

The ATOM TABLOID

& Citizen-Gazette

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Pallone Requests Transportation Funds For South Amboy

SOUTH AMBOY — U.S. Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ) has requested more than \$1.1 million from the House Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee for the continued construction of the South Amboy Regional Intermodal Transportation Initiative. Pallone made his funding request for Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 in a formal letter to House Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Harold Rogers (R-KY).

Pallone requested \$1,117,500 to widen lanes on the bridge connecting the roadway and ferry sections of the South Amboy Intermodal Transportation Initiative. The overall project, which when completed will link several major regional routes and modes of transportation at one central point of transfer within South Amboy, is New Jersey's only combined rail, bus, ferry, auto and pedestrian intermodal transportation center and would serve

as a national model.

The New Jersey Congressman worked closely with Mayor John O'Leary and South Amboy officials in 1998 to secure federal support for the entire project. In 1998, Congress approved a total of \$14.5 million for the South Amboy Initiative under the Transportation Equity Act For The 21st Century ("TEA-21"). The total cost of the project, including land acquisition and construction, is \$32.8 million. Pallone said the project has already received \$11.9 million of the \$14.5 million in federal funds authorized as part of TEA-21.

To date, Pallone said, the ferry is providing service between South Amboy and Manhattan while design work on the ferry terminal and roadway has been completed. Permit applications, property acquisitions and various engineering and environmental assessments are well underway.

However, one finding of a

recent engineering evaluation said that the bridge, which will provide access to the roadway and ferry, will require an additional two lanes. The original TEA-21 grant application only specified a two-lane roadway. Pallone said the additional lanes are required to accommodate

anticipated traffic volumes both to and from the Intermodal Transportation Center.

The House Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee will draft its FY 2003 funding legislation over the next couple of months. FY 2003 officially begins October 1, 2002.

Community Rallies To Keep Pizzeria

PERTH AMBOY—Last week, the Sciortino family staged a rally to save their New Brunswick Avenue pizzeria from the being demolished to make way for the city's proposed new public safety complex.

For several hours, family members, friends, neighbors and on-lookers filled the parking lot next to Sciortino's Pizzeria as cries of "Save Sciortino's, Save Perth Amboy" filled the air.

City code-enforcement officer Ed Scala made the family move the rally from the sidewalk in front of the pizzeria to the parking lot because he said that their tent was blocking the sidewalk.

The family urged passers by to sign a petition or fill out postcards to their elected officials urging them to spare the homes and businesses on the block.

Louis Seminski Jr, who grew up working in the restaurant now co-owned by his father and

his father's cousin, said that he hopes that the state-level officials can influence Mayor Joseph Vas and the city government to at least consider a parking deck.

Sciortino's Pizzeria is slated for demolition so that the city can build a portion of the parking lot for the public safety complex. However, according to Seminski, the pizzeria property will yield only 200 spaces of the 600-800 that are necessary for the proposed complex.

The family has hired Lee Cohen of DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick, & Gluck in Teaneck to represent them. Seminski says that in addition to the petition campaign, the family is also looking into having the restaurant designated a historic landmark.

The family is hopeful that the pizzeria can be saved. "The local support really helps. Our best resource are our patrons," said Seminski.

Primary Races Take Shape

Monday was the deadline for candidates to file nominating petitions to run in June's primary election.

Incumbents are indicated by an asterisk (*); Republicans by (R) and Democrats by (D).

Edison

No municipal elections this year.

Metuchen

Council

Two 3-year seats

Thomas Vahalla* (D)

Marion Price* (D)

Lewis Levy (R)

Jennifer Lacy (R)

Perth Amboy

Non-partisan elections will be held May 7.

Sayreville

Council

Two 3-year seats

Frank Makransky* (R)

Vincent Zarcaro Jr.* (R)

Jeff Pawlowski (D)

Dennis Grobelny (D)

South Amboy

Mayor

John T. O'Leary* (D)

Council

Two 4-year seats

Fred A. Henry* (D)

Joseph E. Connors (D)

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YOUR LOCAL NEWS

Vas Kicks Off Shoreline Improvement

PERTH AMBOY—Mayor Joseph Vas held a groundbreaking ceremony recently to kick off the first phase of the ambitious \$9.8 million Shoreline Improvement Project,

which will replenish Perth Amboy's beaches, create new recreational opportunities and bring beach-going back to Central Jersey. The long-awaited project is coming to life after nearly three years of planning and aggressive funding seeking on the part of the city's administration.

The first phase will be constructed by Trevcon Construction Co., Inc., of Liberty Corner, who was awarded a contract in December at a cost of \$3,906,000. This phase will begin with the widening and stabilizing 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 foot 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 three-phase project has received all of its funding to date without any cost to the taxpayers of Perth Amboy. In September of 1999, the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders awarded Perth Amboy \$5 million from the county's Open Space Program. Subsequently, the NJ

Department of Environmental Protection awarded Perth Amboy \$1 million from the DEP's Green Acres Program and, just recently, another \$2.5 million from the National and Historic Resources Division of Engineering and Construction.

"We are extremely grateful to Freeholder Director Dave Crabel, the entire Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection for recognizing the value of this project and committing their full resources to helping us bring it to life," concluded Mayor Vas.

The first phase of the project is expected to take at least 8 months to complete. Plans for the second phase are currently being completed and may be constructed concurrently with Phase I. For additional information, contact Mayor Vas at (732) 826-7121.



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Citizen-Gazette

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Trenton Thunder Bus Trip

SOUTH AMBOY—The Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of Victory Council #2061, Sayreville, are sponsoring a bus trip to the Trenton Thunder baseball game on Saturday, June 22. The bus leaves promptly at 5 p.m. and the game starts at 7:05 p.m. The cost of the bus and the game ticket is \$20, for adults and \$18 for children. Baseball Bingo will be played and a fireworks display is planned after the game. Tickets are limited and the first 90 paid are guaranteed a seat. Call for further details or to arrange tickets, contact Dan Ronan at (732) 727-2010 or Joe Rochford at (732) 525-1768.



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YOUR COUNTY NEWS

Resident Wins Sales Excellence Award

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — Middlesex County resident John Colaiuti, executive director of sales for Verizon Wireless, the nation's largest wireless carrier, recently was named one of the company's top sales achievers for 2001. He was one of only ten Verizon Wireless employees to

receive the Area of Excellence sales award for the company's New York metro area. Award winners received a trip to the Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas.

Colaiuti earned the award based on his sales leadership and exceptional customer service.

Elizabethtown To Distribute Water Conservation Kits At NJ Malls

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — Elizabethtown Water Company is taking an aggressive, multi-faceted approach in addressing New Jersey's statewide drought emergency. With the state's reservoir system well below normal capacity, the company is calling on customers and employees to do their part to help conserve water.

"At this point, the state needs above average rainfall over the next few months to help curtail the drought emergency."

As part of this effort, Elizabethtown employees will be at the Menlo Park Mall, Edison, on Saturday, April 20 from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. to distribute information about water conservation to mall customers. The first 15,000 families to visit Elizabethtown's booth will receive a water conservation kit. Each conservation kit contains a low-flow shower head, two faucet aerators, leak detection dye tablets, a toilet tummy which displaces water in the tank and information on both mandatory and voluntary steps consumers can take to help conserve water. In total, Elizabethtown plans to distribute at least 60,000 conservation kits at various malls during the month of April.

