survey of 800 New Jerseyans
conducted for the N.J. Organ
and Tissue Sharing Network
(The Sharing Network) found
that 25% of state residents
have signed a document indicating their intention to donate
substantial increase over the
findings in a similar survey in
1998 in which 13% of N J residents
reported that they had
made the decision to be organ

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More than 76,00
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While the number of organ donors has nearly doubled in just three years, the poll found

that 3-in-5 New Jerseyans feel that there are occasions when people who have signed organ donor cards may not be treated as thoroughly when brought into a hospital. Nearly 1-in-10 (8%) said this happens often, 23% said it happens sometimes, and another 3-in-10 (31%) said they felt this happens only rarely

These and other myths surrounding organ donations have been fed by supermarket tabloids, talk radio and popular television shows and movies. While these so-called "urban legends" may be entertaining to some, they are life-threatening to others. Many people do not receive the transplants they desperately need because there are simply not enough donors. More than 76,000 people nationwide, including over 2,000 in New Jersey, are on waiting lists for transplants. Nationally more than 5,000 people die

each year while waiting for the "miracle of life."

The Sharing Network, New Jersey's non-profit organ and tissue recovery agency, has been combating myths about organ donations for years. "The decision to sign an organ donor card will in no way affect the level of medical care for a sick or injured person," said Joseph Roth, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Sharing Network. "That is the simple truth about organ donation. Signing an organ donor card does not mean that you will receive less than the best medical care available."

According to medical professionals, there is a "firewall" built within every hospital that separates organ donors and organ recipients. The team of doctors and nurses involved in providing care to a patient is not involved with the transplant/recovery team, which is

called in only after a death has occurred. Those doctors and nurses who treat a patient brought into a hospital are not involved in caring for a patient who could benefit from an organ donation.

In 1998, The Sharing Network launched the N.J. Organ and Tissue Donor Registry, a statewide database aimed at generating greater donor awareness. Since it was founded, The Sharing Network has

more than tripled the total number of organs recovered in N.J. for transplantation.

If you are interested in becoming an organ donor, it's very important to make your wishes known to your family. For more information on how to become an organ donor or to join the N.J. Organ and Tissue Donor Registry, call The Sharing Network at 1-800-SHARE-NJ or visit their web site at www.sharenj.org or E-mailing to tsn@sharenj.org.

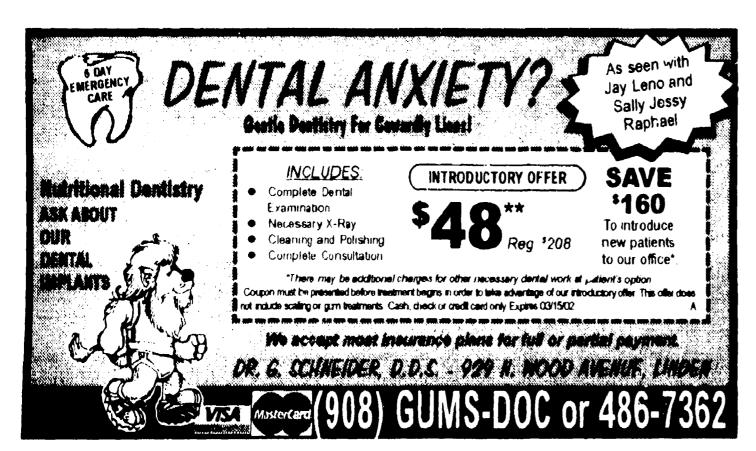
AIDS / STD Hotline Services

AREA — The N.J. AIDS/ STD Hotline offers a variety of *free services* to the citizens of the state of New Jersey — Referrals, General Information, Counseling and Testing Locations, and

Treatment Information.

Help Is Just A Phone Call Away! For more information on AIDS or STDs, call 1-800-624-2377. The AIDS/STD Hotline is accessible 24 hours per day, everyday!

Experts say the myth that the Pill contributes to weight gain may lead to unwanted pregnancies. "The good news for women is that weight fears linked to the Pill are outdated thanks to lower doses of estrogen in many of today's pills," said Susan Wysocki, a nurse practitioner and president and chief executive officer of the National Association of Nurse Practitioners.





Estate Planning Tips For Unmarried Couples

AREA — According to the 2000 Census, there are currently about 11 million people living with an unmarried partner in the United States. This includes both same-sex and opposite-sex couples. And, the number of unmarned couples living together has increased a whopping 72% between 1990 and 2000.

There are estate planning ins for those who say "I do" at me altar as well as for those who say "I don't," says Philip Drudy, an expert in estate planning for unmarried couples and a CPA, Esq. at the CPA/Business Advisory firm of Mintz Rosenfeld & Co. LLC located in Fairfield. Drudy offers advice on how to leave the most assets to your beneficiaries with the least government interference and other useful tips for unmarried couples.

Common Law Marriage requires formal divorce. Contrary to popular belief, even if a heterosexual couple live together for a certain number of years, if they don't intend to be married and present themselves to others as a married couple, there is no. common law marriage. They must also live together in a state that recognizes common law marriages. And, when a common law marriage exists, the couple must go through a formal divorce to end the relationship.

usually do much better than married couples when it comes to income taxes because they avoid the so-called "marriage tax penalty." (Example, if two individuals each earn \$250,000 and are unmarried, neither is subject to the 10% surcharge on incomes over \$250,000. However, a married couple with joint income over \$250,000 is subject to the 10% surcharge.) If you live with an unmarried partner, you may also claim "head of household" filing status if you support a dependant, which allows you to take the earned income credit if vour income is under the threshold, and allows you to take child and dependent care credits. However, what the tax man giveth in life, he taketh away at death, as cohabitating couples could pay an enormous amount when it comes to estate taxes.

At first, jointly own as little as possible. About 55% of different-sex cohabiters get married with five years of moving in together and about 20% of all male-female cohabiters, or 1.6 million people, live together for more than five years. In the early stages of a relationship, many couples keep their assets separate and they contribute equally from their pay checks to a joint checking account to pay for routine expenses. It's best to jointly own Taxes. While death and taxes as little as possible and to keep are certain, unmarried couples separate checking accounts.

Never contribute money toward the purchase of a major asset such as a boat, house or automobile, which is held only in the name of your partner.

As assets increase, draw up an agreement. For the 1.6 million people who are living together for longer than five years, as their relationship grows, so do their assets. This is the ideal time to hire an estate planner to draw up an agreement that addresses what will happen to your assets if your relationship comes to an end.

Joint Ownership or Tenants in Common? Unmarried couples that decide to purchase a home together have to decide between "joint ownership with rights of survivorship" or "tenants in common." Under joint ownership, if one of you dies, the other inherits the property. This makes transfer of property simple, but it can have serious estate tax implications if you don't keep proper records indicating each tenant's contribution throughout the ownership of the property. Under tenants in common, you each own half of the home and if you die, your share will go to whomever you specify in your will, or to your next of kin if you die without a will. Couples also need to address what will happen if they split-up: Who gets the house? How do you value the house for the split-ups?

Maximize your Unified Credit. A major goal of any

estate planner is to maximize each individual's Unified Estate and Gift Tax Credit, known as the Unified Credit. This prevents federal tax on the estate's first \$600,000 of assets. And, since every U.S. citizen has a Unified Credit, a couple — if they plan their joint estate correctly -could avoid paying taxes on \$1,200,000 of assets. The estate tax portion will increase annually to a maximum amount of \$3,500,000 in 2009, in 2010, there is no estat. tax, and in 2011. the estate tax rules come back to the current level of \$1,000,000

Probate. Living Trusts. Probate is the process where the Court supervises the transfer of assets of a decedent or incapacitated person. Probate can be very costly and time consuming. It is advisable to establish a living trust as it avoids probate at death and in the event of incapacity. The creators of the trust are the managers or trustees of the property, the same as they were prior to the formation of the Trust They are also the sole beneficiaries of the Trust during their lives. They are entitled to do anything they want to do with the Trust assets. No one else has any powers over the Trust.

