

The ATOM TABLOID

& Citizen-Gazette

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

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Middlesex County Edition

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50¢



Carden Blasts Ferguson For Putting Corporate CEOs Before Working Families

WESTFIELD—Tim Carden, 7th District Democratic Congressional candidate, attacked Mike Ferguson for leaving working families out in the cold. A new study by the Campaign for America's Future reveals that New Jersey workers lost over \$5.56 billion dollars in retirement assets from December 2000 for December 2001 due to the decline in the stock market, corporate fraud and a shift in pensions to "defined contributions." The losses have increased in the past year. "Vote after vote, my opponent sided with his corporate

campaign contributors at the expense of working families in the 7th Congressional district," said Carden.

"When he voted against reigning in corporate abuse, he let corporate criminals off the hook; when he voted to lock employees out of decision-making on their hard-earned pensions, he put their retirement security at risk; when he voted to allow companies to hire investment advisors for employees with a conflict of interest, he showed his true colors. My opponent is not on our side and I am running for

Congress to change that," said Carden. "I talk to voters every day who are postponing retirement, worried about paying for college, and anxious about the future.

I support a bill that gives employees a say in how their retirement funds are invested. My opponent voted against giving employees a voice," said Carden. "I support a bill that requires high level executives, when they sell company stock, to tell their employees that they are selling the stock. Maybe if the Enron executives had told their employ-

ees that they were dumping stocks, some of the losses could have been avoided. My opponent doesn't think so," Carden concluded. Ferguson, who sits on the Financial Services Committee, should have been on the front lines in the fight against corporate abuse. He voted against imposing criminal penalties on executives who publish false financial data, did not support tough new regulations on the accounting industry, and has taken more in campaign contributions from the accounting industry than any other member of the committee.

Council Holds Budget Hearing

SOUTH AMBOY—City officials have proposed an \$11.8 million municipal budget for 2002-03, which would attempt to keep city taxes stable. Exact changes to the municipal tax rate cannot be determined until the state releases its extraordinary aid figures later this year.

The proposed budget calls for a \$2 million tax levy, which is down approximately 3/4 of a million dollars from last year, according to the city's business administrator. However, that figure assumes that the city receives the approximately \$1 million in extraordinary aid it requested from the state.

Mayor John T. O'Leary said that the city would amend the budget to avoid a tax hike if it does not receive the full amount from the state.

The City Council scheduled a public hearing on the budget for Wednesday night.

South Amboy School Board Member Censured

SOUTH AMBOY—For the second time in four years, the South Amboy Board of Education has censured a member for ethics violations.

Ed Campbell was censured Monday night in a 5-2 vote after being accused of violating the ethics code when he investigated students' complaints about the high school guidance department.

The board found that Campbell's conduct did violate school board policy, although it did not rise to the level of harassment, as charged by the South Amboy Education Association, which brought the allegations against the

member. Members are forbidden from "exercis(ing) any administrative responsibility with respect to the schools or as an individual command the services of any school employee," according to board policy.

Campbell, a board member for seven years, denied any wrongdoing and said that he got involved to assist four students who told him they had not received transcripts needed to apply to college.

In 1998, the South Amboy school board censured former member Barbara Rone for violating the code of ethics by voting on matters regarding then-Superintendent Robert

Dicker while the two were involved in an unrelated legal dispute. Campbell said "I do not see my actions as unethical" because he met with the superintendent and tried to speak with the students' guidance counselor. "I stepped in as a final link in the chain of command," said Campbell.

Trying to resolve "a problem in the guidance department that needed to be corrected" is more important to Campbell than the resolution. "Censure means nothing to me. The kids mean everything," he said. The South Amboy Education Association accused Campbell of harassing

a guidance counselor in a grievance filed with the board.

The resolution charged that Campbell "actively solicited information from several students who were not Mr. Campbell's own children regarding alleged difficulties that the students encountered with the guidance department."

The resolution also said Campbell went to the school principal in June and "demanded to speak to a guidance counselor about conversations that guidance counselor had with students who were not Mr. Campbell's children."

Campbell said he told the students to go through the chain of command, and he got more involved later because that didn't work.



On Sept. 28, the Middlesex County Pulaski Day Parade Committee honored Assemblyman John S. Wisniewski as their 2002 Grand Marshal. Wisniewski will represent Middlesex County in the Pulaski Day Parade to be held in New York City at 1 p.m. on Sunday Oct. 6

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Federal Grants Reimburse Hospitals' 9/11 Costs

AREA — The United States Department of Health and Human Services has awarded \$4.6 million to 14 New Jersey hospitals to reimburse costs they incurred in responding to the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, U.S. Senator Jon S. Corzine announced on Sept. 17.

The HHS awards, announced in Washington by HHS Secretary Tommy Thompson, were part of a total of nearly \$140 million in grants sent to hospitals, clinics,

and other health care facilities in New Jersey, New York, Virginia and Washington, D.C. The grants are to cover losses caused by increased expenditures and decreased revenues related to patient care between Sept. 11 and Dec. 31, 2001.

The largest award in New Jersey—\$3,244,775—went to Jersey City Medical Center. Hospitals in Hudson, Bergen, Essex, Passaic and Union counties also received awards. Trinitas Hospital in Elizabeth received \$29,497.

"I am grateful that Health and Human Services has released these funds and recognized the

role New Jersey hospitals and public health agencies played in responding to the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001," Corzine said. "Our hospitals are on the front-line of our war against terrorism."

The money awarded came from a supplemental appropriation, which passed the Congress earlier this year. An earlier round of grants totaled \$2.8 million. Corzine and Sen. Robert Torricelli wrote to Thompson in April asking that HHS consider expanding the number of hospitals eligible for emergency grants to all 21 counties.

Bill Would Require Twin Tower Ash To Be Incorporated In Ground-Zero Memorial

STATE — Assemblywoman Linda Stender and Assembly Deputy Minority Leader Neil M. Cohen introduced legislation that would require ash collected at the site of the World Trade Center catastrophe to be used in any ground-zero memorial honoring the victims of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Stender and Cohen immediately sent letters to the New York Legislature urging identical legislation to be introduced and enacted in that state. If identical bills were to be signed into laws in the two states, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey would be compelled to carry out the edict to utilize Twin Towers ash in a planned memorial to be constructed at the former World Trade Center site.

Stender and Cohen (both D-Union) crafted their legislation (A-2653) to address concerns raised by Diane Horning, a Scotch Plains woman whose only son, Matthew Horning, 26, died in the Twin Towers collapse. Horning says the ash collected at World Trade Center site and now piled at the Fresh Kills landfill on Staten Island—contains the remains of people who lost their lives in last year's catastrophe.

Stender, who has taken up Horning's cause, said the site was consecrated by the deaths of so many people.

"The ashen remains should be treated with respect and returned to the site," said Stender. "We need to memorial-

(continued on page...3)



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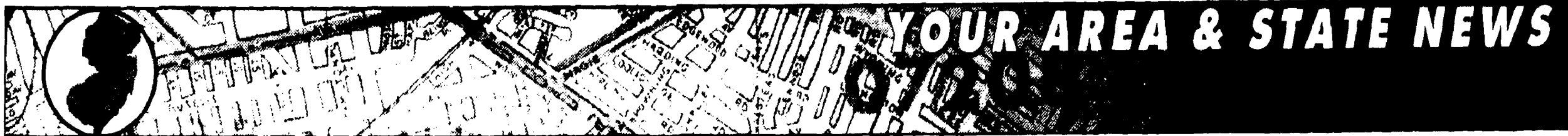
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IN REMEMBRANCE OF LIVES LOST—Comcast Regional Vice President Gregory Arnold presented contributions to representatives of six NJ funds benefiting families of victims of the World Trade Center attacks. The funds represent organizations providing direct relief to those affected, as well as foundations that address long-term educational needs. Seated are (L.-R.) Jack McGowan, Union WTC Remembrance Fund; Janet Masucci, Holmdel Victims Relief Education Foundation; Gregory Arnold, Comcast; Tracy Rogers, Middletown's FAVOR. Standing (L.-R.) are Kerry Murano, Union WTC Remembrance Fund; Jaime Alexander Jersey Jams/Jersey Cares; Jim Wassel, Alliance of Neighbors of Monmouth County; Allyson Gilbert, Middletown's FAVOR; and William M. Beatty, The Todd M. Beamer Foundation.

Bill Would Require Twin Tower Ash To Be Incorporated In Ground-Zero Memorial

(continued from page...2)

ize the honor of 9/11 victims. It would be unconscionable to leave their ashes in a landfill and an insult to their memory."

"Any memorial that fails to utilize Twin Towers ash would run the risk of being looked upon as an empty gesture," said Stender. "The ash would make a World Trade Center memorial site sacred ground for the ages."

Cohen said there is no way to differentiate human ashes from all the other ash collected at the World Trade Center site.

"The grim reality is that this ash is the only tangible remains that may ever exist for some of the families who lost loved ones in the collapse of the Twin Towers," said Cohen. "What's a survivor supposed to do? Go to the Fresh Kills landfill every Sunday with flowers?"

Stender said the remains of airline passengers, police officers, firefighters, paramedics and civilian and government employees are interspersed throughout the ash.

"These innocent people were the first casualties in this nation's war on terrorism," said Stender. "They deserve a more

fitting final resting place and the public deserves a memorial that honors their presence as well as their memory."

The state Attorney General's Office says 691 New Jersey residents died in the 9/11 attacks, most of them at the World Trade Center.

The trade center site is controlled by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and the Lower Manhattan Development Corp. The agencies plan to eventually construct a memorial at the trade center site.

Under the Stender/Cohen bill, the huge mound of trade

center ash now piled at the Fresh Kills landfill would be covered from the elements, placed in containers, and shipped back to downtown Manhattan for use in the ground-zero memorial.

But for the bill to be made binding on the Port Authority, an identical version would need to be passed in the New York Legislature and signed by that state's governor.

New Jersey Governor James E. McGreevey has already expressed support for employing World Trade Center ash in any memorial built at the ground zero.



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Carden Hears From New Jersey Seniors

WESTFIELD Tim Carden, 7th District Congressional candidate, met with seniors in Montgomery in Carden's Coffee Car. The seniors told Carden stories about how the lack of a Medicare prescription drug plan affects their lives. Carden has been meeting with seniors across the district asking for their help in sending a message to Congress about this important issue. More than one senior has told Carden about choices made between medicine and food.

Carden also told the seniors that the bill his opponent voted for prohibits Medicare from negotiating with drug manufacturers for the best possible price for prescription drugs. "It's just common sense that when you are going to be the biggest purchaser of a product, you should be getting a volume discount. But the bill my opponent voted on actually forbids Medicare from negotiating a good price for the drugs seniors buy," said Carden, a fiscally responsible, successful businessman.

"My opponent has taken hundreds of thousands of dollars from drug companies to vote for their interest instead

of yours," Carden told the seniors. "So it's no surprise to me that he's taking their side on this issue."

The bill passed by the House has a provision that states that the Administrator of Medicare may not "interfere in any way with negotiations between (insurance companies) and drug manufacturers, wholesalers, or other suppliers of covered outpatient drugs." In other words, while Medicare beneficiaries may represent the single largest group of purchasers of prescription drugs, the program cannot take advantage of their bargaining power.

Carden noted that at the time of last year's anthrax scare, the Secretary of Health and Human Services used the government's bargaining power to negotiate an 80 percent discount off the list price of the antibiotic Cipro. "If we can negotiate a good deal on that drug, we should be able to negotiate good deals on other drugs that seniors buy every day. To actually prohibit Medicare from exercising that power makes us wonder whose side Ferguson is on. It definitely isn't our side," concluded Carden.

