

The ATOM TABLOID

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& Citizen-Gazette

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Middlesex County Edition

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50¢



Edison Student To Help Children With AIDS During Christmas Break

CALDWELL—Caldwell College senior and scholars student Eden Woredokal of Edison, a 21-year-old pre-med and biology/psychology major who hopes to be a pediatrician someday, plans to return to her native Ethiopia during her Christmas break from college to care for young children with AIDS.

During her trip, from Dec. 18-Jan. 11, she plans to take basic supplies such as baby aspirin, antibiotics and latex gloves for birthing to the clinic where she will be working. In addition, Woredokal wants to use

some of the monies to purchase children's shoes, clothes and books in Ethiopia for HIV/AIDS orphanages and hospitals.

"This way I avoid taxes and I help to stimulate the Ethiopian economy," she said.

Woredokal will use her Scholars Award to help pay for credits so that her work can be included as part of her Scholars project. Additionally, funding was provided by several donors including \$700 from faculty, and another donor paid for her plane ticket. "I was born and raised in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where

poverty, pain and suffering have been afflicting the people ever since I can remember," said Woredokal, who claims her homeland among the top five countries affected by AIDS and one of the top ten poorest countries. Current census figures approximate an Ethiopian population of over 61 million with an estimated 3 million people living with AIDS. "It is a sad fact that Ethiopia has the third largest HIV infected population in the world," she said. "Right now, AIDS orphans in Ethiopia number 620,000 and the figure will

triple to 1.8 million by 2009."

It is probable that between 2005 and 2010, 61 of every 1,000 infants will die before the age of one year as a consequence of the HIV infection, she said. In addition, 4.6 million people need food assistance annually and many hospitals are understaffed and poorly stocked with crucial medications.

"Drought and famine have ravaged the country and cost the lives of many innocent people," she said.

"I know that I will not be able to help everybody that's hurting

and crying, but even if I can offer a hand to one person and put a smile on one child's face that would be enough," she said. "That is what I hope to spend my time doing during my Christmas break, just making a difference."

Woredokal also plans to complete a case study on an orphan to determine what steps need to be taken to improve conditions in her homeland. She will also conduct research to determine the needs of the hospitals and health-care facilities. Her honors project will be based on her stay in Addis Ababa.

MCEOC Receives Grant For Community Land Security

MIDDLESEX COUNTY—The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has presented the Middlesex County Economic Opportunities Corporation (MCEOC) with a \$25,000 grant to implement a local Community Land Security (CLS) program in Middlesex County. The DCA grant will be added to a \$30,000 grant presented to MCEOC by the Community Action Partnership in September.

Sponsored by the Community Action Partnership, Community Land Security is the nation's first community-based anti-terrorism education, training and outreach program, designed to protect residents of low-income communities. The program involves use of local Command Centers to centralize communications on a neighborhood level.

In September, the Community Access Partnership selected MCEOC as the first of

ten Community Action Agencies nationally to implement a local CLS pilot program. The first Command Center for this project is located at First Baptist Church, Sewaren.

"MCEOC thanks Middlesex County Freeholder David Crabel for supporting our initiative and the New Jersey DCA for its financial support of this vital program," said Carroll Thomas, president and CEO, MCEOC. "The funding will help us move forward with Community Land Security efforts and ensure that low-income residents will be aware of and have a role in national homeland security efforts."

Local Legislators

Donate For Needy Kids

METUCHEN—On Dec. 17, Senator Joseph F. Vitale, Assemblyman John S. Wisniewski and Assemblywoman Arline M. Friscia presented CW 4 Nick D'Andrea of the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program with the toys they have collected in their legislative offices and a \$500 check. The presentation took place at the Marines Corps Toys for Tots Distribution and Storage Facility at 261 Lake Avenue, Metuchen.

"The Marines Toys for Tots Drive is a worthwhile project and one I am proud to be a part of this year," said Senator Vitale

(D-19). "These gifts will bring some measure of happiness to children who otherwise might not enjoy the holiday."

"Every year, the Marines Toys for Tots Drive brings holiday joy into the lives of unfortunate children. It brings me great pleasure to be able to take part in this project during this season of giving," said Assemblyman Wisniewski (D-19).

This organization is helping less fortunate kids to have the joyful Christmas they deserve, your contributions will make a little boy or girl extremely happy," said Assemblywoman Arline Friscia (D-19).

Dr. Rocco Tetro

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YOUR COUNTY NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS!

IT'S A GIRL! Robert and Elaine of Metuchen are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, **E'Lexa Wynter**, born November 21, 2002 at JFK Medical Center, Edison. E'Lexa Wynter weighed 7 lbs. 4 ozs. and measured 20 inches. She has a sister, E'Lava Sommer. The maternal grandparents are Adeline Mokezycki of Carteret and the late John Mokezycki. The paternal grandmother is Daria Kovacs of Carteret.



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Local Man Serves On Board Navy's Research Submarine

GROTON, CONN. — Imagine living on board a submarine so advanced the Navy actually denied its existence for years. A submarine able to stay submerged in murky ocean depths of up to 3,000 feet for months at a time, only surfacing when the crew runs short on food or supplies. A submarine that offers its crew no view of the sky, trees or land, only a glimpse into the depths of the sea from one of three viewing ports designed for visual observation.

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Andrew M. Finn, son of Diane Finn of Monmouth Junction, is serving with the elite crew of the United States Navy's smallest nuclear-powered, deep-submergence vessel, Submarine NR-1, based in Groton, Conn.

Like every other aspect of the vessel, even its name is unique to the submarine alone. Named by its inventor, Admiral Hyman G. Rickover, in March of 1965, the "NR" stands for nuclear reactor and the "1" is representative of Admiral Rickover's hope that the submarine would

not be the last of its kind.

As an electrician's mate, Finn performs a job vital to the mission of Submarine NR-1. "I'm the leading petty officer for the sonar division on board NR-1. I'm also the assistant food service officer," said Finn, a 2000 graduate of South Brunswick High School. "My normal duties are providing maintenance and operations support for NR-1, and assisting in handling all emergencies."

Submarine

NR-1 was first launched in Groton on Jan. 25, 1969, and completed initial sea trials Aug. 19 of the same

year. Since then, its missions have included search, object recovery, geological survey, oceanographic research, and installation and maintenance of underwater equipment.

Submarine NR-1 is equipped with sophisticated

electronics and computers to aid in navigation, communications, and object identification and location. Its features also include extendible bottoming wheels, exterior lighting, televisions, and still cameras for color photographic studies. The submarine has an object recovery claw, a manipulation for gripping and cutting tools and a periscope for surface vision.

Submarine NR-1 has participated in operations including recovery efforts for the space shuttle challenger crash in 1986 and, as recently as the summer of 2002, participated in two research missions in the Gulf of Mexico.

Because the mission of Submarine NR-1 is so vital to both the Navy and the civilian scientific community, the Sailors who serve on board the vessel are hand-selected for this unique assignment. While underway, the vessel only requires 11 personnel for full operation and can carry two scientists in addition to the crewmembers.

Each crewmember on board

(continued on page...6)



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Andrew M. Finn

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College To Host Kwanzaa Celebration

NEW BRUNSWICK—The annual Kwanzaa celebration of the New Brunswick Center of Middlesex County College will be held on Thursday, Dec. 26 beginning at 6 p.m. Open to the public, the program will feature African drum and dance performances, poetry

and music and holiday refreshments. The Center is located at 140 New Street in New Brunswick.

"Although Kwanzaa is a seven-day festival, it celebrates a year round way of life to bring out the best in everyone," said Bill Davis, director

of the Center. "A candle is lit each night to represent each of the seven principles we uphold. In Swahili, those principles are umoja (unity), kujichagulia (self-determination), ujima (collective work and responsibility), ujamaa (cooperative economics), nia (purpose), kuumba (creativity) and imani (faith)."

Kwanzaa was established in 1966 to provide a joyous way to offer principles, practices and symbols geared to the social and spiritual needs of African-Americans. "The reinforcing gestures are designed to strengthen our collective self-concept as a people, honoring our past and creating awareness of the present and committing ourselves to a fuller, more productive future," Davis said.

For more information on Kwanzaa and the Dec. 26 celebration at the New Brunswick Center, contact Bill Davis at 732-745-8866.

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NEWS

YOUR LOCAL NEWS

Cartwright Visits Greece

COLONIA -- Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Rajahn K. Cartwright, grandson of Exie Cartwright of Colonia, recently visited Crete, Greece while assigned to Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 125, embarked aboard the aircraft USS George Washington, home ported in Norfolk, Va.