While long-term weather forecasts are indicating a return to normal precipitation levels this year, Elizabethtown officials point out that simply

going back to normal will not make up the current deficit. "We have had a rainfall deficit exceeding 12 inches," explains Dennis Cierniecki, vice president-water quality. "At this point, the state needs above average rainfall over the next few months to help curtail the drought emergency."

In addition to distributing the water conservation kits, Elizabethtown is using posters, brochures, and various forms of advertising, to inform customers of a few simple steps that can help save thousands of gallons of water. These include:

Turning off water while shaving or brushing your teeth.

- Insulating your water heater and all hot water pipes will mean less water will be wasted waiting for hot water to flow.

- Adjusting the water level on your washing machine to match the size of your laundry load can help conserve water and maximize its usage.

- Installing water efficient shower heads help reduce water consumption by 30 percent to 70 percent.

- Installing water efficient aerators on your bathroom and kitchen sinks can cut water consumption in half.

- Repairing leaky faucets can save two gallons of water every hour.

MCRC South River Chapter Meeting

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — The South River Chapter of the Middlesex County Regional Chamber of Commerce announces its first program meeting on Friday, April 19 at 8:30 a.m. at Laffin Chevrolet, Main Street, South River.

This month's program will focus on "Successful Retailing" featuring speakers from the New Jersey Retail Merchants Association on retailing security, merchandising and benchmarking for success.

Chapter programs are planned by a chapter committee made up of local business members along with the leadership of the municipality. These programs will directly address the specific needs of the individual community and give the opportunity for local businesses to network, discuss local issues and have access to the information necessary for their success.

South River Chapter Committee members are Skeeter Spitaleri of Spitaleri Furniture, Bill Kahse of Direct Fastening Services, Rose Prusik of PNC Bank, Renee Parsons of First Savings Bank, Chris Rafano of Rafano and Wood, David Sliker of Sliker Machine Werks, Scott Laffin of Laffin Chevrolet, Camille Montemurno of Cambridge Candle and Brian Valentino of Borough of South River.

This program is open to all businesses as guests of the South River Chapter Committee. Registration is requested. Call (732) 821-1700 for more information and directions. Register on line at www.mcrc.org.

Senior Volunteers Needed

MIDDLESEX COUNTY — The NJ Foster Grandparent Program is seeking people to work with special needs children and young adults at the Woodbridge Developmental Center.

If you are 60 years of age or older, and meet the eligibility requirements, you can become a Foster Grandparent. The program offers caring people the opportunity to provide friendship and guidance to children and young adults who live in developmental centers or attend day training and day care centers throughout the state.

Foster Grandparents spend two

hours a day, five days a week with each of two people for a total of 20 hours per week. No special education or experience is necessary. The program will train you.

Program benefits include:

- * Tax free stipend of \$2.55 per hour
- * Travel reimbursement of .31 per mile for drivers
- * Prepaid bus passes
- * Paid holidays, vacation and sick leave
- * Supplemental accident and liability insurance

For further information, contact the Foster Grandparent Office at 732-499-5529

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Send to: Mother's Day Sentiments, P.O. Box 1061, Rahway, NJ 07065

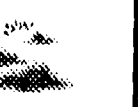
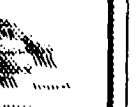


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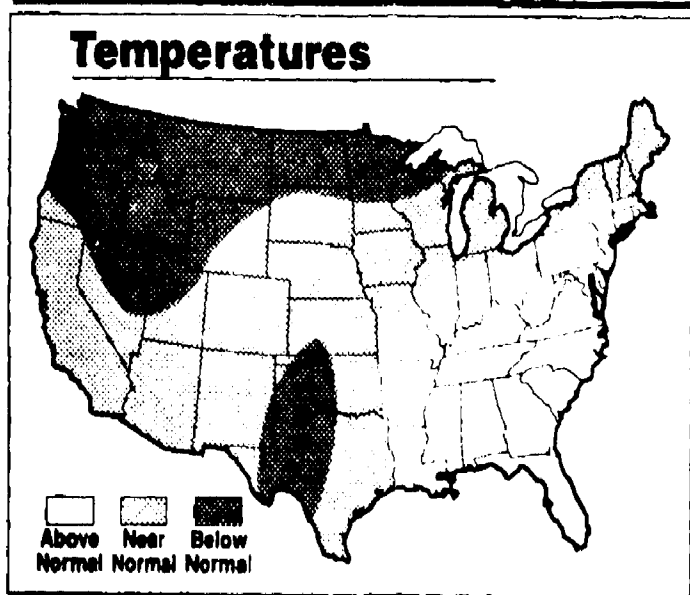
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LOCAL 7-DAY FORECAST

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
							
Cloudy; breezy later on.	Cloudy; it may shower.	Considerable cloudiness.	Mostly cloudy.	Rather cloudy.	Mostly cloudy and warm.	Cloudy with rain.	Very windy.
59	45	60/43	60/45	66/52	71/52	68/48	51/33

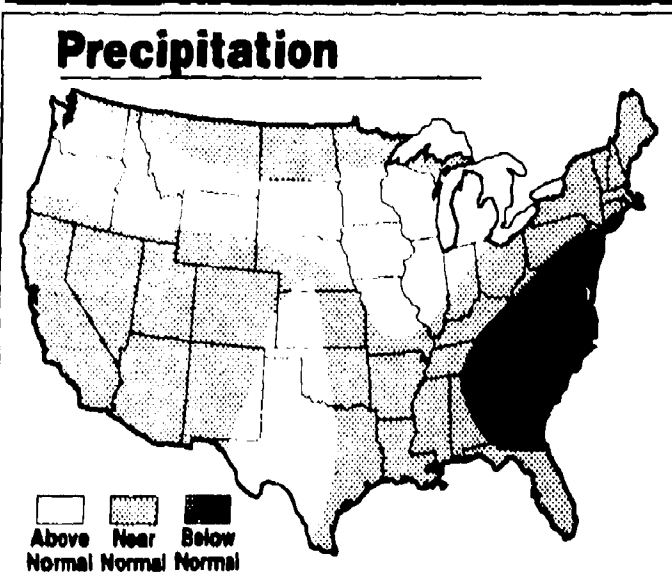
THE WEEK AHEAD...



NATIONAL SUMMARY

The jet stream will push storms across the Pacific Northwest and northern Plains. Precipitation will be common across the Dakotas, Minnesota and the northern Rocky Mountains. Warm weather is expected to dominate the eastern third of the country. Temperatures across the Southeast and Middle Atlantic may average 10 to 15 degrees above normal.

THE WEEK AHEAD...



U.S. TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Atlanta	75 57 c	76 56 c	74 53 c	72 60 c
Boston	52 42 c	52 41 c	57 42 c	62 50 c
Chicago	66 44 pc	66 46 pc	66 47 c	64 49 c
Cleveland	59 42 pc	64 45 s	63 47 c	65 47 pc
Denver	62 38 c	65 41 c	67 42 c	60 37 c
Des Moines	70 49 c	69 48 c	68 46 c	64 50 sh
Detroit	62 44 pc	65 46 pc	65 48 c	66 47 c
Houston	82 62 pc	84 65 c	80 62 r	82 65 c
Indianapolis	68 48 pc	71 51 pc	70 51 sh	65 52 c
Kansas City	71 52 c	69 54 sh	71 52 c	69 54 sh
Los Angeles	73 50 pc	73 53 pc	71 54 pc	73 41 s
Miami	83 71 s	84 71 s	84 71 sh	83 69 s
Minn.-St. Paul	60 45 c	61 44 c	63 47 c	60 46 sh
New Orleans	78 63 c	80 63 s	80 62 r	80 67 pc
New York City	60 48 c	60 48 c	66 52 pc	66 54 c
Omaha	70 48 c	67 46 t	70 45 c	65 47 sh
Phoenix	81 58 s	84 62 s	86 62 pc	87 50 s
San Francisco	63 52 c	61 53 sh	63 51 pc	64 40 pc
Seattle	56 40 sh	56 40 r	56 41 c	55 39 sh
Washington	68 52 sh	70 54 c	72 54 s	70 56 c

SUN & MOON

Sunrise	Sunset
Thu. 6:25 a.m.	7:32 p.m.
Fri. 6:24 a.m.	7:33 p.m.