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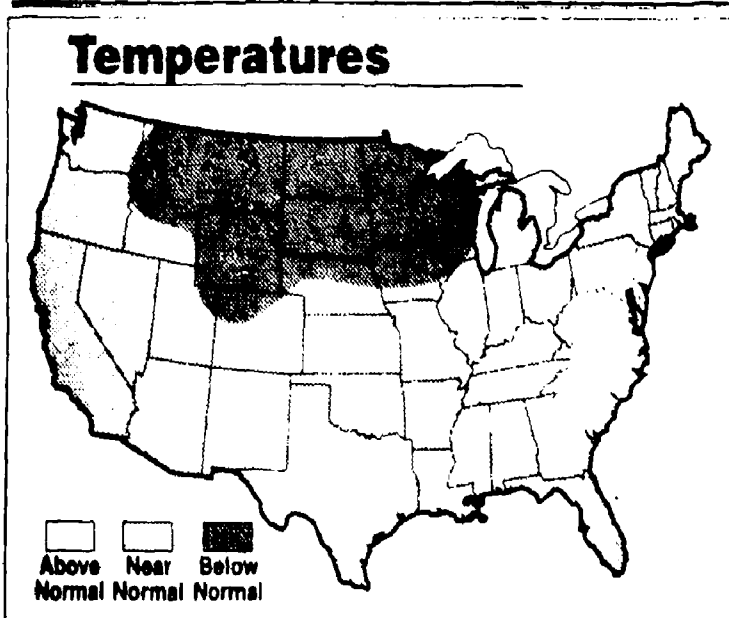
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LOCAL 7-DAY FORECAST

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Times of sun and clouds.	Patchy clouds.	Cloudy most of the time.	Mostly cloudy.	Considerable sunshine.	Sunny.	Clouds and sun.	A few showers.
75	55	74/60	74/54	70/45	64/51	70/59	70/43

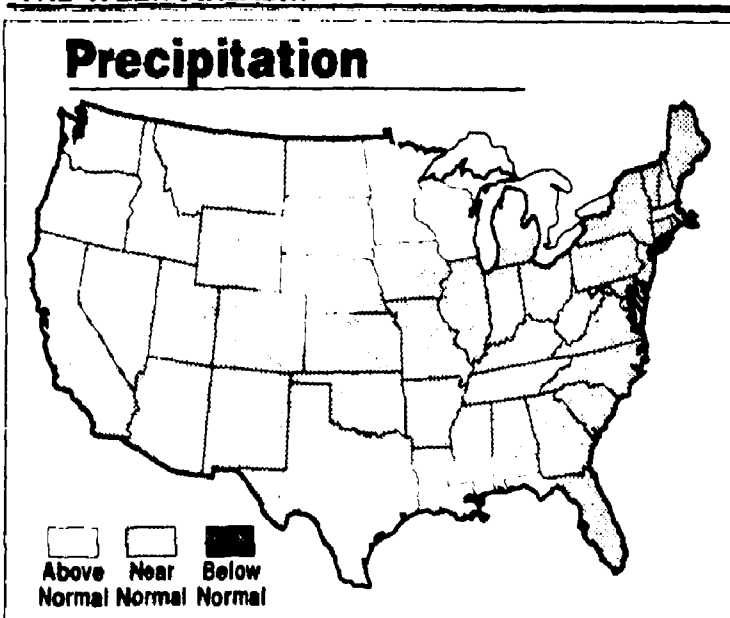
THE WEEK AHEAD...



NATIONAL SUMMARY

An active weather pattern will take shape across the northern one-third of the country over the period. Storm systems will draw colder-than-normal air down from Canada. These cold air masses will collide with warmer air to the south creating showers and thunderstorms. If a tropical system affects the Gulf Coast early in the period, there will be plenty of rainfall.

THE WEEK AHEAD...



U.S. TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Atlanta	83 67 pc	81 65 t	79 63 sh	80 59 s
Boston	70 54 pc	66 59 pc	71 52 c	64 42 pc
Chicago	68 56 pc	73 50 sh	64 46 s	64 45 pc
Cleveland	74 59 pc	74 56 c	64 48 pc	65 39 s
Denver	55 40 pc	62 41 pc	63 42 pc	65 38 pc
Des Moines	60 53 c	62 44 c	58 45 pc	67 50 pc
Detroit	68 50 pc	72 50 sh	64 45 pc	63 38 pc
Houston	86 72 pc	88 70 pc	86 66 pc	84 66 pc
Indianapolis	79 61 pc	77 54 t	70 47 pc	68 44 s
Kansas City	72 56 c	70 49 c	68 49 s	70 54 pc
Los Angeles	74 60 s	78 60 s	77 56 pc	80 45 s
Miami	88 78 pc	88 78 pc	88 78 pc	88 73 pc
Minn.-St. Paul	58 46 pc	58 43 c	59 41 c	60 44 pc
New Orleans	85 76 t	85 72 pc	87 71 pc	86 67 s
New York City	76 62 pc	76 64 c	76 58 c	72 54 s
Omaha	62 48 c	62 42 c	66 45 s	70 51 pc
Phoenix	81 62 s	87 64 s	89 66 s	91 58 s
San Francisco	73 54 s	69 53 s	70 54 pc	71 49 s
Seattle	64 47 pc	64 44 pc	61 45 s	62 44 r
Washington	79 63 c	78 64 c	77 57 c	73 49 s

SUN & MOON

Sunrise	Sunset
Thu. 6:55 a.m.	6:36 p.m.
Fri. 6:56 a.m.	6:35 p.m.
Moonrise	Moonset
Thu. 3:02 a.m.	5:29 p.m.
Fri. 4:18 a.m.	6:01 p.m.
Moon Phases	
New	First
Oct 6	Oct 13
21	29
Full	Last
Oct 13	Oct 29

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

WORLD TRAVELER'S CITIES

City	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Amsterdam	64 52 pc	58 46 r	59 49 pc	61 51 r
Berlin	62 51 pc	61 51 pc	59 45 pc	58 45 sh
Buenos Aires	74 53 s	79 57 pc	76 53 pc	77 56 pc
Cairo	86 63 pc	87 63 s	83 63 pc	83 63 s
Jerusalem	73 55 pc	74 51 pc	73 54 s	72 52 s
Johannesburg	75 54 pc	81 50 pc	69 48 pc	68 52 c
London	63 55 r	62 48 pc	63 49 s	66 51 pc
Madrid	66 54 r	76 52 pc	76 53 c	77 57 c
Mexico City	74 56 pc	74 53 pc	72 56 c	71 50 r
Moscow	37 25 c	36 28 pc	43 34 sn	41 40 sn
Paris	64 51 c	62 51 r	60 43 pc	61 46 pc
Rio de Janeiro	77 69 s	78 68 c	78 70 pc	78 68 pc
Rome	71 54 pc	73 53 pc	71 56 pc	69 52 pc
San Juan	88 77 c	88 77 c	87 77 t	88 77 c
Seoul	72 57 pc	70 50 pc	65 48 s	65 49 pc
Sydney	83 55 s	80 59 pc	78 59 c	78 55 s
Tokyo	78 68 s	73 63 pc	72 61 s	71 63 pc
Toronto	63 53 pc	70 57 c	59 38 sh	52 30 pc
Winnipeg	50 31 pc	41 24 c	40 21 pc	47 35 pc
Zurich	57 47 r	62 47 pc	61 44 pc	59 44 pc

To submit items for the Community Calendar, e-mail them to carolynnjean@yahoo.com or fax them to 732-388-4143 attention: Community Calendar. Items must be received at least 10 days before desired publication date.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Every Monday at 7:30 p.m. or every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.—Nicotine Anonymous, a twelve-step program to help people to gain freedom from Nicotine meets at Centenary Methodist Church, 200 Hillside Avenue, Metuchen and every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Mortgage Money Mart, Tano Mall (front left corner), 1199 Amboy Avenue, Edison. No dues or fees. For more info. call Frank at (732) 548-9423 or Jane at (732) 549-5955.

Every third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.—For the Edison Planning Board held in Council Chambers, Municipal Blvd. and every third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.—For The Edison Zoning Board of Adjustment meetings held in Council Chambers, Municipal Bldg.

Oct. 4 at 9 a.m.—The Municipal Council of the Township of Edison has scheduled a special meeting.

October 4–Oct. 27 from 7:30–9:30 p.m.—The Barron Arts Center is having an open reception for their 25th year anniversary art exhibition and the Barron Library Building's 125th Anniversary. Gallery hours are Mon.–Fri. from 11 a.m.–4 p.m.; Sundays, 2–4 p.m. Closed on holidays and Saturdays. The building is handicapped accessible.

Oct. 8 at 7:30 p.m.—The Carteret Historical Committee announces their meetings to be held at the Deverin Community Center, 100 Cooke Ave., 2nd floor. All are welcome.

October 9 at 7 p.m.—The Widows or Widowers (WOWs) will have a business meeting in the Main Public Library, George Frederick Plaza, Amboy Ave., Woodbridge. Call (732) 297- (Calendar continues on page...25)

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Are You Concerned ABOUT YOUR MEMORY?

By **Stephanie Fitzsimmons Sexton, RN, NP**

As the "baby boomers" age and our nation faces an older population, I have noticed an

increased concern over normal "memory delays" by many individuals. The National Institute on Aging has conducted a study that shows that 15 to 20 percent

of older adults have no detectable changes in mental function from youth to older age. Recent press interest in Alzheimer's disease has heightened public awareness for consumers of this disease. If you walk into a room and suddenly say to yourself, "why did I come in here?" do not jump to the conclusion that you have Alzheimer's disease. It probably takes you a fraction of a second to recall your intended task; but our awareness of the symptoms of Alzheimer's heightens our fear.

When I meet with older adults, sometimes they will share a fear that they are losing their memory. Some share this fear with humor; others in the strictest confidence. We all face multiple risk factors in our daily lives that will impact our memory agility. Stresses may include: moving, meeting new people, learning a new area, locating stores and services, fatigue, or grief at leaving a familiar home.

Mental changes may be related to a new medication or have a physical cause that is treatable. If you are concerned about your memory, see your health care provider. Many physical causes are potentially reversible.

The best way to improve your memory is to "use it or lose it." Here are some tips:

- Keep lists and a daily calendar
- Eliminate distractions when you are concentrating on new information
- Exercise to keep your heart and lungs healthy
- Get adequate rest
- Eat a well-balanced diet
- If you smoke, it is time to stop - smoking affects circulation, which will impact your memory
- Use your memory - read; play chess; do crossword puzzles; play scrabble; challenge your mind
- Stay socially connected - isolation and a close relationship with a television can lead to inactivity and mental decline
- Keep keys, glasses in the same place

If you are depressed, seek medical assistance. Depression is treatable, and a frequent cause of mental sluggishness.

Most of all, be kind to yourself. We live in a busy, hectic part of the country that can add stress to our lives. Stay calm and remember:

exercise your memory!

Stephanie Fitzsimmons Sexton is manager of Geriatric Community Services, Monroe, for Saint Peter's University Hospital, New Brunswick.

The Senior Health column received a 2002 National Mature Media Merit Award in the Newspaper Article Series. Once again, congratulations to Stephanie and the newspapers which carry this award winning column.

Unique Benefit For Breast Cancer Research

AREA—Loews Cineplex Entertainment, in cooperation with the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, presents the 2nd Annual Spotlight on the Cure program to help raise awareness and funds to support the Foundation's mission to eradicate breast cancer through research, education, screening and treatment.

Throughout the month of October, recognized as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Loews will empower millions of moviegoers with information about breast cancer screening and treatment and offer different ways to contribute to the cause while visiting a Loews Cineplex theater throughout the country.

To help kick off this year's Spotlight on the Cure program, Loews is presenting a month-long "Spotlight" auction on eBay with proceeds going to the Komen Foundation. The auction offers participants the chance to bid for unique and one-of-a-kind items such as celebrity-designed popcorn buckets, created by some of the most famous names in show business. Many celebrities have donated personally designed popcorn buckets for the auction to help support the fight against breast cancer including: Mike Myers, Ben Affleck, Matt Damon, Lucy Liu, Magic Johnson and Tiki Barber.

During the month of October, moviegoers will have the opportunity to contribute to the Komen Foundation every time they purchase a ticket to a film and visit the concession stand at a Loews theatre.

As part of its continued commitment to raising awareness of the disease, Loews will make a donation to the Komen Foundation for every paid attendance to a Loews theatre throughout the month. In addition, Loews has created two special value packages, the "Pink Ribbon Concession Package," a



RAISING MONEY FOR BREAST CANCER—Pictured here is the popcorn bucket designed by Lucy Liu for Loews "Celebrity-Design Your Own Popcorn Bucket" auction to benefit the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

popcorn and candy combination package that includes a commemorative pink ribbon, and the "Pink Ribbon Package" that includes two adult tickets, one medium popcorn, and two small drinks for \$19.99. A portion of the proceeds from both package deals will benefit the Komen Foundation.