The Trust. Life Estate. A major advantage of the Living Trust is the ease of establishing a gift of a Life Estate, which is the right to use a gift for the recipient's entire lifetime. When the recipient dies, the remaining assets

return to the family of the donor or another recipient. A Trust is appropriate for:

- · Owners of real estate
- · Restricted Gifts
- Elderly or ill people

Finance and Health-related decisions. Another aspect of a good financial plan is a Durable Power of Attorney. This allows the power holder, your partner, to make financial decisions for you if u are unable to make them for yourself.

You should also have a Health Care Proxy and a Living Will. These documents allow your partner to make medical decisions for you if you become incapacitated.

Health Insurance. Each partner should have his or her own medical insurance. While married employees can name their spouses as dependents on health plans, many company-funded plans exclude unmarried part-

Car Insurance. Each partner should purchase his or her own car insurance. If you and your partner sometimes drive each other's cars, list your partner as an occasional driver on your policy and have him do the same.

In a marriage, the surviving spouse automatically inherits a major portion of a deceased spouse's property. "One of the worst things you can do as an unmarried couple is to do nothing," said Drudy. "To protect the person you live with, you must specifically leave him or her propert; using a will, living trust or other legal document."

Who Must File A Tax Return?

AREA — There are some instances when you may not be required to file a federal income tax return. But keep this in mind - more than 70% of those who file are due a refund, so it may be to your advantage to file even if you are not required to.

The law does require you to file a tax return if your income is above a certain level. Check the instructions for Form 1040. 1040A or 1040EZ (under "filing requirements") for specific details that may affect your need to file a tax return with IRS this year.

Here are some general guidelines for anyone under age 65. Remember, these guidelines may change based on your particular situation. In general, once you have the following gross income amounts, the law requires you to file a federal tax return with the IRS:

Single, \$7,450 Head of Household, \$9,550

Filing Married Jointly, \$13,400

Married Filing Separately, \$2,900

Generally, a person who is self-employed must file a tax return if his or her net earnings from self-employment for the year exceed \$400.

Even individuals who don't earn enough to be required to file a tax return may be eligible for an earned income credit up to \$2,428 for a taxpayer with one qualifying child and \$4,008 for a taxpayer with two or more qualifying children. Some individuals who do not have a qualifying child may be eligible for a credit of up to \$364. However, you must file a return to receive the Earned Income Tax Credit. You must also file a return if you received any advance payments of this credit while you worked during the year.

For more information, visit the IRS Web site at www. irs.gov.

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| vening | 901 | \$245.50 | · | • | | | 11-22-27-47 | |
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| Evening | 033 | \$236.50 | \$78.50 | \$23.50 | 1 | | 151 2-13-15-18- | |

YOUR SCHOOL NEWS

UCC's College For Kids Program Prepares Students For Test Taking

AREA - Beginning Feb 2.
2002, the College for Kids program, sponsored by the Division of Continuing Education and Community Services at Union County College, will begin its spring programs on both the Cranford and Plainfield campuses. Once again, the program

will offer test preparation courses in addition to its usual arts, music, science, and computer courses New this semester are courses for kids and their parents in "Mini Astronomy," "Conversational Spanish," and "Words in Motion (America Sign Language)."

The courses offered include

preparation for the Elementary School Proficiency Assessment (ESPA) given to 4th graders, the NJ Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment (GEPA), and the High School Proficiency Test (HSPT). Subject matter and test-taking strategies will be also covered. In addition to the test preparation courses, UCC will again offer courses for youth such as the "Stock Market Game", "Cisco Networking for Kids," "Journalism Workshop," "Comic Book Art," "Classical Piano," "Self Defense Techniques," "PeeWee Extravaganza," "Soccer Robotics," "Astronomy,"
"Diggin' for Dinosaurs, Rockin'
Rocks & Crystal Creations," and
"Theater Workshop."

For more information on College for Kids programming, please call Dale Munn at (908) 709-7048 or email: munn@ucc.edu.

Scholarships Offered

AREA — The NJ Chapter of the National Association of Water Companies has announced that it will offer a \$2,500 scholarship NJ high school seniors and college students pursuing studies towards a professional career in the water utility industry are eligible to apply for consideration for the

scholarships.

"By offering scholarships," said Walter J. Brady, Chairman of the Chapter's Scholarship Committee, "we expect to generate among NJ high school seniors and college students more interest in the growing field of private water utilities."

Eligible college students in-

clude those studying natural resource management, environmental science, biology, chemistry, engineering, communications, computer science, business administration, human resources, consumer affairs, law, accounting and finance. This year the Association is opening the scholarship to high school seniors preparing to enter college.

The 2001 recipient was Katiusca Polanco of North Brunswick, attending Rutgers Law School.

Applications and other eligibility criteria are available at college admissions offices or from Walter J. Brady, Middlesex Water Company, 1500 Ronson Rd., Iselin, NJ 08830.

Applications must be post-

marked by April 1, 2002. The scholarship recipients will be presented with their awards at the NJ Chapter's Annual Luncheon in June.

NAWC's New Jersey Chapter represents 18 private water companies in the state. NAWC itself, headquartered in Washington, D.C., represents over 300 companies nationwide.

Gifted Students Summer Program Schedule Announced

AREA -- The nineteenth annual 3-week academic, social and recreational summer experience for gifted students was announced by the Summer Institute For The Gifted (SIG), a Parsippany-based company Students in grades four through 11 can choose from a variety of courses on six college campuses: Amherst College, Vassar College, Bryn Mawr College, Denison University, Drew University and George School Instruction is offered in more than 80 academic, art and recreational courses such as math, theatre, sculpture, computer science and writing

slG courses are intended to cultivate students' interests and talents while allowing them to experience life on a college campus. The opportunity to create friendships with other gifted students is another important

benefit of participation. In 2001, SIG attracted a geographically and culturally rich student population of students from more than 43 states in the U.S., the District of Columbia and 20 other countries.

SIG was founded in 1984. The program, which has since grown to 1,600 participants from 132, blends a challenging academic experience, an opportunity for cultural exchange and social growth with recreation and traditional summer camp fun. SIG is a division of the Staniford, Conn-based American Institute For Foreign Study (AIFS), which has been a leader in organizing educational exchange programs for more than 37 years

The deadline to apply is March 15 Students are encouraged to apply early, as admission to SIG is on a rolling, first-

come, first-serve basis, and early acceptance assures a wider choice of campuses and dates. Program fees are approximately \$3,000 for a 3-week academic session. Students must meet certain academic criteria to participate. To request a 2002 SIG catalog, which includes complete course descriptions and an application, call toll free (866) 303-4744 or visit www. gifted-study.com.

Work is what you do so that some time you won't have to do it anymore.

- Alfred Polgar

A Blast From Your Past

AREA — A gala reunion is currently being organized for the following high schools:

| TOWING THEIR SCHOOLS. | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| HIGH SCHOOL/YEAR | DA | TE OF REUNION |
| Colonia 82 | | July 13 |
| Colonia 92 | | July 13 |
| Edison Township 61 & 62 | | April 20 |
| Edison Township 92 | | November 29 |
| JFK Iselin 92 | | August 3 |
| John P. Stevens 76 | Thromas one | April 20 |
| John P. Stevens 82 | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | August 3 |
| John P. Stevens 92 | • | August 10 |
| Sayreville War Memorial 82 | , | November 30 |
| Sayreville War Memorial 92 | | September 28 |
| Woodbridge 64 | and the second | July 6 |
| Woodbridge 77 | • | November 30 |
| Woodbridge 82 | | November 30 |
| Woodbridge 92 | • | August 3 |
| IC C | | 11 |

If you are a former member of any of these classes, please write to: Reunions Unlimited, Inc., P.O. Box 150, Englishtown, NJ 07726 or call 732-617-1000 for more info.

