

Welcome to the ...

2022 Better

Newspaper Contest

Awards Presentation

Forsgate Country Club, Monroe – April 27, 2023

Thank You for Being Here!

**We Have Prizes to Give Away! Make Sure
You Have Your RED Ticket Ready!**

**Now Let's begin with the Advertising
Awards!**

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

**It's Now Time to Honor the
2023 Bernard Kilgore
Memorial Scholarship Winner!**

Congratulations to ...

Henry Frieman
Communications
High School



**PRIZE
TIME!!**

2022 NJPA Advertising Contest

.....
#NJPAAdAwards
.....



Special Thanks again to our Sponsors

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METRO®





Best Real Estate Ad

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Real Estate Ad

Third Place

The SandPaper

Beach House Realty

Nina Schulze, Graphic Designer, Chris seiz,
Sales Representative

Celebrating Our Success!

Congratulations Dayna Restaino,
Gold Level 2021 New Jersey Realtors®
Circle of Excellence Sales Award

BEACH HOUSE REALTY

NEW JERSEY REALTORS
Circle of Excellence Sales Award

Dayna Restaino
Office: (907) 494-2800
Cell: (977) 361-8121
Email: DR.Restaino@gmail.com
RealEstateWithRestaino.com

LONG BEACH TWP | \$3,400,000

BEACH HAVEN WEST | \$950,000

LONG BEACH TWP | \$2,550,000

256 W. 9th St. Unit A
Ship Bottom, NJ 08008

609.494.2800

www.BeachHouseRealtyLLC.com
BeachHouseRealtyLLC



Best Real Estate Ad

Second Place

The SandPaper

Mancini Realty Co.

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer, Chris
seiz, Sales Representative

MANCINI REALTY CO.

LBI REAL ESTATE & NEW CONSTRUCTION
ManciniRealty.com

NEW LISTING

JUST LISTED - NEW LAGOONFRONT CONSTRUCTION
19 W DUNE LANE, THE DUNES, LONG BEACH TOWNSHIP
5 BEDROOMS • 5 BATHS • OVER 3200 SQ. FT. • 60' NEW BULKHEAD • POOL • ELEVATOR • \$3,799,000

Call Joe Mancini

13515 Long Beach Blvd., Beach Haven Gardens, NJ 08008
CALL US TODAY 609-492-2256



As We Enjoy Memorial Day, Remember to Honor Our Fallen

*In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

In Flanders Fields by John McCrae



Trish O'Donnell
609-204-7485
trishodonnell@kw.com



Pamela Ciervo
856-2200, ext. 19



Tom Sadler
of the Sotheby's Real Estate Group
609-417-6620
tom.sadler@sothebyrealty.com



Robert Kaslowski
856-2200, ext. 23
robk@kw.com



Andrea Bille
609-695-1979
abille@kw.com



COMING SOON!

Oklahe- Adorable 3 bedroom Colonial headed with ornate on a nice lot & great street in Oklahe. Home has been well kept by the same owner for over 10 years. Full floor has a pretty enormous original stained glass transoms windows, spacious living room, dining room & kitchen. The 2nd floor has a large foyer, 3 bedrooms & a full bathroom. Beautiful backyard w/ mature plantings. Detached garage. \$249,900.

Haddon Top - Emerald Hills gem! This house has it all. Foyer, spacious light filled & beautifully remodeled kitchen with granite bar, generously sized dt, huge covered deck, family room, laundry room & full bath. Full finished basement big enough for TV, couch, pool table, shuffleboard & bar! Upstairs are 3 good sized bedrooms & a beautiful new full bathroom. Walk to schools, houses of worship, Cooper River Park, Pleasant Hill & all of the vibrant Haddon Ave. scene! Garage? Yes. Shed? Yes. New roof? Yes. This house is the one! \$400,000.

Barrington - Welcome to your new home in Tavistock Hills, just in time for summer! Turn the key & move right into this lovely home that was completely updated less than 2 years ago. Improvements include complete new kitchen, new bath, upgraded electric, new thermal windows to, new roof, new HVAC system & new & refreshed flooring. A new stackable washer/dryer in the laundry room & plantation shutters to complete the look of this versatile home. This 3+1 home provides plenty of flexible living space. A large fenced yard is perfect for outdoor entertaining! Located on a lovely street in the 08333 zip code. \$360,000.

Mount Ephraim - Don't miss out on this money maker! Clean as a whistle, turn key commercial. Equipment consist of 21 washers, 27 chairs, 3 standard change machines, soda machine, 2 coin vending machines, 3 laundry carts, surveillance system. Parking lot accommodates 17 parking spots. In addition, a portion of the building has a long-term lease which generates additional revenue. The beauty also has an established walk & full basement New roller roof put on in 2020. New central air put in 4 years ago. Sale includes business & building. Net operating income in the \$10000s! This is an opportunity knocking! Located on the court \$744,000.

Barrington - Location! Location! Location! This 5 Br, 2 full bath is located on a quiet beautiful street. L.R. dt & separate kt, 5 main floor & 2 full baths. This is a great home for entertaining indoors & out. 2nd fl has 2 very generously sized bds & plenty of storage. Basement includes a lg laundry area & even more storage along w/ a newly-approved fr. Overhead parking system, paved patio area & above-ground swimming pool completes that picture. Close to many restaurants, shopping options & major roadways. \$310,000.



Rich Kinkler
856-297-0551
richk@kw.com



Silvia Hatzell
609-2200, ext. 15
shatzell@kw.com



Paul Ciervo
856-634-6122
paulciervo@kw.com



Patric Ciervo
856-2200, ext. 12
patric@kw.com



Linda Cristalli
856-2200, ext. 14
lcristalli@kw.com

kw MAIN STREET
KELLERWILLIAMS REALTY

730 HADDON AVENUE
COLLINGSWOOD
856-858-2200

Download Main Street
Keller Williams Realty app
to get FREE accurate and
up-to-date access to all local listings
from your smartphone or tablet.



Best Real Estate Ad

First Place

The Retrospect

*As We Enjoy Memorial Day, Remember
to Honor Our Fallen*

Mark Zeigler, Graphic Artist



Best Auto Ad

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Auto Ad

Third Place

The SandPaper

Holgate Marina

Nina Schulze, Graphic Designer,

Andrea Driscoll Sales Representative

Holgate Marina
FULL SERVICE MARINA
609-492-0191
83 Tebco Terrace • Holgate, NJ

Holgate Marina

We have...

- Kayak and SUP Rentals
- Boat and Jetski Rental
- Bait Shop
- Fishing Charters Available
- Dory Fishing Boats or Takacat Rental with Brand New Motors (\$165 - 4hr Rental)
- 12ft Fishing Boat Rental (\$120 - 4hr Rental)
- Takacat Boats with Boats and Motors in Stock

TAKACAT
AMERICAS

83 Tebco Terrace, Holgate • 609.492.0191 • holgatemarina@gmail.com



Best Auto Ad

Second Place

The SandPaper

Miss Erin Charters

Nina Schulze, Graphic Designer,

Lauren Driscoll, Sales Representative

Miss Erin Charters
Sportfishing

Join Us Aboard Our
26 Ft Center Console

- Sport Fishing
- Family Tours
- Sunset Cruise
- Sandbar Trips
- Crabbing
- Bachelor/ette Parties
- Tubing
- Dock & Dine

Bay/ Ocean Half & Full
Day Customized Trips
Bobber, Trolling, & Light Tackle

Inshore And Back Bay Trips
Miss Erin Has USCG Approved
Safety Equipment, Radar, GPS,
Fish Finder, VHF Radio EPIRB

Can Accommodate 6 Guests

609.276.3374
jbarrebb5733@gmail.com
USCG Licensed:
Captain John Barrebb
Sails Out of Beach Haven West



WELCOME TO SUMMER 2022!

SALES • FULL SERVICE MARINA

MARINA 325 South 1st St., SURF CITY 609-494-2200	SURF CITY MARINA SALES & SERVICE	SHOWROOM 337 West 8th St. (Delaware Coastway) SHIP BOTTOM 609-361-5200
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NOW FEATURING 2 GREAT LOCATIONS • OPEN YEAR ROUND

www.SURFCITYMARINA.com

YAMAHA **SEA-DOO**

facebook icon instagram icon

Best Auto Ad

First Place

The SandPaper

Surf City Marina

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer, Chris seiz, Sales Representative



Best Food/Restaurant/ Entertainment Ad- B&W or Color

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



**NOW OPEN YEAR-ROUND
WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY
FOR DINNER**

HAPPY HOUR DAILY 4:50-6:30

RESERVATIONS & WALK-INS WELCOME!

WEDNESDAY: PASTA NIGHT

**THURSDAY: PIZZA NIGHT
& LIVE MUSIC**

COOKING CLASSES OFFERED WEEKLY!

For Menus, Reservations & Information visit us at
BlackEyedSusansLBI.com
609-494-4990
7908 Long Beach Blvd., Harvey Cedars

**Best Food/ Restaurant/
Entertainment Ad- B&W or
Color**

Third Place

The SandPaper

Black Eyed Susans

Nina Schulze, Graphic Designer, Chris seiz,
Sales Representative



bird & betty's

KICKING OFF SUMMER

OPEN FOR INSIDE & OUTSIDE DINING & LIVE MUSIC ON MAY 5

SOLD OUT
MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH IS A DRAG
Hosted by Queen City
Sunday 4pm

DRINK SPECIALS

Thursday 9pm
\$5 High Noons

Friday 10pm
\$2 Bud Light,
\$2 Bud Light Seltzers
& \$2 Green Teas

Saturday 10pm
\$2 Miller Lites
& \$3 Pink Whitney Shots

Sunday 4pm
\$6 Shipwreckers &
\$6 Fisher Island Lemonades

ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday May 5
On the Deck 5pm
Fourth Son

Friday May 6
On the Deck 7pm
DJ
In the Club 9pm
The Slackers

Saturday May 7
On the Deck 7pm
DJ
In the Club 9pm
80s & 90s Night w/
Weird Science
80s 9pm
90s 10:30pm
Classic Hip Hop w/
DJ Meatball 11:30pm

Sunday May 8
On the Deck 5pm
DJ Moe Green

THE SUMMER YOU'VE REALLY BEEN WAITING FOR

HAPPY HOUR:
THURS & FRI 3-6
\$10 Margherita Pizzas
\$3 Domestic Can
\$5 House Wines
\$5 Well Drinks

HOURS OPEN
Thurs & Fri at 3pm
Sat & Sun at Noon

Bird & Betty's is a throwback to the 80s and 70s on LBI - a casual eatery with artisan pizza, raw bar, night spot, and live music venue.

529 Deck Rd. Beach Haven, NJ 609.492.3000 www.birdandbettys.com

Best Food/ Restaurant/ Entertainment Ad- B&W or Color

Second Place

The SandPaper

Bird & Betty's

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer, Chris
seiz, Sales Representative



MATZOH PIZZA!

Fast, Fresh & Delicious

MASTER PIZZA

In honor of our Jewish friends we will be baking **Our Famous FRESH MATZOH PIZZA**

Pick Up or Delivery **WE DELIVER!**

During the Passover holiday, available in all our locations **TRY ONE WITH ANY OF YOUR FAVORITE TOPPINGS!**

Livingston, Short Hills, West Orange - limited area
Mon. - Thurs. 11 am - 10 pm
Fri. & Sat. 11 am - 11 pm • Sun. 12 - 10 pm

Master Pizza
379 East Northfield Rd., Livingston
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Download our app for promotions, online ordering & loyalty programs

**No coupons or offers accepted for this promotion. For a limited time.*
NOTICE: Not Kosher for Passover

**Best Food/ Restaurant/
Entertainment Ad- B&W or Color**

First Place

The West Essex Tribune

Matzo Pizza!

Karen Trachtenberg, Grisel Cardona, Garry DeYoung

**PRIZE
TIME!!**



Best Home & Garden Ad Color or Black & White

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Home & Garden Ad- Color or Black & White

Third Place

The SandPaper

Seascape Home & Garden

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer,
Chris seiz, Sales Representative



TRANSFORM THE FRONT OF YOUR HOUSE
& INSTANTLY INCREASE CURB APPEAL

NO PAYMENTS
UNTIL SPRING OF 2023

SAVE UP TO 20%
ON SELECT PROJECTS

LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT
OPTIONS AVAILABLE*

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SERVING NJ FOR OVER 70 YEARS

OUR SERVICES

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- Stucco Painting & Maintenance
- Vinyl Siding Installation
- Stone Veneer Installation
- Foundation Resurfacing
- Replacement Windows
- Chimney Resurfacing & Repair
- Siding Resurfacing & Repair
- Roof Replacement
- EIFS Installation & Repair
- EIFS Painting & Maintenance

70 Years
Call 908-356-4433 for a FREE CONSULTATION
www.brickface.com

Best Home & Garden Ad-Color or Black & White

Second Place

The Star-Ledger

Transform the front of your house

Alaa Selim, Senior Creative Consultant,
Joseph Miles, Account Executive,
NJ Advance Media



Between the Sheets
the SheetsTM
DESIGN YOUR HOME IN STYLE

LBI'S PREMIER INTERIOR DESIGN DESTINATION FOR 30 YEARS

Interior Design • Home Furnishings • Luxury Linens
Lighting • Window Treatments



We Listen. We Design. You Enjoy.

Open 10am – 5pm
(closed Wednesdays and Sundays)

1012 Central Ave, Ship Bottom | 609.361.9297
betweenthesheetsnj.com | info@betweenthesheetsnj.com

Best Home & Garden Ad- Color or Black & White

First Place

The SandPaper

*Between The Sheets - Design Your Home
in Style*

Nina Schulze, Graphic Designer,

Andrea Driscoll, Sales Representative



Best Fashion & Personal Care Ad - Color or B&W

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Fashion & Personal Care Ad- color or b&w

Third Place

The SandPaper

Sur La Plage

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer
Andrea Driscoll, Sales Representative

Sur La Plage
Since 1986
OPEN DAILY 10AM-10PM
609.492.4440 • surlaplagenj.com
Follow us on Instagram @Surlaplagenj
10TH & BAY AVE, BEACH HAVEN • NEW JERSEY 08008

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BB DAKOTA • ALICE & OLIVIA • A GOLD E • L SPACE • VINEYARD VINES • CLEOBELLA
ACACIA • LOVE SHACK FANCY • MAAJI BECCA • FRANKIE'S • SHOW ME YOU MU MU
LILLY PULITZER • SAIL TO SABLE • MICHAEL STARS • KULANI KINIS • FARM RIO



CELEBRATE WITH US

Coco Kimono
TURNS 2

**SPEND \$50
RECEIVE FREE GIFT**
while supplies last
**SPEND \$100
ENTER TO WIN**
GUCCI

June 25th 10-7pm



HOURS: MON-THURS 10AM-6PM • FRI-SUN 10AM-7PM
609-342-1202 COCO-KIMONO.COM
2017 LONG BEACH BLVD., SURF CITY, NJ 08008

@ f v i

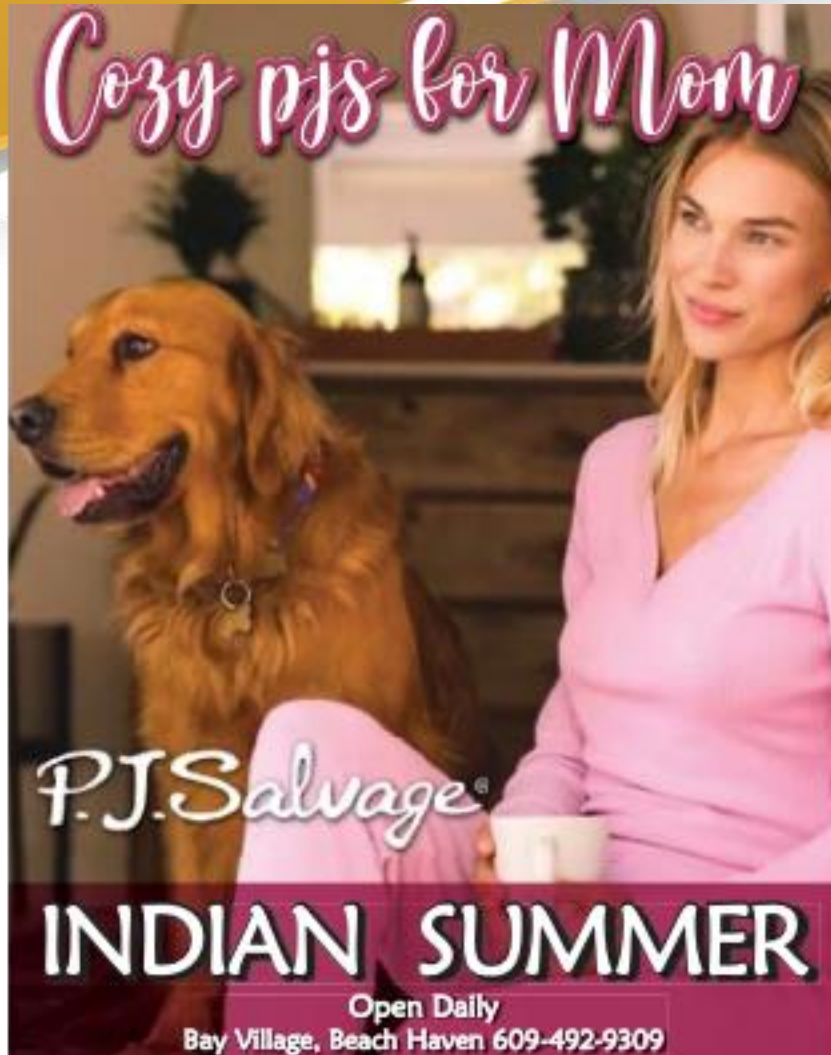
**Best Fashion & Personal
Care Ad- color or b&w**

Second Place

The SandPaper

Coco Kimono

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer,
Chris seiz, Sales Representative



**Best Fashion & Personal
Care Ad- color or b&w**

First Place

The SandPaper

Indian Summer

Nina Schulze, Graphic Designer,

Jeff Linkous, Sales Representative



Best Ad Professional & Technology Services Color or B&W

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Ad Professional & Technology Services-color or b&w

Third Place

The Retrospect

That's Powerful

Mark Zeigler, Graphic Artist
Steve Miller, VP of Sales

That's Powerful.

- **Best deals** on all new Smart Phones, Tablets, Jet Packs & Smart Watches.
- **Verizon FIOS new account set up.**
- **35% off accessories** with activation.
- **Proud to serve our community for 20 years.**

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Call Today 856-546-8080
Pine Plaza, 298 White Horse Pike, Audubon
(next to Cooper Urgent Care)

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Stop In for Our Mothers Day Specials!

Apple iPhone 13



PLANK CITY
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\$5
Online
Barre
Classes!

- Live and on-demand.
- Core, strength and toning.
- No logins, no passwords.
- Just click and start moving.
- Join the party today!



facebook.com/plankcitybarre
Karen Katulka
certified Barre instructor and owner

**Best Ad Professional &
Technology Services-
color or b&w**

Second Place

The Retrospect

\$5 Online Barre Classes

Mark Zeigler, Graphic Artist

VOTE STEVE ESPOSITO

for Stafford Township Council
November 8th • Column B



Proudly Served Our Country
Ready To Serve Stafford

Retired Lieutenant Colonel
28 Years of US Army Service - Bronze Star
Currently serving in The US Coast Guard Auxiliary

Proud Member of
VFW • AMVETS • American Legion
Manahawkin Elks Lodge 2340
Mariners Masonic Lodge 150
Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 149
Allegiance Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club

Endorsed by the
Stafford Conservative Republican Club
Republican County Committee District 10



"I have seen what Mayor Myhre and Council have been able to accomplish. I look forward to working with the team and being a voice for the residents of Stafford."

Paid for by Committee to Elect Steve Esposito, 202 Oak Ave, Suite 5, Toms River, NJ 08790

23 The SandPaper/November/December 2012



**Best Ad Professional &
Technology Services-
color or b&w**

First Place

The SandPaper

Vote Steve Eposito

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer

Chris seiz, Sales Representative

**PRIZE
TIME!!**



Best Ad for Retail Business

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Ad for Retail Business

Third Place

The SandPaper

Acme Beach & Bike

Staff, Graphic Designers

Jeff Linkous, Sales Representative

ACME BEACH & BIKE

BIKES **SUP** **KAYAKS** **CRIBS**

Bike All Day For \$25
Bike All Summer For \$250

New & Used Bike Sale
From \$150

Buy 1 Get 1 Watersports!
Call 84th Street for details

We Rent **Bikes • Cribs • Kayaks • SUPs** **Our 34th Year**
Joggers • Kids Trailers • Surfboards

27th St. Beach Haven 609-492-6522
84th St. Brighton Beach 609-492-5150
Delivery Available
68th St. Bayviewpark.com 609-492-5190



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HOME CENTER
SURF CITY, NJ • (609) 494-2111 • TLCNJ.COM
Everyone needs a little TLC!

HUGE OUTDOOR LIVING
SALE 10-25% OFF
SELECTED ITEMS
See store for details • Greater selection at our Surf City location

GOZNEY® ooni TRAEGER weber



Offering: Pizza Ovens • She-Sheds • Bar-Sheds & Mobile Bars • Makita Outdoor Power Tools
Outdoor Furniture in 22 colors (Made in the USA from HDPE with Stainless Hardware - custom options available)
Chairs, Tables, Loungers, Rockers, Bars, Stools & more • Umbrellas in 100 colors (Made in the USA - custom options available)

SURF CITY STORE
OPEN 7 DAYS M-F 7-4, SAT 7-3, SUN 8-2
609-494-2111 • TLCNJ.com
200 North Long Beach Blvd - Surf City, NJ 08008

TUCKERTON STORE
609-296-1131 • TLCNJ.com
138 Railroad Ave - Tuckerton, NJ 08067

NOW HIRING FOR BOTH LOCATIONS MULTIPLE POSITIONS OPEN, COMPETITIVE PAY! INQUIRE AT EITHER STORE!

Best Ad for Retail Business

Second Place

The SandPaper

Tuckerton Lumber Company

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer

Chris seiz, Sales Representative



Best Ad for Retail Business

First Place

The SandPaper

Surf City 5&10

Nina Schulze, Graphic Designer
Chris seiz, Sales Representative

SURF 5&10 CITY
A Family Tradition

NOW OPEN DAILY

Celebrating 70 Years - Since 1952

- LBI CLOTHING ✓
- BOOKS ✓
- BEACH GEAR ✓
- GAMES • TOYS ✓
- SOUVENIRS ✓
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- PROPANE EXCHANGE ✓

411 N. Long Beach Blvd, Surf City, NJ 08008
609-494-1872 | www.surfcity5and10.com |



Best Use of Color

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Use of Color

Third Place

The SandPaper

LBI Distilling Company

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer
Chris Seiz, Sales Representative





B&B
DEPARTMENT STORES
B&B Welcomes You Back!

Our stores have been cleaned and sanitized, the lighting has been upgraded, the fitting rooms are open, senior day is reinstated, and our return policy is fair, and returns can be refunded to your credit card or receive a store credit. Gift cards never expire and we strive to have a friendly welcoming environment for a positive shopping experience.

SHIP BOTTOM
901 CENTRAL AVE
609.361.0760

BEACH HAVEN
835 N. BAY AVE
609.492.3050

BNBDEPARTMENTSTORE.COM

Best Use of Color

Second Place

The SandPaper

B&B Department Stores

Nina Schulze, Graphic Designer

Andrea Driscoll, Sales Representative



bird & betty's

KICKING OFF SUMMER

OPEN FOR INSIDE & OUTSIDE DINING & LIVE MUSIC

DRINK SPECIALS
Friday 10pm
\$3 Pink Whitney / \$2 Bud
Saturday 10pm
\$3 Green Tea / \$2 Miller
Sunday 4pm
\$6 Frozen Sunday /
\$6 Fisher Island Lemonades

ENTERTAINMENT
Thursday, June 9
On the Deck 5pm
Todd Meredith
In the Club 8-10pm
B-Street Band
Friday, June 10
On the Deck 7pm
DJ AJ Funk
In the Club 8-10pm
DJ Moe Green

LOOKING AHEAD
Friday, June 17
Weird Science
Saturday, June 18
JJ Rupp Band
Friday, June 24
Eleven Eleven
Saturday, June 25
Laura Lee

THE SUMMER YOU'VE REALLY BEEN WAITING FOR

HAPPY HOUR:
MON - FRI 3-6
\$1 Oysters
\$12 Margherita Pizza
\$4 Domestic Cans
\$6 House Wine
\$6 Well Drinks

HOURS OPEN
Mon - Thurs
at 3pm
Fri, Sat & Sun
at Noon
PLEASE CALL TO MAKE RESERVATIONS

Bird & Betty's is a throwback to the 60s and 70s on LI - a casual eatery with artisan pizza, raw bar, night spot, and live music venue.

529 Deck Rd. Beach Haven, NJ 609.492.3000 www.birdandbettys.com

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Bird & Betty's

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer
Chris seiz, Sales Representative

**PRIZE
TIME!!**



Best Use of Humor

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



HAPPY CINCO DE MAYO!

LET'S TACO 'BOUT BUYING OR SELLING YOUR HOME!

40 Years Successfully Selling Real Estate!

If You Want The Best,
Put Me To The Test!

COLDWELL BANKER REALTY

Call: 973-420-0550
Direct office: 973-535-4478
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2 E. Mt. Pleasant Ave. • Livingston, NJ 07033

KAREN TRACHTENBERG
Broker/Owner
4000 Mt. Pleasant Ave. • Livingston, NJ 07033

Best Use Of Humor

Third Place

The West Essex Tribune

Happy Cinco de Mayo!

Jennifer Chciuk, Karen Trachtenberg



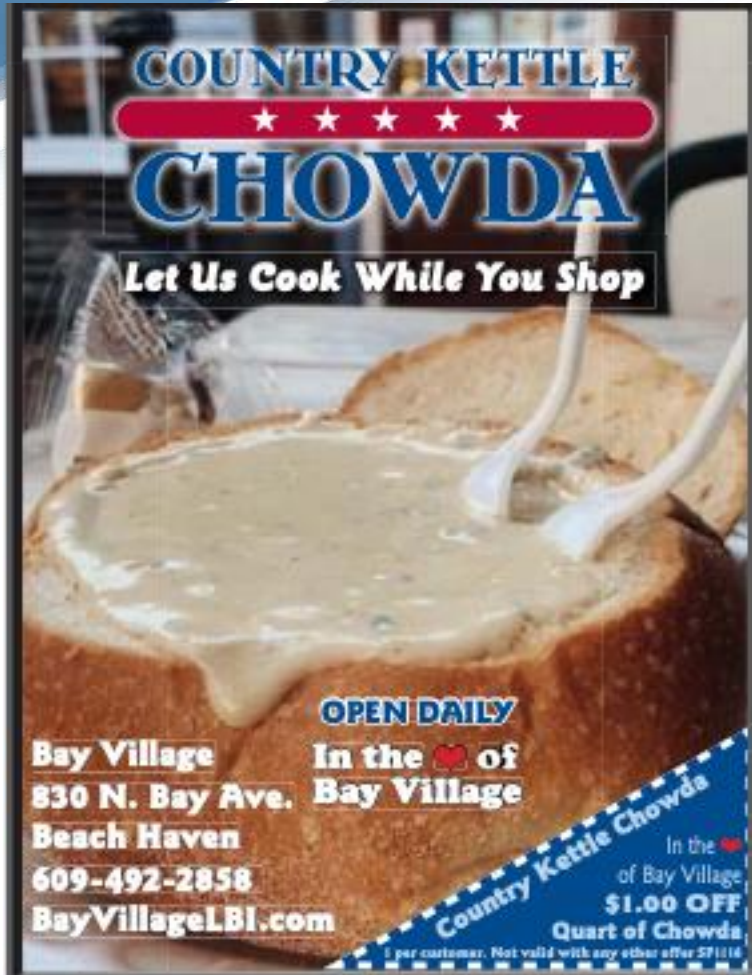
Best Use Of Humor

Second Place

The SandPaper

*Country Kettle Fudge - No Worries
I'll Remember the Fudge*

Jeff Linkous, Sales Representative
Nina Schulze, Graphic Artist



COUNTRY KETTLE

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
CHOWDA

Let Us Cook While You Shop

OPEN DAILY

Bay Village

830 N. Bay Ave.

Beach Haven

609-492-2858

BayVillageLBI.com

In the ♥ of
Bay Village

Country Kettle Chowda
In the ♥
of Bay Village
\$1.00 OFF
Quart of Chowda

1 per customer. Not valid with any other offer. SP1114



Best Use Of Humor

First Place

The SandPaper

The Cheese Shop - It Doesn't Get Chedda' Than This

Chris seiz, Sales Representative
Nina Schulze, Graphic Designer

the Cheese Shoppe™

IT DOESN'T GET CHEDDA' THAN THIS — WE'RE OPEN —

COFFEE • CHOCOLATES • COOKIES
CURED MEATS • OLIVE OILS • VINEGARS
PASTA SAUCES • GOURMET PANTRY ITEMS
...AND LOTS OF CHEESE!

STOP IN & SEE WHAT'S NEW!
facebook.com/TheCheeseShoppe
18th & The Blvd., Surf City

BOOK LAUNCH • HDW
OVER THE BRIDGE
BY DENISE MAUTHE



Best Newspaper Promotion or House Ad

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Newspaper Promotion or House Ad

Third Place

The SandPaper

The SandPaper - We've Got You Covered

Staff, Graphic Designers



FREE WEBINAR
**GUIDE TO
MEDICARE**

WED, OCTOBER 26
1-2 PM

EMPOWERU
A PREMIER EMPLOYER BENEFIT SOLUTION

Presented by
Braven
HEALTH

Medicare experts will help prepare you for the Open Enrollment period.

- > What's New in 2023's Open Enrollment Plan
- > The Basics of Open Enrollment
- > Do you Have the Right Plan for Your Needs?

SCAN HERE

REGISTER FOR FREE

VISIT US AT: [HTTPS://EVENTS.NJ.COM/MEDICARE_2023](https://events.nj.com/Medicare_2023)

Best Newspaper Promotion or House Ad

Second Place

The Star-Ledger

EmpowerU Medicare

Robert Morgia, Marketing Strategist
Jacquelyn Gawron, Marketing Manager
NJ Advance Media



Best Newspaper Promotion or House Ad

First Place

The Star-Ledger

Get Matched

Angela Perilla, Creative & Marketing Associate
NJ Advance Media

GET MATCHED TO THE PERFECT JOB

- Great local and regional jobs
- Optimal job match notifications sent directly to you

Visit NJ.com/ Jobs, and click on **Create a Job Seeker Profile**, then get matched to the perfect job today!

nj.com
True Jersey



Best External Promotion Piece or Media Kit

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Everyone Loves Ice Cream

Reach thousands of local and visiting customers who can't wait for their favorite summertime treat *with your ad*

...on The SandPaper Ice Cream pages!

4 Fun Sizes to Choose From

• Banana Split (7.333" x 3")	735.00
• Wide Sundae (4.833" x 3")	485.00
• Tall Sundae (2.333" x 6")	485.00
• Cone (2.333" x 3.5")	285.00

2022 Publication Dates in The SandPaper:
July 13, 20, 27 • August 3, 10

Call To Reserve Your Ad Today!

THE SANDPAPER
1816 L.B. Blvd., Surf City
609-494-5900 • thesandpaper.net

Best External Promotion Piece or Media Kit

Third Place

The SandPaper

Ice Cream Pages 2022

Staff, Graphic Designers

Staff, Sales Representatives



**Your Marketing Partner.
Committed to your success.**

Let's work together.

- Customized Service
- Google Certified Experts
- Transparent Reporting
- Ongoing Optimization

NJ Advance Media champions local business growth. Let us help tell your story.

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jdark@njadvancemedia.com



Best External Promotion Piece or Media Kit

Second Place

The Star-Ledger

Committed to your success

Robert Morgia, Marketing Strategist
Michele Hayes, VP Marketing
NJ Advance Media



Best External Promotion Piece or Media Kit

First Place

The Retrospect

Retrospect Media Kit 2023

Mark Zeigler, Graphic Artist,

Brett Ainsworth, Publisher, Steve Miller
VP of Sales

**PRIZE
TIME!!**



Best Special Section

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Special Section

Third Place

Ocean City Sentinel

Endless Summer

Samuel Hutchins, Graphic Designer



Best Special Section

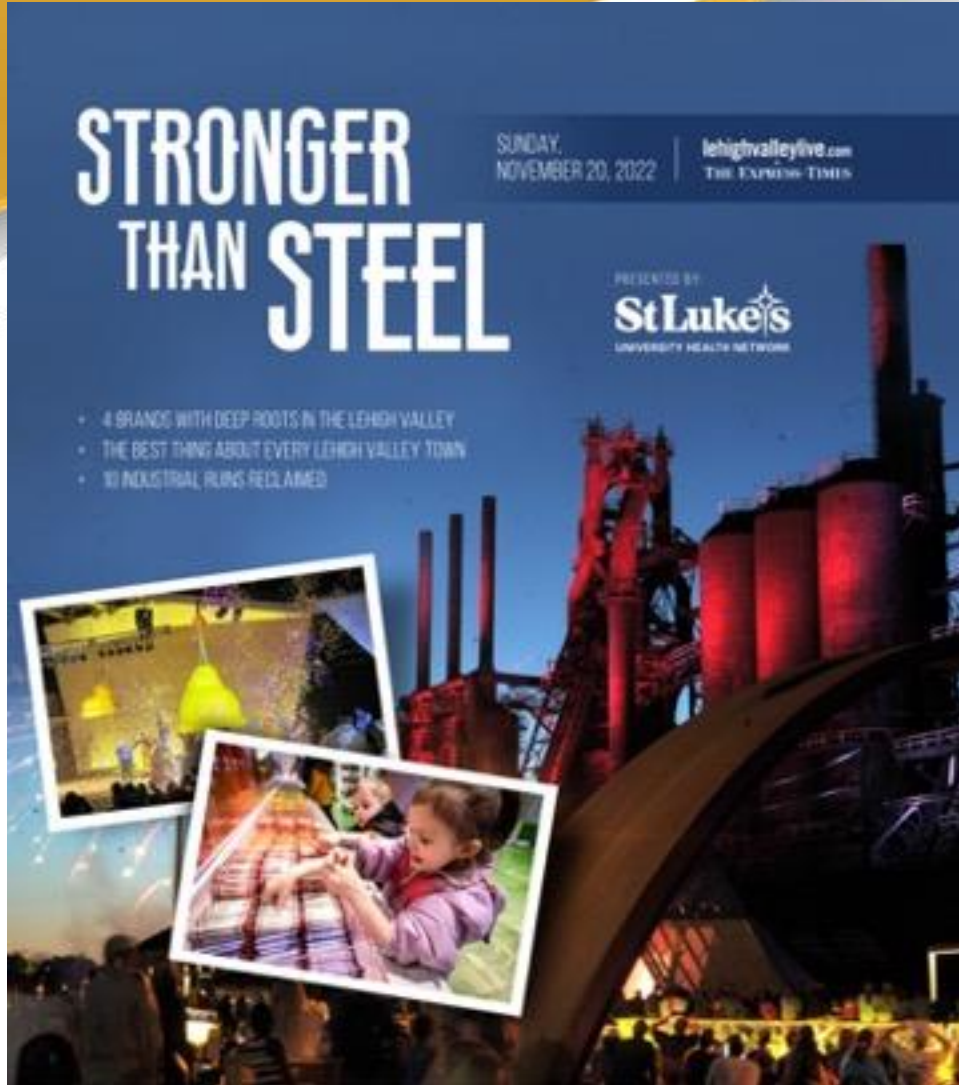
Second Place

Asbury Park Press

Summer Guide 2022

Karen Guarasi, Sarah Griesemer,

Paul D'Ambrosio, Michelle Lauzon



Best Special Section

First Place

The Express-Times

Stronger Than Steel

Creative Team, NJ Advance Media
Nick Falsone, Managing Producer



Best Special Section Cover

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Special Section Cover

Third Place

The SandPaper

Section - August 30, 2022

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer



Best Special Section Cover

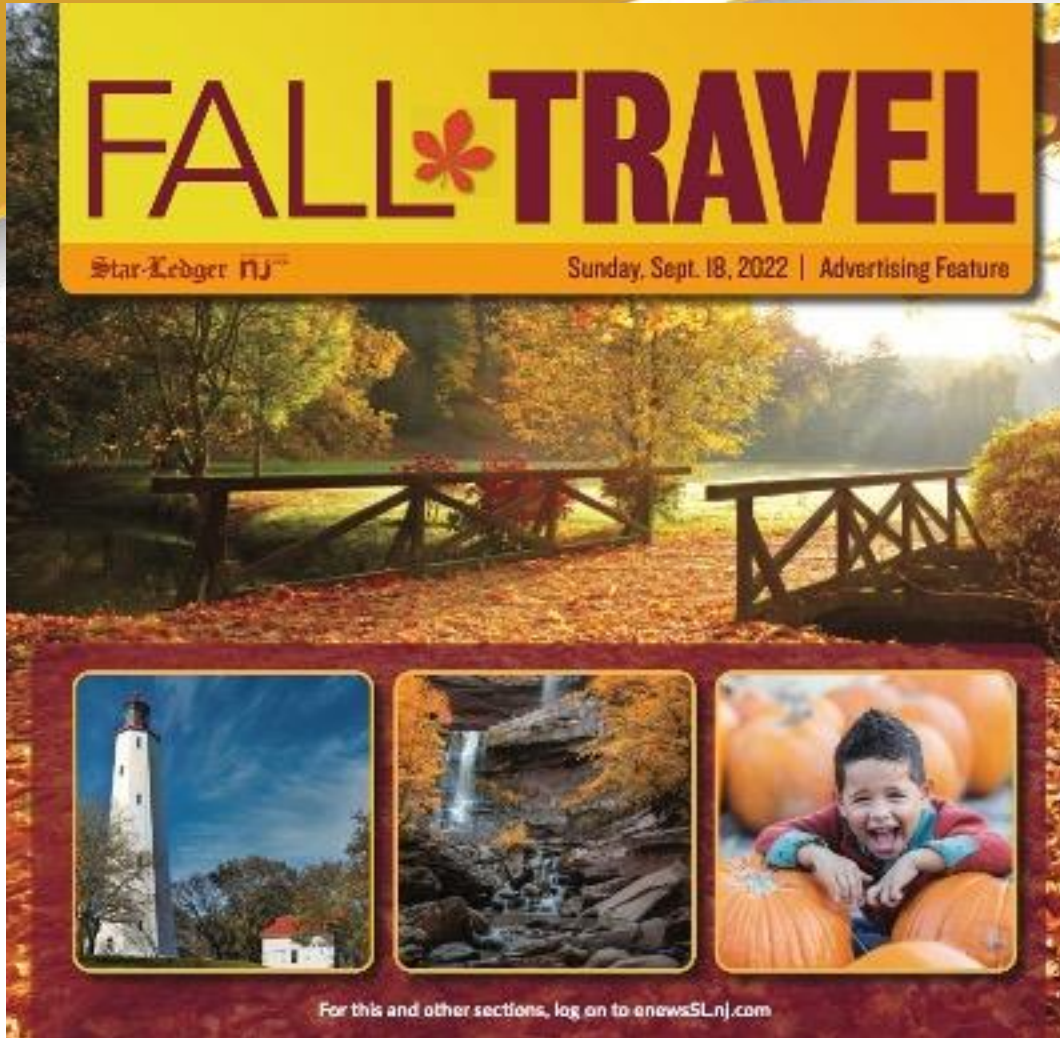
Second Place

Ocean City Sentinel

Senior Lifestyles

Samuel Hutchins, Graphic Designer





Best Special Section Cover

First Place

The Star-Ledger

Fall Travel

Angela Perilla, Creative & Marketing
Associate

NJ Advance Media



Best Special Topic Page(s)

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Special Topic Page(s)

Third Place

The Star-Ledger

Braven Health: The Right Way to Medicare

Melissa Chin, Senior Creative Consultant, Jimmy Wieggers, Sales Assistant, Ed Burns Sr. Sales Director, NJ Advance Media



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19th St. & Bayview Avenue, Barnegat Light
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DiscoverBarnegatLight.com

Best Special Topic Page(s)

Second Place

The SandPaper

Discover Barnegat Light

Staff, Graphic Designers

Chris seiz, Sales Representative



ADVANCES IN BREAST CANCER TREATMENT: CHARTING NEW TERRITORY

Doctors from New Jersey's top health care institutions discuss some of the key advances that are helping to usher in a new day in breast cancer treatment and care.