Trust Your Eyes To Someone Who Cares

A Rich History of Community Care

For over 20 years, Santamaria Eye Center has provided central New Jersey with compassionate, knowledgeable care and thorough patient follow-up. Patients depend on Santamaria Eye Center for the most advanced techniques in eye care, including corneal and cataract surgery. In fact, Dr. Santamaria was one of the first doctors in New Jersey to use the Allergan Array® multifocal, intraocular lens during cataract surgery. The foldable lens reduces dependence on glasses not only for distance, but also for reading.

Dr. Santamaria has also licensed his own patented invention the PhacoGard™ knife, which facilitated the performance of sutureless cataract surgery. Since 1985, Dr. Santamaria has been performing refractive surgery and now is actively performing LASIK not only on nearsighted and astigmatic patients, but also patients with farsightedness. He is also the author of several scientific papers on the safety of refractive surgery.

In addition to being certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology, Dr. Santamaria is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a Fellow of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. Dr. Santamaria serves Columbia University in New York as an Assistant Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology.

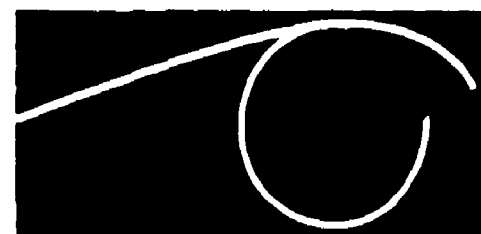
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EDISON OFFICE

YOUR SCHOOL NEWS**Your Child's School Counselor - A Valuable Resource**

by Howard Smith, EdD, LPC

It's a new school year, a new set of opportunities and challenges, and a good time to learn more about one of the more important resources offered by your child's school - the school counselor.

While parents often focus most of their attention on a school's classroom teachers, the school counselor can play an ongoing, vital role in the education of your child. Yet most parents have little understanding of the education and preparation that these professionals offer, nor of the variety of ways they can provide assistance to both parents and students.

School counselors are the professionals in schools who are educated and trained to work with students in terms of human development, career choice, and college or university choices. They are also trained and experienced in helping students dealing with many of the "problems in living" and relationship issues that growing youngsters have to face.

School counselors are certified by the State Department of Education in each state. Most



states require a school counselor to have an undergraduate degree in either elementary or secondary education from an accredited college or university and to meet the requirements to become certified as a teacher. A few states even require from 3 to 5 years of classroom teaching experience for a school counselor.

Some states accept an undergraduate degree in a field such as child development, but may also require actual teaching experience and a master's degree in counseling. School counseling master's degree programs must be accredited by the National

Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) or the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) to meet the certification requirements in virtually all states. Either accreditation body guarantees that the graduate has appropriate course work and supervised experience in understanding and working with children and youth.

Having such well educated and prepared professionals in a school serves several purposes. School counselors understand both the educational process and

An excellent investment for any parent is to take the time to get to know the school counselor who works at your child's school and to understand the services he or she can provide.

the developmental stages children go through. They're able to recognize the barriers that may come between a child and the education process. While many of these barriers may seem insignificant in adult terms, they are very real for the child facing them.

One such barrier, especially among elementary age children, is the feeling that "no one likes me" if the child is not part of the most popular crowd of students. Such insecurities are a normal part of growing up and can greatly affect the learning process. The school counselor can help a child see that not being popular with particular students or specific groups of students is not the same as "nobody likes me." Academic performance can certainly be affected by children struggling with such issues.

School counselors do not tell a child what to think but rather assist him or her in learning how to think. School Counselors help students develop the skills necessary to make decisions and solve problems in a responsible way.

Most parents are aware that school counselors have a variety of assessment instruments and

information programs to help older students with career decisions, information on colleges, universities and scholarships. But too few parents recognize that school counselors are also trained to assist with problems and issues for any age child. They can help both teachers and parents evaluate the seriousness of the difficulties and situations a child may be facing, and can be an excellent referral source to further counseling assistance, if needed.

An excellent investment for any parent is to take the time to get to know the school counselor who works at your child's school and to understand the services he or she can provide. The special training and experience school counselors have to offer can be a valuable asset for any parent trying to raise a healthy, happy, well-adjusted child.

Dr. Smith is the American Counseling Association's Associate Executive Director for Professional Affairs. He has also served as part of the American Red Cross Disaster Response team, providing counseling during emergency situations.

"Schools Care" Program To Commemorate 9/11 Victims Throughout Year

EAST BRUNSWICK —Statewide education, health and government organizations launched the "Schools Care" project at East Brunswick High School on Sept. 13. Schools Care will promote blood drives in New Jersey schools as a way to commemorate the victims of the 9-11 tragedy.

In a proclamation supporting

Schools Care, Gov. James E. McGreevey noted that blood drives represent "a meaningful and positive way for schools to remember the victims of the Sept. 11 attacks and our fellow citizens whose lives were affected by the tragedy."

"Schools Care was created to facilitate blood donation efforts and provide New Jersey's public

schools with a way not only to commemorate the victims of 9-11, but also to contribute to the community spirit that grew out of that tragedy," said Edwina M. Lee, executive director of the New Jersey School Boards Association, during a news conference this morning.

Representatives of education, student, health and government organizations also participated in the event.

"Schools Care is designed to help students organize in-school blood drives or support community blood donation efforts throughout the fall and holiday seasons,"

explained Lee. "After the 9-11 attacks, thousands of New Jerseyans rolled up their sleeves, resulting in a massive amount of blood donations. But donated blood has a shelf life of only 40 days. By the time the holidays rolled around, New Jersey's blood supplies were again at critically low levels. They remain at these low levels today."

A new state law makes it easier for students to donate blood by lowering, from 18 to 17, the age at which students can donate blood without parental consent. The legislation, A-103/S-748, was signed by McGreevey earlier this

month. According to the Red Cross, 8% of the blood supply comes from high schools-representing a larger proportion than contributions from colleges or the military.

Increasing the involvement of schools also brings benefits for the students, noted NJSBA's Lee. "School blood drives not only introduce students to a lifetime of giving blood, but they also foster youth leadership skills," she said.

Educators and students seeking information on blood drives can go to NJSBA's Web site, www.njsba.org which features a Schools Care "how-to" kit for organizing blood drives in schools or supporting blood drives already planned in the community.

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YOUR SCHOOL NEWS

Six Tips On How To Succeed In College

AREA—Freshman convocations on college campuses may be as common as Indian summer nights in autumn and equally as welcome. No matter the campus or frosh, the first year on a college campus can be bewildering. But advice can help.

"At our convocations, I give our freshmen an idea of what's ahead and how to better manage their time," says William Van Buskirk, Ph.D., provost of New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT). "All colleges are difficult but being in any college, let alone a competitive technological university like NJIT, can be a demanding experience even to seniors. To freshmen, though,

it can be downright terrifying."

Nevertheless, if freshmen begin their year with strong, productive habits, they will encounter a richer and more rewarding college experience. At NJIT's recent convocation, Van Buskirk offered the newest class a half dozen practical tips.

1. Work Hard At School

If you are not studying or doing homework for at least two hours for every hour you spend in class, then you are not studying hard enough.

2. Limit Outside Employment

Even if you desperately need the money, you cannot commit yourself to more than 15 hours of outside work and expect to get the most out of college.

3. Join a Study Group

If people ask you to join their group, that's great. But if no one asks you to join a study group, put together your own. Ask other students, who might have also been left out. You may even make a new friend.

4. Teach Your Study Group

If you can learn the material well enough to teach it to someone else, then chances are you'll ace the test. Another bonus: You may discover a love of teaching that you never knew you had. Says Van Buskirk: "It was when I was teaching my study group in college that I first understood the great satisfaction that teaching offers."

5. Befriend A Professor

Every semester get to know well at

least one of your professors. By the time you graduate, eight faculty members will not only count you as a friend, but when you need recommendations for graduate school or references for jobs, they can supply them.

To meet professors out of class, visit them during their office hours. And don't be put off, if a professor seems cold or reserved. "You may be surprised to hear this, but many of my colleagues are simply shy and need you to break the ice," Van Buskirk says.

6. Play Tourist

Whether you are a city or a country dweller, investigate beyond your college boundaries. Read about your new hometown, and then visit its unique sites.

Union Catholic Open House

SCOTCH PLAINS —

Union Catholic Regional High School will be hosting their Fall Open House on Oct. 1 and again on Nov. 6. All interested 7th and 8th grade students and their parents are invited to attend. A formal program will begin at 7:30 p.m. followed by a presentation on our Technology, Academics and Extracurricular Programs.

Our 20-acre campus is located at 1600 Morris Avenue, Scotch Plains. For further information, contact the school office at (908) 889-1600. Visit the web site at www.unioncatholic.org.

Over-the-Counter Allergy Medications Can Put Kids to Sleep

AREA—As children head back to school, some students express concerns about making new friends and getting good grades, but others are worrying about controlling their allergies in the classroom. According to Kenneth Garay, MD, FACS, medical director for The Centers for Sinus and Nasal Disease, it is important for children with allergies to take special care when they are at school.

"Allergies can make it difficult for children to concentrate on their school work, to perform well athletically, and to socialize with other students," explains Garay. "Complicating the problem, most parents treat allergies or sinus infections with over-the-counter medications that tend to make children sleepy or groggy, thus impairing the child's ability to func-

tion properly in the classroom."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 12 percent of children have suffered respiratory allergies in the last year. Another 20 percent experienced hay fever and other allergic reactions. In the Metropolitan Area, these respiratory ailments affect school attendance, particularly in early fall and in the spring - peak allergy seasons. Of the 51 million school-aged children in the US, six percent missed more than 10 days of school because of illness or injury in the past 12 months.

Most often, over-the-counter remedies will be very effective in combating allergy symptoms. However, it is important for parents to be aware of which medications can make their child(ren) drowsy. Many

newer antihistamines and over-the-counter sinus relief medications do not cause drowsiness and are preferred for children during school hours.

When appropriate, Dr. Garay recommends a prescription steroid nasal spray to ward off unwanted allergies. "The prescription nasal spray is safe and non-sedating. It will decrease symptoms of nasal congestion and sneezing associated with allergies and will also improve sinus drainage, making it easier to breathe," notes Garay. "The nasal spray is much more effective in alleviating allergy symptoms, making the child's school day more pleasant and more productive."

It is imperative to keep nurses and teachers informed of your child's health so they can provide appropriate care, if needed. Notify the school

about your child's medications and review the school's procedures and guidelines about taking medications at school. Dr. Garay believes it is ultimately up to the parent to ensure that the child is going to school healthy and alert.

"Not treating an allergy is no solution at all," concludes Garay. "Untreated nasal allergy symptoms can hinder a child's performance and level of participation in the classroom, as well as in sports. The solution is to visit a physician to establish if your child is suffering from an allergic reaction or a sinus infection. After diagnosis, the doctor can determine what medication will bring optimal relief without putting your child to sleep during the day."

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YOUR ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

POPCORN™
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By Michael S. Goldberger

One Popcorn, Poor • Two Popcorns, Fair • Three Popcorns, Good • Four Popcorns, Excellent



Too bad Goldie Hawn is so serious about being forever young. Otherwise she may have had some real fun with the role of Suzette, the rock groupie who never grew up in "The Banger Sisters." Instead, she pretends to have a blast. And, truth be told, the doubtlessly competent actress is still somewhat convincing despite the awkward stereotype. But it's not enough. Director-writer Bob Dolman's movie is one of those nostalgic little tales that attempts to provide sweet memories while concurrently assuring that our glorious pasts are still alive and well in the present. It's a tall order with an inherent fragility. And the synthetic note that Miss Hawn sounds is just enough to throw things off kilter. But there are other problems, too.

It seems the thespic tangents don't align themselves all too perfectly for Susan Sarandon, either. As prim and proper Lavinia Kingsley, the other half of the notorious title characters who, we eventually learn, were on more than just a first name basis with rock icon Jim Morrison, she appears saddled with the impossible role; the transition ultimately required is fraught with dramatic land mines.