Local Residents Graduate From DeVry

AREA — DeVry Institute of
Technology has announced that
the following local residents graduated in Feb., 2001:

• Erik Kaufman, a resident of South Amboy, graduated with an associate's degree in Electronics and Computer Technology from DeVry College in North Brunswick Kaufman has secured a job as a Junior Field Service Technician, and is currently working for Mark Iv.

• Farheen Javid, a resident of South Amboy, graduated with a bachelor's degree in Electronics Engineering Technology from De Vry College in North Brunswick.

• Niraj Khanna, a resident of South Amboy, graduated with a bachelor's degree in Telecommunications Management from DeVry College in North Brunswick. Khanna has secured a job as a Network Control Center, and is currently working for Cingular Interactive.

• Keith Woznica, a resident of South Amboy, graduated with a bachelor's degree in Telecommunications Management from De Vry College in North Brunswick. Woznica has secured a job as an Implementation, and is currently working for Planet Associates.

• Herman Maura, a resident of Perth Amboy, graduated with a bachelor's degree in Computer Information Systems from DeVry College in North Brunswick.

•Anthony Ruffin, a resident of Perth Amboy, graduated with a bachelor's degree in Information Technology from DeVry College in North Brunswick.

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David Johnson, a resident of Perth Amboy, graduated with a bachelor's degree from DeVry College in North Brunswick. Johnson has secured a job as a Computer Technician, and is currently working for Plainfield Board Of Education.

• and Anthony Lipuma, a resident of Fords, graduated with a bachelor's degree from DeVry College in North Brunswick.

De Vry offers bachelor's degree programs in computer engineering technology, computer information systems, electronics engineering technology, business administration, telecommunications management, technical management and information technology, as well as an associate degree program in electronics and computer technology.



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REPAIR

RENTALS

INNKAYSD

CAR WASH

TIRES

Seven Safety Tips For Winter Driving

(NUI) Mechanical failure can be dangerous in winter's harsh conditions.

Here are tips from the experts at the nonprofit National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence to help keep you snug and safe. Some of the tips are easy but others require a professional technician:

- Read the owner's manual and follow the recommended service schedules. Even today's rugged sport utility vehicles and trucks need routine care.
- Remember "safety first." Inspect lights and bulbs. Replace worn wiper blades. Carry emergency gear: a shovel, sand or cat litter for traction, a blanket, boots, snack food and a cell phone.
- Check the battery. The only accurate way to detect a weak battery is with professional equipment, but motorists can clean corrosion from posts and cable connections. Remember to wear eye protection and gloves.
- Inspect the cooling system. The level, condition and concentration of antifreeze should be checked periodically. The cooling system should be flushed and refilled as recommended. Let the engine cool down before removing the radiator cap. The tightness and condition of drive belts. clamps and hoses should be checked by a professional techni-
- Monitor engine performance. Rough idling, hard starts, stalling and diminished power need to be corrected before cold weather sets in. Describe any changes in performance to the service manager

or a qualified technician. You'll improve your gas mileage, too.

- Check the tires. Rotate them about every 5,000 miles. Check air pressure monthly. Be sure to let the tires cool down first. Examine tires for cuts and nicks, uneven wearing, and cupping. Check the spare, too.
- Use professional technicians. Look for repair facilities with modern equipment, polite staff and ASE-certified automotive technicians.

For a free brochure with winter tips, send a self-addressed, stamped, business-sized envelope to: ASE Winter Brochure, Dept. Dulles NU-1201, 13505 Technology Drive, Suite 2, Herndon, VA 20171-3421.

ASE-certified technicians wear blue and white ASE shoulder insignia and carry credentials listing their exact areas of certification. Their employers often display the blue and white ASE sign.

Visit www.asecert.org for more information.

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'Share the Road' **During Your Travels**

(NUI) - It is important to think about safety on the road. Before you travel, consider these tips from Bridgestone/Firestone and the Trucking American Association:

- Avoid driving in a truck driver's blind spots. Remember, if you can't see the truck's side mirrors, the truck driver can't see you. Large trucks rarely have rear view mirrors and this blind spot extends at least 30 feet behind the trailer. The blind spot a ongside the truck also extends out several lanes on each side of the vehicle. If you're driving in one of these areas and the truck has to change lanes, the driver may not be able to see you.
- Don't drive alongside of a truck turning right. When a truck makes a sharp turn, the driver must swing wide. Because the driver's mirror is fixed to the tractor, during a turn the driver usually can't see anything on the right side of the truck.

 Don't pass a semi truck and then cut in front of it. Can you see a small object directly in front of your front bumper? Neither can a truck. That area can extend up to four car lengths in front of a semi truck. If you have to stop suddenly, it can take the semi truck twice the distance to stop that it takes you.

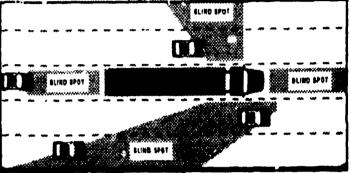
 Always check the air pressure in your tires before you

travel. Improper inflation can damage your tires. Tire pres-

sure changes as outdoor temperatures change. Use a good quality air pressure gauge and refer to the proper tire inflation information from your automobile's manufacturer, commonly listed on the door jamb or in the owner's manual. Properly inflated tires also can save you several hundred dollars annually at the gas umps.

For more tire safety information, visit www.tiresafety.com.

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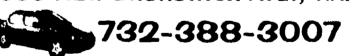
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EDITORIALS

Readers Commentary

Bring Back The Oldies

Dear Editor,

Public Television (PBS) has aired a series of "oldies" shows, the most recent simulcast on CBS FM radio, 101.1 in early December. It was entitled "Rock, Rhythm and DooWop." Radio personality Don K. Reed, who's appeared on each presentation, said this was music in its purest form, transcending all generations in a song's timelessness.

As one who has enjoyed a varied musical diet from rock'roll to classical and myriad inbetween, I still find the doo-wop era's lyrics, their harmoniousness, so enjoyable. A cappella? That too! Have a listen to Johnny Maestro sometime.

The past few months have seen dangerous elements enter our lives. We've been encouraged to proceed with our routines and pursue culture interests-see a play or movie, attend a concert. As many of us have always done, we're turning our radios on, maybe selecting a CD with favorite recordings. That's a positive thing about living in the greatest communications capital in the world. There's literally everything on the broadcasting dial, just not enough vintage substance!

The television screen has had one constant as T.J. Lubinsky, the PBS doowop series creator

has brought viewers the original group members, no imitations. When you see or hear Larry Chance and The Earls, "Remember Then," "I Believe; Jay Black, "Cara Mia," "This Magic Moment"; Lenny Coco and The Chimes, "Once In A While," "I'm In The Mood For Love"; Arlene Smith and The Chantels, "Maybe," "I Love You So"; what you see is what you get!

The performers themselves know that these appearances are special, so much so that lead singers such as Arlene Smith, a school teacher, performs only on occasion; Fred Parris of The Five Satins never does shows, that is, until this one. Singers such as Lenny Coco and Larry Chance have conquered serious health problems to once again perform live when others may have instead chosen an early retirement.

Again, to paraphrase a statement by Don K. Reed; a young person today can go out and buy a CD or tape and still hear the same sounds as (does anyone remember records) when it was first recorded. They might even savor these recordings as much as their predecessors whose one musical tastes, though diverse, when given an option elect to go back home to the "moldy oldies."

> Pete Wagner Colonia



On January 6, 1941, sixtyone years ago, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt concluded an address to Congress with a description of the four essential human freedoms. This portion of his speech, which became known as the four freedoms speech, was one of his best and is recognized as one of the greatest speech's ever delivered by an American President.

President described the four freedoms as, the freedom of speech and statement-everywhere in the world; freedom of every person to worship God in his own way-everywhere in the world; freedom from want-- everywhere in the world; and freedom from fear-- anywhere in the world. The President firmly believed that these freedoms are the bedrock on which a free society is formed and that it was the duty of the United States to uphold these concepts and that when challenged, protect these freedoms at home and around the world.