By Susan Rosen, Contributing Writer

The field of breast cancer care continues to advance through breakthroughs. From precision medicine to targeted therapies, the landscape is shifting. In this special section, we explore the latest advances in breast cancer treatment and care, charting new territory in the fight against the disease.

Substantively, breast cancer has a 10-year survival rate of 85 percent, up from 70 percent just a few years ago. This is due to a combination of factors, including earlier detection through mammography, improved surgical techniques, and the use of targeted therapies. These advances are helping to reduce the mortality rate and improve the quality of life for breast cancer patients.

One of the most significant advances in breast cancer treatment is the use of precision medicine. This approach involves tailoring treatment to a patient's specific genetic profile, allowing for more effective and personalized care.

Another key area of advancement is the development of new targeted therapies. These drugs are designed to specifically target the proteins and pathways that drive breast cancer growth, leading to improved outcomes and fewer side effects.

Finally, the use of immunotherapy in breast cancer treatment is showing promise. This approach harnesses the body's immune system to fight cancer cells, offering a new way to attack the disease.

As research continues to uncover the complexities of breast cancer, the future of treatment looks bright. With continued innovation and collaboration, we can look forward to even greater advances in breast cancer care in the years ahead.

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

INSIDE THIS SECTION

- 2 Breast cancer facts that you need to know. See page 12.
- 3 Getting the word out: Breast cancer awareness month events. See page 13.
- 4 Free breast cancer screening. See page 14.

FOR THIS AND OTHER SECTIONS, LOG ON TO WWW.NJPA.COM

Best Special Topic Page(s)

First Place

The Star-Ledger

Think Pink

Angela Perilla, Creative & Marketing Associate
Direct Marketing Team

NJ Advance Media

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

At this time, I would like to invite fellow advertising committee member, Kim Alvarez, NJ Advance Media, to come up and continue with the advertising awards



Best Community Service or Shared Ad

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2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST
.....



Holiday Appeal 2022

\$5,000 COMMUNITY MATCH
from The Rose and Louis H. Lipowitz Foundation

DONATIONS DOUBLE UP TO \$5,000

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF MERCER COUNTY

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Mercer County has been building Great Futures since 1953. The Club serves 2,300 youth out of 12 program locations in Mercer County focused on helping youth improve their lives and futures through education, career/college access, wellness, and character development.

The Club implements outstanding programs to achieve these outcomes, such as Art, STEM, Career Exploration, College Access, Cooking, Outdoor Education, sports, and various enrichment programs. Each day close to 800 youth K-6 attend the Club's after school programs in Trenton, Ewing and Lawrence, many local high school teens attend the Spruce Street Community Center, and over 500 youth per day attend the summer camp program.

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HELP MERCER COUNTY RESIDENTS IN NEED. MAKE YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TODAY.

DONATE BY CHECK | Payable to: Boys & Girls Club of Mercer County
Send this form and check to:
Boys & Girls Clubs of Mercer County, 212 Centre Street, Trenton, NJ 08611
Please list "Times of Trenton Holiday Appeal" in the memo line on the check.

Name: _____ Donor ID: _____
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DISCOUNTS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Best Community Service or Shared Ad

Third Place

The Times

The Times Holiday Appeal 2022

Robert Morgia, Marketing Strategist
Michele Hayes, VP Marketing
NJ Advance Media



THE TIMES - KIWANIS CAMP FUND

\$5,000 From the Trenton College Club
(Every dollar received up to \$5,000)

COMMUNITY MATCH

The camp fund is a community service of The Times of Trenton and the Trenton Kiwanis Club, now in its 67th year.

Deserving youngsters are referred by public and private agencies to attend sleep-away, day and special needs camps.

"SUMMER CAMP REMAINS AN IMPORTANT EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL BRIDGE FOR CHILDREN DURING THE LONG SCHOOL BREAK, AND THE PANDEMIC HAS ONLY AMPLIFIED THIS IMPORTANCE."

Tim Goherty, Kiwanis Club of Trenton/Camp Fund Chair

SCAN HERE TO DONATE ONLINE

HELP SEND A YOUNGSTER TO SUMMER CAMP

Make your tax-deductible check payable to Trenton Kiwanis Charitable Foundation
Mail to: Trenton Kiwanis Charitable Foundation, PO Box 7455, Trenton, NJ 08628
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The names of contributors may appear in The Times. Check here to send us your ID.

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The Times NJ | 

Best Community Service or Shared Ad

Second Place

The Times

Kiwanis Camp Fund

Robert Morgia, Marketing Strategist
Michele Hayes, VP Marketing

NJ Advance Media



Best Community Service or Shared Ad

First Place

The Star-Ledger

I Am Becoming

Angela Perilla, Creative & Marketing Associate
Jacquelyn Gawron, Marketing Manager
NJ Advance Media

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- YERIN KIM | CEO, The Star-Ledger
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- SHARON COOPER | CEO, The Star-Ledger

GENERAL TICKETS: \$45
VIP TICKETS: \$70

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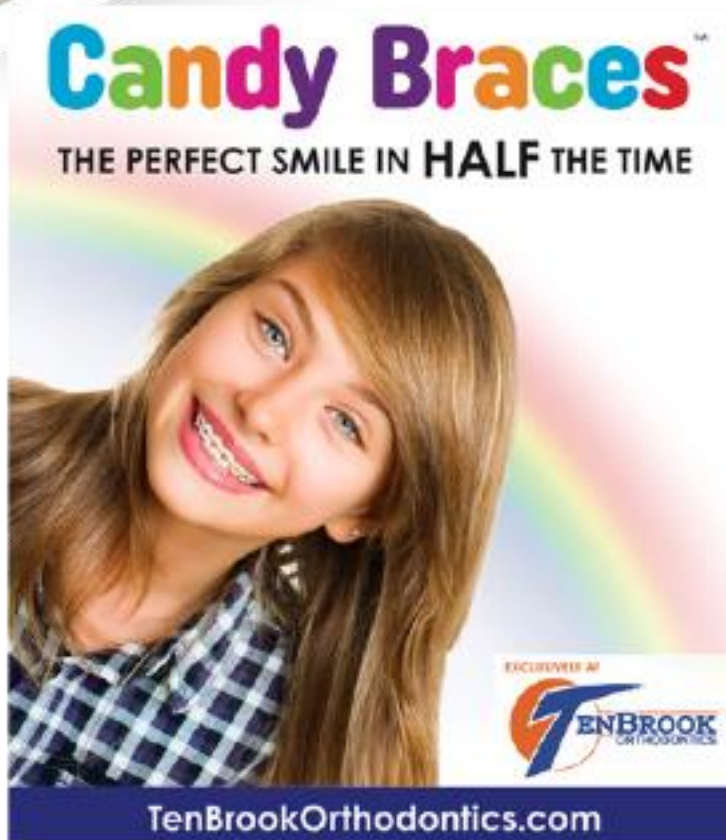
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SCAN TO REGISTER



Best Healthcare Ad

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Healthcare Ad

Third Place

Ocean City Sentinel

Candy Brayces

Samuel Hutchins, Graphic Designer



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EXCELLENCE IN
PERSONALIZED THERAPY



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A PLUS REHAB **A PLUS REHAB**
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Best Healthcare Ad

Second Place

The West Essex Tribune

A Plus Rehab

Garry DeYoung, Karen Trachtenberg,
Grisel Cardona



Best Healthcare Ad

First Place

The Star-Ledger

*RCCA: Local, Advanced, Compassionate
Cancer Care*

Julie Williams, Sr. Account Manager
Melissa Chin, Senior Creative Consultant
NJ Advance Media





Best Use of Small Space Black & White

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Use of Small Space - Black & White

Third Place

The SandPaper

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Nina Schulze, Graphic Designer
Andrea Driscoll, Sales Representative



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Open 7 Days • Monday-Friday: 9AM- 7PM
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2608 LONG BEACH BLVD UNIT 2, SHIP BOTTOM



Best Use of Small Space - Black & White

Second Place

The SandPaper

Francis Private Dining

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer,
Chris seiz, Sales Representative





Best Use of Small Space - Black & White

First Place

The West Essex Tribune

McManus Locksmiths

Karen Trachtenberg, Grisel Cardona,
Garry DeYoung

Celebrating 93 Years



McMANUS LOCKSMITHS, a family owned and operated business located at 508 South Livingston Avenue in Livingston, has been serving both residential and commercial accounts since 1929. Their experienced service technicians with trucks fully equipped and stocked can handle repairs, re-keying, lock-outs and new installation. A call to McManus at 973-992-5315 will bring a technician to your home for a security survey at no charge or obligation.

508 So. Livingston Ave., Livingston
973-992-5315

**PRIZE
TIME!!**



Best Use of Small Space - Color

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Use of Small Space - Color

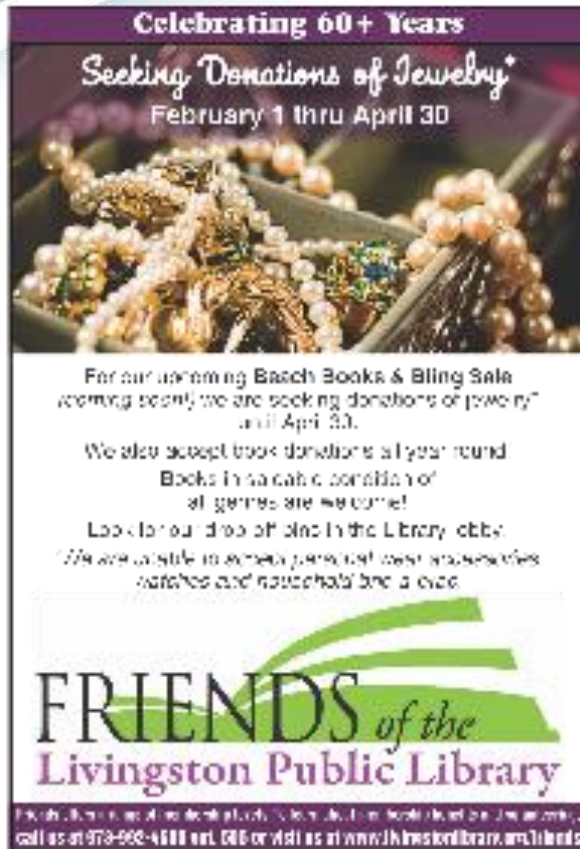
Third Place

The Retrospect

*Lutheran Church of Our Savior Candlelight
Communion Christmas Eve. Worship*

Mark Zeigler, Graphic Artist





Best Use of Small Space - Color

Second Place

The West Essex Tribune

Friends of Library & Liv Public Library

Jennifer Chciuk, Karen Trachtenberg,
Grisel Cardona



Best Use of Small Space - Color

First Place

The Retrospect

*Haddon Township High School
Haunted Hotel*

Mark Zeigler, Graphic Artist



Best Large Space Ad - Color

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



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Best Large Space Ad - Color

Third Place

The SandPaper

Extra Space Storage

Nina Schulze, Graphic Designer

Lauren Driscoll, Sales Representative



Best Large Space Ad - Color

Second Place

The Retrospect

*Wishing You Merry Christmas
and a Healthy New Year*

Mark Zeigler, Graphic Artist



*Wishing You
Merry Christmas
and a
Healthy New Year!*

*Best Wishes,
George & Melinda
Wise*

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Best Large Space Ad - Color

First Place

The SandPaper

Air Technical Services

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer
Chris seiz, Sales Representative



Best Ad in a Niche Publication/Magazine

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Ad in a Niche Publication/Magazine

Third Place

The Star-Ledger

*High School Game Changers
Sport Awards*

Angela Perilla, Creative & Marketing Associate
Jacquelyn Gawron, Marketing Manager
NJ Advance Media

nj
HIGH SCHOOL
**GAME
CHANGERS**
SPORTS AWARDS 2023

**CELEBRATING
SUCCESS BOTH
ON AND OFF
THE FIELD.**

Game Changers are not only recognized for their athletic achievements, but also for their hard work and dedication to academics, entrepreneurship, activism, service, leadership and more.

They serve as positive role models for future generations of high school student athletes.

Recognize a student athlete who is making a difference on their team, in their school and community!

**NOMINATE
TODAY.**

[QRSTUD.ID/GAME-CHANGERS](https://qrstud.id/game-changers)



Best Ad in a Niche Publication/Magazine

Second Place

The SandPaper

*Focusing On Life - Jack Reynolds
Photography*

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Andrea Driscoll
Sales Representatives



Experiences
Vintner Wonderland
at Renault Winery

Renault Winery is back again looking to "Vintner Wonderland" and during the winter holiday season at the Vintner Wonderland at Renault Winery. The event is a family-friendly, festive celebration with a variety of fun, food, and drink. The event is a family-friendly, festive celebration with a variety of fun, food, and drink.

With state-of-the-art lighting and holiday spirit, the event is a family-friendly, festive celebration with a variety of fun, food, and drink. The event is a family-friendly, festive celebration with a variety of fun, food, and drink.

My husband and I had the absolute most fun at the event. The event is a family-friendly, festive celebration with a variety of fun, food, and drink. The event is a family-friendly, festive celebration with a variety of fun, food, and drink.

The Vintner Wonderland at Renault Winery is a family-friendly, festive celebration with a variety of fun, food, and drink. The event is a family-friendly, festive celebration with a variety of fun, food, and drink.

My goal is to make a family-friendly event that is a family-friendly event. The event is a family-friendly, festive celebration with a variety of fun, food, and drink. The event is a family-friendly, festive celebration with a variety of fun, food, and drink.

www.renaultwinery.com

Best Ad in a Niche Publication/Magazine

First Place

The Star-Ledger

Experience Vintner Wonderland at Renault Winery

Robert Morgia, Marketing Strategist, Direct Marketing Team, David Thompson, Account Executive, NJ Advance Media

**PRIZE
TIME!!**



Best Advertising Campaign - Any Size

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST





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NATHAN COLMER
LONG BEACH ISLAND OFFICE

2021 PLATINUM AWARD
NJ REALTORS CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE SALES AWARD

"I have lived on LIJ my entire life, as have four generations of my family before me, which has given me a unique perspective of this wonderful area. I deal exclusively in the LIJ real estate market and specialize in second homes and waterfront properties on Long Beach Island. I have extensive experience in dealing with town planning, sub-divisions, 1031 tax exchanges and CARMA permits, all of which can be of great service to you when considering a transaction on LIJ. I only deal in sales not rentals so my focus is on the sale market and in helping you achieve the goal of your transaction. For more information about me go to www.van.dyk.com or reach me on my cell at 609.290.4293" - **Nathan Colmer**

CUSTOMER TESTIMONIALS:

<p>TARA N.</p> <p>"This is the third home we have bought or sold using Nathan, and in all three experiences, Nathan has consistently gone above and beyond expectations to get a deal done. His knowledge of the local market combined with excellent communication skills and personable attitude differentiates his service from his competitors. We have recommended him to our friends, who have had similar experiences, and we continue to recommend him to large."</p>	<p>MEG M.</p> <p>"Nathan has been our real estate agent on all of our transactions on LIJ. He is honest, reliable, friendly, ethical and trustworthy. Being a lifelong resident of LIJ, he is extremely knowledgeable about the community and the market. He is a very creative thinker when it comes to remodeling a property whether it be a minor one or a major one."</p>	<p>PEGGI E.</p> <p>"Nathan Colmer is by far and away the best broker. He is smart, skilled negotiator, even tempered, practical and incredibly responsive. He also goes above and beyond in client service. Nothing is too big or too small an issue for Nathan if it is something that is on his client's mind. He was also a wealth of information on everything from homeowners insurance, flood insurance to larger references... essentially anything relevant to the home purchase and LIJ. We feel fortunate that Nathan was referred to us. He is quite simply the best!"</p>
--	--	--

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Local Then, Local Now • Celebrating 76 Years

Best Advertising Campaign - Any Size

Third Place

The SandPaper

The Van Dyk Group

Nina Schulze, Graphic Designer
Chris Seiz, Sales Representative



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Best Advertising Campaign - Any Size

Second Place

The SandPaper

Heritage House Interiors

Staff, Graphic Designers

Andrea Driscoll, Sales Representative

TOP 10
TRUE CRIME PODCASTS*

CATCH UP ON
WHAT YOU'RE
MISSING

**HE KILLED
HIS FAMILY
TO SAVE
THEIR SOULS.**

He left a letter of confession and vanished.
Revisit the quest to bring a murderous
husband, father, and son to justice.

**FATHER
WANTS US
DEAD**
PODCAST

Listen to all the
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Explore the gallery. Join the conversation.
Visit fatherwantsusdead.com
or scan the QR code.



Best Advertising Campaign - Any Size

First Place

The Star-Ledger

Father Wants Us Dead Podcast

Alaa Selim, Senior Creative Consultant
Robert Morgia, Marketing Strategist
Rebecca Everett, Crime Reporter
NJ Advance Media



Best Classified House Ad

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Classified House Ad

Third Place

The SandPaper

Too Much Stuff

Nora Devin, Classified Manager/
Graphic Designer



Best Classified House Ad

Second Place

The SandPaper

Find a Roofer

Nora Devin, Classified Manager/
Graphic Designer





Best Classified House Ad

First Place

The SandPaper

SandPaper Power

Nora Devin, Classified Manager/Graphic Designer



Best Classified Recruitment/Miscellaneous Display Ad

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



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Best Classified Recruitment/ Miscellaneous Display Ad

Third Place

The SandPaper

Roy Handyman

Nora Devin, Classified Manager/
Graphic Designer



Best Classified Recruitment/ Miscellaneous Display Ad

Second Place

The SandPaper

Schoney's

Nora Devin, Classified Manager/
Graphic Designer

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& TREE SERVICE**

COMPLETE LANDSCAPING
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Stump Grinding • Pavers • Grading & Stone
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Best Classified Recruitment/ Miscellaneous Display Ad

First Place

The SandPaper

R. Kokai

Nora Devin, Classified Manager/
Graphic Designer



R. Kokai
Outdoor Contractor
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**PRIZE
TIME!!**



Best Small Space Classified Ad

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Small Space Classified Ad

Third Place

The West Essex Tribune

Habitat Siding

Karen Trachtenberg, Grisel Cardona





Best Small Space Classified Ad

Second Place

The West Essex Tribune

Berkeley Tennis

Karen Trachtenberg, Grisel Cardona





JP
Landscaping

- All Phases!
- *Fall Cleanups*
- Mulch • Weeding
- All Types of Stone

Family Owned
Insured • Free Estimates
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Best Small Space Classified Ad

First Place

The SandPaper

JP Landscaping

Nora Devin, Classified Manager/
Graphic Designer



Best Classified Pages

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



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We are a full service tile and stone contractor. We have a large selection of all major brands of used equipment for sale. We have a large selection of all major brands of used equipment for sale.

HOME IMPROVEMENTS
HOME IMPROVEMENTS
HOME IMPROVEMENTS
We have a large selection of all major brands of used equipment for sale. We have a large selection of all major brands of used equipment for sale.

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www.thompsonremodeling.com

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"The place you've always dreamed of..."
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RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
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SEAL, REPAIR
• General Contractor
• Flooring & Finishing
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• So Job Get Done
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www.davesconcrete.com

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Serving LRI & Surrounding Southern Ocean County
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budgetblinds.com/south-ocean-nj
COMPLIMENTARY INSTALLATION
Call Today For More Details At: 609.981.8185

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Dedicated to Serving NJ with Honest Reliable Work
Using the Highest Quality Materials and Workmanship
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Look In Your Spring Coat & Avoid the Summer Heat!
FREE ESTIMATES!
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www.ProgressiveFenceAndRail.com
400 Long Beach Blvd. • Surf City, NJ

Best Classified Pages

Third Place

The SandPaper

SandPaper Classifieds
May, 25 2022

Nora Devin, Classified Manager/
Graphic Designer



The SandPaper Classified Dept.
181 & Long Beach Blvd., Suite 100, NJ 08008
Tel: 609-494-5100
Fax: 609-494-5101
www.thesandpaper.com

FIND IT! FIX IT! BUY IT! SELL IT! RENT IT!

The SandPaper CLASSIFIEDS

Classified Prices Based on First 20 Words - All Ads Appear in Print & Online

1 consecutive bases As low as \$22.74 (\$1.13 per base*)	4 consecutive bases As low as \$29.00 (\$0.73 per base*)	16 consecutive bases As low as \$49.00 (\$0.90 per base*)	34 consecutive bases As low as \$249.00 (\$0.30 per base*)
---	---	--	---

*Call Us to Enhance Your Ad & Make It Stand Out!

Basic Classifieds
 BOLD Text
 Online Pictures
 Web Site Links
 SALE ONLY
 BONUS SPECIAL
 PG.CLS

Deadlines to place, cancel or change Classified ads: Tuesday, 11am prior to Wednesday publication date.

PERSONALS

COMPUTER FOR SALE

LOCAL COLLECTION

ADVERTISING SALES

APPLIANCE SERVICE & REPAIR

CELL PHONE SERVICES

CLEANING SERVICES

REPAIR SERVICES

WATER DAMAGE

REPAIR SERVICES

WATER DAMAGE

COMPUTER FOR SALE

APPLIANCE SERVICE & REPAIR

CELL PHONE SERVICES

CLEANING SERVICES

REPAIR SERVICES

WATER DAMAGE

REPAIR SERVICES

WATER DAMAGE

COMPUTER FOR SALE

APPLIANCE SERVICE & REPAIR

CELL PHONE SERVICES

CLEANING SERVICES

REPAIR SERVICES

WATER DAMAGE

REPAIR SERVICES

WATER DAMAGE

CLASSIFIEDS

Water Damage

Classifieds

Best Classified Pages

Second Place

The SandPaper

SandPaper Classifieds

December 21, 2022

Nora Devin, Classified Manager/
Graphic Designer



FIND IT! FIX IT! BUY IT! SELL IT! RENT IT!

THE SANDPAPER CLASSIFIEDS

Classified Prices Based on First 20 Words - All Ads Appear in Print & Online

1 Line - Single 14.75*	4 Consecutive Lines - No less than 100.00 19.75 per line**	16 Consecutive Lines - No less than 180.00 16.25 per line**	30 Consecutive Lines - No less than 298.00 9.93 per line**
------------------------	---	--	---

Call Us to Enhance Your Ad & Make it Stand Out!

- Bored Classifieds**
- BOLD Text**
- Online Pictures**
- Web Site Links**
- SALES WANT BOAT SPECIAL PRICES**

Deadline to place, renew or change Classifieds: Tuesdays, 11am prior to Wednesday publication date.

The SandPaper Classified Dept.
1816 Long Beach Blvd.,
Suite 404, NJ 08040
In-Advertising Call: 609-696-5900
Mon.-Thurs. 8:30am-5pm
Fri. 8:00am-4pm
Or Email Your Ad to: classified@thesandpaper.net
Please e-mail your ad with phone number & e-mail phone number in plain text.

www.thesandpaper.net
Connect with Classifieds Anywhere - Anytime!
From The SandPaper Website
ONLINE CLASSIFIEDS!
Easy as 1-2-3!

1. Open ONLINE CLASSIFIEDS
2. Click Through Categories
3. Click on Classifieds to view and find what you need. We'll be there to help!

ALL Ads Payable in Advance
For your convenience we accept:

PERSONALS
18 Hours 24/7/365
Meet a Date

PRIS HENNETT
Congratulations
On Your Retirement
To receive your retirement
check, you must first
cancel your life and other
group-term life insurance
policies. We can help you
cancel your group-term life
insurance and receive your
cash value. Call us today
to learn more.

PUBLIC NOTICE
We are now offering
a new service to our
clients. We will now
provide you with a
copy of your credit
report. This is a great
service to have. Call
us today to learn more.
www.creditreport.com

JEWELRY REPAIR
We are now offering
a new service to our
clients. We will now
provide you with a
copy of your credit
report. This is a great
service to have. Call
us today to learn more.
www.creditreport.com

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a new service to our
clients. We will now
provide you with a
copy of your credit
report. This is a great
service to have. Call
us today to learn more.
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a new service to our
clients. We will now
provide you with a
copy of your credit
report. This is a great
service to have. Call
us today to learn more.
www.creditreport.com

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In-Store Made
Daily Fresh
Deli & Grocery
Free Baked Goods
22 flavors of our cream
& 36 more dairy flavors
415 Long Beach Blvd.
Suite 101
NJ 08040

Golf Membership for Sale
Great to have! Great to own!
Membership available for sale.
Includes unlimited golf & club
privileges. Call today to learn
more. Call 732-426-1111.

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We are now offering
a new service to our
clients. We will now
provide you with a
copy of your credit
report. This is a great
service to have. Call
us today to learn more.
www.creditreport.com

**CREAT CORRY & ARFUE ARMY & A
Evil Ernest & Lovely Liza's
Annual 40th-Party Yard Sale**
2 Centennial Ave., Hightstown
Sat: July 2nd & Sun: July 3rd - 9am-4pm
Rain Date: July 4th

The SandPaper Will be Open
for All Your Business Needs
Monday, July 4th - 8:30am-5pm
1816 Long Beach Blvd., Suite 404 - 609-696-5900

Best Classified Pages

First Place The SandPaper SandPaper Classifieds June 29, 2022

Nora Devin, Classified Manager/
Graphic Designer



Best Miscellaneous Ad

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Free Admission
All Proceeds go to Hearts-of-Mercy

HEARTS OF MERCY

Spring Fling

Beach Haven Moose Lodge
Saturday, May 21st • 12 - 4pm
120 Rt. 72 Manahawkin, NJ

RSVP May 14th
(Requested, But Not Required)

Eat • Drink • Have Fun

BBQ • Live Music • Drinks
Games • Raffles: 50/50 • Silent Auction

Musicians

Denise Miller • Neil Miranda
Ty Mares • Shannon Harrington

Hearts-Of-Mercy.org • 609.339.2341

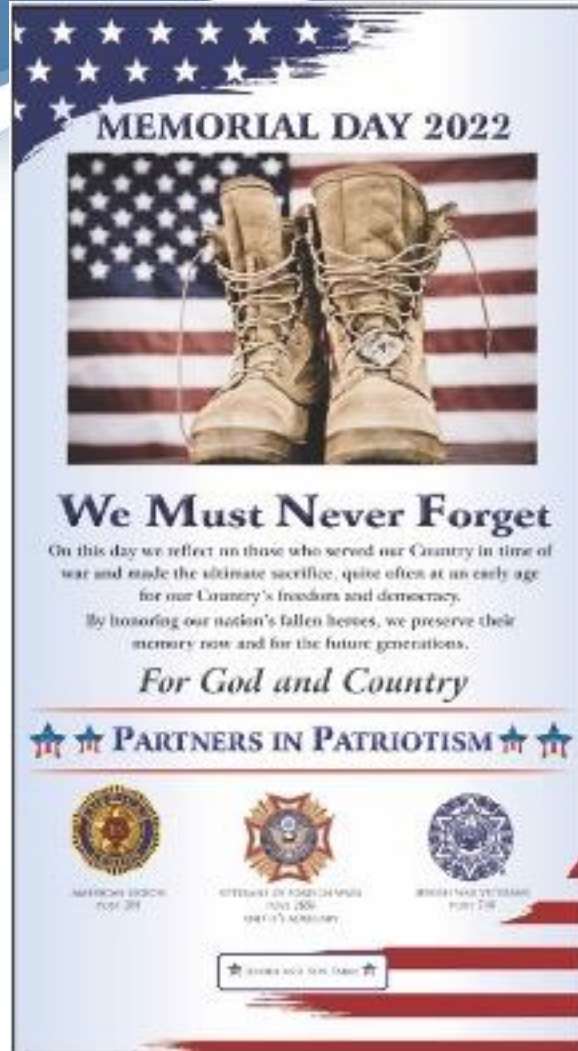
Best Miscellaneous Ad

Third Place

The SandPaper

Hearts of Mercy Spring Fling

Nina Schulze, Graphic Designer
Andrea Driscoll, Sales Representative



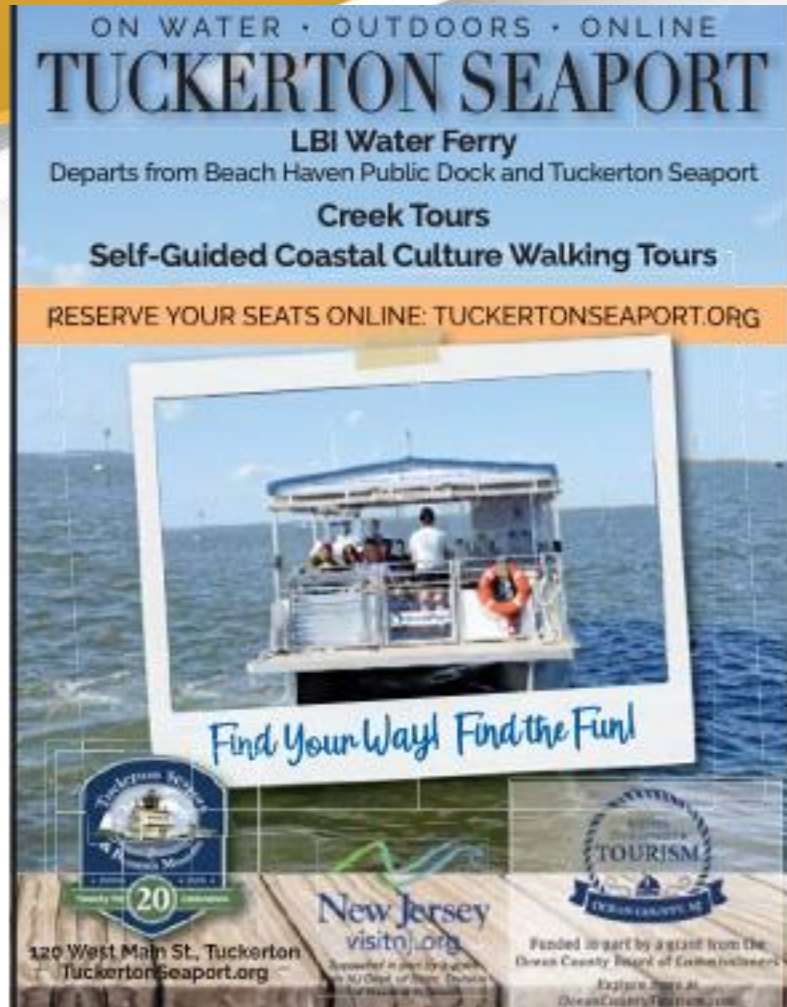
Best Miscellaneous Ad

Second Place

The West Essex Tribune

Memorial Day 2022

Garry DeYoung, Karen Trachtenberg



Best Miscellaneous Ad

First Place

The SandPaper

Tuckerton Seaport

Pattie McIntyre, Graphic Designer

Lauren Driscoll, Sales Representative

**PRIZE
TIME!!**



Best Use of Black & White to Make A Statement

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



SPRING HAS SPRUNG!

*Fat Discounts on Boards & Gear
Lots of Choices! Stop by the Shop!*

**SURF CAMP
AGES 7-14**



609-492-8823

Sale Priced Surfboards from
Stewart, Takayama,
Ricky Carroll, Hansen,
Stoke, G+S, Wave Tools,
Queen City, Pine Knot,
C.O.S. & Savage

**NOW OPEN
WEEKENDS**



**Surf School
All Summer
Book Now**

WE BEAT INTERNET PRICING EVERY DAY - TRY US FIRST

Small deposit holds your board until Memorial Day

S.U.P. NEW BOARD & PADDLE PACKAGE \$899

GIFT CERTIFICATES! ANY AMOUNT, ANY OCCASION

TRADE-INS WELCOME • USED BOARDS AVAILABLE

STAND UP PADDLE BOARDING

LESSONS • TOURS • SALES • RENTALS • YOGA

BEACH HAVEN, NJ
SOUTH-END
SURF 'N PADDLE

**SUPPORT YOUR
LOCAL SURF SHOP**
220 S. Bay Ave, Beach Haven
609-492-TUBE
southendsurfnpaddle.com

Best Use of Black and White to Make A Statement

Third Place

The SandPaper

South End Paddle - Spring Has Sprung!

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer
Jeff Linkous, Sales Representative



THE LONG BEACH ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT
Kindergarten Registration 2022/2023



Attention Parents
The LBI School District is initiating registration for
Kindergarten students for the 2022/2023 school year.