Cartwright is one of more than 10,000 Atlantic Fleet Sailors and Marines aboard the ships of the USS George Washington Carrier Battle Group and USS Nassau Amphibious Ready Group, which will soon participate in Operation Enduring Freedom.

Sailors and Marines started the port call with an Independence Day celebration which included entertainment provided by Washington Redskins cheerleaders and Holly Williams, daughter of Hank Williams Jr. The crew also had the opportunity to shop, sightsee and enjoy the culture and cuisine.

Cartwright is a 1998 graduate of Garner High School, Garner, N.C. and joined the Navy in May 1999.

Carteret Student Enrolls At Cittone

CARTERET -- Roxanne Carter of Carteret is among newly enrolled students in the medical administrative assistant program at The Cittone Institute in Mount Laurel. Carter is a graduate of Carteret High School.

The Mount Laurel school, located at 1000 Howard Blvd., is one of 23 facilities operated nationally by Lincoln Educational Services, which has been providing career education for more than a half century. Vivian Wagner, executive director, has announced that the school, open for day and evening sessions, also offers programs in help desk analyst, computer programming with web technology, PC support technician, software applications specialist, network systems administrator, and network systems professional.

The Cittone Institute is accredited by the Accrediting Council of Independent Colleges and Schools.

Edison Architect Receives Prestigious Award

EDISON -- Edward N. Rothe, a founding partner of Rothe-Johnson-Fantacone, a 40-person architectural planning, interior design and project management firm, Edison, recently received the distinguished service award from the New Jersey Society of Architects, a chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Rothe, a Princeton resident, has been a long time active supporter of the New

Jersey School of Architecture at New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT).

Rothe has served on the professional advisory board for the architecture school where his firm established the Rothe Johnson Fantacone Endowment Scholarship in celebration of its 25 years in practice. Members of the advisory board include chief executive officers or partners in architectural firms who

are leaders in the New Jersey building profession who help in determining the direction for the future, support relevant change and encourage excellence.

Rothe's firm, which was established in 1974, provides professional services for a range of projects including real estate investment offices, corporate headquarters, healthcare facilities and college and university buildings.

Rothe has been the partner-in-charge for many projects valued at more than \$500 million, including educational, laboratory, high technology and therapeutic environments; corporate and real estate investment office buildings; and hotels and conference centers. He has also been instrumental in the planning and design of large-scale urban projects and suburban office parks.

Woodbridge Residents Enroll At Georgetown

WOODBIDGE -- The following local residents are among the 1,490 students representing 47 U.S. states and 41 foreign countries in this year's freshman class. Georgetown University received more than 15,000 applications for the first-year class.

David Cho of Woodbridge is a member of Georgetown University's Class of 2006 in the Robert E. McDonough School of Business. Cho graduated from Woodbridge Senior High School.

Nicole M. Girard of Woodbridge is a member of Georgetown University's Class of 2006 in the School of Nursing and Health Studies. Girard graduated from Woodbridge Senior High School.

"We welcome the class of 2006," said President John J. DeGioia. "As these young men

and women continue their academic careers, I am confident they are destined for lives of service and lives purpose as they engage the realm of ideas, cultivate their imagination and prepare for leadership at Georgetown University."

Georgetown University is the oldest Catholic and Jesuit University in America, founded in 1789 by Archbishop John Carroll. Georgetown today is a major student-centered, international, research university with one of the most selective undergraduate student bodies in the United States. It offers respected undergraduate, graduate and professional programs on its three campuses in Washington, D.C. For more information about Georgetown University visit www.georgetown.edu.

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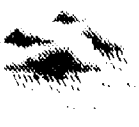
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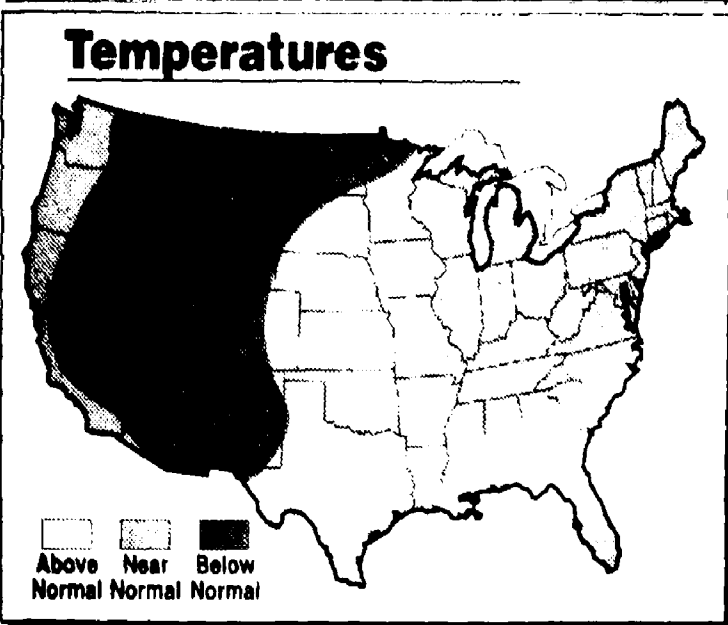
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LOCAL 7-DAY FORECAST

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
							
Sunny, then some sun.	Cloudy, late rain.	Rain for a while; windy.	Sunny to partly cloudy.	Clouds and sun.	Rather cloudy.	Sun and clouds.	Cloudy and cold.
44	35	47/33	42/27	44/31	45/36	47/28	33/17

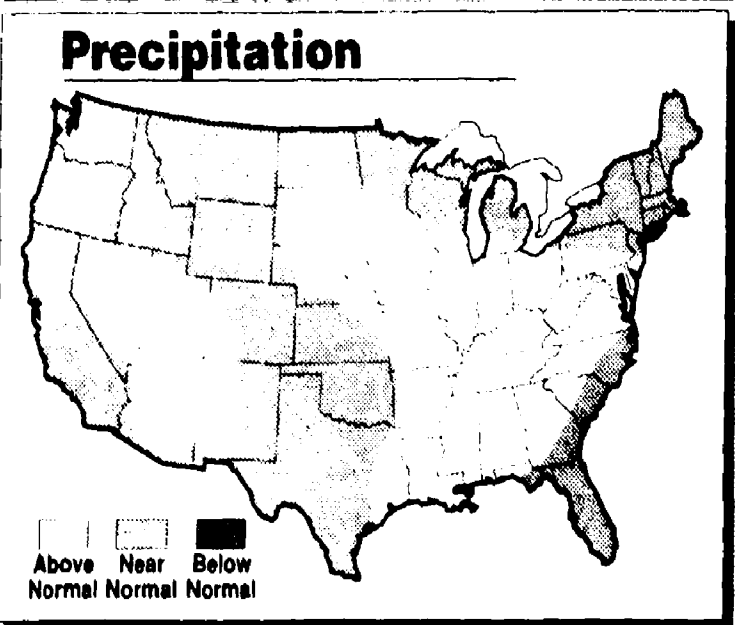
THE WEEK AHEAD...



NATIONAL SUMMARY

Stormy weather will dominate the West. Storms will bring rain and mountain snow to the West Coast, Southwest, Great Basin and Rocky Mountains. The wet weather will keep temperatures cool across the Southwest and Pacific Northwest. Dry weather is expected across the Southeast and lower Mississippi Valley.

THE WEEK AHEAD...



U.S. TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Atlanta	54 46 r	57 35 sh	54 36 s	56 42 pc
Boston	40 34 s	44 36 r	42 26 pc	41 27 pc
Chicago	42 28 r	36 22 sf	33 21 pc	35 28 c
Cleveland	46 35 r	40 27 r	38 27 pc	41 32 sn
Denver	36 12 pc	38 16 pc	38 16 c	40 5 pc
Des Moines	35 20 c	35 18 pc	35 20 pc	27 8 c
Detroit	48 32 r	38 26 sf	34 24 pc	36 30 c
Houston	66 41 c	63 43 s	63 50 pc	68 52 sh
Indianapolis	48 31 t	37 26 c	32 20 pc	38 25 sh
Kansas City	40 24 c	43 24 s	46 25 pc	42 31 c
Los Angeles	64 50 pc	62 52 r	60 46 sh	63 34 pc
Miami	80 67 pc	78 64 sh	75 63 pc	80 66 pc
Minn. - St. Paul	32 18 sf	30 14 c	28 18 c	26 16 c
New Orleans	71 49 c	65 45 s	62 48 s	63 52 sh
New York City	44 40 s	46 37 r	43 35 s	44 34 pc
Omaha	36 18 pc	38 26 s	40 22 c	35 24 c
Phoenix	57 39 s	61 43 pc	59 45 r	61 40 c
San Francisco	54 46 r	52 46 sh	52 44 pc	52 36 pc
Seattle	48 36 c	46 36 sh	43 33 pc	41 28 sh
Washington	48 40 pc	50 38 r	46 32 s	49 37 pc

SUN & MOON

	Sunrise	Sunset
Thu.	7:16 a.m.	4:32 p.m.
Fri.	7:17 a.m.	4:33 p.m.
	Moonrise	Moonset
Thu.	4:24 p.m.	7:11 a.m.
Fri.	5:17 p.m.	8:11 a.m.

Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
Dec 19	Jan 2	Dec 10	Dec 26

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

WORLD TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Amsterdam	48 41 pc	49 46 r	48 47 pc	51 45 r
Berlin	41 32 pc	41 35 pc	40 39 pc	46 43 r
Buenos Aires	76 56 pc	78 60 pc	79 63 pc	85 65 s
Cairo	65 49 pc	58 40 pc	62 43 pc	60 42 s
Jerusalem	51 38 r	45 26 pc	46 30 pc	48 32 pc
Johannesburg	81 62 c	86 62 pc	74 66 c	79 62 r
London	52 47 r	54 50 r	52 51 r	55 49 sh
Madrid	53 44 r	51 42 pc	51 47 pc	60 44 r
Mexico City	69 41 s	66 40 pc	69 40 pc	67 38 s
Moscow	11 10 c	15 14 sn	17 13 sn	14 4 pc
Paris	48 45 r	49 44 r	48 45 c	50 47 r
Rio de Janeiro	78 69 pc	85 74 pc	85 75 pc	84 76 t
Rome	56 40 pc	54 53 r	58 43 r	57 52 c
San Juan	84 72 s	84 73 pc	85 69 pc	83 69 s
Seoul	42 34 c	45 36 pc	43 36 r	37 30 sn
Sydney	74 57 pc	76 57 pc	79 60 s	85 65 s
Tokyo	56 39 c	47 44 r	53 50 r	52 47 r
Toronto	40 35 r	42 19 sn	30 19 sn	33 24 sf
Winnipeg	25 4 pc	19 7 c	17 5 c	8 -1 c
Zurich	46 38 pc	44 43 sh	46 40 c	47 44 r

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Because our offices will be closed for the holidays, we will not be able to accept new additions for the Jan. 3 Community Calendar. Items to appear in the Jan. 10 community calendars must be received by Jan. 3 Fax (732) 388-4143 or e-mail carolynnjean@yahoo.com

December 23—The Edison Council will meet. Work session meetings begin at 6 p.m. and regular meeting begin at 7 p.m. and are held in the Council Chambers at the Edison Municipal Complex.

December 23—Raritan Bay Medical Center's Immunology and Infectious Diseases Dept. is sponsoring an HIV support group meeting held at Raritan Bay Medical Center, 530 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy. For more info., call (732) 324-5022.

December 28—Pro-Wrestling will be sponsored by The Housing Authority of the City of Perth Amboy at the Delaney Rec. Center, Chamberlain Ave. (off Convery Blvd.) The Main Event will feature Big Vito vs. The Wall and special appearance by "The Enforcer." Tickets are \$12 for adults; \$8 for children under 12 and senior citizens. Free gifts to the first 150 kids. For ticket info., call (732) 888-1704.

December 30—Raritan Bay Medical Center's Immunology and Infectious Diseases Dept. is sponsoring an HIV support group meeting held at Raritan Bay Medical Center, 530 New Brunswick Ave., Perth Amboy. For more info., call (732) 324-5022.

January 5 from noon-4 p.m.—The Piscataway Chapter of Women's American ORT will hold its 19th Annual ORT Summer Camp Fair at the Freehold Gardens Hotel and Conference Center, Rt. 537 and Gibson Place, Freehold. The Gardens is located around the corner from The Freehold Raceway Mall is open to the public, admission is free.

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SEASONAL HOLIDAY IDEAS

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Cappuccino Mix in a Jar

Makes 3 cups dry mix
1 cup instant coffee creamer
1 cup instant chocolate drink mix

2/3 cup instant coffee crystals
1/2 cup Domino Granulated Sugar

1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg

Layer all ingredients in a jar to give. To reconstitute, mix all ingredients thoroughly. To prepare a single serving, add 3 Tbsp. mix to 6 oz. hot water and stir well. Store in an airtight container.

that feeling for a delectable holiday gift. All it takes is a jar, a little decoration and a little imagination. Just add water.

The gift of a dry mix-whether it's for rich, creamy Hot Chocolate or for an aromatic Cappuccino-can be a delicious way to give a taste of the holi-

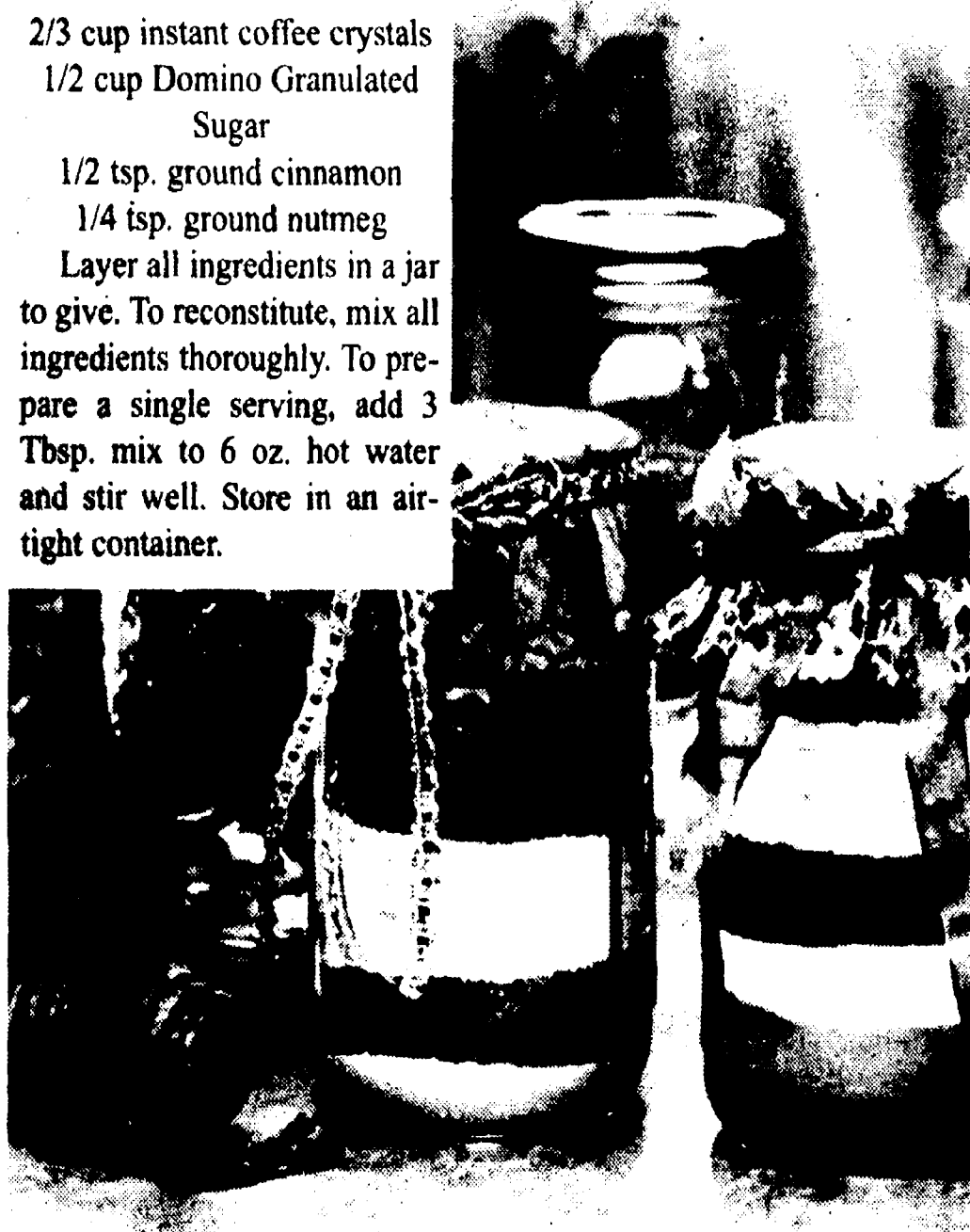
day spirit to the hard-to-shop-for people on your list. Recipe jars like these can also be given for other events, such as housewarmings, tree trimming parties or even to heat things up on Valentine's Day.