In the aftermath of the

September 11 attack on the United States and it's people the four freedom's speech resonates with us as much today as it did 61 years ago when the United States was on the brink of entering World War II. And today, perhaps more than any. time in the past 61 years, we know that the acts of tyrants on the other side of the world can affect these four freedoms-even here at home.

It is important to remember that President Roosevelt gave this speech when the Japanese attack on the American naval base at Pearl Harbor was still nearly a year away. However, Roosevelt Nazi Germany was well on it's way to brutally conquering Europe and Japan was waging war throughout Asia. The President knew that our national security was inexorably linked to the larger world in which we live. He understood that the United States could not stand by while dictators sought to create a "new order of tyranny" around the world. The speech provided him the opportunity to alert the Congress and the nation to the necessity of preparing for war by appealing to American's most profound beliefs about freedom.

The speech had it's desired

effect. The famed The Saturday Evening Post illustrator Norman Rockwell was so moved that he created a series of paintings on the Four Freedonis theme. Rockwell created these painting by translating these four concepts of freedom into four scenes of everyday American life. The paintings were so popular that they became the centerpiece of a massive U.S. war bond effort that raised millions of dollars for the war effort.

Sixty-one years later as the United States and freedom loving countries around the world are joining together to fight a 21st century dictator who is trying to "create a new order of tyranny around the world," the essential message of these four freedoms is stronger than ever. As Americans we must continue to support our the brave men and women who are fighting for freedom at home and around the world.

President Roosevelt said "freedom means the supremacy of human rights everywhere and that American support goes to those who struggle to gain those rights or keep them." It might have been said 61 years ago, but it is as true today as it was then.

What Really Matters

by Victoria Riskin, President of the Writers Guild of America, West

Dear Editor.

During the holiday season, parent searched for movies appropriate for their children and Hollywood studios spent millions of dollars to capture that young audience. Among the releases this Christmas was a Nickelodeon movie, Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius, that the company hopes will lead to the enormous merchandising revenues of their hugely-successful Rugrats. The studio has developed a sweeping national advertising campaign targeting children they hope will be lured into buying toys, video games, clothes and other products based on the movie and television series.

There is much more to the story, and it is very troubling.

Eight months ago, writers working on Nickelodeon's animated television series asked the Writers Guild of America, the union representing television and movie writers, to become their bargaining representative. The creative and hard-working men nd women who write many of the popular Nickelodeon animated television programs that kids love had felt mistreated for a long time and were frustrated in their efforts to have their concerns addressed by the company. They asked Nickelodeon to recognize the union and provide them the same benefits and protections as their colleagues in the rest of the industry.

They need the union's help, desperately. Nickelodeon pays many of them far less than unionnegotiated minimums and refuses to pay residuals, the standard for all writers in the industry for forty years. then more Nickelodeon does not offer multiemployer health or pension plans that are critical to those working in 'he entertainment industry.

When the Writers Guild asked Nickelodeon if we could begin discussions on behalf of these writers, Nickelodeon said no, not once but repeatedly.

The frustration of the writers mounted. They chose to vote on who should be their bargaining representative. The Guild invited California Assemblyman Paul Koretz to witness the election and certify that it was fair. In full view of their employer and Koretz, the writers cast secret ballots. Of twenty-one writers who voted, nineteen voted to be represented by the Guild.

What happened next? Nothing-and everything. Nickelodeon refused to sit down with the Guild.

After the writers of SpongeBob Nickelodeon's SquarePants asked to be represented by the Guild, Nickelodeon cancelled production of this hit show. After the writers on the series Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius asked to be represented by the union, Nickelodeon transferred the show and its writers to a subcontractor that offered no health coverage for their children or other dependents. After the Writers Guild asked whether the manufacturers Nickelodeon uses to make toys and apparel are signatory to fair labor codes protecting children in China and other countries from exploitation as child laborers, Nickelodeon had its lawyers respond with threatening letters to the Guild.

We are at the start of a new millennium, and it is hard to believe that some employers have not advanced beyond the painful and anti-labor days of How Green Was My Valley, The Grapes of Wrath and Norma Rae.

Nickelodeon is a subsidiary of Viacom, a giant corporation that owns CBS, Paramount Pictures, Showtime, Infinity Broadcasting, Westwood One, Simon & Schuster, Blockbuster Video, Infinity Outdoor Advertising, BET, MTV, VHI, TNN, Sundance Channel, King World, UPN and Comedy Central. Clearly that is not enough because Viacom now wants the Communications Federal Commission to lift the ownership rules that limit the number of media outlets one corporation can own. They want to own more, and more and ever more, but they don't want to pay even minimum benefits to the men and women who write the Nickelodeon programs that have helped make their company enormously profitable.

Nickelodeon's advertising slogan has long been 'We care about kids.' We believe Nickelodeon has demonstrated that it cares principally about profit.

After Sept. 11, Americans asked themselves what really matters, many determined that respect for others, human dignity, and fairness are the values they most cherish. If Nickelodeon does some soulsearching, I hope they come to the same conclusion.

YOUR LOCAL NEWS

Beach Going Coming Back To Central Jersey

"This project is extremely exciting because younger generations are not familiar with Perth Amboy's heyday when our beaches were a local attraction.

PERTH—Perth Amboy is poised to bring beach-going back to Central Jersey after the City Council awarded a contractor's bid last night for the first phase of the \$9.8 million Shoreline Restoration Project. The first phase was awarded to Trevcon Construction Co., Inc., of Liberty Corner, at a cost of \$3,906,000 and is expected to begin in February.

"This project is extremely exciting because younger gener-

Late January Events At Whispering Knoll

EDISON—Whispering Knoll. Edison's newest assisted living community, will be hosting a series of events open to the public throughout the end of January. Whispering Knoll. located at 62 James Street, across from JFK Medical Center, is a distinctive assisted living residence, affording the residents the independence of living on their own along with the confidence of knowing that an experienced staff is present at all times.

The following events are open to the public: Sunday, Jan. 20 from 12-3 p.m.-Open House an opportunity to tour the facility and meet our residents. Refreshments will be served. On Tuesday, Jan. 22, Ann Murray will entertain residants and guests-in the first floor Social Lounge.

Featuring 118 studios, oneand two-bedroom apartments, Whispering Knoll offers a number of unique amenities including formal dining, scenic gardens, peaceful patios, a gift shop, library with Internet

access, a cinema, an exercise room, social lounges, a game room and a bistro for relaxed dining. In addition to these and other basic offerings, Whispering Knoll provides a comprehensive activities program that includes daily social events, arts and crafts, religious services and exercise classes, as well as regularly scheduled community outings and transportation for local appointments and shopping needs.

Whispering Knoll also has a special care community for residents with memory impairments. In this separate community, comfort and consideration to resident's special situations combines to offer independence and security.

The special care community, which consists of 16 private apartments and two deluxe suites, is attended by a professional, caring staff 24-hours a day.

For more information or to arrange a tour, call (732) 744-5541.

ations are not familiar with Perth Amboy's heyday when our beaches were a local attraction. To them, beach going means having to fight through hours of traffic to enjoy the Jersey shore. We look forward to bringing the experience closer to home," stated Mayor Joseph Vas.

The first phase will begin with the widening and Ltabilizing of Perth Amboy's southern shoreline along Sadowski Parkway between High and Second Streets. Massive amounts of sand will be added along this 2,200 linear feet stretch. Phase I will also include the construction of two of the

project's three planned fishing piers.

In addition, the five existing groins that protect the city's storm water outfalls will be reconstructed, one new groin will be installed and two additional groins will be installed underneath the fishing piers. The groins will serve to strengthen and protect the sand in the future in order to deter erosion.

Latter phases of the project will include the addition of a service dock for the boat launching facility, a fuel dock, pump out station, restrooms, a bait concession stand and rehabilitation of the jetties. In addition,

the former Goldberg's scrapyard on Second Street will be transformed with a boat ramp, rack storage system and a parking lot.