We meet the Phoenix, Arizona, society matron ensconced in her desert manse, replete with separate wing for two very spoiled offspring, upon

the occasion of a surprise reunion fashioned by Suzette. Having been dismissed from her barmaid job at a club where, we are led to believe, she has worked since the 1960s, Suzette arrives in her flat-gray El Camino truck, sausage-tight pants and lizard tattoo. Lavinia is initially frightened. She thinks Suzette may want to blackmail her...and so do we, actually.

Married to a prominent attorney (Robin Thomas) with political ambitions, "Vinnie," as she was called back in the day, has apparently secreted her previous life of wanton rock 'n' rolling. Now, doing her version of escaped convict Allen James's identity ploy in "I Am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang" (1932), her new and perfectly upright circumstances echo nothing from those times of yore. Well, that throws a monkey wrench into Suzette's plans. Disgusted and disappointed by her old pal's obvious disavowal of the special spirit the two once shared, she decides the whole thing was a mistake. So she's going to abandon her hopes of reunification and head back to West Hollywood.

But of course she doesn't. There'd be no movie if she did. Nope... she thinks better of giving up when a brief glimmer into Lavinia's life beyond the trappings of wealth informs that her former partner in misbehavior is suffocating from middle

class respectability. For one, Lavinia's two daughters, Ericka Christensen as Hannah, and Eva Amuri as Ginger, are eating her alive. This calls for an angel...a hippy angel. Thus, it's no longer about Suzette's needs, but about Lavinia's. Now, that's friendship.

What follows is the sudden rehappification (it's a real word...don't bother looking it up) of Lavinia. And therein lies the film's biggest problem. Talk about psychedelic. Her break-neck return from Donna Karan to Carnaby Street would indeed have to be drug-induced. And though there is the perfunctory pot smoking ritual in the basement as the two gals giddily reminisce whilst poring over some rather naughty souvenirs, it's hardly enough to make the ensuing transition seem plausible.

Yet in all fairness, Miss Sarandon can't be entirely blamed for the shortcoming. Lavinia getting in touch with her inner-youth is a fanciful notion, and without a little directorial magic to enhance the chronology and help explain the personal revolution, the task confronting the actress is unreasonable. Sadly, filmmaker Dolman doesn't come to the rescue.

Oddly enough, if you're searching for characterization in "The Banger Sisters," you'll have to fast-forward past the caricatures etched by the Mesdames Hawn and Sarandon and look to the subtext. Granted, the two leads provide the occasionally heartwarming moment and some cheering notions despite various troubles plaguing their personae. But Geoffrey Rush as Harry, the failed writer Suzette picks up along the way, is the film's only novelty.

Harry Plummer is another one who just might be able to benefit from the angelic ministrations of a fallen hippie in search of a raison d'être. Heading back to Phoenix following his self-imposed deadline for success as a screenwriter, and harboring a drastic

plan concerning the dad who never loved him, he is scooped up by Suzette. En route from West Hollywood, she just sees him as a tank of gas, and then a little later as a conveniently temporary lover. But that's before she realizes that her every selfish impulse winds up turning into a charitable event. In the meantime, upon their arrival in Phoenix, the well-heeled but disgruntled scribe checks into a posh hotel, where Suzette uninvitedly sets up headquarters. She is simply overpowering to the Casper Milquetoast. Attempting to protest, he yammers: "You're more in the room than I am." And here's the corny part. Taking a gossipy interest in Suzette's mission, his writerly instincts are stirred. By Jove, suddenly he's writing again.

O.K....so Mr. Rush's role is a bit hokey. His epiphanic tapping away at the Royal portable reminds of those movies about famous composers made in the 1930s and '40s. You know the drill. Riding in the country with his best gal, Ludwig Von What's-his-name hears a buggy wheel squeak repetitiously while, above in a tree, in counterpoint a bird answers the refrain. Wow, that's Luddie's next symphony. Now all of Vienna will know his name. He can pay off his mean father the count and happily wed beneath his station without fear of penury. He must get to a piano immediately.

Admittedly, Rush's variation on the theme is a familiar movie convention. But even then it's a refreshing oasis from the inherent problems of Miss Sarandon's revived hippy. And though we find ourselves smirking at Miss Hawn's flower child that wouldn't wilt, she is distracting. Her Energizer Bunny approach to the role can't help but make us wonder: How much plastic surgery has she had? How many hours a day does she spend with the personal trainer? Does she have her own cook who makes her tasty yet very low calorie meals? Or, does she just have a

picture of herself in the attic, sacrificially rotting away?

In any case, if you're asking yourself these questions instead of following the story, then admittedly there is a credibility problem. But you want "The Banger Sisters" to work. You cheer it on and practically prod it to move the way you think it ought to play. We ex-hippies could use the cinematic vindication. Because while Goldie valiantly refuses to hear it, there they are just the same---Mick Jagger's prophetic words chasing us through the decades: "What a drag it is getting old."

"The Banger Sisters," rated R, is a 20th Century Fox release starring Susan Sarandon, Goldie Hawn and Geoffrey Rush. Running time: 97 minutes

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METUCHEN—Tickets are on sale now for an evening of nostalgic bee-bop and rock with Johnny Maestro and the Brooklyn Bridge along with Kenny Vance and the Planotones, for one night only, in a double bill on Saturday Oct. 12 at 8 p.m.

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YOUR FINANCIAL NEWS

Seven Ways To Achieve Greater Performance From Employees

AREA—It's the question that's on every business owner's mind: How can I motivate my employees to contribute their best work? The answer is to create an environment in which employees are motivated to succeed and to reward them for their success. The New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants (NJSCPA) provides the following suggestions for enhancing employee performance and productivity.

1. Keep employees informed

Employees feel motivated when they understand how their work contributes to the organization as a whole. Letting employees know what is going on in the organization and industry help fulfill this goal. Make every effort to keep your employees aware of sales forecasts and returns, earnings, new products and projects, competitive information, management changes and emerging opportunities and challenges. Share the big picture. Demonstrate an alignment between personal and organizational goals.

2. Lead by example

Modeling the behavior you want from your employees is the most effective way to change behavior. If you want employees to demonstrate enthusiasm, be passionate about your job. If you want to encourage teamwork, be visible on teams. If you want employees to limit their lunch break to one hour, do the same.

3. Give workers control

Having input into how the

job gets done is inspiring. Employees tend to be more creative and committed when they are given the freedom to make at least some decisions as to how the work should be done. Set high standards and give clear goals but let employees decide how to reach those goals. The more responsibility and decision-making latitude you allow employees, the more ownership and interest they will have. Accept the fact that they may make some mistakes. This is a normal part of the learning process.

4. Give them feedback

Employees need to know how they are performing. Nothing is worse than coming to work day after day and not having a sense of whether or not you're doing a good job. Hearing about your performance just once a year at appraisal time isn't much better. Engage in regular goal and performance discussions with each employee.

Performance feedback helps people build on their strengths and resolve problems. Remember to praise in public, correct in private. If you are giving criticism, do it on a timely basis and use specific terms for improvements.

5. Celebrate achievements

Studies have shown that recognition and appreciation can energize employees more than money does. Publicize achievements on a regular basis and tailor your reward system to specific accomplishments. If you have one employee that sells 25 percent more than everyone else and you give that

employee the same bonus as others, he or she isn't going to be particularly motivated to excel in the future.

6. Provide developmental opportunities

People like to learn. Discovering new and better ways to do things can ignite an employee's desire to perform. You can be a catalyst, one who sets the atmosphere that will encourage people to develop themselves. The company's willingness to provide educational opportunities and pay for employees to attend technical or other professional education classes sends the message that the company truly values its employees.

7. Create an atmosphere of open communication

Talking to the boss is a great motivator. Give individuals the opportunity to voice their questions and concerns. To be sure people are comfortable coming to you; always treat what they say with respect, consistency and dependability.

Sustaining an environment where employees can motivate themselves is an ongoing process. When people feel appreciated, acknowledged, and respected, they'll give more of their time, effort, and commitment in return. Your job is to make that happen.

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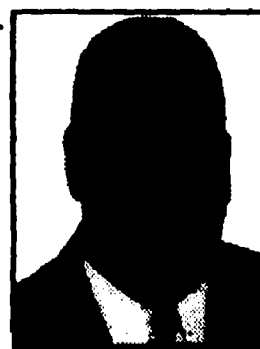
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The course is designed for individuals who may already have degrees, as well as for those who are interested in taking a college course for their own interest or as a comprehensive introduction to the college experience.

It is a required course for students enrolled in the non-credit certificate program in Office Management.

"Effective Communications in Business" offers segments in active listening, selecting words to appropriately convey

just the message that you wish, body language, conflict management, group problem solving, and writing effective letters, memos, e-mails, and short reports.

The course will be conducted from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Oct. 22 through Dec. 10 at the College's Cranford Campus.

To register or for further information, call the College's Division of Continuing Education and Community Services at (908) 709-7600.

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EDITORIAL



ASSEMBLYMAN
JOHN WISNIEWSKI'S
**Report
From
Trenton**

Ninety seconds. Did you know that a home fire is reported in the United States every 90 seconds? As a result every day in the United States 10 people lose their life as the result of a home fire.

This October 6th through October 12th will be Fire Prevention Week. The National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) has chosen the theme for Fire Protection Week as "Team Up for Fire Safety." The campaign aims to highlight the importance of working together, especially with our children, in preparing to prevent, and if necessary, survive a fire. These are useful steps that all families should take in order to protect against and prepare for a home fire.

I chair the State Fire Safety Commission. I take the statistics I mentioned to heart. We can take steps to decrease these numbers through three means: by creating and practicing home fire-escape plans, by looking for home fire hazards and by installing and testing smoke alarms.

By planning a fire drill, children and adults alike can practice what to do in the event of an actual fire. Create several escape routes. Practice scenarios on what to do if one route is blocked. Instruct your children on leaving possessions behind and getting out of the house. And do not forget to include as part of your plan a designated meeting place so that every member of your family can be accounted for.

Make sure your home is safe from fire hazards. Old

newspapers or dry wood can become a hazard near heating sources or open flames. Paints and paint products can be flammable. Keep them away from furnaces and heaters. If there is a smoker in your family, make sure that their ashes and butts are properly extinguished. Put water in ashtrays before dumping them in the trash. Better yet, get them to quit. When burning candles, always be sure that they are in a safe holder or dish. Don't leave burning candles unattended. And replace any electrical equipment with cords that are frayed or that appear to be damaged.

The best line of defense against the damage and injury that fires can cause is the use of a smoke detector. Having working smoke detectors in your home cut the chance of dying in a fire nearly in half. The law requires that smoke detectors be placed on every level of your home and near sleeping areas. Better yet, put one in every bedroom. But smoke detectors aren't very useful if they don't work. Test your smoke alarm every month by pushing the test button, and replace the batteries twice a year when it is time to adjust your clocks.

Safety doesn't just happen. We each need to take steps to make sure that our families and homes are protected against danger from fires. So this week, get your family together and have a fire drill. Inspect your home for hazards. And install or check your smoke detectors. By implementing these strategies, we can all work together to reduce the damage and eliminate the injuries and deaths that result from home fires.

Guest Editorial

Two Dictators To Worry About

by Bruce A. Gorcyca

As we all watch this ostensible Iraq threat play out in the media with the Bush and Blair road show, it readily becomes evident that we now have two dictators to worry about...

First there is Saddam Hussein who controls his country with an iron fist, ignores the will of people, and unilaterally and arbitrarily dictates foreign policy for Iraq - his own country. He may indeed have weapons of mass destruction including the anthrax strains the U.S. gave him with President George H. Bush's approval in the 80s, as recently documented on ABC News Nightline. Certainly and without any doubt, things in Iraq could and would probably be better without this man. This I cannot dispute.

However, there seems to be another dictator we must contend with who not only is cramming his unilateral and arbitrary foreign policy down the throats of his citizens, but is also ignoring the will of his people, and that of the United Nations and allies who do NOT want war with Iraq. His citizens would rather have his energies focused on the real issue of a floundering economy and stock market that have both been in a tailspin since he took office. He arrogantly demands that leaders of sovereign foreign nations "must go" (Arafat & Hussein) and always threatens to get his way with military and economic intimidation. Policy imposition by brute force is his modus operandi. Anyone who criticizes his onerous policies he is quick to call "unpatriotic". To this dictator, *might always makes right*. And since he cannot

resolve the real problems of his nation (the economy and finding Osama bin Laden) he fabricates artificial ones like this bogus "Iraq crisis" as a diversionary ruse. The Germans and Canadians picked up on this right away, but all his war mongering rhetoric has created fear in the hearts of his own citizens.