These two recipes offer the natural sweetness of Domino

Sugar, for a fresh flavor each time a cup is brewed. After layering the dry ingredients, add a personal touch by selecting colorful fabric, ribbon or trinkets and attaching a recipe card. Other ways to make a gift jar unique include pairing the mix with homemade holiday biscotti

or cookies. Or add some zip to the mix itself with chocolate chips, mini marshmallows or cinnamon sticks.

For additional baking tips and tricks or to access a database of over 675 other recipes, visit www.dominosugar.com.



Hot Chocolate Mix in a Jar

Makes 3 1/4 cups dry mix

1 3/4 cups nonfat dry milk powder

3/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder

1/2 cup firmly packed

Domino Brownulated Sugar

1/4 cup Domino Granulated Sugar

Layer ingredients in jar to give, seal tightly. To reconstitute mix ingredients well. For a single serving, add 8 oz. freshly boiled water to 1/2 cup mix in heatproof mug. Stir until completely dissolved.

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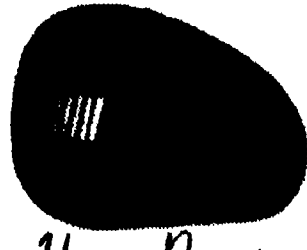
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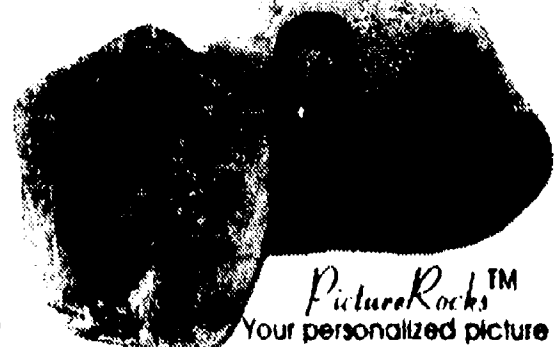
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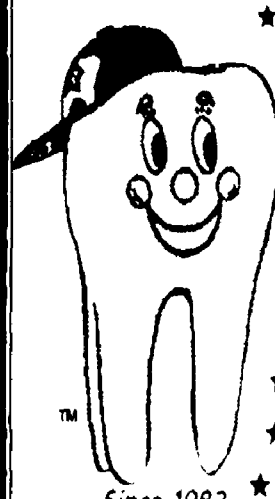
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YOUR LOCAL NEWS

NEWS

Christmas Dance

PERTH AMBOY The final senior citizens dance of the season will be hosted by the Epps family at Simpson United Methodist Church on High Street, Dec. 20 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

There will be dancing, holiday sing-alongs, and refreshments. There might even be a visit from Santa Claus.

Admission is \$3, and all proceeds will go to the church building fund. Donations of refreshments are also appreciated.

For more information, call (732) 826-8007.

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Mondays Are Special At The YMCA

PERTH AMBOY—Every Monday at 10:30 a.m., Jewish Family and Vocational Services' COACH Program, (Caring for Older Adults' Complete Health) takes place at the YMHA.

The program features various interesting health topics, current events, and exercise led by a Social Worker, Registered Nurse and two student Social Workers. All Y members are invited to join this session. A full lunch is served following the program for only \$1.75 and that is followed by games, bingo, Rummy Q, cards, etc. Reservations must be made in advance.

The program is held at the Y at 316 Madison Avenue, Perth Amboy. The phone number is: (732) 442-0365.

It's a good time for interested seniors to try us out.

Local Man Serves On Board Navy's Research Submarine continued

(continued from page...2)

Submarine NR-1 serves either a one- or two-year tour depending on seniority and position within the crew. Each division consists of only one senior and one junior person.

"There's no other sub that dives as deep, or can complete the same missions that NR-1 does in the Navy," said Finn. "There's no other sub in the Navy that can perform salvage operations at the bottom of the ocean."

The only one of its kind, Submarine NR-1 and its crew will continue to fulfill the Navy's policy of remaining available to all qualified agencies of the U.S. government or accredited research organizations for use in deep-ocean research for years to come.

Rachel Leslie is a journalist assigned to the Navy Public Affairs Center, Norfolk, Va.

Malaspina Joins Army Under Delayed Entry Program

SOUTH AMBOY — Anastasia J. Malaspina has joined the United States Army under the Delayed Entry Program. The program gives young men and women the opportunity to delay entering active duty for up to one year.

Malaspina has reported to Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C., for basic training.

She is the daughter of Candy L. and John R. Malaspina of South Amboy.

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WINNING PICK-3

SUNDAY, Dec. 8

Mid-Day 348 3088
Evening 129 2988

MONDAY, Dec. 9

Mid-Day 046 9404
Evening 216 5477

TUESDAY, Dec. 10

Mid-Day 507 3342
Evening 366 3999

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 11

Mid-Day 768 4031
Evening 458 6072

THURSDAY, Dec. 12

Mid-Day 833 7807
Evening 777 7755

FRIDAY, Dec. 13

Mid-Day 266 5422
Evening 754 0953

SATURDAY, Dec. 14

Mid-Day 573 1244
Evening 447 5303

WINNING PICK-6 Numbers

MONDAY, Dec. 9

7-21-25-29-37-39

THURSDAY, Dec. 12

1-13-28-33-38-40

WINNING PICK-4

JERSEY CASH-5

SUNDAY, Dec. 8

3-4-11-14-36

MONDAY, Dec. 9

3-15-17-19-21

TUESDAY, Dec. 10

1-8-16-21-35

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 11

4-21-23-24-27

THURSDAY, Dec. 12

2-7-10-15-34

FRIDAY, Dec. 13

6-12-16-17-27

SATURDAY, Dec. 14

1-9-29-33-34

BIG GAME WINNING Numbers

TUESDAY, Dec. 10

3-5-9-16-31-28

FRIDAY, Dec. 13

2-13-14-24-46-34

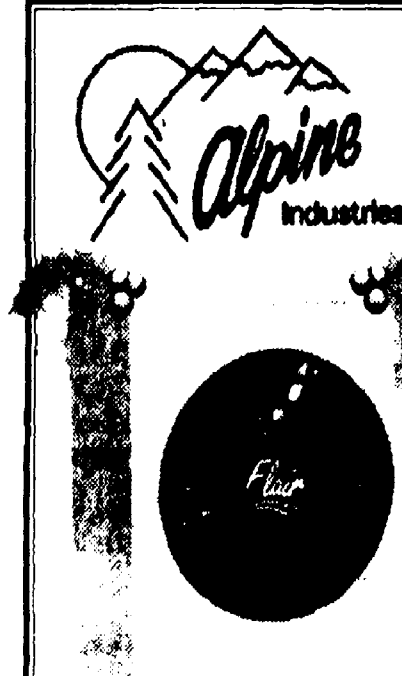
LOTZEE WINNING Numbers

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 11

41-64-73-76

SATURDAY, Dec. 14

30-36-49-56



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NEWS

YOUR LOCAL NEWS

Patel Named Senior Of The Month

EDISON—Sona Patel of the Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison has been named the Edison Rotary Club's Student of the Month for November.

According to her College Counselor Lisa Lentz, "She is a bright light in this year's senior class, and her impact is felt in many arenas both in and out of school." Lentz continued, "Sona's commitment and devotion to academics and to people ensure that she will have not only a strong college career but a successful and meaningful medical practice as well."



Sona Patel

A Scotch Plains resident and stellar student with a course load of honors and AP classes, she consistently earns honor roll status. Her work ethic extends beyond the classroom as well. On campus she has been active in student government, sports and clubs. Her most notable participation has been as a peer tutor, Peer Leader, and member of Club Interact, the student organization sponsored by Rotary, where she has helped arrange visits to and planned parties for underprivileged students in Newark.

Active in Club Unity as a member, treasurer, and now president, she plans and oversees cultural events and celebrations like the International luncheon held at the Edison school.

Each week, Patel also devotes many hours to working at her local Hindu temple as a religion teacher to first through third graders -- a job that she now realizes takes a tremendous amount of planning and preparation. She also participates in fundraisers like the annual walk-a-thon sponsored by her temple.

Perhaps her greatest passion and commitment in terms of time and energy is her involvement in Indian Classical Dancing. Her many years spent studying dance will culminate this coming summer in a three-hour performance--considered in the Indian Culture as one of the highest achievements a person can attain.