Moonrise	Moonset
Thu. 6:17 a.m.	6:32 p.m.
Fri. 6:40 a.m.	7:31 p.m.

Moon Phases

New	First	Full	Last
Apr 12	Apr 20	Apr 26	May 4

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

WORLD TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Amsterdam	56 46 c	63 45 c	60 47 pc	58 49 c
Berlin	58 43 pc	64 45 c	64 48 c	59 48 sh
Buenos Aires	68 55 c	64 52 pc	59 46 pc	61 48 pc
Cairo	92 58 pc	91 61 s	94 67 s	94 69 pc
Jerusalem	74 46 s	72 49 s	78 55 s	80 59 pc
Johannesburg	79 55 pc	78 61 pc	71 59 c	74 60 sh
London	54 44 c	60 42 c	56 43 c	56 49 sh
Madrid	46 43 r	54 41 sh	55 42 r	52 42 c
Mexico City	75 49 pc	78 48 s	78 48 s	80 50 s
Moscow	46 29 s	53 33 s	55 38 s	56 36 pc
Paris	51 44 sh	63 43 pc	60 46 pc	53 52 r
Rio de Janeiro	81 71 pc	84 71 pc	81 68 pc	80 67 pc
Rome	60 53 sh	64 54 r	61 54 r	59 51 r
San Juan	83 69 pc	84 70 pc	84 70 s	84 70 s
Seoul	54 39 s	56 41 pc	63 53 pc	69 56 pc
Sydney	76 56 pc	77 56 pc	77 59 c	71 59 r
Tokyo	60 54 c	55 51 r	61 47 pc	62 52 s
Toronto	52 38 c	57 41 c	62 45 c	63 43 sh
Winnipeg	42 32 c	40 34 sh	50 35 c	49 24 c
Zurich	59 40 pc	67 46 pc	53 50 r	54 51 r

Community Calendar

APRIL 12 from 5-7 p.m.—The Annual Fish and Chips dinner is sponsored by St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 4th Ave. and Walnut St., Roselle. Tickets are \$10. Take-out dinners are available by reservations only. For more information, call the church at (908) 245-0815 or 241-0768.

APRIL 12 from 2-4:30 p.m.—The Linden Board of Health will run a hypertension screening program for people of all ages at the City Hall, Council Chambers at 301 North Wood Avenue.

APRIL 12-14—The 14th Annual Spring Westfield Art & Craft Market will be held at the Westfield Armory, 500 Rahway Ave., Westfield. Hours are Friday, 5-8:30 p.m.; Sat. from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. A weekend pass is \$6; under 10 admitted free. Parking is free. No strollers, please!

APRIL 13 at 8 p.m.—The Kean University Saturday Night Concert Series will present the New Jersey Ballet's full-length production of Coppelius in Wilkins Theatre, 1000 Morris Ave., Union. Tickets are \$18 for the general public; \$16 for senior citizens and \$12 for students. For more information or to reserve tickets, call the Wilkins Theatre Box Office at (908) 527-2337.

APRIL 13 & 27 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.—Wee Speak, Inc., will conduct a free speech, language and learning service screening to preschool children, 3-5 years of age. April 13 at the Minnie Veal Recreation Center, 1070 Grove Ave. and April 27 at the Edison Main Library, 340 Plainfield Ave.

APRIL 13 at 2 p.m.—Musical group Browne Jenkyn will perform at the Edison Main Library, 340 Plainfield Ave. To register, call the library at (732) 287-2298, ext. 1.

APRIL 14 at 1 p.m.—The Perth Amboy YMHA will present a program called, "Totally Tea." A social history of tea in America during the 17th and 18th centuries will be enjoyed along with coffee and cakes that were popular during the American Revolutionary. Call (732) 442-0365 for reservations. The YMHA is located at 316 Madison Avenue.

APRIL 14 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.—The Rahway Recreation/P.A.L. will present a Memorabilia and collectibles (sports and non-sports) Show at the Rahway Senior Center, 1306 Esterbrook Avenue (off W. Milton Ave.). Admission is \$1 (free admission for children under 10 when accompanied by an adult). Call Lois at (732) 382-2016 for details.

Legal Services

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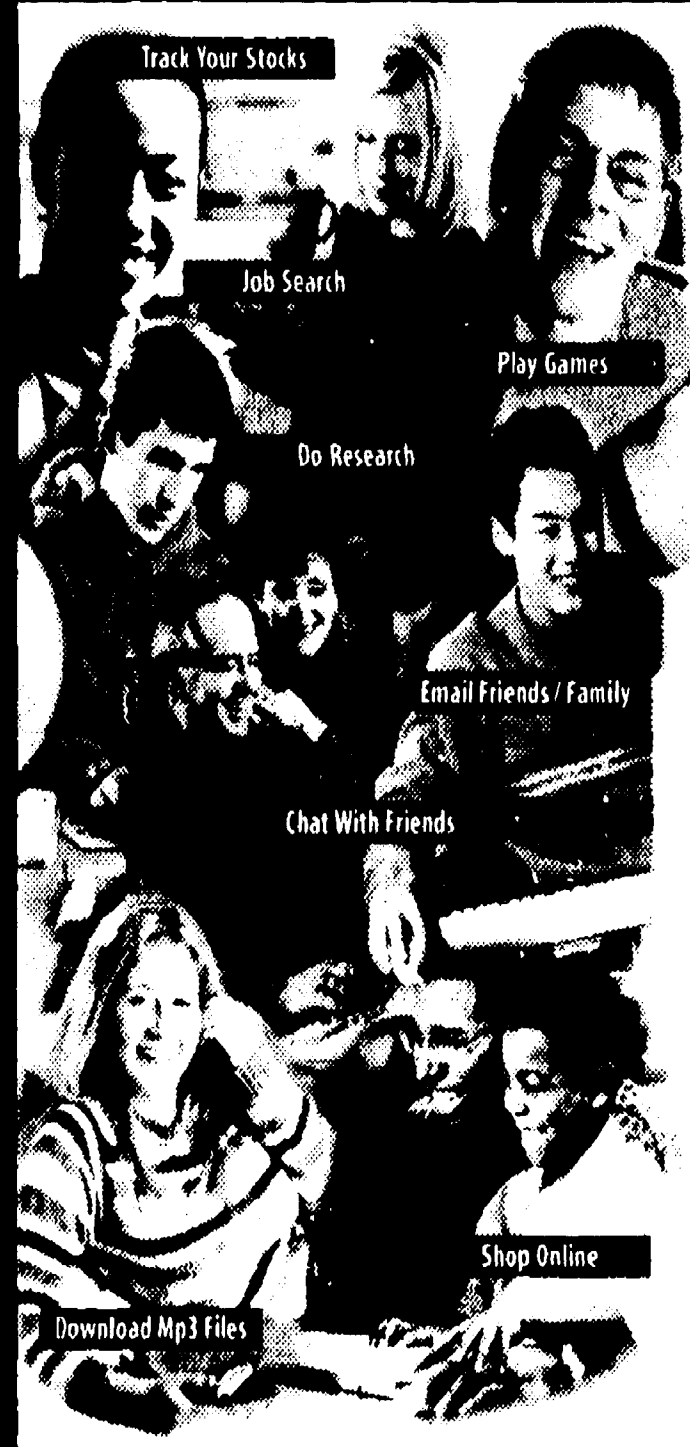
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YOUR FINANCIAL NEWS**What To Do If You Can't Pay Your Taxes**