The first phase of the project is expected to take at least eight months to complete. Plans for the second phase are currently being completed and may be constructed concurrently with Phase I. Already the city has received a total of \$6 million in grants for the project, \$5 million coming from the Middlesex County Open Space Program and another \$1 million coming from the NJ Department of Environmental Protection's Green Acres Program.

Americans Are Sweet On "Teddy"

WOODBRIDGE—"Kiss me once, and kiss me twice, then kiss me once again." That's the request of consumers nationwide. It seems they can't get enough of Hallmark's cuddly Kiss Kiss Bears.

So what is Hallmark's response? "Pucker up!" On Jan. 25, two new sets of Kiss Kiss Bears will be available at **Keflection Card & Gift located** at Gateway Mall Rt. 9 South, Parlin, (732) 727-3012. The new Hallmark Love & Kiss KissTM Bears celebrate the romance of Valentine's Day, while the ice skating Olympic Bears capture the spirit of the 2002 Olympic Winter Games.

For those who can't bear to

miss out, Reflections Card & Gift again is offering the bears at a sweet price. Consumers get a free Kiss Kiss Bear with the purchase of a matching Kiss Kiss Bear for \$3.99 and any three Hallmark cards, from Jan. 25-Feb. Quantities are limited.

These two new pairs are the third and fourth collectible Kiss Kiss Bear sets to be offered by Hallmark Cards in the past year. With each offering, stores nationwide have sold out. Some of the bears have even been up for bid on eBay.com.

What makes thee cubs dif-Kiss Kiss™ Perfect Pairs ferent from the average bear? They have magnets in their lips and Velcro® on their paws to help them hold "hands."

Plus, the new nine-inch-tall Hallmark Love & Kiss Kiss Bears are dressed in hot pink and purple fleece-like outfits, each decorated with a stylized heart applique. The Olympic Kiss Kiss Perfect Pairs Bears sport ice skates and matching costumes.

With the Kiss Kiss bears making what could be their last appearance and 2002 marking the 100th anniversary of the teddy bear, Hallmark expects its newest bear pairs to be be just as in-demand as their predecessors. There are 2.5 millions arctophilists-or teddy bear collectors-nationwide, and many of them are expected to celebrate the centennial milestone by expanding their collections.

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YOUR ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

14-

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AREA The Summer Spree edition of Ann Weiner's World of Mini Mania Miniature & Miniature Doll Show and Sale will be held on Sunday, Feb. 3 in the ballroom of the fashionable Marriott Hotel, Newark Airport. The Marriott is located opposite Terminal B on the grounds of Newark International Airport (Exit 14 of the NJ Tumpike). Hours are from 10 a.m. 4 p.m. General admission is \$6 for adults and \$2.50 for children. For directions call the hotel at (973) 623-0006.

A special workshop will be given on Saturday, Feb. 2 by Sandra Wall, Gerry Warner, Marshall Warner, and Rachelle Spiegel. The projects are Gibson Girl, fashionable flowers, utility table and orchids.

Call (732) 382-2135 for preregistration.

Mini Mania Arrives Music Man Added To Curriculum

AREA Dr. Keith Mason, teacher of Italian and Spanish at New Providence High School, is tying his school's spring musical to the curriculum. The 1957 Meredith Wilson classic "The Music Man" will be staged at NPHS in March. Dr. Mason recently penned two comprehensive study guides, one for teachers and one for students, that bridge "The Music Man" to 19 secondary subjects. The teacher's guide encourages teachers to incorporate concepts, themes and music from the show into their own lessons while the student's guide is released to all cast members and many also be used by students in their regular

classes to enhance learning via the musical.

Mason, who strongly believes busy continuing the tradition of in integrating the arts into his language classes, has received three Paper Mill Playhouse Rising Star Awards for Outstanding Educational Impact. This award is given to educators who have connected the production of their high school musical to the New Jersey core curriculum standards.

Mason has been recognized for his study guides and language-related projects in his Italian and Spanish courses tied to three musicals at NPHS: "Carousel," "Bye Bye Birdie," and "The Boys from Syracuse." He and his students were also

MANC

Keith Mason, Ph.D.

recognized by the Union County Educational Technology Training Center in their lesson

exert its influence on current

events, might have perched

"Ali" above the small crowd of

movies claiming the last word

on the subject. This includes

"The Greatest" (1977), a fairly

decent, albeit unusual chroni-

cling with Ali playing himself.

Though lacking in style and

depth, a nervy present-minded-

ness gave it a curiously unique

about director Mann's interpre-

tation of Steven J. Rivele's

screenplay (adapted from

Gregory Allen Howard's story)

is the lack of new information,

especially about the title charac-

ter himself. Granted, as "Ali"

reiterates, the man's place in his-

tory, his legacy as a civil rights

advocate and once martyred

exile, is indelibly written. But

the question persists. Aside

from being the World Champion

and international media pres-

Sure, we're all familiar with

boxing's answer to Ogden Nash,

"Bundini" Brown). We chuckled

warned his opponents that cer-

tain behaviors would result in a

speedier toppling (i.e.-About

Doug Jones: "Jones likes to mix,

so I'll let it go six. But if he talks

to a somewhat lesser extent

Ali. Seemingly intent on per-

prizefighter is forthcoming

about his weaknesses, especially

ence, who was Ali?

However, most disappointing

validity.

rise and fall of his marriages are delineated in basic detail.

But about the actual man

graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, Mason has taught at New Providence High School since 1996.

plan contest in February 2000

for an Italian project tired to

Students in Mason's Italian

and Spanish classes have cur-

rently been undertaking interdis-

ciplinary projects tied to "The

Music Man" that encourage lan-

guage use, theatre, music, art and

Mason recently wrote an

NJPAC study guide for their pro-

duction of Don Kersey's musical

adaptation of Charles Dicken's

"A Christmas Carol" that was

staged in December. A 1980

"Bye Bye Birdie."

history.

behind the icon, there is a blank. All of which either prompts us to surmise that there is an inner Muhammad Ali that we will never know, or worse, in the words of Peggy Lee, leads us to wonder, is that all there is?

Fact is, the film has a built-in problem. And that's us. We have previously been warned not to expect too much of our heroes. So we question. Have we ultimately attributed too much myth to this famous jock? Certainly it should be enough of an accomplishment to show undaunted courage in over sixty fights and during three decades of public life. And it's quite something to be remembered for your bold convictions and witty ways of proclaiming them. But that's a given. We learned all that in Muhammad Ali# 101. And now, because of Ali's debilitating illness, we feel cheated out of the senior statesman/raconteur we might have enjoyed long after his fighting power flagged. from treating us to Jon Voight's quasi-caricature, curiosity piece portrayal of Howard Cosell and Will Smith's obviously dedicated performance, Mr. Mann's "Ali" lacks the novel punch it needs to be a bona fide knockout.

well as the F.B.I.'s attempts to

Being the insatiably fickle public, we want more. But aside

"Ali," rated R, is a Columbia Pictures release directed by Michael Mann and stars Will Smith, Jon Voight and Jada Pinkett Smith. Running time: when it comes to women. The 158 minutes

POPCORN "Ali" Not Quite The Greatest popcorns By Michael S. Goldberger One Popcorn, Poor . Two Popcorns, Fair . Three Popcorns, Good . Four Popcorns, Excellent

A good percentage of the boxing cognoscenti concur that Muhammad Ali is the greatest. That he is, in his own words, "the greatest of all time." And as is illustrated in "Ali," the new film about the enigmatic champion's tumultuous but nonetheless illustrious career, Mr. Ali was amusingly fond of reminding us of this greatness at every opportunity. But then there are those strict constructionists who insist the rhyming fighter's popularity was more attributable to his flair for fluff than his actual stuff.

They defiantly maintain that the controversial heavyweight champion of the world, who shocked white America by

announcing he had become a Black Muslim shortly after gaining the title, couldn't hold a candle to Joe Louis. And then, though in continually diminishing numbers, there are those who still hold that Rocky Marciano was the best. A short list of other worthies headed by Jack Dempsey collects the remaining votes. Personally, I think my dad could have licked them all. Yet regardless of whether or not Muhammad Ali was indeed the greatest, the unfortunate news here is that director Michael Mann's "Ali" is

But hold on before you entirely count out this often entertaining film biography.