If your child will be 5 years old
on or before **October 1, 2022**,
please log on to the
district website at
www.lbischools.org
for more information.
Registrations accepted beginning April 4th



if you have
any questions,
please call
609-494-8851
EXT. 2011

Best Use of Black and White to Make A Statement

Second Place

The SandPaper

LBI School District - Attention Parents

Nina Schulze, Graphic Designer
Chris seiz, Sales Representative



Best Use of Black and White to Make A Statement

First Place

The SandPaper

*Early Bird Fitness –
Maintain Your Independence*

Nina Schulze, Graphic Designer
Chris seiz, Sales Representative

EARLY BIRD FITNESS
In-Home Personal Training

NEW YEAR'S SPECIAL

MAINTAIN YOUR INDEPENDENCE
Post Rehab/Restorative Therapy • Improve Balance - Prevent Falls
Conditioning & Flexibility Programs

ONE FREE FITNESS EVALUATION & SESSION

609-879-6074

James Bertram
Certified Master Personal Trainer/ Post Rehab Restorative Therapist

**PRIZE
TIME!!**



Best Large Space Ad - Black & White

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



**THE PERFECT XMAS GIFTS
THE BEST PRICES OF THE YEAR**

FAT DISCOUNTS, LOTS OF CHOICES, STOP BY

**ALL NEW SURF BOARDS
\$50 OFF**
**SELECT NEW SURF BOARDS
\$100 OFF**
**USED SURF BOARDS
\$100 OFF**

**SPECIAL
\$50 OFF
STAND-UP PADDLE BOARD**
PACKAGES INCLUDES: PADDLEBOARD,
PADDLE, LEASH, FINS & 2-HOUR LESSON
FREE LOCAL DELIVERY

**\$300 OFF
ALL NEW
RED PADDLE INFLATABLE
STAND-UP PADDLE BOARD PACKAGES**
INCLUDES: PADDLEBOARD, PADDLE, LEASH, FINS,
CARRYING CASE, PUMP
& 2-HOUR LESSON AVAILABLE LENGTHS:
10'6" 12'6" 13'2"

- 50% off all Salt Life apparel, accessories, stickers
- 30% off All Cobain and Rainbow Sandals
- 30% off All South End, Queen City, Giri Loves Curl, Stoke apparel, & accessories
- 30% off Wave Life apparel and swimsuits
- 50% off Longboard Bicycle Racks
- 50% off All Sunblock and Lip balm
- 50% off Groove Life Belts
- 30% off Wet Suits
- 25% off Gecko Brand waterproof backpacks & coolers
- 25% off Body Boards and Skim Boards
- 20% off Soft Surfboards
- 20% off Ukes - Free Uke Bag w/ purchase!
- 25% to 50% off All Skateboards

**FREE
LOCAL
DELIVERY**



50% Off
Jewelry, Hair Accessories,
Essential Oils,
Sexwax brand candles,
Cell Phone Dry case, Surfer Dudes

**Select Stand-Up
Paddle Board Packages**
Paddleboard, Paddle, Leash, Fins
and 2-hour Lesson
Package Price \$849 - \$899

GIFT CERTIFICATES! ANY AMOUNT, ANY OCCASION
TRADE-INS WELCOME • USED BOARDS AVAILABLE

BEACH HAVEN, NJ
SOUTH-END
SURF 'N PADDLE

OPEN SAT. & SUN. 10-5
220 S. Bay Ave, Beach Haven
609-492-TUBE
southendsurfnpaddle.com

**Best Large Space Ad-
Black & White**

Third Place
The SandPaper

South End Paddle

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer
Jeff Linkous, Sales Representative



Best Large Space Ad- Black & White

Second Place

The SandPaper

Man Around The House LBI

Jeffrey Kuhlman, Graphic Designer
Chris seiz, Sales Representative



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Tiling • Windows & Doors • Mouldings
All Types of Flooring • Kitchens & Bathroom Remodeling**

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THE BEACH IS OPEN



**SOCIETY
BEACH**

**THE ULTIMATE HIS & HERS
SHOPPING DESTINATION**

OPEN DAILY 10-5
SUNDAY 10-3
APPOINTMENTS UPON REQUEST

2106 LONG BEACH BOULEVARD
SURF CITY, NEW JERSEY

609.467.5444
WWW.SOCIETYBEACH.COM

Best Large Space Ad- Black & White

First Place

The SandPaper

Society Beach - The Beach is Open

Staff, Graphic Designers

Chris seiz, Sales Representative



Best Digital Standard Unit Ad

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



Best Digital Standard Unit Ad

Third Place

NJ.com

*Pulse: What could you do
with an extra \$1,000?*

Angela Perilla, Creative & Marketing Associate,
Jacquelyn Gawron, Marketing Manager,
NJ Advance Media



Best Digital Standard Unit Ad

Second Place

NJ.com

*Touchpoint Pediatrics:
Through Life's Journeys*

Melissa Chin, Senior Creative Consultant,
Andrew Polizzotto, Sr. Account Manager,
NJ Advance Media





Best Digital Standard Unit Ad

First Place

NJ.com

Renault Winery: The magic of the season awaits!

Melissa Chin, Senior Creative Consultant,
David Thompson, Account Executive,
NJ Advance Media





Best Digital Impact Ad

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



**Best Digital
Impact Ad**

**Third Place
NJ.com**

*RCCA: Expert Cancer
Care For You.*



Melissa Chin, Senior Creative
Consultant, Julie Williams,
Sr. Account Manager,
NJ Advance Media



**Best Digital
Impact Ad**

**Second Place
NJ.com**

*Casale Jewelers:
Throwback Pricing*



Alaa Selim, Senior Creative
Consultant, NJ Advance Media,
Kara Scandaglia, Digital
Account Manager, Staten
Island Media Group



**Best Digital
Impact Ad**

**First Place
NJ.com**

*Segal & Morel: Live Better,
Spend Less, Get More*

Alaa Selim, Senior Creative
Consultant, Andrew Polizzotto,
Senior Account Manager, NJ
Advance Media

**PRIZE
TIME!!**



Best Digital House Ad

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



EMPOWERU
MONEY A PREMIUM EXPERIENCE FROM NJ.COM

WEBINAR:
**NEW YEAR'S
MONEY
MOVES**

MONDAY, JANUARY 24
3 PM - 4:30 PM | *Virtual Event*

Learn how to improve your financial health in 2022. Financial planning experts will share tips on how to:

- > Create and stick to a budget
- > Pay off current debts
- > Start a savings plan

Panel discussion moderated by:
KARIN PRICE MUELLER, NJ.COM

SPEAKER:

DEVA PANAMBUR, CFA®, CFP®
OWNER | SARSI, LLC

REGISTER FOR FREE

Best Digital House Ad

Third Place

NJ.com

EmpowerU Money Moves Webinar

Robert Morgia, Marketing Strategist,
Jacquelyn Gawron, Marketing Manager, NJ Advance
Media



Best Digital House Ad

Second Place

NJ.com

Cocktails & Connections

Angela Perilla, Creative & Marketing Associate,
Jacquelyn Gawron, Marketing Manager,
NJ Advance Media



Best Digital House Ad



First Place

NJ.com

Father Wants Us Dead

Alaa Selim, Senior Creative Consultant,
Jacquelyn Gawron, Marketing Manager,
Rebecca Everett, Crime Reporter, NJ
Advance Media



General Excellence

2022 Advertising

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST



General Excellence

The SandPaper

2022 NJPA ADVERTISING CONTEST

At this time, I would like to invite NJPA executive officer and editorial committee member, David Nahan, Sample, to come up to begin the photography awards presentation.

**DAILY
PHOTOGRAPHY
RESULTS**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards

SPOT NEWS

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Spot News

THIRD PLACE

Tariq Zehawi

The Record (Bergen)

Rocky



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography Awards — Spot News

SECOND PLACE

Peter Ackerman

Asbury Park Press

Shoveling Out



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Spot News

FIRST PLACE

Chris Pedota

The Record (Bergen)

Frozen Fire



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography Awards

GENERAL NEWS

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — General News

THIRD PLACE

Anne-Marie Caruso

The Record (Bergen)

World Cup Party



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography Awards — General News

SECOND PLACE

Saed Hindash
The Express-Times

Fire Training



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — General News

FIRST PLACE

Tim Hawk

South Jersey Times

Awaiting
The Winner



Daily Photography Awards

**GENERAL NEWS
PICTURE STORY**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — News Picture Story

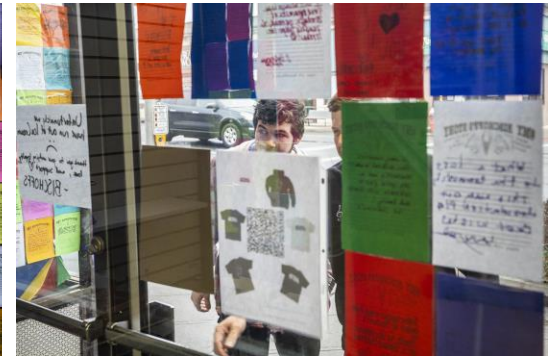
THIRD PLACE

Kevin R. Wexler

Anne-Marie Caruso

The Record (Bergen)

**Saying Goodbye
To Bischoff's**



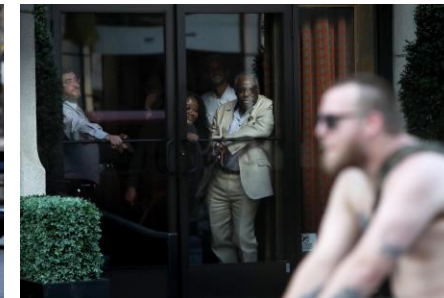
2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — News Picture Story

SECOND PLACE

Lori M. Nichols
South Jersey Times

Philly Naked
Bike Ride



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — News Picture Story

FIRST PLACE

Mitsu Yasukawa
The Record (Bergen)

**Miss New Jersey
Ends Her Reign**



**PRIZE
TIME!!**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography Awards

SPORTS ACTION

Daily Photography Awards — Sports Action

THIRD PLACE

Chris Faytok

The Star-Ledger

Long Jump



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Sports Action

SECOND PLACE

Lori M. Nichols
South Jersey Times

By a Hair



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Sports Action

FIRST PLACE

Andrew Mills
The Star-Ledger

Go!



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography Awards

SPORTS FEATURE

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography Awards — Sports Feature

THIRD PLACE

Chris Faytok

The Star-Ledger

Victory!



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Sports Feature

SECOND PLACE

Tim Hawk

South Jersey Times

Hands



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Sports Feature

FIRST PLACE

Tim Hawk

South Jersey Times

Championship
Kiss



**PRIZE
TIME!!**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography Awards

SPORTS FEATURE
PICTURE STORY

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Sports Feature Picture Story

THIRD PLACE

Reena Rose Sibayan

The Jersey Journal

Kids vs. Cops



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Sports Feature Picture Story

SECOND PLACE

Amy Newman

The Record (Bergen)

Paterson Divas



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Sports Feature Picture Story

FIRST PLACE

Saed Hindash

The Express-Times

Dream Chaser



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography Awards

FEATURE

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Feature

THIRD PLACE

Ed Murray

The Star-Ledger

Mermaid



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Feature

SECOND PLACE

Ed Murray

The Star-Ledger

Graduation!



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Feature

FIRST PLACE

Saed Hindash
The Express-Times

Fire Eater



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography Awards

**FEATURE
PICTURE STORY**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Feature Picture Story

THIRD PLACE

Ed Lea

The Press
Of Atlantic City

On the Move



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

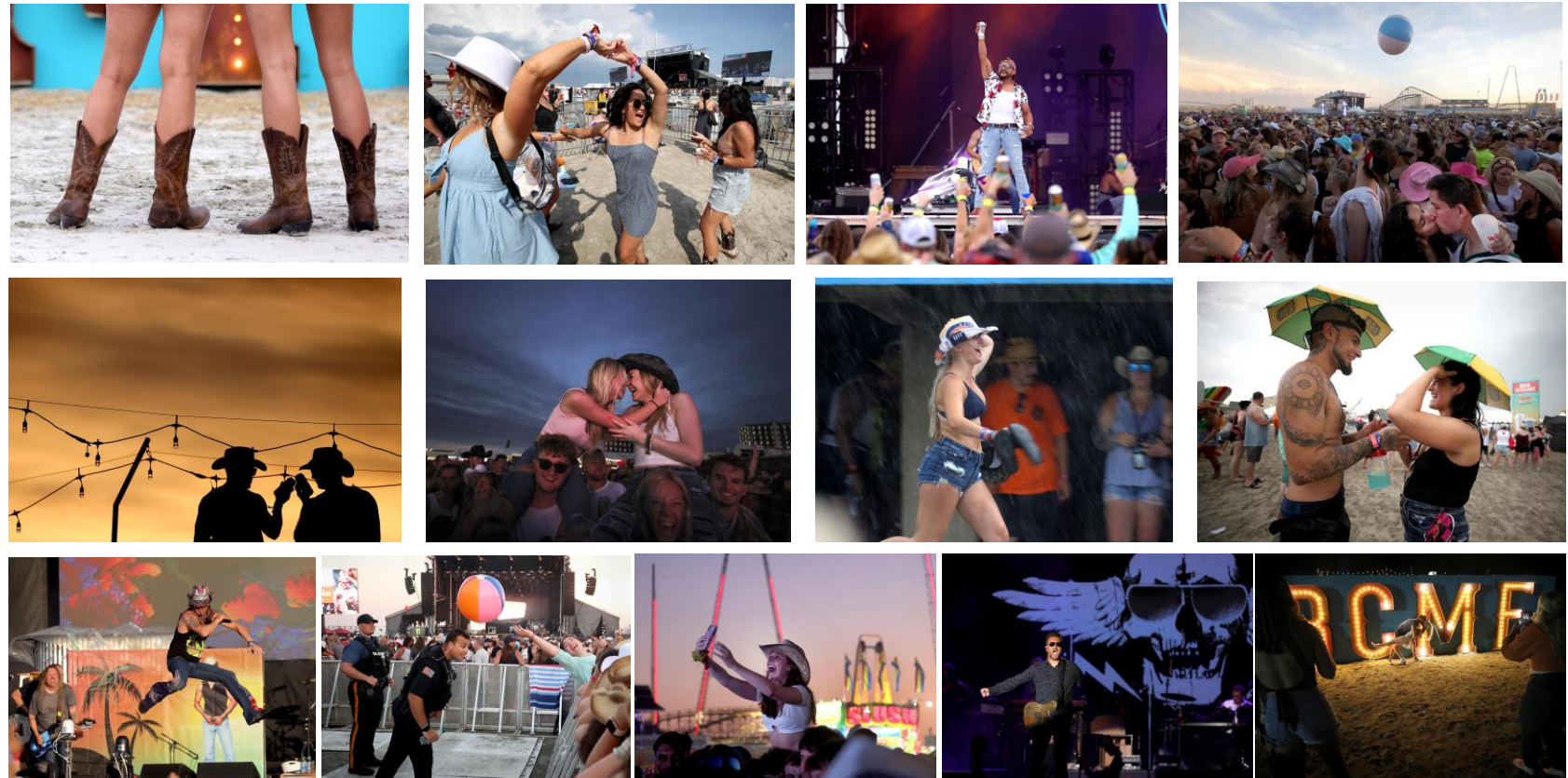
Daily Photography Awards — Feature Picture Story

SECOND PLACE

Tim Hawk

South Jersey Times

Boots or Barefoot



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

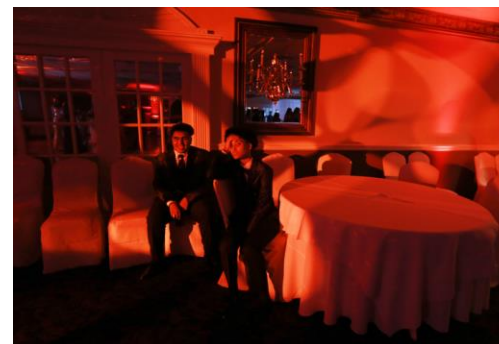
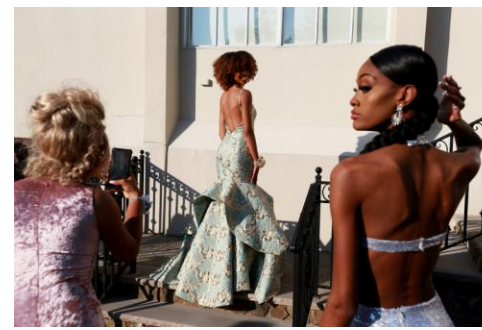
Daily Photography Awards — Feature Picture Story

FIRST PLACE

Ed Murray

The Star-Ledger

Prom Night



**PRIZE
TIME!!**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography Awards

PORTRAIT

Daily Photography Awards — Portrait

THIRD PLACE

Saed Hindash

The Express-Times

Anchorman



Daily Photography Awards — Portrait

SECOND PLACE

Ed Murray

The Star-Ledger

Aztec Dancer



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography Awards — Portrait

FIRST PLACE

Saed Hindash
The Express-Times

Top Wrestler



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography Awards

PICTORIAL

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Pictorial

THIRD PLACE

Lori M. Nichols

South Jersey Times

Winter's Beauty



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography Awards — Pictorial

SECOND PLACE

Peter Ackerman

Asbury Park Press

Island Beach
Sunrise



Daily Photography Awards — Pictorial

FIRST PLACE

Ed Murray

The Star-Ledger

Dance Record



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards

PROTEST

Daily Photography Awards — Protest

THIRD PLACE

Alexander Lewis

Courier News

**Bridgewater
Husain Protest**



Daily Photography Awards — Protest

SECOND PLACE

Lori M. Nichols
South Jersey Times

Justice for Irving



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Protest

FIRST PLACE

Mitsu Yasukawa

The Record (Bergen)

Voting Rights



**PRIZE
TIME!!**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography Awards

BEST PORTFOLIO

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Best Portfolio

THIRD PLACE

Tim Hawk

South Jersey Times



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Best Portfolio

SECOND PLACE

Peter Ackerman

Asbury Park Press



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Photography Awards — Best Portfolio

FIRST PLACE

Saed Hindash

The Express-Times



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography Awards

BEST IN SHOW

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Photography – Best in Show

Fire Eater

Saed

Hindash

The Express-Times



**PRIZE
TIME!!**

**WEEKLY
PHOTOGRAPHY
RESULTS**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards

SPOT NEWS

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Spot News

THIRD PLACE

Kathleen Carroll

Montclair Local

**House Fire
In Montclair**



Weekly Photography Awards — Spot News

SECOND PLACE

David Nahan

Ocean City Sentinel

Flare-Up



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Spot News

FIRST PLACE

Kathleen Carroll

Montclair Local

Treatment for
Feline Fire Victim



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards

GENERAL NEWS

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — General News

THIRD PLACE

Kate Albright

Montclair Local

Earth Day



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards — General News

SECOND PLACE

Ryan Morrill

The SandPaper

Flying Through
Eclipse



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards — General News

FIRST PLACE

Craig D. Schenck

Ocean City Sentinel

Coming Down



Weekly Photography Awards

**GENERAL NEWS
PICTURE STORY**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — News Picture Story

THIRD PLACE

Ryan Morrill

The SandPaper

**Albert Hall
Turns 25**



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — News Picture Story

SECOND PLACE

Jack Reynolds
The SandPaper

Underground
Metal



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — News Picture Story

FIRST PLACE

David Nahan
Ocean City Sentinel

Firefighter
Funeral



**PRIZE
TIME!!**

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards

SPORTS ACTION

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards — Sports Action

THIRD PLACE

David Nahan
Ocean City Sentinel

**Hard Landing
Ahead**



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Sports Action

SECOND PLACE

David Nahan
Ocean City Sentinel

Goalie Save



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Sports Action

FIRST PLACE

David Nahan
Ocean City Sentinel

Save as Time
Expires



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards

SPORTS FEATURE

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Sports Feature

THIRD PLACE

David Nahan
Ocean City Sentinel

**Playoff
Celebration**



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Sports Feature

SECOND PLACE

David Biggy

The SandPaper

Time to Celebrate



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards — Sports Feature

FIRST PLACE

David Nahan
Ocean City Sentinel

Foggy Victory



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards

SPORTS FEATURE
PICTURE STORY

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

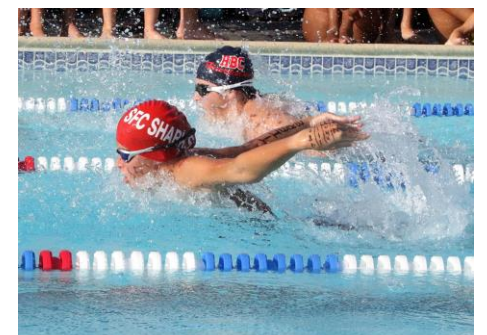
Weekly Photography Awards — Sports Feature Picture Story

THIRD PLACE

David Biggy

The SandPaper

**LBI Swim
Championships**



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Sports Feature Picture Story

SECOND PLACE

Jack Reynolds
The SandPaper

Waves of Strength



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Sports Feature Picture Story

FIRST PLACE

David Nahan
Ocean City Sentinel

Memorial
Lifeguard Races



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards

FEATURE

Weekly Photography Awards — Feature

THIRD PLACE

Jack Reynolds

The SandPaper

Baby Seal



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards — Feature

SECOND PLACE

Karsten Englander

Montclair Local

Skateboard Jump



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards — Feature

FIRST PLACE

David Nahan
Ocean City Sentinel

Not the Winners



**PRIZE
TIME!!**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards

**FEATURE
PICTURE STORY**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Feature Picture Story

THIRD PLACE

David Nahan
Ocean City Sentinel

**Is Pie Eating
Serious Business?**



Weekly Photography Awards — Feature Picture Story

SECOND PLACE

Kate Albright

Montclair Local

Where Honey
Comes From



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Feature Picture Story

FIRST PLACE

David Biggy
The SandPaper

Southern Regional
Class of 2022



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards

PORTRAIT

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Portrait

THIRD PLACE

Ryan Morrill

The SandPaper

Bob Selfridge



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Portrait

SECOND PLACE

David Nahan
Ocean City Sentinel

Her Easter Best



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards — Portrait

FIRST PLACE

David Nahan
Ocean City Sentinel

Happy Warrior



**PRIZE
TIME!!**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards

PICTORIAL

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Pictorial

THIRD PLACE

Kate Albright

Montclair Local

**Winter
Wonderland**



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards — Pictorial

SECOND PLACE

Emma Hot

Montclair Local

Montclair at Dawn



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Pictorial

FIRST PLACE

Kate Albright

Montclair Local

Holiday Lights



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards

PROTEST

Weekly Photography Awards — Protest

THIRD PLACE

Kate Albright

Montclair Local

Roe Won't Go



Weekly Photography Awards — Protest

SECOND PLACE

Kate Albright

Montclair Local

Victims of Gun
Violence



Weekly Photography Awards — Protest

FIRST PLACE

Kate Albright

Montclair Local

Lukoil Protest



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Photography Awards

BEST PORTFOLIO

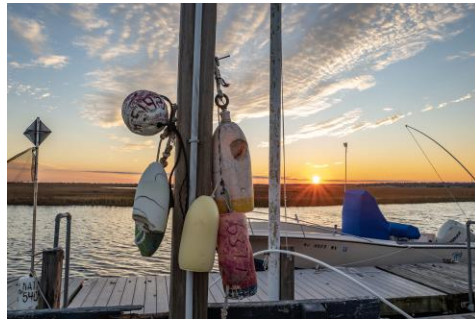
2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Best Portfolio

THIRD PLACE

Ryan Morrill

The SandPaper

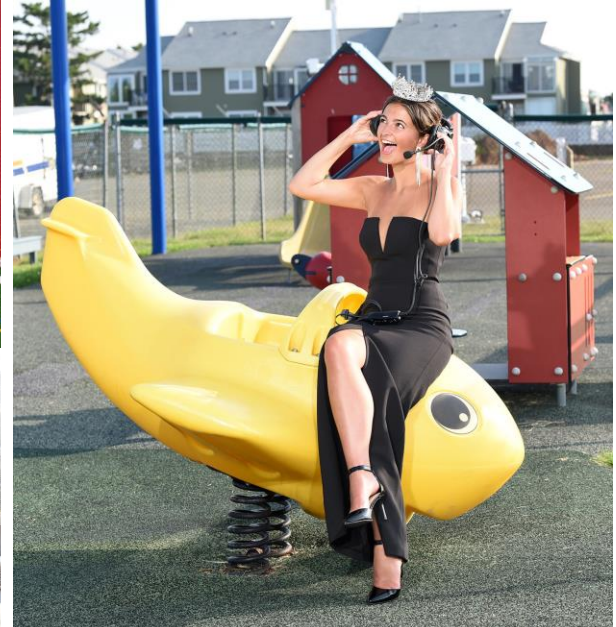


2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Best Portfolio

SECOND PLACE

David Nahan
Ocean City Sentinel

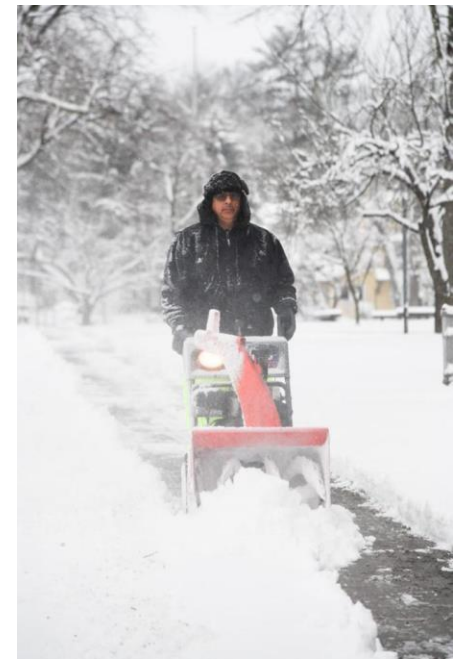


2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards — Best Portfolio

FIRST PLACE

Kate Albright
Montclair Local



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Photography Awards

BEST IN SHOW

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

At this time, I would like to invite NJPA executive officer and fellow editorial committee member, Audrey Harvin, Burlington County Times, to come up and begin the editorial awards presentation.

**EDITORIAL
RESULTS**

Editorial Awards

Daily – Under 20,000

Lloyd P. Burns Memorial Award PUBLIC SERVICE

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Under 20,000 — Public Service

SECOND PLACE

Joshua Rosario
Haresh Oudhnarine
The Jersey Journal

New Jersey City University's Fiscal Crisis

www.nj.com/hudson

Wednesday, June 29, 2022 **The JERSEY JOURNAL** NEWS | 5

NJCU SEEKS \$10M FOR 'EMERGENCY'

President resigns

BY JOSHUA ROSARIO AND
HARESH OUDHNRINE
JOURNAL STAFF WRITERS

After a decade of hundreds of millions of dollars in expansion in almost every direction, New Jersey City University is facing a "financial emergency," school officials say can only be solved with more state funding.

At a board of trustees meeting on Monday, the Jersey City school announced it has less than 30 days of cash on hand. Later board Chairman Joseph Scott said state Sen. Brian Stack, D-Union City, will introduce a resolution for an additional \$10 million in aid. NJCU Chief Financial Officer Benjamin Durant said the school should have at least 90 days of cash on hand.

The appropriations bill released by legislative leaders late Monday showed an increase of only \$250,000 for the university over the amount originally requested by Gov. Phil Murphy in February.

"The university is facing an unprecedented challenge, which is a direct result of historical underinvestment in the university and in black and brown communities, as well as a dearth in funding in comparison with its peer institutions," Scott said in a letter to the NJCU community Monday night.

"This, combined with a national trend of declining enrollment for college-aged students, has resulted in a long-term erosion in the university's ability to operate. The pandemic has only exacerbated these issues, reducing enrollment further and accelerating the decline in operating revenue."

At just about the same time, university President Sue Henderson announced her resignation effective July 1. It is uncommon for university presidents to leave the school with such short notice.

University spokesman Ira Thor told The Jersey Journal yesterday Henderson had planned months ago to leave the school at the end of the fiscal year. He denied any speculation that Henderson was forced out.

"The timing is just really



SUE HENDERSON

unfortunate here because the board of trustees meeting is this week, that is when you have to tender such a resignation," Thor said. "So the timing is not ideal just based on we didn't have a board meeting between April and now."

Thor added that the university is waiting to hear if it will receive the additional \$10 million in funding. Henderson and Board of Trustee Chairman Joseph Scott could not be reached for comment yesterday.

When Henderson arrived in 2012, the institution had 7,761 undergraduate students, but has seen the enrollment drop to 6,656 students in 2021-22. Only 761 freshmen enrolled in September, according to the state Department of Higher Education.

Henderson's 10-year tenure is highlighted by completed and still-in-the-works projects, like a redevelop plan that would transform a 22-acre tract of West Side Avenue into a "university village" with a performing arts complex, restaurants, a supermarket, and residential projects and university buildings.

The \$400 million dollar expansion project was promoted by Henderson as benefiting the community and the school.

"Sue Henderson did a great job for NJCU," said city spokeswoman Kimberly Wallace-Scalione. "After years of working together with Sue, the mayor feels most of the projects have already commenced, and we don't expect any slowdown



UNIVERSITY PLACE at NJCU's West Campus in Jersey City.

REENA ROSE SHAYAN JOURNAL PHOTO

"The leadership with Sue Henderson at the helm ... created an unsustainable business model, knowing full well that its ambitious plans ... depended on growing enrollment. A huge gamble, and one they have lost. Who will pay the price? Our students and faculty and staff."

Anne Mabry

NJCU professor of English as a Second Language

with investment in the area. "With regards to the \$10 million (request), the mayor called the governor (Monday) to advocate for an appropriation to help NJCU, and we are hopeful there will be support from the state."

The expansion includes facilities at Fort Monmouth, the 22-acre former Army base in Oceanport, and the business school on the Jersey City waterfront.

Some faculty members have blamed Henderson for the school's financial situation. In September, the faculty senate gave Henderson a vote of no confidence, claiming she turned a \$101 million surplus into a \$67 million deficit.

"By declaring a financial emergency, NJCU is publicly acknowledging what faculty and staff have been saying for more than two years — that NJCU is losing money," said Anne Mabry, a professor of English as a Second Language at NJCU. "The leadership with Sue Henderson at the helm and with the blessing of the Board of Trustees, created an unsustainable business model, knowing full well

that its ambitious plans for the West Campus and Fort Monmouth campuses depended on growing enrollment.

"A huge gamble, and one they have lost. Who will pay the price? Our students and faculty and staff."

Fiscal mismanagement was one of the top reasons for the vote of no confidence.

Max Herman, the vice president for full-time faculty of the AFT Local 1839 union at NJCU said the financial crisis "was largely self-inflicted."

Many faculty and staff are concerned about the possible furloughs and layoffs, said Herman.

"We are scheduled to engage in negotiations with the administration, but there's nothing to negotiate at this point because they haven't presented a plan right now," Herman said. "It's just rumors and that's what's stoking a lot of fear and anxiety. People are worried about their jobs."

The Board of Trustees shares in the blame, media arts professor Joel Katz said.

"The board has been entirely

complicit with all of her expansion plans for real estate ventures, giving millions of dollars to Anthony Bastardi and other real estate moguls," Katz said, referring to the CEO of Strategic Development Group, who is the developer for business school Downtown and the West Side project.

"To make it fair, the amount of contribution that the state makes to the university's funding has drastically declined and I think the enrollment patterns globally and nationally have changed."

Bastardi is a former member of the NJCU Foundation board of directors.

Thyquell Halley, the student representative on the trustees board, opposed the vote for the 3% tuition hike, saying, "I believe it's going to take the institution to manage our money better, take a pause on all new infrastructure projects, and assess what we have and what we can afford to keep the doors open at NJCU. Students are charged more, for less."

Representatives of the student government association declined to comment.

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — Public Service

FIRST PLACE

Sara K. Satullo

The Express-Times

Edged Out

NJPA

Editorial Awards

Daily – Over 20,000

Lloyd P. Burns Memorial Award
PUBLIC SERVICE

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Public Service

THIRD PLACE

Matthew Stanmyre

The Star-Ledger

A Mystery in Colonia

A mystery in Colonia



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Public Service

SECOND PLACE

Kelly Heyboer

The Star-Ledger

Inside the Quiet Rooms

Inside the quiet rooms



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Public Service

FIRST PLACE

Kayla Canne

Asbury Park Press

New Jersey's
Affordable
Housing Crisis

NJPA

Editorial Awards

Weekly

Lloyd P. Burns Memorial Award
PUBLIC SERVICE

THIRD PLACE

Gina G. Scala
The SandPaper

LBI Road Conditions Spark Local Concern Over Public Safety; Unforeseen Issues Postpone Circle Drive Work

26
The SandPaper/Wednesday, April 27, 2022

CURRENTS LBI Road Conditions Spark Local Concern Over Public Safety

Dips, Grooves Deemed Dangerous

For Erich Steinbrunn, going public with his concerns about the conditions of local roads is about protecting the safety of the public and saving lives.

"I don't want to be a complainer," he said Monday afternoon, the day after he was forced to leave a trailer on the side of Eighth Street in Ship Bottom when it became a casualty of the pock-marked road leaving Long Beach Island.

What Steinbrunn wants is for the contractors to be accountable for the conditions of the road during a project, the same way he is held to standards as a landscaper.

"We have inspections," he said of his work as the owner of Growing World Landscaping, based in Mahawkin. "Why are the contractors allowed to do this? Why is there no accountability?"

Since 2020, Steinbrunn has suffered seven broken leaf springs due to road work on the Island and chaffing of wires as the result of the ups and downs of bumpy roads, which caused one of his trucks to catch on fire, he said.

The latest leaf spring broke over the weekend as Steinbrunn was leaving the Island.

"Two bumps and a dip" is how he began the story of how, while traveling at just about 20 mph, the broken leaf spring jammed a tire, forcing it to explode. The trailer turned right but leaned left and overcorrected on its own, he said.

"At 20 mph, it threw rakes and shovels," Steinbrunn said, noting it is difficult to move those things once

they are locked into place.

A motorist behind Steinbrunn at the time of the incident told him the tire that left the ground was in the air at about chest level, he said. If he had been traveling at a faster rate of speed, he would have tipped the trailer and closed Eighth Street, the only road off the Island.

Less than two minutes after the broken leaf spring jammed the tire, an older man and his dog approached the area on foot, he said.

"If they had been a minute earlier," Steinbrunn said, "I would have hit them."

He said others who approached on foot less than five minutes after the accident would have been harmed, too, if they had been just a few minutes earlier.

"It's ridiculous," Steinbrunn said. "I am just waiting for the day when something will fly out of a truck and strike a windshield."

While the pock-marked roads can be an uncomfortable ride for all motorists, he said most those driving in plush, modern vehicles don't fully understand the jarring impact of the potholes and dips in the roads for truck drivers, including those towing boats or construction and landscaping equipment.

"It doesn't have to be perfect; just make the roads better," Steinbrunn said.

Beginning this week, the contractor for Ship Bottom's ongoing infrastructure improvement project will repave Eighth and Ninth streets, something he supports.



FINAL STRAW: Erich Steinbrunn was forced to leave his trailer on the side of Eighth Street in Ship Bottom after a broken leaf spring jammed a tire, forcing it to explode, while he was traveling off the Island Sunday afternoon.

Ryan Morrill

"There is no price on safety," Steinbrunn said.

Motorists have complained about the conditions of the roads coming onto and leaving the Island for months with many agreeing Eighth Street presents the biggest challenge for drivers.

The road work at the entrance to the Island is twofold with the borough's ongoing infrastructure project and the relocation of utility lines ahead of the final phase of the multi-year, federally funded Causeway expansion and rehabilitation work kicking into full gear in that area. That work includes the relocation of New Jersey Natural Gas lines, which is expected to conclude sometime this spring.

Additionally, Atlantic City Electric is working to install dozens of new utility poles, relocate existing ones and upgrade others in the area. The bulk of the work entails installing approximately 80 utility poles, as well as upgrading wire and other aerial infrastructure and some underground facilities on LBI around the Ship Bottom substation. Company officials said the overhead line work is expected to be completed by summer.

C.J. Hesse, the N.J. Department of Transportation contractor for the last

phase of the \$312 million project, is expected to begin laying a pipe from the bay to Long Beach Boulevard sometime this spring.

That work had been tentatively scheduled to begin last fall and be wrapped up for the 2022 summer season.

"Now, they are going to start working nights all summer long," Ship Bottom Mayor William Huelsenbeck said recently, adding it's possible the entrance and exit to LBI will be down to one lane on and one lane off during the height of the Island's busy season.