This dictator ignores his veteran military advisors, his own intelligence analysts, and even those in Congress. Some say he'd rather please the oil companies who have funded his family political campaigns for three decades and who now stand to make billions if he launches an unprovoked attack on Iraq. Oil prices have rose over 40% on his war drum tunes alone. The link between our dictator, er, President and the oil industry cannot be denied. Even his closest advisors including VP Cheney and Security Advisor Rice are former oil executives themselves. It would be quite interesting to review their stock portfolios, eh? Yes, my friends, George W. Bush is starting to show all the symptoms of a real dictator himself.

Iraqi citizens can resolve matters with their own dictator if they choose to do so with a coup as we have seen in Russia, Romania, Chile, and dozens of other countries over the years. But we allegedly live in a democracy and "we the people" must depend on our Congressmen to remove or at least curb our own dictator. It is time that America's collective voice be heard "enough is enough." We the people and not one man with special interests to serve must decide if our nation

wants to go to war. It is *our* tax dollars and *our* children who will be used to fight such a war, *not* Mr. Bush's.

If Iraq poses a threat to anyone, it would be Israel. And considering that we give Israel \$10 million *per day* in foreign aid, they should be quite capable of dealing with this threat themselves without putting more U.S. lives at risk in the Middle East. Launching an unprovoked attack against Iraq will not only thoroughly alienate the U.S. from the world, but our own allies as well, and light the fuse to World War III in the Middle East. And really friends, wouldn't we all be much better off if King George devoted his time to finding Osama Bin Laden and rescuing our drowning economy? Both consumer spending and employment has dropped by more than 1.5% and the stock markets have lost 27% of their value since George took the throne in Washington. These are the real issues that must be dealt with *now* not Iraq.

If President Bush cannot honor, respect, and serve the will of those who elected him to office and put an end to his unilateral hell-bent, crazed, quest for an unprovoked war, then I for one think it may be time for a "regime change" at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue and I call upon our Congressional leaders to give Mr. Bush his long-overdue wake up call.

Bruce A. Gorcyca is a freelance writer, a graduate of Inter-American University of Puerto Rico and a military veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard.

Senator Responds to President's Partisanship

Dear Editor,

The President's attacks on members of the United States Senate are entirely inappropriate. They are damaging to the effort to show a unified front on behalf of our country.

They present a dangerous politicization of war. The President should apologize --

to the Senate and to the nation.

Patriotism does not have a party label. And well it shouldn't. When I was in Vietnam I learned how vital it is to keep partisan, election season politics out of the life and death decisions of war. And I learned how critical it is for our leaders to have the confidence of the

nation in the decisions made about young Americans giving their lives for their country. In the service we never looked on each other as members of a party. We fought for each other because we loved each other and our country. We fought as Americans. The President's effort -- together with his oper-

atives -- to turn war with Iraq into a partisan issue is an assault on the best traditions and values of our country. It works against the unity needed to best protect our security interests.

It cheapens a process that deserves the protection of treasure. It is unbecoming of

the Commander In Chief because it disrespects the fundamentals of constitutional government and undermines the American people's confidence that their leaders are acting exclusively out of convenience. The President needs to undo the damage he has done.

US Senator John Kerry

NEWS

YOUR LOCAL NEWS

Edison Company Launches New Phone Service

EDISON—Vonage, a leading provider of digital home telephone service, recently announced Vonage DigitalVoice service availability in Southern New Jersey. Now, any high speed Internet user in the entire state of New Jersey can sign-up for Vonage DigitalVoice free unlimited local and long distance calling, including the most popular features, for just \$39.99 per month.

Vonage DigitalVoice customers, regardless of geographical location, now have the option to select telephone numbers within the following popular Southern New Jersey area codes: (609) (856).

"By adding Southern New Jersey area codes, Vonage DigitalVoice has covered the entire state of New Jersey," said Jeffrey Citron, Chairman & CEO of Vonage. "Vonage DigitalVoice is offering consumers an alternative to Verizon's high rates, poor service and complicated billing structure, by offering consumers truly unlimited calling for an affordable price that includes the features they most frequently use."

Vonage DigitalVoice covers the entire state, extending from Sussex to Cape May. Using the latest technology, Vonage DigitalVoice sets the standard for the new generation of home phone service with a great service offering including:

- Premium Unlimited Plan —only \$39.99/month. Customers can call anywhere in the United States, including Hawaii and Alaska, for one low monthly charge.

- Basic 500 Minute Plan - \$19.99/month.

Services and hardware included for free in all Vonage DigitalVoice plans:

- Caller ID
- Call waiting
- Voicemail
- Area code selection
- Caller ID block (*67)
- Call forwarding
- Web-based account management, voicemail retrieval and real-time inbound/outbound calling activity
- International calling at significantly reduced rates

"Vonage DigitalVoice is offering consumers an alternative to Verizon's high rates, poor service and complicated billing structure, by offering consumers truly unlimited calling for an affordable price that includes the features they most frequently use."

- London 5 cents a minute
- Toronto 5 cents a minute
- Sydney 6 cents a minute

Vonage DigitalVoice is the new telephone service. Vonage DigitalVoice offers an easy-to-use product with the most popular features and unlimited local and long distance calling for one flat rate. Utilizing proprietary technology, Vonage DigitalVoice enables high-quality phone service through any high-speed Internet connection, using a standard telephone. Vonage is headquartered in Edison, New Jersey. For more information about Vonage's products and services, please visit <http://www.vonage.com/> or call 1-VONAGE-HELP. Vonage DigitalVoiceSM is a service mark of Vonage Holdings Corp.

Bonifacio Joins Army Under Delayed Program

PARLIN—Ferdinand D. Bonifacio has joined the United States Army Reserve under the Delayed Training Program. The program gives young men and women the opportunity to delay reporting for basic military training for up to 270 days.

An enlistment in the reserve gives many new soldiers the

option to learn a new skill, serve their country and become eligible to receive more than \$7,000 toward a college education, \$20,000 for repayment of college loans, and a maximum \$5,000 cash bonus.

After completion of basic military training, most soldiers receive advanced individual train-

ing in their career jobs specialty prior to being assigned to their first permanent duty station.

The recruit qualifies for a \$3,000 enlistment bonus. Bonifacio has reported to Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. for basic training. He is the son of Ramona N. Bonifacio of Parlin.

Roberto Clemente Gala

PERTH AMBOY—The Puerto Rican Association for Human Development, Inc. (PRAHD) announces its 16th Annual Roberto Clemente Gala on Saturday, Oct 19 at 7 p.m., aboard the Cornucopia Princess Cruise Ship, sailing from Perth Amboy. Boarding time will be 6:30 p.m.

PRAHD has been in existence since 1974 when it was incorporated by the Hispanic leadership of the Perth Amboy area. "It began small and today we have grown and expanded to the comprehensive service agency with six social service programs that provide a continuum of care for children, youth, elderly and families, with an annual budget of 2.2 million dollars," indicated Lydia Trinidad, PRAHD's Chief Executive Officer, who has been with the organization for the last 22 years.

This year's gala is being planned and coordinated by 22 outstanding planning committee members composed of community leaders, representatives of local

organizations, businesses and other concerned individuals, interested in the continued success of PRAHD and the progress of Perth Amboy and well being of its residents. The banquet honorary chairs are Mayor Joseph Vas and Robert Menendez. The banquet chairperson is Michael R. D'Agnes, President/CEO of the Raritan Bay Medical Center.

During this event, three outstanding men and women will be recognized. An award ceremony will take place to recognize the following: Dr. Alan Goldsmith, Executive Director for the Jewish Renaissance Foundation, will receive Special Recognition for his accomplishments, commitment, support and contribution to the betterment of the residents of New Jersey, especially the community of the City of Perth

Amboy; Corporate Award for Outstanding Corporation will be presented to Active Nursing Care, Inc. (presented by Myrna Hildebrandt) for its outstanding commitment and dedication to the residents of Middlesex County; and William Sanchez, Producer of Images/Imagenes at the New Jersey Network as an Outstanding Professional, for his dedication to the residents of the State of New Jersey. PRAHD invites our friends from Perth Amboy and throughout the State to join them on this joyous and memorable occasion. Music will be provided by La Rebellion who will entertain with Caribbean rhythms and romantic melodies.

Two tickets to Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic or Florida will be raffled during the activity.

Where to get the..

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YOUR COUNTY NEWS

Local Judge Steps Down

MIDDLESEX COUNTY—A county judge stepped down from his job several weeks ago, two months shy of his 70th birthday.

Alan Rockoff, a former county prosecutor and superior court judge, started working for the Attorney General's office in Trenton on Sept. 23. He will coordinate training and operations of the state's 21 county prosecutors.

Rockoff served as a civil court judge for the past 10 years. However, he may be

best remembered for an incident that occurred when he was serving as Middlesex County prosecutor. After a Woodbridge priest announced that Santa Claus was dead, Rockoff served to quiet the resulting uproar by writing a letter to local newspapers saying that the spirit of Santa Claus was alive and well.

Rockoff and his wife Joyce recently celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary and live in the Colonia section of Woodbridge.

March Of Dimes Pick A Pumpkin Returns

MIDDLESEX COUNTY—The annual March of Dimes *Pick A Pumpkin* promotion is now running through October to support March of Dimes programs that improve the health of mothers and babies. For the tenth year, Sovereign Bank is participating in the promotion. Sovereign Bank will be selling bright orange paper pumpkins in their branches throughout the Middlesex County area. Customers may purchase these pumpkins at their local Sovereign Bank for \$1-\$5 each, then write their names on them and have them displayed at their Sovereign Bank branch. "Pick A Pumpkin is a great way for businesses to show they care about the community and about helping babies. It also gives our customers an opportunity to support programs that actually help save babies' lives," said Keith Buscio, spokesperson from Sovereign Bank. Along with selling pumpkins, the banks will be distributing March of Dimes pam-

phlets to educate women of childbearing age about the importance of managing stress in their lives, particularly during pregnancy, and recognizing the signs of preterm labor. Some studies suggest that high levels of stress can trigger preterm labor, that is, before the 37th week of pregnancy. Babies who are born preterm are at higher risk of long-term health problems and of dying, than babies born full term (40 weeks).

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

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

County Supports Tree Of Hope

MIDDLESEX COUNTY—On Sept. 24 a tall, live evergreen tree was on display in the lobby of the Middlesex County Administration Building for the "Tree of Hope" ceremony. Middlesex County helped to support the first annual "Tree of Hope" campaign by the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD) of Middlesex County Inc. in recognition of September's National Addiction Recovery Month. Gold-and-silver-colored ornaments were offered to Middlesex County residents for \$5 each to commemorate the recovery of a loved one, in the hope of recovery for a friend or family member, or to memorialize someone who did not have the opportunity to find recovery from alcohol and drug addiction. All proceeds from the event benefit NCADD's informa-

tion and referral helpline, which provides Middlesex County residents with the tools to commence their journey to recovery. The number is (732) 254-3344 and is staffed from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays.

"Often we hear about the famous individuals who lose their lives on the path to recovery," said Steven G. Liga, Executive Director of the NCADD of Middlesex County, Inc. "Our message is that not only does the addict need hope, but so do his/her friends and family members in order to alleviate the rough road to recovery. Relapse is not failure for the addict, but rather a part of the recovery process."

The ceremony took place from 5:30-7 p.m. and included a welcome message from the Director of Middlesex County Mental

Health and Addiction Services, Lori Dillon. Dillon reinforced the message of hope and stressed that everyone be seen as a symbol of strength and growth for those who suffer from addiction.

Another speaker was Karen Krenzel who lost her 14-year-old cousin to inhalant addiction. "Because of the NCADD, and events like tonight, his death is not in vain," said Krenzel. "Never give up because addiction is an illness from which many do recover."

After the ceremony, the tree was donated to Crawford House, a half-way house for women in New Jersey. There, patients can view the tree as an inspiration. Each year, a new Tree of Hope will be planted at a local treatment provider serving residents of Middlesex County.

