

PLAINFIELD
2024
STANDARD

The Chronicle

Since 1862

Vol. 142, No. 47

Saturday, November 22, 2003

50 cents

INSIDE

Ward supporters file for recount

*****CAR-RT LOT**C013
PLAINFLD PUB LIBRY/2V
2484 PLAINFIELD AVE
PLAINFIELD NJ 07080-3531



Ward election system in Edison filed for a recount after being informed the municipal question to go to such a system was defeated by a mere 29 votes in a 6,626-6,597 decision.

After failing to place the question on the 2002 ballot, ward proponents successfully

petitioned to have the question opened to Edison's voters this year. Dividing Edison's more than 100,000 population into five wards would have brought the "power back to the people, where it belongs," said petitioner and ex-Councilman William Stephens.

Former Councilwoman Antonia Ricigliano noted, "Four council people live

within walking distance of each other. The extreme north and south of Edison doesn't really have the representation you think would occur."

Mayor George Spadoro, in a written statement regarding the results, said "I believe the voters' rejection of the proposal echoes what I've noted all along — our system of government is working to effectively deliver services in a

responsible way. The voters obviously said Edison's current local government system isn't broken and there is no need to change it."

But Councilwoman Joan Kapitan did not think the defeat was all that clear.

"The voters have spoken, but it was a very narrow margin, so I can see why those who supported the wards would want a recount," she

said. The ward petitioners said they knew they had an uphill battle, but their efforts were dealt a serious blow when their Oct. 16 public meeting about the issue was not run on Edison's local TV station, channel 22. Edison Director of Law Louis Rainone called the petitioners a political action

Continued on page A-2

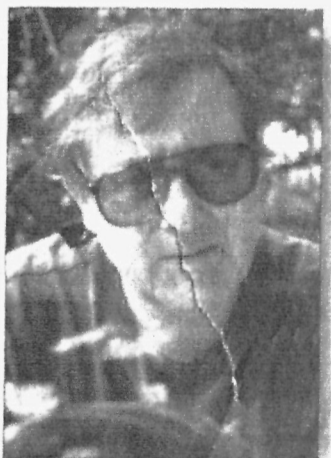
Bound Brook Hall of Famers

Bound Brook High School's inaugural hall of fame class will be inducted this weekend. For the final entries into the hall, see page A-10.



BB, SBB get county grant

Bound Brook and South Bound Brook received a county grant for a joint project the two boroughs are working on. For the story, see page A-7.



Edison writer up for award

Edward Carchia of Edison has a short story nominated for a literary award. For the full story, see page A-12.

REMINDER

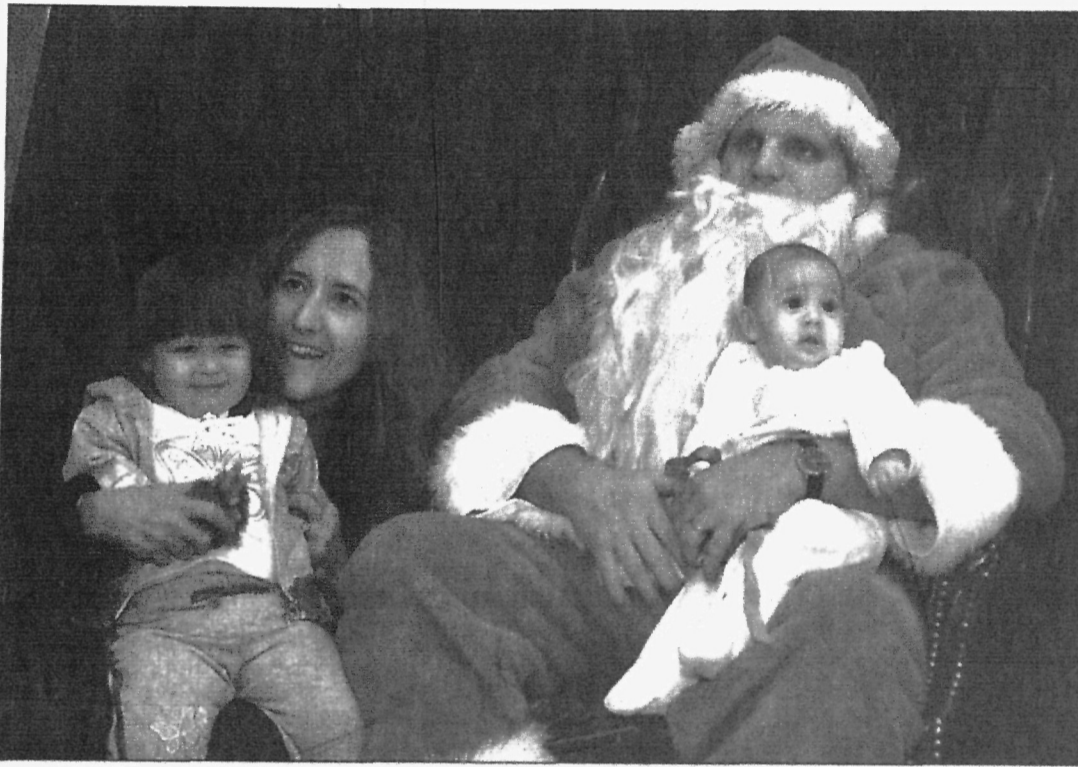
School board meeting change

The Middlesex Board of Education meeting for Nov. 24 has been moved to Von E. Mauger Middle School's library. The meeting starts at 7 p.m.

INDEX

- CommentaryA-4
- EntertainmentA-12
- SportsB-1
- ObituariesA-6
- SeniorsA-12
- CalendarB-12

Holiday bazaar



NICOLE DIMELLA/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Katelyn, 20 months, Karalyn, 5 months, and mother Marlene Cortiell pose with Santa Claus (Keith Hook of Hillsborough) during the Holiday Bazaar at the United Methodist Church in Bound Brook this past weekend. Shoppers enjoyed searching for bargains during the event.

Peers helping freshmen

Freshman Assimilation Project at the borough high school

By LIBBY BARSKY
Correspondent

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — Moving from middle school to high school is a huge change and can be difficult for students.

To ease the passage of these beginning students to their new environment South Plainfield High School initiated the Freshman Assimilation Project. The core of the program is to connect freshmen to upperclassmen to whom they can go to for help, guidance or advice.

"Over the past two years we have been training our Student Leadership Group in activities to help them to develop the knowledge and skills that they will need to conduct sessions with freshmen. This program will help to create a culture that promotes respect, kindness and acceptance among students," said

staff developer Mary Ellen Martko, who with counselor Tom Baker has been training the students.

On Friday, Nov. 14, all the freshmen in the high school were divided into 31 groups of 10 to meet with their two assigned peer leaders. Each group has two upperclassmen, a junior and a senior, trained as peer leaders who will stay in contact with their group throughout the year and hold future meetings with them.

At their first session, the peer leaders initiated freshmen introductions, talked about their own experiences in high school and explained the purpose of the program — to help freshmen adjust to high school life. The upperclassmen also exchanged phone numbers and schedules with the 10 members in the group so the freshmen could reach them for help, guidance

and enhance the quality of life of its residents.

Township Attorney James Clarkin reported the township has instituted litigation to foreclose on a tax sales certificate on property it owns near the proposed future YMCA site off Hoes Lane and Park Avenue. He said in order to make this litigation easier the township is going to purchase tax sales certificates Lackland Inc. holds on five other adjoining properties.

"Our ultimate goal is to obtain title to this property without competing," said Clarkin, stating "we would really like to have them (the properties) for the project" especially as the project's site layout is still unknown.

Council President Steven Cahn, Chairman of the YMCA Committee, said the property might be needed for an additional road or parking lot in

Continued on page A-2

Diocese doing background checks on priests

By CHERYL ORSON
Correspondent

The Metuchen Diocese has begun conducting criminal background checks on more than 10,000 people — including all its priests.

The move comes in response to the child sex abuse scandal that has plagued the Roman Catholic Church in America for more than two years now. The diocese, which serves more than 500,000 parishioners in four counties including Middlesex and Somerset, had recently re-named five priests from their ministries as a result of child sex abuse charges.

From now on, any diocese employee having direct contact with a minor more than once or contact with a minor on an overnight activity, must

submit to a state police fingerprinting and criminal background check. This includes all diocese school employees, priests, deacons, seminarians, directors of youth ministry programs, summer camp personnel, maintenance staff and even any vendors having any contact with minors. Checks will start with existing employees and volunteers with all new personnel and volunteers being screened upon their acceptance proceedings.

Within the past two weeks, diocese priests were informed via a formal letter of the diocese's new employee fingerprinting requirement.

The new employment policy is part of a national compact,

Continued on page A-2

EPA wants cleanup of properties near Superfund site

By CHERYL ORSON
Correspondent

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has turned in an official "record of decision" regarding contaminated properties near the Cornell Dubilier Superfund site.

During a previously held public hearing, the EPA unveiled three options for the cleanup of PCB-contaminated residential, commercial and municipal properties in the vicinity of the Cornell Dubilier Superfund Site. This does not include soil within the boundaries of the Cornell Dubilier Superfund Site and whose cleanup alternatives are now being considered.

The cleanup alternatives for the off-site properties included taking no action, taking limited action with engineering and institutional controls which included future operation and maintenance costs, and the excavation and off-site disposal and treatment of

soil in these properties. The EPA has since chosen the latter alternative.

Under this plan for these properties, an estimated 2,100 cubic yards of PCB-contaminated soil will be excavated and removed for disposal at an approved landfill where it will be treated. An additional sampling of 12 to 59 other suspected properties will also be conducted during this time and possibly soil excavated and removed from these sites as well. These additional properties include a single-family home, an automotive repair station, a construction company office and the site of a former day care center. Further, the EPA will also reevaluate removal actions previously conducted at 13 near-by residences and might choose to take additional actions in these cases. Clean soil will be used as backfill in all areas where soil was removed.

Additional investigation of

Continued on page A-2

Development of YMCA site is progressing

Redevelopment plans for Stelton Road area also underway with planning board and council

By CHERYL ORSON
Correspondent

PISCATAWAY — Township officials reported they are making progress on two projects to improve the community.

Specifically these projects involve the construction of a future YMCA site and the redevelopment of Stelton Road near the Edison border. Officials said both projects will improve the community

and enhance the quality of life of its residents.

Township Attorney James Clarkin reported the township has instituted litigation to foreclose on a tax sales certificate on property it owns near the proposed future YMCA site off Hoes Lane and Park Avenue. He said in order to make this litigation easier the township is going to purchase tax sales certificates Lackland Inc. holds on five other adjoining

properties. "Our ultimate goal is to obtain title to this property without competing," said Clarkin, stating "we would really like to have them (the properties) for the project" especially as the project's site layout is still unknown.

Council President Steven Cahn, Chairman of the YMCA Committee, said the property might be needed for an additional road or parking lot in

this area. Mayor Brian Wahler, commenting on acquiring this property, said "it's the smart move to do."

On the redevelopment of Stelton Road, Clarkin said the Planning Board, after talking with area business owners as required by law, has created a list of properties to be potential redevelopment areas. Clarkin said this is the first step in the redevelopment process which he character-

ized as "a ping-pong game" with at least four volleys going back and forth between the board (making recommendations) and the council which would then decide how to proceed.

Clarkin said in the first volley the board, after receiving input from its planner, will recommend to the council the geographical area in need of

Continued on page A-2

YMCA site is progressing

Continued from page A-1

redevelopment. He said this will be based on a number of pre-established criteria, including if the land is vacant or has obsolete or abandoned buildings on it. These criteria need only be present "in a general way" on the property to be considered as a redevelopment site.

"If any one of the criteria is met, then that particular piece qualifies," said Clarkin, stating if the criteria are present "in a goodly number of those parcels," then the council, by statute, can declare it "an area in need of redevelopment."

The council, after making this decision, in what Clarkin said will be the second volley, will then send its determinations back to the board. The board, in turn, again consulting with its planner, will then make a specific plan, or blueprint, for the redevelopment of this area which it will send to the council. Clarkin said the plan will be based on the proposed use or uses for this area. He further said current zoning of this area could be affected depending on the use or uses chosen.

"You (the council) can create a whole dichotomy of

uses," said Clarkin, stating there could be one comprehensive use or multiple "complimentary" uses. "You can handle it any which way you want," he said, again stressing the council's decision-making power.

In the beginning of the third volley, "the council will send the reviewed plan back to the board. The board will then hold a public hearing on the plan and make a final recommendation to the council. The council will then make a decision on the plan and determine what will actually be developed."

In what will be a fourth volley, the council will send its plan back to the board which will then solicit Requests for Proposals (RFPs) from developers with particular visions of how to implement the agreed upon plan. The developers' plans will be sent to the council, which then chooses which one it likes best and once again send this decision back to the board.

For now though, Clarkin said the board will figure out what it believes will appropriate in this area considering its major roadway and considering the surrounding land uses. He said the board's planner will also

have to set up "bulk standards" to ensure the redeveloped areas will have some conformity. Clarkin said he anticipates commercial or retail strips which, in some cases, will border residential areas which will require further intensive planning.

Also, currently, Clarkin said the council will have to decide what property is to be demolished, condemned or "spruced up" or aggregated. Wahler said the board already held a public hearing with property owners from this area, stating "this decision (on redevelopment) won't be made in a vacuum." "There is a legitimate concern for businesses in this area," said Wahler, stating those owning "mom n' pop" businesses in this area don't want to see any further decline. "It sends the wrong message about Piscataway," he said about the boarded up and abandoned buildings, stating "this does not look good for our town."

Further discussions about this project are expected to be held as it progresses. Township officials though said the municipality is definitely "on the road" towards making this end of Stelton Road more pleasant and profitable for all concerned.

EPA wants cleanup of properties near Superfund site

Continued from page A-1

other properties in the area will also be conducted. Anyone owning or using property in the investigational area who like to have interior dust sampling done is asked to contact Project Manager Pete Mannino at (212) 637-4395 or Community Relations Coordinator Pat Seppi at (212) 637-3679. Dust remediation will be conducted where PCB contamination is encountered. Cleaning procedures will include wiping down all exposed surfaces; vacuuming floors, drapes, upholstery, molding and windows with HEPA vacuums; washing all tile, linoleum and wood floors; steam cleaning or replacing carpets and rugs; cleaning all heating, vacuuming and air-conditioning systems and their ducts and replacing all air filters.

With the excavation and removal of all PCB-contaminated soil it is expected this will prevent further contact with the contaminant and protect human health as well as the environment, removing the ability of the PCB to migrate. This, in turn, is expected to remove all long-term risks associated with such contamination.

However, there are some downsides to this plan including short-term health and environmental risks as there will be greater potential for exposure with the excavation and transportation of PCB-contaminated soil. There will also be an increase of truck traffic, noise and potential dust in the surrounding community as well as a potential impact to workers conducting this work. The EPA hopes to limit these risks with engineering controls and OSHA-

approved safe work practices. Also, trucking routes with the least disruption to the surrounding community will be utilized.

According to EPA officials, this plan was selected based on reducing long-term risks and allowing for the expected "reasonably anticipated future land use." Officials further stated this alternative "reduces risks within a reasonable time frame, at comparable cost and provides for long-term reliability of the remedy."

The total cost is expected to be \$760,000 with no additional future operation and maintenance costs. It is expected some portion of this cost will be covered by the site's former owner as well as its future developer. This will defray the cost of public tax dollars being spent on the cleanup of this site.

Background checks on priests

Continued from page A-1

known in the Church as the Dallas Charter, adopted last year by the U.S. Conference of Conference of Catholic Bishops. The Metuchen Diocese is among the first dioceses to implement the Charter's new rules, becoming a leader in this matter.

Diocese Bishop Paul Bootkoski, by way of example, himself also submitted to fingerprinting and a background check. In a released statement, Bootkoski said he had nothing to hide and urged other priests to act likewise in a show of good faith.

The state police will either "recommend" or "not recommend" each person finger-

printed. If a person who is "not recommended" wants to continue as a volunteer or employee, the diocese will personally examine the individual's criminal history and make a determination about the subject's future within the Church organization. Church officials have stated they will not tolerate findings such as sexual assault, kidnapping or child abuse but might allow those accused of less serious offenses to remain.

However, background checks are only effective in disclosing abusers whose crimes were reported and prosecuted resulting in a conviction. As a large portion of child sex abuse within the

Church went unreported.

In an effort to combat this problem, the Metuchen Diocese has agreed to open all its personnel files in a search for undisclosed accusations of child sex abuse. By doing so the Diocese hopes to expose anyone who may have history of abuse which did not get properly reported to the police.

Background checks cost \$55 for Diocese employees and \$46 for volunteers. The Diocese itself is footing the bill for its more than 400 priests and deacons, totaling in thousands of dollars. Individual parishes however, will have to pay to have their own employees and volunteers screened.

Ward supporters file for recount

Continued from page C-1

committee, and stated that their event could not be aired on taxpayer dollars. That ruling, coupled with the closeness of the election, has spawned frustration from the petitioners.

"It was a major, major factor," said Stephens of the meeting where non-partisan council people from neighboring Woodbridge Township, which has a ward system, answered questions from the public.

"It was a major setback for us," added Ricigliano. "There were no other means of getting the opposing view on TV," she said, referring to the three ward meetings held by a committee of council members that were aired on the station.

Councilman Robert Diehl,

who served on that committee, did not return a call for comment.

"Without a doubt, if aired, it would have been a landslide victory (for wards)," said petitioner Kevin Duffy, who was also disheartened by the financial difference between the two sides. A week before the election, the Democrat Party was able to send direct mail pieces to Edison's large Indian, Jewish and senior citizen communities, asking them to vote "no" on the ward question.

The petitioners may have also been hurt by this election not involving any federal positions, as only 28 percent of the towns registered voters participated.

"People have come up to me and apologized for not coming out to support it because they didn't think it had a chance,"

said Duffy.

Resident and business-owner Robert Tabor echoed those thoughts. "I didn't think my vote would matter," said Tabor, who did not vote. Resident Brian McKenna, who also did not vote, added, "If I would have known more about the wards, I would have supported it."

The petitioners are waiting to hear the procedures of the recount from the county, and the whole process may take several weeks. If the question is finally defeated, they plan to put the question back on the ballot in four years, the earliest allowed by law, said Ricigliano. Kapitan admitted, "Possibly having meetings each month in the different sections of Edison to listen to the issues" could help ease the concerns of pro-ward residents.

Peers helping freshmen

Continued from page A-1

my freshman year I started getting good grades. I wish I had done better my freshman year. I told them (students) it's really important to start getting good grades now," Fumosa said.

Peer leader Jonathan Buggy urged students to join the clubs and athletic teams the school offers to the stu-

dents in his group to find friends with same interests and to boost resumes for college.

Freshman Gina Butrico called the program "very interesting."

"If you go to a guidance counselor they don't tell you what the leaders do — like what cafeteria food is good," said Butrico.

Britany DiNitzio, senior

class president and peer leader said five more meetings are planned for the rest of the year, but before then there will be an overnight camping trip to YMCA Camp Bernie Port Murray Nov. 24/25 for 36 student peer leaders/RARE with four chaperones where character building, listening and team building skills will be stressed.

"Our free checking plan offers unbeatable value and convenience. Not only does it come with all the bells and whistles such as Visa Check/ ATM card, online banking, phone banking and direct deposit...but, best of all it comes with outstanding personal, friendly service. Come in and check us out."

Mary Ann Kearney
Branch Manager
Manville Office



Here's the Checking Account you've been looking for...