Officials from across the Island and 9th District legislators met with representatives from the DOT to discuss how the state agency plans to address concerns about lane closures and night work this summer at the entrance to LBI.

The DOT did not respond to The SandPaper's inquiries as of deadline. For Steinbrunn, though, Ship Bottom isn't the only area of the Island with road conditions that need to be made safe for the public.

"Just go to 100th Street on the south end," he said of the area where his truck caught fire.

— Gina G. Scala

Tuckertonians With Livestock Have Questions

Two Local Cleanups Set for April 30

During the April 18 Tuckerton Borough Council meeting, Councilwoman Susan Taylor addressed an inaccurate Facebook post that quickly circulated last week regarding livestock.

"The borough doesn't currently have an ordinance as it pertains to livestock," said Taylor. "The council, as a body, is going to look into this. We're going to work on it along with our borough administrator and our borough solicitor."

The Facebook post in question was posted to Tuckerton by Kaylyn Ullman on April 16 and reads: "Do you, or someone you know, own chickens or other livestock in Tuckerton borough?"

SECOND PLACE

Bethany Mitros

Joan Buehler

The Retrospect

Bring Children's Mental Health Awareness to Heights; Remembering the Life of a Young Heights Soldier; NBA Player to Visit HTHS About Substance Abuse

MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE IN MEMORY LANE

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Camden County's Finest Weekly Newspaper

The RETROSPECT

www.theretrospect.com

Volume 121, No. 21 Hometown News You Can Trust \$1 Friday, May 27, 2022

Racist Incidents Continue to Dog Haddonfield

by Matt Emuco

Old wounds in Haddonfield were reopened two weeks ago regarding race and bigotry when a video posted to Facebook revealed monkey sounds at a junior varsity baseball game directed at an opposing pitcher from West Deptford who was black. The incident was initially posted to a Haddonfield Facebook group and later taken down. The video continued circulating openly online early this

week, however.

A report from *The Philadelphia Inquirer* published last Wednesday night brought the issue into focus for a community that has struggled to quell racist and bigoted acts. Swastikas were recently spray painted on trees at a Quaker graveyard and the n-word was hurled at a pair of black track athletes by a group of lacrosse players in

(Continued on page 6)

Township Revamps School Day Start, End Times

by Bethany Mitros

The times they are a-changing in Haddon Township, and that means some growing pains. Last month, the school district announced plans to lengthen the high school's day by 23 minutes and shift away from block scheduling but that means changes are necessary to the start and end times at Rohrer Middle School and all five elementary schools to

fit the district's tiered busing schedule and alleviate congestion during pickup.

Buses service students in two Haddon Township neighborhoods not contiguously linked to Haddon Township proper - West Collingswood Heights and the West Collingswood Extension. The buses operate under a tiered schedule in which the same buses

(Continued on page 3)

Bringing Children's Mental Health Awareness to Heights



by Joan Buehler

If you strolled down Station Ave. in Haddon Heights the first week of May, you saw windows of businesses papered over with beautiful illustrations, some spanning the entire glass. Young Heights artists, inspired by the theme 'Children's Feelings Are a Work of Art', created the drawings for their art projects this year. The retail district united to display the work of every kindergarten-through-6th-grade class in the district, a show that had always been held inside the schools.

During the same stroll, you couldn't fail to

(Continued on page 5)

FOR HEALTH'S SAKE: Above, HTHS's newly formed Active Minds Club members show off the yellow ribbon festoons they created. Inset, first grader Basil Gould poses in front of her art displayed in Wise Family Jewelers' window. "I was so happy to see my artwork, and all my friends' artwork, hanging up in all the windows," Basil said last week.

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Public Service

FIRST PLACE

P.C. Robinson
Alex Parker-Magyar
Mike Condon
Observer Tribune

Stormwater Matters

observer-tribune.com

Observer-Tribune

Thursday, October 6, 2022 PAGE 7

STORMWATER MATTERS

Water, water, everywhere — but is it safe to drink?

Ensuring water quality from its start really does take a village. To learn how, read on.

By P.C. ROBINSON
STAFF WRITER

Editor's note: This story was produced as part of the Northern New Jersey Media Collaborative Project "Stormwater Matters," a project focusing on stormwater management solutions in the state.

The ground could be bone dry until, one day, a tiny wet splash shows from an underground spring.

That splash is followed by another and another and they merge with other streams or lakes to create a river system that becomes an invaluable life resource: drinking water.

Such are the streams and tributaries of the New Jersey Highlands Region, part of a tri-state habitat of environmentally sensitive land on which is birthed the headwaters for numerous rivers that, collectively, nourish some 800,000 people, or about 70 percent of the Garden State's population, according to the New Jersey Highlands Council.

Those rivers include the Raritan River and the Passaic River, rivers that quench the thirst of those in urban areas to the east.

Of course, it's imperative those headwaters be pristine, and as droughts — or floods — alter water tables the need to ensure high drinking water quality, especially in that watershed region, for all is a double imperative.

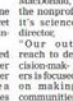
"If it doesn't start out as pure water quality, downstream they don't have a chance," said Kelley Curran, science manager for the New Jersey Highlands Council.

Curran knows that of which she speaks. The state's Chester-based planning agency was formed to encourage a regional approach to implementing the state's Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act initiated in 2004.

To spur that conservation, the region is divided into a preservation area and a planning area. While restrictions are more formidable in the preservation area, there can be development in the planning area, but that, too, is restricted, as a move critics say compromises the state's economic growth.



JULIA SOMERS



BEN SPINELLI



KRISTI MACDONALD

programs including a community well testing program and the Headwater Sentinel Climate Station. According to Kristi MacDonald, the nonprofit's science director, "Our outreach to decision-makers is focused on making communities less vulnerable to climate change by improving stormwater management with green infrastructure, protection of forests, and stream buffer restoration.

"Every thing we put on the land and everything we flush down the drain will eventually make their way into our streams and aquifers, which are both sources of drinking water," she said. "We each have a part to play in minimizing pollution and capturing stormwater in and around our homes. The River Friendly Program provides excellent guidelines for how each of us can make a difference."

Ensuring contaminants are kept out of water sources is another. In fact, some such laws are on the books. State environmental laws restrict any development from being built at least 300 feet near streams that protect critical habitat, or C-1 streams.

Also encouraged, but not mandated, is the planting of native grasses along water bodies, like lakes and streams, both to absorb storm runoff that could contain contaminants like fertilizer and pollute, and to deter waterfowl like Canada geese, that have an affinity for wide open land by lakes and ponds.



KELLEY CURRAN



BRUCE FILITCROFT



KELLEY CURRAN

Science Manager, New Jersey Highlands Council

But that's on the governing level. Homeowners and just about everybody else can personalize the war against poor water quality from planting that buffer in a backyard to using organic fertilizer to installing rain gardens.

Programs like Raritan Headwaters Association's River-Friendly Program, for example, enable residents and businesses to improve land stewardship practices, providing ways to cut pollution, conserve water and educate the public on how to become better environmental stewards. Property owners can also keep on top of the tanks tend to leak over time. To nudge general agreements along, regional stormwater utilities are a favorite argument for environmentalists like Julia Somers, of Harding Township, the executive director of the Boonton-based non-profit New Jersey Highlands Coalition.

Such utilities have been successfully used elsewhere, no matter what the dominating political preference, she said. According to Somers, "stormwater utilities are in place in more than 1,000 towns in the U.S., in red states and blue states, and are successfully helping to address what otherwise have proven to be intractable problems: algal blooms in lakes, flooding in residential and downtown neighborhoods, finding a reliable funding stream for regular municipal systems maintenance, like catch basin cleaning, and other stormwater-related challenges."

Replacing the invasive species now found in woodlands with native hardiness to spur canopy growth and nut production is the vision of

'If it doesn't start out as pure water quality, downstream they don't have a chance.'

KELLEY CURRAN
Science Manager, New Jersey Highlands Council



The Black River off Pleasant Hill Road in Chester Township is one of several tributaries of the Raritan River, one of the many rivers that provide drinking water to hundreds of thousands of New Jersey residents.

Bruce Filitcroft, a Mendham Township mushroom farmer.

Filitcroft sees reforestation as one way to not only regrow woods so native trees and canopy produce a bounty of nuts as food sources but the woodlands can also induce better water quality. The ground cover, nurtured by the trees in the form of nuts and falling leaves, serves as a deep carpet that absorbs water and prevents contaminated stormwater runoff.

The only drawback? Reforestation on a wide basis takes up to 100 years for complete benefits to kick in, Filitcroft said.

For more information on programs, visit Raritan Headwaters Association, www.raritanheadwaters.org. New Jersey Highlands Coalition, njhighlandscoalition.org. New Jersey Highlands Council, www.nj.gov/highlands/ and Great Swamp Watershed Association, www.greatswamp.org/welltest/

Editorial Awards

Daily – Under 20,000

EDITORIAL COMMENT

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — Editorial Comment

THIRD PLACE

Elliot Goldberg

South Jersey Times

Could N.J. Diocese Settlement Be
Last of Its Kind?; Stay Away
from Senator's N.J. Don't Say
'Gay' Bill; Another Pension Grab
for N.J.'s Politically Privileged

NJPA

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — Editorial Comment

SECOND PLACE

Nick Falsone

The Express-Times

Something's Wrong at Northampton
County Juvenile Center; The Problem
with Bethlehem Area Schools'
Mysterious Internal Investigation;
Developer Rolls a Gutter Ball with
Plans to Raze Warren Lanes and
Build a QuickChek

NJPA

FIRST PLACE

Margaret Schmidt

The Jersey Journal

Amy DeGise Must Step Down Now, Let City Move on; Critical to Reposition NJCU for Success; Don't Leave Ward F Behind

2 | OPINION *The* JERSEY JOURNAL Friday, August 19, 2022

www.nj.com/hudson

IN OUR OPINION

Amy DeGise must step down now, let city move on

Embattled Jersey City Councilwoman Amy DeGise just doesn't get it.

If anything, her impassioned 4-minute speech at Wednesday night's council meeting proved that she sees herself as entitled to special treatment — and that it is indeed time for her to step down.

DeGise's remarks focused on the trauma she said she's endured since she struck and injured a bicyclist with her car, kept driving and didn't report it to police for six hours. After watching dozens of residents step to the podium to call for her resignation, DeGise once again refused to explain her actions.

While she said she felt "horrible" about what happened last month and is glad no one was seriously injured, she didn't apologize to the bicyclist or her constituents.

She then pulled out the old excuse that she's acting on "the advice of attorneys" and has to limit her comments until it all plays out in court, whenever that may be.

The people of Jersey City deserve answers now, not weeks or months from now.

Since the July 19 incident, The Jersey Journal has found that DeGise's driving record is littered with a string of very real and very concerning infractions. It's not just the dozens of parking tickets — it's the failure to pay them to the point of two license suspensions. It's failure to



Amy DeGISE attends the council meeting on Wednesday when hundreds packed City Hall. Many were there to call for her resignation.

appear in court ... driving without insurance ... failing to pay insurance surcharges that are penalties for certain infractions.

We know it's hard to park in Jersey City, but these incidents show a complete disregard for the rules that govern the privilege to operate a vehicle. Jersey City voters deserve to be represented by someone who respects and follows the law, not someone who ignores it.

The Journal also learned of lawsuits over unpaid bills in DeGise's private life and questioned — without getting a response — how she lives in housing intended for low- and moderate-income people when she makes a total of nearly \$200,000 a year between her city council position and her day job at the Hudson County Schools of Technology.

The Hudson County View

website posted police footage from Hoboken just this past November in which DeGise's car is about to be impounded after she illegally parked it close to a corner and it was struck by a truck. Her car had to be impounded, the officer explained, because the registration had expired in 2019.

In the video, we see DeGise trying — unsuccessfully — to throw her political weight

around in an effort to get the cop to release the car. Such conduct is reprehensible.

DeGise has refused to explain any of these actions, leaving the evidence to speak for itself. And it does so — loudly.

It is imperative that DeGise step down now, not only because she's shown by her actions that she's unfit for her office, but also because the clock is ticking on how a replacement would be chosen.

If DeGise steps down by Sept. 1, there will be time to put a special election for her citywide council seat on the Nov. 8 ballot. After that, Mayor Fulop and his political allies on the council would handpick an interim councilperson to serve until the next general election in November 2023.

We agree that some of the rhetoric directed at DeGise, particularly on social media, has been beyond hateful.

It's disgusting, misogynistic and threatening. Politicians need thick skins, but some of the examples we've seen are outside the realm of political discourse and are unacceptable, to put it mildly.

Yet while we denounce the actions of those who have gone too far, we stand with the scores of speakers at Wednesday's meeting who called for DeGise to resign. She should do so without further delay, before her lapse of judgment further divides the city and distracts the council from its necessary work.

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THIRD PLACE

Kevin Post

The Press of Atlantic City

Always-Partisan Redistricting
Part of Democracy; City Doubles
Down in DEP Dune Fight; Until
Public Workers Take Less,
Others Will Pay More

A6 | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2022

PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY

OPINION

OUR VIEW

Always-partisan redistricting part of democracy

Redrawing maps of state congressional districts is an elaborate show aimed at convincing the public that the operations of their democracy are principled. Parties vie to modify district boundaries to improve their chances of winning elections, and the one that succeeds gets accused by the other of election-rigging gerrymandering ... until next time.

Redistricting is a raw political fight, as we called it when it was last done a decade ago. The principle of ensuring the fairly organized and conducted elections required by democracy is the responsibility of the public.

New Jersey voters are being treated to a more entertaining redistricting show this time.

The curtain always opens on the state redistricting commission — bipartisan in the sense that it has six members each appointed by Democrats and Republicans. The lucky 13th member who will break the inevitable tie vote over whose self-serving district map will be approved is supposed to be a fair, neutral, nonpartisan person of impeccable qualifications.

There being a shortage of such persons, the N.J. Supreme Court decides who will be that tie-breaking member — by choosing between two additional people put forth by the political parties. The court picked the nominee of the Democrats, former Supreme Court Justice John Wallace. Clever nominating, we say.

Last month, sure enough, the party-chosen members voted for their own party-favoring maps, 6-0. Wallace said both groups of partisan delegates made maps according to redistricting standards, but he decided to let the Democrats have their map.

"In the end, I decided to vote for the



CANVA

In 2019, the U.S. Supreme Court — despairing of effective and fair intervention in state political matters — ruled that federal judges have no authority to referee redistricting claims under the U.S. Constitution.

Democratic map, simply because in the last redistricting map it was drawn by the Republicans," Wallace said. "Thus, I conclude that fairness dictates that the Democrats have the opportunity to have their map used for this next redistricting cycle."

Imagine the harm that would follow if this standard, apparently made up by the former Supreme Court justice, were to become common practice. The party knowing its turn at gerrymandering was next would be encouraged to get the most out of it while it could.

The process having got a little too na-

Democratic Rep. Andy Kim more likely. Ocean County, where Republicans are strong, has been completely removed from his district.

Historically, redistricting was left to the discretion of state lawmakers, acknowledging and ensuring its partisan character. Then for about half a century, the U.S. Supreme Court developed case law devoted to the constitutional requirement of one person, one vote, and the impermissible uses of race in redistricting.

In 2019, the U.S. Supreme Court — despairing of effective and fair intervention in state political matters — ruled that federal judges have no authority to referee redistricting claims under the U.S. Constitution.

Redistricting fights, therefore, must stay within the confines of state government. That leaves political parties free to try to use state government to give themselves electoral advantages in any way they think they can get away with.

The cure for this is not trying to tie their hands with some law that could be undone, worked around or ignored. Nor are truly impartial, incorruptibly independent and wise leaders able to cut through the politics likely to be found — and if they were, government and party officials wouldn't put them in charge of redistricting.

As in so many matters about voting, only the public can ensure its continued freedom to choose representatives and influence how they govern. The public can insist that any meaningful changes to the electoral process are truly bipartisan, supported by most in each party. And if a party tries to unilaterally give itself an electoral advantage, the public can kick it out of office. Preferably while that remains possible.

kedly political and unprincipled, Republicans complained to the New Jersey Supreme Court. Chief Justice Stuart Rabner asked Wallace to "amplify the grounds for his decision and present that amplification" to the court.

Duly prompted, Wallace belatedly returned to the appearance of principle. "I should have stated that the Democrats' map better satisfied the standard for partisan fairness," he said.

Indeed. One notable effect of the Democrats' map in South Jersey is reconfiguring the 3rd District to make the reelection of

Daily Over 20,000 — Editorial Comment

SECOND PLACE

Dave D'Alessandro

The Star-Ledger

Murphy's Plot to Avoid Blame for More Than 200 Vets' Deaths; A Culture of Racist Corruption in Clark Township; The \$4B Plan to Choke Hudson County

Murphy's plot to avoid blame for more than 200 vets' deaths | Editorial

Updated: Dec. 04, 2022, 11:37 a.m. | Published: Dec. 04, 2022, 7:00 a.m.



[Republicans: Lawmakers should investigate NJ COVID response](#)

Daily Over 20,000 — Editorial Comment

FIRST PLACE

Julie O'Connor

The Star-Ledger

Abortions Late in Pregnancy are a Tragedy, Not a Talking Point – Ask These Women; Kids at This Violent Newark High School Deserve Rescue, Not Spin; Yes, Shut Down Bad Charter Schools – But Why is Murphy Strangling the Best Ones?

Abortions late in pregnancy are a tragedy, not a talking point. Ask these women | Editorial

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Weekly — Editorial Comment

THIRD PLACE

Lauren S. Barr

The Westfield Leader

Elected Officials, Public Figures
Have No Personal Social Media;
What's in a Name? Two Year
Colleges, Trade Schools Should
Be Stigma Free

Elected Officials, Public Figures Have No Personal Social Media

From the moment that you file your petition to run for elected office, you go from being Q. Citizen, to being a public figure. The boards of education (BOE) we cover are typically given annual ethics seminars. In each of the seminars our reporters sat through at multiple BOE meetings, the members were advised that they don't have personal social media accounts. Attorney Derly Gutierrez gave the presentation to the Westfield board on January 18. She specifically advised the board that, "There's no such thing as a personal Facebook account." We are certain that applies to Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram and others as well. She went on to advise the board members that statements on political or hot-button issues should have a disclaimer on "every single post" that the statements are made as a personal opinion and not as a board member or on behalf of the board as a whole. "This often brings ethics complaints," she told them.

At the following meeting, re-tweets by Westfield BOE Vice President Sahar Aziz were brought forward by a member of the public who called these items anti-Semitic. Specifically, Vice President Aziz re-tweeted a phrase from Edo Konrad, an Israeli Jew and the editor of +972 Magazine, a webzine published by a group of Palestinian and Israeli "activist journalists" based in Tel Aviv. Mr. Konrad's full tweet reads: "Chanting 'from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free' is not antisemitic. Rather, it's an invitation for Palestinians and Jews to imagine themselves as free and equal in this land. Why is that so terrifying to so many?"

According to an article from The Jewish Telegraphic Agency, the phrase "From The River to the Sea" originated in the 1960s, when the Palestinians sought the elimination of Israel — the PLO dropped the phrase after the Oslo accords in 1993, and the phrase was then picked up by Hamas and other terrorist groups. Since then, some peace-seeking groups have

also adopted the phrase. Last week, Vice President Aziz spoke about her Twitter feed, calling it her "personal account," and simply stated that it has "absolutely nothing to do with the board of education."

Ms. Aziz' twitter feed also contains re-tweets of opinions against the banning of "Mans," re-tweets of calls to boycott the Olympics, and to drop the ADL (Anti-Defamation League) as a partner in social-justice networks. The ADL is the Westfield Public Schools system's partner in "No Place for Hate," a program designed to teach children and educators how to take action against bias and bullying.

It is ironic, however, that we could find no re-tweets criticizing the Palestinian government — a place where dissenting opinions against the government often result in incarceration or death, a place where selling land to Jews is a crime punishable by death.

One troubling aspect of Vice President Aziz' Twitter is that she has no disclaimer. Her Twitter bio says: "Prof. Rutgers Law School | Author of *The Racial Muslim: When Racism Quashes Religious Freedom* | Director of the Center for Security, Rights & Race @rucsr." There's no way for the public to distinguish between her personal and professional opinions, to which she has an absolute right. And if we're to believe the board's own legal expert, as well as others we've consulted, board members and other elected officials don't have "personal accounts." Because of the nature of holding elected office, there is a perception among the public that what officials post personally and professionally has impact on how they make all their decisions.

Let's be realistic — if during his presidency Donald Trump said, "my Twitter is my personal account and has absolutely nothing to do with me being President," would anyone have found that even remotely plausible?

Although Professor Marc Lamont Hill apologized for using the "river to the sea" phrase in a

speech at the UN, CNN fired him for it and the Temple University Board of Trustees condemned the remarks. Congresswoman Rashida Talib re-tweeted and deleted the saying. The phrase has a clear suggestion of eliminating the only Jewish state on the planet. Since the Holocaust, when any indication is made for the mass slaughter of Jews, Jews tend to take that threat both seriously and personally.

Vice President Aziz acknowledges what she re-tweeted. She clearly stands firm in her convictions that Israel is an apartheid state. Even in Israel, there is disagreement among the citizenry on the government's handling of Palestinian and Arab residents. This is a dissenting opinion that she is entitled to have in the United States; dissent is the backbone of our democracy. However, Vice President Aziz is not entitled to tell Jewish people how they should feel about her statements. In her re-tweet, she said something that many view as anti-Semitic. This does not make her an anti-Semite. But as an enlightened individual, employed as an educator, and serving as a member of a board of education in a town that has been home to multiple anti-Semitic acts — she should acknowledge the pain that it causes to her constituents and she should be willing to hear and acknowledge their concerns about her views.

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SECOND PLACE

Craig D. Schenck
Ocean City Sentinel

Support the Entire Constitution;
Northfield Neighbors Balk at
Sober Living Facility
in Tight Quarters

A8

THE OCEAN CITY SENTINEL HAS BEEN
WATCHING OVER THESE SHORES SINCE 1880

SENTINEL

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2022

OPINION

THIS IS YOUR FORUM.
SHARE YOUR VIEWS WITH THE COMMUNITY

OUR VIEW

Northfield neighbors balk at sober living facility in tight quarters

An angry mob, pitch forks sharpened and torches ablaze, crowded into City Hall last week after learning a monster would soon be settling down in their midst.

The scene March 8 in Northfield was far less dramatic than the one in Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein" but certainly was fueled by the same base fears.

Stop the Heroin, an Egg Harbor Township-based sober living facilitator, bought a five-bedroom home where it will run a Cooperative Sober Living Residence (CSLR) licensed by the state Department of Community Affairs.

A rotating group of 11 women who have completed a drug-rehabilitation program and want to continue their recovery from opioid addiction will live in the home.

The neighbors have a right to express their fears.

They are concerned first and foremost about the safety of their children, themselves, their neighbors and their properties. They are concerned about the loss of desirability and therefore value of their homes. They are concerned about upkeep and maintenance and about 11 women living in a five-bedroom home where there is little to no parking.

What makes matters worse — makes this a terrible place for this type of facility — is the property's location and orientation.

The home is tucked back into a tight-knit neighborhood with multiple children and just 500 feet from a public playground and the bicycle path. It also abuts seven other properties, spreading its impact to homes

on three different streets.

The house itself is located on the front portion of the property, leaving a large back yard that extends behind multiple homes. Worse yet, it has a second-floor deck — a likely gathering place since residents are forbidden from smoking in the front yard — within view of the park.

Stop the Heroin has every right under state law to operate the facility at this location and practically anywhere else, and the fact remains that people in recovery need somewhere to live lest they return to their old, unhealthy life and lifestyle.

City Council indicated it would reach out to local legislators to encourage a limit on the number of such homes that could be located in any one municipality, but there is now no limit. That is a smart decision and could lead to change.

Stop the Heroin co-founder Bill Schmincke said his "house guests" want to live sober, productive lives or they would not have applied to live in a CSLR. It certainly is in the residents' interest to do so, and their continued recovery would benefit not only themselves but also their neighbors, families, friends, community and society in general.

Because everything the facility is doing is legal and above board, it seems the best outcome would result from welcoming the new neighbors into the community and supporting their sobriety through either kindness or at least a lack of scorn and judgment. The added support from neighbors could help these women on their difficult road to recovery.



OVER THE BACK FENCE

By Jack Fichter

'Gilligan' actor didn't lead a comedic life

"The mate was a mighty sailing man, the skipper brave and sure."

You know the song and the television show "Gilligan's Island," but do you know much about Bob Denver who played the bumbling but lovable sailor on the "Minnow," shipwrecked on a desert island.

His life was not all laughs, coconuts and being the "little buddy." Bob Denver passed away in 2005 of cancer and heart complications at the age of 70 after a six-month stay in a hospital.

Dreama Denver, Bob Denver's widow, is author of the book "Gilligan's Dreams, The Other Side of the Island," the story of their 30-year marriage. The two met in 1977 when she landed a role in a Florida dinner theater production of "Play It Again, Sam." She was informed Denver was her co-star.

"Seriously, I'm going to have to do love scenes and kiss Gilligan?" she recalls asking the play's producer.

It turned out not to be a problem. She described their first meeting as "electric."

Denver's career was on the upswing in the following year when the original cast of "Gilligan's Island" reunited for a made-for-television movie, "Rescue From Gilligan's Island."

"It was really amazing, it was 15 years after the show ended and people were interested in this rescue," she said.

me, to take care of our son who had to have full-time care and he did that for the last 20 years of his life," she said.

Denver continued to make personal appearances and participate in autograph shows for income.

"Gilligan's Island" did not provide a lifetime income to Denver despite airing constantly in reruns for decades. Dreama Denver said during the first season, Denver was paid \$500 per week which increased to \$750 per week in season two and in the final season, \$1,500 per week.

He was paid for the first airing of an episode and one rerun, nothing more, she said.

The couple moved to West Virginia for the last 15 years of Denver's life, a few miles from Dreama Denver's birthplace. In 1993, Denver set up a foundation bearing his name to help families like his with no money, no savings and a child needing full-time care.

A year before his death, Denver and Dreama started a low-power FM radio station in West Virginia featuring an eclectic playlist of oldies, known as "Little Buddy Radio." It continues to this day and can be streamed online with the Tune-In Radio app.

Dreama Denver had a heart attack while her husband was receiving radiation therapy after a reappearance of cancer in his throat. During that time, Denver lost his hearing along with his

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Editorial Comment

FIRST PLACE

David Nahan
Ocean City Sentinel

Will the State BPU Care About
O.C.'s Objections; Love and
Acceptance an Easy Decision;
Demonization Doesn't Help

THE OCEAN CITY SENTINEL HAS BEEN WATCHING OVER THESE SHORES SINCE 1880

OPINION

THIS IS YOUR FORUM. SHARE YOUR VIEWS WITH THE COMMUNITY

OUR VIEW

Will the state BPU care about O.C.'s objections?

We believe the board is ready to steamroll the resort no matter what

Ocean City is continuing its fight against having transmission lines for the Ocean Wind 1 wind farm run through the island.

It looks more and more like the resort is still tilting at the giant windmills about as effectively as Don Quixote, but it's not for lack of trying.

In May, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Commissioner Joseph L. Fardalino, speaking at a public hearing, said city officials declined to comment on the diversion of Green Acres land on the island to allow for part of the transmission line's route between the wind farm and 15 miles off the coast and the former B.L. England site in Boulders Point, Upper Township.

While technically true because city officials didn't actually "speak" at the hearing, that was misleading.

The city had responded via a letter from city solicitor Dorothy McCrosson, strenuously opposing using the Green Acres land. That letter was received by the BPU and entered into the record. Suzanne Hornick, of Protect Our Coast NJ (protectourcoast.com), challenged Fardalino and read part of the letter into the record. Ocean City Council President Bobby Barr, who was alerted to the hearing and was indeed making it seem like the resort had an official comment on the issue.

That is another step that revealed the BPU is not going to be an impartial arbiter.

The clearest sign came nearly a year ago when the state Legislature stripped away Ocean City's rights to decide what goes into the rights-of-way on the island. Knowing there was significant opposition from public officials to the wind farm, the Legislature quickly enacted a law, signed by Gov. Phil Murphy, that put specific decisions — such as those involving transmission lines for wind farms — into the hands of the BPU and out of the city's jurisdiction.

It was clearly meant to prevent Ocean City from being the cog in the wheel that stopped Ocean Wind 1 from becoming a reality.

That law means the state board gets to decide if Ocean Wind 1 gets to put its transmission cables under the dunes at 45th Street and then bury them in the city streets (and on Green Acres land).

To be blunt, the Legislature and governor acted out of financial motives — they see an economic windfall. While they provide lip service about the benefits of wind power, they spend more time talking about jobs — construction jobs, maintenance jobs, jobs at the mon-site facility being built on the

Delaware Bay side of south Jersey, a facility that, not surprisingly, isn't waiting to hear if the wind farms will get final approval.

On Friday, McCrosson was back at it on behalf of the city during the latest BPU hearing, this time speaking about the city's opposition to the Green Acres portion and challenging the law that took the rights-of-way decision out of the city's hands.

This time, at least, the BPU can't claim the resort is a passive bystander to the plan for Ocean Wind 1, which is in the process of seeking state and federal approvals — bringing up to 90 massive turbines to the plot on the ocean off the coast of Cape May and Atlantic counties. There also is an Ocean Wind 2 in the planning stages along with other proposed wind farms along the Jersey shore.

As we have noted in the past, we are not opponents of wind energy or the proposed wind farm. We believe renewable energy must be a part of the future for New Jersey, the nation and the world. We are, however, waiting to see the analyses of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement released two weeks ago by the Board of Ocean Energy Management (BREM).

What happens with that will go a long way toward deciding if Ocean Wind 1 — and other wind farms off the coast — will happen.

We asked to get more comment about the impact statement from officials for Ocean Wind 1, which is a joint venture of Danish energy company Ørsted and PSFG. We got turned down.

As they pointed out — quite fairly — the statement is some 1,400 pages and it will take time for the computers involved to go through it.

That impact statement includes endangered North Atlantic right whales, commercial and recreational fishing, and the overall construction and operation of these massive off-shore facilities with a shelf life of up to 20 years — will determine whether we and many others can support this project.

We like the idea of clean, renewable energy for up to a half-million homes and businesses in New Jersey, but will the cost be too high? That is not just to what happens in the ocean, but here on land, including the hefty debates about the view — what exactly will look like off the coast and will it hurt the economies of the Jersey shore communities?

We don't know the answers to these questions. We do know that entities such as the BPU appear to have their minds made up, which makes the entire process look biased.



ANOTHER VIEW By Craig D. Scherck Graduation should recognize all students

Chief School Administrator Mark Marrone has done an admirable job of leading multiple classes of students at Mainland Regional High School through the tumultuous years of the COVID-19 pandemic, uniting the student body under his motto of One Family, One School, One Community and never missing a graduation ceremony.

He clearly cares about the students and their advancement from middle novices to strong seniors prepared for the next step. Which is why it's surprising that he does not see that by singling out the best and brightest among the class during graduation leaves those whose achievements may not ring as loudly feeling less worthy of the honor being bestowed on them during the commencement ceremony.

I was a fringe member of the Class of 1984 — maybe a member of the C social group, at best. Having moved to Somers Point just weeks before high school made it even harder to fit in with any group. That's why I was a member of the Middle Club.

I was intelligent but unmotivated. My parents didn't graduate from high school and my family did not value education. I was in the top 40 percent of my class — 113 out of 289, if I remember correctly — nothing to brag about. I was invisible to teachers because I neither excelled nor failed. I also was smart enough to avoid getting caught and punished for many of my misdeeds, so never notably climbed me.

My family was poor in Pennsylvania and remained poor in Somers Point. That's why I was a member of the Free Lunch Club.

I worked full time as a freshman and continued to do so all through high school because I was a member of the Forced to Buy Own Necessities Club. In fact, I started earning my own money at age 11 with a newspaper delivery route — no bikes, no cars, just walking up steep hills after school in all weather.

Working gave me little time to take part in sports or extracurricular activities. That's why I was a member of the Nobodies Club.

My parents and I wanted the money they made was ill-used and there were underlying issues, of course, that don't need to be explained here. That's why I was a member of the Dysfunctional Family Club.

I was also a member of the Pays Hacky Sack in the Smoking Lounge Club — yes, the '80s were certainly a different time — the Smokes in the Bathroom Club and the Cuts Class Club.

None of the many clubs that I was in was recognized during graduation.

Working gave me little time to take part in sports or extracurricular activities. That's why I was a member of the Nobodies Club.

Craig D. Scherck is an editor for the Ocean City Sentinel. Please provide feedback and

National Honor Society were asked to stand, as members of academic teams, mock trial, band and drama club were asked to stand. My sorry behind remained seated, without any special acknowledgment.

And that's sad, because simply graduating, for me, was a much bigger accomplishment than for the others.

I lacked support at home and also at school. That's why I was a member of the Paid for My Own SAT Exam and College Application Club. I had no transportation, but that didn't stop me from getting to Stockton State College because I was president of the Hitchhikers Club.

Despite my lack of excellence in high school, I later became a member of the First Person in My Family to Graduate College Club, the Award-Winning Journalist Club, the Father of the Year Club and the New Jersey Press Association (an actual club).

Last week, during his speech to the graduates and their families, Marrone directed those who graduated magna cum laude to stand, those who graduated cum laude to stand, and on and on, in seeming descending order.

Not once did he direct those who struggled with mental health through the pandemic and graduated nonetheless to stand, those who did not have a great head-start on life but graduated nonetheless to stand, those whose parents are drug addicts or deadbeats but graduated nonetheless to stand.

I don't think everyone "deserves a trophy," as those who win trophies always say about those of us who don't, but I could see disappointment in the eyes of the students who knew they were not being standing, their heads slowly dropping as each group was recognized.

Had they not accomplished something worth merit? Graduation is a day for everyone — simply to celebrate the culmination of all of the work necessary to get there.

The day to wear their trophies and ribbons, the academics had gotten their scholastic awards, the National Honor Society had held their dinner banquet. Why do they need to be singled out again on a day that is for the entire Class of 2022?

This is one tradition I wouldn't mind seeing ended by future members of the Class of 2023 are forced to hang their heads during what should be one of the happiest and most memorable times of their lives, their accomplishment diminished by the guy at the top.

Craig D. Scherck is an editor for the Ocean City Sentinel. Please provide feedback and

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Weekly — Enterprise

THIRD PLACE

Laura Kolnoski

The Two River Times

Ice Cream Company Joins List of Fort Monmouth's Growing Businesses; Fort Monmouth Redevelopment Spurs Some Complaints Over Tree Removal and More; Netflix Studios Fort Monmouth Details Emerge as Proposal Faces Vote



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ICE CREAM COMPANY JOINS LIST OF FORT MONMOUTH'S GROWING BUSINESSES

By Laura D.C. Kolnoski

OCEANPORT – The Two River Times has confirmed that MGT Foods, headquartered in Keyport and owned and operated by the same family for three generations, will create a 19,567-square-foot industrial food manufacturing facility inside Fort Monmouth's former Commissary building at 675 Oceanport Way.

Now known as Commissary at Baseline, the building is being transformed into a

food and beverage-centric facility by new owner Denholtz Properties of Red Bank. The first company to sign on, Birdsmouth Beer, a craft brewery and tasting room, is scheduled to open next month. The second, MGT Foods, has begun a multimillion-dollar construction project on its section, with completion projected for the first quarter of 2023, according to company vice president Michael Emanuele.

"It's a great building built by the Army," said Emanuele, adding automated, state-of-the-art food production lines, offices and warehouse and shipping spaces will be included in the retrofitting. Established in Brooklyn in 1968 by first-generation American Santo Emanuele, MGT Foods specializes in food science, manufacturing and distribution. Its marquee products include Mr. Green Tea Ice Cream, Mr.

Mochi, The Bear & The Rat Cool Treats for Dogs and Eat Mud Non-Dairy Ice Cream, all sold in restaurants, grocery stores and event spaces nationwide. In recent years, Emanuele said, the company has expanded into co-manufacturing, co-packaging and distributing for major food brands and private labels, including national firms he declined to name.

Continued on Page 2



COURTESY MGT FOODS
MGT Foods vice president Michael Emanuele in the Fort Monmouth Commissary space that will become a new industrial food manufacturing facility for his family's growing business.



COURTESY MGT FOODS
MGT Foods has developed proprietary processes for producing its ice cream products, shown here at its existing Keyport headquarters, which will be emulated and expanded in the new Commissary at Baseline on Fort Monmouth.