United Way Collects School Supplies For Area Children

MIDDLESEX COUNTY—Through the "Good Neighbor" school supply drive coordinated by the United Way of Central Jersey, area businesses and non-profit agencies have donated backpacks, notebooks, pencils, markers and other school supplies to local students.

Procter and Gamble's Avenel Perfume Plant, was one of the ten participants in the "Good Neighbor Program."

Charlotte Free Miller, Manager of the Avenel plant, said, "We're proud that our employees collected more than 20 backpacks filled with school supplies for children in Central New Jersey. Our staff understands the importance of giving children the opportunity to begin their education correctly.

This initiative has also been rewarding for our employees."

Procter and Gamble's Avenel plant, which has 65 employees, makes perfumes for various products including Tide detergent, Downy fabric softener, Dawn dishwashing liquid, and Pantene shampoo.

Gloria Aftanski, President of United Way of Central Jersey, explains, "We commend the many people who donated school supplies through the 'Good Neighbor' program. Corporate citizens who are committed to helping the communities in which we live is important to our success and the success of our neighbors."

Other participants include: Air Products, ADP, Amerada Hess, Astaris, DuPont, Target, New

Millennium Bank, UPS, L.A. Dreyfus. Recipients were the Raritan Valley YMCA, Puerto Rican Association for Human Development Inc. and Catholic Charities.

United Way of Central Jersey is a not-for-profit fund-raising organization that supports and provides funding for 120 social service and health care programs that are administered by 48 non-profit impact agencies. United Way of Central Jersey, organized in 1930, serves Middlesex County and Franklin Township in Somerset County. Funds raised are distributed to diverse programs that meet the needs of pre-schoolers, youth and teens, adults and senior citizens.

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OBITUARIES
**William W. Hawes
of South Amboy**

Mr. William W. Hawes of South Amboy died Sept. 22 at St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston. He was 78.

Born in South Amboy, he lived there all his life.

Mr. Hawes retired as the plant maintenance supervisor in 1985 from Hercules Corp. in Parlin after 39 years with the company.

He was a communicant of St. Mary's R.C. Church in South Amboy.

Mr. Hawes was a Navy veteran of World War II, and he was a member of American Legion Post 62 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 645, both of South Amboy.

He was a former chief of the South Amboy Fire Department, where he was a member of the Progressive Fire Company and served as its treasurer for 50 years. He was also a member of the New Jersey State Firemen's Exempt and Relief associations.

His sister, Charlotte Boardman; and a brother, Frank L. Hawes, are both deceased.

Surviving are his wife of 54 years, Madeline (DiMattia) Hawes; a son, Frank W. Hawes of Millburn; two brothers, Snowell Hawes of South Amboy and Robert Hawes of Jacksonville, Fla. He is also survived by his mother, Marlene Hawes of Edison; two grandsons, David Michael Hawes, and several nieces and nephews.

**Mayme D. Hatchett
of Edison**

Mrs. Mayme D. Hatchett of Edison died September 14 at home. She was 78.

Born in Portsmouth, Va., Mrs. Hatchett lived in Bayonne before moving to Edison in 1992.

She was a factory worker with Maidenform in Bayonne for 40 years before retiring in 1992.

Mrs. Hatchett was a member of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union Local 160, New York City.

Surviving are a son, Darrell; a daughter, Valerie Hatchett-Carter; a brother, James Purdie, and a grandchild.

**Louis La Motta, Sr.
of Iselin**

Mr. Louis La Motta Sr. died Sept. 23 at Neptune Rehabilitation and Convalescent Center in Neptune. He was 77.

Born and raised in Newark, he moved to Iselin in 1965.

Mr. La Motta was a police lieutenant with the Newark police force for 38 years, retiring in 1986, and was a member of the Newark PBA.

He had served in the Army, and he was a member of the American Legion Post 471 in Iselin.

Mr. La Motta was very active in the Iselin Athletic Association.

His wife, Elaine La Motta, died in 1979.

Surviving are his four sons, Michael of Hackettstown, Louis Jr. of Iselin, Martin of Jackson and Frank of North Plainfield; a sister, Jean Bittner of Lawrenceville, and nine grandchildren.

**Louise Wendt, 76
of Edison**

Mrs. Louise Wendt of Brick (formerly of Edison) died Sept. 15 in JFK Medical Center, Edison. She was 76.

Born in Shamokin, Pa., she lived in Edison before moving to Brick in 1993.

She owned and operated Louem Health Spa, Edison, for 10 years before retiring in 1982.

Surviving are two sons, Ronald and Gary; a daughter, Nancy; two brothers, James Forbes and Darwin Marquette; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

William Rieder, Jr. of Edison

Mr. William Rieder Jr. of Edison died Sept. 21 at home. He was 80.

Born in Perth Amboy, he lived in Highland Park before moving to Edison 41 years ago.

He was employed as department manager at John's Department Store Inc. in Somerset for 20 years.

Mr. Rieder was an Army veteran of World War II serving in Europe where he received a Bronze Star.

He was a communicant of

St. Matthew's R.C. Church in Edison.

His parents, William and Magdalena, are deceased. A brother, John, died in 1968, and a sister, Angelina Rieder died in 1984.

Surviving are two brothers, Jacob "Jack" of East Brunswick, and Peter of North Brunswick; one niece Patricia Beck; a nephew, Paul Rieder, and a grand niece, Lillian Rieder.

**Paul T. Pancoe, 73
of Perth Amboy**

Mr. Paul T. "Buck" Pancoe died Sept. 20 at home. He was 73.

Born on July 29, 1929, in Perth Amboy, Mr. Pancoe resided in Perth Amboy, and in Sewaren for 30 years before moving to Florida, and then to California in 1994.

He enjoyed a 45-year career as an executive in the electrical wholesale industry before retiring in 1995.

Mr. Pancoe was a former communicant of St. James R.C. Church in Woodbridge, and was a standout basketball player at St. Mary's School in Perth Amboy and St. Francis College in Loretto, Pa.

Surviving are his wife of 48 years, Dorothy Tanaway Pancoe of Laguna Woods; two sons, David Pancoe of San Juan Capistrano, Calif., and Paul Pancoe of Irvine, Calif.; a brother, Richard Pancoe, and a sister, Louise Pancoe, both of Englishtown.

**Charles Koenig, 66
of Metuchen**

Mr. Charles F. Koenig of Metuchen died Sept. 23 at JFK Medical Center in Edison. He was 66.

Born in Metuchen, he lived there all his life.

He was employed by Island Ford in Staten Island, N.Y., before retiring in 1994.

Mr. Koenig was a communicant of St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral in Metuchen and a member of the Mercer County Radio Control Airplane Club.

Surviving are his wife, Jean Oliver Koenig; a son, Charles R. Koenig of Edison; a daughter, Lynda Lee of Hamilton; a brother, Robert R. Koenig of Hampton; a sister, Catherine Korczyk of Edison, and three grandsons, Matthew and Steven Lee and Brian Charles Koenig.

**Edith Saks, 75
of Perth Amboy**

Mrs. Edith (Petrovsky) Saks of Perth Amboy died Sept. 22 at Mary Ann Hale Hospice, J.F.K. Medical Center, Edison. She was 75.

Born in Perth Amboy, she graduated from Perth Amboy High School.

She worked as an Administrative Assistant for the Eagleton Institute in Politics, Rutgers University, New Brunswick for many years. She retired in 1993.

Her husband, Sam, died in 1998; and a daughter, Harriet Saks, died in 1970.

Surviving are a son, Powell of East Brunswick; a daughter, Marla Pastner of Houston, Texas; a sister, Pearl Hutter of Maine; and four grandchildren.

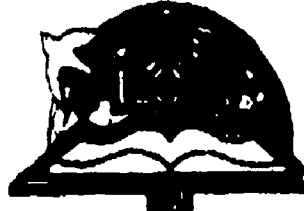


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Bishop Donald Hilliard Jr., D.Min., Senior Pastor
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Monday through Friday ~ Sunrise Prayer 6:00 am



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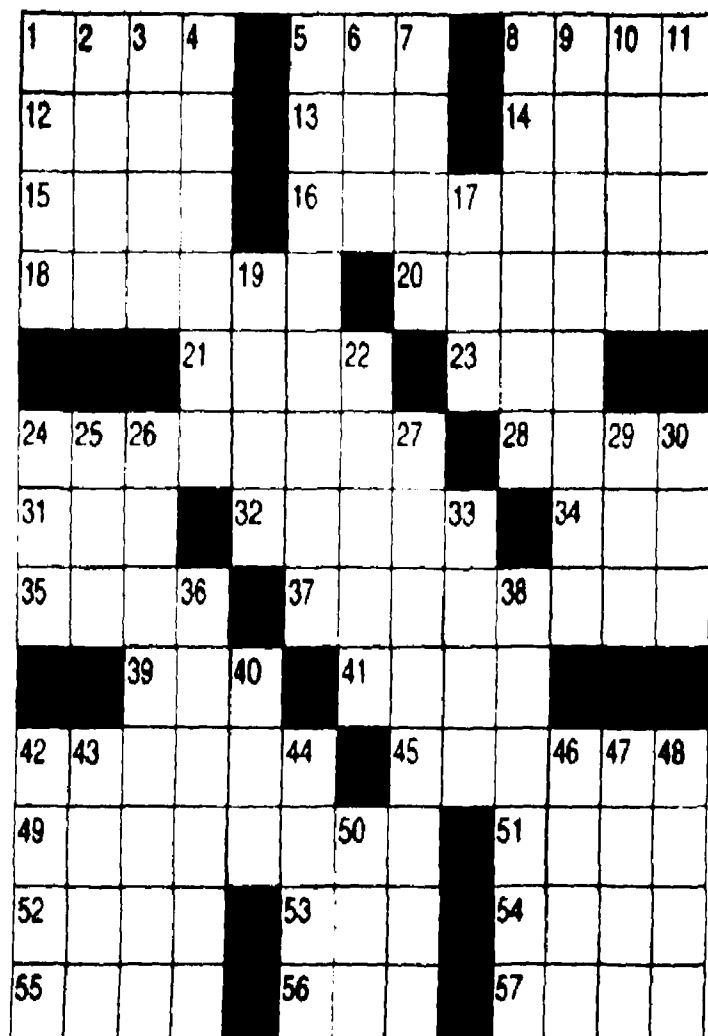
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ACROSS

- 1 July 4th sound
5 First name of 5-Down
8 Commotion
12 Vicinity
13 Versified tribute
14 System of laws
15 Cry loudly
16 Out, of sorts
18 Soak up
20 Essential
21 "Yours, Mine and -"
23 The whole enchilada
24 Cabin window
28 Jeans maker Strauss
31 "Got a Secret!"
32 Wanders
34 Erstwhile acorn
35 Bridge position
37 Open space under a desk
39 Clump of ivy
41 Neutral color
42 Containing gold
45 Actress Jackson
49 Flaw in a plank
51 Lunch hour



- 52 Fanzine subject
53 Chaps
54 Shakespeare's river
55 Alaskan city
56 Nosh
57 Unaltered
DOWN
1 Ali
2 Spirited steed
3 Information
4 Awkward sort
5 Twain portrayer
6 Fuss
7 Author Uris
8 "Judgment at Nuremberg" actor
9 "See ya!"
10 Run in neutral
11 Saxophone insert
17 Pod occupant
19 German mining region
22 Informal language
24 Chart format
25 Eggs
26 Lavatory
27 Coming out
29 Actor Kilmer
30 Mamie's mister
33 Close up
36 Play piccolo
38 Laughing pack
40 "That's obvious!"
42 Related (to)
43 Loosen
44 A handful
46 Scotia precursor
47 Tragic fate
48 Comic Meara
50 Meadow

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The SOAPS

ALL MY CHILDREN

Using the series of numbers from Vanessa as map coordinates, Leo, Greenlee, Trey and Kendall found a box in the woods only to discover it was filled with worthless shares of stock. Brooke asked Aidan to give Edmund and Maria a chance to find their way back to each other. Kendall told Jack and Chris that Trey is Vanessa's son and that he may have started the fire. Chris was suspicious when Erica received flowers from her father, Eric Kane. Liza gave Anna everything David asked her to hide, in exchange for a promise of immunity. When David tried to stop her from leaving with the evidence, Anna pulled a gun on him. Wait to See: Anna collapses. Maria makes a decision about her future.