FREE CHECKING*

With Fast, Friendly Service, And More!

SPECIAL OFFER
\$20 DIRECT DEPOSIT BONUS

For every Direct Deposit you open, be it Social Security check, paycheck, pension or any recurring government benefit check, we'll deposit \$20 into your new checking account.

Our people make the difference...

SOMERSET SAVINGS BANK SLA

BOUND BROOK
(732) 560-1700

FLEMINGTON
(908) 782-4737

MANVILLE
(908) 722-0265

MIDDLESEX
(732) 356-2431

RARITAN
(908) 725-9150

SOMERVILLE
(908) 725-1957

WHITEHOUSE
(908) 534-4167

www.somersetbank.com

Deposits insured to \$100,000 by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

*Checking is free for the first year, then only \$100 balance to stay free.

FREE Coffee & Munchkins from Dunkin Donuts Every Day!

FREE WASH HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL

John and his family are back!
Come see the changes we are making!

Diane's O'Matic Wash

210 North Ave., Dunellen • 732-752-1411

*Please come in before Dec. 31st. One coupon per family.

The Chronicle

A Penn Jersey Advance, Inc. newspaper
NJN Publishing © 2003

The Chronicle (U.S.P.S. 061-800)
ISSN 1047-3351 is published Saturday by NJN Publishing, 44 Veterans Memorial Drive East, Somerville, NJ 08876. 908-575-6660 Periodicals postage paid at Somerville and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NJN Publishing, Fulfillment Office, PO Box 699 Somerville, NJ 08876. Subscription rates \$25 per year in advance. \$28 out of Middlesex County. \$30 per year out of New Jersey. To subscribe call 1-800-300-9321.

Maria's PIZZA Restaurant We Deliver

Major Credit Cards Accepted

FREE Appetizer with a Purchase of any 2 Dinners
Eat in or Take Out - Appetizer Can Be Calamari, Mussels, Mozzarella Sticks or Chicken Fingers
Coupon expires 12/20/03. Can not be combined with any other offers.

FREE Sub with Purchase of any 3 Subs - Hot or Cold
Eat in or Take Out
Coupon expires 12/20/03. Can not be combined with any other offers.

FREE Maria's Mug with Purchase of any 2 large Pizza Pies
Coupon expires 12/20/03. Can not be combined with any other offers.

Tuesday - Saturday 11am-10pm
Sun 12 noon - 10pm • Closed Mondays
732-748-1122
671 Harris Ave, Middlesex

Alphabet Kidz parade



Alphabet Kidz in Middlesex celebrated Halloween with a parade led by Ms. Danielle as "Dora the Explorer" and Ms. Nicole as a "flapper girl." After the parade, the children celebrated with parties and pony rides.

Somerset dive team searches New Market Pond

By CHERYL ORSON
Correspondent

PISCATAWAY — Divers from the Somerset County Sheriff's Office spent several hours Nov. 15 in the murky waters of New Market Pond recovering evidence.

Somerset County Prosecutor Wayne J. Forrest said his office recently received reliable information from a credible source that evidence from a crime committed in that county was disposed of in the body of water. This led to the immediate dispatching of the Sheriff's Office dive team to the location.

Forrest said during the dive the team found and recovered an item which is currently in the process of being analyzed. He did not say however, how long it is thought the item might have been in the water or what effect this might have had on the item as far as its use as evidence is concerned.

Forrest declined to say exactly what the item is or how it is related to the crime. He also would not state what the specific crime was or when it might have been committed stating "the investigation is confidential."

One diver at the site said the team was looking for an item, declining further comment. Another diver, however, quickly stepped in to say the group was on a "routine training mission" relating to finding an item.

Quietly keeping to itself on site, the dive team was accompanied only by a simple blue box-type truck marked in white lettering as being a police vehicle. No other vehicles, such as patrol cars, other evidence gathering vehicles were seen.

Consisting of at least six men, the dive team's members spent several hours taking turns diving in the murky water, seemingly determined to get whatever item it was dispatched to the site to find. Persistence paid off with the item being recovered, though still remaining unidentified.

Forrest said he could not say when or if further information might be forthcoming on this incident. Expressing surprise anyone had noticed the dive team at all, he stated that no press release had gone out on this event.

Nine Metuchen students designated AP Scholars

METUCHEN — Nine students at Metuchen High School have earned the designation of AP Scholar by the College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college level Advanced Placement Program (AP) Exams.

The College Board's Advanced Placement Program offers students the opportunity to take challenging college-level courses while still in high school, and to receive college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the AP Exams. Almost 15 percent of the more than one million high school students in more than 14,000 secondary schools worldwide who took AP Exams performed at a sufficiently high level to merit the recognition of AP Scholar.

Students took AP Exams in May 2003 after completing challenging college-level courses at their high schools. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on the number of yearlong courses and exams. At Metuchen High:

The students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of three or higher on five or more of these exams. These students are Joanna Balcerak, Marcus Lampert, and Jarrod Rosen.

One student qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average grade of at least on all AP Exams taken, and grades of three or higher on four or more of the exams. This student was Christine Lewis.

Five students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Examinations with grades of three or higher. The AP Scholars are: Amy Greco, Lisa Grossman, Jackie Kim, Annie Muldowney, and Mirat Shah.

The designation of AP State Scholar is granted to the one male and one female student in each U.S. state and the District of Columbia with grades of three or higher on the greatest number of AP Exams, and then the highest average grade (at least 3.5) on all AP exams taken.

Of this year's recipients two are underclassmen. These students have at least one more year in which to complete college level work and possibly earn another AP Scholar Award.

Most of the nations' colleges and universities award credit, advanced placement, or both on successful performance on the AP Exams. More than 1,400 institutions award a full year's credit (sophomore standing) to students presenting a sufficient number of qualifying grades. Thirty four AP Exams are offered in a wide variety of subject areas, each consisting of multiple choice and free response (essay or problem-solving) questions (except for the Studio Art exam which evaluates student's original work).

The College Board is a national non-profit membership organization whose mission is to prepare, inspire, and connect students to college and opportunity. Founded in 1900, the association is composed of more than 4,300 schools, colleges, universities, and other educational organizations. Each year, the College Board serves over three million students and their parents, 23,000 high schools, and 3,500 colleges through major programs and services in college admission, assessment, financial aid, enrollment, and teaching and learning. Among its best-known programs are the SAT, the PSAT-NMSQT, and the Advanced Placement Program (AP). The College Board is committed to the principles of equity and excellence, and that commitment is embodied in all of its programs, services, activities and concerns.

Vo-tech students working on Bound Brook High School

BOUND BROOK — Students in the Carpentry and Building Trades Programs at Somerset County Vocational and Technical High School are assisting Bound Brook High School, located on West Union Avenue, with some demolition and rough patching work on the first level of the school.

SCVTHS Carpentry Teacher Al Pokrywa and Building Trades Teacher George Lee are supervising the project.

The students began work last week and will be completing the job at Bound Brook High School as of Nov. 20. They worked daily from 8:30-11 a.m.

This community service project emphasizes the importance of one school district helping another. The Board of Education and the taxpayers

will realize a small savings as a result of the work that was done by the students and faculty from Somerset County Vocational and Technical High School. More importantly, the students are given a real life experience in the careers they have selected to pursue at the vocational school, said Michael A. Maddaluna, Superintendent of Schools.

For more information call (908) 526-8900, ext. 7227.

JPSHS seniors named finalists

EDISON — Twelve seniors at John P. Stevens High School have been named semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship competition.

They are Crystal Chao, Grace Chen, Moulin Chokshi, Alexander Gartenfeld, Eric C. Jean, Nancy Kuo, Larry H. Liang, Benjamin W. Milder, Pravee Pamidimukkala, Yuri M. Roh, Shaun D. Salzberg and Eric C. Yeh. Each is now eligible for a college scholarship sponsored by the National Merit Scholarship Corp. or a participating corporation or foundation.

In addition, 42 additional JPS students received letters of commendation as commended students in the National Merit competition. The commended students:

Manish B. Anandpara, Preethi S. Bapna, M. Jobaille Barcelona, Arjun Chandrasekaran, Christopher H. Chen, Christine D. Cullen, Kefei Dai, Adam J. Finkelstein, Roman Goldburt, Eileen M. Healey, Lynn E. Heinbach, Jerry Hsu, Vicky A. Hsu, Joyce M. Huang, Ajit A. Jairaj, Dawn D. Kang, Hiewon Kang, Viktori Karshenboym, James S. Kim, Jeffrey M. Kornberg, Devin A. Kothari.

Kimberly S. Kung, Mariya Kuznetsova, Vincent Lai, Jae H. Lee, Dan Liang, Xi Lu, Ronak H. Patel, Tammy Peng, Vinay Prasannakumar, Jiten B. Rana, Gabriel A. Rocha, Rachel A. Seaton, Asha Shah, Ilya J. Sobol, Qian Qian Song, Courtney A. Stary, Aimee L. Sunaryo, Yue J. Wang, Xiao-Lan Wong, Boxuan Yang and Yin Zhou.

RELAX
and let
M.T.M Painting Co.
do the job for you!
Interior-Exterior Painting • Power Washing
732-690-0429

FREE ESTIMATES

PSAK, GRAZIANO, PIASECKI & WHITELAW
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
For 21 Years
Free consultation on all personal injury matters.
127 UNION AVENUE
MIDDLESEX
(732)560-0100
Please visit our website www.psalaw.com
George L. Psak and James B. Graziano are certified by the Supreme Court as Civil Trial Attorneys.
Mark J. Simko is certified by the Supreme Court as a Workers' Compensation Law Attorney.

Crystal Window & Door Systems
New Jersey Office
3300 South Clinton Avenue, South Plainfield, NJ 07080
Tel.: 908-222-8805 Fax: 908-222-8801

Grand Opening New Jersey Sales Showroom

All Styles
• Vinyl & Aluminum Windows
• Bay & Bows
• Architectural Shapes
• Patio Doors
• Fiberglass Entry Doors
• Residential, Commercial & Multi-Family Properties

All Welcome
• Contractors
• Builders
• Tradesmen

Homeowners & Landlords
Call Our Installer Referral Hotline:
718-961-7300 Ext. 3135

Main Headquarters in New York:
31-10 Whitestone Expwy., Flushing, NY 11354
Tel.: 718-961-7300 Fax: 718-539-4567
<http://www.crystalwindows.com> E-mail: marketing@crystalwindows.com

Hurry! Only Until Nov. 26TH

INVENTORY SELL OFF
End Of Season
Clearance Sale!*

All Bikes **25% OFF Original Retail Price

Take an additional **10% OFF all items already marked down

Take **30% OFF all other in stock items (helmets, pumps, locks, tires, tubes, seats, apparel, lights, water bottles, computers, car racks and much, much more!)

409 Bound Brook Rd • Middlesex
732-968-1372

STORE HOURS
Mon, Wed, Sat 10 am-6 pm, Tues & Fri 10 am-8 pm
Thursday 10 am-8 pm, Sunday 12 pm-4 pm

*Limited to in stock merchandise. Cannot be combined with any other offers.
**Not valid on sale items.
Discount applies to new purchase only.

Invest Wisely!
With Columbia's
NEW
Interest-Bearing
Checking

The Higher Your Balance, the More You Earn!

Balance	APY*
\$1 to \$9,999.99	.75%
\$10,000 to \$24,999.99	1.15%
\$25,000 to \$49,999.99	1.50%
\$50,000 and Above	2.00%

Enjoy These Added Features:

- FREE Personalized Checks
- FREE Online Bill Payment
- FREE Columbia CheckCard
- FREE PhoneLinkSM 24-Hour Banking Service
- FREE Online Banking
- FREE Direct Deposit

Stop By The Office Below And Open Your Account Now!

Columbia Bank

245 Talmadge Road • Edison, NJ 08817 • (732) 287-8425
60 Raritan Center Parkway • Edison, NJ 08837 • (732) 346-1090
620 Oak Tree Avenue & Case Drive • South Plainfield, NJ 07080 • (908) 757-1055

www.columbiabank.com
Count on Columbia. Member FDIC

The Annual Percentage Yields (APYs) shown are as of 11/01/03 and are subject to change without notice. The APYs may also change after the account is opened. The minimum balance to earn interest is \$1. *Fees can reduce earnings on the account. If at any time the daily balance in the account is less than \$10,000, the account will be assessed a monthly charge of \$15. This product is not available to businesses and is only available at our offices in Central and South Jersey.

American saints are guilty until proven innocent

I was in Mrs. Cole's second-grade class in Branchburg's Old York School when the news arrived. Another teacher came to the doorway and motioned to Mrs. Cole. They whispered; we knew something was wrong. Mrs. Cole came back into the room and, with the sensitive aplomb she had developed over decades teaching second-graders, said simply, "The President has been shot."

Like most Americans who were alive that day 40 years ago, I remember where I was when I learned President Kennedy had been assassinated (my parents were at the opening day of Great Eastern on Route 22 in North Plainfield where K-Mart is today). It was a mild November Friday afternoon full of soft, bright sunlight. Precocious brat that I was, I knew the President was dead when the school bus passed a flag in South Branch already lowered to half-mast. For the rest of that weekend and Monday, my family — like all American families — sat transfixed before the television, the somber images from Washington forever burned into our memories. I wasn't even upset that the cartoons were taken off television Saturday morning.

Too much has been written about the assassination over the past four decades for me to say anything new. The murder spawned a small industry of writers, whether they're trying to prove the existence of a conspiracy to those who argue those tragic events in Dallas unleashed incomprehensible and uncontrollable forces that forever changed our country. I refuse to believe the CIA, who couldn't kill Castro and still can't find the weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, was involved in the assassination. And I don't believe the assassination changed the country in a fundamental way or even altered the course of history, though it may have served as an accelerant for chain reactions already in progress. But judging from the mountain of books still being published and the number of shows on cable channels, the Kennedy assassination still holds a morbid fascination for many in this country.

If there is any remaining meaning to be wrung out of the Kennedy assassination, it is that the British essayist and novelist George Orwell was right when he wrote "all saints are guilty until proven innocent." In the immediate aftermath of the assassination, there was a rush to beatify St. Jack as a martyr. Though he had only been in office for a thousand days,

Fax us your news!
(908) 575-6683

DON'T TRADE IT - DONATE IT!
May be eligible for tax deduction.

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION
New Jersey
1.800.577.LUNG
www.donateyourcar.com

Jersey Boy

Mike Deak



Kennedy received tributes far beyond the reality of his accomplishments. Schools, roads, airports and even a space center were all named in his honor. I remember once seeing one of those trick pictures that if you held it one way you saw Kennedy and if you tilted it another way you saw Christ.

But Kennedy was no saint, in either his private or public life. The Cuban missile crisis was the high point of his leadership; complicity in the overthrow of Diem in South Vietnam was the low point. And, as we all know now, he led a devious double life — the ideal father with the beautiful wife and children and the sexual rake whose dangerous dalliances are still spoofed by Mayor Quimby on "The Simpsons." He was, in short and without question, no saint.

It is this almost schizophrenic split in persona that may eventually prove to be Kennedy's most durable legacy. To this day, helped by the bumbling sexual antics of Bill Clinton, the country is deeply split in trying to resolve the contradictions of our leaders' public and private life. Is it too much of a burden to entrust our politicians with both political and moral leadership? Or should we be, like fair bosses evaluating an employee, only judge our leaders on their job performance, not the peccadilloes of their private lives?

Thanks to Kennedy and his folly-prone successors, the debate continues.

Piscataway High honored by the state

PISCATAWAY — Piscataway High School has been awarded top honors in the Governor's School of Excellence Program conducted by the State of New Jersey.

The award recognizes schools that have demonstrated "significant improvement over the past two academic years," and carries a \$25,000 prize to be used for educational purposes. The Governor's Excellence program also enables the State Department of Education to share the experience of Piscataway High School with other schools seeking to improve educational opportunities.

"This award is very much appreciated and indicative of the progress being made at Piscataway High School in the areas of student performance and overall school climate," commented Superintendent of Schools Robert L. Copeland. "We are absolutely thrilled and proud of the students, teachers, and leadership of Piscataway High School."

"I hope that Piscataway residents share our pride and confidence that excellent and varied educational opportunities are available at Piscataway High School for children in this community," said Copeland. "I congratulate Principal Dr. Michael A. Wanko and the entire high school community on this achievement."

Through the Governor's School of Excellence Program, Piscataway High School was cited for improvement in standardized test scores and Advanced Placement tests, an increase in students achieving honor roll status, a decrease in

failures, and a dramatic reduction in the number of incidents of violence and vandalism.

The High School was also recognized for efforts in creating a positive school climate; for "meaningful improvement" in the number of parents involved in their child's education, and the quality of their participation; the use of technology as a learning tool; and the quality of its staff development programs.

Wanko believes that initiatives at Piscataway High School have contributed to an atmosphere that is conducive to high student performance. "We believe in shared decision-making, and leading by example," said Wanko. "We share a vision that all students can achieve academic and personal success, and hopefully we inspire them to work towards these goals."

In the area of standardized tests, 11th grade students achieved an 83 percent passing rate on Language Arts Literacy portion of the state's 2003 High School Proficiency Test. This represents an eight percent increase over the 2001 test scores, and is 10 percent higher than the Department of Education's definition of Adequate Yearly Progress that is a cornerstone of the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

During the 2002-03 school year, 141 Advanced Placement tests were administered at Piscataway High School; over 85 percent of students achieved a passing score of 3 or higher. In the areas of English, science, and mathematics, over 90 percent of stu-

dents achieved a passing score.

The AP results reflect a 3.5 percent increase in test scores and a 9 percent increase in the number of tests administered.

Last year, Piscataway High School received a State of New Jersey Best Practices Award for Comfort Zone, a combination of initiatives designed to improve school climate and safety. These initiatives included a house plan that provides the advantages of a large high school with the intimacy of a small, personalized setting; and other measures that celebrate the school's ethnic and cultural diversity and promote tolerance and understanding.

These initiatives were again recognized through the Governor's School of Excellence and have resulted in the following: an increase of 50 percent in club participation; increased dialogue between students, the principal and the superintendent; and a 5 percent increase in the number of students achieving honor roll status.

During the 2002-03 school year, there were dramatic reductions over the prior

school year in the following areas: a 58 percent decrease in fighting, a 68 percent decrease in smoking, a 40 percent decrease in cutting class, a 100 percent decrease in truancy, and a 61 percent decrease in use of profanity.

Overall, there was a 66 percent decrease in the number of offenses that school districts are required to report to the state; these reportable offenses include drugs, assaults, and weapons.

Piscataway High School serves 2,100 students who come from over 50 countries and speak almost 60 languages. If offers over 300 courses and 50 sports, clubs, and publications.

Among its initiatives this September were the AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) program that assists freshmen with high academic potential and low past performance; and a Senior Pilot Program that enables students who have completed almost all high school course requirements to pursue a faculty-approved internship, community service, or independent study project.

Silver Creek Landscaping

- MULCH/STONE/TOPSOIL
- LANDSCAPE PLANTINGS
- RETAINING WALLS
- SHRUB & TREE PRUNING
- BRICK PAVERS - PATIOS
- HYDRO SEEDING & SOD

24 HOUR COMMERCIAL SNOW PLOWING
FULLY INSURED ~ 908-756-7272 ~ FREE ESTIMATES

Sign ups for Metuchen Grapplers wrestling squad

METUCHEN — The Metuchen Grapplers recreational wrestling squad continues to sign up wrestlers for the coming season.