Ice Cream

Continued from Page 1

"Growing demand for MGT's services necessitated a search for a nearby production facility," Emanuele said. "The new space at Fort Monmouth will allow MGT to expand its production output and provide its unique and proprietary food manufacturing capabilities to more brands and consumers worldwide. The high-tech, exacting process we use em-

ploy would be a better fit and offer more opportunities. "We are ecstatic to go to the fort," Emanuele said, adding his late grandfather Santo flew B-17 bombers for the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. He learned of the Commissary space from a real estate agent contact. "I went to see it, met Steve Denholtz, and we immediately clicked."

area restaurants, and founded the original Mr. Green Tea company. Santo's son Richard eventually took over as CEO and the firm moved to New Jersey. Richard's wife Lori heads the accounting department, while son Michael, 36, serves as vice president. After residing in Colts Neck for many years, Richard and Lori moved to Red Bank. Michael now lives in Asbury Park. Other family members are involved in various aspects of the business as well. Michael, a Colts Neck High School and Villanova

presence on the 1,126-acre fort, which spans portions of Eatontown, Oceanport and Tinton Falls. Santo Emanuele was a member of the legendary "Lucky Bastard Club" of bomber pilots who returned home after the war. His son Chuck, who has researched and chronicled the group's history, is working with Apple TV+ production of "Masters of the Air," a nine-part series that is part of the Band of Brothers franchise produced by Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks. Set to

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SECOND PLACE

Louis C. Hochman
Montclair Local

Montclair Hands Over Its Email List

Thursday, April 21, 2022

News

Page 3

TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT

Montclair hands over its email list

Anti-hate group plans to send residents report about policing

by **LOUIS C. HOCHMAN**
hochman@montclairlocal.news

If you've ever given Montclair Township your email address for the Swift 911 service — used for notices about street closures, changes to recycling schedules and other alerts about township incidents and services — it's now in the hands of an anti-hate nonprofit.

Ben Shore, co-founder and director of Rise Against Hate, said residents on the mailing list should expect a single message from his group later this year, probably near the end of the summer. It'll include a report detailing what he says are concerning patterns in police practices — for instance, saying Black people in Montclair were more likely to wind up the subjects of police force than white people from 2012 through 2016.

The report has not yet been published or seen by Montclair Local, though Shore provided some of the statistics it will include earlier this year.

The email will include an unsubscribe link, Shore said, but Montclair residents shouldn't expect to find Rise Against Hate in their inboxes again unless they sign up for its newsletters. Residents of several other towns throughout



Montclair has settled a lawsuit by nonprofit advocacy group Rise Against Hate, agreeing to turn over the email list normally used for township alerts and service notifications.

New Jersey will get similar reports, detailing the group's findings about their communities.

"We pooled the towns based on how concerning we found their police practices to be," Shore said.

Rise Against Hate obtained Montclair's mailing list by first submitting a public records request last year, then suing in December when the township refused to turn the addresses over. The two sides reached a settlement in February, with Montclair agreeing both to turn over the list and pay \$3,500 for the group's attorney's fees. Montclair's own legal work was handled in-house by the township attorney's office, Township Communications Director

Katya Wowk said.

It's one of dozens of legal disputes Rise Against Hate has fought against New Jersey municipalities over the last few months, some still ongoing, seeking the mailing lists or police records to be used for its research.

Montclair officials hadn't made any public statement acknowledging they'd turned over the list when they settled in February. Katya acknowledged that month a settlement had been reached, but didn't disclose any terms, saying that until the parties satisfied their obligations, it wasn't yet final. She didn't answer multiple emails sent in subsequent weeks seeking information on the terms. Shore also hadn't

returned messages in that time, though he took multiple calls from Montclair Local over the past week.

Montclair Local ultimately received a copy of the settlement agreement the afternoon of April 14 through its own public records request — a few weeks after the time normally allotted to answer such a request, because the township asked for an extension.

Mayor Sean Spiller hasn't yet answered a voicemail from Montclair Local left April 14 asking for comment on the settlement. But he said in January that while the township respects groups working to advance justice, residents provide their email addresses specifically to get municipal news alerts — and don't expect communication from other groups.

It's not Montclair's first time taking on — and losing — a fight to protect its mailing list. In 2020, the Montclair Property Owners Association successfully sued the township when it declined to turn over its list of emails and phone numbers, which the group wanted to solicit signatures for a petition seeking a referendum on a rent control ordinance (part of a two-year dispute that recently culminated with a deal on a replacement ordinance, negotiated by landlords and tenant

advocates). The township, after being ordered to hand over the email list to the association, sent out its own message blast saying its "intense efforts to protect you from a blatant invasion of your privacy" had been rejected and that "you can be sure that we are all outraged by the court's decision."

Spiller noted in January that in the Montclair Property Owners Association case, the group was allowed the list only for a limited time and purpose, and then required to delete it.

The Montclair settlement is also far from Rise Against Hate's only victory against a municipality reluctant to hand over its list. Shore told Montclair Local in January that his group had requested such lists from communities all over New Jersey, and about 80% provided them without a fight.

Rise Against Hate filed lawsuits against other communities. Judges ordered Cherry Hill, West Deptford and Bridgewater to release their mailing lists, though those rulings have been stayed pending appeal. A judge in January also ordered Lodi and Allendale to turn over their lists. In several other municipalities, the cases have been settled and withdrawn; Shore said that's because local govern-

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Weekly — Enterprise

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Scandale, David Biggy

The SandPaper

Impact from Sandy Raises
Standards; Memories Still Fresh
for SandPaper Staff; Stafford
Officials Reflect on Resiliency
Following Sandy's Impact; Arts
Festival All About Community

The SandPaper/Weekly Staff, October 26, 2022



Jay Mann



Jay Mann



Jay Mann



Jack Reynolds



Jack Reynolds

NOW AND THEN: (Above) Many homes have been raised since the 2012 superstorm. (Left, from top) At the height of Sandy, flood waters rose 3 feet in under an hour, pouring in from the bay. Trees and bay waters reached rooftops in Holgate. Sandy deciding where to place them. Roads in North Beach were left with 3 feet of beach sand. Even disasters have some art to them.

Impact From Sandy Raises Standards

Construction Codes Are Still Upgrading

A decade removed from Superstorm Sandy, the building landscape on Long Beach Island continues to adapt in ways that will mitigate the impact of a future natural disaster on the scale of the 2012 Atlantic hurricane season's most lethal and catastrophic storm. "After Sandy, we knew what our deficiencies were, and we addressed them," said Long Beach Township Mayor Joseph Mancini. "We are more aware and much better prepared."

To that end, construction in federally designated flood hazard areas, which include the entirety of the Island, involves more attention to elevation, installing vents and taking other measures to make homes less vulnerable to flood waters.

"The floodplain ordinances and floodplain administration are front and center with all construction," said Sean MacCotter, construction official for Harroget Light, Beach Haven, Harvey Cedars and Surf City. "And people are complying. We're seeing a lot of house raises."

The number of homes being just elevated has increased and is still going strong, he said. "Usually, after the boom changes hands, the new owners will look to do a substantial improvement or they'll become familiar with where the water came during Sandy and where you want to be when the next Sandy comes."

Ten years ago, MacCotter was among the contractors helping to reclaim and rebuild I-95 from other perspectives, his own construction business plus he was working for Towboat US. He said the number of homes devastated by Sandy was so high that to get on the schedule with a home elevation contractor was tough.

He is now the designated floodplain administrator in towns where he is the construction official. The Federal Emergency Management Agency has pushed for all municipalities to update floodplain ordinances, according to MacCotter.

"We all had floodplain ordinances, but they weren't as detailed and enforceable as the new ones are," he said.

Municipalities as recently as this year were still adopting updated ordinances as required by FEMA Flood compliance affects not just new construction, but also substantial improvements. "If adding more than 50% of replacement value, the house must be raised to comply with the elevation set on Base Flood Elevation maps."

"The job of floodplain administrator has expanded since I started five years ago," said MacCotter. "When I trained, floodplain management consisted of a review of the elevation certificate at the end of the job. Now it's the first thing I do when it comes to plan review. I have to make sure it's compliant before they even get to building. That's for new construction and substantial improvements, but every job that come in, the first thing we look at is what is its base flood elevation."

The lengthy and detailed regulations are in conjunction with the Uniform Construction Code of New Jersey to "provide minimum requirements for development located in flood hazard areas." Municipalities that participate in FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program also must continue to meet requirements of the federal regulations.

"If a Sandy were to hit again, with the new dunes (from the beach replenishment projects), we would have 90% less ocean damage," Mancini said.

The mayor did point out that the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge in Holgate is an area of concern because of the lack of dunes to protect the beach there.

Back bay flooding is another issue, particularly on the south side of the Causeway Bridge. To help alleviate this the township has worked to see the bulkheads raised on all bayside street ends, and has installed, and continues to install, flood pumps and one-way valves.

In 2017, state transportation officials announced plans to include a new drainage system

Continued on Page 54

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They're Not Criminals -
In Northampton County
Recovery Court, They're People
Who Need Help

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Lackawanna Plan Portfolio



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An overarching question emerged as the Montclair Planning Board officially began its review of the township's redevelopment plan for Lackawanna Plaza on Monday, Dec. 12. The question: What is a neighborhood?

Earlier this month, the Township Council sent the redevelopment plan for the 8.2-acre site at Bloomfield Avenue and Grove Street to the board for a 60-day review. The board's attorney, Arthur Neiss, explained to Planning Board members that they are being asked to make one determination: Is the plan consistent or inconsistent with the township's master plan? "It's a very narrow goal," Neiss said.

SECOND PLACE

Talia Wiener Montclair Local

Educators, Families Reel Over 83 Nonrenewals; Half of Nonrenewed Staff Rehired; Drums Director Rehired After Getting Nonrenewal Notice

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Culture • Page 23

MONTCLAIR PUBLIC SCHOOLS Educators, families reel over 83 nonrenewals

'I fear we did not fulfill our obligation for oversight,' board member says

BY TALIA WIENER
wiener@montclairlocal.news

Montclair's school superintendent says he issued 83 nonrenewal notices to staff Friday as part of an effort to stabilize the staff size and head off substantial nonrenewals in years to come.

Districts have until May 15 of each year to warn non-tenured teachers and other staffers their contracts aren't being renewed—even if they might later get offers to come back as administrators reshuffle schedules and rework spending plans.

And schools Superintendent Jonathan Ponds said at Monday night's Board of Education meeting that some could have offers to return as early as the next day. More would get rehiring notices by June 30.

But the sheer number of nonrenewals — including

35 teachers, up from the 26 Ponds said would be cut just a week prior — and the rapid changes to plans left educators and families attending Monday's board meeting stunned and dismayed.

The head of the district's teachers union called it "incompetency." Board members themselves said they were thrown.

"I'm the chair of the [board's] committee of finance and facilities, and ought to know about this, and I must say that I had no idea that there were going to be anywhere near this number of nonrenewals," Eric Scherzer said.

When Scherzer said Ponds had assured him the district wouldn't face budget problems, the superintendent said that's what he'd been told by "former" Business Administrator Nicholas Cipriano — possibly the first public ac-



KATE ALBRIGHT/FOR MONTCLAIR LOCAL
Montclair schools Superintendent Jonathan Ponds listens to public comment during the Monday, May 16, Montclair Board of Education meeting.

knowledge Cipriano and the district had parted ways.

Cipriano, hired last summer, hadn't been at a board meeting since March 2, and last month the board hired acting business administrator Paul Roth at a rate of \$835 per day, without explaining why the position was needed.

At Cipriano's last meeting,

the district hired an independent consultant to investigate a complaint alleging discriminatory statements were made by a Montclair school district staff member, but officials haven't addressed whether those are related. Cipriano first began working with the district last year

See SCHOOLS, page 8

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — First Amendment

FIRST PLACE

David Polakiewicz

Echoes-Sentinel

Audit Finds Warren Affordable Housing Fees Short By \$207K

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Housing fees short by \$207K

By DAVID POLAKIEWICZ
EDITOR

WARREN TWP. — Builders were undercharged affordable housing fees by a net amount of more than \$207,000 during a 76-month period ending in 2021, according to an audit received by the Township Committee.

The audit, compiled by Mount Arlington-based accounting firm Nisivoccia reported numerous billing errors, out-of-sync record-keeping between municipal departments and long-standing balances for properties that still had unpaid affordable housing fees.

Nisivoccia's review found 98 properties with affordable housing fee balances. Of those, the average number of days a balance was outstanding was 809 days, as of April 30, 2021. That equates to more than two years and two months in arrears.

The audit looked at the fees charged for 163 different properties for the period from Jan. 1, 2015 until April 30, 2021. The developer of each parcel was obligated to pay the fee, which would then be deposited into the township's Affordable Housing Trust Fund. The trust fund is used by the municipality to pay expenses related to providing low-



VICTOR SORDILLO



JOLANTA MAZIARZ

>> RELATED

Please see editorial on page 4.

and moderate-cost housing, such as needed consultants. Within the 163-parcel total, Nisivoccia found that 64 had been under-billed by a combined total of \$260,421. Fifty-three properties were overcharged by a joint total of \$53,369. Another 46 properties were found to have paid the proper amount. Nisivoccia's audit, received by the committee in March, totals the miscalculated amounts and assesses how the mistaken calculations occurred. The document does not identify any individuals responsible.

In several passages, the auditor makes the recommendation that "greater care" be taken in calculating the housing fees.

Mayor Victor Sordillo said on Thursday, July 28 that it's "still to be decided" by the committee whether

PLEASE SEE HOUSING, PAGE 15

Watchung's lake fountains to be spraying once again

By DAVID POLAKIEWICZ
EDITOR

WATCHUNG — Water may be spraying again in the near future from Watchung and Best lakes' fountains after Tropical Storm Ida and other circumstances combined to shut them down for months.

Borough Administrator James Damato said on Thursday, July 28 that he expected shipment of new fountains within two days after speaking with the supplier/installer.

"They are coming from Wisconsin, so I'm hoping for some time next week," Damato said in an email regarding when the fountains might be operational.

At the Thursday, July 14 Borough Council meeting, Councilwoman Christine Ead detailed the long, winding fountains saga that began last fall. Watchung Lake has three fountains, while Best Lake has two.

"We all share in the frustration of continued delays," Ead said.

The fountains survived Ida's raging flood waters that struck Watchung last September and continued to work for a time after that, Ead said.

When attempts were made to remove the fountains for the winter, she said, problems were discovered. Beneath the surface, each fountain has a pump, connected by rope, and three weights.

The intensity of Ida's flooding "swirled and spun" the ropes, Ead said,



Watchung Lake's fountains are a popular sight during the warm weather months. The fountains there and at Best Lake are expected to be spraying again soon after Tropical Storm Ida and delays shut them down for months.

tangling it "like bad fishing line."

The Department of Public Works (DPW) contacted a firm that previously held a contract for Watchung's fountain repair and installation. The pumps needed to be cut free from the weights, which were not retrievable beneath the water, according to Ead.

The DPW began making new weights, in-house, in a money-saving effort, Ead said. The pumps were brought to the shop during the winter months, as DPW was dealing with lingering Ida issues plus winter

weather events. "When the pumps were further inspected," Ead said, "it was apparent they were severely damaged, and the seals were leaking oil."

Sent out for repair, the pumps again became tangled, this time in a series of events such as Covid shutdowns, parts shortages and manufacturer's problems.

"The fountains became 'stuck in limbo' and continued delays," Ead said, as the borough worked to re-establish a past service contract with the firm that managed their installation,

removal, repair and storage.

The management company continued to inform the council of service delays as the fountains' fate moved into March and April.

"We were told day after day date after date, repairs were coming," Ead said, "and then delays over and over again with longer wait periods."

Discussion then shifted to replacing the fountains as the timeline for repairs became filled with questions.

PLEASE SEE LAKE, PAGE 15

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Sunayana Prabhu
The Two River Times

Holmdel's Historic Big Bang
Antenna at Risk, Residents Say

THE TWO RIVER TIMES

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VOLUME 33 NUMBER 7

THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 8-14, 2022

ONE DOLLAR



Heavy weather didn't seem to dampen spirits as Santas of all shapes, ages and sizes took to the streets of Asbury Park, Dec. 3 for the annual Santa Run to benefit Lunch Break. For more photos of the event, see page 6.

Cold Case: Remains of Teen Girl Identified After 34 Years

By JF Grodeska

ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS — This week the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office issued a press release stating that the remains of a young woman found in 1988 on the hillside above what would become the Henry Hudson Trail in Atlantic Highlands, have been identified through advanced DNA forensic technology. The decedent was Nancy Fingerhilt, 16, of Bloom-

field. She was last seen at Easter Sunday dinner with her family April 2, 1972. The next day she vanished without a trace and was never heard from again.

The story continued in Atlantic Highlands Dec. 10, 1988. Several volunteers were cleaning up debris from the old Central Jersey railroad right-of-way that

Continued on Page 2

Holmdel's Historic Big Bang Antenna at Risk, Residents Say

By Sunayana Prabhu

HOLMDEL — The world-renowned Holmdel Horn Antenna, which proved the creation of the universe by confirming evidence of the Big Bang theory, is under threat, say residents.

While control over redevelopment and preservation of the site where the legendary antenna resides seems to be the intent of township officials, infuriated residents have called the proceedings suspect and launched a petition to save the horn antenna, garnering nearly 2,500 signatures from 42 states and 27 countries within a week.

TOWNSHIP PROCEEDINGS

During the township committee meeting Tuesday, Nov. 22, an unexpected item was added to the agenda: A resolution authorizing the township's planning board to investigate whether the property at 791 Holmdel Road (the former site of Nokia facilities) may be designated as "an area



Scientists used the 30-foot aluminum antenna atop Crawford Hill in Holmdel — one of the highest points in Monmouth County — to prove the Big Bang, a theory of the creation of the universe.

in need of redevelopment for non-condemnation purposes under New Jersey's Local Redevelopment and Housing Law." According to a press release from the township, the property contains the Holmdel Horn Antenna, a U.S. National Historic Landmark, "among

other structures." At the following planning board committee meeting chaired by Serena DiMaso Dec. 6, with the exception of board member Ron Enema, all of the board members voted to adopt the resolution to allow township planner Phillips Preiss, LLC to

prepare a study to determine whether the site of the Horn Antenna needs redevelopment. "Control is the key," board attorney Martin F. Plegier said over speakerphone at the meeting.

Enema vehemently opposed the decision. "What if it is not redeveloped? It's zoned for research use, it signs us in and we try to raise the money through the levy that was passed in the last election to fix the antenna where it's at," he said. "You're doing this resolution almost like the assumption that those three lots are going to be redeveloped. That to me is not a forgone conclusion."

Covering approximately 42 acres, the property sits strategically on one of the highest elevations in Monmouth County, providing remarkable views of Raritan Bay and Manhattan. It is located about three miles north of Garden State Parkway Exit 114. It includes an approximate 50,000-square-foot research laboratory visible from Holmdel Road that

Continued on Page 3

Red Bank Library Talks Springwood Avenue Rising

By Sunayana Prabhu

RED BANK — Three women driven by a mission to steer the progress of communities impacted by the civil unrest of the 1970s presented the latest Let's Talk About Race program hosted by Red Bank Public Library Nov. 30.

Diane Shelton, Nina Summerlin and Pamela Major helm the executive committee of Springwood Avenue Rising, the community movement that acknowledges the history of an event that took place on Springwood Avenue in Asbury Park over 50 years ago. The goal of the movement is to positively engage the community and assess its needs to make future progress.

Summerlin presented a documentary at the virtual session with vintage photos of the thriving west side of Asbury Park and present-day interviews with residents who experienced the civil unrest. Since most of the public record of the

riots is based on a variety of firsthand accounts, it lacks consistency, Shelton said. During their research, the Springwood Avenue Rising members found that "it depended on who was being interviewed and who was doing the writing, whether the July occurrence of 1970 was referred to as a riot, a revolt or civil unrest."

According to Princeton University's report on the Springwood Avenue Rising, written by Wayne Ong, "the Asbury Park NJ 'riot,' occurring between July 4 and July 11, 1970, resulted in 180 injuries, 167 arrests, and \$4 million in property damage. The damages were largely concentrated on Springwood Avenue, the main commercial thoroughfare of the city's African American residential and business district called the 'west side.'"

As Summerlin's narration in the documentary has

Continued on Page 8

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Weekly — News Writing

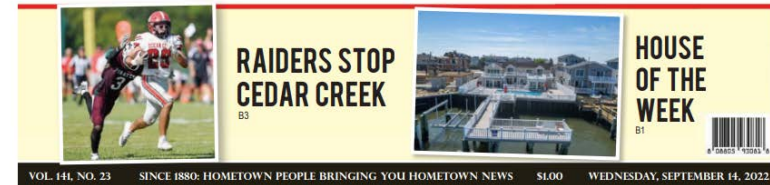
SECOND PLACE

Craig D. Schenk
David Nahan

Ocean City Sentinel

Rally Blasts Sex Ed Standards;
Queer Kid Belongs Here; City
Council Backs Parents Bill of
Rights; Superintendent: School
District Already in Sync With Bill,
To Put All Curricula Online

OCEAN CITY SENTINEL



Rally blasts sex ed standards Guest speaker, school board hopefuls claim 'sexualization,' 'indoctrination' and 'grooming'

Editor's note: This story appeared online at the Sentinel's website Friday. For related story on how the Ocean City School District plans to implement the health curriculum, go online to ocjsentinel.com.

By DAVID NAHAN
Sentinel staff

OCEAN CITY — More than 100 people gathered across from City Hall at 5 p.m. Thursday for a combination protest, political rally and Christian revival meeting.

The event at Mark Soffer Park centered around three candidates running for the Ocean City Board of Education who vehemently oppose the new state Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Standard approved by the school board in late August.

However, it went beyond that to invoke themes from the culture wars in the nation surrounding gays, lesbians and transgender rights, and what they call the "indoctrination" and "grooming" of children.

The three candidates who spoke were Robin Shaffer, Catherine Panico and Liz Nicoletti, all of whom have been vocal at school board meetings over the past year and were among those who asked the board to vote against the state Department of Education Health and Physical Education Standard.

The board voted 6-5 in favor of the standards. Most of the rally signs were asking the state to "repeal sex ed learning standards, replace gender identity indoctrination sessions and

restore parental rights." Others included those supporting the three candidates and at least one saying "shame on" the board members who voted to adopt the standards.

The candidates each spoke to those gathered, bracketing an invited

'Queer kids belong here' OCHS grad's petition quickly gets 3,700+ signatures asking acceptance of LGBTQ students in school district

Editor's note: This story appeared online at the Sentinel's website Sunday. Find related stories at ocjsentinel.com.

By CRAIG D. SCHENCK
Sentinel staff

OCEAN CITY — "Queer students, queer teachers and queer parents deserve a statement of their support for us. We want someone, the superintendent or principal of one of the schools, to reaffirm that queer students are not only accepted in the schools but welcome and their participation and existence is valued."

That was the reaction of Hayden Wathen, a 2022 graduate of Ocean City High School, to the rally held Sept. 8, when more than 100 people gathered across from City Hall purportedly to protest the Ocean City Board of Education's approval of the state Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Standard.

Wathen started a petition at Change.org, LGBTQ Students Belong at OCHS, that had been signed by more than 3,759 people as of early Tuesday afternoon.

Wathen said he feels most people support acceptance and inclusivity. "The reason I thought it was appropriate for something as quantifiable as a petition is it is important to note these people say-

ing horrible things are loud but a loud minority," Wathen said. "About 100 people showed up at the rally but within two days more than 2,000 rebuked that. If they are to listen to any group, listen to us."

The gathering, which was organized by school board candidates Robin Shaffer, Catherine Panico and Liz Nicoletti, focused on issues surrounding gay, lesbian and transgender rights, and what they called the "indoctrination" and "grooming" of children.

The candidates invited the Rev. Gregory Quinlan, president and executive director of The Center for Garden State Families, to speak.

Quinlan, who called his group is an unapologetic advocate for Christian families, opened with a Bible verse while making off-color jokes about the LGBTQIA population.

"In the beginning the Creator made them male and female... it was Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve in Eden," he said. "It was male and female. Man and woman," he said, adding the verse referenced "mother and father, not his daddy and daddy's roommate. He's not leaving his two mommies."

Quinlan said Jesus "defined marriage,

sex traffickers. He said his group is an unapologetic advocate for Christian families. Quinlan opened with a Bible verse and conducted a call-and-response from his audience, complete with shout-

"grooming" children for

See Rally, page A6

Don't forget 9/11



David Nahan/SENTINEL

Upper Township Boy Scout Ryan Smith and Cub Scout Chase Scalfaro look up at the American flag at Ocean City High School senior Ava DiBabbo sings the National Anthem in a Patriot Day Service Sunday morning in Seaville.

Upper Twp. holds Patriot Day Service to honor, remember

By DAVID NAHAN
Sentinel staff

SEAVILLE — It was overcast and cool and breezy as Upper Township set aside time Sunday morning for a quiet but poignant ceremony to honor and remember the victims of the terror attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

In the Patriot Day Service at Sgt. William R. Godfrey Memorial Park

at Osprey Point, master of ceremonies James Joyce reminded the audience gathered outside around a flagpole flying the Stars and Stripes of the toll that fateful day in U.S. history. Terrorists hijacked four airliners, crashed two into the World Trade Center's twin towers and a third into the Pentagon. A fourth crashed in Shanksville at Sgt. William R. Godfrey Memorial Park

See U.T., page A12

'Remember the price

See Petition, page A7

Weekly — News Writing

FIRST PLACE

Gina G. Scala
Maria Scandale

The SandPaper

Dramatic rescue at Mouth of Inlet After Victims Trapped Under Boat

18
The SandPaper/Wednesday, August 10, 2022

CURRENTS Comment Period Extended By Feds On Ocean Wind 1

Aug. 23 Marks New Deadline

Even as the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management has extended the public comment period on the draft environmental impact statement for New Jersey's first offshore wind farm, a Long Beach Island grassroots organization is questioning what's left for the public to comment on as it relates to the project.

"The major decisions regarding the project, except the formality of its approval, have already been made outside the public view — e.g., the location and power output," Bob Stern, president of Save Long Beach Island Inc., said Sunday evening. Ocean Wind 1 is a joint venture between Osted and Public Service Enterprise Group. It is expected to be operational in 2024 and would produce enough electricity to power more than 500,000 homes. Engineering, procurement and construction contracts have already been awarded for the project.

As proposed, the scope of the project includes up to 98 wind turbine generators, up to three offshore high voltage alternating current substations, inter-array cables linking the individual turbines to the offshore substations, substation interconnector cables linking the substations to each other, offshore export cables, an onshore export cable system, two onshore substations, and connections to the existing electrical grid in New Jersey.

The wind turbine generators, offshore substation and substation interconnector cables are to be located in New Jersey's Outer Continental Shelf, roughly 13 nautical miles (15 statute miles) southeast of Atlantic City. The offshore export cables would be buried below the seabed in the Outer Continental Shelf and state of New Jersey-owned submerged lands. The onshore export cables, substations and grid connections would be located in Ocean and Cape May counties.

Earlier this month, following three public hearings on its draft environmental impact statement for the project, BOEM extended the comment period by 15 days, giving the public until 11:59 p.m. Aug. 23 to have their say. It was previously slated for Aug. 8.

"The process is an insult to the public, and it's time to take a hard look at it and the disparate treatment being

Shore?" he asked. Stern, a former director of environmental compliance for the U.S. Department of Energy, said the industrial scale of the ocean development will have major and lasting economic impacts (including associated job losses) related to fisheries, shore rentals, local property values, tourism and electricity costs.

"There was no programmatic environmental impact statement done to secure public input before selecting these offshore wind areas for development," he said. "To bypass potential local opposition, the state Legislature passed a law prohibiting local zoning ordinances from interfering with these projects. Despite numerous requests, state officials thus far have refused to meet with local mayors and citizens groups to hear concerns."

In the meantime, BOEM noted the decision to extend the public comment period on Ocean Wind 1's draft environmental impact statement was based, in part, on a technical correction to Ocean Wind 1's construction and operations plan and the DEIS.

Ocean Wind LLC provided BOEM, an arm of the Department of the Interior, with an updated inshore export cable route option associated with the Bay Parkway landfill on July 7, according to the technical correction, which can be found on BOEM's draft environmental impact statement web page for the project.

Under the update, the Bay Parkway inshore cable route continues for approximately 3,000 feet farther southwest, following the same route as the second Bay Parkway, Marina and Lighthouse Drive route options prior to turning west toward land.

While roughly 1,000 feet of that route deviates from what was already analyzed in the draft environmental impact statement, the entire amended route is in the inshore study area, according to the update. As a result, BOEM provided updated information regarding the Oyster Creek inshore export cable route options.

"The Ocean Wind 1 project design envelope includes inshore export cable route options and landfill locations to reach the onshore substation at Oyster Creek," according to the update. "These options allow for route refinement and optimization."

All the proposed inshore options are debated collectively as part of the



Photos by Jack Reynolds

POSITIVE OUTCOME: (Above) Adam Murray (left), commanding officer of Coast Guard Station Barnegat Light, shakes hands with brave first responder Bob Selfridge, whose critical venture into the capsized vessel undoubtedly saved the lives of two victims trapped beneath. (Top) The Sunday-night response was a team effort.

Determined Dive Into Cabin Saves Lives

Dramatic Rescue at Mouth of Inlet After Victims Trapped Under Boat

By MARIA SCANDALE and GINA G. SCALA

What rescuer Bob Selfridge said to the 4-year-old girl and her mother trapped in the submerging cabin of the capsized boat outside Barnegat Inlet was "OK, I'm here, let me get you out of here."

The words made it sound reassuringly matter-of-fact. The circum-

stances were not.

Inside the 22-foot craft's cabin Sunday evening, Aug. 7, the mother and daughter were surviving in an air pocket, which was shrinking because of the rising chilly water. Selfridge later said he didn't know how much time they had, and fast evacuation was urgent.

"There was about 20 inches of air left."

Selfridge reached the pair after he dived down and swam up into the pitch-dark cabin. The fortunate outcome was that they were saved from becoming victims of a wreck of their vessel into the North Jetty.

Three other passengers, who were on the surface, were also rescued in the response that involved the U.S. Coast Guard, N.J. State

Continued on Page 49

Editorial Awards

Daily – Under 20,000

Art Weisman Memorial Award FIRST AMENDMENT

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Under 20,000 — First Amendment

SECOND PLACE

Jake Maher

The Jersey Journal

Amy DeGise Accident
And Aftermath



DeGise makes \$200K, but lives in income-restricted building

REENA ROSE SIRAYAN, JOURNAL PHOTO

COLLEGE TOWERS apartments in Jersey City, where Councilwoman-at-Large Amy DeGise owns a unit. The building is intended for low- to moderate-income residents, and DeGise makes \$200,000 a year.

BY JAKE MAHER
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

The Jersey City councilwoman at the center of a hit-and-run firestorm lives in an apartment complex intended for low- to moderate income families, even though she earns nearly \$200,000 annually from two taxpayer-funded jobs and also owns a home in the city.

According to the police crash report and election documents, DeGise lives at 132 Audubon Ave., the College Towers apartment complex near New Jersey City University that was built in the mid-1950s.

Jersey City's guide to affordable housing, last updated in 2019, listed all of the College Towers' 320 units as restricted to people making 60-80% of the area median income, or \$50,820 to \$67,760. The AMI in Jersey City was \$84,700 as of 2021.

DeGise earns \$105,000 at the Hudson County Schools of Technology, according to 2021 records, and \$85,000 as a councilmember. Hudson County property records show DeGise paid \$290,000 for a home at 30 Seaview Ave. in Jersey City in 2020.

The 36-year-old first-year councilwoman has come under



AMY DeGISE

scrutiny after she struck a cyclist at the intersection of Martin Luther King Drive and Forrest Street at 8 a.m. on July 19 and drove away without slowing down. She reported the crash six hours later and was issued two tickets. The cyclist, who blew through a red light, suffered minor injuries.

Despite her income, DeGise is likely not in violation of the College Towers' income restriction rules.

One resident, a police officer who declined to give his name,

said yesterday the management checks applicants' salaries to make sure they're within the restrictions when they first apply, but as residents earn more money, they can stay and pay market rate rents. A spokeswoman from HUD confirmed that income-restricted properties normally allow residents to stay put, as long as they pay more in rent.

The development does not list any information online about the income restriction details or how to apply, but an employee who answered the phone Tuesday said the income restriction is \$66,000. A man at the complex yesterday who identified himself as the property manager refused to answer any questions.

A spokesman for DeGise said she and her fiancé bought the house on Seaview Avenue with the intent of moving into it, but have been delayed by renovations since 2020. She isn't renting it out now and never has.

While DeGise may be allowed to stay at College Towers, some critics say she is taking an affordable apartment away from a family that needs it.

"Amy and other people who live in there — whether it be people who make over \$80,000, \$90,000, they're inside of the political field

here in Jersey City. Should they live there? The answer is no," said one political source who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

"I think if your income has risen and you can afford to live somewhere else, you need to live somewhere else in Jersey City," the source said.

Contrary to the growing calls for DeGise to resign, her neighbors at the College Towers mostly have her back.

The JCPD officer said, "I can't

"It was an accident. I think she panicked. I think she deserves to be treated fair. She's done a lot of good in the community."

College Towers resident

say she's wrong," regarding the crash. "Bicyclists are required to follow the laws as well."

As to the fact that DeGise fled the scene after the crash, he said that was wrong, but people panic in those situations and it doesn't correlate with her ability to serve as a councilwoman.

"It was an accident. I think she panicked," said another resident of the complex. "I think she deserves to be treated fair. She's done a lot of good in the

community," citing in particular her work for the senior citizen community.

A different neighbor was more succinct: "Accidents happen."

The College Towers made headlines in 2013 when it was revealed that Michael Razzoli, then the director of the Department of Public Works, listed an apartment there as his address while making \$118,000 a year at the DPW and \$65,000 from a firefighter's pension. At the time, the cutoff to apply for housing there was \$64,000.

Razzoli also owned a house in Sayreville at the same time.

Multiple sources told The Jersey Journal that the College Towers are effectively

reserved for city employees like firefighters and police officers who have low earnings at the beginning of their careers.

"The city's police and fire departments have residency requirements where they must live in Jersey City to apply and for the start of their careers," a spokeswoman for Jersey City said.

"Therefore, it makes sense to have larger amounts of police officers and firefighters living within our neighborhoods."

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — First Amendment

FIRST PLACE

Nick Falsone

Rudy Miller

Kurt Bresswein

The Express-Times

NJPA

A Quest to See How One State
Belt Town, Embroiled in
Development Feud, Spends
Taxpayer Money

Editorial Awards

Daily – Over 20,000

**Art Weisman Memorial Award
FIRST AMENDMENT**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Over 20,000 — First Amendment

THIRD PLACE

Susan K. Livio
Ted Sherman

The Star-Ledger

Understaffed
And Overwhelmed

Understaffed and
Overwhelmed



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Over 20,000 — First Amendment

SECOND PLACE

Colleen O'Dea
NJ Spotlight News

Pet Projects,
Public Cash

The screenshot shows the top portion of a news article on the NJ Spotlight News website. The navigation bar at the top includes the site logo and links for 'MORE ISSUES', 'ROUNDTABLES', 'NEWSLETTERS', 'HAZARD NJ', 'SUPPORT', and 'ABOUT'. The article title is 'Pet projects, public cash: How pork gets divvied up and doled out'. The author is identified as Colleen O'Dea, Senior Writer and Projects Editor, with a date of January 10, 2022, and a category of 'BUDGET'. A short introductory paragraph states: 'There are plenty of ways to pack a budget with pork. Here's how it's done in Trenton.' Below the text are social media sharing icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Email, and Print. The main image features a green-tinted background with a building dome and the text 'PET PROJECTS, PUBLIC CASH'. To the right of the image is a 'Budget Pork' sidebar with a 'READ ALSO' section containing a link to another article: 'Pet projects, public cash: NJ lawmakers direct millions at last minute to favored causes'. A small note at the bottom of the article reads: 'Editor's Note: **Pet Projects, Public Cash** from NJ Spotlight News details how New Jersey'.

Daily Over 20,000 — First Amendment

FIRST PLACE

Riley Yates

S.P. Sullivan

Deion Johnson

The Star-Ledger

N.J. Town Paid \$400k+ to
Conceal Alleged Racist Slur
By Mayor, Police Chief

N.J. town grapples with history of racism after
leaders' slurs surface in secret recordings

Updated: Apr. 11, 2022, 3:37 p.m. | Published: Apr. 10, 2022, 9:00 a.m.