AREA — If this year's tax filing deadline will be a "pay" day for you and you cannot pay the full amount that you owe, you should still file your return by the due date and pay as much as you can. The IRS may allow you to pay any remaining balance over time in monthly installments through an Installment Agreement or possibly even settle for less than the full amount owed through its Offer in Compromise program.

If you find that you cannot pay the full amount by the filing deadline, you should file your return and pay as much as you can by the due date. To see if you qualify for an installment payment plan, attach a Form 9465, "Installment Agreement Request," to the front of your tax

return. The IRS has streamlined the approval process if the amount owed is not more than \$25,000 and can be paid off within a five-year period. Be sure to show the amount of your proposed monthly payment and the date you wish to make your payment each month.

The IRS charges a \$43 fee for setting up an installment agreement and you will also be required to pay interest plus a late payment penalty on the unpaid balance. This penalty, usually 0.5 percent of the balance due per month, drops to a 0.25 percent rate when the IRS approves the installment agreement if your return was filed on time and you did not receive a levy notice from the IRS.

Besides possibly qualifying for the reduced late payment

penalty, you have another reason for filing your return by the due date - you avoid the late filing penalty, 5 percent per month of the balance due. Paying as much as you can when you file your return will reduce interest and penalty charges.

If you find that you cannot possibly come up with the money

to pay your taxes, even through an installment plan, you may apply for an "offer in compromise" to settle your tax debt for less than the full amount owed.

The IRS will review your financial situation and future income potential to determine whether your offer is appropriate. Send Form 656, "Offer in Compromise," and Form 433A, "Collection Information State-

ment," to the IRS to determine your eligibility.

The IRS Web site at www.irs.gov has interactive sections to help you determine your eligibility for an installment plan or an offer in compromise. You can also download all the necessary forms from that site.

The forms are also available by calling toll free 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

New Jersey Tax Amnesty To Commence April 15

AREA — New Jersey's 2002 Tax Amnesty program will begin on Monday, April 15, and end at midnight on Monday, June 10.

Under Amnesty, filers will pay only the tax they owe; all penalties and interest will be waived. New Jersey State tax liabilities for tax returns due on or after January 1, 1996 and before January 1, 2002 will be eligible for Amnesty during this 56-day period.

All taxes administered by the State Division of Taxation -

including, but not limited to, Sales and Use Taxes, the Personal Income Tax and Corporate Taxes - will be eligible for Amnesty. Federal taxes, local property taxes and taxes paid to other states are not eligible for Amnesty under this program.

After the Tax Amnesty period ends, an additional 5% penalty, which shall not be subject to waiver or abatement, will be imposed on all outstanding Amnesty-eligible tax amounts, and a

collection service fee may be imposed. The 5% penalty and the collection service fee will be in addition to all penalties, interest and other costs authorized by law.

The Amnesty program was authorized under bipartisan legislation signed into law by Governor James E. McGreevey last month. The program is estimated to yield \$150 million in revenue as part of a legislative package to bring the FY 2002 budget into balance.

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Ensuring Proper Credit Of Payment

AREA — When the bottom line of your tax return says, "Amount You Owe," the IRS reminds you to be sure to make your check or money order payable to the "United States Treasury." Do not mail cash with your tax return.

Whether you are filing your current year's return, a prior year's return or an amended return, always provide your correct name, address, Social Security number, daytime telephone number, tax year, and form number on the front of your check or money order. Enclose your payment with your return, but do not staple it to the form.

If you have a balance due on your 2001 Form 1040, complete and include Form 1040-V, "Payment Voucher," when sending your payment and return to the IRS. This will help the IRS process your payment more accurately and efficiently. Follow the instructions on the form.

Do not include a 2002 estimated tax payment with your 2001 income tax return. Mail your estimated tax payments separately to the address shown in the Form 1040-ES instructions.

For more information, call toll free 1-800-829-4477 to check out TeleTax Topic 158, "Ensuring Proper Credit of Payments." This

information is also contained in Publication 17, "Your Federal Income Tax," available on the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov.

Foreign Income

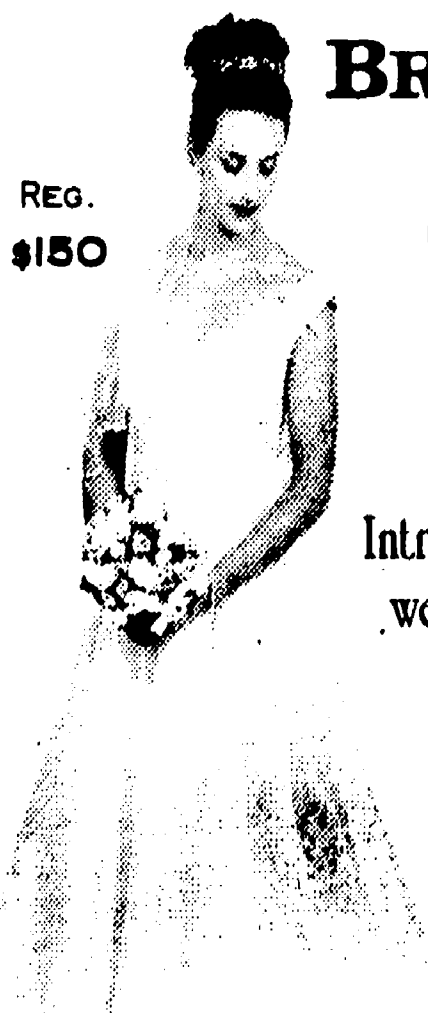
AREA — With more and more U.S. citizens earning money from foreign sources, the IRS reminds people that they must report all such income on their tax return, unless it is exempt under federal law.

This applies whether a person lives inside or outside the United States. The foreign income rule also applies regardless of whether or not the person receives a Form W-2 or a Form 1099.

Foreign source income includes earned income, such as wages and tips, and unearned income, such as interest, dividends, capital gains, pensions, rents and royalties.

An important point to remember is that taxpayers living outside the United States may be able to exclude all or part of their foreign source income.