All Metuchen boys and girls in Grades 2-8 are eligible. Practices are in the small gym at Metuchen High School beginning Tuesday, Dec. 2.

Fee is \$50 for the first wrestler and \$35 each additional wrestler. Each new

wrestler gets a T-shirt, sweatshirt and knit cap. In addition, the family of each participating wrestler must post a \$50 work bond which is refundable.

For more information, call John Muccifiori at (732) 549-8518.

ATTENTION RECYCLERS Closed Thanksgiving Day

We are buying Scrap Aluminum Cans Aluminum Copper Brass Zinc and all non magnetic scrap metals

www.recyclenj.com

ALL CONTAINER RECOVERY

28 Howard St. Piscataway, NJ 08854 phone 732-752-8823

Directions: Route 22 to Washington Ave South. Turn right on Rt 28 North Ave in Durélien center and left at Madison. Go under the trestle and turn right on South Ave. Go 1/4 mile and left on Howard St. and left in the last driveway. Mon-Fri 8:30 AM to 4 PM Sat 9 AM to 1 PM

Stelton Lanes Presents: Laser Light Bowling

Family Sessions
Saturday and Sunday 12pm - 5pm
\$3.50 per game \$2.50 shoe rental

Adult Sessions
Saturday and Sunday 9:30pm - 12:30am
\$4.25 per game \$2.50 shoe rental

Tired of the same old party?

Laser Bowling Birthday Package

- Hour and a Half of Bowling
- Shoe Rentals and Bumpers
- Pizza, Chips and Soda

All place settings and table cloths are included at no extra cost.

AND DON'T FORGET!!! Every party guest receives a goodie bag and a free game of bowling to have fun on us!

Kosher Parties available at \$10.99 per Child including everything except Pizza.

All for Just: \$13.99 per child

Stelton Lanes
1665 Stelton Rd. • Piscataway
732-985-2695 Fax: (732) 985-5721
Call for more information on any questions you may have, or to book your party today!

OAK TREE DISCOUNT WINES & SPIRITS
902 Oak Tree Rd., South Plainfield
908-561-0051 (across from A&P Shopping Center)

BUY RATE LIQUOR
The place for people of great taste

Get a jump on your ...

REDWOOD CREEK CAB. CHARD. MERLOT 9.99	RODNEY STRONG SONOMA CABERNET 8.99	ROBERT MONDRI WOODBRIDGE WHITE ZINFANDEL 6.99	VENDANGE CABERNET CHARDONNAY MERLOT WHITE ZINFANDEL 6.99	BERINGER FOUNDER'S CAB. CHARD. MERLOT 7.99	ON HONORARY CAB. CHARD. MERLOT 9.99	CLINE CAB. CHARD. MERLOT 7.99	ROBERT MONDRI PRIVATE SELECTION CAB. CHARD. MERLOT 8.99	GALLIE OF SONOMA CABERNET 8.99	KENDALL JACKSON VINTNER'S RESERVE CAB. CHARD. MERLOT 12.99	ST. SUPERY CAB. CHARD. MERLOT 15.99								
BUDWEISER FAMILY 13.99	MILWAUKEE BEST 9.99	HEINEKEN 20.99	YUENLING 14.99	COORS 11.99	MOLSON CANADIAN 16.99	ARBOR VALLEY 6.99	JACKSON CREEK 6.99	ROSEMOUNT 6.99	FOUNDRY 8.99	M&R 8.99	VEVEE CUCUYOT 30.99	FORNOSA BIV 27.99	SANTA RITA 220 5.99	ECCO DOMANI 7.99	SANTA MARGHERITA 17.99	FOUNDRY 8.99	BELLA SERRA 9.99	CONCHA Y TORO FRONTERRA 7.99
BLAZING BIRD 26.99	INVER HOUSE 14.99	IMPERIAL AMERICAN 11.99	SLABRAM EXTRA DRY 14.99	GORDON'S 13.99	SKYY 23.99	CAPTAIN MORGAN SPICED AND SILVER 22.99	FAJ GALLO VS 7.99	AMARETTO DI SARDINIA 16.99	JUST DESSERTS 15.99	STOCK SWEET OR DRY 4.99	JIM BEAM 21.99	BEEFEATER 26.99	JOHNNIE WALKER RED LABEL 32.99	KETEL ONE 31.99	COURVOISIER VS 21.99	DRAMBUIE 25.99	CUTTY SARK 26.99	

... Holiday Shopping!

PRICES EFFECTIVE WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 19TH THRU TUESDAY NOVEMBER 25TH, 2003
OPEN: Mon. - Wed. 9am - 9pm, Thurs. - Sat. 9am - 10pm Sun. 10am - 6pm

• We reserve the right to limit quantities. • Not responsible for typographical errors.
• The specific prices and products within this ad are available at this store.
Oak Tree Discount Wine & Spirits

Member FDIC.

Fleet Holiday Toy Drive. Make a deposit.

Just bring a new, unwrapped toy to your local Fleet branch. Or make a financial donation at the branch or through Fleet HomeLink™ Online Banking at fleet.com. The program runs from November 10 through December 19, and all gifts go to charities right in your local community. So please give generously.



All donations will be distributed to local charities, including Derek Jeter's Turn 2 Foundation.

Forward Thinking. **Fleet**

Viola Bulauskas

MIDDLESEX — Viola Bulauskas, 86, died Nov. 18, 2003 at the Bridgeway Care Center in Bridgewater. Born Feb. 9, 1917 in Newark, she was a daughter of the late Joseph and Veronica Stancikas Pocius. Mrs. Bulauskas had lived in Middlesex since 1948. She was with AT&T Corp. for 13 years, retiring in 1982 as a manager in its Piscataway offices. She earlier worked in the Green Brook and Middlesex school systems. She was a member of the Middlesex Woman's Club and a parishioner of Our Lady of Mount Virgin Roman Catholic Church.

Her husband, Paul P., died Oct. 31, 2002. Surviving are two daughters, Elaine B. Reilly of Bound Brook and Arline B. Cookingham of Ontario, N.Y.; a brother, Stanley Pocius of Scranton, Pa.; a sister, Eleanor Merrill of Arnold, Md.; four grandchildren and a great-grandchild. Services were held yesterday at the Taggart-Chamberlain Funeral Home in Bound Brook. Burial was in Bound Brook Cemetery. Donations may be sent to Alzheimer's Association, Greater New Jersey Chapter, 400 Morris Ave., Suite 251, Denville, NJ 07834.

Edward F. Gray

PISCATAWAY — Edward F. Gray, 80, died Nov. 17, 2003 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield. Born July 17, 1923 in Piscataway, he was a son of the late Edward and Anna Mae Murray Gray. Mr. Gray lived in Piscataway all his life and was a supervisor with the Somerset Bus Co. in Mountainside. He also was a welder for 22 years with R. Hoe & Co. in Dunellen. He was a member of the International Association of Machinists and the Amalgamated Transit Union. Mr. Gray was a former mem-

ber of the Holy Name Society at St. Stanislaus Kostka Roman Catholic Church in Plainfield. A son, Mark E., died in 1996. Surviving are his wife, Mary Ann Chesla Gray; a daughter, Elaine Jonas of Tennessee; two sisters, Rita Villane of Westfield and Mary Stover of Emmaus, Pa.; and three grandchildren. Services were held yesterday at the Sheenan Funeral Home, Dunellen, followed by a funeral Mass at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church. Burial was in Holy Redeemer Cemetery, South Plainfield.

Jenny Jay Calv

MIDDLESEX — Jenny Jay Calv, 83, died Nov. 16, 2003 at the Cedar Oaks Care Center in South Plainfield. Born in Somerville, she lived in Dunellen and Piscataway before moving to Middlesex. Mrs. Calv was retired from the electronics department of Burroughs Corp. in Warren. She was a member of the Tri-County Senior Citizens Club, based in Piscataway. She was a parishioner of Our Lady of Mount Virgin

Roman Catholic Church. Surviving are her husband, Rocco V.; three sons, Daniel DiBartolomeo of Boston, Mass., Charles of Middlesex and Richard of Toms River; a daughter, Linda Smith of San Bernardino, Calif.; a brother, Domenic Armenti of Fort Pierce, Fla.; and seven grandchildren. Services were held yesterday at the Scarpa Funeral Home in North Plainfield. Burial was in Resurrection Burial Park, Piscataway.

William H. Freeman

MIDDLESEX — William Hodgman Freeman, 73, died Nov. 13, 2003 in Norfolk, Va. Born in Newton, Mass., he was a son of the late William M.B. and Elizabeth Hodgman Freeman. Mr. Freeman lived in Alexandria, Va., Vienna, Va., Middlesex and Millstone Borough before moving to Virginia Beach, Va. He was self-employed as a civil structural engineer and was a former Boy Scout leader. He also was a captain and life member of the Beechwood Volunteer Fire Company in Middlesex. Mr. Freeman was a fireman with the Millstone Valley Volunteer Fire Company in East Millstone. A 1954 graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, Mr. Freeman served in the Navy and later in the Army.

He was a parishioner of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Bound Brook. Surviving are his wife of 43 years, Dorothy Sheredos Freeman; a daughter, Elizabeth D. Korsun and husband Scott of Hillsborough; two sons, William S. and wife Susie of Chesapeake, Va., and Douglas B. and wife Evelyn of Virginia Beach; a sister, Annie Karns of Washington, N.C.; and two grandchildren. A memorial service will be 10 a.m. today at St. Paul's Church, 214 Church St., Bound Brook, with Rev. Ed Murphy officiating. Arrangements are by the Graham Funeral Home, Greenbrier Chapel, in Chesapeake. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to VMI Foundation, P.O. Box 932, Lexington, VA 24450 or St. Paul's Church.

Matilda Klinger

DUNELLEN — Matilda H. Klinger died Nov. 16, 2003 at Somerset Medical Center in Somerville, three days before what would have been her 88th birthday. Born in the Bronx, she was a daughter of the late John and Carrie Shueler Bayer. Mrs. Klinger had lived in Dunellen since 1944 and was a homemaker.

Surviving are two sons, Robert William and Henry Frank, and a daughter, Marie, all of Dunellen. A funeral Mass was held yesterday at St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church. Burial was in Holy Redeemer Cemetery, South Plainfield. Arrangements were by the Sheenan Funeral Home.

Ann Marie Madison

EDISON — Ann Marie Malpere Madison, 86, died Nov. 14, 2003 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield. Born in Cranford, she lived in Rahway before moving to Edison in 1963. Mrs. Madison was a retired inspector with Wilcolator Co. in Newark and National Pneumatic Co. in Rahway. Surviving are her husband

of 52 years, Robert; a brother, Frank Malpere; a sister, Rose Estwanick; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. A funeral Mass was held Tuesday at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church in Cranford. Entombment was in the Hollywood Memorial Park mausoleum, Union. Arrangements were by the Dooley Funeral Home in Cranford.

Catherine Friery

MIDDLESEX — Catherine M. Friery, 70, died Nov. 13, 2003 at her home. Born in Brooklyn, she lived in Union before moving to Middlesex in 1963. Mrs. Friery retired in 1998 after 15 years as a word processor with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Her husband, George H. Sr., died in 1986. Surviving are a son, George H. Jr. of Middlesex; four daughters, Catherine Zirkle of Bethlehem, Pa., Deborah Myers of Bridgewater, Lynn Rinker and Kim Thyen, both of Middlesex; a brother, Michael O'Connor of Staten Island; 10 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. A funeral Mass was held

Tuesday at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Roman Catholic Church. Burial was in Resurrection Burial Park, Piscataway. Arrangements were by the Middlesex Funeral Home. Donations may be sent to George H. Friery Memorial Scholarship Fund, Virginia Military Institute, Attn: Dallas Clark, P.O. Box 932, Lexington, VA 24450.

Semifinalist in scholarships

EDISON — Devon Clarke has been named a Semifinalist in the National Achievement Scholarship Program. She is one of 1,600 scholastically promising young Black Americans who has an opportunity to continue in the competition for more than 775 Achievement Scholarship awards, worth some \$2.7 million, that will be offered next spring.

Scott Schneider

DUNELLEN — Scott P. Schneider, 38, died Nov. 16, 2003 in Edison. Born in New Brunswick, he lived in Edison and Carteret before moving to Dunellen in 1999. Mr. Schneider was a supervisor with the Halls Warehouse in South Plainfield. Surviving are his wife, Deborah Hazlett Schneider;

his parents, Frank and Anne Madden Schneider of Edison; two stepdaughters, Denise Reitmar and Melissa Reitmar; a brother, Steven of Bayville; and a sister, Kristin Young of Branchburg. A funeral Mass was held Wednesday at St. Matthew's Roman Catholic Church, Edison, following services at the Boylan Funeral Home in Edison.

Charlotte Konopacki

MIDDLESEX — Charlotte M. Nowakowski Konopacki, 95, died Nov. 17, 2003 at her home. Born in Poland, she lived in South River and Florida before moving to Middlesex in 2002. Mrs. Konopacki was a homemaker and a parishioner of Our Lady of Mount Virgin Roman Catholic Church. Surviving are a son, Walter

and wife Mary, with whom Mrs. Konopacki lived; a daughter, Mary Ann Geric and husband Michael of Clearwater, Fla.; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. A funeral Mass was held yesterday at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church, following services at the Bridgeway Funeral Home. Burial was in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Hillsborough.

Caryl Marie Monahan

MIDDLESEX — Caryl Marie Monahan, 43, died Nov. 16, 2003 at her home in New Brunswick. Born in Plainfield, Ms. Monahan lived in Piscataway and Middlesex before moving to New Brunswick in 2002. Surviving are her parents, Daniel and Carole Lund Monahan of Piscataway; a daughter, Danielle Marie Hayes of Maine; a brother,

Daniel of Piscataway; a sister, Patricia Hayes and husband Amon of Maine; her maternal grandmother, Constance Lund of Metuchen; two uncles, Gilbert Lund of Metuchen and Eugene of Piscataway; and many cousins. Services were held yesterday at the Costello-Runyon Funeral Home in Metuchen. Burial was in Resurrection Burial Park, Piscataway.

Teacher training sessions planned in Dunellen schools

By G.W. JOHNSON
Correspondent

DUNELLEN — The Dunellen Board of Education continued its positive strides in the area of academics on a number of fronts according to school officials Tuesday. Nellie Eycrman, curriculum director, said in keeping with the district's professional development sessions from last year, Eycrman scheduled two days so far for professional development. The first will be on Dec. 5 at Faber School will be to improve the teachers' mathematical comprehension. "All teachers will be required to take this section," said Eycrman. "It's essential that the teachers understand what they are teaching the children. This presentation will be a huge help." An afternoon session will focus on curriculum development and will be attended by all K-6 teachers. The Dunellen High School will also focus on curriculum development. Their afternoon session will be on "substance awareness training."

"This should really help the teachers pick up on key issues that might indicate a problem," said Eycrman. "Things like attendance, falling grades and poor test scores can be an indication of a problem."

February will bring more mathematical sessions for Faber, as well as a session called "Developing Social and Emotional Intelligences" for all teachers. There will also be a session for teacher's aides, which is newly developed. Dunellen High School will focus on those same issues as well.

Also discussed at the meeting was that Lincoln School was one of only 25 schools throughout the state to win the Governor's School of Excellence Award. Lincoln's literacy scores have improved dramatically over the last year or two, and that was a huge contributing factor in their winning the award.

"This is an incredible distinction for our middle school," said Dr. Joyce Baynes, Superintendent of Schools. "I believe this shows how well Lincoln school has moved forward in its teacher and curriculum development. I believe it is now equipped to begin receiving sixth graders once we hopefully pass the bond referendum."

Speaking of their referendum, meetings will continue to be held within the community and run by the group KIDS (Keep Improving Dunellen Schools) to inform the public of all the issues regarding the Dec. 9 vote.

Attention Oxygen Patients!

Are you tired of dragging an oxygen cart everywhere?

Get HomeFill™ and breath in the freedom.

- Weights less than 5 lb.
- No liquid oxygen freeze-ups
- Quick, easy, and safe connection
- Two tanks last over 10 hours
- No waiting for deliveries
- Carry over the shoulder or around waist

Call **General Health Services, Inc.** for more information on how you can get your own Homefill and to schedule your FREE in-home demonstration.

Call 1-800-730-8323

YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT

INVACARE Yes, you can.™

PLACES OF Worship

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
45 Hampton St., Metuchen
732-549-8941
Rev. Ronald Owens, Sr. Pastor

WORSHIP
Sunday, 8am & 11am
1st & 5th Sunday, 9:30am

Church School: Sun. 9:30am
Bible Study: Wed. Noon & 7:00pm

Calvary Chapel
Services at **Somerville Elks**
375 Union Ave. (Rt. 28)
Bridgewater
(Next to Quick Chek)
Sunday Service & Childrens Church
10:00 A.M.
732-537-0283
Coffee House / Concert
12/28/03 - 7:00 PM

To Advertise Your Worship Services
Call Christine
908-575-6766

"We are here for you at your time of need."

Forever Flowers

- Flowers
- Plants
- Fruit Baskets

136 STELTON ROAD,
PISCATAWAY
732-968-2345

MONUMENTS, MARKERS AND BRONZE PLAQUES

Visit Our Large Indoor & Outdoor Display

Order Now Before 2004 Price Increases

GREENBROOK MEMORIALS
4 Generations of Memorialists

IMPORTANT NOTICE
Do **NOT** order your Memorial at the time of the Funeral.

Why purchase a Memorial from an inexperienced high priced salesperson - when you can make your purchase from a 4th generation memorialist whose only business is Memorial Sales.

SAVE 20% - 50%
103 Bound Brook Road (Rt. 28 over Ave.)
Middlesex, N.J.
Open 7 Days Evenings by Appt. **732-968-2543**

You are invited to a **Memorial Thanksgiving Service** to remember your loved ones passed & to know that God cares for us in life as well as death.

November 23rd 10 am

First Baptist Church of New Market
450 New Market Road, Piscataway 732.968.6290
ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND TO PAY TRIBUTE
Refreshments Served following Service
Co-sponsored by the Piscataway Funeral Home

Holiday Remembrance Memorial Tree Lighting

For the third consecutive year Flynn and Son/Koyen Funeral Home will be hosting a holiday memorial tree lighting ceremony. The ceremony will be held in a heated tent on the front lawn of Flynn and Son/Koyen Funeral Home.

This event is open to anyone who would like to place a personalized ornament, bearing the name of a loved one, on our tree.

The Ceremony will take place on:
Thursday, December 4, 2003 at 7:00pm

Anyone wishing to have an ornament personalized should call the funeral home at 732-548-2134 between 9:00am and 3:00pm before December 2nd, 2003. Ornaments can be picked up at the funeral home and placed on the tree on December 2nd, 3rd and 4th between 10:00am and 3:00pm, or we can place the ornament on the tree for you. Ornaments cannot be placed on the tree on the evening of the ceremony. During the ceremony a memorial list of names of deceased loved ones will be read. If you wish to have the name of your loved one included please call the funeral home before December 4, 2003.

We hope to see you on this special occasion and invite you to share in refreshments after the ceremony.

Flynn and Son/Koyen Funeral Home
319 Amboy Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840
(732) 548-2134
Brendan J. Flynn, Jr., Manager, NJ Lic. No. 4105



The boroughs of Bound Brook and South Bound Brook receive a joint Municipal Planning Partnership grant from Somerset County for a joint waterfront strategic plan. Freeholder Director Peter S. Palmer (second from left) presents a ceremonial check in the amount of \$18,050 (\$9,025 for each municipality) to Bound Brook Mayor Frank Ryan (left), South Bound Brook Mayor Jo-Anne Schubert and Council President Dennis Quinlan.