Kiwanis Club Of Perth Amboy Installs Officers

PERTH AMBOY—The Kiwanis Club of Perth Amboy recently installed officers for the 2002-03 club year. They are as follows: President, Robert Dahill; Vice President, Gary Perillo; Secretary, Carmela LaRosa; and Treasurer, Rosemary Oarsley.

The installation took place during the Club's annual awards

banquet at the Barge Restaurant in Perth Amboy. Kiwanis District Lt. Governor Martin Teller was the installing officer.

The Kiwanis Club has been serving the Perth Amboy community for almost 80 years.

The Club's diverse service projects have included scholarships for Perth Amboy students, feeding the homeless and dis-

tributing free books as part of the RIF (Reading is Fundamental) program. Anyone interested in joining is invited to attend the monthly luncheon meeting held at the Barge at 12:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month.



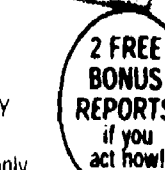
Flanking Lt. Governor Martin Teller are the Kiwanis Club's newly installed Officers (L.-R.): Gary Perillo, Vice President; Robert Dahill, President; Rosemary Oarsley, Treasurer and Carmela LaRosa, Secretary.

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EDITORIAL



ASSEMBLYMAN
JOHN WISNIEWSKI'S
Report
From
Trenton

Have A Safe Holiday Season

Holiday shopping. Holiday parties. Putting up lights and decorations. Wrapping presents. Making plans with friends and family. If there is a busier time of year I certainly don't know when it is. With all this happy chaos swirling around us, it's also the time of year when home accidents happen, especially to those of us who have young children in the house. So while we are busy spreading our holiday cheer please keep these simple, common sense safety tips in mind so we can all enjoy a joyous and safe holiday season.

When buying presents it is wise to follow the age recommendations listed on the toy. The recommendation doesn't simply refer to the suitability of the child to successfully play with and understand the toy. More importantly, it deals with the safety of the toy for that particular age group. For infants and toddlers, avoid toys with small parts that could pose choking hazards. Also discard plastic wrapping on toys immediately after opening, before they become deadly playthings for children or for a family pet.

As you decorate the tree try to avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food that may tempt a young child to eat them. Breakable decorations and tree trimmings with small removable parts should be kept out of reach of children. Older ornaments and decorations that might be painted with lead paint should be

placed high on the tree out of harms way. To our young children and family pets trees are an irresistible delight; when children and pets are near the tree careful adult supervision is a must.

The winter chill is already upon us. With colder weather we need to be alerted once again to the threat of carbon monoxide poisoning. Carbon monoxide is an odorless and colorless gas that deprives the body of oxygen. At low levels, exposure can produce headaches, fatigue and confusion. At higher levels, it can result in an irregular heartbeat, impaired vision and death.

Sources of carbon monoxide can be found right in our homes. Those sources include unvented kerosene and gas space heaters, gas water heaters, wood burning stoves, leaking chimneys and furnaces and "patched" vent pipes using tape or other substances. The steps to reduce exposure are simple and can be life saving. When using fireplaces always open flues and keep the chimney clean and have it inspected annually by a professional. Always use the correct fuel in space heaters and use them only in well ventilated areas. Most importantly, everyone should consider installing carbon monoxide detectors in their home. These moderately priced, easily installed, devices can make the difference between life and death. Detectors are available in all large department stores and home supply stores. They make excellent family stocking stuffers.

By keeping these few holiday safety tips in mind, we can all have a happy, joyous and safe holiday season. For more information on holiday safety please contact my district office at (732) 316-1885.

One Nation Under God

Dear Editor,

We are at war and yet we see confused people not appreciating our Republic and the principles of our founding fathers. Those confused are like the liberal Democrat judges in the 9th circuit of San Francisco who declared that Americans cannot honor our Republic with the words "one nation under God."

To George Washington our Republic was not a secular state. During the 19th century, the cold, secularizing winds that denuded governments of their religious beginnings did not touch America. But liberal Democrat judges appointed by Clinton and Carter have shown their ignorance about "one

nation under God." Lincoln, like Washington, saw God as the final arbiter of public policy, believing that God's providential plan and our Republic are organically linked! Lincoln's first inaugural, 1861, illustrates this.

"The will of God prevails. In great contests each party claims to act according to the will of God. Both may be and one must be wrong. God cannot be for and against the same thing at the same time.

In the present Civil War it is quite possible that God's purpose is something different from the purpose of either party. By his mere great power on the minds of the now contestants, he could have either saved or destroyed

the union without a human contest. Yet the contest began."

Our Republic is or was in no sense a secular state.

I believe that the blunder of a handful of liberal Democrat lifetime judges appointed for life by Carter and Clinton will cause true Americans to vote wisely for God-fearing politicians who will serve. "We, the People." Liberalism is another losing "ism" like Communism. The three mottos that stand for our Republic are:

"For God & Country," "In the Name of God, Amen" and "In God We Trust."

John Sabol
Iselin

Safety Alert At Gas Pump a Bit Tardy

Dear Editor,

A new safety alert has been issued asking us to beware when refueling our cars. Static electricity generated when the operator steps out from their vehicle can produce a spark much like the kind one gets by walking across a carpeted floor and then touching a metal object.

Only in this case petroleum vapors from the pump and gas tank may ignite when touched, causing a fire and possible explosion.

I found this news report to be

more than informative. It was downright fascinating, considering the fact people have been refilling their cars for a century with nary any mishaps being reported! Before, all we had to concern ourselves with was turning off the running engine of foregoing a smoke.

The news story highly recommends not re-entering your vehicle to stay warm, then sliding out to touch the pump handle when fueling is completed.

I'd go one further: when first exiting, use your car keys to

touch the vehicle's door. A shock is avoided while any spark dissipates harmlessly before the patron touches the gas nozzle, negating any possibility of combustion.

Remember also, that it's technically illegal for you to self-serve in New Jersey. Isn't it great that we're virtually the only state in the lower 48 to have incorporated a law which may now save lives even after 100 years of ignorance?

Pete Wagner
Colonia

SNIGLETTs by Henry A. Damen - Safe At Home?

Can someone tell me why there is a small but highly vocal opposition among some gun owners to giving away firearms safety kits? Project Homesafe is a creation of the National Shooting Sports Foundation. It works like this. A bit brightly painted truck rolls into town with a lot of media attention and hoopla. The mayor, police chief and even the state attorney general shows up and the firearm safety kits are given out for free. The kits contain basic gun safety info along with a cable lock.

A small gaggle of Internet grumps (you know who you are) sees this as some sort of conspiracy to require them to lock up their guns (as it should be). One wonders if they have bothered to review the material being distributed. If you want to see it yourself, visit www.projecthomesafe.org.

What's behind Project Homesafe? Flash back to three years ago when cities were filing suit against gun makers in a highly orchestrated (by Handgun Control, now the Brady Campaign) assault designed to cripple or destroy the firearms industry. Mayors of the cities were being pressured to "do something."

HCI and its cronies through the gun companies would settle. They figured wrong, and the firearms industry saw a way to continue its century-old practice of distributing gun safety information and combine that with a program which gives mayors a way to "do something" that actually helps reduce firearms accidents.

We have a choice to make. We can be seen simply shouting "no, no, no!" to every offer to "do something" about firearms accidents, or we can get in front of the

issues—take ownership of the solution, actually do something worthwhile and get credit for being the responsible parties we have always been.

Project Homesafe must be a good thing because the gun control forces absolutely hate it. They hate it that the media (outside the Northeast) likes the program, that us gun owners get favorable publicity for putting millions of dollars into this gun safety program and they hate it because they know Project Homesafe vividly exposes the fact that the gun control groups have no firearm safety programs.

We should enforce current laws on the books instead of making new laws that won't be enforced, and then crybaby why the restrictive gun laws aren't working.