For more information, check out IRS Publication 54, "Tax Guide for U.S. Citizens and Resident Aliens Abroad." It's available on the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov or by calling toll free 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

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WINNING PICK-3

SUNDAY, Mar. 31

Mid-Day 539 0092
Evening 908 8252

MONDAY, Apr. 1

Mid-Day 081 6620
Evening 828 2136

TUESDAY, Apr. 2

Mid-Day 883 0029
Evening 855 1218

WEDNESDAY, Apr. 3

Mid-Day 146 5209
Evening 039 9277

THURSDAY, Apr. 4

Mid-Day 280 3922
Evening 641 2312

FRIDAY, Apr. 5

Mid-Day 754 1051
Evening 164 8855

SATURDAY, Apr. 6

Mid-Day 000 1383
Evening 693 0755

WINNING PICK-6 Numbers

MONDAY, Apr. 1

5-8-14-28-29-40

THURSDAY, Apr. 4

7-10-11-22-23-42

WINNING PICK-4**JERSEY CASH-5**

SUNDAY, Mar. 31

10-17-28-34-36

MONDAY, Apr. 1

7-16-19-24-38

TUESDAY, Apr. 2

1-17-27-32-36

WEDNESDAY, Apr. 3

5-9-17-18-33

THURSDAY, Apr. 4

3-19-21-35-38

FRIDAY, Apr. 5

8-10-15-22-30

SATURDAY, Apr. 6

5-8-7-22-29

BIG GAME WINNING Numbers

TUESDAY, Apr. 2

34-37-38-39-42/21

FRIDAY, Apr. 5

8-21-35 47-50/16

LOTZEE WINNING Numbers

WEDNESDAY, Apr. 3

34-37-40-75

SATURDAY, Apr. 6

17-25-43-82

YOUR HEALTH NEWS

Centennial Reunion Set For May 17-18

AREA — A century ago, Central New Jersey's large clay deposits and active ceramic industry made Rutgers a logical choice for one of the nation's first ceramic engineering schools. Today ceramic engineering has found its way into virtually every industry, from telecommunications to aerospace to medical devices. It will all be celebrated May 17 and 18, 2002, when Rutgers School of Engineering's Department of Ceramic and Materials Engineering holds its Centennial Celebration Party and "All Class" Reunion.

A committee headed by Professor Richard L. Lehman is reaching out to department class

members worldwide in hopes of bringing hundreds of ceramic classmates together for the two day fest, to be held primarily on the Busch campus in Piscataway in conjunction with the Rutgers Alumni Association's reunion weekend.

"A century is something to celebrate," said Lehman. "This will probably be the biggest gathering of ceramic engineering graduates in the history of the school. It's a fantastic opportunity to talk about old times, find out what everyone's been doing, and see some of the new facilities we have here on campus."

Events ranging from a golf tournament to a picnic lunch and

formal banquet are planned.

Lehman is asking Rutgers ceramic alumni and faculty to spread the word to those who may not have heard about the event. "Registration materials have been sent out, but it's impossible to keep track of a century's worth of people," he said.

To receive formal Centennial Celebration registration materials, interested parties may visit www.ceramic.rutgers.edu, e-mail saudet@rci.rutgers.edu, call (732) 445-1651, or write to Sharon Audet, Rutgers University, Department of Ceramic & Materials Engineering, 607 Taylor Rd., Piscataway, NJ 08854.

Scholarships Attract Nation's Top Asthma Athletes

AREA — The newly expanded 2002 "Will to Win" Asthma Athlete Scholarship Program has generated thousands of application requests from high school seniors around the country, and many more are expected by the April 30 filing deadline. The annual nationwide

program, sponsored by Schering/Key, now awards \$100,000 in scholarship grants, nearly triple the previous awards.

Information and applications for the 2002 "Will to Win" Scholarships are available by calling the "Will to Win" hot-

line at 1-800-558-7305 or visiting the Web at <http://www.thewilltowin.org>. All interested seniors can visit the new "Will to Win" Web site for complete details and profiles of last year's winners.

Podiatric Surgeon Attends Educational Event

AREA—Dr. Daniel J. Roche, an Edison podiatric surgeon, has recently returned from the Annual Meeting and Scientific Seminar of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons held in Los Angeles in February. The meeting, which is the premier educational gathering of foot and ankle surgeons, included presentations and hands-on workshops on the most recent advances in the field of podiatric surgery.

"Although it is always difficult to take time away from my practice," said Dr. Roche, "there is no better way for me

to keep abreast of developments in this field of medicine that to meet face-to-face with some of the finest surgeons in the country. I feel it is imperative that I keep up-to-date with the latest techniques and technology so that I can provide patients the best care possible."

Sessions presented at the meeting focused on care of diabetic patients' feet, sports injuries, children's foot problems and treating conditions affecting senior citizens. For information on these conditions, contact Dr. Roche at (908) 753-0500.

What I admire in Columbus is not his having discovered a world but his having gone to scratch for it on the faith of an opinion.
A. Robert Turgot

Kenneth Vercammen, Esq.

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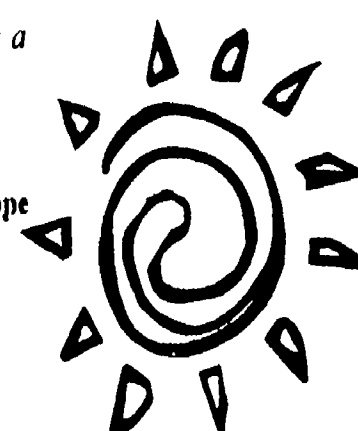
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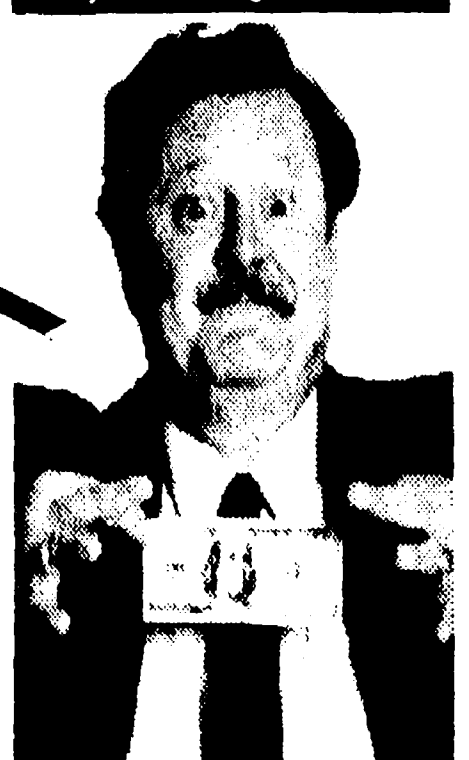
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To My Graduating Class of '64



You all voted me most likely to succeed as a burger flipper. Well, look at me now! Nyaah.Nyaah I make at least 10 of these a day on my website selling designer hamburger spatulas. I'll see you online.....!!!

EDITORIAL**School Board Candidate
in South Amboy****Janet Kern**

I have been on the South Amboy Board of Education for six years and am currently seeking re-election of my third term.

I am married to Patrolman George Kern and have two children in our public school system, George IV and Keith. I am an active participant in the South Amboy Parent Teachers Organization (PTO), serving as Secretary for the past two years, the Purple and Gold Club and past member of the Juvenile Conference Committee.

The Board of Education has a huge task every year our school opens. We must provide for a thorough and efficient education while being fiscally responsible to our citizens. I believe I have achieved both of these objectives as a Board member.

During my years on the Board of Education I have worked to continue to improve the overall quality of education for our children.

As a Board member, I have always been an active participant of the Education and Curriculum Committee. While on this committee we were able to provide our students with a grading system that allowed for AP and Honor courses to get the grade recognition they deserve. Additional classes were added to benefit our children's needs. New textbooks were provided to many students, especially in the elementary school where we embarked on a new series of books for the lower elementary students. This committee also meets with the teaching staff and administrators under our Education Council Forum to seek out new and better ways of educating our chil-

dren. Another key accomplishment has been the rise in our test scores and in the numbers of children going onto secondary education. These are areas that the Board is diligent about and are necessary if we want our children to succeed.