Editorial Awards

Weekly

COVERAGE OF GOVERNMENT

Art Weissman Memorial Award

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Coverage of Government

THIRD PLACE

W. Jacob Perry
The Bernardsville News

First Aid Squad to Halt Operations; Litigation Looms; Squad Fight Continues

The Bernardsville News

bernardsvilleneews.com THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2022 \$2.75

Ridge football team advances in state • 11

Far Hills to review affordable housing plan • 3

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SANDLOT STARS



Photo courtesy of Bernardsville Recreation
The Martin family of Bernardsville claimed a top prize in the group category of the Halloween costume contest held on Saturday, Oct. 29, by Downtown Bernardsville and the Bernardsville Recreation Department for their creative play on the baseball movie, "The Sandlot." From left are Oliver, Owen, Jack and Hannah Martin.

ELECTION 2022: SOMERSET HILLS CONTESTS

Voters to decide races Tuesday

Big contests for Congress, school boards and municipal seats are all on the ballot

Election contests ranging from a close Congressional race to multiple seats on local boards of education will be decided in the general election on Tuesday, Nov. 8. Polls for in-person voting will be open throughout the state from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Somerset Hills voters will help decide the neck-and-neck contest for the 7th District Congressional seat between incumbent Democrat Tom Malinowski and Republican challenger Tom Kean Jr. The two also faced off two years ago with Malinowski winning a squeaker. This year's rematch is being highly watched across the nation as control of the House is at stake. Locally, contests for school board seats in Bernards Township and Bernardsville have generated strong interest in both communities. There are also significant municipal races on the ballot for seats in Bernardsville, Bernards Township and Bedminster. While there are no contested races in either Peapack-Gladstone or Far Hills on Tuesday, new mayors and council members will be elected in both boroughs on Tuesday. **School Board** The local school board races have dominated the headlines during the 2022 campaign season. Races with large fields of candidates emerged in the Bernards Township and Somerset Hills Regional school districts, reflecting a nation-wide cultural divide over whether schools are infringing on topics best left to parents. In Bernards Township, nine candidates are competing for four seats on the Board of Education. On the ballot for three, three-year terms are Gudia Singh, an incumbent from Deer Ridge Road, and Janice Corrado of Lone Oak Road, Erica Blackman

PLEASE SEE VOTERS, PAGE 2

BERNARDS TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Squad fight continues with \$786K at stake

By W. JACOB PERRY
STAFF WRITER

BERNARDS TWP. — Although the township claims it needs to seize the assets of the Liberty Corner First Aid Squad because the squad has ceased all emergency medical service (EMS), the loss of that volunteer service does not appear to have added to township costs. The township has filled the EMS void by amending its contract with Atlantic Ambulance Inc. of Livingston, a privately owned third party provider that generates its revenue through fees charged to users. The squad wants to hold onto its assets — most of which were received as donations from residents — in the hope that it can rebuild its volunteer base and once again provide EMS service. Township officials, citing a 2020 federal income tax return, have said the squad ended that year with \$786,884 in assets, including \$604,879 in cash. The litigation against the squad has drawn fire from squad supporters, and that continued at the committee's meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 25, with two residents asking the committee how it plans to use the assets. Committee members did not answer the question but have said the assets would be put into a dedicated trust fund and used only for EMS purposes within the township. The committee asked for a summary from Township Administrator Pat Monaco who explained, among other things, the cost of contracting with Atlantic. "To my knowledge, it has

PLEASE SEE SQUAD, PAGE 9

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Coverage of Government

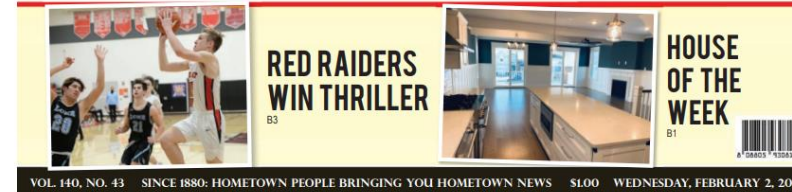
SECOND PLACE

Craig D, Schenck

Ocean City Sentinel

Somers Point is Forgiving
Appointee's Past; Adams
Resigns From Council; Somers
Point Council Picks DePamphilis;
Fox: 'Republicans Controlling ...
the Laws of Physics'

OCEAN CITY SENTINEL



DIGGING OUT AFTER A BLIZZARD



David Nahan and Craig D. Schenck
SENTINEL

It is work for some, play for others. At right, Rich Wilent of Linwood with daughters Helen, 6, and Lana, 2, on the hill at Mainland Regional High School. At bottom right, Jim Cooper of Linwood sent his son Jim Cooper, 2, down the slope as the duo was bundled up for sledding. Above, a front end loader clears a blocked-off Asbury Avenue Monday morning. Although the streets had been plowed, public works crews were getting rid of the extra snow by carting it off to empty municipal parking lots because they had no place else to put it.



Second major storm

Somers Point is forgiving about appointee's past

New council member a former police chief who was convicted of theft

By **CRAIG D. SCHENCK**
Sentinel staff

SOMERS POINT — In a unanimous vote Thursday, Jan. 28, City Council appointed former law enforcement officer Ken Adams to replace Ward 1 Councilwoman Stacy Ferreri, who resigned last month one year into her tenure.

Adams, 60, is the former chief of the Northfield Police Department who was indicted in October 2002 and charged with seven counts, including official misconduct and theft of \$3,420 in federal forfeiture funds. A jury found him guilty July 1, 2004, and he was sentenced to five years in state prison.

Multiple members of City Council not only said they were aware of Adams' past but defended their vote. Adams declined to comment about that period.

Adams had a meteoric rise and fall, starting as a patrol officer in October 1988 and being named chief of the neighboring department in February 1998. Four years later he was indicted and two years after that behind bars. His employment with the city

ended July 12, 2004. His final contract paid him a base salary of \$89,000 in 20003, according to the Northfield City Clerk's Office.

"It was such a long time ago He's a good person and will be good for the city of Somers Point."

—Council President
Janice Johnston

Councilman Howard Dill, a retired police officer with two sons on the SPPD, said he had heard "two to three stories on what transpired" and that Adams "still maintains his innocence."

"I've known Kenny for 10 years. He's always been an upfront, good person," Dill said, noting Mayor Jack Glasser worked with Adams on the Northfield P.D.

"Personally, I think he's

See Somers, page A6

FIRST PLACE

Jaimie Julia Winters

Montclair Local

Planning Board Wary of Elm St. Plan's Density; Developer Downsizes Plans for Elm Street Housing and Office Space Development; Elm Street Four-Story Housing, Office Gets Planning Board's OK



f SHARE ON FACEBOOK

🐦 SHARE ON TWITTER

By JAIMIE JULIA WINTERS

winters@montclairlocal.news

The Montclair Township Planning Board continued its hearing on a proposed 22-housing-unit and office space building for 10 Elm St. on Monday, with some planning board members vocally opposing the density of the project even before the application was done being heard.

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

Editorial Awards

Weekly

**COVERAGE OF
ELECTIONS/POLITICS**

THIRD PLACE

Talia Wiener

Montclair Local

Montclair School Board Election Results Continue; Bouknight, Fleischer, and Inyang Elected to Montclair School Board



Montclair voters overwhelmingly back \$187.7 million investment in schools

Talia Wiener | Published: November 8, 2022

(TALIA WIENER/STAFF)



SHARE ON FACEBOOK



SHARE ON TWITTER

On Tuesday, Montclair voters overwhelmingly approved the largest investment in its schools in the township's history, \$187.7 million, promising relief to a school system that for decades has relied on Band-Aid fixes to its aging buildings.

In unofficial results reported by the Essex County Clerk's office at 1:45 p.m. Wednesday, 11,153 voters backed the referendum question – 84.01% of the vote tallied to that point. Just 2,123 opted against the measure.

That count reflects 95.12% of Montclair districts, and includes early voting and mail-in ballots.

SECOND PLACE

Colleen Murphy

New Jersey Law Journal

Supreme Court in Turmoil

New Jersey Law Journal

STATEWIDE LEGAL AUTHORITY SINCE 1878

An **ALM** Publication

VOL. 228 NO. 37

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022

LAW.COM/NJLAWJOURNAL

For Law Firms Seeking Work From the State, the Process Is Changing

By Colleen Murphy

Acting Attorney General Matthew Platkin and the Division of Law has announced that, as of Nov. 1, a new version of “Outside Counsel Guidelines” will go into effect as part of the new fall initiatives for the Department of Law and Public Safety.

The new guidelines for outside counsel, last updated in 2015, address topics such as ridesharing expenses and updated ethics principles. In order to refresh the department’s subject-matter lists, the Department of Law and Public Safety will issue several new “Requests for Qualifications for Outside Counsel.” A new online application tool will be used for RFQs, which will be the subject of an Oct. 11 training webinar. There will also be a virtual introduction session on Sept. 14.

Continued on page 26

‘It Wasn’t Just Politics’: Sen. Schepisi and Gov. Murphy Strike Deal to Nominate 2 NJ Supreme Court Justices

By Colleen Murphy



SEN. HOLLY SCHEPISI, LEFT, AND RACHEL WAINER APTER, RIGHT

Bergen County Sen. Holly Schepisi, R-Bergen, has agreed to release the hold on Gov. Phil Murphy’s nomination of Rachel Wainer Apter to the New Jersey Supreme Court, nearly 18 months after she was first nominated to the New Jersey high court.

Apter is Murphy’s nominee to replace retired Justice Jaynee LaVecchia on the court. The confirmation process initially stalled when Schepisi invoked senatorial courtesy. Murphy renominated Apter earlier this year. Senatorial courtesy dictates that a confirmation hearing could not take place without Schepisi’s consent since Apter, too, is a resident of Bergen County.

Continued on page 10

FIRST PLACE

Charlie Zavalick
The Bernardsville News

Mayoral Race is On; Conflict
Charges Heat Up Race; Canose
Poised for Re-election

The Bernardsville News

bernardsvilleneews.com

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2022 \$2.50

This Sunday is a time for reflection and celebration

Ridge High School wins top 'Rising Star' theater award · 11

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Pioneering WWII pilots Monument unveiled to honor Basking Ridge couple

By W. JACOB PERRY
STAFF WRITER

BERNARDS TWP. — A local couple played an instrumental role in supporting all-Black fighter and bomber squadrons during World War II, but their names may be unfamiliar to most residents here.

Local history buffs took a step last month to try to change that by erecting a monument to the couple, Captain Robert Terry and Estelle Brock Terry, at a prominent site just off the side of South Maple Avenue opposite War Memorial Field.

The monument is on the property of the Lord Stirling Village condominium development, which was formerly the site of Somerset Hills Airport, where Captain Terry took flying lessons as a young man.

The work to compile the research and erect the monument was "a great mission," said Christopher McManemin of Lurline Drive, who spearheaded the effort. "I was making calls around the country."

The plaque describes how Captain Terry lived in a house across the street from the airport and dreamed of flying. A couple of years after his 1930 graduation from Bernards High School in Bernardsville, he received flying lessons in exchange for clearing out the airport's runway, and went on to obtain his pilot's license.

When World War II broke out in 1941, he applied to the Army Air Force but was rejected due to ongoing seg-



A new plaque and monument honoring Captain Robert Terry, and his wife, Estelle, was placed on South Maple Avenue in Bernards Township on Monday, May 23. On hand for the event were Basking Ridge residents Chris McManemin, left, and Joan Bannan, a former member of the Township Committee, both of whom were instrumental in creating the tribute.

regation. Determined to serve, he became a flight instructor at Moton Field, Ala., for the famed Tuskegee Army, a group of all-Black fighter and bomber squadrons.

Mrs. Terry joined him and supported the war effort by packing the airmen's parachutes and delivering mail. She also earned a pilot's license and flew various types of aircraft including bombers.

After the war, Captain

Terry returned to the township with hopes of becoming a commercial airline pilot but was repeatedly turned down because of his race. Instead, he instructed U.S. Air Force reservists at Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn, N.Y., and was the chief pilot and flight instructor at Somerset Hills Airport until his death in 1958.

His wife volunteered as a nurse's aid for many years at the Lyons Veterans Ad-

ministration (VA) Medical Center off Knollcroft Road. She died in 2006.

In 1996, efforts were undertaken by the Terrys' son, Qaaim Saalik, and then-Township Historian June Kennedy to erect a commemorative plaque or historical marker in Captain Terry's honor.

But those efforts never came to fruition.

At a Township

Mayoral race is on Redevelopment concerns spur contest in B'ville

By CHARLIE ZAVALICK
EDITOR

BERNARDSVILLE. — Concerns about redevelopment in town, particularly the Palmer properties on Olcott Square, has spurred a mayoral contest here this fall.

Somerset County Clerk Steve Peter confirmed on Friday that Mark Melillo of Campbell Road has submitted a petition as an independent to run against Republican Mayor Mary Jane Canose in the November general election.

While the candidacy has not yet been officially certified, Peter said the number of signatures on the petition is "well beyond" the 69 names required to get on the ballot.

Melillo said he believes he gathered about 160 names before departing for a vacation.

Canose, who is seeking a second four-year term, was unopposed in the June 7 Republican primary. No Democrats filed for the seat or obtained a sufficient number of write-in votes to get on the ballot for mayor this fall.

"I don't know Mr. Melillo personally, but I welcome him to the race," Canose said. "I stand on my long record of service to our community, on building relationships, on working with (Council members) Chad (McQueen), Jena (McCred-



MARK MELILLO
MARY JANE CANOSE

ie) and all the council members, regardless of party, to advance our recreational programs and facilities, on supporting Downtown Bernardsville and our volunteers, and on building a strong sense of community."

McQueen and McCredie were also unopposed in the Republican primary for Borough Council. It's expected they will also face a November challenge, however, as two Democrats, Robert Frawley and Kerry Haselton, appear to have received a sufficient number of write-in votes on June 7 to get on the fall ballot as well.

Melillo's campaign had been rumored for several weeks but is now moving forward. He's making his first bid for public office.

In a telephone interview from Italy last week, the 65-year-old father of two said he wants to use his extensive experience as a real

Editorial Awards

Daily – Under 20,000

NEWS WRITING PORTFOLIO

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — News Writing Portfolio

THIRD PLACE

Alexander Lewis
Courier News

Portfolio

NJPA

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Under 20,000 — News Writing Portfolio

SECOND PLACE

William Westhoven

Daily Record

Portfolio

NJPA

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — News Writing Portfolio

FIRST PLACE

Matt Gray

South Jersey Times

‘All of Us are Living with Trauma’: Kids Face Tough Odds in This N.J. County; Where is Dulce Alavez? Family Frozen in Times 3 Years Into One of N.J.’s Biggest Nightmares

NJPA

Editorial Awards

Daily – Over 20,000

**NEWS WRITING
PORTFOLIO**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — News Writing Portfolio

THIRD PLACE

Amy Rosenberg

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Tim Alexander Thinks He Can
Knock Off Jeff Van Drew – Does
Anybody Else?

NJPA

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Over 20,000 — News Writing Portfolio

SECOND PLACE

Kelly Heyboer

The Star-Ledger

Inside the Quiet Rooms: The
Woman Who Needs No
Introduction; N.J. Kids Who Lost
Special Ed Services Due to
COVID Can Get More Help, But
Deadline is Looming

The woman who needs no
introduction



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — News Writing Portfolio

FIRST PLACE

Spencer Kent

The Star-Ledger

The Exodus; Forgotten Heroes;
The Forgotten Grievors

The forgotten grievors



Editorial Awards

Weekly

**COVERAGE OF
CRIME, POLICE, COURTS**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Coverage of Crime, Police, Courts

THIRD PLACE

Matt Enuco

The Retrospect

Township Web Vigilante Nabs Pedophiles; PATCO Van Takes Out Utility Pole, Damages Two Cars; One Charged in Post-HMHS Graduation Bash at School



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Volume 121, No. 25 Hometown News You Can Trust \$1
Friday, June 24, 2022

Township Web Vigilante Nabs Pedophiles

by Matt Enuco

A local vigilante luring middle-aged men with underage decoy social media accounts is exposing the legal gray area between professional law enforcement investigations and civilian DIY stings. After catching at least three men attempting to meet up with what they thought were

14-year-old boys – one of whom lived in Haddon Hills – the Camden County Prosecutor's Office issued a press release last week discouraging people from concocting schemes to lure potential predators.

"The Camden County Prose-

(Continued on page 5)

Audubon to Revisit Political Signage Law

by Bethany Mitros

The First Amendment guarantees freedom of speech, but an Audubon resident called into question whether the enforcement of a sign ordinance restricts that basic right.

On Tuesday night, Lesley Kirsch shared with the com-

ical sign" on her front lawn, which she was told was not permitted under Sec. 113-409 of the borough's zoning regulations.

The sign, however, was not political, she argued, because it did not support a particular candidate or party but was

Turtles Flee Spatterdock Removal Machines at Newton Lake



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Coverage of Crime, Police, Courts

SECOND PLACE

Colleen Murphy

New Jersey Law Journal

Managing Court Backlogs
And Vacancies

New Jersey Law Journal

STATEWIDE LEGAL AUTHORITY SINCE 1878

An **ALM** Publication

VOL. 228 NO. 42

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022

LAW.COM/NJLAWJOURNAL

NJ Judiciary Report Reveals Growing Backlog of Cases in Counties With Highest Judicial Vacancies

By Colleen Murphy

The latest annual report issued by the New Jersey judiciary, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, shows both the resilience of the courts during the COVID-19 pandemic and the growing backlog of cases.

Chief Justice Stuart Rabner, in a letter accompanying the report, shared stories of dedication and ingenuity employed by the people who make up New Jersey's judiciary.

"For example, at the close of the fiscal year, New Jersey courts held more than 156,000 remote events, in all subject matter areas, with more than 2 million participants," Rabner stated. "As we continue to confront challenges posed by COVID-19, we must also continue to work together

Continued on page 19

NJ Supreme Court Nominees Fasciale, Apter Clear Senate Judiciary Committee

By Colleen Murphy



RACHEL WAINER APTER, LEFT, AND JUDGE DOUGLAS FASCIALE, RIGHT

The nominations of Judge Douglas M. Fasciale and Rachel Wainer Apter to be associate justices of the New Jersey Supreme Court were approved and released from the Senate Judiciary Committee on Thursday.

Fasciale, a high-ranking state appeals judge temporarily assigned to the Supreme Court, passed the committee with a unanimous vote. Apter, currently the director of New Jersey's Division on Civil Rights, passed in an 8-3 vote. The seven members of New Jersey's high court are appointed initially to a seven-year term, and, on reappointment, serve until age 70.

Continued on page 18

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Coverage of Crime, Police, Courts

FIRST PLACE

Talia Wiener

Jaimie Julia Winters

Montclair Local

Lawyer Sues Montclair, First Responders; BLM Supporters Targeted with Anonymous Letters; Two Philly Men Killed in May Crash

Page 6

News

Thursday, August 4, 2022

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COURTS

Lawyer sues Montclair, first responders



Bloomfield attorney Theodore Bohn has sued Montclair Township, Bloomfield resident Alex J. Timoff, 30 unnamed individuals and three unnamed juridical entities alleging more than 15 years of "relentless and widespread" stalking and harassment.

Alleges 15 years of stalking, harassment

by TALIA WIENER
wiener@montclairlocal.news

Bloomfield attorney Theodore Bohn has filed a lawsuit against the Township of Montclair, Bloomfield resident Alex J. Timoff, 30 unnamed individuals and three unnamed juridical entities, alleging more than 15 years of "relentless and widespread" stalking and harassment.

The alleged acts are in retaliation for Bohn's work on a case against a New York City firefighter who was an accomplice in an assault on two volunteers for an AIDS service organization, according to the suit.

Filed July 23 in Superior Court, the complaint says the defendants include individuals associated with various fire departments, emergency medical technicians, members of related benevolent associations, police departments and civilian confederates. Among the defendants are uniformed police officers and convicted criminals, the complaint says.

Bohn is described in the complaint as a gay man who has been active in civil rights and gay rights matters for more than 45 years, and who has worked to further the rights of people with AIDS for more than 35 years.

Bohn is representing himself in the suit. He declined to comment last week.

The lawsuit includes three counts: invasion of privacy and two violations of the state constitution. Bohn is seeking declaratory and injunctive relief against the defendants, along with compensatory and punitive damages, costs and additional fees.

Bohn has been subject to harassment including cut phone lines, slashed tires, hun-

dreds of pieces of stolen, opened or vandalized mail, the unlawful use of lights and sirens by firefighters, police and EMTs, and "having a felon who had beaten gay men to within an inch of their lives pose as a client" in his office, according to the complaint.

It goes on to provide additional examples of stalking: firefighters, EMTs, police and civilians waiting at an intersection near Bohn's home, exiting their vehicles and telling Bohn that they know his location at all times, reckless vehicular conduct, including blocking Bohn's movement, and cutting him off and tailing his vehicle with bright lights on.

"The township and its police department have repeatedly subjected plaintiff to surveillance without probable cause or reasonable suspicion, and have harassed plaintiff repeatedly over the course of the past ten years," the complaint says.

Township Communications Director Katya Wovk said last week the township does not comment on pending litigation. Interim Township Attorney Paul Burr has not responded to a message asking for a comment on the suit.

Timoff joined in on the stalking in 2019, according to the complaint. On March 22, 2019, Timoff got out of a Newark Fire Department vehicle, blocking Bohn's vehicle wearing a jacket with a fire department-related insignia for the purpose of intimidating Bohn, and blocked Bohn's vehicle.

A prior case, Bohn v. Timoff, filed in May 2019 regarding the same matters, was litigated until November 2021, when a default judgment was entered against Timoff for failing to appear for a deposition, according to the complaint.

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Editorial Awards

Weekly

INTERPRETIVE WRITING

Weekly — Interpretive Writing

THIRD PLACE

Rick Mellerup
The SandPaper

PR Officials Seek Funds to Address 'Damn Dam' Issues On School Campus

36
The SandPaper/Wednesday, August 10, 2022

CURRENTS

PR Officials Seek Funds To Address 'Damn Dam' Issues on School Campus

Terms for \$750,000 Expected This Year

Outgoing Pinelands Regional School District Business Administrator Nick Brown had some good news for the Pinelands Board of Education at its July meeting, the last of Brown's tenure.

"My favorite topic," sarcastically said board President Betti Anne McVey when opening the old business segment of the meeting before turning serious, "and one of the many reasons why I will miss Nick going forward, is his hard work and determination on trying to resolve the fact that the Pinelands Regional Board of Ed owns the damn dam and the bog."

Before moving on to Brown's reply, the reason McVey referred to the "damn dam" must be explained.

It is a tiny wooden dam that holds back the water from a series of four bogs that were built in Little Egg Harbor by Sterling Otis in the early 20th century. Otis, a well-respected citizen of Tuckerton — Otis Bog Road is named after his bogs — created them for his cranberry business.

One is located on land now owned by Walmart; it has been left to grow over with native vegetation as part of that company's mitigation plan to

develop an environmentally sensitive area that is home to two endangered species, the Cope's gray tree frog and the Pine Barrens tree frog.

The second and third bogs or, as some call them, ponds, are located behind Pinelands Regional High School and were used by the school's successful "Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs" program for many years. They can, however, cause trouble. When they flood, their water backs up into the high school's drains and into the Commons area of the school, where students gather during lunch and on breaks.

It is the fourth and largest bog and the dam, though, that have long caused a much larger problem for the Pinelands Regional BOE. In February 2019, Pinelands Superintendent of Schools Melissa McCooley told now-retired SandPaper reporter Pat Johnson that the dam had been an issue for about 20 years.

Years ago the state of New Jersey told the district that it must replace the dam. But doing so will be expensive. While the district owns the bogs and dam, Ocean County owns Giffordtown Lane, abutting the fourth and



Jack Reynolds

STATE MANDATE: The Pinelands Regional Board of Education must replace or completely rehab the wooden dam that holds the water of four bogs on its campus and which has caused problems for the district for two decades.

largest bog and the dam, and Little Egg Harbor Township owns the pipe that goes under the roadway to drain the bogs' water into Lake Pohatcong. And while Brown emphasized the county and township have been cooperative, neither one has volunteered to ante up money for the replacement.

Again, the county and township have been cooperative. Back in 2019 they had engineers do a cost estimate for the project. Then-Little Egg Harbor Township Administrator Matthew Spadaccini sent the results to McCooley in February of that year.

T&M Engineers said in order to bring the dam into compliance with the N.J. Department of Environmental Protection Dam Safety rules, it would cost between \$155,000 and \$280,000.

"That's a lot of money," said McCooley at the time. "So we've reached out to a local company, Corliss and Sons, for an estimate on how much just to fix the problem rather than redo the entire dam, and we are waiting on that. We do plan on repairing it."

Well, that plan didn't work. The NJDEP Division of Dam Safety insists the dam be replaced, or at

least totally rehabilitated, not merely repaired. And the cost of that project has since significantly mounted, as Brown revealed at the board meeting.

"Yeah, so we got some good news," he said. "I indicated previously that we had applied for funding and received informal notice that we were going to get approved for funding. We got an official letter from the DEP that let us know that our funding application for the dam rehabilitation was approved."

"So we applied for over \$750,000
Continued on Page 38

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Interpretive Writing

SECOND PLACE

Eileen Moon

The Two River Times

Red Bank Couple Returns After Ukraine Rescue Mission

THE TWO RIVER TIMES

tworivertimes.com

VOLUME 32 NUMBER 25 THE WEEK OF APRIL 28 - MAY 4, 2022 ONE DOLLAR



Fair Haven council member Meghan Chilesor-Kafoe and two of her children enjoyed the new playground equipment she helped the borough choose to replace damaged items. Read the full story below and see page 2 for more photos.

Recreational Marijuana Still Not Available in Monmouth County

By Stephen Appuzzo

MONMOUTH COUNTY - Thursday, April 21 marked a historic moment in the Garden State — the launch of the legal adult (age 21 and older) recreational cannabis market. As crowds flocked to New Jersey cannabis dispensaries, Monmouth County has yet to see the retail side of legal adult recreational marijuana. Following statewide majority support for the decrimi-

nalization and introduction of recreational cannabis sales, Gov. Phil Murphy signed The New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory, Enforcement Assistance, and Marketplace Modernization Act (CREAMM) Feb. 22, 2021. The act decriminalizes the possession of recreational marijuana, outlines recreational use guidelines for adults 21 and

Continued on Page 4

Red Bank Couple Returns After Ukraine Rescue Mission

By Eileen Moon



Natasha and David Halbout stand on each side of a banner marking the "USA stands with Ukraine" gathering at Holmsted Park Sunday, April 23. Natasha's niece Malia Dvorina is second from left.

RED BANK — After weeks of travel, work and worry, Red Bank residents David and Natasha Halbout are back at home, having succeeded in their efforts to rescue Natasha's disabled sister Alla, 60, and her brother-in-law Vladimir, 81, from their apartment in Kyiv, Ukraine. They also managed to bring their niece Malia Dvorina, 31, back with them to Red Bank after her precarious journey from Kyiv to Prague, Czech Republic.

They accomplished this thanks to the concern and generosity of many here in the Two River area and the determined efforts of a non-linked chain of donors and volunteers that stretches across the Atlantic into the heart of the war zone.

The Halbouts are extremely grateful. Now, with their family safe from immediate danger, they have established a Facebook page, Ukrainians of Monmouth County, where newly arrived Ukrainians can connect with Ukrainian-Americans and others who can help them adjust to life here as they wait and hope for the time they can return to their home nation.

The Halbouts are also gathering another shipment of trauma first aid kits to be sent to Ukraine next week.

In the midst of the misery engulfing Natasha's native country, she and David have been sheltering Ukrainian refugees, there were Ukrainian

Rumson Honors Frederick Law Olmsted

By Vita Duva

RUMSON — The man widely regarded as the father of American landscape architecture — Frederick Law Olmsted — has legendary ties to this upscale suburban borough. And now two occasions will honor the man who co-designed both the grounds of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. and Central Park in New York City, among many other high-profile urban parks.

Olmsted designed with natural elements in mind, letting the land speak to the design rather than vice versa. He is considered an important member, if not leader, of the early conservationist movement, encouraging the government to preserve lands for public use. He was instrumental in saving Niagara Falls from threatened industrialization in the late 1800s.

An OLMSTED-INSPIRED PROJECT

The Rumson Environmental Commission was recently awarded a \$10,000 environmental grant for its "Emerald Necklace Green Infrastructure Project" from New Jersey American Water, a subsidiary of American Water and the largest investor-owned water utility in the state.

Inspired by Olmsted and his relationship to Rumson, the community improvement project will include three demonstration rain gardens complete with bioswales throughout the municipality.

"Our rain garden project will celebrate the 200th anniversary of Frederick Law Olmsted's birth," Heather Robinson, a commission member, told The Two River Times. "Through his extensive legacy in transforming the modern American landscape, (Olmsted) promoted accessible green spaces which we are emulating by creating a series of rain gardens in town and encouraging residents to add their own gardens to the 'emerald necklace.'"

The environmental commission has promised to

Continued on Page 2

Continued on Page 6

Weekly — Interpretive Writing

FIRST PLACE

Gina G. Scala The SandPaper

Drill Hones Intricate Response Skills

CURRENTS

Ship Artifacts Dug Up From Chestnut Creek

See New Exhibit at
Maritime Museum

A new exhibit at the New Jersey Maritime Museum in Beach Haven features artifacts from a vessel that was sunk in the Mullica River during the Revolutionary War. The exhibit was donated by Stockton University, where underwater archaeology students have been probing the site under the direction of Stephen Nagiewicz, an adjunct professor in the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

Nagiewicz said the artifacts were from a vessel that he named the *Phoebe*, paying homage to the late William Phoebe, who was an alumni professor at Stockton and a fisheries scientist for NOAA, when he discovered the wreck in 2008.

"It was one of 10 privateer vessels sunk during the Battle of Chestnut Neck on October 6, 1778," Nagiewicz said.

Nagiewicz said that at the beginning of the Revolution, Chestnut Neck was a busy, thriving trade center, about 10 miles north of Atlantic City in what is now Port Republic. It was a major port, as local vessels traveled to New York and elsewhere, carrying mail, trading goods and merchandise. With the coming of the war, American privateers took over the harbor facilities to use as a home base.

"They would attack and seize British ships and take their captured prizes into Chestnut Neck," he said. "The captured vessels and their cargoes were sold, and the captured vessels were often adapted for use as privateers. The privateers played a major role in the war, and if it wasn't for them, we would still probably be speaking with British accents."

Nagiewicz said the British became so exasperated by this constant loss of ships, British commander General Henry Clinton in New York authorized an attack on Chestnut Creek, resulting in 10 boats being burned and sunk and 50 privateer deaths.

Artifacts at the museum include broken pieces of liquor or wine bottles, pieces of wood from the hull and a hand-made brick — all cleared from the intense fire. Nagiewicz said the handmade brick would indicate there was an onboard hearth for cooking, with the bricks used for reducing the possibility of a fire on board.

He said the vessels were two-masted schooners that were between 60 to 90 feet long.

"Except for parts of the hulls, there was very little left of them," said Nagiewicz. "They had been sitting in soft riverbeds, corroding away until we were able to track them down through some 240 years later."

"I think it's a fascinating story, showing how much of a major part South Jersey played in the Revolution," said Deborah C. Whitecraft, museum founder and president. "We have books in our lending library for people who want to read up on the history of Chestnut Neck."

For more information, call the museum at 609-492-0203.

— Erin England
erinc@njpa.com

Continued on Page 54



Sand Hole Cave-In Training

Drill Hones Intricate Response Skills

The call rang out over a county radio channel on Sunday morning — a sand hole collapsed with multiple victims. Emergency units from the north end of the Island responded, immediately getting to work locating the area where the victims were last seen on the Coast Avenue beach in Loveladies prior to the sand caving in on top of them. Simultaneously, calls were made for two helicopters to be dispatched and a request for heavy digging equipment from Barnegat Light and Harvey Cedars to respond.

While Sunday's call was a real-time training exercise for Barnegat Light, High Point and Surf City emergency services volunteers, it came less than a week after 18-year-old Levi Caverly of Maine was killed on a beach in Toms River when the hole he dug with his sister caved in, trapping both of them. Caverly's sister was rescued and treated at the scene, according to a report issued by Toms River police.

The May 17 incident came just days after a 13-year-old died in Luth when the hole he was digging at Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park came down around him without warning.

"It's such a tragedy. Those are the kinds of calls that make you burn out. It's a low-frequency, high-intensity incident," said Bob Selfridge, lieutenant and training officer of the Barnegat Light Volunteer Fire Co. and captain of the Barnegat Light EMS, prior to the training exercise.

He has led sand collapse training on the Island for years and was trained by lifeguards from the West Coast.

"There is a method to our madness," Selfridge said, noting first responders rely on bystanders and good Samaritans to determine where to dig. "There's a difference in digging fresh, in a place where no one has dug before."

After verifying the last known whereabouts of the victims, first responders attempt to locate the center of the area and fan out.

On Sunday, a large hole was dug midway between the dunes and the ocean's edge, large enough for a



ALL TOGETHER: Bob Selfridge (above center, kneeling) passes a training exercise he led Sunday on the Coast Avenue beach in Loveladies for first responders on the north end of LBI to discuss technique. The drill came less than a week after a teenager visiting from Maine died after being trapped by sand on a Toms River beach May 17.

Photo by Ryan Merrill

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

Editorial Awards

Daily – Under 20,000

SPECIALTY WRITING PORTFOLIO

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — Specialty Writing Portfolio

THIRD PLACE

Kyle Morel

New Jersey Herald

Education Beat

NJPA

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — Specialty Writing Portfolio

SECOND PLACE

Bruce Scruton

New Jersey Herald

Environment

NJPA

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — Specialty Writing Portfolio

FIRST PLACE

Phaedra Trethan

Courier-Post

Portfolio

NJPA

Editorial Awards

Daily – Over 20,000

**SPECIALTY WRITING
PORTFOLIO**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Over 20,000 — Specialty Writing Portfolio

THIRD PLACE

Bobby Brier

NJ Spotlight News

Mental Health
Coverage

NJ Spotlight News MORE ISSUES ▾ ROUNDTABLES NEWSLETTERS HAZARD NJ SUPPORT ▾ ABOUT ▾

Mental health of migrant workers now in focus

BOBBY BRIER, MENTAL HEALTH WRITER | AUGUST 15, 2022 | [HEALTH CARE](#), [SOCIAL](#)

Advocates work to expand access for farmworkers who tell of mental health risks



File photo: Farm workers

New Jersey's migrant and seasonal farmworkers have few mental health services available and little access to them, although some support exists from health centers like Southern Jersey Family Medical Centers

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Specialty Writing Portfolio

SECOND PLACE

Rebecca Everett

The Star-Ledger

The Dog Whisperer; The Boys
Upstairs; Double Jeopardy

The boy upstairs



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

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Daily Over 20,000 — Specialty Writing Portfolio

FIRST PLACE

Deena Yellin

The Record (Bergen)

Covering Religion

NJPA

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Editorial Awards

Weekly

FEATURE WRITING

Weekly — Feature Writing

THIRD PLACE

Charles Toutant

New Jersey Law Journal

Beth Baldinger Sees \$10M Settlement Creating an Incentive To Reform Police Practices



By Charles Toutant

In the months after Beth Baldinger of Mazie Slater Katz & Freeman obtained a \$10 million settlement in a police excessive force suit, her client has been busy preparing to move out of the nursing home where he has lived for the past eight years. For Xavier Ingram, winning his suit against the Camden County Police Department means he can buy his own home, have it refurbished to meet his needs, and start a new life.

Baldinger's suit claimed Ingram, then 20, was rendered quadriplegic after a police officer stepped

on his neck when he was arrested in a "sweep" of his Camden neighborhood. Along with co-counsel Trevor Dickson and Corey Rothbort of her firm, Baldinger obtained the settlement after a two-week trial in U.S. District Court ended in a mistrial.

Ingram "had very few options and choices, and now he has a whole spectrum in front of him. So it's very exciting to see how he continues to thrive as he goes forward. It's been an amazing journey," Baldinger said of the case.