Bound Brook, South Bound Brook receive county grant for project

The Somerset County Board of Freeholders has awarded \$199,750 in the 2003 round of funding from its Municipal Planning Partnership Grant Program.

Twelve towns have received funding for a total of 11 projects. The boroughs of Bound Brook and South Bound Brook as well as the borough of Somerville and Bridgewater Township are undertaking joint initiatives with shared grants.

"The Board of Freeholders established the Municipal Planning Partnership Grant Program to assist municipalities in implementing smart growth principals and regional planning initiatives," said Freeholder Rick Fontana, planning board liaison. "The grant money will be used by municipalities to match local funding contributions and in-kind efforts."

Freeholder Director Peter S. Palmer presented ceremonial checks to grant recipients at

the freeholders' regular meeting. Grant awards included \$17,400 to Bedminster Township for a plan endorsement of master plan and development regulations; \$19,000 to Branchburg Township for a North Branch transit village proposal; \$18,050 (\$9,025 each) to Bound Brook and South Bound Brook for a joint waterfront strategic plan and \$45,000 (\$22,500 each) to Bridgewater Township and the borough of Somerville for a Peters Brook greenway plan.

Other grant awards included \$18,000 to Far Hills for a planning implementation agenda on open space and transportation planning project; \$10,875 to Franklin Township for preparation of redevelopment strategic action plans; \$19,000 to Montgomery Township for a Route 206 corridor planning initiative; \$13,050 to North Plainfield for a downtown origin and destination study;

\$14,625 to Raritan Borough for a Geographic Information System; \$6,750 to Rocky Hill Borough for village center design guidelines and historic preservation district implementation ordinance and \$18,000 to South Bound Brook for a master plan update.

Grants awarded over the past 4 years now include 48 projects and a total of \$836,485 in matching funds to municipalities. The grants have been used for a wide variety of planning projects, including master plan updates, build-out analysis, downtown redevelopment plans, ordinance revisions, design guidelines, wastewater management plans, economic development plans and other special planning studies.

For more information, contact Anthony Soriano, Somerset County Planning Board, at (908) 231-7021.

South Plainfield seeking volunteers

By CHERYL ORSON
Correspondent

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The borough is putting out the call for volunteers to get more involved with their community.

Specifically, the borough is seeking volunteers to join its newly-created Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and to join various governmental boards and committees currently in need of members. Officials are hoping to get as many volunteers as possible for CERT and to fill all openings on the boards and committees by the time of the borough's official reorganization in January.

The creation of CERT began after Sept. 11 and is meant to allow properly-trained local citizens and business owners to respond to catastrophic events. CERT was made possible by a \$527,000 state grant split among municipalities.

Councilman Dennis Cerami, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, further explained the need for and purpose of CERT.

"The idea is to utilize residents of the community and people in the business sector to train them to 'pick up the slack' in the vent of any emergency," stating members of CERT would help out the first responders, (police, fire and squad members), in catastrophic events.

Those volunteering for CERT will receive 20 hours of training in subjects including life saving techniques, safety issues, decision-making factors and leadership skills. While "taking the burden off emergency services," Cerami said. CERT members would

attain better disaster preparedness knowledge.

"Readiness is really people helping people and doing the greatest good for the greatest amount of people with the least amount of injuries," said Cerami, stating the more people joining CERT, the better.

CERT will be run through the county, including its funding, not costing the borough anything. As Cerami stated, "it's a matter of getting vol-

unteer," said Zushma.

Stressing CERT would be activated "only in times of disaster" and not on a regular basis, Zushma said this would include "times when the borough is overwhelmed" such as in storms or other crisis. Zushma further said it is hoped CERT members will go on to become first responders themselves, joining the fire department or rescue squad.

The borough is also seeking new members for the Business Advisory Group (consisting of business owners only) meeting the first Wednesday of every month at 5 p.m., the Cultural Arts Commission meeting the second Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m., the Environmental Commission meeting the second Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m., the Planning Board meeting the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 8 p.m., the Public Celebration Committee

"It's a great program. This way people get trained and know their job in case of disaster"
Michael Zushma
OEM director

whose meeting dates are as yet to be determined, the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission meeting the first Monday of every month at 5 p.m., the Taxpayers Advisory Group meeting the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. and the Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting the second and fourth Thursday of every month at 8 p.m. Those interested are asked to please forward a resume, along with which board(s) on which they wish to serve to Mayor Daniel J. Gallagher or Council President James Vokral at 2480 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080. The deadline is Dec. 8, 2003.

unteers." Ham radio operators are particularly needed to keep communication going during catastrophes. Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Director Michael Zushma said CERT training classes will begin in January. He said he is looking for all types of people "from any walk of life" to join CERT as any and all skills could be needed in an emergency. Also people could do even simple things setting up barricades lifting equipment and helping out the first responders, "lot of different things."

"It's a great program. This way people get trained and know their job in case of dis-

\$7 million funds for flood control

Rep. Michael Ferguson announced that Congressional leaders approved his \$7 million request for the next round of federal funding for the Green Brook Flood Control Project.

The Republican congressman has secured \$24 million in federal funds to go toward the \$331 million project since he took the 7th District seat in 2001. He got congressional approval for \$10 million in

2001 and \$7 million in 2002.

The latest allocation, announced by Ferguson in a Nov. 13 press release from his Capitol Hill office, is included in the annual appropriations bill that funds flood control projects around the country. That measure was to be voted on in Congress this week.

"Family homes and businesses are in harm's way if another hurricane hits New Jersey," Ferguson said in the release.

"This \$7 million will go a long way toward the completion of the Green Brook project."

He also credited Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-11th Dist.), a member of the House Appropriations Committee, with getting the full amount asked for.

Frelinghuysen "has been a leading advocate to ensure that the Green Brook project receives the federal funds it deserves," Ferguson said.

Sunbelievable Tanning opens today in borough

METUCHEN — Are you ready to tan?

Sunbelievable Tanning will celebrate its grand opening in the heart of Metuchen at 441 Main Street at 10:30 a.m. Nov. 22. Mayor Ed O'Brien and representatives of the Metuchen Chamber of Commerce will perform an official ribbon cutting.

Owner Bobby Catone said all tanning systems are not the same. At Sunbelievable, the high-tech tanning sys-

tems are so unique it is protected by patents in both United States and Europe. There are 10 rooms with 10 different pieces of equipment ranging from 20-minute tanning beds to eight-minute high-pressure beds with built-in air conditioning.

Sunbelievable is open seven days a week, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

Welcome Autumn With A New Look

ideal tile of edison

"Our Name Says It All"

- Genial Staff
- Great Selection
- Gorgeous Showroom
- Guaranteed Installations Available

Now Open Sundays

WICK PLAZA • EDISON
RTE. 1 at PLAINFIELD AVE.
(732) 819-8000

Why do smart kids fail?

If your child has struggled with schoolwork this year, take action now to make his or her grades better. **Huntington Learning Center** can help. Our certified teachers can pinpoint your child's strengths and weaknesses and tailor a program of instruction to meet his or her needs. Just a few hours a week can improve your child's skills, confidence, and motivation. Call Huntington today. Your child can learn.

Weak Basic Skills
Frustration with School
Lack of Confidence
No Motivation

SAT Prep Available

Huntington Learning Center 1-800-CAN-LEARN

Bridgewater 908-725-8900	E. Brunswick 732-257-7500	Edison 732-906-0900	Ledgewood 973-252-8300
Middletown 732-671-0200	Morristown 973-292-4500	Springfield 973-258-0100	

Lose Weight Safely & Naturally Have More Energy

Lose those unwanted pounds and inches with a Doctor Recommended- 100% Guaranteed Program. May be Taken Safely by individuals with high blood pressure and diabetes

RAPPS PHARMACY Call Toll Free: 888-685-3200
611 PARK AVE., PLAINFIELD

www.bestnutrition4u.com

This Thanksgiving...
Let us give thanks for all
We have to be thankful for.

METUCHEN SAVINGS BANK
— ESTABLISHED 1897 —

429 Main Street, Metuchen, NJ 08840 • (732) 548-7400
www.metuchensavingsbank.com

Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender Equal Opportunity Lender

YOU'RE KIDDING ME?

No jokes here! For only \$2.75 per person you can serve the incredibly delicious HoneyBaked Ham?

Don't risk that special day on some cheap imitation when you can have The HoneyBaked Ham, with that crackling sweet glaze.

Aren't your family and friends worth \$2.75?

1549 Route 22W, Watchung • 908.755.2200

Celebrate Thanksgiving With Us!

Now Accepting Reservations

OPEN SEATING 12noon-8pm

MILLENNIUM RESTAURANT

3126 Woodbridge Ave., Edison • (732) 738-4411
full bar available fax (732) 738-0506 all credit cards

Web promotion winners announced



Mary Piekarski, reference librarian at the Piscataway Public Library, presents Barnes & Noble gift certificates to the winners of the library's recent Web Site Promotion. The promotion encouraged residents to utilize remote services provided on the library's website and was funded by a grant from the Karma Foundation. Picture with Piekarski are Barrington Turgott with his daughter Brianna and Alfred Urrato with his wife Yanina. The third winner, Ti Han, was unavailable for the photograph.

Fun part of lesson for Spanish class

By LIBBY BARSKY
Correspondent

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — It's official — having fun is now part of the curriculum for the elementary Spanish course.

Vocabulary lists are out and games, songs and dancing are in. These interactive activities are part of the district's new elementary world languages curriculum developed by director of curriculum Kaye Crown with Spanish teachers Amy Burkat, Rachel Gomez, Kelly Richburg and Aura Salazar.

The new curriculum is based on the goal to prepare students to speak a second (foreign) language when they complete high school. In fact, being able to speak another language will be a graduation requirement for all students in the future. New state requirements are slated for adoption in January.

To prepare students to meet this graduation requirement, the district began teaching Spanish this past September at all four elementary schools, Grant School and the middle school. Kelly Richburg teaches first graders in all four schools in 16 classes twice a week for 36 minutes.

Besides learning conversational Spanish phrases, learning to count in Spanish and the words that describe their

world, the students also learn the location and the capitals, flags and money of Spanish speaking countries. They also learn about the different holidays customs in these countries.

"We have many songs. They walk into the room singing. They are very excited. They are just soaking up this language. They love it and I love it," said Richburg said of her program.

"I sometime hear the regular classroom teachers talk to the kids in Spanish reinforcing what they have learned," said Riley principal William Beegle.

At Grant School, Amy Burkat teaches six classes each 41 minutes, of fifth- and sixth-grade students five days a week in a 10-week rotation program. All students in the school will receive Spanish instruction in one of the four rotations during the year.

The first 10 rotation was completed on Nov. 11 and the results are in.

"They were able to learn so much more Spanish than what was expected. They impressed their parents and they impressed themselves," said Burkat. "I like to give them a good introduction to Spanish where it's fun. We play games, and sing. It's a fun way to learn because we are actually

doing it." For the last day of class, the students held a fiesta.

"They looked up recipes and made authentic Spanish food. I had one parent of an Ecuadorian student dance for us and one student learn a Spanish song on his guitar to play for us. It was a good wrap-up to show what a fiesta was like," she said. "This was an introduction for them, to pique their interest in the Spanish language so they are excited and will take it again through their senior year — that's the goal."

At the middle school, there are three classes of eighth-grade students who are taking a full year of Spanish that corresponds to the Spanish I course at the high school.

Two classes are taught by Aura Salazar and one class by Rachel Klausner-Gomez. Both teachers also teach the 10-week exploratory Spanish course to all other seventh and eighth graders.

"My students were excited about the Spanish classes," said Rachel Klausner-Gomez, who teaches four classes of seventh graders and one full year class of eighth graders.

"We covered a lot of the areas we wanted to and the students were able to acquire a broad vocabulary while having fun at the same time. We also covered a lot of geography, history and cross-cultural holidays. The students also learned how to order from a restaurant," said Salazar. "I thought the program was successful," said Salazar.

Our Lady of Czestochowa celebrates 60th anniversary Sunday morning

By CHERYL ORSON
Correspondent

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — Our Lady of Czestochowa (OLC) Church on Kosciusko Avenue will be celebrating its 60th anniversary this Sunday.

In recognition of the historic occasion, the church will be having a special celebratory Mass of Thanksgiving led Bishop Paul Bootkoski of the Metuchen Diocese, a very high honor which is greatly anticipated by both OLC and its parishioners. The mass will begin promptly at 11 a.m. and is expected to conclude at around 12:30 p.m.

Directly following this special mass, OLC will be having a formal dinner dance at its parish hall. This event, likewise highly anticipated by OLC's parishioners, is expected to draw hundreds serving as both a celebration and something of a reunion for many with numerous past congregates returning for the occasion.

Now boasting more than 500 families, the church began with a seed of hope deeply planted in the hearts of a group of Polish immigrant families settling in the borough. Originally attending Sacred Heart Church, they petitioned then Father Edward Corrigan to have at least one Mass each week-end said in Polish. While various Polish priests came to serve these immigrants, they were determined to establish their own church. With this determination and through the efforts of Monsignor Maximilian Wujek who wrote to the Pope Pius XII in Rome, a Papal Bull sanctioned the establishment of the newest national church in the Trenton Diocese in late 1942, OLC.

OLC's first service was

held in the Venetian Hall (a temporary church) on Palm Sunday, April 18, 1943 with Monsignor Maximilian Wujek as celebrant. OLC's first pastor was the Rev. Ladislaus Madura, its founding father, serving from 1943 to 1962. Purchasing a vacant building from Camp Kilmer, it was transformed by the work of parishioners and contractors into a fitting house of God. The first service held in this refurbished facility was on the First Sunday of Advent in 1943. In 1948 the parish hall was built serving as a meeting place, Confraternity classroom and a place to host social events.

In 1953 the Brandt Family sold their home at 120 Kosciusko Ave to the parish to serve as its parish rectory. OLC's second pastor, the Rev. Francis Klimkiewicz, served during the decade of 1962 to 1972 while its third pastor, the Rev. John M. Skwara, served for three decades from May, 1972 to May, 2002.

Skwara began with a congregation of 50 who, from the moment of his arrival, became determined to build a brand new church. Between book sales, circuses, parish dinners, white elephant sales, etc. and with an ever-growing congregation, Skwara finally was able to begin the realization of this dream. On March 25, 1976 a ground breaking for the new church occurred and on Dec. 5, 1976 a dedication Mass was held with a dinner dance following in the parish hall.

With no church being complete without its own three Stations of the Cross, the story of these three statues is a tale unto itself. The three main statues gracing the church today, life-size figures of the Resurrection of Christ, St. Joseph and Our

Lady of Czestochowa, were created to inspire the spiritual flame of love, faith and hope. Designed by Victor Zucchi, they were carved in the town of Ortisei in the Ladin Valley of Gardena, Italian Tyrol. Vincenzo Mussner, a member of one of the oldest woodcarving families, was selected to execute this valued work from rare Linden wood also using 22-karat gold leaf and burnishing the statues with semi-precious agate stone to attain the desired brilliance and effect. The carved, free-standing, life-size stature of Our Lady of Czestochowa is particularly rare and unique as it is the only statue of its kind known to exist. While many pictures, icons, and busts of Our Lady of Czestochowa had previously been executed, the statue alone is registered with the Italian government as "one of a kind."

When Skwara retired in May of 2002, the congregation totaled 450 souls. Temporary Administrator the Rev. George M. Pisanello served a short stint from May, 2002 to September, 2002. OLC's fourth and present Pastor is the Rev. J. Maciej Melaniuk, who was officially installed on Oct. 23, 2002. Maciej was ordained May 31, 1986 as a diocesan priest by Theodore Cardinal McCarrick in St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral in Metuchen. He previously served as an associate pastor at the borough's Sacred Heart Church, at St. Joseph in North Plainfield, at St. Stephen in Perth Amboy, at Our Lady of Victories in Sayreville, at St. Mary of Ostrabrama in South River and at St. Bernard in Bridgewater. He was Pastor of St. Stephen Parish from Dec. 26, 1998 until Sept. 20, 2002.

Drug company expanding in boro

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — A third-generation, family-owned manufacturer of generic medications is renovating two buildings here for expansion, utilizing low-cost, tax-exempt bond financing from the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (EDA) in a transaction that marks the company's third use of the Authority's financing resources.

The EDA issued the \$5.96 million bond at an initial variable weekly interest rate of .90 percent to G&W Laboratories, Inc. Wachovia Bank, N.A. was the placement agent.

"EDA tax-exempt bond financing is a critical tool in New Jersey's effort to sustain manufacturing businesses and jobs in the state," said EDA

Chairman Al Koeppe. "Manufacturers like G&W are among a short list of entities that qualify for tax-exempt bond assistance and can take advantage of this low-cost borrowing tool."

EDA Executive Director Caren S. Franzini said, "G&W Laboratories has utilized EDA financing twice before, including a 1991 bond issue, and we are pleased it has returned to the Authority to finance another project that will increase employment." The EDA has now issued over \$15 billion in bonds for 3,670 projects that have stimulated more than \$21 billion in total investment in New Jersey and created almost 150,000 jobs since the Authority was established in 1974, she said.

G&W Laboratories President Ronald Greenblatt said the company knew about the EDA and the advantages of EDA financing from prior experience. "Because the bonds are tax-free, the rate of interest is lower so the cost of borrowing over the life of the loan makes it a less expensive source of capital than conventional financing," Greenblatt explained.

He said the financing is enabling the company to renovate facilities for enhanced manufacturing and product

development and to purchase new equipment.

"We are in the generic pharmaceutical industry and, to compete, we need to meet high service levels for the manufacture and delivery of our products," Greenblatt said. "We are moving forward with this expansion and our aim is to continue to strengthen our operations, increase our market share and secure continuous employment for New Jersey residents."

The Greenblatt family established G&W Laboratories in New Jersey in 1919. The company currently employs 259 workers and expects to add 41 jobs in the next two years as a result of the expansion.

The EDA financing is being used to renovate two company-owned buildings located here on 11.5 acres. One contains 97,800 square feet and the other provides space of 40,000 square feet. The financing is also funding purchase of new equipment for quality control testing, research and development, and manufacturing.

G&W Laboratories manufactures and distributes generic and branded suppository medication and topical ointments, creams, liquids and gels. Greenblatt's father, Burton, is the company's chairman, his brother-in-law, Joel Zaklin, is vice president for sales and marketing, and his wife, Melodie, is project manager for the renovation and expansion.

The EDA was established in 1974 to promote economic growth and create jobs. It has arranged more than \$16 billion in financing since its inception. For more information about EDA tax-exempt bond financing, send an e-mail to ibde@njeda.com. For information on other EDA financing programs, call (609) 292-1800 or visit the EDA's website at www.njeda.com.

Join Community Presbyterian Church for our upcoming fellowship activity:

Live Nativity Scene

Saturday, December 6th
6pm - 8pm

This will include a petting zoo, live nativity and crafts which help bring the true meaning of Christmas, come to life for your family.

Community Presbyterian Church
75 Glenville Rd., Edison for information please call 732-287-1666

Looking for **Cancer Treatment Options?**

Operated by The Cancer Institute of New Jersey

www.njctc.org
866-788-3929

with support from the State of New Jersey.