I have also participated in our personnel committee, which has been extremely successful in hiring new teachers into the district. One of the best ways to have an outstanding school is to have an outstanding teaching staff and I believe the Board of Education is achieving this goal.

Extra-curricular activities have always been a key initiative for me while on the board. During my six years many activities have been added, for example, 7-8 grade sports, tennis, bowling, new uniforms and lastly I have worked with our coaching staff via the Board's athletic committee to ensure good communication and success for all our athletes.

Many new and old issues continue to face the Board. We are in need of another school to enable us to provide an effective and safe education for our students. The need for continued improvement in test scores and secondary school bound students is essential. And, lastly, letting everyone know just how great our school is and why our students should choose to stay vs going elsewhere.

In closing, I would simply like to thank the citizens for their prior support of my Board of Education endeavors and I promise to continue to be there for the children which will always be why I am a Board of Education member.

**Vote!
April
16th**

The following people are also running for School Board seats, but chose not to submit statements for publication.

In Edison

Mark Anderko
Robert Barry
Joseph R. Both
Judy Cox
Andrew Petrucci

In Metuchen

Alfred Barron
Timothy Brosnan
Ronald Grayzel

In Perth Amboy

Raymond Geneske
Kenneth L. Gonzalez
Austin E. Gumbs

In Sayreville

Joseph Berra
Arthur Van Tine

In South Amboy

Michael McCarthy
Christie Rodriguez

**Vote!
April
16th****School Board Candidates
in Sayreville****John T. Myatt**

John T. Myatt, known to most as Jack, is married to Dawn Marie with two children in the second and fourth grade who attend Sayreville Public School. I am a candidate for the Sayreville Board of Education. I grew up in Seaford, Long Island, and moved to Sayreville in December of 1991. Active in many community associations including Cub Scouts as a Den Leader, Knights of Columbus OLV Council 2061, 1st degree Knight, member of children's School PTA. Currently employed as Network Traffic Manager Talk American Radio Network, Newark.

If elected, I will strive to bring new perspective and ideas and a new ear for the community to lean on within this successful school board. I also have the desire to continue the success with technology and getting



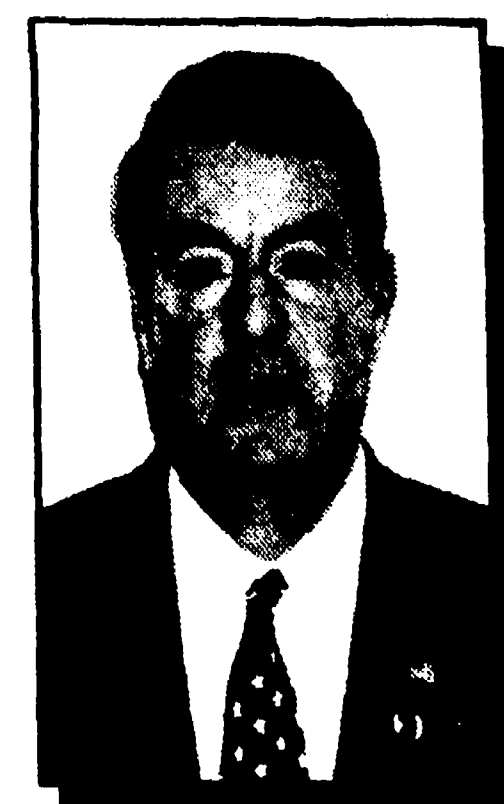
more educational tools and resources for our children so that they have every opportunity to have a brighter future and lead us into the 21st century, prouder than they do now. Additionally, I will look for more innovative ways to bring in new resources to the community, while trying to save taxpayers' money.

Arthur J. Rittenhouse

I am Arthur J. Rittenhouse, Jr. a candidate for re-election to the Sayreville Board of Education. I have served four years on the Board, two as Vice President and the past three years as Finance Chair.

As a Board Member, I have served as Delegate to the NJSBA Delegate Assembly for the past three years and have been instrumental in getting NJSBA to take a proactive stance to find a way to reduce the funding of education through property taxes. I also serve as a Trustee for the Arts and Education Council of Middlesex County and as a member of the Middlesex County Professional Development Board.

The most important issue facing the Sayreville Schools is the problem of overcrowding. I have supported the

**Arthur J. Rittenhouse**

recently passed Samsel School addition and voted to have trailers and a cafeteria addition in place for September of 2002 for the Middle School. Smaller classes and a sound curriculum are what students need to succeed.

Editorial Policy

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

All letters should be typed and must include a daytime telephone number at which the

writer may be reached for verification. Letters should be as concise as possible.

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

Keep us informed of your

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

We also welcome guest columns that cover timely topics of interest to all of our readers. Columns should be no

more than 500-750 words and should be typed.

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

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

YOUR LOCAL NEWS

Italian Night Dinner

WOODBIDGE—For the best in Italian food and fellowship, come to Trinity Church's Italian Night Dinner on Saturday, April 27.

The menu includes your choice of two salads, Caesar or house; two entrees, spaghetti and meatballs or baked ziti; and a variety of desserts. You can also choose from two seatings, 5-6:30 p.m. or 6:45-8:15 p.m.

Tickets prices are \$8 for adults, \$7 for senior citizens and \$6 for children under 10 years old. Seating is limited, so be sure to purchase tickets in advance in order to reserve a seating time and entree selection. They are available through the Parish Office by calling (732) 634-7422.

Trinity Church is located at 650 Rahway Avenue, Woodbridge. Parking is available behind the Parish House and can be reached from Trinity Lane.

Weichert's Edison Office Wins Award

EDISON--Fernando Gonzalez, manager of Weichert, Realtors' Edison Office, announced that the office was recognized with a regional award in the category of resale listings in the month of February.

The region is comprised of 19 offices throughout Ocean, Monmouth and Middlesex counties.

Gonzalez who also is a commissioner of the housing authority of Perth Amboy, leads a team of 78 sales associates.

The office also is active in the community. Each year the office participates in a blood drive and Weichert's Annual Toy Drive. The office recently moved into its new 5,000 square foot facility with ample parking space for staff, associates and visitors.

To find out more about the opportunities available in real estate, call Gonzalez at Weichert's Edison office at (732) 494-6800, located at 123 Lincoln Highway.

Boxes Of Love Bring Together Students And Seniors

SEWARREN When seniors at the Perth Amboy Senior Citizens Center open boxes of love, they'll be receiving more than the health and beauty care items inside the packages. The boxes were given to the seniors by fourth graders from Matthew Jago School #28 on March 14.

The boxes are hand-decorated and include poems and cards written by 32 students, including 6 special education students. The project was designed by the kids to show their affection for the seniors who they visit monthly.

The multi-faceted project was initiated by special education teacher Dara Kulander. It offers many opportunities for the 4th graders who mentor the special education students to learn tolerance of differences and to be sen-

sitive to the needs of others. In addition to interacting and learning with other children, students in the Special Education program learn every day skills like following directions.

The seniors enjoy the rapport

they've developed with this group of children. The "Boxes of Love" will provide them with much-needed home and beauty products that they have limited access to due to their fixed incomes.