During the trial, she ran up against a federal court rule requiring jury verdicts to be unanimous,

Weekly — Feature Writing

SECOND PLACE

Craig Wolff
Montclair Local

A Montclair Wall,
Vividly Transformed



WINNER
2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
NJPA
General Excellence Award
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Investigative Journalism Award

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INSIDE

Rainy weather, shiny smiles: new school year starts
News • Page 4

Football opens: MHS and MKA fall to foes
Sports • Pages 13, 14

Montclair author's 7th novel: a dad's dark secrets
Culture • Page 18

STREET ART

A Montclair wall, vividly transformed

Anonymous artist Jerkface leaves his distinctive mark

by **CRAIG WOLFF**
wolff@montclairlocal.news

The mayhem on Glenridge Avenue began building the morning of Aug. 22 when a lone figure, standing in a driving rain, contemplated a slate-gray wall framed by a cracked parking lot, sagging power lines, a street lamp, an exhaust vent and a gas meter and saw in it the catalysts for art.

Over the following four days the street artist who calls himself Jerkface brought his jumbled imaginings to an unremarkable space in Montclair and made everything around it come to life.

First came 20 chalked dots laid out in a grid to provide scale. Swiftly then, the characters,

CRAIG WOLFF/STAFF

Zane Riester and his 9-year-old daughter, Ella, taking in the spray-painted creation on Glenridge Avenue.

See MURAL, page 8

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Feature Writing

FIRST PLACE

Ryan Loughlin
Atlantic City Weekly

Yo, Cuzzie! New Tennessee Ave.
Pizzeria Slices Up the
Competition in Atlantic City

COVER STORY



ATLANTIC CITY WEEKLY / AT THE SHORE

RYAN LOUGHLIN
Generally speaking, few things raise less of an eyebrow than a new pizzeria opening up shop in New Jersey. It's not that we don't all love the stuff, but there are just so many pizzerias ... and most are basically clones of one another, putting out standard pies and subs with not much to speak of in the creativity department.

That's why Cuzzie's Pizzeria Kitchen in Atlantic City is so exciting! Not content to be just another pizza joint, Cuzzie's joins the ultra-creative lineup of restaurants on Tennessee Avenue in Atlantic City with an exciting menu of pizzas, entrees and sandwiches that nobody saw coming.

"I call it Italian-American with no rules," says Lee Sanchez, the brains behind much of what you find on the menu at Cuzzie's.

Sanchez runs STW Hospitality, the consulting group that has been crucial to the management and brand development of many of the most exciting restaurants and bars on Tennessee Avenue. He works hand-in-hand with owner Mark Callazzo and Executive Chef Kevin Cronin, who has made a name for himself at Callazzo's former restaurant, The Iron Room, as well as at Rhythm & Spirits, located right next to Cuzzie's.

"We wanted to break down the traditional barriers of what Italian food needs to be," Sanchez says. "We sort of combined my mother's approach to Italian-American cooking along with my and Chef Kevin Cronin's approach to food overall. We worked on some of the things that our other res-

taurants were known for, such as The Iron Room's mac 'n' cheese sauce, which is now the cheese sauce we use on our cheesesteak at Cuzzie's. So we are blending these ideas together in order to bring some really great food to the table."

Unlike the other spots on the block, Cuzzie's is designed mostly for grab-and-go. Those looking for a more refined, sit-down experience can still find many of their items on the menu at Rhythm & Spirits, but at Cuzzie's the experience is stripped down while the food is dressed up.

"Our biggest challenge at Rhythm & Spirits was that we needed a bigger pizza oven," Sanchez notes. "We wanted to take the pizza to the next level, but we were really out of room. But we owned the space next door that used to be the Iron Room coffee shop, so we decided to build a massive, custom-made brick oven with an open flame in there. That space became Cuzzie's, and it allows us to offer our pizza in a grab-and-go fashion. It's a perfect place to stop if you are walking down the street to the beach and you want a quick slice."

The pizza

The brilliant thing about Cuzzie's is that although they offer all kinds of unique topping combinations, they seem keenly aware that underneath it all, the pizza is its simplest form needs to stand on its own. Great ingredients are obviously important, but you can only make a great slice if you have the skills to do so.

"It's all about balance," Sanchez insists. "A lot of people think, 'I like lots of cheese on my pizza,' but too much cheese is not the



Lee Sanchez pulls a fresh pie from the oven at Cuzzie's Pizzeria Kitchen, the latest restaurant to open on Tennessee Avenue in Atlantic City. MATTHEW STRABUK PHOTOS

Cuzzie's Pizzeria Kitchen

Where: 131 S. Tennessee Ave., Atlantic City

When: Open 5 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 5 to 11 p.m. Fridays, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturdays and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sundays. Will expand to seven days in February.

How much: Pizza slices range in price from \$2.50 to \$3.50; full pies \$8 to \$18; sandwiches \$14 to \$18.50; salads \$12 to \$14; entrees \$15 to \$30

Services: Major credit cards accepted. Liquor license. Disabled access through front door. Eat in. Takeout. Delivery. Catering. Private parties. No kids menu. No smoking.

More info: Call 609-350-6852 or go to CuzziesPizza.com

Between you and me: Though its mostly a grab-and-go place, Cuzzie's actually serves beer and wine that you can enjoy right there. Pair your slice with a can of PBR or a glass of sparkling rose and get your evening started off the right way! And if you ask nice enough, they will let you enjoy Cuzzie's at the bar at Rhythm & Spirits if they are open and it's not too busy.

answer, it falls over and slides off. It's easy to make a pizza that has sauce and cheese on it, but you've got to make sure all the components taste right. We start with a great dough - Rando's Bakery makes our dough for us because we don't have the kitchen space to make it. And they make a great, consistent dough. We fine-tuned the sauce

Kevin made and tested it until we got to the point where we all loved it. And we made sure to pick the right cheeses. We make a really cool cheese blend with mozzarella, manchego and parmesan cheeses. That manchego gives it a Spanish inspiration and plays to my heritage, but it also gives it a very unique texture and great flavor.

And you need to run your oven at the right temperature. We run at 600 degrees, and we produce a very thin-crust pizza. When done right, it gets nice and crisp on the bottom, and the top caramelizes the cheese, but the pizza maker has to be sure to watch it the whole time. This isn't some basic pizza oven; this thing has 600 degrees of open fire above it!"

The plain pie is a thing of beauty at Cuzzie's, but you would be missing out if you didn't try some of their other pizza options. Unlike many pizzerias where you just haphazardly select your own toppings, here the pizzas are like culinary works of art, with ingredients that are intentionally matched to complement and balance each other in brilliant ways.

The Southern Fried Chicken Pie takes that wonderfully thin Rando's dough and tops it with crispy fried chicken, bacon and the legendary Iron Room mac 'n' cheese sauce along with a bit of Hank's Sauce, a favorite local hot sauce; and then there's the Green Chili Pie that features mozzarella topped with hatch chiles, tomato, onion and manchego. The list goes on and on. Perhaps

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Editorial Awards

Weekly

COLUMN WRITING

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Column Writing

THIRD PLACE

Michael Izzo

The West Essex Tribune

Michael's Musings

A-4 West Essex Tribune September 22, 2022

Opinion

School Security Forum

Last week, Livingston Public Schools hosted a community conversation focused on school security. The program included district administrators and members of the Livingston Police and Fire Departments, and touched on topics ranging from active shooter incidents to cybersecurity.

The school shooting that occurred earlier this year in Uvalde, Texas was one of the most discussed topics that evening. It was heartbreaking to hear parents discuss the fears they have about simply sending their children to school, and they relayed the concerns their children have shared with them, as well. It was a somber, grim discussion, but one that, sadly, needs to be had in 2022. We are glad the district was willing to listen to these comments directly, even if all involved knew there would be no magic answers to solve these terrible issues.

We thank the school district for hosting this forum, and all of the officials who participated in it for responding to difficult questions as thoughtfully and honestly as they could (without divulging information that could compromise security protocols). We also applaud the residents — mostly parents of students in the district — for spending their evening in the high school auditorium when they could have easily stayed home and watched the Emmy Awards or Monday Night Football. It took everyone in the room to have such a productive conversation. We hope it is just the first of many.

Get Your Fall Shots

The gradual drop in temperature and faint smell of pumpkin spice means that we have once again arrived at September's National Immunization Month, and this is right around the time we encourage everyone to get their flu shots.

This year we are also encouraging everyone to get their newly-available (as of this month) fall COVID booster shots, reformulated to target the omicron subvariants of the virus. Individuals 12 years old and up are eligible to receive the latest booster.

We understand that "booster fatigue" may be setting in for some (for many, this will be their fifth COVID shot in less than two years), but this is no time to get lax about your health.

The same could be said about the flu. While the past two years have seen significantly fewer flu cases, due in large part to precautions taken during the COVID pandemic, signs in the southern hemisphere indicate a rough flu season may be imminent.

While seasonal influenza viruses are detected year-round, they are most common in the fall and winter. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), everyone older than six months should get a flu vaccine every "flu season" to help prevent the contraction and spread of the virus.

Influenza can be a very serious disease that may lead to hospitalization or even death. According to the CDC, each flu season is unique and varies in duration, severity, and impact. Many people do not



Fun at the Family Festival

Memory Lane

Louis Riccio, a 1966 graduate of Livingston High School, recently shared his memories of growing up in Livingston during the 1950s and '60s.

What was Livingston like back then? "There was a lot of farm land and gladiola farms in town," Riccio recalls. "This was prior to the opening of Route 280. The



Michael's Musings

By Michael Izzo, Editor

I always knew that the earliest developmental stages of my sons' lives weren't going to be my favorite. I have always wanted to be a father, but what I was looking forward to were the things a little further down the line: taking them to movies and baseball games, coaching their sports teams or other activities; traveling with them on vacations that they were eagerly anticipating. Slightly older kids stuff. That was totally fine with me. I was more than willing to wait and do my best to relish the journey getting there.

That doesn't mean I haven't enjoyed the last two-plus years of their lives—I have, I swear! We have made more precious memories than I can hold in my sleep-addled brain. But I was still always looking forward to the next thing. "I can't wait until they're old enough to make their own breakfast, to be potty trained, until they can fully communicate what it is they want; whenever we can get rid of these bulky car seats; when they start school or join their first sports team," the list goes on.

Well, it finally happened. I'm now looking back instead of forward, because about a month ago, the terrible twos arrived. I thought it was overblown, maybe even a myth, that all kids hit a stage where the tantrums and moodiness seem endless. I was wrong. Now, everything is "no."

Put on your shoes to go in the backyard? No. Sit still for a diaper change? Nope. Eat a few bites of dinner? Get out of here. Leave the house in time to not be late for wherever we're going? LOL.

Things that were once routine, like putting on clothes, getting in the car, and bedtime now take infinitely longer. We have been losing entire nights getting our kids to bed the past few weeks. Nobody spoil "Stranger Things" for me, I'm still waiting for them to settle at a reasonable enough hour for me to finish it!

I miss my sweet boys and the

general agreeableness to whatever we asked of them. Not the constant battle things tend to feel like now. As is the case with all things twins, two is certainly making this moment a bit more challenging. They still have their sweet moments, of course (with twice the challenge comes twice the joy), but while one may be having a nice morning, the other probably isn't. So the true "good days" are fewer and farther between because there's a double the chance one of them is having a "bad" one. Henry singing the entire first verse of "Ten in the Bed" is just a little less special when Oliver is screaming at the top of his lungs two feet away, for example.

It can be exhausting for my wife and me, who have (temporarily?) switched back to our newborn schedule of sleeping whenever they're down and we are off of work just to have the energy and mental capacity to keep afloat.

I've been a parent long enough to not have an existential crisis about it all; I believe it's just a stage, like the one before it and the one that will come after it. But boy, that sure was a good stage in the first half of 2022, wasn't it? Sleeping from 7 p.m. to 6:30 a.m.; able to play with each other, following directions almost always. They were good times. I just wish I appreciated them a little more while they were happening.

For that reason, I'm trying hard to take in the good moments when they come, even if the day-to-day has been a bit of a grind lately. The high-fives on the way out the door when I leave for work; chases around the house; watching their brains work as they explore something new. There is reason to believe that one day I will look back and even miss this exhausting stage, after all.

Of course, there is also this chilling line that multiple people have shared with me, unprompted, which they genuinely meant to be comforting: Two years old isn't that bad... it's three that's the real headache.

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Column Writing

SECOND PLACE

David Nahan
Ocean City Sentinel

Is It Better to Be Woke of Blissfully Asleep?; Forty Valentine's Days

48 THE OCEAN CITY SENTINEL HAS BEEN WATCHING OVER THESE SHORES SINCE 1880
SENTINEL WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2022 THIS IS YOUR FORUM. SHARE YOUR VIEWS WITH THE COMMUNITY

EDITORS DESK

By David Nahan

Is it better to be woke or blissfully asleep? And how do we teach our children?

Why would anyone choose ignorance over knowledge? Why do people choose to be offended at the slightest thing rather than saving their outrage for the outrageous things?

We are in the land of no in-between, no compromise. Now we are supposed to teach our children? The term "woke" was used as a symbol of pride on the left for being hyper-aware and as a criticism of others who weren't as vigilant about what they said or did.

And then the term was co-opted by the right not only as a derogatory term but a political rallying cry. It is an up-to-date online dictionary. Merriam-Webster.com "woke" is defined as "aware of and actively attracted to important societal facts and issues (especially issues of racial and social justice)."

Among the cautious used was "a moral obligation to 'stay woke,' take a stand and be active, challenging injustices and racism in our communities and fighting hatred and discrimination where it rises." The second definition (disapproving) is "ideologically liberal (as in matters of racial and social justice) especially in a way that is considered unreasonable or extreme."

So, where's the balance? Across the nation — and as seen right here at home — there have been interesting debates over race and racism, gender inequities and LGBTQIA's rights.

This isn't new. Gay rights has been a public topic for debate since the late 1960s, for gender inequities for race and racism, the suffragette movement early in the last century.

Everything, however, has seemed to coagel over the past year into the woke versus the anti-woke movement. Woke: Those who demand a full acknowledgement and teaching of the history of racism, sexism and homophobia among others, in the ongoing fights against these societal ills, in tandem with a hyper-sensitivity of real and perceived current transgressions (bias, cultural appropriation, etc.)

Anti-woke: Those who believe that push has gone too far by trying to force too much change in societal norms (gay rights), by unfairly demanding redress of grievances for past generations' wrongs (racism), or by making all inter-gender interactions fraught (dating, workplaces, etc.).

The historical nature of the issues isn't up for debate. Sexism and gender inequality were built into the Constitution, were acknowledged by giving women the right to vote in 1920, but it's still not fixed given the continuing gender gap.

The Stonewall uprising in 1969 put a public face on gay rights and after some 45 years of fighting, the U.S. Supreme Court in 2015 legalized the right to gay marriage. Earlier this year, after the decision that overturned Roe v. Wade,

one justice on a now supreme conservative high court has said that right should be revisited, putting that progress in question.

As for race? Slavery, Civil War, Emancipation, Jim Crow segregation laws in the South, de facto segregation in the North. The military wasn't desegregated until an order from President Harry Truman and now it is possibly the most integrated institution in the nation.

Institutionalized racism continued in other areas including housing, lending and employment. Even when "fixed," they have long-lasting effects. Disparate incarceration rates, including treatment and sentencing, have led to nationwide protests over racial bias.

Racism, sexism and homophobia have existed in the past and exist today. For adults, it is better to be awake and truthful about the sins of the past and their legacies today, rather than to be asleep, to feign ignorance or to deny.

But where is the line for children? What is hotly debated now is how much we are willing to acknowledge those perpetrating issues and how we should teach our children about them. One camp seems to demand action from the cradle, the other to whitewash everything.

How do we impress upon our school children that they should be proud of this nation with its singular history, while acknowledging what the nation had to overcome and is still working at?

Thomas Jefferson and George Washington, for example, were giants in our nation's history. School children should learn about them early because of their prominence and importance. When should they learn they were slave owners? How should that be put into context? Examples like this abound throughout this industry money to look the other way or become offshore wind advocates spokesman.

And what about marine life and the ocean ecosystem where you seem to have forfeited your authority to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM). Similarly the proposed cable route down Roosevelt Boulevard to the Beesleys Point transformer yard far which you're refusing to consider alternate routes,

choosing to stay on dry land with the easy and cheapest route preferred by Orsted. Possibly you've outlived your purpose as a state environmental protection agency and should be defined as the ineffective political pork barrel item you've become.

That being said I now come to the second part of my letter addressed directly to the Green and your sanctioned principals including Goldman Sachs and Siemens Gamesa. As a foreign entity you come into our country and are undermining our democracy and legislative process while paying off and gifting monies to every business and agency you could buy with your snake oil sales pitch of the old Wild West.

Most damaging of all being your hat-in-hand approach, like an illegal border terrorist, planning on scanning New Jersey ratpatriots to foot the bill for your bondsmage catastrophe as an LLC foreign company, paying nothing for massive profits from our state and federal governments. How convenient to hold your rescheduled meeting on a Philadelphia Eagles Monday Night Football evening with a joke of an audience of 232 Zoom attendees most likely half Orsted plants.

Your whole proposal is a hoax and won't ever live up to expectations and projected schedules along with the fact that no hard numbers have ever been presented as to total cost for anything, including New Jersey's State Master Energy Plan. How cowardly could you be as it is not even held a real public

OPINION



YOUR VIEWS

you're actually protecting Pineshills wetlands, sanctuaries, beach erosion and replenishment (sand dunes) and Green Acres relating to Ocean City and the Ocean Wind I project.

Not that long ago a vicious battle was fought between Cape May RC Holdings Co, South Jersey Gas and yourselves over a proposed gas pipeline going to the old B.I. England Generating Station in Beesleys Point through the southern New Jersey shorelands.

Ultimately won by you, the DEP, the most logical solution to our energy needs was squashed after a lengthy legal battle of several years, therefore, leaving the region with a void for energy supply.

Now we come to the Ocean Wind project, which was voted down by our city, and the Green Acres Diversion and wetlands issues for which you suddenly do a 180 flip with total disregard for the land you're supposedly pledged and exist to protect. Perhaps just another conflict of interest like the other environmental organizations who have taken offshore wind industry money to look the other way or become offshore wind advocates spokesman.

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informed meeting in the city that you're walking all over including our water, beaches and land. You are nothing but a sham looking to devastate our energy grid system with Germany as a global example of windmill inefficiency. Personally you're as much a threat to our country as China who is trying to buy up our agricultural economy and should really not even be able to operate here.

The undeniable facts are that both solar and wind renewable energy are intermittent, unreliable and non-scalable making up only 2 percent of our current energy source that actually works. Your offshore windmills will never work as sole reliable energy and in the process ruin our oceans, killing marine life and the ocean ecosystem. You have nothing to offer to New Jersey shoreline residents including jobs or economic incentives and will cost state taxpayers billions with continued rate hike increases along with destroying our economies of tourism and fishing.

This whole project should have been put to voter referendum although that would be the constitutionally correct and legal protocol. We don't need or want you here with my advice being put on your wooden shoes and take a flying blade back home along with your sallow American puppet heads up in Trenton.

Frank C. Coyne
Ocean City

A LOOK BACK By Karen Bruno

October 22nd 1802 - Abraham Reeves (1802 - 1884) was born in Lower Township. Known to everyone as "Uncle Abe" Reeves was said to have attended school no longer than three months. Nonetheless, he held many township offices, served two terms in the Assembly, was a Judge of Common Pleas Court, was a chosen Freeholder, and was President of the County Bible Society.

October 23rd 1862 - Eliza P. Gurney, who hosted a Friends Meeting in her town to build the Blueham after three other Quakers met with President Abraham Lincoln at the White House. The Friends came to Washington not knowing if they would be able to see the President as they were assain

and it was said that he was so moved by the experience that he continued to exchange letters with Gurney.

October 27th 1962 - Charles White (1875 - 1962), an owner of Atlantic City's popular Marlborough-Blenheim Hotel died. After building the Marlborough Hotel, with his father in 1902, he went on to build the Blenheim after his father's death. He was also active in politics and served as establishing the Atlantic City Airport. He was first elected to City Council in 1911, served three years in the State Senate

David Nahan is editor and publisher of the Ocean City Sentinel, Cape May Star and Wave, Upper Township Sentinel and The Sentinel of Somers Point, Linwood and Northfield.

Weekly — Column Writing

FIRST PLACE

Monique M. Demopoulos

The SandPaper

Zack Jones Returns to Jersey Shore as Sting's Drummer; The Beat Goes On, Even in Recovery

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Sound Waves

Monique M. Demopoulos

Zack Jones Returns To the Jersey Shore As Sting's Drummer

On World Tour With Rock Icon

It's not news to anyone that Sting was in the area Friday and Saturday evening, May 13 and 14, especially seeing as the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City was packed full of LBI locals, there to support hometown hero Zack Jones. What better way to launch the return of Sound Waves, and perhaps prophesy a successful summer ahead?

Jones has had the honor of drumming beside Sting for the entirety of his 2022 "My Songs" world tour, and every performance is a testament in Jones' favor.

A Manahawkin native and Southern Regional High School alum, Jones has deep roots in music and theater. His father, Dave, is guitarist and frontman for longtime LBI band Third Watch, and everyone's favorite father. His grandfather, Bob, was a sax and clarinet player throughout the '60s and '70s. Jones and his younger sister, Natalie, provided staple talent to the Our Gang theater troupe and Starlight Theatre all through their youth.

Some may remember Jones' first project, the Sly Caps, a local band featured on MTV's "Made" almost 20 years ago. Years later, Jones laid real groundwork with NYC pop-rock outfit Secret Somethings, which was active from 2013 to 2016. In that short time, the band released an original record, had a successful tour and was signed to Cherrytree Records, which marked the beginning of Jones' relationship with Sting, among many other world-class acts.

Outside of his work with Sting, Jones lives and breathes music from his home in Brooklyn. Studio G, Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City was packed full of LBI locals, there to support hometown hero Zack Jones & the Tricky Bits, with a sound that gives a light-hearted, nostalgic nod to the Beatles, the Byrds, Big Star and Tom Petty, all while exploring very real human themes and even traversing the line into ethical and political territory. Jones' work with the Tricky Bits celebrates his work as more than just a player, but an inspired writer and composer as well.

In what he described as a stroke of luck, Jones and a few friends moved into Studio G in 2019. There, he works as a producer with Oscar Rodriguez. "We're friends from playing with Great Big World together," he explained. Rodriguez helped produce Jones' first EP with the Tricky Bits. Realizing they enjoyed collaborating, they thought "why not do this for other artists?" Between the two of them, they cover all the instrumental bases.

"We have a good partnership," said Jones. "He's one of my best friends, and we align a lot on pace and process."

Moving into the studio was an intentional step up and career investment for the duo.

Despite the many challenges of the pandemic, they were all set up for audio sessions by the summer of 2020, which was a quiet summer for



IN THE POCKET: For Sting, who is not only front man but bassist, Zack Jones fulfills an essential role by holding down the beat for his rhythm counterpart, as they power through timeless hits. Pictured above, the two catch a vibe. Photo by Kevin Marrett

NYC. The artists wore masks, were regularly tested and kept their sessions small. "It was nice to have something to work on and see friends," Jones said, adding that he enjoyed being home with his girlfriend in the evenings. "Life felt as normal as I think it could." His pandemic-adjusted life, he said, is the closest thing he's ever had to a 9-5-5 job. The only piece missing was, obviously, live performance.

"Honestly, I sort of just leaned with the band we have right now. It's totally a pleasure. It softens the blow of the weirdness."

The band's such a "well-oiled machine," there is not much work to be done between travel, sound check and showtime. "You only play the music a couple hours a day, and then there's 20 hours." Fortunately, during those remaining hours, he said, the band and crew are "so great to be around."

Highlighting some of the interesting tourist perks, Jones said, "In Germany, of course, it was beer halls. However, Jones is something of a coffee aficionado, which makes sense, considering the morning is usually the only time a touring musician is free. "That's my favorite tour hobby, to find the best coffee," he said. "That often takes you to a cool part of town... or you meet some cool people."

London has got a leg up on its café game, Jones reported, "which was not the case the last time I was there. I feel like their coffee culture has really expanded."

Another reason London was a special stop on this tour was that Jones reconnected with old friends he made 10 years ago while in a Broadway show. Moreover, his sister and fellow thespian traveled there to check out the theater district and catch her brother drum for Sting. "We got to hang out at the bar afterwards, and I found out Melissa [Mansique, vocalist] is a fellow New Jerseyan," Natalie recalled.

Hard Rock Family Affair

In Atlantic City to support Jones — aside from hundreds of fans — were his parents, Dave and Michelle, Natalie, and a handful of LBI musicians such as Tim Tooker, John Plumbly, Chris Fritz and Matt Fisher. The stars also aligned such that Jones' girlfriend, Hannah Winkler, had the evening off from her own tour to attend.

Winkler's relationship with Jones began with Secret Somethings, for which she played keys. She is now one of the Tricky Bits, as well as a freelance player and songwriter in her own right. Winkler said she thought she'd be hanging solo around Brooklyn while Jones was off on tour. "Unexpectedly, days after Jones' big call, she received her own call to go on tour playing keys, guitar and background vocals for pop sensation Lorde. Now the two find moments to link up and support each other on their globe-trotting musical adventures. Talk about a power couple.

Dave Jones was the only proud father in the building. Sting's son, Dave Sumner, gave a surprise opening performance to the show. Equipped with a Fender Acoustasonic, he served up an amplified acoustic solo set that featured funky, folkie rhythmic strumming with reggae undertones over which he showcased an incredible vocal range, no doubt inherited from Dad. He closed his set with a whimsical lullaby he wrote in homage to his children, "Lollybean," as a fond farewell to the crowd.

Sting, with a carefully chosen assembly of the finest musicians, opened strong with Jones thundering straight into a powerful drum solo of "Message in a Bottle." The Police's first of five UK No. 1 singles. From there, they roved into "Englishman in New York," characterized by a reggae bounce and jazzy interludes on keys and harmonics.

While the audience remained on their feet, Sting introduced his band, scrupulously making note of the familial ties. "It's a family show," he affirmed. "You met my boy," he said, referencing the opening act. Interrupting a roar of applause, he introduced his longest-standing guitarist, Dominic Miller, followed by Miller's son, Rufus, the guitarist at stage right, whom Sting quipped he hired "as a matter of insurance." Then, perhaps stretching the truth by a margin, he



RIGHT AT HOME: (From left) Sting and Dominic Miller, Sting's longest-running guitarist, have welcomed Zack Jones right into the mix. Jones expressed a feeling of trust and freedom from his handmates to play as himself.

Editorial Awards

Daily – Under 20,000

**FEATURE, LIFESTYLE
AND ENTERTAINMENT
WRITING PORTFOLIO**

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NJPA
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Daily Under 20,000 — Feature, Lifestyle & Entertainment Portfolio

THIRD PLACE

Matthew Korfhage

Courier-Post

Portfolio

NJPA

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SECOND PLACE

Celeste Whittaker

Burlington County Times

Portfolio

'A story that is like no other': Christina Grimmie's music revived by hometown teen singer

Late star's unfinished song 'Rule The World' will be released as a duet with Marlton, NJ, singer-songwriter Ryan Brown with Grimmie family's blessing.

Celeste E. Whittaker Cherry Hill Courier-Post
Published 5:01 AM EST Mar. 11, 2022 | Updated 7:58 AM EDT Mar. 17, 2022



OWEN SWEENEY/INVISION/AP

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

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Daily Under 20,000 — Feature, Lifestyle & Entertainment Portfolio

FIRST PLACE

Lori M. Nichols

South Jersey Times

An Anchor to the Past;
A Water-Skiing Dog and Other
Celebrity Pets Call This N.J.
Cemetery Home

NJPA

Editorial Awards

Daily – Over 20,000

**FEATURE, LIFESTYLE
AND ENTERTAINMENT
WRITING PORTFOLIO**

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Daily Over 20,000 — Feature, Lifestyle & Entertainment Portfolio

THIRD PLACE

Astrea Slezak
NJ Spotlight News

Portfolio

NJ Spotlight News MORE ISSUES ▾ ROUNDTABLES NEWSLETTERS HAZARD NJ SUPPORT ▾ ABOUT ▾

Here's how Eric Schubert helped solve a notorious murder

ASTREA SLEZAK | MAY 30, 2022 | [LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY, MORE ISSUES](#)

Hundreds of Pennsylvania police had worked on the Marise Chiverella case. Along came the young man from Medford Lakes

[f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [in](#) [✉](#) [🖨](#)



Feb. 10, 2022: Eric Schubert, a college student and genealogy expert, center, addresses a news conference in Hazleton, Pa., Police say Schubert helped them solve the 1964 rape and murder of 9-year-old Marise Ann Chiverella.

When he was 8 years old, Eric Schubert had a passion for memorizing license plates and

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Feature, Lifestyle & Entertainment Portfolio

SECOND PLACE

Alfred Lubrano

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Delaware Owns a
Small Chunk of South Jersey

NJPA

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NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Feature, Lifestyle & Entertainment Portfolio

FIRST PLACE

Jason Nark

The Philadelphia Inquirer

D7 Portfolio

NJPA

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

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NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Editorial Awards

Weekly

**SPORTS WRITING
PORTFOLIO**

THIRD PLACE

David Biggy
The SandPaper

Even Though It's the Big Game,
Harris' Job Is 8 Yards at a Time;
Rising Overcomes Rough Road
and Ends It as Valedictorian;
Barnegat's Valencia Gosser
Excited for D1 Track Career



ALWAYS READY: Stafford Township native Clark Harris not only is the oldest player on the Cincinnati Bengals' roster, he's one of the longest-tenured players in franchise history. On Sunday, he will play in the biggest game of his career.



PRIME TIME: Former Southern Regional standout Clark Harris, a long snapper with the Cincinnati Bengals since 2009, will play in his first Super Bowl on Sunday, Feb. 13.

Even Though It's the Big Game, Harris' Job Is 8 Yards at a Time

By DAVID BIGGY

Clark Harris isn't the nervous type. In fact, to hear him say it, he rarely has moments of doubt or worry while on the football field.

"My job, mostly, is to snap a football 8 yards, so there's not much to get too nervous about," said the former Southern Regional standout and Cincinnati Bengals' long-snapper. "It's 8 yards, regardless of whether it's a preseason game or any other game. God has gifted me with the ability to throw a ball between my legs, and I don't have any superstitions or anything like that. So, I just get my hands on the ball and do the job I get paid to do."

Since 2009, when the Bengals brought Harris on board following a brief stint with the Houston Texans, he has done the job extremely well in Cincinnati. And he's been so effective as a long snapper during the past 12 years, the 6-foot-5, 250-pound veteran even made an appearance in the Pro Bowl several years ago.

But on Sunday, Feb. 13, Harris will be playing alongside his teammates in the biggest game of his career — Super Bowl LVI, when the Bengals travel to Los Angeles to take on the hometown Rams in SoFi Stadium — and it's easy to think Harris may have some jitters at some point during the clash for the Vince

Lombardi Trophy.

"Probably six, seven, eight years ago — it's hard to remember exactly when it was, at this point — I got over the ball for a field goal in the middle of the second quarter, and I had a moment," Harris recalled, chucking. "I thought, 'Man, there are a lot of people watching me right now,' and I got super nervous. It was a freak moment and I just had to shut my mind off. I made a perfect snap, and the rest of the game I went out there and didn't think about it again. But it wasn't a fun feeling, let's put it that way, and I don't ever want to put myself through it again."

Of course, as game time arrives, it will be a completely new atmosphere to experience. Harris never has been near a field for a Super Bowl — at least not to play in one. Historically, at this time of year Clark's in some warmer climate, enjoying some down time and catching some fish.

On Sunday, every snap matters a little bit more than the several thousand that have occurred during his career. Still, he's approaching it as "just another game."

"I'm sure everything leading up to kickoff is going to be exciting, and there's going to be a lot going on. It's the Super Bowl. That's the way it is," he said. "But once the game starts, it's all business and the only thing I have to do is the job. When I have to go out on the field, I'm only thinking about

'When I have to go out on the field, I'm only thinking about one thing, and that's making a perfect snap. It's one snap at a time.'

one thing, and that's making a perfect snap. It's one snap at a time. That's what I'm responsible for. As long as I do my job right, that gives the other guys the chance to do their job right."

So far this season, and particularly during the playoffs, Harris has been on the front side of many things going right with the kicking crew of rookie placekicker Evan McPherson and veteran punter and placekick holder Kevin Huber, who, interestingly, is the second-oldest player on the Bengals' roster — Harris is the oldest at 37.

At the conclusion of the regular season, McPherson had successfully made 84.8% of attempted field goals, including a mammoth 58-yarder, and 95.8% of attempted extra points. In three playoff games, McPherson converted 12 straight field-goal attempts, two of which were game-winners.

"The three of us sit together during games and talk about whatever, maybe somebody we see in the stands that

strikes our interest or a TV show we watched," Harris said. "All three of us, even Evan, have a good understanding of what our jobs are, and we take them seriously. But nobody's ever too tense or weird about it."

"Sometimes a kicker gets into a mode where he can't be normal anymore, and that's hard to deal with. But that's not Evan. He's a level-headed kid, not cocky but confident that he'll get the job done in any situation. For him, a field goal is a field goal. For Kevin, a punt and a hold are a punt and a hold. And for me, a snap is a snap. It doesn't matter what the situation is at the time. If something goes wrong, you learn from it and move on. That's what we do. But we're always ready to perform."

Such was evident when the three took the field for what turned out to be the winning points in overtime during the AFC Championship game in a very difficult place to play, Kansas City's Arrowhead Stadium. Harris made an accurate snap, Huber handled it and put the ball down with precision, and McPherson booted the 31-yarder to send the Bengals to their first Super Bowl since 1989.

"Kansas City is a tough environment, and that was a big moment for all of us. It was a great win for the franchise," said Harris, who was nowhere near a TV camera during the ensuing celebration on the field. "I just went over to the stands, grabbed my two boys and kind of stayed off

to the side to enjoy that moment. That's the way it works for me. Let the other guys have all that glory and whatever, in front of the cameras. I'll hang out with my family and celebrate. I don't need all that other stuff."

Funny thing is Harris' oldest son, Trent, who's 9, may be more popular than his dad right now.

"That's what I really like about all this, that my boys are old enough to understand all that's going on right now and they can have a lot of fun with it," said Clark, who along with wife Jessica have a 5-year-old, Troy, as well. "My oldest gets to go to school, and all the kids are talking to him about it, so I really love that for him. Our whole family's enjoying everything about it."

So, what happens if Cincinnati defeats Los Angeles on Super Bowl Sunday?

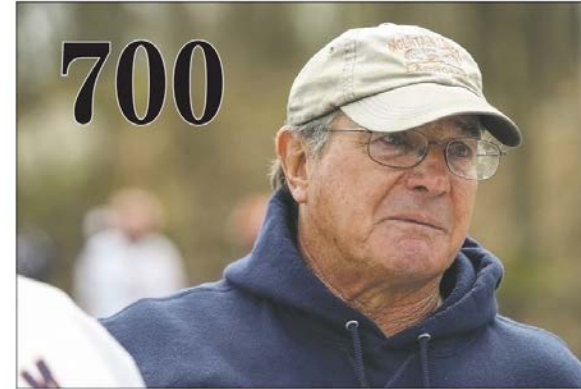
"I have no idea," Harris said with a laugh. "I guess the first thing is we'll be heading back on Monday for a parade at some point. But otherwise, we'll just hang out and enjoy it. Maybe it will entail a lot of bourbon on the rocks. Who knows? Whatever it is, it's going to be fun and memorable, and being able to enjoy it all with my family is the most important part of it. But whatever celebration on the field, I'm still blessed to be able to play the game at my age." ♦

SECOND PLACE

Bob Decker

The Citizen of Morris County

Lakers Make Easy Work for Flynn's Milestone Win; It's All Family to Flynn; Remembering Honest Frank Elias



Tim Flynn gets emotional as his Mountain Lakes High School lacrosse team honors his 700th career victory at the school. Flynn is the only boys lacrosse coach the school has ever had in its 43-year history.



Bob Decker
COMMENTARY

It's all family to Flynn

Ask Tim Flynn how big a family he has and he'll probably come back with a grin and a one-word answer: "HUGE."

And he has the T-shirt to prove it. The T-shirt reads, in part, "Coach Flynn: One man leading a family" and the Mountain Lakes High School boys lacrosse coach got it from the team's boosters and club parents on Thursday, April 21, after the Lakers beat Pope John, 12-4, at Mountain Lakes for Flynn's 700th career victory.

It's the family aspect that has driven Flynn ever since he recorded his first victory in 1980, a 4-2 victory over Delbarton after he had lost the first two games of his career.