The Most Realistic Christmas Trees Anywhere

All Trees Are 3pc. Construction From 2' To 12', Pre-Lit Or Unlit

• Fiber Optic Trees, Santas, Angels, Villages & Table Pieces
• Stockings, Tree Skirts And Santa Suits
• Outdoor Decorations
• Wreaths And Garland
• Bows & Ribbon
• Indoor & Outdoor Lights
• Stienbach Nutcrackers
• Mechanicals
• Hand Blown Glass

Christmas City Has Everything For Christmas

the City
Outdoor Furniture & Christmas Stores

Mon-Sat. 10-9pm, Sun 11-6pm

DANKURST 1800 Hwy. 35 So. (between West Park Ave. and Deal Rd.) 732-531-5220
SPRINGFIELD 115 Rt. 22 E. (between Staples & Lazy Day) 873-379-9880
Rt 78 East to exit 49A (Uloop/Springfield) cross over Morris ave. & continue on Springfield ave. for 2 1/2 miles to rte. 22 east. we are 1/4 Mile down on the right side!

You are invited to an **Open House** — at — **DUNELLEN HEARING AID CENTER**

• DIVISION OF TOTAL HEARING CARE •

Mon. Dec 1st & Tues. Dec 2nd

Come in and meet Bill Banahan from Oticon, Inc. who will be introducing **adapto™**, "the first voice-activated hearing aid."

SPECIAL! FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY:

12 months Interest Free Financing available.

Please call for your appointment: **732-424-0445**

376 North Avenue • Dunellen

Your Hosts: Elizabeth W. Cook, M.A. Audiologist, NJ Hearing Aid Supervising Dispenser License #697. Edward J. Riedinger, Jr., NBC-HIS, Licensed Hearing Aid Dispenser #168.

With this Ad Receive: **FREE Screening** • **\$400 off** a pair of digital hearing aids during this event. Bring ad with you

www.njhear.com

The Best Kept Secret in Green Brook

jiffylube

Does your car get it?

GREEN BROOK
195 Route 22 East
732-424-7300

Old-time Christmas at theater

DUNELLEN — "An Old-Fashioned Christmas" is a free holiday program for the whole family, to be held Dec. 6 at the Dunellen Theater on North Avenue (Route 28). The program will be offered at 2 p.m. and again at 4 p.m.

The free community festivities will feature an hour of holiday music, including a hand bell choir and audience sing-alongs of traditional Christmas carols and other winter favorites of both adults and children. There will also be a special guest appearance by "Ebenezer the Shepherd" who will share his unique perspective during a re-enactment of the Christmas story. Everyone will receive a small free gift.

"Many people agree that we've lost the true meaning of Christmas," explained Pastor Jeff Wildrick of the First Presbyterian Church of Dunellen. "This program is our gift to the community. 'An Old-Fashioned Christmas' brings to mind images of sleigh bells ringing, homemade cookies, laughter, singing, and the story of angels and shepherds told around the Christmas tree. We hope through this entertaining family-oriented event to help people to recapture a bit of that Christmas we all long for but have such a hard time finding in the hustle and bustle of our modern world. We want to put a smile on your face and a song in your heart."

First Presbyterian Church has developed a tradition of providing free acts of service to the community. Among these have been free car washes, a free lunch and "Praise in the Park." According to Wildrick, these activities are the church's way of showing God's love in practical ways, with no strings attached.

For more information, please contact the First Presbyterian Church at (732) 968-3844. Reservations are not required, admission is free and no offering plates will be passed.

Knights of Columbus officers



The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus recently held their installation of officers ceremony to install the incoming 2003-2004 Officers. The ceremony was held at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church followed by a dinner at the Knights hall. The 2003-2004 Officers are as follows: 3rd Degree Officers are: Chaplin - Father John Paul Alvarado, Grand Knight - Pat Bonaventura, Deputy Grand Knight - Joe Scrudato, Chancellor - Steve Belenger, Recorder - Tony Moskal, Financial Secretary - Larry Makowski, Treasurer - Bob Walker, Lecturers - Andrew Provenza, Fred Brisebois and Mark O'Brien, Advocate - Gene Baker, Warden - Bill Hartmann, Inside Guards - Rich Panzarella and Mike Butrico, Outside Guards - Frank Dominguez and Jim Vokral, 1 Year Trustee - Paul Grzenda, 2 Year Trustee - John Weakley and 3 Year Trustee - Lenny Kleczkowski 4th Degree Officers are: Friar - Father J. Maciej Melaniuk, Navigator - Pat Bonaventura, Captain - Bob Walker, Pilot - Joe Scrudato, Admiral - Don Baymen, Scribe - Larry Makowski, Purser - Gene Baker, Comptroller - Frank Dominguez, Inside Sentinel - Tony Moskal and Jim Vokral, Outside Sentinel - Andrew Provenza & Tom Elko, 1 Year Trustee - Paul Grzenda, 2 Year Trustee - Lenny Kleczkowski and 3rd Year Trustee - Al Musmanno.



Man charged with plotting theft

By CHERYL ORSON
Correspondent

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — Borough resident Clinton Wisniewski, 21, has been charged with theft by deception and conspiracy to commit theft by deception in which he and a friend allegedly arranged to steal \$600 from Wisniewski's girlfriend.

Wisniewski allegedly contacted his 19-year-old girlfriend from Bridgewater, whose name is being withheld as a crime victim, asking her to meet him at around 1 a.m. Nov. 16 on the top level of a parking deck at the Bridgewater Commons Mall so he could borrow money from her to make a purchase. Unbeknownst to the girlfriend, however, Wisniewski also allegedly arranged to drop off Almalnik Walker, 23, on a lower level of the parking lot before meeting with the victim, police said.

Meeting at approximately 1:40 a.m. that morning, the victim got into Wisniewski's

1995 Eagle Talon and gave him the \$600 he had asked for to buy stereo equipment, police said. Shortly after this monetary exchange, a ski mask-clad man alleged to be Walker approached the couple's vehicle asking for a lighter. He then allegedly announced "this is a robbery," grabbed the \$600 from Wisniewski and took off on foot down the parking lot's entrance ramp, police said.

When the victim attempted to dial 911 to report the incident, Wisniewski allegedly persuaded her not to, telling her he would chase the thief. Allegedly abandoning the victim alone in the parking lot, Wisniewski then sped off after the alleged thief, police said. Minutes later, Walker, ski mask now in hand, was allegedly seen by mall security getting into Wisniewski's vehicle, police said.

Mall security guards later located the victim still in the parking lot and called Bridgewater police at approximately 2 a.m. The

police spoke with Wisniewski, who had already returned to his borough home, on the victim's cell phone. The police requested Wisniewski meet with them to officially report the crime, which he did later that morning.

After questioning Wisniewski at around 9 a.m. that morning and finding his story not to be credible, he was arrested and charged with theft by deception and conspiracy to commit theft by deception, police said. He was transported to Somerset County Jail in Somerville, where he later posted bail the next day. Police are still searching for Walker who remains a suspect in this crime and will most likely face similar charges.

Meantime, the victim's money has not been recovered leaving her the victim of both a crime and, according to police officials, "a bad choice of boyfriends." Wisniewski remains free on bail pending an upcoming court appearance whose exact date remains unknown.

Township library unveils new roof

By CHERYL ORSON
Correspondent

PISCATAWAY — JFK Library on Hoes Lane unveiled its new \$1.2 million roof complete with central skylight.

The 28,000-square-foot library, which opened on Aug. 2, 1965 and currently houses more than 136,000 volumes of books and other items, was closed for almost a month as the new slanted roof was installed. Officials said the sloped roof will prevent the water leakage and damage that plagued the old roof.

Flat roofs, cheap to install, were originally placed on all township municipal buildings as a cost-savings measure. Over the years, however, these roofs became costly because of water leakage damage and repairs.

In an effort to stem the flood of troubles with these leaking roofs, last year the council unanimously approved spend-

ing to put sloped roofs on the library and the municipal building, the later of which is the final phases of completion. Administrators are also seeking to put a slanted roof on the Public Safety Building housing the Police Department to end water woes in that facility as well.

While plugging up what were constant leaks at the library, the new skylight lit roof also sheds new light in the building's interior allowing for easier and more enjoyable reading. The improved lighting also makes the facility seem bigger and airier and less dank and dark than it once was.

Below the new roof and adding to the improvements at the library, sofas and lounge chairs are strategically placed beneath the skylight inviting patrons to curl up with a good book. Patrons can also enjoy listening to books on tape or to CDs from its

extensive collections of these items.

A popular gathering spot, the library has three meeting rooms often used by non-profit community organizations for their meetings. The library is also the headquarters for numerous popular volunteer programs such as English as a Second Language and tax assistance. It further hosts concerts, lectures and other presentations all year long.

The library's specialty collections include the local history collection, the parenting collection, the foreign language collection and the Silkotch art book collection. The library also has eight computer terminals with online catalogs which can be used to access its print and non-print materials and can also be accessed via home terminals. The computers can further be used for word processing and to connect to the Internet.

Girl performs at Lincoln Center

METUCHEN — Cheryl Olson, daughter of Jerry and Carol Olson of Metuchen, performed Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 with the Westminster Symphonic Choir and the New York Philharmonic conducted by Lorin Maazel November 7 and 8 at Lincoln Center in New York. Cheryl is a student at Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, where she is a member of the Westminster Symphonic Choir.

Recognized as one of the world's leading choral ensembles, the choir has sung over 300 performances with the New York Philharmonic alone. It has performed and recorded with the leading conductors and orchestras of our time. In addition to these performances of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, the choir's 2003-2004 season includes several other concerts with

the New York Philharmonic: works by Berlioz conducted by Sir Colin Davis; Handel's "Messiah", conducted by Nicholas McGegan and Bernstein's "Candide", conducted by Marin Alsop; and Mahler's Symphony No. 3, conducted by Lorin Maazel. In addition, the Choir will perform Bartok's "Miraculous Mandarin" and Wagner's "Parsifal" with the Cleveland Orchestra conducted by Pierre Boulez.

Westminster Choir College is one of four colleges of Rider University, whose main cam-

pus is in Lawrenceville. A professional college of music with a unique choral emphasis, Westminster prepares students at the undergraduate levels for careers in teaching, sacred music and performance. It has been estimated that each week more than one million people worldwide study or perform under the leadership of a Westminster graduate.

For more information about these programs, call 1-800-96-CHOIR or go to the Westminster site at <http://Westminster.rider.edu>.

Edison woman wins damages

EDISON — On Thursday, Nov. 6 a Middlesex County Grand Jury awarded \$500,000 to an Edison woman who slipped on an icy sidewalk at the Edison Glen Condominium Complex in January 2001. Her attorney, Nicholas J. Leonardis, a partner with the law offices of Stathis and Leonardis, LLC, 32 South Main Street, Edison stated that the ice resulted from a leaky spigot and hose that was allowed to leak onto the grass and sidewalk. The icy condition was hidden under a dusting of snow. As she walked on the sidewalk, she slipped on the ice resulting in a fractured hip which required surgery.

Edison Glen confirmed that the faucet was slightly open

which resulted in the leak and icy sidewalk. However, they argued that they were unaware of the condition. Leonardis

argued that the hose was used by agents of Edison Glen and that they created the dangerous condition.



**OLD FASHIONED BANKING.
COOL.**
UNITY
BANK
800.618.BANK
unitybank.com

The center of attention.

Established 1954

Teleflora's Art Glass Bouquet
Hoski Florist
(732) 356-1385
1-800-944-3492
Middlesex Shopping Center
734 Union Avenue
Middlesex, N.J. 08846
www.hoskiflowerpower.com

Open Daily
10am - 7pm
from Nov. 21 thru Dec. 24

Closeout Savings up to **70% Off retail**
COLOGNES & FRAGRANCE
Men & Women Fragrances, Fragrance Gift Sets, New Items

ALL NAME BRANDS	POLO GUCCI TOMMY CHANEL	CANDIES NAUTICA ANIMALE ETERNITY	DRAKKAR GIVENCHY PERRY ELLIS ELIZABETH ARDEN	WHITE DIAMONDS EMPORIO ARMANI CAROLINA HERRERA
-----------------	----------------------------------	---	---	---

SPECIAL Buy 1 Get 1 Free! On Marked Items
With this coupon only \$5 off Any purchase totaling \$100 or more
Expires 12/24/03

MD Distributors, Inc
3 Taylor Rd., Edison • 1-800-617-2368

Shop Early & Often - Products Change Daily!
Visa, Mastercard, Discover & American Express Accepted

GET DAD THE PORSCHE HE WANTS FOR CHRISTMAS!

EWA
732-424-0200
205 Rt. 22 E., Green Brook, NJ 08812
www.ewacars.com
"Over 13,000 Automobile Products!
Books, Models, Videos, Magazines!"

Bound Brook High School's inaugural hall of fame

BOUND BROOK — The 13 inaugural inductees of the BBHS Hall of Fame will be honored on Nov. 23 with a special dinner at the Bound Brook Elks from 2-6 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 and may be obtained from Nancy Yuzuik, Bound Brook HS, Union Avenue, Bound Brook, NJ 08805. Checks should be made payable to the BBHS Alumni Association. Questions can also be directed to Maryann Griguoli at mag07@aol.

EDWARD SCAGLIOTTA, CLASS OF 1945

Edward Scagliotta is the founder and executive director of the Midland School in North Branch. He has received the Presidential Award for New Jersey Schools and Agencies for the Handicapped for his dedication and outstanding service to handicapped children in New Jersey. The Somerville and Plainfield chapters of UNICO National honored him as their Man of the Year.

A former principal and teacher in the Branchburg school district, Scagliotta also had a private practice in psycho-educational and counseling services. He has been an adviser to the Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center in Alexandria, Va.

His books include "Wonders of Water Life," "Never Enough: A Casual Chronicle" and "Special Education — As You Liked It!"

Scagliotta was a track athlete and football player at Bound Brook High School. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Rutgers University plus a doctorate in special education administration from Southeastern University.

He and his wife, Louise, lived in Manville. The couple have two daughters, Janice Elaine Scagliotta and Marlene Scagliotta Orlando.

FREDERICK HALL, CLASS OF 1924

Author of the first Mount Laurel decision on affordable housing, Frederick Hall (1908-1984) became one of the most influential judges in the state and later became known nationally for his work in the field of zoning and planning law.

He became a New Jersey Superior Court judge in 1953; Hall was appointed to the New Jersey Supreme Court in 1959 and served as an associ-

ate justice until his retirement in 1975. After graduating high school at 16 he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa at Rutgers University, where he received a bachelor's degree in 1928. He graduated cum laude from the Harvard Law School in 1931 and received an honorary law degree from Rutgers in 1960.

Hall was a past president of the Somerset County Bar Association and a member of the Bound Brook Board of Education. He was a trustee of the Somerset County YMCA and a director of the First National Bank of Somerset County.

The textbook "American Land Planning Law" by Norman Williams Jr. is dedicated in part to Hall, whom the author said was "the most distinguished judge of our time in the field of law." Williams said Hall "has illuminated every field of planning law which he has touched, and who has led the American Judiciary into an understanding of the exclusionary implications of some of American land use controls."

JOSEPH BARILE, FACULTY

Joseph V. Barile, who died earlier this year at age 87, had winning records in 20 of his 31 seasons as Bound Brook High School basketball coach. His squads won one state title, two Somerset County titles, four sectional titles and six conference championships. He also was the athletic director at BBHS as well as a health and physical education teacher.

A standout athlete in his youth, Barile graduated from BBHS in 1934 and became an All-American halfback in 150-pound football at Rutgers University. He also won three letters in lacrosse and two letters in basketball. He was in the Army from 1942-45 and attained the rank of corporal.

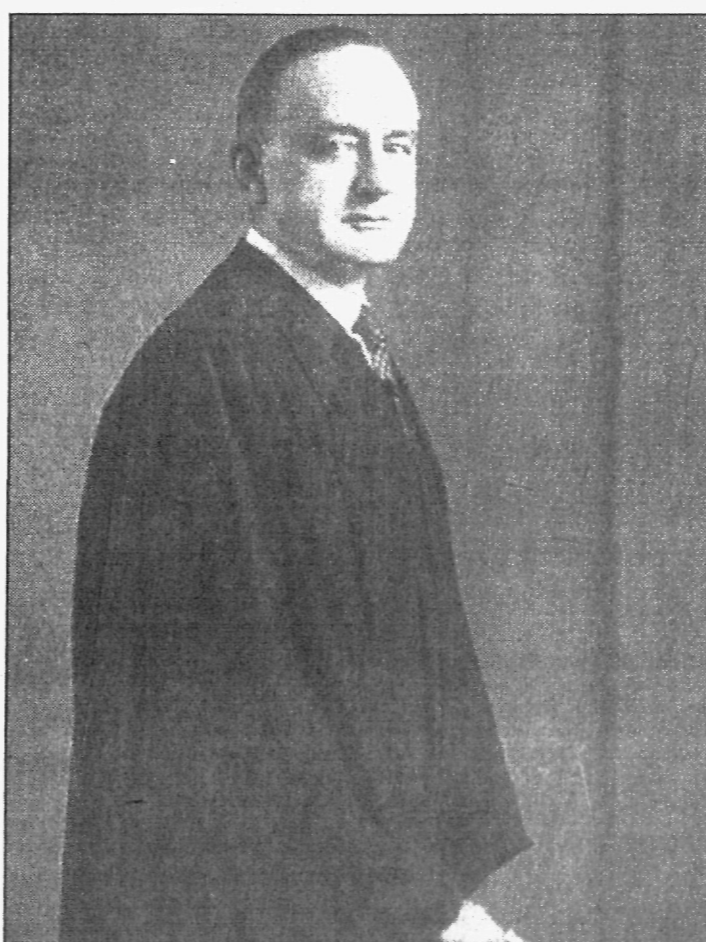
He was honored on Joe Barile Day in 1978 and again when the BBHS gym was named for him in 2000.

Barile is survived by three sons, Thomas, Jim and David; a daughter, Jane; and eight grandchildren. His wife of 58 years, Vivian, died in 1999.

MICHAEL SCHIBANOFF, FACULTY

Michael Schibanoff was a member of the Bound Brook High School faculty from 1945-79 and filled a wide range of roles. He was a physical education teacher, health teacher and driver education teacher. He also was the BBHS athletic director, chairman of the Physical Education Department and coordinator of transportation.

He coached BBHS track squads for 27 years, its wrestling teams for 24 years and the football team for six years. With the National Federation of State High School Associations he was a member of the wrestling advisory committee and wrestling rules committee. He was a ref-



Frederick Hall.



Michael Schibanoff.