There's a very skillful Will Smith in the title role. And Jon Voight as Howard Cosell practically defies description. Good or bad (you be the judge), Mr. Voight's etching of the famed sports announcer is a filmic delicacy all its own. Achieving a striking physicality, Mr. Smith's interpretation of the former Cassius Clay,

a.k.a. The Louisville Slugger, is proof again that he can bob and weave amidst the ranks of heavyweight thespians One senses the strength that the fighter can instantly summon, the ready danger in his fists. And with a somewhat lesser enchantment, Smith realizes the wisecracking, silver-tongued thorn in conventional society's side that Ali came to represent. The fight sequences, from the first Sonny Liston encounter through the fraught-with-symbolism rumble in the jungle in Zaire with George Foreman, are effectively recreated. But if you're tooking for a boxing movie per se, skip it. None of "Ali" is as exhilarating as what Scorsese and De Niro wrought in "Raging Bull" (1980).

mentary recapitulation of the champ's travails following his refusal to be inducted into the army during the Vietnam War, coupled with all the pertinent dates and domestic tragedies, perfunctorily plays like the standard boilerplate of 1960s history with it in "JFK" (1991).

face peek into

who coined "Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee" (actually the invention of corner man Drew Director Mann's semi-docuat his numerous examples of prognosticating verse, which more often than not brazenly jive, I'll cut it to five," etc.). And we've come to know. But by now we're practically immune. Oliver Stone seared our brains we're cognizant of the religious fecting his faith, in this film the

A bit more soul with the civics lesson, which takes a sur-Elijah Muhammad's Nation of Islam as





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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

Recent Widow-Sad and blue, would like to meet a man like you! I am 58, 5'3" 118lbs. Financially secure, kind & generous and pretty also. Love cooking, games, prefer WWDM 60 yrs + with a sense of humor. Let's start anew in 2002 ID# 1063

WWF-My New Years resolution is to find a gentle man who is in his early 60's, family oriented, a big heart and needs someone like me. Can you help me out? **ID# 1061**

DWF 43, -5'3" N/S brown hair, brown eyes and mom to one child. Positive, outgoing, passionate, ISO F/S mate for steady relationship. **ID# 1060**

WWF 57, -slim, attractive, full of life, creative, caring, multi-interests. Looking for a man 50-65 with similar characteristics. ID# 1054

Attractive SWF 49, -5'4", 135 lbs., long hair, affectionate and honest. I am looking for an honest and caring man to share life with. For the good and bad times.ID# 1048

SWF 41, -Enjoys fun times, walks in the country, sight seeing, historic landmarks, dining out, reading. Seeking non-smoking SWM 40-50 for long term relationship.**ID# 1045**

WWF, widow, seeking a nice man for companionship between 65 and 70yrs of age. I enjoy movies, walking and dining out, TV and reading. I am also an animal lover.ID# 1043

SWF, 50's, 5'1". petite, attractive, romantic, seeking a white tall man 5'8"+ professional 49-56. Someone who is nice so we can both enjoy our time together.**ID# 1042**

SWF, semi-retired, down to earth, kind and independent, compassionate, homebody but adventurous. Seeking same in senior man.ID# 1044

SHF, 45 years old, 120lbs. I am studying English, I'm from Peru. I like to read, listen to music, dance, talk, cook and go for walks. I'm sensitive, kind, honest and enjoy family. I am Catholic. No smokers/drinkers please.ID# 1036

Hi, I am a white single lady and I am looking for a very nice man between 66-75. I have red hair, brown eyes and weigh 125lbs. Like to dance, dine out travel etc..please write. ID# 1034

WOMEN SEEKING MEN

SWF, Looking for a 70-ish male with a flair for living. Nice appearance, college educated and financially secure, brownish hair. Love to cuddled by Mr. Affectionate. **ID# 1033**

SWF 69, A compassionate and caring 69 year old SWF is looking for a 70's plus man who likes dining out, walks, theatre, good conversation with a good sense of humor and down to earth, trusting and caring. **ID# 1032**

SWF 39, Petite, attractive, romantic, adventurous. Enjoys candlelite dinners, traveling, cooking, snuggling. Seeking romantic, honest, outgoing SWM 39-46 for long term relationship. (picture?) ID# 1030

SWF 50's, Seeking gentleman 45-55 who enjoys ballroom, latin & swing dancing, for friendship and possible relationship. **ID# 1028**

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

SWM 46, 6'2, 230 lbs seeking SDWHA 30-50 female, who enjoys movies, New York, Vids, music, travel and walks on the beach. ID# 1065

SWM, never-married, 44, 5'9". Seeks black woman 25-50 for dating and relationship. Possible marriage in the future, must be affectionate and love to be cuddled. **ID# 1066**

Union County Gentleman, starting over. Mid-50's, easy going, secure w/no vices. I'm not looking for the impossible! ISO caring, honest, F/S, affectionate slim lady that appreciates TLC. ID# 1064

DWM 53, 5'10", N/S, no pets, salt & pepper hair, hazel eyes, stocky build, 190lbs. Seeking SWF or DWF to share with me all the fun and excitement Atlantic City casinos have to offer. Movies, ball room dancing, languages are my hobbies. Hispanics, Orientals ok. You won't be sorry. **ID# 1062**

Hi, I am a 34 year old Jewish male, 5'7", who is a college grad and N/S. I'm looking for a single Jewish female, 25-37, for a serious relationship. I'm a big sports fan & have additional interests such as dining out & going to the movies. Give me a try, you'll never know what you'll get! 10# 1058

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

SWM 48, Athletic build, blue eyes, good looking, N/3. enjoys music (rock, "big hair bands") movies, walking and good times together. Like to meet cute WF who can cook. Teach me! ID# 1059

SWM 45, never married, 5'10", 150 lbs. Kind, considerate, honest, open-minded. Enjoys art, music, movies, reading, traveling and bicycling. Seeks vivacious SWF 30-45 to share life with. ID# 1056

SWM 45, 5'10" 170 lbs, green eyes, brown hair. Enjoys cooking, dining out, good conversation, movies and fun with kids. Looking for a SWW, 40-46, honest, pretty for a LTR & friendship. Good shape and fun loving. ID# 1055

64 yr old, white, widower, seeks white female for honest relationship. I love to travel, dine out, movies etc. I am looking for a woman with a great sense of humor who enjoys the same. 10# 1052

Old Fashioned, Christian man seeking marriage minded christian woman, 35-60. I enjoy bible study, nature, zoos, NYC, water falls, fire places and hugs. Write and include phone number. ID# 1049

swm, 44, N/S, 6'2", eyes of blue, seeks N/S female for a very special relationship. Physical features are not as important as in having a heart of gold. I enjoy movies, dining out, sporting events and taking walks. 10# 1051

Retired WWM, trim, fit, 5'9", 155lbs, blue eyes, hair graying, n/s, artistic nature. Enjoys dining, dancing, music, old movies, theater, beaches, mountains. In search of WF dating partner, 50-60, similar traits and interests, n⇒ed not bat 1000, in the ball park is fine. ID# 1047

MEN SEEKNIG WOMEN

Hi, I am a SWM, 49, 61" and 185lbs. I am, looking to meet a woman for love and LT relationship. I'm sensitive, easy going sensuous, very secure and honest. Give me a try~nothing to lose. ID# 1039

DWM, 55, 5'10", NS, no children 185lbs. Seeking SWF 45-65, totally childless, not too thin, NS. Loves homelife, movies, music, quiet times and travelling, for friendship first. ID# 1057

SWM, 44, never married, stocky build. Enjoys staying home, oldies and talking sports. Non-smoker, a casual drink while dining out. Seeks SWF same, 40-45 for companionship or more. 10# 1038