AS THE WORLD TURNS

Lucinda took responsibility for Molly's actions. Alison's scheme to get tossed out of boarding school worked. Jessica crossed the line, unaware that her every move was being watched. Aaron made a daring rescue. Wait to See: Molly feels the walls closing in on her. Paul threatens Jessica.

THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL

Brooke and Eric surprised Bridget by turning up at her award ceremony. After hiring Erica to do the new Ambrosia jingle, Rick invited her out to celebrate. When Sheila coaxed her to make this a night to remember, Erica tried to seduce Rick and become pregnant with his child. But Rick rejected her attempt, saying he still loved his wife, Amber. Stephanie told Massimo that her heart belongs to Eric. Meanwhile, Sheila arrived at Massimo's penthouse, unaware that Stephanie was with him. Wait to See: Stephanie confronts another challenge.

DAYS OF OUR LIVES

Craig told Nancy she's pregnant. In the meantime, Brady assured Chloe she'll find a blood marrow donor. Maggie phoned Jack to tell him that Abby was in the hospital, but Colin retrieved Jack's cell phone and turned it off. John reacted when Cassie (one of the Twins) muttered "Phoenix" after seeing his tattoo. Wait to See: Nicole receives a bad medical prognosis.

GENERAL HOSPITAL

A resolute Carl laid down the law to Sonny's rivals. Meanwhile, Sonny and Roy set a trap for Alcazar. Lucky set out to discredit Scott, whom he regarded as his father's (Luke) enemy. A frantic Brenda tried to save Jax. Sonny was impressed by Carly's gutsiness. Wait to See: AJ faces an important decision.

GUIDING LIGHT

A scheming Alexandra arrived back in Springfield. A guilt-ridden Olivia listened as Alan opened his heart to her. Cassie made a decision about The Beacon. Beth and Phillip's true feelings were revealed. Ben was the unwitting recipient of a pass by Michelle. Gus confronted Phillip. Wait to See: Marah sees Tony with another woman. Danny has a warning for Edmund.

ONE LIFE TO LIVE

Natalie broke with Cristian over Jen's pregnancy. Meanwhile, Al told Max that

he and Jen had recently slept together. Keri felt sure Antonio would approve of her being a surrogate mother for her own mother, Liz. Roxy had a psychic contact Luna's spirit. She then returned home and found a videotape Luna had made for Max. Wait to See: Jen scrambles to cover her lies.

PASSIONS

Hecuba taunted Tabitha about the parentage of the mysterious fourth baby. Theresa promised little Ethan he would soon have his "real" father. Eve and Julian each wondered what their lives together would have been like if they hadn't listened to Alistair. Eve was horrified when Hecuba caused her to see Chad's face covered by a film like the one covering her son in her vision. Despite Sheridan's decision to be with Antonio, Luis gave her an engagement ring that had belonged to his grandmother. Wait to See: Tabitha and Cracked Connie chase the escaped "dancing baby."

PORT CHARLES

Alison and Rafe sadly concluded that they would have to part. Livvie caught Ian searching for information about the Avatar. Later, the Avatar turned his fury on Frank. Ian prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice. Alison got the surprise of her life. Wait to See: Lucy makes a discovery.

THE YOUNG

AND THE RESTLESS

Phyllis became the prime suspect in the pool house fire and asked Michael to be her lawyer. Chris suggested Diane contact Paul about investigating Phyllis as well as protecting her and Kyle. Realizing that her guilt would interfere with a relationship with Raul, Brittany agreed to leave for college. But the judge refused to reset her court date, which could force her to miss her first semester. Wes told Lily they can't return to Paris until Dru is ready. Later, Neil met Wes. Jill told an unnerved Jack that Phyllis had talked to Larry about hiring a hit man. Nick asked Sharon not to tell Nikki and Victor about their still unresolved marital woes. Wait to See: Phyllis faces more problems.

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HOCUS-FOCUS

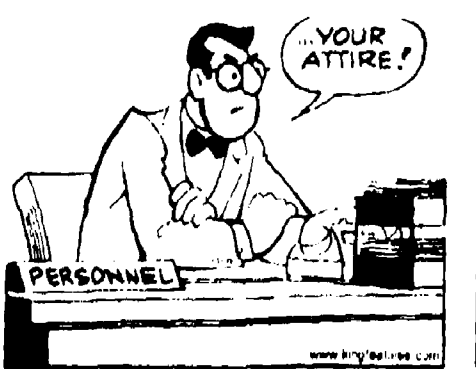
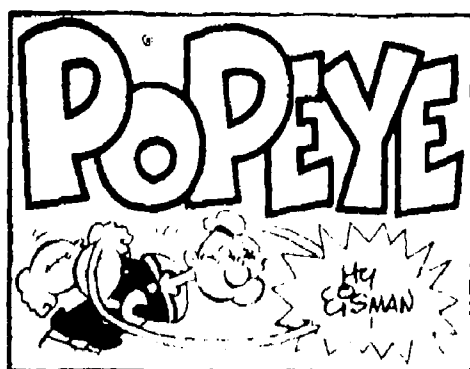
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



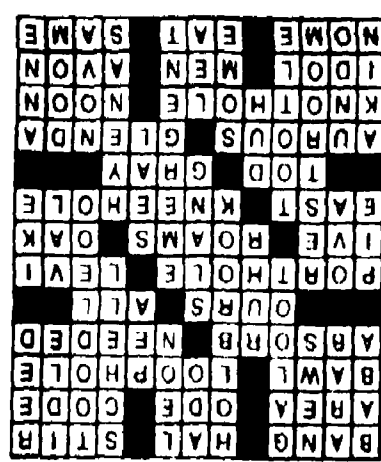
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Gift box is missing. 2. Tree is black. 3. Sign is different. 4. Woman's pants are black. 5. Radio dial is missing. 6. Shadow is gone.



to Puzzle





Torricelli Quits Campaign

STATE—Democratic Sen. Robert Torricelli quit his bid for re-election on Monday amid an onslaught of corruption allegations and a drastic drop in his poll numbers.

With Democrats controlling the United States Senate by a single seat, Torricelli said he would not let ethics overshadow the high stakes of the race.

"It is the most painful thing that I've ever done in my life," Torricelli said at a news conference in Trenton, his voice breaking with emotion. "I will not be responsible for a loss of the Democratic majority in the U.S. Senate. I will not allow that to happen. There is just too much at issue."

Flanked by Gov. James E.

McGreevey and Sen. Jon Corzine, Torricelli said he has no regrets and touted his accomplishments during a 25-year political career that included six years in the U.S. Senate and fourteen years as a Member of Congress.

With Democrats trying to hold a one-seat margin of power in the Senate, party offi-

cials had grown increasingly concerned about Torricelli's prospects. Torricelli was rebuked by a Senate ethics panel this year for improperly accepting gifts from a local businessman and took a fresh hit last week with the release of a prosecutor's memo saying the businessman had made credible accusations of wrongdoing against the first-term Democrat.

A weekend poll showed Torricelli was lagging 13 points behind his Republican opponent Doug Forrester after leading comfortably earlier in the year.

The deadline for replacing Torricelli on the ballot has passed, but Democrats hope to

turn to the courts to replace him. "Don't feel badly for me," he added. "I've changed people's lives. I'm proud of every day of it, and I wouldn't change a bit of it."

Party officials were considering a list of possible candidates including former Sens. Frank Lautenberg and Bill Bradley and current House members Bob Menendez, Frank Pallone and Rob Andrews, according to sources in Washington and New Jersey.

Torricelli was elected in 1996 to replace Bradley, the former basketball star who later ran for the 2000 Democratic presidential nomination and lost to Al Gore.

Republicans Block As Focus Turns To Forrester

STATE—Gov. James E. McGreevey said Democrats will select a new candidate to replace Sen. Robert Torricelli by getting the courts to approve the late switch.

Under New Jersey law, a political party can replace a statewide nominee on the ballot if the person drops out at least 48 days before the election.

Torricelli withdrew only 36 days before the election, so Republicans are trying to challenge the effort to replace Torricelli.

Republicans say they will defend their reading of the current statute, which has a deadline for replacing candidates of September 16th.

"The law in New Jersey is very clear: an individual may

not pull his or her name from the ballot less than 51 days from the election," said Sen. Bill Frist of Tennessee, the chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee, who pledged to participate in any challenge to the effort to replace Torricelli saying "If there were to be exceptions to the law, it is highly unlikely that fear of losing an election would be one of them."

"I understand that some are trying legal maneuvers to disregard the clear letter of the law in a desperate attempt to substitute another candidate on the ballot," said Forrester, who is considered a threat to Social Security, the Superfund toxic waste cleanup program, and the right of women to choose

abortion. Forrester would abandon public schools and he said, "In the Senate, one of my first priorities will be to abolish the (system) designed to ensure equitable access to care for veterans."

Indicating a desire to do away with "government-sponsored Medicare and Medicaid," Forrester has said, "We need to bring market forces to bear on the health insurance delivery system in America."

After making millions of dollars taking kickbacks from drug companies, Forrester also opposed efforts to enact a comprehensive and affordable prescription drug plan for seniors.

CORRECTION

In last weeks issue, we gave the incorrect phone number for the Middlesex County Food Organization and Outreach Distribution Services organization (MCFOODS). The correct phone number is (732) 729-0880

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

(Calendar continued from page...4)

1775.
Oct. 9 at 7:30 p.m.—The Woodbridge Chamber of Commerce announces the following events: Registration for Mayors Breakfast at the Sheraton at Woodbridge Place.

Oct. 11 at 8:30 a.m.—The Holy Family Seniors of Carteret will be hosting a trip to Platzl Brauhaus "Oktoberfest." The bus leaves at 8:30 a.m. from the VFW Parking Lot, Pershing Avenue, Carteret. The cost is \$50 per person. call Dottie at (732) 541-8506 for reservations.

Oct. 11 at 6 p.m.—The South Amboy Community Action Group will hold their annual Tricky Tray-Chinese Auction at St. Mary's Star of the Sea Hall, Stevens Ave., South Amboy. Doors open 6 p.m. and first ticket drawn 8 p.m. For more info. call (732) 727-5562. No children under 16 allowed and no smoking. admission is \$5.

Oct. 12 at 11 a.m.—The Edison 9/11 Memorial Committee is in the process of creating a Memorial Monument for the victims of the World Trade Center terrorist attack. The memorial will be held in Papaanni Park.

Oct. 16 at 7:30 p.m.—A lecture of "Benefits of Massage" will be hosted by Mid-Jersey Branch AAUW at Centenary United Methodist Church, 200 Hillside Ave. (off Grove Ave.), Metuchen. This is a free lecture. The speaker is Adrian Asta, of the The Club at Woodbridge. Refreshments will be provided and reservations would be appreciated. Call (732) 548-7116.

Oct. 19 at 6:30 p.m.—The Holy Family Seniors of Carteret will be sponsoring a dinner at the Center. Music by Ed Szymborski and orchestra. There will be prizes. This event is sponsored by Holy Family Rosary Society. Tickets are \$25 per person.

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Ital. Prov. DR. Tn. w/6 Chrs. \$200. Casiotone keyboard/organ. \$75. 80" Sofa \$75 732-541-5918

Brown Paper Bags, plain, 1/6 size, new. 02 ea. 732-388-1615

Coors Neon Sign (Silver Bullet) \$40 908-353-5049

Rugs - 12' x 14' 6" x 6" 11' x 12' \$20 ea. 732-388-1615

Wood Storm Windows & Screens \$10 set 732-388-1615

Good used Lumber 2 x 3's 4's & 6's 15' 20' 30' 732-388-1615

Kitchen Set light brown maple semi-captain's style, tomluca top 4 Chrs \$100 732-326-0115

Aluminum Storm Door, 50"H x 35-1/2"W \$50 732-388-1615

MISC. FOR SALE

1 box Scan Diet (unopened) Strawberry flavor \$20 Call 732-381-8768

WEB TV excellent condition including remote & wireless keyboard \$99 (selling because I've upgraded) Call 732-381-8768

Pool step ladder (above ground) \$25. Excellent condition (brown/tan) Call 732-381-8768

Texas Instrument calculator - brand new \$30 Call 732-381-8768

Hewlett Packett Laser Jet B/W printer - excellent condition \$90 Call 732-381-8768

Thermal Massager hand held w/four attachments-brand new \$25 Call 732-381-8768

Body Massaging (full body) heated massaging mat-brand new \$99 Call 732-381-8768

Aromatherapy Diffuser-never used - \$25 Call 732-381-8768

Quesadilla Maker (Salton)-brand new - \$50 Call 732-381-8768

FoodSaver-as seen on TVI-brand new - \$99 Call 732-381-8768

Hewlett Packett 4400 Scanner-brand new - \$99 Call 732-381-8768

Futon: Mattress (Sears products) never used - green \$99 Call 732-381-8768

Accounting Educational course packet-intact - \$99 Call 732-381-8768

Small Business Management course packet-intact - \$99 Call 732-381-8768

Couch with pull-out bed (2 yrs old) \$100 obo, couch \$25 obo, playpen \$10, van roof rack \$100, humidifier with six filters \$25, futon \$200, lazy boy rocker \$100, two car seats \$50 ea. Call Lisa at 732-762-3467 for details.