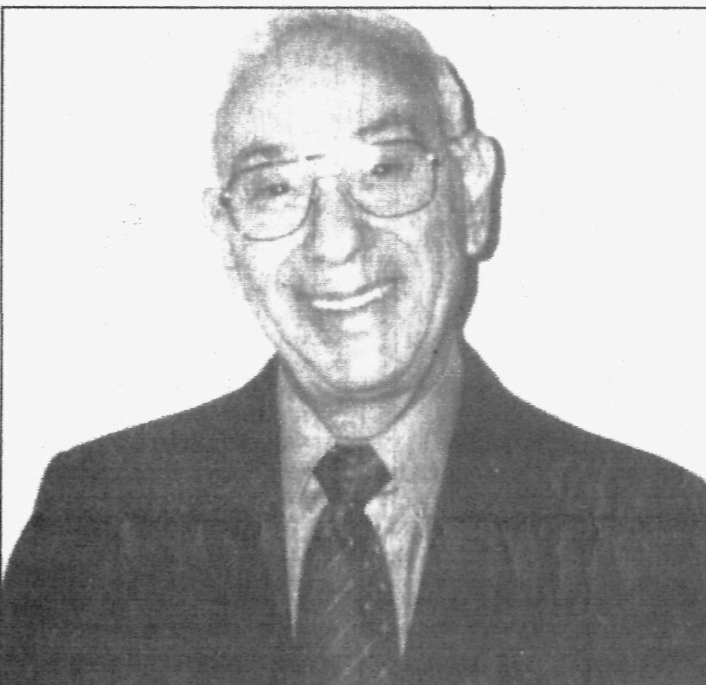
eree at the state wrestling tournament for 15 years and the wrestling rules interpreter for the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association for 19 years. Schibanoff organized the New Jersey Wrestling Officials Association in 1955 and served as its first president.

Richard Mirshak Award for excellence in officiating and the NJSIAA Award for Meritorious Service. The BBHS wrestling room was named in his honor in 2000. He holds a bachelor's degree from Moravian College and a master's degree in physical education from Columbia

77 and Smalley School from 1977-84.

Finlayson has been a contributor to many organizations in Bound Brook, including the Bound Brook Memorial Library, the Twin Boros Scholarship Foundation, the Woman's Literary Club of Bound Brook and the

Presbyterian Church. She was the Bound Brook chairman of the 1976 bicentennial celebration and co-chairman of the Presbyterian Church tercentennial in 1988. She was recognized as a distinguished honoree of the 2002 Outstanding Women of Somerset County.



Edward Scagliotta.



Joseph Barile.



Jean Finlayson.

DUNELLEN THEATER & Cinema Cafe
An Evening of Musical Brilliance
Saturday, November 22nd, 9PM
Featuring:
Billy Hector and the
Acoustic Armada
in concert
Call Lynn
(732) 968-1020 for Details

LOOK NISCHWITZ FEED & FUEL
Home Heating Oil • Propane
107 Years Young
223 Front Street, South Plainfield • 908-756-0947

PREMIUM WILD BIRD Ingredients: WHITE MILLET, SUNFLOWER SEED, SAFFLOWER, PEANUTS, THISTLE, NO MILD SEED. 20 lbs. \$5.99 40 lbs. \$10.99	WILD BIRD WITH CORN 25 lbs. \$5.50 50 lbs. \$10.99	PURINA HI-PRO 50 lb. \$14.99
SUNFLOWER STRIPES 25 lbs. \$7.99 50 lbs. \$14.99	PURINA DOG CHOW 55 lb. \$16.99	PURINA DEALERS PRIDE DOG 50 lb. \$13.99
High Energy Suet 11 oz. \$1.39 Peanut Suet/Treat 11 oz. \$1.39 Gourmet Suet 11 oz. \$1.39 Natural Suet 11 oz. \$1.39	PURINA PUPPY CHOW 37.5 lb. \$16.99	FIT & TRIM 37.5 lb. \$17.99
Sunflower Oil 25 lb. \$6.99 50 lb. \$13.00	PURINA BENEFUL DOG 37.5 lb. \$18.99	Wayne Bite-Chunk 40 lb. \$19.99
Sunflower Blend 25 lb. \$7.50 50 lb. \$13.99	THISTLE SEED 3 lb. \$3.00 10 lb. \$8.00 20 lb. \$15.00 50 lb. \$34.50	\$2.00 OFF ANY EUKANUBA OR IAMS DOG FOOD! 20 lb or 40 lb bag of any variety of Eukanuba Dog Food or Iams Dog Food
Safflower Seed 5 lb. \$3.95 10 lb. \$7.25 25 lb. \$15.99 50 lb. \$31.00	SAFFLOWER SEED 5 lb. \$6.00 10 lb. \$12.50 25 lb. \$25.00 50 lb. \$4.00	Mortons Water Softener Salt Coarse Solar Salt 80 lbs. \$5.99 Expire 12/01/03 50 lbs. \$3.99 Pick Up Only
SAFFLOWER CHIPS 5 lb. \$7.25 10 lb. \$15.99 25 lb. \$31.00	PEANUT HEARTS 10 lb. \$7.00 25 lb. \$16.00 50 lb. \$31.00	PURINA CAT CHOW 18 lb. \$9.99 20 lb. \$9.99
SAFFLOWER SEED 5 lb. \$6.00 10 lb. \$12.50 25 lb. \$25.00 50 lb. \$4.00	PURINA KIT.N.KABOODLE 18 lb. \$8.99	PURINA FELINE MEDLEY 20 lb. \$9.99
SAFFLOWER SEED 5 lb. \$6.00 10 lb. \$12.50 25 lb. \$25.00 50 lb. \$4.00	PURINA RABBIT CHOW 25 lb. \$6.50 50 lb. \$12.00	CAT TAILS CAT BOX LITTER 25 lbs. \$5.99 50 lbs. \$2.99

NISCHWITZ FUEL CO
SINCE 1895
"If you haven't heard of us ask your grandfather!"
FUEL OIL KEROSENE • PROPANE
Automatic Delivery, Burner Service, Installation, Budget Plan

PURINA PRO-PLAN
Growth 20 lbs. \$19.99
37.5 lbs. \$33.99
Adult 20 lbs. \$18.99
37.5 lbs. \$29.99
SAVE \$3.00 Off any 37lb formula
\$2.00 Off any 20lb formula
Call 1-800-4-A-PUP

ALL FUEL PRODUCTS
\$2.00 OFF
40 LB LAR ADULT REG \$29.99
NOW \$27.99
with coupon EXPIRES 12/15/03

EXPERTS AT KEEPING YOU WARM
GARDEN STATE AIR CONDITIONING
HEATING EXPERTS
REPLACEMENTS • INSTALLATIONS
GAS & OIL STEAM & HOT WATER BOILERS
HOT AIR FURNACES
HIGH EFFICIENCY SYSTEMS
CERTIFIED TECHNICIANS
ONE DAY INSTALLATIONS
FREE ESTIMATES
1-800-222-0643

The Enrichment Center
Make the Difference in your child's education!
Basic Classes
Enrichment Classes
Gifted Classes
College Advising
Private Tutoring
PSAT - SAT I - SAT II
Open 7 days a week, 12 months a year
State Certified, Experienced Teachers
Got the Report Card Blues?
Our Private Tutoring services can help!
Register Now
Now at 2 Locations!
161 Washington Valley Rd., Suite 205
Westfield NJ 07090
908-748-2020
424 Central Ave., 2nd Floor Rear
Westfield NJ 07090
908-554-0110
Call to enroll or request a brochure
www.TheEnrichmentCenter.com

Middlesex Library collecting donations

MIDDLESEX — The Middlesex Public Library is collecting donations of new hardcover and paperback books for distribution to disadvantaged children throughout Middlesex County. These books are being accepted through November as part of the "Books to Keep" program. New hardcover and paperback books suitable for children from preschool through adolescence may be brought to the library on Mountain Avenue, adjacent to the Municipal Building. In addition, funds are needed to purchase additional books for distribution. Donations should be payable to "Libraries of Middlesex" and sent to Leah Wagner, Monroe Township Public Library, 4 Municipal Plaza, Monroe Township, NJ 08831. "Books to Keep" was begun in 1990 to promote the joy of reading, encourage library use and foster pride in book ownership. Books will be distributed through service clubs, social service agencies, day care centers, soup kitchens, the Middlesex County Board of Social Services, Head Start programs and programs serving children with AIDS. The program is a project of the Libraries of Middlesex, a consortium of public libraries and the Middlesex County College library.



John T. Fenton, President & CEO of Affinity Federal Credit Union; Piscataway Councilman James F. Huben; Piscataway Mayor Brian C. Wahler; and Ellen R. Jackson, Chair of Affinity Federal Credit Union Board of Directors, break ground at the site of the new Affinity branch in Piscataway.

Affinity breaks ground in Piscataway Twp.

PISCATAWAY — Affinity Federal Credit Union held a groundbreaking ceremony recently to celebrate the building of its newest location at 1342 Centennial Avenue in Piscataway. The branch will be located in Centennial Plaza across the street from Centennial Square.

The new branch will offer Affinity members access to 3500-square-foot of retail space, including five teller stations, kiosks linked to Affinity's Home Banking platform on the Internet, safe deposit boxes, as well as two drive-up windows, a drive-up ATM, and an onsite Financial Advisor. The state-of-the-art facility will offer convenience and flexibility to Affinity members in the Middlesex County area.

Affinity is the largest credit union in New Jersey and is ranked among the top 50 credit unions nationwide. Established in 1935, Affinity has 19 branches in New Jersey, assets of more than \$1.3 billion, and serves more than 112,000 members throughout the world. Among Affinity's largest sponsor groups are AT&T, Lucent Technologies and Saint Clare's Health Services. For more information about Affinity, visit www.affinityfcu.org.

Red Cross part of Evening of Giving

EDISON — The American Red Cross of Central New Jersey will participate in this year's "Evening of Giving" held at the Menlo Park Mall in Edison Nov. 23. An "Evening of Giving" is a special night of private shopping specifically for supporters of local charities and non-profit organizations.

Every store, restaurant and kiosk will re-open their doors at 6:30 p.m. Special sales and activities will be featured in many of the stores. Some of the evening's highlights include Holiday Carolers complements of The Edison Arts Society, a special appearance by All My Children's "Aidan Devane," "The Short Bus" interactive children's entertainment, food samplings and the arrival of Santa Claus. Admission to this private event will be an \$8 donation, with \$6 to benefit the non-profit organization from which the ticket was purchased and \$2 to benefit the Simon Youth Foundation.

To purchase a ticket or for more information about "An Evening of Giving" please contact the American Red Cross of Central New Jersey at (609) 951-8550 or visit www.njredcross.org.

Edison High merit students

EDISON — Frank N. Cangelosi, principal of Edison High School, announced that nine seniors have been named Commended Students in the 2004 National Merit Scholarship Program. A Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program, will be presented by the principal to these scholastically talented seniors: Winnie Chang, Doris Cheung, Puja Desai, Jessi Dimig-Mathis, Kristian Elvina, Sangbeen Hong, Misha Matalia, Jessica Ng, and Ashwini Poola.

Being recognized for their exceptional academic promise are a total of about 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation. Although they will not continue in the 2004 competition for Merit Scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than one million students who entered the 2004 competition by taking the 2002 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

A spokesperson for National Merit Scholarship Corporation commented, "The young men and women named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential by their high performance in the very competitive National Merit Scholarship Program. These scholastically talented youth represent a valuable resource to our nation; it is important to publicly recognize their attainments and to credit schools for the important part they play in their development. We hope this recognition will help broaden the educational opportunities of Commended Students and

Franklin School salutes America's veterans

By LIBBY BARKSY
Correspondent

SOUTH PLAINFIELD — The entire school body sat in the all purpose room at Franklin School on Veteran's Day to honor the servicemen who had served in America's wars.

Since Nance Erickson became principal of Franklin School in 1994, an annual commemoration of Veteran's Day is held where veterans are invited to be Franklin School's honored guests at a program emphasizing the contributions veterans have made in defending the nation at war.

This year 25 veterans sat on an improvised stage listening to the very personal words the students had for them.

Third grader Shannon McMahon spoke about her grandfather and uncles who had fought for peace. "I know that they did a good job fighting for America. I thank God that they never got hurt because I would never have gotten to meet them and give them a big hug. My grandfather and uncles are here for me and I love them very much. I will always look up to them."

Second grader Brittany Titus, also spoke about her

grandfather. "He fought in three wars, World War II, Korea and in Vietnam as a Sergeant in the U.S. Army. We should all be thankful for the Veterans who keep this country free and safe. Thank you, veterans."

After the individual poems, and statements, the lights were dimmed so all could see the Power Point presentation of photographs of flags and soldiers and the words to songs sung by all the second-grade students in Franklin School. It was their tribute to the veterans.

Fourth grader John Silas

read the Lincoln's Gettysburg Address accompanied by teacher Glenn Parisi on his trumpet. After a minute of silence Parisi played "Taps."

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Robert Rosado, Business Administrator Dr. Edward Izbicki, Board of Education members Steven Bohn, Tim Morgan and Dan Smith along with parents, veterans and students ended the program with singing "God Bless America."

"They do it right," said parent Bob Butrico of the observance. "It's to honor the Vets. That's what it's all about."

Highland Park takes lead in energy efficiency

HIGHLAND PARK — Together with the installation of solar panels on Borough Hall, Highland Park is taking the lead state-wide with the installation of energy efficiency measures in public buildings. With funding from the NJ State Board of Public Utilities Clean Energy Program and the US Department of Energy, the Borough will replace lighting, heating and cooling systems with high efficiency systems in Borough Hall, the Police and Fire Departments, the Senior - Recreation Building, the Library and Public Works. In addition to the costs of upgrading to high efficiency equipment and solar power, the Borough has also received funding to study the systems and to

measure their effectiveness and cost savings. The public buildings conversion project, which is estimated to save the Borough \$14,000 per year, is the cornerstone of the Borough's Green Community initiative announced in April 2003 said Mayor Meryl Frank. "We are looking for "green savings" everywhere, said the mayor, "in energy and water conservation, in the reduction of solid waste and expanded recycling activities and in our purchasing."

The ambitious initiative includes construction of a grant funded Outdoor Learning Center on the River Road green acres site, solar powered pedestrian activated crosswalks, planting in parking lots through a new

program called "Take Back Paradise - Take Back a Parking Lot", a major downtown tree planting initiative, a program which encourages safe and accessible walking throughout downtown, and throughout the Borough. Highland Park Safe Moves, and the proposed shuttle service between Highland Park and New Brunswick.

Highland Park is taking the lead, state wide, even nationally", said Michael Winka, Director of the New Jersey Office of Clean Energy. "Highland Park's program is a quantum leap ahead."

"Energy efficiency and renewable energy will not only reduce the Borough's energy costs, but will also reduce pollution, decrease our dependence on foreign

sources of energy and create local jobs" said Michael Ambrosio, a local energy consultant working on the project. The Highland Park project will also include a component to educate students, residents and businesses on the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy.

The Green Communities Plan is a key component of the Borough's "Highland Park 2020" initiative, which calls for a series of projects to insure the Borough's economic and environmental sustainability. The Borough hopes to expand the program to include schools and houses of worship this year and then to businesses and residences.

Construction is expected to begin on the Borough Hall project early next year.

MCC president elected chair of college group

EDISON — Dr. John Bakum, president of Middlesex County College, was elected chairman of the Presidents' Association of the New Jersey Council of County Colleges.

The association consists of the 19 presidents of New Jersey's community colleges.

"I'm looking forward to working with my colleagues in matters that affect us all," Bakum said. "The council has a significant role in strengthening New Jersey's community colleges and ensures that they serve the interests of the people of the state."

The New Jersey Council of County Colleges is the state organization representing

New Jersey's 19 community colleges. As an independent, trustee-headed organization that joins the leadership of trustees and presidents, the council is the voice of the community college sector before the Legislature and other branches of government.

"Dr. Bakum has been an exceptional campus leader at Middlesex County College for over seven years. We are pleased that John was recently elected by New Jersey's community college presidents to serve as their statewide chair for 2003-04," said Dr. Lawrence Nespoli, the council's president. "He was also recently appointed

by the governor to the New Jersey State Employment and Training Commission. We are very grateful that Dr. Bakum will be putting his

many leadership skills to work on behalf of all community colleges throughout the state in these new state-level positions."

Florida Seat Sale

From Newark

\$59 One way taxes

St. Petersburg/Clearwater
Mon./Thurs.
Starts 09 Oct 2003

Ft. Lauderdale
Mon./Wed./Fri.
Starts 22 Dec 2003

\$69 One way taxes

USA 3000 www.USA3000.com
1-877-USA-3000

SALE FARE REQUIREMENTS: All fares are based on one-way travel. Tickets are non-refundable and may be changed for a fee of \$40. Plus fare difference which may apply. Tickets are valid for 365 days from date of original travel. Transferable they have no value. Domestic US fares do not include federal income tax of \$3 for each segment of the itinerary. Fares do not include up to \$18 in airport passenger facilities charges (APF) which are applicable on the September 11 Security Fee and \$11.95 in extra fees. Seats are limited and availability may be subject to change during busy travel periods. Lower fares may be available in these markets. Fares may not be available in all markets. Other conditions may apply. Schedules are subject to change without notice.

www.automoldlawyer.com

Auto-Water Intrusion

Has your automobile leaked resulting in water intrusion? Our firm has extensive experience representing consumers with leaking vehicles. For a review of your claim, contact

DUFFUS & ASSOCIATES

Attorneys at Law

1-800-987-6529

Offices located in North Carolina

Problems with mold remediation?

Bernstein's

Fashions

RETIREMENT SALE

Everything Reduced

Up To

70%

Once in a lifetime savings on

Evening Gowns • Sportswear

Special Occasion Dresses

Bernstein's

Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday - 10:00 am to 5:30 pm
Thursday - 10:00 am to 7:00 pm • Sunday - 12:00 Noon to 5:00 P.M.

18 N. Third Ave., Highland Park • 732-545-6006

WIN \$5,000 TOWARDS YOUR WEDDING DREAMS!

Wedding Dreams Come True

- 5 Hours Open Bar
- Cocktail Hour
- Full Course Dinner
- Tiered Wedding Cake, Silver Candelabras, Flaming Jubilee Show, Private Bridal Rooms, White Glove French Service

FROM \$3795

ELEGANT THANKSGIVING BUFFET

\$24.95 Per Person + Tax & Service

Reserve Early!!!

Chef-Carved Turkeys • Prime Ribs • Ham
Lamb • Shrimp • Clams
Plus Viennese Table & Fresh Fruit

ALA CARTE DINNER SPECIALS

start at \$11.95

BRUNCH Every Sunday 9am-3pm
\$19.95 per adult • 9.95 per child

Park & Mountain Avenue, Scotch Plains
(908) 322-7726

Visit our web site at: www.weddingatpantagis.com

Saturday, November 22, 2003

Entertainment

Golden Nuggets SENIORS

Bound Brook

The Bound Brook Seniors meet 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month in Asbury Hall of the Bound Brook United Methodist Church, 150 W. Union Ave. Everyone welcome to join.

Upcoming

Nov. 30 — Las Vegas, 5 days and 4 nights. Cost is \$530 per person, double occupancy, with airfare and lodging included. Food is not included.

Dec. 7 — Christmas dinner dance at El Imperial.
For information, call President Frank Gilly at (732) 356-6310. Outsiders are welcome.

Atlantic City trips are the third Tuesday of each month, leaving 9:45 a.m. from El Imperial. Everyone welcome. Call Ed Kimmel at (732) 469-1263.

St. Mary's Leisure Club, Bound Brook club sponsors bus trip to Atlantic City Casino Taj Mahal every fourth Tuesday of each month. Cost \$19.

2003 meeting dates — Membership meeting will be held every second Monday of each month at 1 p.m. in the school cafeteria.
Nov. 23 — Mass in memory of deceased members. 10:15 a.m. Light breakfast in cafeteria after Mass.

Dec. 1 — membership meeting, 1 p.m. school cafeteria.
Dec. 14 — annual Christmas Dinner Dance. 3 to 8 p.m. The Willows Restaurant, Green Brook.

For information, call Sal Barbati at (908) 725-5444.