SWM 48 - 5'5", good looking, nonsmoker. Seeks pretty SWF 32-47 for lasting relationship who needs my TLC:ID# 1029

SWM 38 - In shape, Seeks sexy senior lady 60-75 for company and friend-ship.ID# 1025

Annulled WM 60 - Semi-retired exteacher, 6ft, blue eyes, husky Nonsmoker, social drinker is refined, easy going, secure, baggage free, seeks S/DWF 48-60 n/s, solvent, polished with old fashioned values for friendship with poss. LTR. ID# 1031

SWM 52 - Seeks kind, considerate, honest, sensitive, down to earth WF 40-55 for growing old with. Possible marriage in future. Want to be there in the good as well as the bad moments in life. Send photo if possible. ID# 1024

SBM 51 - 5'6" 160 lbs, seeks black/white woman, 25-50, who is honest, kind and sweet, for a relationship of the best kind. P/P, smoker OK. ID# 1035

FRIENDS

SWF 53 -Hi, I enjoy drives to the country, dining out, dancing and traveling. Prefer a man to be between 55-60 years of age 10# 1053

ALTERNATIVE

SWM 36-ISO of other SPM or BM, 21-38 yrs old, enjoys the beach, movies, clubs, smoker/social drinker. Seeking LT relationship, into cuddling, very romantic passion, te, seeks same/likes to party, hang out, muscular, send pic w/phone #. ID# 1046

SBF-honest, sincere and loving. Looking for a full figured feminine woman between the ages of 30-40 yrs Looking for a friendship first, possible relationship. I'm a 38 yr old SBF, petite and straight forward n/s, n/d. No bi's please. ID# 1050

So What R U waiting 41?

Well, I see my ex-wife wasted no time placing a singles ad!

| D# 1047 | 1035 | |
|----------|--|-------------------------------------|
| To place | ce an AD in our Singles section ce an ad is <u>FREE!</u> Ad will run for 4 times. Re then forwarded to you confidentially! Send to | esponses to your ad will be sent to |
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| Telephon | 18 | - |
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| | Choose one: | |

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after contact is made between two people through the singles section. Be smart, afert and empy yourself

Devine Media publishes the singles section as a service to those seeking to meet someone and cannot be responsible

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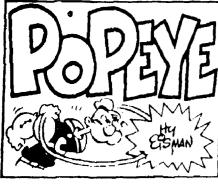
Comics Puzzles

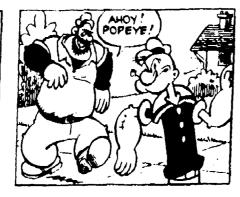
THE SPATS





















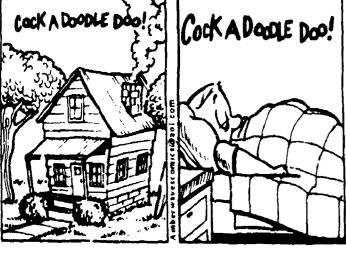


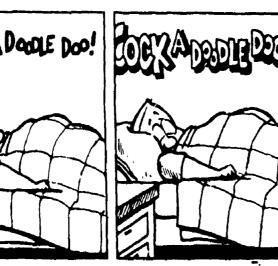




AMBER WAVES









GOT A LIFE



Supposedly, the mask represents toxic energy people waste on meaningless conversation, which in turn makes it symbolically hard for her to breathe.



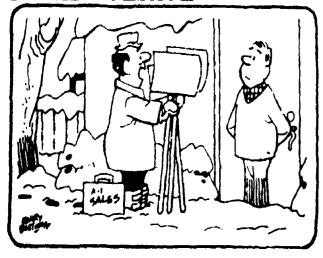
Well, we just left Matt with her, and he may miss the significance of her work.



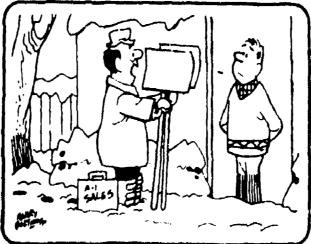


HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



S. Fence is higher 6 House is missing. is missing 3. Boots are taller 4. One shovel is gone. Differences 1. Sweater has decoration. 2. Doorknob

ACROSS

- 1 Frivolous one in song
- 4 tide 7 Egyptian god-
- dess 11 Newscaster
- Sevareid 13 Macadam
- ingredient4
- 14 Stopper
- 15 Culture medium
- 16 - Magnon 17 Green-eyed
- monster
- 18 Folkways 20 Pear variety
- abbr. 24 "West Side

22 Wanted-poster

- Story" Oscar winner
- 28 Interfering with 55 1492 vessel 56 Thought
- reception
- 32 Passover feast 57 Carnival set-33 Slangy suffix
- 34 Follow relent-
- lessly 59 "- Be Cruel" 36 Scenarist James 60 Eye sore
- 37 High
- 39 Light switches 41 Part of Scandi-
- navia 43 Off-bracketed
- word
- 44 Palette array
- 46 Ersatz beach
- blanket 50 Mist
- 53 Suitable
- **DOWN**

61 Jay's

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- passing abbr.
- 5 Insult 6 Witch craft?

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- scoop for you 31 Deity 8 Trinity member 35 Soldiers, for

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announcer

- 9 Columnist short 38 Greek cross **Kupcinet** 40 Cambridge ini-10 Firmament
- 12 Winter breaktials 42 Century fracfast, maybe
- 19 Tackle moguls tions
- 21 Titanic message 45 Skewer 47 Telegram 23 Moreover
- 48 Oklahoma city 1 Line of fashion 25 Advantage
- 2 Jason's carrier 26 -do-well 49 Crow's-nest
 - 27 Raw minerals call 28 Actress 50 Stashed
 - 51 Commotion Stapleton
 - 29 Singer Guthrie 52 Buddhist sect 30 Othelio was 54 Plaything

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S(COMMONWEALTH)GV

TTREQORRWNNNSNL

AKCILBUPERWUIIH

TFDCAZXWVUSORKD EQONMKJIYTICTHF

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

City Commonwealth County

District

Domain Empire Kingdom **Precinct**

Realm Fiegion Republic

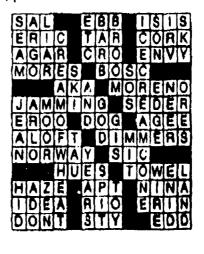
Province

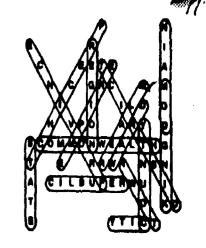
Town Ward

State

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to Puzzles





OBITUARIES

Theresa Brecka, 77 of Avenel

Mrs. Theresa (Phillips) Brecka of Avenel died November 29, 2001 at home. She was 77.

Born in Passaic, she lived in Perth Amboy and Avenel before moving to Prescott, Ariz.

She was a licensed practical nurse (LPN).

Mrs. Brecka belonged to the Order of Eastern Star-Prescott Golden Rule Chapter.

She was also a 39-year member of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Prescott.

Her parents, Terezia and Karolye Filep; three sisters, Goldie Phillips, Bertha Lasek and Helen Bukowczyk and a brother, Steven Phillips, are all deceased.

Surviving are her husband, Jack of 47 years; a daughter, Carol Lee McDonald; a brother, Charles Phillips; a sister, Esther Damoci; a grandson, Daniel C. and four grandchildren, Benjamin, Emily, Meghan and Timothy; a granddaughter, Laura S. Conner and a great-granddaughter, Rachel; and five nieces and three nephews.

Stella Dudzinski, 92 of Sayreville

Mrs. Stella Dudzinski of the Melrose section of Sayreville died January 6 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy Division. She was 92.

Born in Perth Amboy, she lived in Sayreville most of her life.

Mrs. Dudzinski was a communicant of Sacred Heart R.C. Church, South Amboy. She was a member of the Rosary Society.

She was also a member of the Sayreville Senior Citizens of the Sayreville Senior Citizens Wednesday Club.