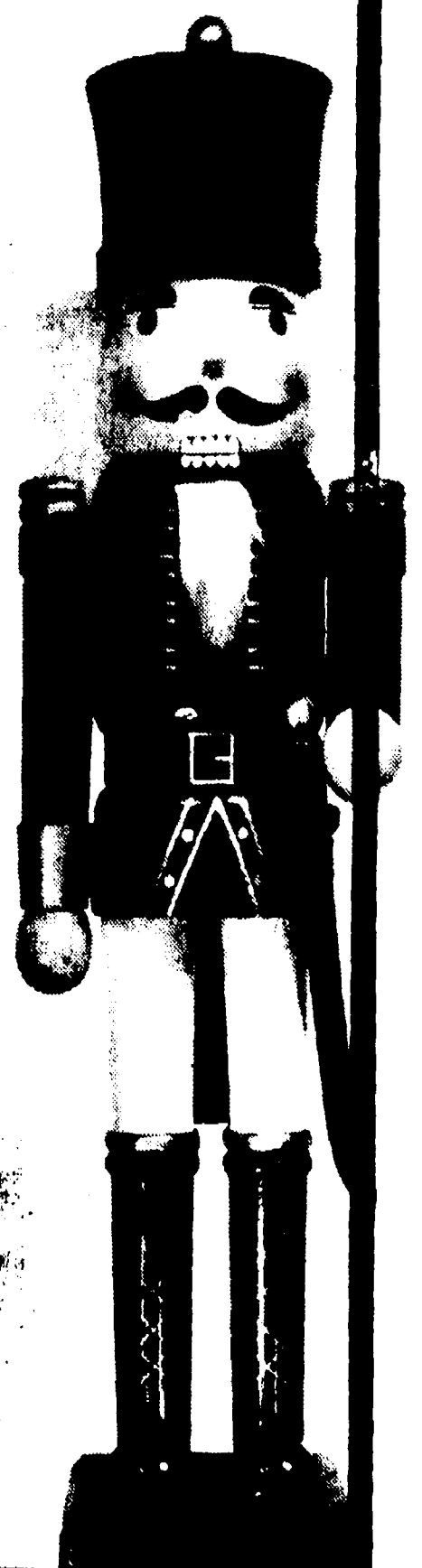
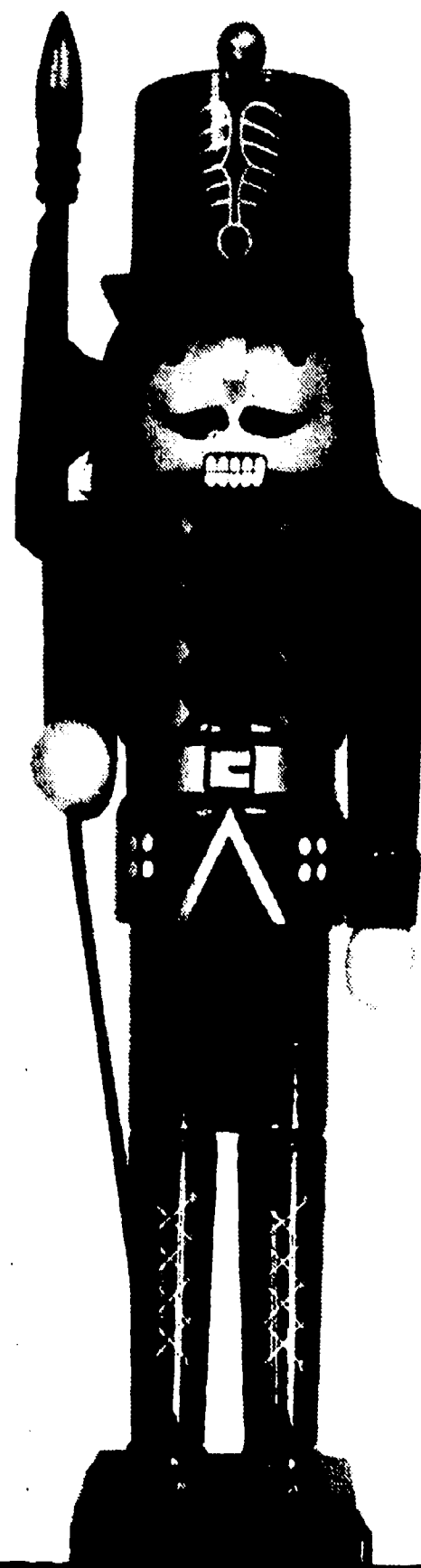
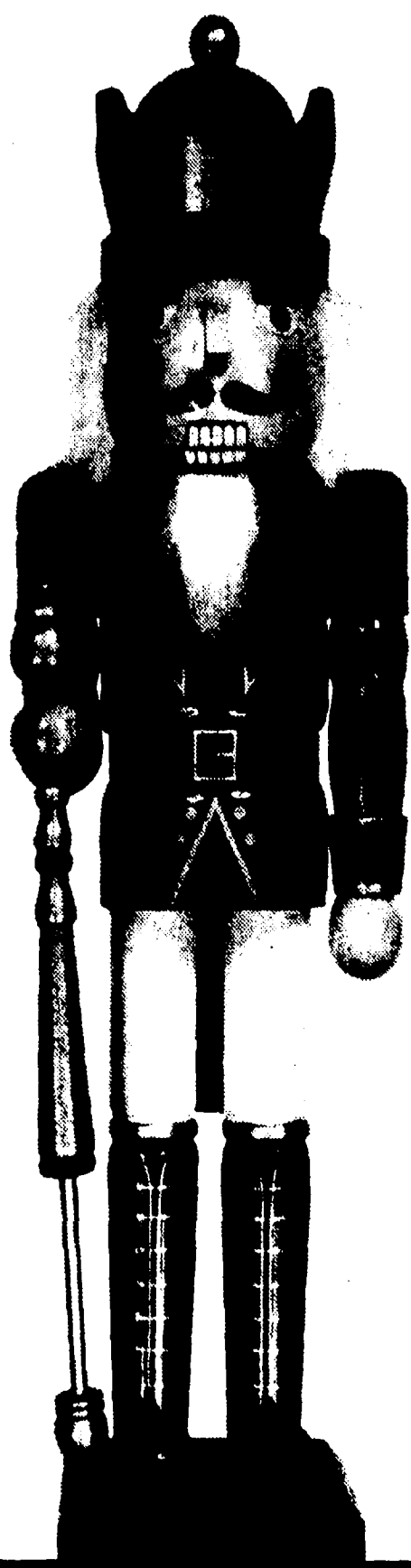
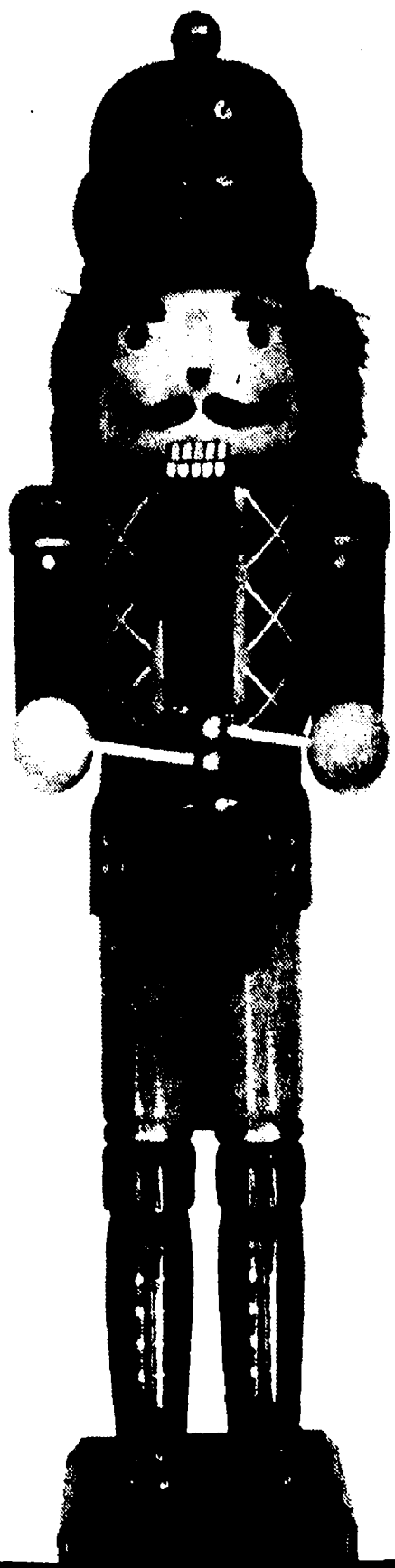
Contact your local officials. Now it will make a difference.