Dunellen

The Dunellen Senior Citizen Club is open to all Dunellen residents 55 years and older. Every Friday meetings from 10 a.m. at Knights of Columbus Hall on South Avenue. Bus transportation is provided. Atlantic City — Third Tuesday every month. Bus leaves 9:45 a.m.

For information call (732) 968-1285; President of Dunellen Senior Citizen Club, Ida Cihanowicz

Middlesex

Middlesex Bus transportation is available for Borough Seniors. Sign up by calling (732) 356-0414. Wednesdays are Senior Day at the club.

For information on any issue of interest to the senior population contact Sheila at (732) 356-0414.

Middlesex Borough Senior Citizens - Watchung Terrace at Middlesex

For information call Flo Wines (732) 271-0278.

Our Lady of Mount Virgin Seniors — Club meets the second Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. in the church hall. Entertainment books for 2004 are now available. For books, call Marty at (732) 469-1722 or Fran at (732) 356-3380. The price is \$30 per book.

Dec. 9 — Christmas Party at Spain Inn, 1707 7th Street, Piscataway. From noon to 4 p.m. \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. No refunds. In lieu of gift exchange, monetary donations will be accepted for FISH. Tickets available through Marty at (732) 469-1722 or Ben at (732) 356-6093.

For information on trips call Ellie Procacci (732) 752-3093 or Mary Jané Stoddard at (732) 356-2093.

Middlesex Saturday Seniors Club — For more information, call Delia at (732) 356-7793.

South Bound Brook

The South Bound Brook Senior Citizens Club, Inc. meet 2 p.m. each Wednesday at Our Lady of Mercy Church Hall on High Street. Business meeting is conducted on the first Wednesday, and the following Wednesdays are Socials when games are played and refreshments are served.

This club is open to all seniors 55 years old and older in South Bound Brook and the surrounding area. For information/reservations call Catherine (732) 356-4080 or Emma (732) 356-4338.

Dec. 14 — Christmas Party/McAtee's.
April 24 to May 1, 2004 — Bermuda Cruise. Eight days, seven nights. \$899 per person, double occupancy - outside. Price includes bus, cabin, shipboard meals/amenities, port charges and taxes. Reservations must be made by Dec. 15. Call Ethel at (732) 356-5552.

South Bound Brook Senior Citizen Center, 113 Clinton Ave., offers the following programs:

Monday and Wednesday — Exercise, 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday and Thursday — Bingo and cards, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday — Line dancing, 10 a.m.
4th Wednesday of month — Librarian, 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday and Thursday — Liquid embroidery, 10 a.m.-noon.
4th Wednesday of month — Mobile Post Office, 10:30 a.m.
3rd Thursday of month — Outreach Specialist at center, 10-11 a.m.
3rd Thursday of month — Blood Pressure Screening, 10 a.m.
Every Friday — Cards or games.

For information, appointments or to register for programs, call the center at (732) 271-1646.

On his way to a literary career

By CHRIS LANG
Correspondent

EDISON — Edward Carchia is on his way to a literary second career. His most recent short story "A Scent of Loss" was nominated for the 2004 Pushcart Prize — an annual selection of the best small presses.

"The Pangolin Papers", a literary fiction magazine, nominated the story, which it published in its summer 2003 edition. Carchia, a New York University graduate, said, this represents a "giant step" in his writing career, especially because most writers start in their 20s and craft their skills for at least a decade. "I don't have that much time."

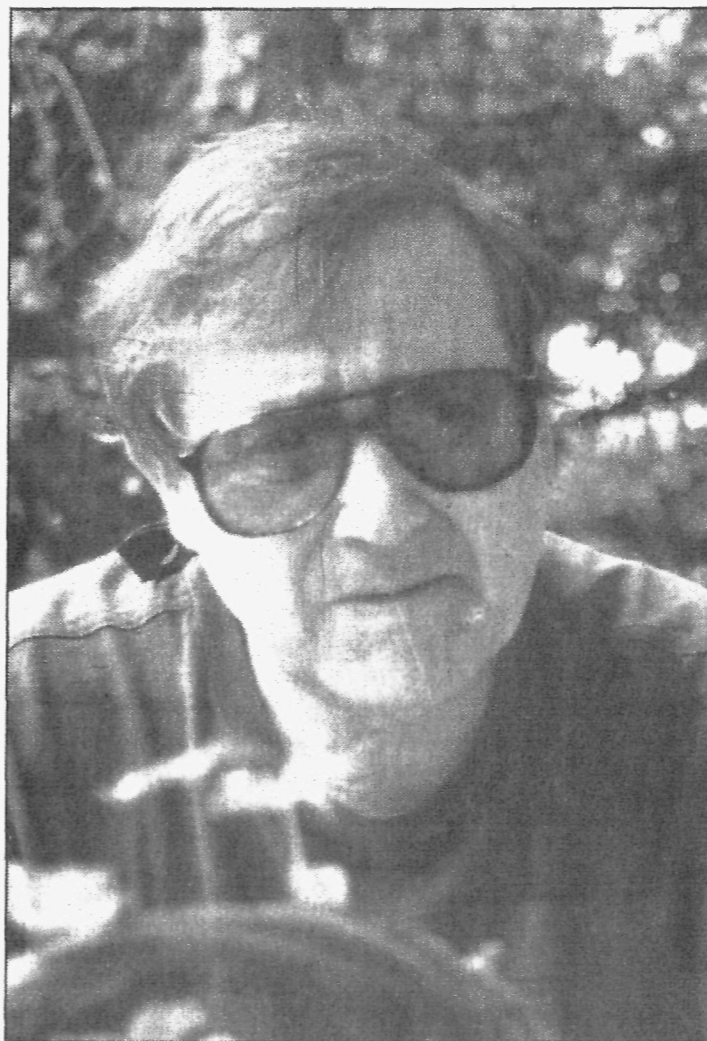
Carchia's story is an account of a young couple experiencing war, separation, alternative relationship, reunion and dilemma, he said.

"The events take place in the Goral cultural region of Tatria, that bestrides the high mountains of Northern Slovakia and Southern Poland," he said.

Carchia has been writing for two years since retiring from an Edison-based advertising company and in that time he has had eight short stories published. A majority of his stories, including the one nominated for the Pushcart Prize, are based around relationships.

"Many of my stories seem to examine relationships, probably because of my academic concentration in the social sciences and also because I am of an age to have witnessed the great revolution in the terms of love between men and women," he said.

He binds his characters together using power and love. "The thread that seems to run through them is the often wrenching contest between the power of love and the forces of impermanence," he said.



Edison resident Edward Carchia's short story has been nominated for an award.

Like many writers, Carchia looks to his own life to write his short stories. "All fiction cannibalizes your own life and the lives around you for credible raw material. Anywhere from an incident to whole lives are consumed without remorse as fodder for the imagination," he said. So for those that know writers or journalists, Carchia has a friendly tip. "Be careful what you reveal to a writer."

Though he looks at his life and his surroundings for his stories, Carchia said there is

no one particular thing, which motivates him. "Motivation is not really necessary," he says. "It's just something that you do — every day — like eating, although you spend more time at it."

And while he needs no motivation to write a story, Carchia has been a natural writer since his school days. He said it was only a matter of time before he dedicated the time required to become a writer.

"Writing always came

easy," he said, recalling his school days. Though writing was in his blood, family life intervened and he settled for writing ad copy. But retirement changed all that. "On retirement, my longtime office administrator urged me to write my memoirs, since she felt I had a more varied life than most. I did so and continued on with short fiction."

He went to school in North Newark where, "I only thought of escaping out into the wide and limitless world of possibilities. But yes, the written word came very easy and helped me fake through a lot of exams." The result has been eight published short stories and one award nomination.

As of now, Carchia has 13 stories that remain unpublished, but he is looking at a bigger prize — his first novel. Nothing is set in stone yet, but the author said he is giving it some thought. "There is plenty of adventure in a mature life to feed it with a page moving plot. Bit is an under plot layered beneath that comes to me in my half dreams. The idea of evolving intelligence as a means for the universe to become increasingly aware of itself, perhaps a destiny as pure mind, rendering Newtonian, relativistic and quantum dynamics irrelevant. Would love be its gravity?"

But Carchia is prepared for the struggles that come with trying to get a novel published. It took William Saroyan, he said, 10 years to get his first short story piece published, and F. Scott Fitzgerald papered his bedroom wall with the 360 rejection letters from his first novel.

Should Carchia short story win, it and others will be published in a hard-cover book that will be available for purchase at most bookstores. Results are announced in April.

BB hall of famer running for gold

By G.W. JOHNSON
Correspondent

BOUND BROOK — When we are young, many of us dream of sports immortality. Maybe it is hitting the game-winning home run in the seventh game of the World Series, hitting the last minute jumper in the NBA finals, pitching a perfect game or maybe it is scoring the final touchdown in the Super Bowl. Whatever that dream may be, most of it ends unfulfilled for most of us. We grow older, get jobs, marry, have children and before we know it, life has passed us by.

But for a runner, especially distance runners, that dream does not necessarily have to die. With running, some people even get better with age. Former Bound Brook resident Michael Mykytok is out to prove just that. He has aspirations of Olympic great-

ness once again, just as he had back in 2000 when he qualified for the Olympic trials.

"I plan on competing in the Jacksonville Marathon in December," said Mykytok. "I'll need a time of 2:22 or better to qualify for the Olympic trials a few months later in Alabama. I am just about in shape to accomplish that."

But being a teacher for children with multiple disorders, plus a high school track and cross-country coach, there doesn't appear to be much time for training.

"I still manage to get in my 100 miles a week," said Mykytok.

Mykytok, who is still single, has also been working on a series of books, the first of which is out now and entitled "Pushing Through." It is available online and at select bookstores. Mykytok

says it is essentially a true story, although names and places needed to be changed.

"Have to protect the innocent" he said. It was derived from a journal Mykytok kept while in high school, and deals only with high school running.

While he has aspirations of Olympic gold, he has already had quite an impressive career. A Bound Brook High School student in the late 80s, he was a high school All-American in track, and finished first in the 3200 meters at the New Jersey State Championships in 1989.

From there, Mykytok attended the University of Florida, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in classical archaeology in 1995. He also was a five-time Collegiate All-American in cross-country and track and field and a 10-time All-SEC

runner in cross-country and track and field.

From there he had participated in many races over the years from 1996 through now. He has had personal bests in the 5000-meter (13:48), 10,000 meter (28:34) and the marathon (2:20). He even was the third best American to finish the 2002 New York City Marathon. That brings Michael to today.

He will be inducted into the Bound Brook High School Hall of Fame Sunday, and says he regularly makes the trip from his current residence in Ramsey, New Jersey to Bound Brook.

"I enjoy training in Bound Brook," said Mykytok. "There seems to be more for me to do there."

So keep an eye out for Mykytok in the borough, you never know when you might see him run by.

shake a paw™ Your Best Choice for a Healthy, Happy Puppy™

NEW JERSEY'S PUPPY SUPERSTORE
Come Visit Our Beautiful
4000 Sq. Ft. Puppy Show Room
With Over 100 Puppies Out In The Open To Hug & Cuddle

Looking For The Perfect Gift? We Carry: • Harnesses • Sweaters • Designer Carry Bags • Colorful Dog Beds • Wide Assortment of Leashes & Collars • Dog Shampoos • Grooming Supplies • Over 700 Dog Books ...And Much More!

Recommended by local Veterinarians We can special order any puppy Open Cages insure a happy social puppy Owner operated since 1992

ALLERGIES? Ask About Our Non-Shedding & Hypo-Allergenic Breeds

ANY PUPPY \$25 PER MONTH INSTANT 100% FINANCING

ORDER YOUR HOLIDAY PUPPY TODAY!

Call For Our Weekly Specials (732) 968-2522

100% Financing Available Mon. - Sat. 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Visit our website at www.shakeapaw.net for Current Breeds and Discount Coupons

THERE IS NO OFF SEASON @ ZONED Sports Academy

PRIVATE LESSONS - PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL & SOFTBALL INSTRUCTION
Private lessons are offered year-round. Instruction is in a one-on-one setting and several lesson packages are available in the following areas:
• Pitching • Hitting • Fast Pitch Softball • Catching • Fielding • College Recruitment

ProBatter™
The Ultimate Training Tool for Hitters
• HIT OFF OF "THE BEST PITCHER IN THE STATE"
• PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE
• INCREDIBLE ACCURACY
• AMAZING REALISM
• STATE OF THE ART TECHNOLOGY

28,000 SQUARE FOOT FACILITY

ZONED IN: ONLY MINUTES FROM ROUTE 22

"Where an athlete has to be to succeed"

For information call: 732-537-1770

24 E Kearney St. • Bridgewater, NJ (off Chimney Rock Road)
visit us online at: www.zonedinc.com

31 Edison students named AP Scholars

EDISON — Thirty one students in Edison High School earned the designation of AP Scholar by the College Boards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college level Advanced Placement Program Exams.

The College Board's Advanced Placement Program offers students the opportunity to take challenging college level courses while still in high school, and to receive college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the exams. Almost 15 percent of the more than one million high school students in more than 14,000 secondary schools worldwide who took AP exams performed at a sufficiently high level to merit the recognition of AP Scholar.

Students took AP Exams in May 2003 after completing challenging college level courses at their high schools. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on the number of year-long courses and exams (or their equivalent semester long courses and exams).

At Edison High School, 10

students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. These students are Cecilia Arias, Chinmoy Bhate, Nirupa Chandrasekaran, Farid Waqas, Nathanael Kuo, Yulia Mostovoy, Senthil Mudaliar, Miksha Patel, Jian Zeng, and Lingkai Zeng.

In addition, there were four students who qualified for the AP Scholarship with Honor Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. These students are: Sameer Ahmed, Erin Crupi, Sita Kulkarni, and Juan Mantilla.

There were 17 students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Exams, with grades of 3 or higher. The AP Scholars are: Sumaira Aslam, Jonathan DuBois, Samir Jani, Neal Jordan, Dimitri Kashtanov, Anuja Khunti, Boris Kocherov, Liangxiao Lu, Caitlin McGrory, Shazia

Memom, Parshant Mittal, Rajan Patel, Roshnee Patel, Christina Recine, Xiaolei Shi, Acacia Stevens, and Sabrina Stevens.

Of this year's award recipients, four were juniors: Lingxiao Lu, Shazia Memom, Parshant Mittal, and Senthil Mudaliar. These students have at least one more year in which to complete college level work and possibly earn another AP Scholar Award.

Most of the nation's colleges and universities award credit, advanced placement, or both based on successful performance on the AP Exams. More than 1,400 institutions award a full year's credit (sophomore standing) to students presenting a sufficient number of qualifying grades. Thirty four AP Exams are offered in a wide variety of subject areas, each consisting of multiple choice and free response (Essay or problem solving) questions (except for the Studio Art Exam which evaluates students' original work).

The College Board is a national nonprofit membership association whose mission is to prepare, inspire, and connect students to college and opportunity. Founded in 1900, the association is composed of more than 4,300 schools, colleges, universities, and other educational organizations. Each year, the College Board serves over three million students and their parents, 23,000 high schools, and 3,500 colleges through major programs and services in college admission, guidance, assessment, financial aid, enrollment, and teaching and learning. Among its best known programs are the SAT, the PSAT/NMSQT, and the Advanced Placement Program (AP). The College Board is committed to the principles of equity and excellence, and that commitment is embodied in all of its programs, services, activities, and concerns.

Freedom Fund Dinner planned for December

EDISON — The Metuchen-Edison Area Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will celebrate its 28th annual Freedom Fund Dinner on Saturday, Dec. 6 at the Crossroads Theatre, 7 Livingston Street, New Brunswick. This will be a black tie affair with a cocktail hour that will begin at 5 p.m. with dinner served at 6 p.m. The evening will include a one-woman musical entitled "Late Great Ladies of Blues and Jazz" featuring Sandra Reaves-Phillips, which will begin at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$75 each. A live jazz band will host the cocktail hour and a DJ will be on hand after the play. This promises to be a great evening of entertainment.

The national theme this year is "NAACP: Having Our

Say". The Freedom Fund Banquet is our major fundraising event for the year. This annual event is to honor individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the community as well as raise money for our scholarship fund. The participation of all our supporters as well as sister branches is crucial to our success.

Seating is limited; therefore, tickets are on a first come first served basis. Remember the ticket price includes a cocktail hour, dinner, and a play. This is a great way to start the holiday season.

If you have any questions contact Darcel Lowery, Co-Chair Freedom Fund Dinner, (732) 690-3893 or Christine James, Co-Chair Freedom Fund Dinner (732) 424-1531.

Fax us your news!
(908) 575-6683

NJ ARCH
The one-stop resource for those touched by adoption.
Contact the Warm Line
call: 877.4.ARCHNJ or 877.427.2465
e-mail: warmline@njarch.org
NEW JERSEY ADOPTION RESOURCE CLEARING HOUSE
www.njarch.org
CHILDREN'S AID AND FAMILY SERVICES, INC.
www.aidnj.org

ROOFING
Cape Cod \$2,500 \$100 Off
Bi-Level \$2,700 Any Roofing Job
Split Level \$2,900
Price includes: removal of two layers of old shingles, dumpsters, complete clean up, 25 yr. shingles and all paper and permits.
CARLSON BROS. 908-272-1266

HOME IMPROVEMENT

One Call Puts You In Touch With These Hometown Weekly Newspapers
The Reporter • Somerset Messenger-Gazette • The Chronicle