Her first husband, John Zyskowski, died in 19 50 and her second husband, Anthony J. Dudzinski, died in 2000.

Surviving are two daughters, Dolores McCoy of Sayreville and Sylvia Holup of Hightstown; a stepdaughter, Joan English of South Amboy; two sisters, Helen Sendelsky of Perth Amboy and Lieanor Wisniewski of Sayreville; her brother, Stanley Wickley of Sayreville; eight grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Frank Zimmerman of Woodbridge

Mr. Frank Zimmerman of Woodbridge died January 7 at home. He was 57.

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

He was employed as an automobile mechanic with Abate Service Station, Rahway, for the past 23 years.

Mr. Zimmerman was an Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

His parents, Eugene and Helen (Slebics) Zimmerman; and a brother, Arthur Zimmerman, are all deceased.

Surviving are four sisters, Helen Valosin of Florida, Mary Comis of Perth Amboy, Anna Abate of Clark and Clara Zimmerman of Rahway; four brothers, Eugene "Zeke" Zimmerman, John Zimmerman and Charles Zimmerman, all of Woodbridge and Henry Zimmerman of Old Bridge; many nieces and nephews and a dear companion, Maria Garceb.

Zygmunt Dzielak, 88 of Sayreville

Mr. Zygmunt Dzielak of Sayreville died January 7 at Bayshore Community Hospital, Holmdel. He was 88.

Born in Helmetta, he resided in South River before moving to Sayreville in 1964.

Before his retirement over 30 years ago, he was employed as a machinist with Personal Products, a division of Johnson and Johnson, in Milltown, where he worked for 27 years.

Mr. Dzielak was a Navy veteran of World War II, a member of Sayreville Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4699.

He was a communicant of Our Lady of Victories R.C. Church, Sayrevilie.

His wife, Bernadine Babecki Dzielak, died Dec. 4, 2001. Five brothers, Herman, Alex, Chester, Edward and Walter Dzielak and three sisters, Eleanor Bowsarek, Irene Kupczynski and Sophie Dominiecki, are all deceased.

Surviving are two sons, David J. Dzielak of Sayreville and Martin Dzielak of Bayville; a daughter, Christine Dean of New Brunswick; two grandchildren, Sharie Lynn Dean and Michael Dzielak; a brother, Stanley Dzielak of Portsmouth, N.H. and a sister, Lottie Tomosko of Union Beach.

E.M. Pyonteck, 88 of Perth Amboy

Mrs. Elizabeth M. Pyonteck (nee Tanaway) of Perth Amboy died January 6 at home. She was 88.

Born in Perth Amboy, she was a lifelong resident there.

Mrs. Pyonteck was a communicant of Holy Spirit R.C. Church, Perth Amboy.

Her husband, John N. Pyonteck, died in 1991; and four sisters, Mary Pluckter, Anna Melicia, Helen Kominkiewicz and Agnes Tanaway, are also deceased.

Surviving are a son, John of Louisville, Ken.; two daughters, Alberta Fedynyshyn of Clayton, Calif. and Barbara Ann Balog of Lakewood; four sisters, Julia Petrick and Rose Puleio, both of Perth Amboy, Margaret Borusovich of Edison and Dorothy Pancoe of Laguna Hills, Calif.; seven grandchildren, Basil Fedynyshyn, Joseph Fedynyshyn, Lisa Conforti, Debra Zakrzewski, John E. Pyonteck, Jeffrey Balog and Eric Balog; and seven great-grandchildren.

Julius M. Kovacs of Edison

Mr. Julius M. Kovacs of Edison died January 2 in Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick. He was 84.

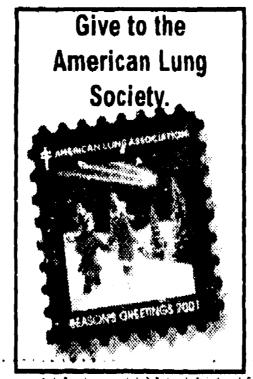
Born in Perth Amboy, he lived there for 20 years and in New Brunswick for 10 years before moving to Edison.

He owned and operated the Linwood Grove Tavern and Restaurant, Edison, for 30 years before retiring.

He was also employed by the Edison Township Department of Parks and Recreation for 18 years until 1997.

Mr. Kovaes served in the Army during World War II.

Surviving is a son, Richard and four grandchildren.



Neil Zullo, Jr., 70 of Carteret

Mr. Neil Zullo, Jr. of Carteret died January 8 at Raritan Bay Medical Center, Perth Amboy Division. He was 70.

Born in Carteret, he was a lifelong resident.

He retired as a mail carrier from the Carteret post office, where he worked for 35 years.

Mr. Zullo was a parishioner of St. Joseph's R.C. Church, Carteret.

Ho was an Army veteran of the Korean War.

Mr. Zullo was a life member and ex-chief of Carteret Volunteer Fire Company No. 2.

His father, Neil Zullo Sr. and a brother, Anthony Zullo, are both deceased.

Surviving are his wife, Frances (Holon) Zullo; two daughters, Cheryl Dempsey of Byram and Mary Beth Gorecki of Woodbridge; two sons, Michael Zullo of Edison and David Zullo of Carteret; his mother, Mary Zullo of Carteret; a sister, Anne Davis of Port Reading; two brothers, Joseph Zulio of Dunellen and Thomas Zullo of Pennsylvania; and six grandchildren, Jessica, Steven, Michael Jr., Samantha, Christopher and Kimberly.

John A. Palmer, 87 of Colonia

Mr. John A. Palmer of Allen, Texas (formerly of Colonia) died January 3 at Victoria Gardens of Allen Nursing Home, Allen, Texas. He was 87.

Born in Greenport, N.Y., he lived in Newark before moving to Colonia in 1954. He resided in Allen, Texas, since 1999.

Mr. Palmer was an assembly line worker for General Motors, Linden, for 18 years before retiring.

He was an Army veteran of World War II and a member of the Colonia Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6061.

Angelina Rassofsky of Perth Amboy

Mrs. Angelina Klopf (Swintak) Rassofsky of Beltsville, Md., (formerly of Perth Amboy) died January 6 at Cherry Lane Nursing Home. Laurel, Md. She was 87.

Born in Perth Amboy, she lived there before moving to Beltsville 15 years ago.

Mrs. Rassofsky was a communicant of Our Lady of Hungary R.C. Church, and a former member of Ss. Cyril & Methodius National Catholic

Klopf Church, both in Perth Amboy.

y of She was also a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

Her husband, Emil Rassofsky; three brothers, Alex, Phil and Michael Swintak, are all deceased.

Surviving are a son, Emil Rassofsky, Jr. of Beltsville: her sister, Tessie Mecka of Perth Amboy; and three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren



Together, we can save a life.





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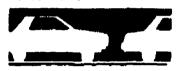
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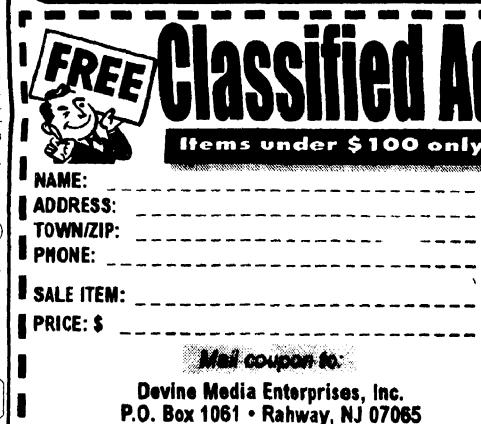
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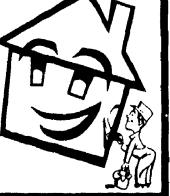
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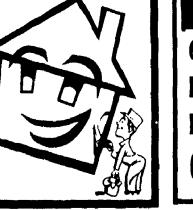


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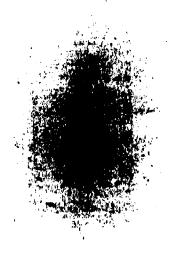
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