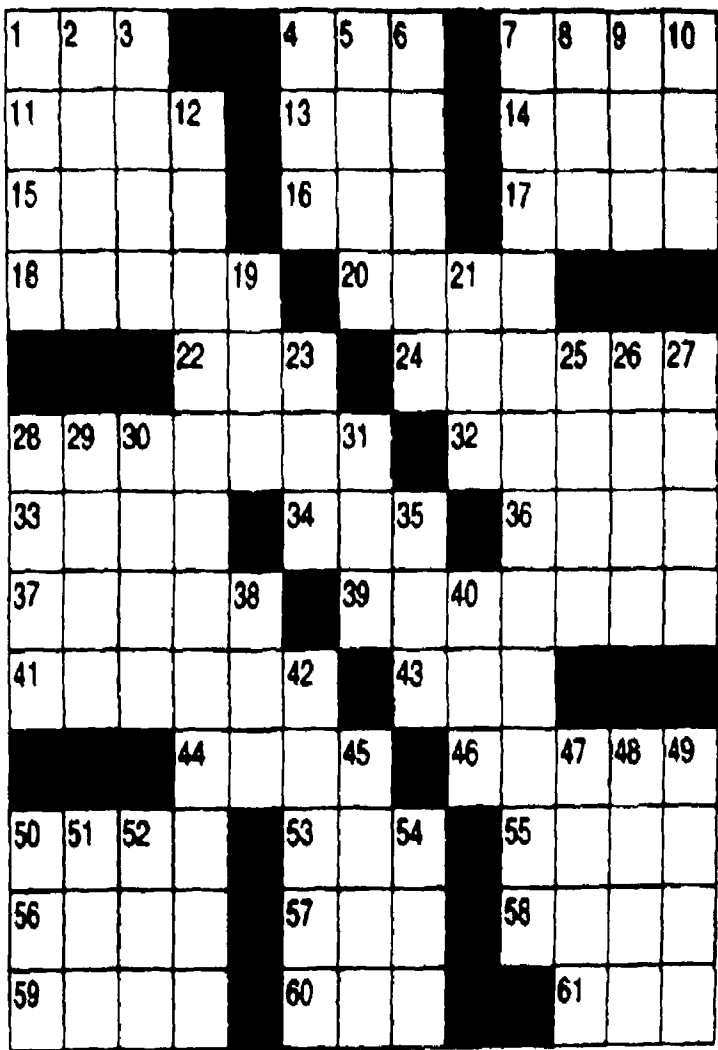
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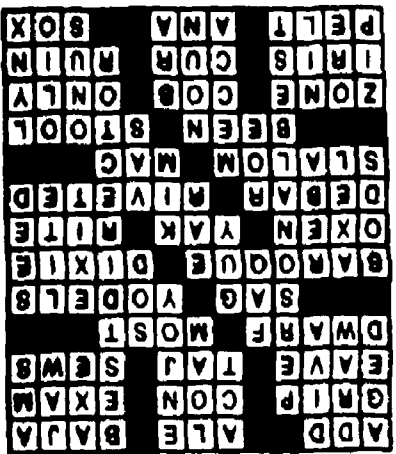
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The Spats

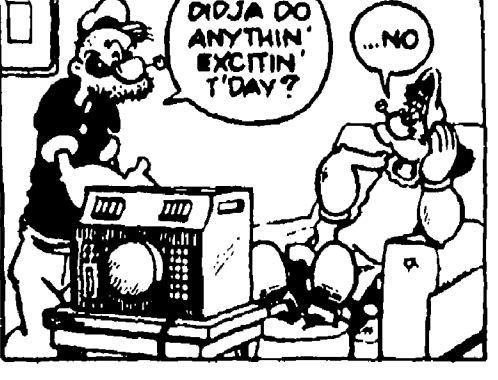
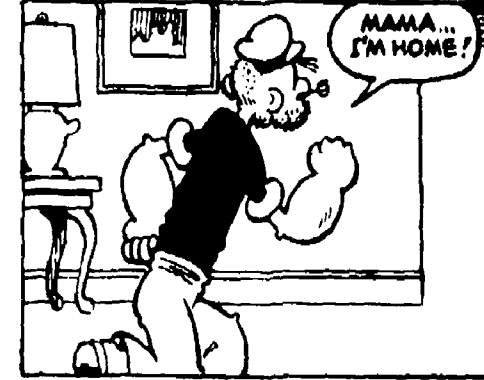
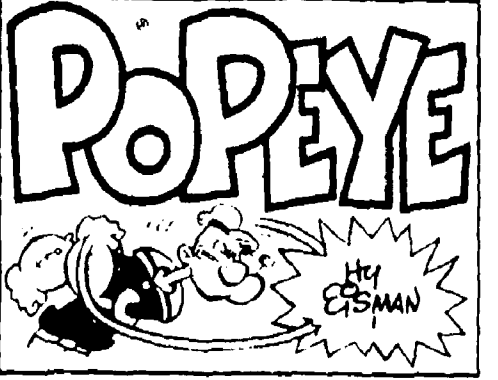


HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Dress has no polka dots. 2. Palm leaves are missing. 3. Dress color is black. 4. Man has no glasses. 5. Chef's apron bib is gone. 6. Bread basket is missing.



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Kerry Raises \$175K At NJ Fundraiser

By Steve Kornacki

Special From PoliticsNJ.com

STATE—On Dec. 10, the eve of U.S. Senator John F. Kerry's 59th birthday, around 250 New Jersey Democrats tonight serenaded him with "Happy Birthday" and dumped nearly \$175,000 into his fledgling presidential campaign coffers.

The three-term senator mixed with a crowd that included many influential Democrats at Mayfair Farms in West Orange. He used a 25-minute address to the group to sound the themes of his likely White House bid.

Invoking the memory of "the greatest generation" and their heroism in World War II and its aftermath, Kerry challenged the audience to consider its contributions to the future.

"What are they going to write about our generation?" he asked. "What are they going to say about us?"

He went on to blast President George W. Bush's handling of the economy, repeatedly faulting the President for his tax cut program, which Kerry said disproportionately favors the wealthy.

"I don't believe in class warfare, but I do believe in fairness," he said.

Kerry, a decorated Vietnam veteran and member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, also chided the Bush administration for what he said is its reluctance to work in concert with other nations and international organizations.

"We are losing friends around the world, and we need friends," he said, adding that "This administration's response to everything is either a unilateral 'no' or a flex of the muscle."

The Bay State's junior senator recently formed a presidential exploratory committee, joining Vermont Governor Howard Dean as the only two Democrats to take that step.

After his speech, Kerry was presented with a birthday cake and a book about New Jersey. Each member of the event's host committee signed the book.

"To be honest, this has exceeded all of my expectations," said U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg Clay Constantino, who organized tonight's fundraiser. Tickets for the event went for \$1,000 per couple.

While New Jersey's late primary date has made its voters an after-thought in primary campaigns, the state's wealth makes it a major player in the fundraising game.

Michael Critchley, a well-known Essex County attorney who also helped plan the event, said Kerry is off to an early start -- and it's making a difference.

"He's the only one that's organized in New Jersey," Critchley said. "As far as any other candidates are concerned, you hear people talk, but nothing is being put together."

Dean did raise money in the state in June, but no other prospective candidate has held a similar event.

Several prominent elected officials made the trip to West Orange tonight. Among them was state Senator Jon Adler (D-Cherry Hill).

"Senator Kerry, of all the people in Washington, seems to have the greatest sense of purpose and vision of where America should go," Adler said.

As for former Vice President Al Gore, considered the front-runner if he decides to run again, Adler was hesitant. "Most Democrats with whom I speak feel Senator Kerry is better equipped to lead us through the foreign policy dilemmas we face and to make America stronger and safer," he said.

Former Morris County Prosecutor Michael Murphy, who sought the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in 1997, was more blunt: "I have a lot of respect for Al Gore, but my working definition of insanity is doing the same thing with the same people over and over and expecting a different result. We can't reinvent Al Gore one more time, and the party is in desperate need of a leader."

Gore has said he will make a decision on whether to run shortly and announce his plans early next year.

But one attendee who worked the state for Gore in 2000 said many of the former vice president's supporters have already found a home with Kerry.

"This looks like a reunion of the New Jersey Clinton and Gore campaigns," the attendee said.

The presence of James Kennedy, the Mayor of Rahway and one of Governor James E. McGreevey's closest friends, raised a few eyebrows. But while Kennedy said he has talked about the presidential race with McGreevey, he stressed his decision to back Kerry was his own.

"Jim and I are certainly best friends, but we're two different individuals," Kennedy said. "I'm involved in this strictly because I believe in this individual."

But that doesn't mean Kerry isn't angling for McGreevey's

support. Earlier in the day, he held a private meeting with the Governor. "I enjoyed my meeting with him," Kerry told PoliticsNJ.com before the reception. "He's a smart man and a lot of the folks around him are already helping me."