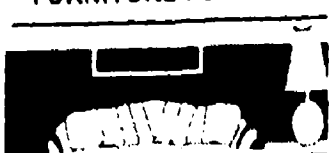
MISC. FOR SALE

Sports Craft 17 foot 75 Chrysler Trailer \$1,500 732-423-5247

USED TIRES

Passenger & Light Truck Starting at \$10 ATLANTIC TIRE 732-381-0101

FURNITURE FOR SALE



Antique Depression Era Dining Room Set Table & 6 chairs, buffet table, server and china cabinet \$400 or B.O. 732-762-3467

MISC. EVENTS

Fall Fashion Show & Dinner, Sat. 10-19 First Congregational Church, 539 Barron Ave. Woodbridge 6:30pm. Tickets sold in advance 732-634-0582 Info

FLEA MARKET

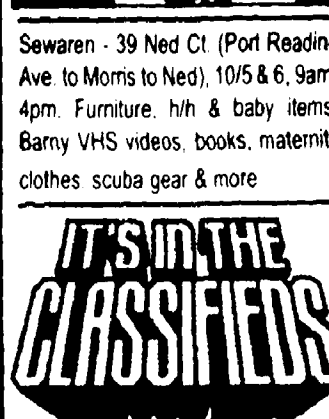
THE LITTLE FLOWER BOUTIQUE
Clothing • Jewelry • Screen Printing
Located in "Angel's Cupboard" at the AVENEL FLEA MARKET
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Huge Sale! Fri., 10/4, First Presbyterian Church, 45 Market St., Perth Amboy. Toys, books, h/h & baby items, clothes. Something for All!

GARAGE SALE

Sewaren - 39 Ned Ct. (Port Reading Ave. to Morris to Ned), 10/5 & 6, 9am-4pm. Furniture, h/h & baby items, Barney VHS videos, books, maternity clothes, scuba gear & more



WANTED

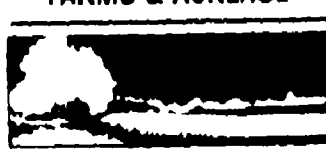
BUY / SELL
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\$0 DOWN HOMES Gov't & Bank Foreclosures! HUD, VA, FHA No credit OK. For listings Now! (800) 501-1777 ext 193 Fee

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HELP WANTED



EMERGENCY SQUAD MEMBERS
The Clark Volunteer Emergency Squad is in need of additional volunteers to help provide emergency medical services to the Township of Clark. The squad will provide all training free of charge. Starting is easy - all you need to do is take a CPR and basic First Aid class. Classes are given at the squad or at a local hospital. If you can spare a few hours a week, please call the squad at (732) 574-1374 for additional information. We are in particular need of daytime members available between 6 am and 6 pm. If you are available part of that time, or if your employer will allow you to respond from your job, please consider this request. If you prefer, stop by the squadhouse anytime Sunday thru Friday after 6:30 pm to meet with one of the duty crews for information and get a tour.

BE A HERO ... Any Clark resident interested in joining the Clark Volunteer Fire Department should call 732-381-1150 or stop in at Broadway Fire Headquarters, 250 Broadway, Clark NJ on Thursday evenings, 7-9 pm or Sunday mornings, 10 am to 12 noon.

*****ANNOUNCEMENT***** Now hiring for 2002/2003 Postal Jobs \$13.21-\$28.16 hour. Full Benefits/Pd training/No Exp. Nec. Accepting calls 7 days (888) 359-3590 ext. 506. Career Services.

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- Rahway News Record
- Clark Patriot
- Elizabeth News Record
- Linden News Record

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.



CLIP THIS COUPON

Print your Guaranteed Reader to Reader want ad on this form. One word in each box. 15 words equal 3 lines. Your cost is \$7.75. Ad will run week and if the item is not sold your ad will run a second week FREE

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1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.

Mail Check or Money Order, or deliver to:
DEVINE MEDIA
c/o READER TO READER WANT ADS
492 West Grand Ave.
P.O. Box 1061
Rahway, NJ 07065

Price & Phone Must Appear
NO PHONE ORDERS ACCEPTED.
ADS MUST BE MAILED IN OR
BROUGHT TO THE OFFICE

Guaranteed Reader to Reader Want Ads rates APPLY ONLY IF WRITTEN ON THIS FORM AND MAILED OR DELIVERED TO OUR OFFICE WITH PAYMENT OF \$7.75. Ads are limited to non-commercial advertising. For other classifieds call 732-574-1200, Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm.

Garage Sale Ad Special

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ONLY \$12.75 - SAVE \$8.50**

- COUPON MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4 P.M. WEDNESDAY FOR FOLLOWING WEEK'S PAPERS.
- MAILED COUPONS INVALID WITHOUT CHECK OR MONEY ORDER.
- COUPONS DELIVERED TO OUR OFFICE MAY USE MASTERCARD OR VISA CARDS FOR PAYMENT.
- SORRY, NO PHONE ORDERS WILL BE HONORED AT THIS DISCOUNT RATE.
- INCLUDE IN YOUR AD: NAME OF TOWN, ADDRESS OF SALE, DAYS AND TIME OF SALE, DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS FOR SALE.

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____

ONE WORD EACH SPACE ... MUST BE CLEARLY PRINTED OR TYPED

1 Line	2 Lines	3 Lines	4 Lines	5 Lines	
					GARAGE
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**MAIL OR BRING
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Rahway, NJ 07065

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PERSONAL

St. Jude Novena

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adored, glorified, loved and pre-
served throughout the world now
and forever. Oh Sacred Heart of
Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, work-
er of Miracles, pray for us. St.
Jude helper of the hopeless, pray
for us. Say this prayer nine times a
day for nine days. By the eighth day
your prayers will be answered. Publi-
cation must be promised. It has never
been known to fail. Thank you. M.M.

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Set. Table & 6 chairs, buffet table,
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Call Peggy at 732-574-1200 or Mrs.
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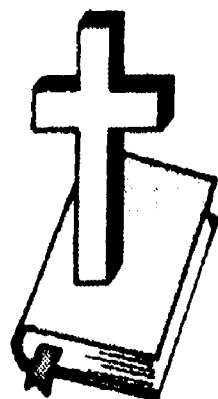
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Your prayer will be published
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St. Jude Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be
adored, glorified, loved and pre-
served throughout the world now
and forever. Oh Sacred Heart of
Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, work-
er of Miracles, pray for us. St.
Jude helper of the hopeless, pray
for us. Say this prayer nine times a
day for nine days. By the eighth day
your prayers will be answered. Publi-
cation must be promised. It has never
been known to fail. Thank you. P.F.

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Initials at end of prayer _____
MC/VISA # _____ EXP. _____

Check One Prayer:

- ☐ Prayer To The Blessed Mother
- ☐ Novena To St. Clare
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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**

"We Have A Little Emergency" Safety Program

EDISON Most parents would think nothing of letting the babysitter take their youngest to get ice cream, or sending their child to the mall with Grandma. It is commonplace today for young children to ride in cars with family members, caregivers and family friends. But what would happen if an accident occurred and the adult was unconscious or unable to provide crucial information about their young passenger?

The answer lies in the new We Have A Little Emergency (WHALE) Child Safety Program. In an effort to reduce the number of injuries to children in our community, the Auxiliary of the JFK Medical Center Foundation is providing the WHALE kits free of charge to women who deliver at JFK Medical Center as well as community members for a nominal fee. The WHALE program is designed to inform emergency personnel about the child riding in the safety seat and consists of four self-adhesive stickers; one

each for rear and side car windows and one informational label for the car seat. The label displays the child's vital information like, name, date of birth, emergency contact information, medical history and a current photo. The facts provided by the WHALE program's informational stickers can mean the difference between minutes or hours spent trying to contact the child's parents.

This simple yet invaluable program is the first of its kind in the United States and is currently used in 32 states. It ensures the proper and efficient treatment of a child following an automobile accident, as well as allowing emergency medics to communicate with the child, reducing his or her anxiety until an emergency contact person can be reached.

For further information or to purchase WHALE packets, contact the Auxiliary of the JFK Medical Center Foundation WHALE Project line at (732) 744-5690.



NEW CHILD SAFETY PROGRAM—From (L.-R.) new mom and her baby are presented with the new We Have A Little Emergency (WHALE) program kit by members of the Auxiliary of the JFK Medical Center Foundation: Dorothy J. Holton, president; Carolyn Lukas, vice president of Community Service and Health Education; and Lynn Killmurray, chairman of Health Education/Careers.

Seeking New Board Members

METUCHEN—Women Helping Women, the Metuchen and Somerset based non-profit agency providing therapy and support services for more than 5,000 women, girls and teens each year is seeking new members for its Board of Directors.

"Our 27 year old agency is entering a very exciting time

as we launch our first capital campaign and solidify plans for our new, larger Women Helping Women Center," said Melissa Higgins, executive director.

"We are looking for individuals with expertise in fundraising, finance, law, public relations, computers and business who can donate their tal-

ents and energy to enable Women Helping Women to continue to grow and make a positive difference in the lives of women and girls throughout Middlesex, Somerset and Union Counties," said Higgins.

Women Helping Women's programs are crucial to individuals struggling with issues relating to domestic violence, sexual abuse, divorce, depression, loss, self-esteem, peer pressure, relationships and addiction.

The agency's unique programs and services include: individual/couple and family therapy, support and therapy groups, legal clinics, help line, and community education programs.

"From the day Women Helping Women opened its doors in 1975, the agency has been dedicated to providing affordable therapy and support services for women in need," said Higgins. "Since our inception, Women Helping Women's Board of Directors has been instrumental in making this a reality."

For more information about serving on Women Helping Women's Board of Directors, please call 732/549-6760.

BEND US YOUR LITTLE GHOST OR GOBLIN

and WIN a 4-Pack of tickets to Six Flags Great Adventure's

SixFlags
FRIGHT
FEST

But seriously, send us a Photo of your child in his or her favorite Halloween Costume and you could see your child's

photo in print and maybe WIN a 4 pack of tickets!



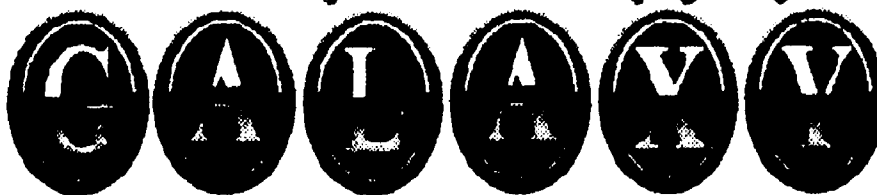
Send us photos of your child in his or her Halloween costume. We will print some of our favorites in our Halloween week issue. Please print your child's name, current age, hometown, and year that the photo was taken on the back of your photo (or in the body of your email).

Photos may be mailed to us at "Halloween Photos", P.O. Box 1061, Rahway NJ 07065, or emailed to editor@devine-media.com with "Halloween Photos" as the subject. Photos must be received by Oct. 21. We are sorry, but photos cannot be returned unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

One lucky person will win a four-pack of tickets to Six Flags Great Adventure's Fright Fest. On October 16th, we will randomly select the winner from all photos received at that point. You must include a daytime telephone number to enter the contest.

DEVINE
MEDIA
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Have a safe Fourth of July!!



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