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OBITUARIES**Mary Zawada, 78
of Carteret**

Mrs. Mary Zawada of Carteret died March 27 at CentraState Medical Center, Freehold. She was 78.

Born in Luber, Ukraine, she lived in Perth Amboy before moving to Carteret 43 years ago.

She worked as a packer at Metro-Ball Glass, Carteret, for 20 years before retiring in 1991.

Mrs. Zawada was a communicant of Holy Trinity R.C. Church, Perth Amboy.

Her husband, Joseph, died in 1977.

Surviving are two daughters, Halina Garrett of Georgia and Wanda Beaulieu of North Carolina; a son, Edward Zawada of Englishtown; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Richard Perez, 45 of South Amboy

Mr. Richard Perez of South Amboy died March 26 at St. Peter's University Hospital, New Brunswick. He was 45.

Born in Newark, he lived in South Amboy for the past five years.

He was employed as a dairy manager at Pathmark in Irvington for the past 27 years.

Mr. Perez was a communicant of St. Mary's R.C. Church, South Amboy.

His brother, Juan Perez, died

**Robert Haley, 78
of Carteret**

Mr. Robert J. Haley of Carteret died March 26 at Rahway Hospital. He was 78.

Born in Jersey City, he lived in Carteret for the past 24 years.

Mr. Haley retired from Continental Can Company, Paterson, where he had worked as a machinist for 30 years.

He was an Army veteran of World War II.

His wife, Dorothy Haley, died in 2000.

Surviving are a daughter, Susan Bedford of Carteret; a daughter-in-law, Lynn Fruge of North Brunswick; two brothers and two sisters; three grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

**Charles Videyko
former Iselin Fire chief**

Mr. Charles Videyko of Iselin died March 24 in Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick. He was 73.

Born in East Newark, he lived in Iselin for the past 48 years.

He was a supervisor with United Parcel Service in Secaucus and Raritan before retiring 18 years ago.

Later, he was a chauffeur with the Wilner Livery Service, Edison, for 15 years before retiring in December.

Mr. Videyko was an Army veteran of World War II, and was a member of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars post, both in Iselin.

He was the former chief of Iselin Chemical Hook and Ladder Co. 11.

Mr. Videyko was active with the Evergreen Seniors, Colonia and the Iselin Seniors.

Surviving are his wife, Rose J.; a daughter, Diane Fornoff; two brothers, John and Peter; and two grandchildren.

**John D. Helbig, 42
of Colonia**

Mr. John Douglas Helbig of Colonia died March 26 in Rahway Hospital. He was 42.

Born in Perth Amboy, he lived in Hillside before moving to Colonia 10 years ago.

He was a plant manager at Hummell Distributions in Union where he worked for the past 25 years.

Surviving are his wife, Jenny; two sons, Sheldon and John Jr.; a daughter, Faith and a sister, Wendy Davis.

**Ethel Warren, 83
of Fords**

Mrs. Ethel Warren of Fords died March 26 at JFK Hartwyck at Edison Estates Nursing Home, Edison. She was 83.

Born in Perth Amboy, she resided in Fords for the past 60 years.

She was a homemaker.

Mrs. Warren was a communicant of Our Lady of Peace R.C. Church, Edison.

She was a member of the Fords Woman's Club.

Her husband, Leslie Warren, died in 1982; a son, James Warren is also deceased.

Surviving are a daughter, Lois Warren Rotella of Edison; a son, Leslie Warren of Bethlehem, Pa.; a sister, Eloise Sharick of Fords; seven grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

**John Lesko, 89
of Perth Amboy**

Mr. John Lesko of Perth Amboy died March 28 at Summerhill Nursing Home, Old Bridge. He was 89.

Born in Dupont, Pa., he lived in Perth Amboy before entering the nursing home.

He worked for Plavin's Scrap Yard, Perth Amboy and as a bartender of the Villa Pub, also in Perth Amboy.

His wife, Margaret, died in 1989. A stepson, Stephen Malinowski, is also deceased.

Surviving are a daughter, Janice Parella of Laurence Harbor; a stepdaughter, Marie Kudrick of Fords; two brothers, Anthony and Walter, both of Perth Amboy; five grandchildren, Renee Makuch, Joseph Kudrick, Dennis Malinowski, Dean Malinowski and Bradley Malinowski; and a great-granddaughter, Nicole Makuch.

**John Henry, 86
of Iselin**

Mr. John Henry of Iselin died March 26 in the Haven Hospice of JFK Medical Center, Edison. He was 86.

Born in Stirlingshire, Scotland, he lived in Newark and Elizabeth before moving to Iselin 20 years ago.

He was a data processor for Prudential Insurance Co., Newark, for 26 years before retiring in 1977.

During World War II, from 1939-45, he served with the British Navy as an instrument mechanic and was stationed in Norway, Italy and North Africa.

Mr. Henry was a member of the Cornerstone Masonic Lodge, Linden and a volunteer at the Seaman's Institute, Newark.

Surviving are two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**Issa A. Dabit, 55
of Sayreville**

Mr. Issa A. Dabit of Sayreville died March 27 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick. He was 55.

Born in Jaffa, Palestine, he resided in Jersey City before moving to Sayreville eight years ago.

He was employed as a supervisor of interior landscaping with Julius Roehrs Company, New York City, where he worked for 26 years.

Mr. Dabit was a member of the Sayre Woods Bible Church, Old Bridge.

Surviving are his wife of more than 26 years, the former C. Ann Farah; a daughter, Linda Dabit; two sons, Charles and Chaddy Dabit, all of Sayreville; four sisters, Juliet Owais, Violet Sidawi and Nadia Emssiah, all of Jordan; and Eman Zinatti of Hillside and two brothers, Zoheir Dabit of Jersey City and Elia Dabit of Scotch Plains.

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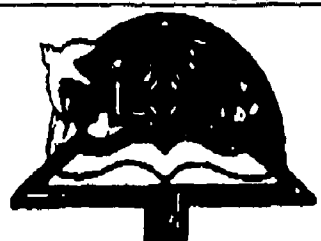
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Guest Column

Your Vote Is Essential

AREA — Today, our schools educate the most diverse group of students in America's history—diverse not only in respect to students' cultural backgrounds, but also in terms of academic needs and interests.

From programs for the learning disabled...to enrichment in music and art...to classes for the gifted and talented, today's public schools offer programs undreamed of 50 years ago.

Yet, our schools are not perfect, and they face many challenges. Here, in New Jersey, local boards of education must enable their students to meet statewide academic standards; they must provide professional development for teachers; and they must ensure a safe learning environment and adequate facilities. And for the coming school year, New Jersey's school districts must accomplish these tasks with limited state financial support.

The 2002 Annual School Election will take place on Tuesday, April 16.

What will voters decide in

New Jersey's Annual School Election?

On April 16, 2002, registered voters in more than 550 of the state's 602 school districts will go to the polls to select members of their local boards of education. More than 1500 school board positions will be on the ballot statewide. Voters in these same 550-plus districts will also approve or reject a proposed base budget for the 2002-03 school year.

What is the role of the local school board?

The board of education oversees the public school district on behalf of the community. It does not run the schools; that's the job of the chief school administrator, who is hired and evaluated by the school board. Instead, the job of the board of education is to see that the schools are well run. The individual board members, when sitting in a legally constituted meeting, are the public's trustees over the operation of the public schools. The board fulfills this role by setting education goals, estab-

lishing policies on matters such as curriculum, student discipline and use of buildings, deliberating over the proposed budget to be submitted to the voters, and negotiating contracts with employee unions.