Kerry said he didn't ask McGreevey for his support during their meeting, saying the purpose was for the two to get to know one another.

Other notables on hand for the fundraiser included: former Assemblyman Leroy Jones, the East Orange Democratic Municipal Chairman; Democratic fundraiser John F.X. Graham; attorney Jerry Zaro, newly-elected Essex County Freeholder Carol Clark, lobbyist Gene Mulroy, attorney Tom Durkin, and former congressional candidate Tim Carden.

Kerry's visit came with his campaign gaining momentum. A poll released on Monday showed him locked in a statistical dead heat with Gore in New Hampshire. And a new NBC News/Wall Street Journal survey of national Democrats pegs Kerry's support at 13 percent,

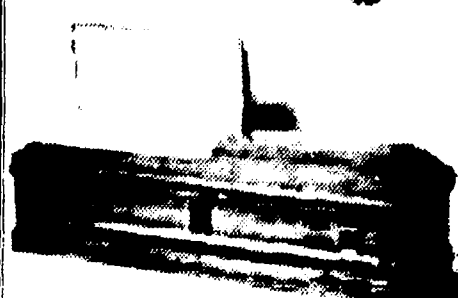
significantly behind Gore but making him the only other Democrat to break single digits.

"I was extremely encouraged by it, and even a little surprised at this point," Kerry said tonight of the New Hampshire poll.

He told PoliticsNJ.com he has no idea if Gore will run, but that his own early start will serve him

(continued on page...16)

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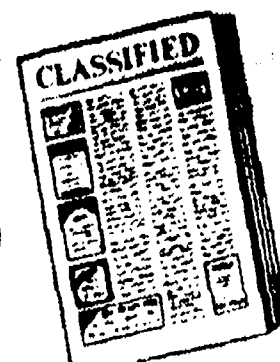
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- Atom Tabloid & Citizen-Gazette
- Rahway News Record
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Guaranteed Want Ads-If item is not sold during the first week, the ad will run the second week FREE! Call when all items are sold.

Guaranteed Reader to Reader Want Ads are for non-commercial advertisers only. Items for sale must not exceed \$1000. Price and Phone# must be included in the ad. Cash or Check for \$7.75 must be included with the ad. Autos, Motorcycles, Garage Sales and Real Estate are not accepted in Guaranteed Reader to Reader Section.



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c/o READER TO READER WANT ADS
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P.O. Box 1081
Rahway, NJ 07065

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Please Print clearly. Any one can easily tell if you are not serious.

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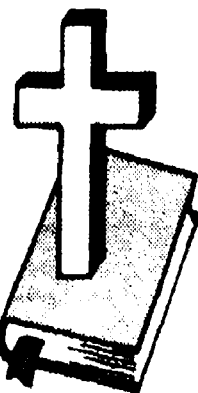
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MC/VISA # _____

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☐ Prayer To St. Jude

☐ St. Jude Novena

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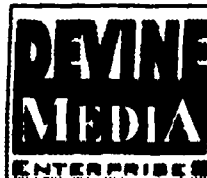
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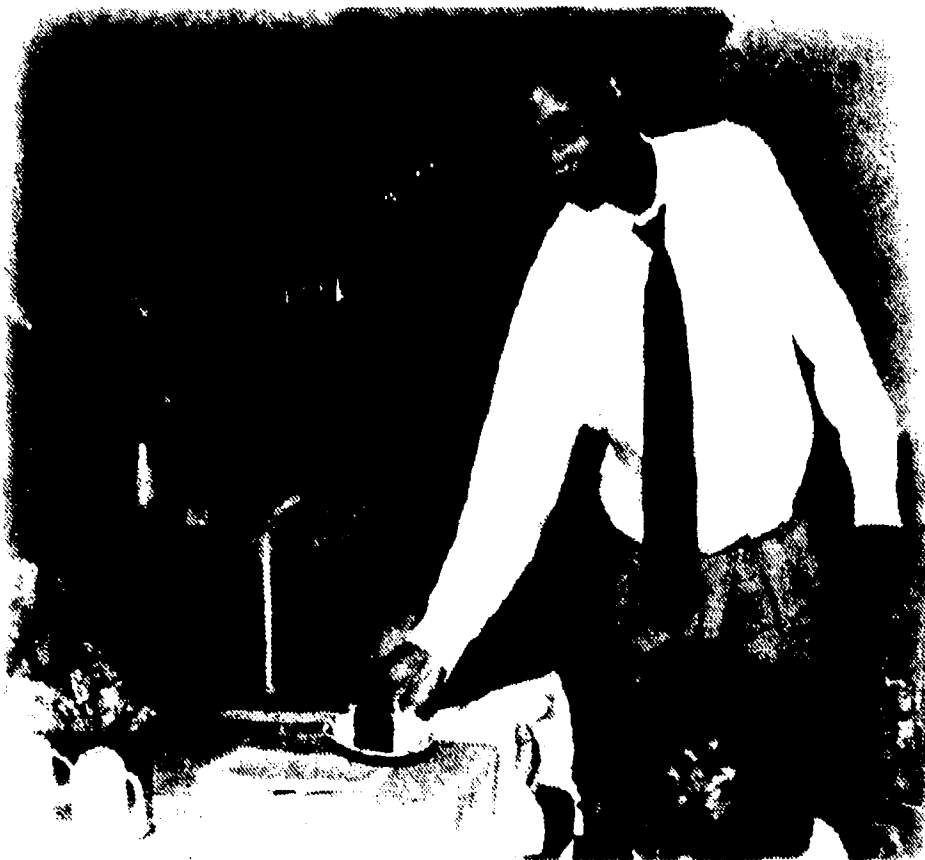
Weeks

1.	12.75	17.00	21.25
2.	25.50	34.00	42.50
3.	38.25	51.00	63.75
4.	51.00	68.00	85.00
5.	63.75	85.00	106.25
6.	76.50	102.00	127.50
7.	89.25	119.00	148.75
8.	102.00	136.00	170.00

YOUR LOCAL NEWS

NEWS

SPREADING HOLIDAY CHEER—Students from The Wardlaw-Hartridge School in Edison, like John Campbell, serve their neighbors, the residents at Care One at the Highlands, cake and punch after providing choral and instrumental number One morning in late November, the independent school's eighth-graders, under the direction of Patricia Landy and Jane Brown, presented songs of the season and spread some one-on-one cheer.

**"Funny Thing" Held Over At Forum**

METUCHEN The Forum Theatre Company is proud to present a special New Year's Eve performance of the smash hit musical comedy, *A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the Forum* at 7:30 on Dec. 31. Now playing on the mainstage, "...Forum" has been extended to additional performances on Friday, Dec. 27 and Saturday, Dec. 28 at 8 p.m.

Broadway's greatest farce is light, fast-paced, witty, irreverent and one of the funniest musicals ever written -- the perfect escape from life's troubles. "...

Forum" takes comedy back to its roots, combining situations from time-tested, 2000 year old comedies with the infectious energy of classic vaudeville.

Forum is certain to delight audiences looking for a fun-filled time in the theatre. Standard tickets on Dec. 27 and 28 are \$25, with group rates available for parties of 10 or more. New Year's Eve tickets are \$45 and include a champagne reception and hors d'oeuvres.

To reserve tickets, call 732-548-0582. Visit the Forum Theatre company website at www.forumtheatrecompany.com

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Head West for a
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Saddle up to one of our thick, juicy steaks, like our sizzling Kansas City Steak or signature Filet Mignon. It's the best steak this side of town.

Lunch and dinner served daily.

Oh, by the way, horses park free too!

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FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON



*Expires 12/26/02

We're Located across from the Woodbridge Mall within the
Sheraton at Woodbridge Place Hotel, 515 Route One South, Iselin, NJ
(732)634-5407 www.sheratonwoodbridge.com



"...Forum" cast members pictured L to R: Patrick Starega, Margaret Davis, Paul Whelihan. PHOTO CREDIT: Peter J. Loewy

Kerry Fundraiser continued

(continued from page...11)

well if the former vice president enters.

"Al Gore has run for national office four times, and I've never run...and a year from now the first votes are going to be cast" Kerry said.

He said he's unsure when he will formally announce his intentions, but left no doubt he will be a candidate: "I've made it clear that I will run no matter who runs."

This was Kerry's first Garden State fundraiser for his presidential campaign. In October, he raised money in New Jersey for his Senate re-election bid.

He will be back in the Garden State in several months. A Cherry Hill fundraiser is slated for mid-February, and what Constantinou described as "a gala dinner" is scheduled for March 27.