To Place Your Ad Call **CHRISTINE 1-800-981-5640**

Deadline Noon Wednesday Prior To Publication

<p>WILLIAMS AC & HEATING, LLC RESIDENTIAL SPECIALIST INSTALLATION & REPAIRS 24HR SERVICE SR.CITZ. DISC QUALITY WORK • FREE EST. TOLL FREE 866-572-0544</p>	<p>Advanced Carpentry Services, LLC Alterations • Attics • Bas'mts Custom Decks / Restorations Int./Ext Doors • Garages Kitchens • Baths • Replacement Windows 732-424-8200 • 800-710-1151</p>	<p>AFFORDABLE CARTAGE Clean Ups • Real Estate 10/30 Yard Containers Residential • Commercial • Industrial Full Service Demolition 1-800-495-8081</p>	<p>SPARKLE Hardwood Floor Specialists Installed • Refinished • Sanded Carpet, Upholstery & On Site Drapery Care Oriental & Area Rugs Cleaned & Restored 800-307-4494 • 908-464-2653</p>	<p>QUALITY REMODELING ALL HOME REPAIRS SPECIALIZING IN: KITCHENS • BATHROOMS • BASEMENTS CARPENTRY • SHEETROCKING SPACKLING • PAINTING • TILE WORK WINDOWS • DOORS RUBBISH REMOVAL FREE EST. • OVER 20 YRS. EXP. • FULLY INS. NO JOB TO BIG OR SMALL 908-575-2188</p>	<p>Abel's PAINTING QUALITY WORK AFFORDABLE PRICES INTERIOR - EXTERIOR POWERWASHING • HOME REPAIRS FREE EST. • WINDOW REPLACEMENTS • FULLY INS. 908-369-3575</p>
<p>VP WOODWORKING INC. "SPECIALIZING IN EUROPEAN & ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN" • KITCHENS • BATHROOMS • DORMERS • DECKS • BSMTS • PORCHES • PAINTING • GRANITE • MARBLE • CORIAN • RENOVATIONS • ADDITIONS Free Est. • Fully Insured 908-289-0991</p>	<p>CARPET REPAIRS Restretch • Seams • Burns SHOW ROOM AVAILABLE FOR NEW CARPET NO JOB TOO SMALL FREE ESTIMATES 732-748-0880</p>	<p>TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN HOME IMPROVEMENT CALL CHRISTINE AT 1-800-981-5640</p>	<p>FURNITURE MEDIC PRECISION REPAIRS ON-SITE Scratches • Gouges • Water Marks Structural Repairs • Kitchen Cabinets Restorations • Refinishing 908-755-8440</p>	<p>ROBERT BIZZARRO PAINTING Professional Work • Interior / Exterior Wallpaper • Spackling • Decks 20 Years Experience 732-968-9047</p>	<p>TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS CALL CHRISTINE 1-800-981-5640</p>
<p>Savaryn Construction Additions • Alterations • Repairs 732-271-0043 Free Consultation Fully Insured Senior Discount</p>	<p>ROTTEN JOB CARPENTRY Structural Damage Specialist Insect Rot Settling Sagging & Failed Structural Members - Mudsills Studs Beams Etc. Window & Doors • Sill & Trim Removed/Replaced Homes, Garages, Porches Plumbed & Leveled Prompt Service On Home Inspection Corrections Call Jacking Gene - 908-810-5228 For Your Sills & Beams - 908-233-4080</p>	<p>EP&L Power & Lighting Fully Insured Serving Your Area For Over 10 Years Professional Quality Work • Owner Operated Electrical Construction & Maintenance Service Calls • 24/7 Network A Telephone Cabling 908-901-0500 Nick Vespa Electrical Contractor Licenses # 112027</p>	<p>GENERAL CONTRACTING ANDREW SADIN'S HOME IMPROVEMENTS Kitchens • Bathrooms • Decks Additions • Finished Basements Painting • Handyman Repairs Estate Clean-Ups Home Inspection Repairs "No Job To Big Or Small" Free Est. Fully Ins. 908-685-8558</p>	<p>KITCHEN CABINETS Quality Wood is Worth Restoring We specialize in: Stripping & Refinishing Existing Kitchen Cabinets To Look Like New WOODSHOP REFINISHERS 800-894-0242</p>	<p>TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS CALL CHRISTINE 1-800-981-5640</p>
<p>TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS CALL CHRISTINE 1-800-981-5640</p>	<p>CLEANUP SERVICES AL CLEAN UP Yards • Cellars • Garages • Etc. Estate Clean Outs "We Are The Cheapest" 10% Off w/Ad 732-257-7197 • 800-888-0929</p>	<p>ELECTRIC Destiny Electric, Inc. 732-563-4734 Fully Bonded & Insured • Over 10 Yrs. Exp. Evenings & Weekends Available Resid / Comm. • Industrial No Job Too Small • FREE Estimates NJ License / Business Permit No. 14799</p>	<p>GUTTERS NED STEVENS GUTTER CLEANING & INSTALLATION 800-542-0267 \$35-\$75 Average House Next Day Service in Most Cases Fully Ins. - 7 Days</p>	<p>LANDSCAPING SNOW PLOWING THINK AHEAD SIGN UP NOW!! LAWN MAINTENANCE LANDSCAPE DESIGN / INSTALLATION • DECKS • PAVERS • WALLS • FENCING RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL FGM SERVICES, INC. 732-828-7440</p>	<p>PLUMBING Ozeransky Plumbing No Job To Big or Small Excellent Service Free Est. Fully Ins. Lic # 10118 Call John • 908-704-8150</p>
<p>AMERICAN HOME REMODELING 100% FINANCING Interior/Exterior Improvements NY/NJ Licensed & Insured Vinyl Siding • Roofing Kitchens • Bathrooms Windows • Masonry 800-941-5541 • Fax: 973-374-9446 E-mail: AmericanHome1@aol.com Web: www.Improvetoday.com</p>	<p>TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS CALL CHRISTINE 1-800-981-5640</p>	<p>EXCAVATING Vince DeFilippis Excavating and Landscape Contractor Quality Top Soil & Mulch Delivered Loader • Backhoe • Bulldozer Service Free Est. Fully Ins. 732-469-1270</p>	<p>TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS CALL CHRISTINE 1-800-981-5640</p>	<p>LANDSCAPING POLTORAK EXCAVATING, INC. OUTDOOR SERVICES Backhoe • Dozer • Landscaping Lawn Maintenance • Retaining Walls 732-968-6795</p>	<p>ROOFING WE STOP LEAKS CLARK BUILDERS, Inc. 33 Yrs Experience Complete Roof Stripping Specialists & All Repairs Siding • Windows Fully Insured-Free Estimates 800-794-5325 www.clarkbuildersinc.com</p>
<p>BUILDING • REMODELING DECKS UNLIMITED We build all sizes and shapes 10 year guarantee All our wolmanized & cedar lumber guaranteed Free Estimates - Fully Guaranteed 908-707-4447</p>	<p>CLEAN-UP SERVICE ALL ITEMS REMOVED *** ALSO LIGHT MOVING *** FURNITURE • APPLIANCES • ETC. (908)769-8524 10% OFF With This Ad</p>	<p>TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS CALL CHRISTINE 1-800-981-5640</p>	<p>HOME IMPROVEMENT PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT IN NATURAL STONE Restoration ~ Polishing ~ Sealants All Natural Stone Surfaces MARBLE ~ LIMESTONE TRAVERTINE ~ GRANITE CONCRETE PAVERS Toll Free 1-888-691-1500 MARBLELIFE OF NJ</p>	<p>OIL TANKS PRO TANK OIL TANK SERVICES REMOVED • FILLED • INSTALLED NJ APPROVED • 16 YRS EXPERIENCE 908-851-0057 www.protankservices.com</p>	<p>TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS CALL CHRISTINE 1-800-981-5640</p>
<p>CLEAN-UP SERVICE DANCE Demolition & Clean-Up "We Clean-Up - Not Your Pockets" All Types of Debris Removed Attics • Basements • Garages Demolition-All Phases of Interior • Exterior Bathroom • Kitchen Specialists 908-759-1463</p>	<p>PAINTING J&B HOME IMPROVEMENT,LLC "WHEN QUALITY COUNTS" SPECIALIZING IN: Interior • Exterior Painting Powerwashing Free Est. 732-469-7097 Fully Ins.</p>	<p>TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS CALL CHRISTINE 1-800-981-5640</p>	<p>TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS CALL CHRISTINE 1-800-981-5640</p>	<p>PAINTING J&B HOME IMPROVEMENT,LLC "WHEN QUALITY COUNTS" SPECIALIZING IN: Interior • Exterior Painting Powerwashing Free Est. 732-469-7097 Fully Ins.</p>	<p>SHEETROCK DELNEGRO DRYWALL Sheetrock • Spackling Quality Work • Dependable Free Est. Fully Ins. "Over 20 Yrs Experience" 732-424-1143</p>

BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK

ORDINANCE NO. 03-21

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Bound Brook...

BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK

ORDINANCE 03-21

FAIR HOUSING ORDINANCE
A. This section of the Bound Brook Code sets forth regulations regarding low and moderate income housing units in Bound Brook...

BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK

ORDINANCE NO. 03-18

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a meeting of the Borough Council of the Borough of Bound Brook...

BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK

ORDINANCE NO. 03-20

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 4 OF CHAPTER 18 OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK...

of Somerset, for the calendar year 2002. This report of audit, submitted by Supple, Clooney & Company, Registered Municipal Accountants and Certified Public Accountants, is on file at the Borough Clerk's office and may be inspected by any interested person.

NOTICE TO THE UNDESIGNED shall be posted for sale, in accordance with R.S. 90A:10-1, at public auction on: Nov. 26, 2003 at 10 AM at 2480 Plainfield Ave. South Plainfield, New Jersey...

Table with columns: YEAR, MAKE, VIN, STATUS, DESC. Lists vehicle information including year, make, VIN, status, and description.

unexpired term. Provided, however, the term of the initial appointment of the office of Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall be from the date of appointment through December 31, 2004.

111.3 Notice of hearing. The Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall conduct a hearing upon notice to all interested parties within 20 days of the filing of an appeal...

111.4.1 The Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall promulgate and make available to the public procedures under which a hearing will be conducted. The procedures shall not require compliance with strict rules of evidence...

111.6.2 Administration. The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer.

111.6.3 Records and copies. The decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall be recorded. A copy shall be furnished to the appellant and to the code official.

111.6.4 Administration. The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer.

111.6.5 Records and copies. The decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall be recorded. A copy shall be furnished to the appellant and to the code official.

111.6.6 Administration. The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer.

111.6.7 Records and copies. The decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall be recorded. A copy shall be furnished to the appellant and to the code official.

111.6.8 Administration. The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer.

111.6.9 Records and copies. The decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall be recorded. A copy shall be furnished to the appellant and to the code official.

111.6.10 Administration. The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer.

111.6.11 Records and copies. The decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall be recorded. A copy shall be furnished to the appellant and to the code official.

111.6.12 Administration. The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer.

111.6.13 Records and copies. The decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall be recorded. A copy shall be furnished to the appellant and to the code official.

111.6.14 Administration. The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer.

regard to working jobs safety. No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of sixty (60) days after the date set for the opening thereof.

NOTICE OF ABSENT DEFENDANTS
DELL WHITE, HIS HEIRS, DEVISEES AND PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND HIS SUCCESSORS IN RIGHT OR ANY OF THEIR SUCCESSORS IN RIGHT, TITLE AND INTEREST...

111.6.15 Administration. The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer.

111.6.16 Records and copies. The decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall be recorded. A copy shall be furnished to the appellant and to the code official.

111.6.17 Administration. The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer.

111.6.18 Records and copies. The decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall be recorded. A copy shall be furnished to the appellant and to the code official.

111.6.19 Administration. The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer.

111.6.20 Records and copies. The decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall be recorded. A copy shall be furnished to the appellant and to the code official.

111.6.21 Administration. The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer.

111.6.22 Records and copies. The decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall be recorded. A copy shall be furnished to the appellant and to the code official.

111.6.23 Administration. The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer.

111.6.24 Records and copies. The decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall be recorded. A copy shall be furnished to the appellant and to the code official.

111.6.25 Administration. The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer.

111.6.26 Records and copies. The decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall be recorded. A copy shall be furnished to the appellant and to the code official.

111.6.27 Administration. The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer.

111.6.28 Records and copies. The decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall be recorded. A copy shall be furnished to the appellant and to the code official.

111.6.29 Administration. The code official shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer.

111.6.30 Records and copies. The decision of the Property Maintenance Hearing Officer shall be recorded. A copy shall be furnished to the appellant and to the code official.

SUMMARY OR SYNOPSIS OF 2002 AUDIT REPORT OF BOROUGH OF BOUND BROOK AS REQUIRED BY N.J.S. 40A:5-7

Table with columns: ASSETS, DECEMBER 31, 2002, DECEMBER 31, 2001. Lists assets including cash and investments, taxes, etc.

COMBINED COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEETS

Table with columns: LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND FUND BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 2002, DECEMBER 31, 2001. Lists liabilities and fund balances.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE - CURRENT FUND

Table with columns: REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME REALIZED, EXPENDITURES, STATUTORY EXCESS TO FUND BALANCE, FUND BALANCE, JANUARY 1, LESS: UTILIZATION AS ANTICIPATED REVENUE, FUND BALANCE, DECEMBER 31.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- That a complete record of general fund assets be maintained.
That all non-cash transactions and adjustments be recorded in the current fund general ledger.
That the Current Fund bank account be reconciled on a monthly basis.

NOTICE TO CITIZENS BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received by the Borough of Bound Brook for the 'Columbus Park Improvements - Phase 1' and publicly opened and read aloud at the Dunellen Borough Hall at 355 North Dunellen Avenue, Dunellen, New Jersey, on Friday, December 8, 2003 at 11:00 AM prevailing time.

This week

Saturday, Nov. 22
DUNELLEN - Blood Drive at Knights of Columbus, South Ave., 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Donor requirements: (800) 933-BLOOD.
EDISON - "Inspecting Carol," fall comedy of

Middlesex County College, 2600 Woodbridge Ave., 8 p.m. Nov. 22, 2 p.m. Nov. 23. Adults \$10; students, seniors \$7. Tickets: (732) 906-2589.
PISCATAWAY - Mini Book Sale at Kennedy Library, 500 Hoes Lane, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Nov. 22, 1-4 p.m. Nov. 23. (732) 463-1633, Ext. 4.
PISCATAWAY - Holiday Festival of North Stelton A.M.E. Church, 123 Craig Ave., noon-5 p.m. Nov. 22, 1-5 p.m. Nov. 23. (732) 287-5184.

Sunday, Nov. 23
DUNELLEN - Widows and Widowers dance at Polish

Falcons hall, 745 Bound Brook Rd., 7 p.m. (732) 985-5439.

EDISON - Evening of Giving, shopping event benefiting local charity. Menlo Park Mall, 6:30 p.m. \$8. (732) 494-MALL.

PISCATAWAY - Organ Recital with Mark Andrew Miller. Christ United Methodist Church, 485 Hoes Lane, 4

p.m. Donation. (732) 463-1517.

Monday, Nov. 24
PISCATAWAY - Blood Drive at Municipal Complex, 455 Hoes Lane, 3-8 p.m. Donor requirements: (800) 933-BLOOD.

Tuesday, Nov. 25
EDISON - Job Seekers Club for people looking for a job.

Jewish Family and Vocational Service, 515 Plainfield Ave., 9:30 a.m. \$20. Registration: (732) 777-1940.

Wednesday, Nov. 26
BOUND BROOK - Blood Drive at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 214 Church St., 3-7:30 p.m. Donor requirements: (800) BLOOD NJ.

Friday, Nov. 28
MIDDLESEX - Reunion for Middlesex High School Class of 1983. Elks lodge, 545 Bound Brook Rd., 7 p.m. (609) 915-1925.

Sunday, Nov. 30
METUCHEN - Straws, 70's progressive-rock band. Borough Improvement League, 491 Middlesex Ave., 7 p.m. \$75. Tickets: www.progradio.net/njproghouse or (732) 463-8363.

In The Future
BOUND BROOK - "An Evening with Santa," Holy Family Academy, 120 E. Second St., 6 p.m. Dec. 12. Children \$5 in advance, \$7 at door; adults, under 2 free. (732) 356-1151.

DUNELLEN - Greeting Cards signed by Mary Zink. Dunellen Public Library, New Market Rd., noon-3 p.m. Dec. 6. \$5/card. (732) 968-4585.

DUNELLEN - Holiday Party for Friends of the Dunellen Public Library, New Market Rd., 6:30 p.m. Dec. 8. (732) 968-4585.

METUCHEN - Funding Workshop for making churches accessible to the disabled. Temple Neve Shalom, 250 Grove Ave., 10 a.m. Dec. 1. Free. Registration required: (732) 777-1940, Ext. 141.

METUCHEN - Monthly Meeting of Metuchen-Edison Woman's Club. St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Route 27, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 3. (732) 548-0925.

METUCHEN - Christmas Show at Radio City Music Hall. Bus leaves Borough Hall, 212 Durham Ave., 2:30 p.m. Dec. 10. \$72. Reservations: (732) 632-8502.

MIDDLESEX - Christmas Party for Altar Rosary Society of Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church. Russo's Continental Restaurant, 266 W. Union Ave., Bound Brook, 6:30 p.m. Dec. 3. (732) 356-8717.

MIDDLESEX - Holiday Concert of Middlesex Public Library, 1300 Mountain Ave., 3 p.m. Dec. 7. (732) 356-6602.

NEW BRUNSWICK - Freedom Fund Dinner, 28th annual event of Metuchen-Edison Area Branch, NAACP. Crossroads Theatre, 7 Livingston Ave., Dec. 6. \$75; no tickets sold at the door. (732) 424-1531 or (732) 690-3893.

Free Checking. Perfected.

My first check order was free. Really free.



Unlimited perfection!

Unlimited checking with no minimum balance. No monthly service charge for 1st year. Still free after 1 year by maintaining a \$99 minimum daily balance.

...with perfectly free stuff!!

Free Valley Check Card™...free first order of checks... free on-line banking and bill payment.

Now's the perfect time to sign up!!

Although this offer is for new account holders only, we have similar great options for our current customers. Call 1-800-522-4100 to get started...or stop in one of Valley's 129 offices.

Valley National Bank

www.valleynationalbank.com 1-800-522-4100



Don't forget to ask about Valley's Kids First Savings Club™

Martin's Furniture

"Quality Furniture at Reasonable Prices"

LARGEST DISPLAY OF FINE FURNITURE IN THE AREA!

OVER 60 BEDROOMS ON DISPLAY



7 Pc. Traditional Bedroom Set in cherry, 8 drawer triple dresser, tri-view mirror, Hi-Boy chest, Queen size carved headboard and foot board w/wood side rails and 2 night stands.
 Reg. \$4359⁰⁰ Sale \$3269⁰⁰ WOW \$2899⁰⁰



90" Sofa, choice of materials w/2 throw pillows. Matching Love Seat. Chair.
 Reg. \$799⁰⁰ Reg. \$699⁰⁰ Reg. \$519⁰⁰
 Sale \$599⁰⁰ Sale \$529⁰⁰ Sale \$379⁰⁰
 WOW \$399⁰⁰ WOW \$379⁰⁰ WOW \$259⁰⁰

OVER 30 MASTER DINING ROOMS ON DISPLAY



Grand Renaissance. A 9 pc. formal mahogany dining room, 76" mirror back hutch w/3 glass shelves, 76" buffet w/wine drawers and carved base feet, pedestal table extends to 108", 4 queen ann side chairs and 2 arm chairs.
 Reg. \$8249⁰⁰ Sale \$6195⁰⁰ WOW \$5499⁰⁰



Avignon. A transitional Louis Phillip 9 pc. dining room in cherry, 65" mirror back hutch, 63" buffet, double pedestal table extends to 98", 4 side chairs and 2 arm chairs.
 Reg. \$5449⁰⁰ Sale \$4089⁰⁰ WOW \$3599⁰⁰

OVER 100 LIVING ROOMS ON DISPLAY



350 Rt. 22 West, Green Brook, NJ
732-356-8388

Mon.-Fri. 10-9 ♦ Sat. 10-6 ♦ Sun. 12-5

432 Rt. 31 North, Washington, NJ
908-537-0075

1 Year Financing to Qualified Buyers



Aqua Pearl Day Spa opens in Metuchen

METUCHEN — Aqua Pearl Day Spa celebrated its opening Oct. 25 with an official ribbon-cutting ceremony performed by Mayor Edmund O'Brien and representatives of the Metuchen Area Chamber of Commerce.

Owners Teresa Ferreira and her husband Nelson Andrade invite you to join them at 54 Pearl Street in beautiful downtown Metuchen. Enter their doors and leave the stress behind. Unwind to the gentle sounds of music and the pleasant aromas of essential oils. The owners of Aqua Pearl Day Spa have created a world that takes you far away from the stress of your daily lives and transports you to a state of physical relaxation and emotional comfort.

Clients can choose from a wide range of massages and body wraps delivered by a highly-trained staff eager to provide you with attentive service, timely information and ingredients of the very highest quality.

Their approach is to use methods of detoxification to cleanse and nourish the skin while pampering you with the purest ingredients on earth.

Come to Aqua Pearl Day Spa and start your experience by relaxing with a soothing cup of tea while you wait for your therapist who will lead you into a private room for a pampering massage or body treatment.

For more information, call Ferreira at (732) 516-1720.