What is the significance of the proposed school district budget?

The budget is the "game plan" for the entire school program. It incorporates expenditures for the academic program, staff salaries and benefits, extra-curricular activities, pupil transportation, and support functions such as maintenance, cafeteria and clerical services. The voters act on the locally financed portion of the budget—that is, the amount to be funded through local property taxes. All voters—whether or not they have children or grandchildren in the public schools, whether they are homeowners or renters—have a stake in the schools and should participate in the Annual School Election.

A strong school program enhances the quality of life. It can make a community more attractive to prospective residents and potential business investors and, most important, it provides the opportunities our

children will need to succeed in life.

When and where do I vote?

By law, polls will be open from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on April 16. Many school districts will schedule additional polling

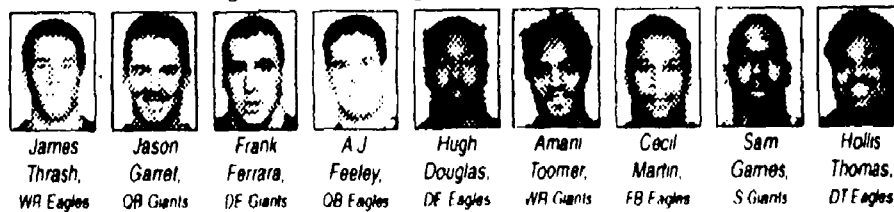
time. For the exact polling hours and locations in your community, contact your local board of education or the office of your county clerk, or refer to the sample ballot that you will receive in the mail.

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Spring Open House At MCC

EDISON —High school students and their families, as well as anyone who is considering taking a course at Middlesex County College, are invited to attend an open house on Sunday, April 14 from 1-3 p.m. in the College Center on the Edison campus. Instructors, advisors, administrators and students will conduct workshops, tours and information sessions addressing everything a student needs to know about attending and being

successful at Middlesex.

Among the special features will be workshops on dual admissions programs with four-year colleges and universities that offer seamless transition to the bachelor's degree. There will be information on qualifying for financial aid, job opportunities and career services and support programs for

students with learning disabilities. Instructors and administrators will be available to answer questions and student leaders will conduct campus tours. Refreshments will be served.

Registration to attend the spring Open House is not required. For additional information, contact the Office of Admissions at 1-888-YOU-4MCC (1-888-968-4622).

Resident Joins Honor Society

CARTERET—Kristine Pavlonnis of Carteret, a junior communication/advertising major at Rider University, has been inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa, the national leadership honor society. She is one of 35 Rider students to earn this distinction.

The society recognizes students who have demonstrated leadership skills not only in the classroom but also in campus activities.

Pavlonnis is a recipient of numerous scholarships. She is also a member of Lambda Pi Eta communication honor society and a member of the Student Government Association President's Council.

SANTAMARIA EYE CENTER is pleased to announce their newest associate, Dr. Lisa-Ann Ortenzio

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Dr. Lisa-Ann Ortenzio is a graduate of the University of Delaware with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biological Sciences. She received her Doctor of Optometry degree, from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry, as well as a Bachelor of Science in Visual Sciences from the same institution.

Post graduation, she spent two years training in a medical and surgical ophthalmology practice in Union County. Dr. Ortenzio then practiced for three years in a busy contact lens practice, where she concentrated on primary care as well as becoming experienced in various types of contact lens fittings. She also regularly participated in volunteer programs to provide eye care for economically disadvantaged children.

Dr. Ortenzio is a licensed therapeutic optometrist available for comprehensive, primary and emergency eye care.

Dr. Ortenzio was born in Perth Amboy, and grew up locally in the Fords section of Woodbridge.

She currently resides in Edison.

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 New Brunswick, NJ
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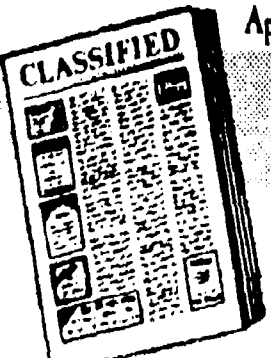
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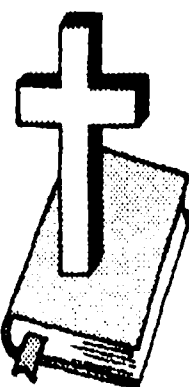
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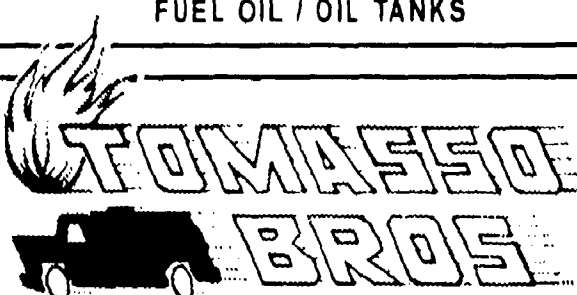
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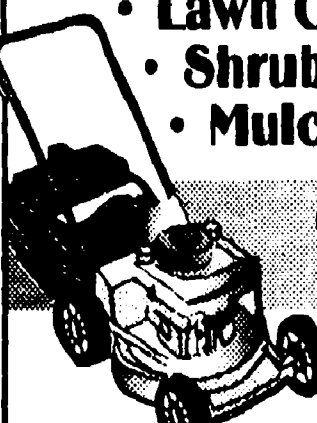
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ASSEMBLYMAN JOHN WISNIEWSKI'S Report From Trenton

The month of April has once again has been designated as National Autism Awareness Month.

Autism.....a word most of us are familiar with, we know that it is some type of developmental disability that effects young people. But did you know that according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 500,000 to 1.5 million people have some type of autism in the United States today. And to complicate things further, there are no medical tests for diagnosing autism. An accurate diagnosis must be based on observation of an individual's communication, behavior and developmental skills.

Autism is a developmental disability that first begins to appear in children during the first three years of life. Before that time a child's development will appear relatively "normal", then parents may begin to notice delays in language, play or social interaction. While any one of these delays may not be cause for concern, autism is the combination of many or all of these developmental challenges.

The major characteristics of autism, which is four to five times more prevalent in boys than in girls, include difficulties with social interaction, communication and the display of unusual behaviors. These difficulties manifest themselves in many ways including; little or no eye contact, the inability to share information or feelings, a delay or lack of development in the spoken language and uneven development of skills.

Currently, there is no cure for autism. However, early diagnosis and appropriate intervention are keys to helping children and adults with autism learn new skills and reach their full potential. Research has shown that individuals with autism respond well to highly structured, specialized education programs. A consistent and comprehensive learning plan must be tailored to an individual's specific needs since two individuals, both with the same diagnosis, can act very different from one another and have varying skills. With appropriate and consistent education many individuals with autism can enjoy their lives and contribute to the community in a meaningful way.

Formed in 1965 by a small group of parents of children with autism the Autism Society of America is the largest collective voice representing the autism community. The mission of the Society, with more than 24,000 members in 200 chapters across the United States, is to promote through advocacy, public awareness, education lifelong opportunities for people with autism and ongoing support for their families.

For more information about autism or to get more details about the activities surrounding National Autism Month please contact the New Jersey Center for Outreach and Services for the Autism Community, 1450 Parkside Avenue, Suite 22, Ewing, NJ 08638 or call 1-800-4-AUTISM.



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