Now, 43 years later, the overall record is 700-148 and his lacrosse family has grown each year to include new players, new families, new fans and more alumni that wear and the Lakers' blue-and-orange.

"We ask a lot from our players," Flynn says. "We've had a lot of good kids with good families buy into our program and their willingness to work and sweat hard has made everything so much easier for me."

"The cooperation I've received throughout the years has made this job such a joy ... It's a lot of fun."

Flynn will tell you that his Mountain Lakes family makes ... showing up here every day a distinct pleasure and that he doesn't see him leaving Mountain Lakes any time soon.

He and his wife Betsy talked about it a few years ago, figuring they would want some more time for themselves as well as to be able to watch their daughter Kim's sons — Ted and Collin Martin — play lacrosse at Chatham High School.

Ted is a senior on the Chatham varsity and Collin is a sophomore on the junior varsity. Flynn got to see his Ted play up close and personal on Tuesday, April 12, when the Lakers beat Chatham, 9-3, at Chatham where Flynn asked for a moment to talk to his squad and his wife, Betsy.

"I didn't want to wait to let the players know how proud I was of them," Flynn said over the phone three days after the game. "We cracked out a win ..."

Lakers make easy work for Flynn's milestone win

By BOB DECKER
COMMENTARY

MOUNTAIN LAKES Bradford Goodbar got the game started by scoring in the first 1:56 of play. Jimmy Elliott had the next goal ... then Kevin Gillespie, Ryan McLaughlin, and Cade Schuckman added goals.

By the time Reid Tietjen scored with 19 seconds left in the first period, the unbeaten (7-0) Mountain Lakes High School boys lacrosse team had a 6-1 lead that was never threatened en route to a 12-4 victory over Pope John (5-4) at home on Thursday, April 21.

Schuckman and Jake Troisi scored for an 8-1 lead, after Pope John scored its second goal of the game. John Lane scored and Schuckman added his third goal to give the Lakers a six-goal lead.

Goodbar's second goal was the only goal of the third quarter and Owen Piro closed out the scoring with a goal in the fourth quarter.

And No. 700 for Mountain Lakes coach Tim Flynn was in the books and the celebration that had been only whispered about the previous week broke out in earnest.

Flynn has been the Lakers' coach since the program started 43 years ago. He is the first boys lacrosse coach in New Jersey to reach 700 victories (81 ridge-water Rowan's Chuck Apel is No. 2 with 638) and fourth in the country to reach the milestone, joining retired New York coaches Mike Messore of West Genesee (848), Joe Cuzzo of Ward Melville J.H. (747), and Bob Hartnaff of Farmingdale (709).

For the record, Reid Tietjen, Jake Troisi, Justin Hernandez, Ben DuBois, Cae Kotson, Collin Pagan, Nick Fidacaro, and Goodbar (two) contributed assists to Flynn's milestone victory. Jimmy Holda and Matt Sencowski shared the goending duties and finished with a combined seven saves.

Players who did not score but were in the starting lineup for Flynn's big victory include Marco Dominguez, Oliver Bush, Giacomo Devarona, Lucas Serrano, Kevin Anisman and John Hayes.

While lacrosse watchers had been talking about No. 700 for the past two weeks, Flynn wouldn't even mention it. No. 698 came and went. No. 699 was a victory over rival Delbarton. Flynn took those games the way he takes all games — he's a one-game-at-a-time guy.

The most important game was the next game.

moments later, when the bigger-than-usual group of media folks attending the game moved in for photos and interviews, an emotional Flynn asked for a moment to talk to his squad and his wife, Betsy.

"I didn't want to wait to let the players know how proud I was of them," Flynn said over the phone three days after the game. "We cracked out a win ..."



Jake Troisi of Mountain Lakes High School prepares for a second quarter shot against Pope John on Thursday, April 21.

No. 700 played out the way Flynn teaches — he's big on fundamentals, battling hard for ground balls, making good use of possession, playing as a team, getting everybody involved ... and he never, ever, ever wants his players to stop working on improving their skills.

"That's a pretty good formula for success," Flynn said after the game. "And

we know we had to be at our best to take out a team as strong as Pope John."

As soon as the game clock hit 0:00, Flynn's assistant coaches and his players swarmed over him to offer their quick congratulations before partaking in the traditional post-game handshakes with Pope John.

Moments later, when the bigger-than-usual group of media folks attending the game moved in for photos and interviews, an emotional Flynn asked for a moment to talk to his squad and his wife, Betsy.



Photo by Glenn Clark

PLEASE SEE 706, PAGE 11

PLEASE SEE DECKER, PAGE 11

FIRST PLACE

Rich Chrampanis
The Two River Times

Holmdel's Principal Returns to Basketball; SJV Returns to Field, Honors Injured Teammate; RFH Student Manager Gets Special Senior Day Moment

THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 24 - MARCH 2, 2022

Holmdel's Principal Returns to Basketball, Coaches Against Wife in SCT

By Rich Chrampanis

MIDDLETOWN - In the countless games over the years during a high school basketball season, it seems as if every type of storyline has played out, but last Saturday afternoon in Middletown brought a pregame headline that was truly rare: husband versus wife.

Holmdel principal Matt Kukoda, the interim girls basketball coach for the Hornets, coached opposite his wife Lisa, the Manasquan head coach, in the Shore Conference Tournament quarterfinals at Middletown South.

With all the hype surrounding the spouses' coaching showdown, the Holmdel and Manasquan girls basketball teams stole the show with a fantastic game that went down to the wire. The underdog Hornets had a 50-45 lead through three quarters and had two chances to take the lead in the final seconds before the state's sixth-ranked Warriors held on for a 62-59 win.

"For us - we always talked about - it was Manasquan versus Holmdel," Lisa Kukoda said. "I think the girls gave everything they had - both groups."

When Holmdel High School suspended girls basketball coach Darren Auli indefinitely eight games into the season for undisclosed reasons, the school's principal stepped in to take over the successful team. It just so happens Matt Kukoda was a longtime varsity boys coach at Wall and New Egypt before he shifted careers to school administration four years ago. It's not every day that the school principal can step in and keep a winning team together.

"I asked them, 'How do you want this to work? I can be your principal and your cheerleader, or I can be your coach,'" Matt Kukoda said. "They were starving for a coach. I didn't plan on shutting this thing down and just rolling the balls out there. We took the opposite approach and we'll give it everything we've got."

It's safe to say that the Kukodas are a basketball family. Lisa was a former player and assistant coach at Red Bank Catholic before taking over the Manasquan girls program and has built it into one of



Holmdel principal Matt Kukoda hugged his wife Lisa after Holmdel nearly upset Manasquan in the Shore Conference quarterfinals at Middletown South High School.

RICH CHRAMPANIS

"We're no strangers to competing with one another, trying to make each other better. I hope we gave their team something to think about today and I know our girls left everything out on the court today."

*Matt Kukoda
Holmdel principal*

competition. But after the game the two embraced at midcourt and the emotions of a special moment came to both of them: The proud wife enjoying the principal showing off his coaching chops.

"I obviously think the world of him as a coach," Lisa said. "I have seen what he has done at past programs and the way that he has built basketball cultures where people are invested. All of those feelings come up when you're both on the sideline, but once you get into the game, the game becomes the game and you're focused on the players on the court."

It shouldn't have been a surprise that Matt's Holmdel girls would give the 23-3 Warriors all they could handle.

"We compete to see who can get the seatbelt on first in the car," Matt said about his relationship with Lisa. "We're no strangers to competing with one another, trying to make each other better. I hope we gave their team something to think about today and I know our girls left everything out on the court today."

While this could be billed as a once-in-a-lifetime matchup, there's more than a distinct possibility these two teams could square off against each other again in the upcoming state basketball playoffs. Along the way, Lisa and Matt will continue to prepare their teams with skills that will go much further than on the basketball court.

"He's not just a coach, he's the best leader I've seen," Lisa said. "That has helped get him to where he is."

She said his players and his family know "he is invested in them" and it shows in everything he does. "That has taken him to where he is in life."

This is a story of love and basketball and if you think the Holmdel principal and acting coach has sore feelings about losing to his wife in this high-profile game, he made it clear to reporters gathered around him that he is without a doubt her biggest supporter and fan.

"She is perfect in every way: as a mother, as a wife, as a coach and an educator," Matt said. "It's nice to be able to experience something like this with her."

the best public school teams in the state, winning multiple state titles and Tournament of Champions crowns. Both were laser focused throughout every second of

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Weekly

**INVESTIGATIVE
REPORTING**

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Montclair Local

One Investigation Into Promotions Test is Done; Prosecutor Looking Into Claims About Fire Department

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INSIDE



Legal pot could come to Montclair soon after all
News • Page 4



Big hopes for MHS, MKA at tournament
Sports • Page 13

BLACK FIREFIGHTERS' ALLEGATIONS OF BIAS

One investigation into promotions test is done

6 months after complaints, second probe continues

by **LOUIS C. HOCHMAN**
hochman@montclairlocal.news

Montclair Township's affirmative action officer has completed an investigation into Black firefighters' allegations that a recent promotions test was stacked against them, wrapping up his inquiry nearly two months ago.

Among those officials who received Affirmative Action Officer Bruce Morgan's report was Township Manager Timothy Stafford — the same official who on June 30 of last year issued a memorandum setting the scoring rubric that at least two firefighters allege put them at a disadvantage, instead giving preference to candidates favored by Chief John Herrmann, including Herrmann's son.

Also receiving Morgan's report were the township attorney, deputy township

manager and members of the Township Council, Montclair Communications Director Katya Wowk confirmed. The report has not been made public.

Christa Rapoport, chair of the township's Civil Rights Commission — who'd emailed the council in November of last year, demanding an investigation after learning of the firefighters' complaints — said she found Stafford's receipt of Morgan's report "concerning."

"I think there is a conflict, and Tim Stafford should be excluded, and another township official should be appointed to handle this," Rapoport said.

The township is still awaiting the results of a separate, ongoing investigation by Cedar Grove law firm O'Toole Scrivo, hired by the council in November to look into the



At least two Black Montclair Township firefighters allege the scoring rubric for a recent promotions test was designed to put them at a disadvantage, while helping candidates the fire chief preferred.

firefighters' complaints. The township's legal department expects the O'Toole Scrivo investigation within the next month, she said. Montclair Local reported in November that the council was hiring an outside investigator, in stories that first made the firefighters' allegations public. Morgan's investigation hadn't been previously reported, nor had the name of the outside firm. But Morgan confirmed last week to Montclair Local that his work was complete, and that the scope was "the firefighters' exam and some of the outcomes of the firefighters' exam." He declined to address his findings, and said he wasn't sure exactly who received his report.

See BIAS, page 9

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Weekly — Investigative Reporting

SECOND PLACE

Joan Buehler The Retrospect

Colls Neighbors Upset Over Lourdes Garden Removal



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Volume 121, No. 40 Hometown News You Can Trust \$1 Friday, October 7, 2022

Potential Barrington, Heights Fire Merger Ignites Passion

by Matt Enuco
There is a message inscribed on the side of Barrington fire trucks: Pride in the past, dedicated to the future. But now the future of Barrington's volunteer fire service is uncertain. On Monday night a group of over 50 community members met at the borough's fire

house to discuss a potential shared service agreement (SSA) with Haddon Heights that would consolidate both organizations into one entity serving both towns. Opinions on how this should be handled are hot and emotional with many in Barrington's volun-

(Continued on page 6)

Inflation, Rising Crime Concern Audubon Authorities

by Bethany Mitros
Inflation is everywhere and local municipalities are not immune to the increased cost for just about everything. Audubon borough administrator Dave Taraschi said at the commission's Tuesday caucus meeting held via Zoom that he is keeping a close eye on borough spending through the end of the year. "We've seen increases in the cost of pretty much everything — fuel, utilities, tipping fees. I'm keeping a very, very close eye on our finances."

Police chief Thomas Tassi said his department is keeping a close eye on the recent uptick in catalytic converter thefts in Audubon and surrounding areas. He encouraged residents to call police if they hear anything unusual during the day. "They use a loud saw [in catalytic converter thefts]," he said. "Call us if you hear anything suspicious. This is happening in our town and surrounding areas. We'd like to get these people incarcerated. It is expensive to

(Continued on page 5)

Colls Neighbors Upset Over Lourdes Garden Removal

by Joan Buehler

The former Lourdes Wellness Center in Collingswood's new owner on September 19 razed a beloved, publicly accessible garden space behind the Haddon Ave. center despite the local land use board's denial to pave the area. The removal of the Lourdes Meditation Garden by Dr. Michael Kresloff, of the local eye-care practice Kresloff Eye Associates, sparked a tempest online and raised the ire of neighbors.

The garden had its origins in the early 2000s, after Sisters Helen Owens and Marianne Hieb, inspired by their pilgrimage to Italy, returned determined to "create a sacred space with a spiritual feel, based on St. Francis of Assisi's famous song-prayer imploring all to care for the environment and for all of

photos courtesy of the Warner family

PAVING PARADISE: At right is the view from the Warner backyard before clearcutting of the former Lourdes Wellness Center meditation garden that was created in 2005. The top photo shows the new view. The new owner, Dr. Michael Kresloff wants to add parking for patients.

(Continued on page 18)

Weekly — Investigative Reporting

FIRST PLACE

Lauren S. Barr

Katie Moen

The Westfield Leader

OPRA Request Yields Private Information, Potential Conflicts



OUR 132ND YEAR — ISSUE NO. 47-2022 USPS 480830 Periodical — Postage Paid at Rahway, N.J. Thursday, November 24, 2022 Published Every Thursday From September 3, 1890 (908) 232-4807 www.goldeater.com ONE DOLLAR

OPRA Request Yields Private Information, Potential Conflicts

By KATHI MOEN & LAUREN S. BARR
The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — Earlier this year, Westfield resident Kiki George missed several issues at board of education meetings, referencing information he found through an Open Public Records Act (OPRA) request.

The Westfield Leader filed a request seeking a copy of the board's response to Mr. George's request and received 14 print responses totaling more than 13,000 pages.

While the original request sought emails and documents regarding anti-Stemian and other related keywords, many of the documents provided included student data, school security schematics, revisions of its compliance with required state policies and a potential conflict of interest involving Assistant Superintendent Paul Pinciro, Ed.D.

The initial OPRA request handed up numerous privacy and security violations, including the full schematics of Ramoth Hill Middle School, detailed locations of the school's security cameras, entrances and exits, and personal information about specific students in the district.

While most information about individual students was redacted, as per the district's privacy policy, some names and identifying characteristics were disclosed in the pages of the response. Among these violations were partially un-redacted emails about students who had tested positive for COVID-19 and others about students who were being sued academically.

In one exchange, a district official granted that the principal interviews and violate the district's policy to allow their child to transfer to an easier program in the middle of the semester saying that their child's grade would be "double-weighted" to honor the student's chances of getting into a good college.

"Two weeks ago, we asked for [the student] to be moved to [class], however, because we chose to override the teacher's recommendation and put [the student] in Honors, our request was denied by the Committee," the official wrote.

"We are now in a urgent situation where we need to focus on [the student's] best interests — not bureaucratic rules that do not consider the individualized circumstances of a student."

Though the name of the student was redacted in per the district's privacy policy, this email was one of many where other identifying characteristics, including the parent's names, email addresses, job titles and other contact information were left un-redacted. The principal referred the matter back to the board of education.

"[Officials] do not relinquish their rights as parents to meet with administrators regarding matters involving their children," Superintendent Raymond Gonzalez, Ed.D., told The Leader via email.

The district did not comment as to whether or not the official in question received permission to have the student moved to the requested class. The when asked to speak to both the

privacy and security violations found within the response, Dr. Gonzalez replied, "the Board attorney reviewed and redacted those documents. Given this voluminous request, if something slipped by, it was inadvertent and we will work with the Board attorney to request a return of those documents."

In another email class, this one carried out over several months in 2021, Dr. Pinciro utilized his official school email to communicate with a company called SoftSkills AIA that, according to its website, promotes the development of teamwork and communication among students.

"I know this is probably taboo in the USA — but in the Philippines, my parent receives a percentage of all programs sold and continues to receive it for each year the students enroll. Assuming your principal, LOVE us — and you continue to like our products, would you consider making introductions to other school districts that you know and receive a commission for anything materialized?" Candi Roman, president and CEO of SoftSkills AIA, asked Dr. Pinciro on November 19.

Dr. Pinciro responded that while he would be interested in pursuing the conversation, there would likely be "professional ethics regulations to navigate." Emails between Dr. Pinciro and Ms. Roman indicate that Dr. Pinciro would be paid \$120 per hour, plus commission, to leverage his relationship with other administrators on behalf of the company.

"I really can see a redemptive conversation to other school districts that you know and receive a commission for anything materialized?" Candi Roman, president and CEO of SoftSkills AIA, asked Dr. Pinciro on November 19.

Dr. Pinciro responded that while he would be interested in pursuing the conversation, there would likely be "professional ethics regulations to navigate." Emails between Dr. Pinciro and Ms. Roman indicate that Dr. Pinciro would be paid \$120 per hour, plus commission, to leverage his relationship with other administrators on behalf of the company.

outside employment or the manner in which it was obtained, Mary Ann McGinn, the district's coordinator of school and community relations, said that none of SoftSkills' programs had ever been utilized in Westfield.

"SoftSkills programs were not integrated into our curriculum, no pilot was conducted, and we did not contract other services with the company," she said.

A subsequent OPRA request, compiled with a request to speak with Dr. Pinciro, handed up responses other than a headline explaining that the district has never worked with SoftSkills and that Dr. Pinciro would not be speaking with the newspaper.

"You will not hear further from Dr. Pinciro," Ms. McGinn said.

Requests for comment by SoftSkills were not returned.

In another email, dated September, 2021, Superintendent Gonzalez received confirmation from Stratton Family Associates, a consulting and policy-writing group based in Ionia, Michigan, that the group had completed a full audit of the district's policy and procedures manual. A subsequent OPRA request revealed that the district has paid the group upwards of \$17,000 since 2016.

In February of 2022, however, another audit, this one performed by the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJBSA) at Dr. Gonzalez's request, revealed that the district was missing at least eight state-mandated policies from its manual and out of compliance with more than 20 others. Included in the missing mandated policies was a definition of administrative leave in the absence of specific DOE guidance and a policy for funds management and inventory. Other missing categories included policies about fees, fees and charges, grievance and complaint, employment health, supervision, teacher assignments and transfers and the evaluation of individual student performances.

"Our manual shows some positive yearly progress with the application of policy updates. This indicates that your board and your administration are making an effort to stay on top of policy revisions that result from changes in laws. Also there is some customization to the documents which indicates your board takes the time to evaluate the policies and adapt them to your specific community needs."



EMILY ROOT

Westfield Councilwoman Sworn In, Deer Hunt to Begin in Select Parks

By KATHI MOEN
The Westfield Leader

WESTFIELD — Ward 1 Councilwoman Emily Root, first appointed to fill a vacated seat on the Westfield Council back in April, was sworn into her first official term as an elected member of the town's governing body during a regular meeting of the mayor and council held Tuesday.

"It was thrilling to be appointed back in April, but it feels even better to have been voted in by the people of Ward 1," Ms. Root said. "I vote that I will not take my elected role lightly, and I'm so thankful to all of the people who voted for me and put their faith in me. Whether you voted for me or not, I hope you feel that you can call me, write to me and meet with me to share your thoughts, even if you don't agree."

Ms. Root also thanked her challenger, Republican Amanda Corio, for running a "great campaign" and demonstrating that the "democratic process is alive and well in Westfield."

Ms. Root will remain in office for the one-year remainder of an unexpired term vacated by Jim Boyce this past spring.

The council also heard from several members of the Westfield Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) on Tuesday evening before attending to its brief regular agenda. The HPC was recently recognized for its efforts by Preservation NJ, a member-supported non-profit organization that, according to its website, "promotes the economic vitality, sustainability, and heritage of New Jersey's diverse communities through advocacy and education."

"I couldn't be happier to have so much talent and passion on the board," HPC Chair Maria Boyce said, adding that the HPC also was recently awarded a state grant in the amount of \$60,000 (\$45,000 of which will be paid by the state while the remaining \$15,000 will be contributed by the town.)

The grant, Town Administrator Jim Giddens said, will be utilized to complete multiple projects throughout the community, including a partial designation of the downtown area.

"I think what I love about everything that has transpired [with the HPC] is that we have let it be known in this community that we value historic preservation," Mayor Shelley Brinkley said. "I think you've seen in all of the voluntary designations that are coming forward. When you put a stake in the ground and say 'this is important, this is who we are,' people are much more inclined to want to be a part of it."

In other town news, the council voted Tuesday to adopt a resolution codifying its participation in this year's Union County Deer Management Program.

According to the resolution, "the overpopulation of white-tailed deer in Highland Park and a small section of Lamington Park identified by Union County has resulted in over browsing of native vegetation in this area, damage to trees and ornamental vegetation and increased erosion and risk to the public."

This year's crossbow hunt will take place from December 1 to February 1.

Cranford Introduces Redevelopment PILOTS

By LAURA KREMER
The Westfield Leader

CRANFORD — After more than a year of discussion and debate, the Cranford Committee voted Tuesday to approve the first reading of two ordinances that would seek to grant tax abatements to two major redevelopment projects (one at 750 Walnut Street and the other at South and Chestnut) slated to be constructed within the boundaries of the township.

"The only major commodity between these two projects is that they both play a role in our affordable

needed to reach time to pay the money off."

Commissioner Mary O'Connor also added the felt Hart Mountain was not listening to the concerns of residents. She highlighted that Hart Mountain was moving the deer away even with residents pushing back and a traffic study she felt was on dead ends.

Ms. O'Connor went on to add that felt Cranford could get a better deal out of Hart Mountain and that the residents have not been treated created good faith.

Commissioner Brian Andrews and Deputy Mayor Jason Garcia said the

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Daily – Under 20,000

SPORTS WRITING PORTFOLIO

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Daily Under 20,000 — Sports Writing Portfolio

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Steve Politi

The Star-Ledger

How Rutgers Crashed the Big Ten; 'I Told You I'm a Superstar!';
The Punting Picasso

How Rutgers crashed the
Big Ten



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Jerry Carino

Asbury Park Press

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Andrew Mendlowitz

Home News Tribune

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THIRD PLACE

THE TWO RIVER TIMES

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VOLUME 32 NUMBER 47


THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 5, 2022

ONE DOLLAR

Elizabeth Wulforst


The Two River Times

Mystery Solved! An Inadvertent Artist Works With Nature



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MYSTERY SOLVED! AN INADVERTENT ARTIST WORKS WITH NATURE

By Elizabeth Wulforst

SEA BRIGHT – The rock towers on a local beach may have disappeared but the artist who created them has emerged.

Andrey Ivanov never intended to be mysterious; he often creates art on the northern beaches of Sea Bright and makes no attempt to hide his actions. But the appearance of over a dozen approximately 5-foot-tall rock structures along the dune line this summer caused

many to question their origin. Ivanov, a resident of Woodbridge, began coming to the beach in Sea Bright by “trial and error” three years ago. “We picked the beach because it’s very pleasant, it’s very clean,” he said. Prior to that he and his family went to Sandy Hook beaches for about 20 years.

Ivanov grew up in Odesa, Ukraine, within walking distance of the Black Sea, so going to the beach is in his

soul. “I grew up with it,” Ivanov said. “It feels like it’s the right place to be.”

He emigrated to the United States at 19, attended Brooklyn College and then NYU College of Dentistry, and worked in New York. “Then my kids were born and I noticed that I leave the house and they’re still sleeping and I come back and they’re about to go to bed, so I was missing out a lot,” Ivanov said. Comfortable

with his wife’s income, the couple decided Ivanov would stay home and look after the children.

Ivanov kept his dental license active though, even filling in for six months recently for a dentist friend who had back problems.

But about 12 years ago, Ivanov began introducing his two now grown children – one just graduated high

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SECOND PLACE

Yael Katzwer

Union County Local Square

Hypnotism and Improv To Meet on UCPAC Stage

4 — March 17, 2022 — Union County LocalSource

Hypnotism and improv to meet on UCPAC stage

By Yael Katzwer
Editor

UNION COUNTY — The mind is a funny thing — literally, for improv legend Colin Mochrie and master hypnotist Asad Mecci, who will perform their show, "Hyprov: Improv Under Hypnosis," at the Union County Performing Arts Center in Rahway on Thursday, March 17. The two men, who have toured Europe and North America together, have combined their specialties to make a one-of-a-kind show; not only is the idea behind the show unique, but each performance is a new experience with new participants and new games.

The idea for the show was first conceived by Mecci, a hypnotist who has been featured on Entertainment Tonight, MTV, HGTV, YTV and talk television, and written about in the New York Times, the Huffington Post and Maxim magazine. Mecci has performed solo at venues across North America, and, when he is not performing on stage, he uses hypnosis to help people lose weight, reduce stress and make positive change in their lives.

"I was traveling around the world, performing for different cruise lines and celebrity cruise lines and I wanted to get better at my craft, so I ended up taking courses at the Second City," Mecci told Union County LocalSource in a March 9 phone interview. The Second City is a famous improv theater in Chicago, Ill. "There, oftentimes, the instructors would say, 'Get out of your head. You're too much in your head.' And what they meant to say, you know, from a hypnosis perspective, is, 'Stop consciously constructing the comedy.' We want the comedy to be a knee-jerk reaction, we want your unconscious mind to release that information instead. So we want unconscious functions."

This led Mecci to come up with the idea for "Hyprov," in which Mecci hypnotizes 20 volunteers from the audience, then keeps the best five to improvise with "Whose Line Is It Anyway?" star Mochrie.

"When you look at Colin performing on stage, it looks effortless. It looks like it's just very normal and natural in every way. First-time improvisers, they will play to the crowd, they'll look like they're under stress. They will be self-conscious," Mecci said. "So with hypnosis, what you're doing, you're actually disconnecting the part of the brain that deals with self-reflection. So when a person is hypnotized, I give them a suggestion and they just carry out that suggestion without all that self-consciousness."

Mecci reached out to Mochrie, whose longtime manager, Jeff Andrews, was fascinated by the proposal. While Mochrie doesn't think he has ever been hypnotized, he did admit that he jumped to work with Mecci rather quickly.

"I did accept this fairly quickly, so I'm not sure, I'm going to say, as far as I know, I haven't been hypnotized, Mochrie told LocalSource on March 9. "But as I say, I



Master hypnotist Asad Mecci, left, and improv legend Colin Mochrie have combined their talents to create a hilarious, one-of-a-kind show.

mean, we had one coffee and I'm doing it. So maybe yeah. Maybe."

Luckily for Mecci and Mochrie, the idea was more than just fascinating — it was doable and incredibly entertaining.

"Is it possible to hypnotize somebody and turn them into good improvisers? The answer has been a resounding yes," Mecci said. "From there, I thought, even more, is it possible to take a really great improviser, a world-renowned improviser, an improv legend like Colin Mochrie, and then put them with someone who's never had any improv experience, but is hypnotized to think that they're a great singer, or to think that they are madly in love with Colin? And in those environments will they be great improvisers? Again, the answer has been a resounding yes."

Mecci explained that, while inhibitions are relaxed while a subject is hypnotized, the subject will not do anything against their morals, ethics or cultural values.

Mochrie, who has been a regular on both the British and American "Whose Line Is It Anyway?" TV shows, said it was surprisingly easy to improvise with hypnotized people. In addition to currently starring in the CW Network's reboot of "Whose Line," Mochrie has toured the world with fellow Whoser Brad Sherwood for more than a decade, appears in the Second City Guide to Symphonies in front of orchestras all over North America and recently wrote his first collection of short stories, "Not Quite the Classics." In 2013, Mochrie was named Canada's Comedy Person of the Year.

"When I was first approached by Asad to do this, I thought, 'Oh man, it's going to be a night of me doing traffic control and all the heavy lifting,' and I learned quite soon that (the hypnotized subjects) are absolutely pure improvisers, accepting immediately everything I suggest and going along with the piece," Mochrie said.

"One of the major rules of improv is just saying yes to everybody. So someone comes up with an idea, you agree with it and you build on it. And it's the hardest thing for people to do, because it's not, I

think, what we do naturally in real life, to say yes. Someone will come up with an idea and people's natural reaction is, 'You know what? I have a better idea.' These people don't do that. They immediately jump in; they accept whatever situation we've put them in, so it's made it a lot easier because they're doing 50 percent — sometimes more — of the work."

According to Mochrie, he and Mecci recently added a musical element to their show, thanks to the work of their musical director, John Hilsen.

"One of the games we do is, I do a duet with one of the hypnotized subjects, and the last couple of shows we've really hit our stride. They've been amazing — not only sounding great, you know, like a Wayne Brady or a Brad Sherwood, but also coming up with funny lyrics," Mochrie said. "And to me, I already was a big fan of hypnotism, but to me it just hits home that these people don't have any training in this and yet they're doing 'Whose Line'—worthy song improv. It's just been fantastic to watch and be a part of."

Mecci said it is sometimes difficult to believe that the entire show is improvised and that Mochrie hasn't rehearsed with the others before the show — that's how good they are.

"In reality, the show just comes together at that moment in time, so it's very special because you're seeing kind of a snapshot of a show that will never be replicated, because it's all new volunteers, and we don't know any of the people who come up on stage," Mecci said. "We never use plants, we don't know their personal histories, and there they are, singing with Colin onstage. It's really fascinating to watch."

Mecci explained that the people susceptible to hypnotism are usually people who are able to dissociate and fully immerse themselves in experiences, such as watching movies. As a professional, Mecci can look to physiological signs in the subjects to ensure they are truly hypnotized. From there, he can suggest

almost anything to them and Mochrie, and watch them go.

"I'm going to count from one to three, and when I reach the count of three, you can create spontaneous amnesia, so Colin is no longer Colin," Mecci gave as an example of the power of hypnotism. "So, either they forgot who that person is, or you can replace Colin with something else. In front of you is Brad Pitt."

"It's a common mistake," Mochrie quipped.

When asked about the difference between performing improv with hypnotized subjects versus "Whose Line" comedians, Mochrie was quick to point out: "Well, the hypnotic subjects, their eyes are still filled with hope, as opposed to the dead eyes you see on 'Whose Line.'"

"This is not to insult the guys on 'Whose Line,' even though I just did, because obviously they're very talented, but these improvisers are working toward making a complete scene even though they're not doing it consciously. They're just accepting everything. Whereas on 'Whose Line,' sometimes you're trying to make another person laugh or you have a moment that you're trying to take from someone else. This truly is an ensemble improv group," Mochrie continued. "And they are just as surprising as the 'Whose Line' guys. I never know. I mean, even with the 'Whose Line' guys, we're improvising, but I can sort of see where they're going to go in a scene. I can see where they're headed. But with these improvisers I truly have no idea, because they're working from a totally different level. Everything they're doing is a realistic thing for them. It's not, 'Oh, I'm trying to be funny.' They are doing whatever we ask of them, and that's where the humor comes in. They are so committed."

Mecci agreed, saying he enjoys watching how immersed the hypnotic subjects are in the show.

"They're absolutely in it. So, when I say they're falling madly in love with Colin, they are madly in love with Colin. They are committed to that," Mecci said. "If I say, 'You are in love with Colin and you're going to propose to him,' they are ultra-focused on getting to that proposal."

To get in on the fun, purchase tickets for "Hyprov" at UCPAC by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/2j53p3xfk>. For more information about the experience, visit <https://www.hyprov.com/>.

"We're excited to be coming to Union County to perform for you guys in New Jersey," Mecci said. "It's fast-paced, it's action-packed, it's high energy. The show is hilarious. I always say I have a front-row seat to the best comedy in the world, having Colin Mochrie perform comedy in front of me."

"It's a fun, fun show," Mochrie said. "It's good for the entire family. You have to be 18 or over to be hypnotized, but we've had kids come to the show and love it. It's just fun, goofy entertainment."

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Weekly — Arts & Entertainment Writing

FIRST PLACE

Joan Buehler
The Retrospect

Colls Author Unmasks
Legendary Didrikson



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Colls Author Unmasks Legendary Didrikson

by Joan Buehler



CELEBRATING PUBLICATION: Collingswood-based historical fiction and young readers' book author Ruth Rouff burrowed into the past of legendary female athlete Babe Didrikson for her latest book, *Lone Star*, published this past summer by Bedazzled Ink. Drawn from documented sources, the novel carefully reconstructs quite a different personal life for the married Didrikson, whose life was tragically cut short by cancer at the age of 45. "I felt fortunate, as a lesbian, to be able to identify with Babe," says Rouff, who's made Collingswood her home for the past 20 years.

Coming of age as lesbian in the bad old days of the 1970s — as did Collingswood author Ruth A. Rouff — meant living a closeted life. There were no role models and no people in the public eye who admitted to being gay, because no laws existed to protect homosexuals from being fired from their jobs or otherwise discriminated against if they were "outed."

Though not a wonderful era to live through if you yourself were gay, Rouff was able to store experiences from that time to later inform her fiction writing, memories that came in handy when she decided to reimagine a lesbian life for possibly the greatest female athlete of all time, Mildred Ella "Babe" Didrikson Zaharias, the subject of Rouff's latest novel, *Lone Star*, published earlier this year.

Zaharias earned two Olympic track and field gold medals in the 1932 Games, and later became a legendary golfer who co-founded the modern-day ladies' professional golf association (LPGA) before her untimely death at age 45 from can-

(Continued on page 5)

Barrington Rescinds Fire Chief's Per Diem Deal

by Joan Buehler

Barrington's council followed through on its stated intention to strip fire chief Ken Baus of two per-diem firefighting pay days per week, passing a resolution at the November 9 business meeting that disallows the department's chief from also serving as the budgeted per-diem firefighter.

The 5-1 vote in favor came as a sort of coda to the recent tumult surrounding the borough's decision to explore a shared-service agreement with Haddon Heights for fire services. The vote against was cast by council member Wayne Robenolt, who as a former longtime volunteer firefighter for the borough has

(Continued on page 6)

Newton Lake Dredging Comes Up Short, Says Resident

by Matt Enuco

The status and oversight of Newton Lake dredging bubbled up again at Tuesday's Oaklyn Council meeting when resident Lou Monovios asked mayor and council for an update on the project. Monovios's complaints

dredging project. Lehman said that he was told by someone from the dredging company that the inlet is already at a minimum depth. Councilman Vince Angeucci offered his assessment that the inlet might meet minimum depths at high tide and after a

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CRITICAL THINKING

SECOND PLACE

Victoria Ford The SandPaper

‘Examine Elemental Effects’ in LBIF’s Latest Exhibition; ‘Limoncello’ Celebrates Light on a Summer Night; In ‘Fog’ Photography Exhibit, Artist Ann Coen Shares Self; Kevin Coogan’s Creations Frozen Moments, Fluidly Felt

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Can't Spell Earth Without Art

Examine 'Elemental Effects' In LBIF's Latest Exhibition

By VICTORIA FORD
S win. Breathe. Dig. Bam. The four elements and the infinite imaginations are intertwined in the national juried exhibition that opened Saturday at the Long Beach Island Foundation of the Arts and Sciences in Loveladies and runs through July 4.

For "Elemental Effects: Water + Wind + Earth + Fire," artists were called upon to "abandon ego" and explore/connect with earthly and art-making processes in an unbridled, wide-ranging effect. The show, as a whole, presents and interprets intersections of art with science and design — welcoming the "revolving" and even macabre to play a part in the creation, while coming off as "ultimately optimistic," according to juror Linda Weintraub.

Be transported to a primitive form of self while viewing the pieces on display; allow instinct to fuel emotion.

The show fills the main gallery and continues outdoors with 12 three-dimensional works installed along the Foundation's nature trail, which passes behind the camp building and halfway down Tidal Drive.

Weintraub commended participants for pioneering art form and for going beyond the materials to make a statement about humanity in collaboration with non-human sources.

First-place winner Laurie Sheridan's "Road, Air and Soot" is (de) composed of wheelchair, lilacwood or Spanish moss, and burned bones, built on a theme of transformation.

In second place, Beth Haber's "Beach Reads (Silica Edition)" is made of olive (a silicate mineral found in igneous rocks), sand, acrylic, paper, drift wood, loamglass and opening page text from Rachel Canan's *Edge of the Sea*.

Capturing third place, meanwhile, was Sam Horowitz's actual freezer, "Merge (Circulation)," a metaphor for climate change, for which he used a modified freezer, frost and ice cover from the South Pole and from inner-city glaciers of Boston and Buffalo.

Take a cruise around and look at the materials and mediums listed in the descriptions on the labels: ash, mud, mirror, stereoscopic pinhole photography, wax (cinnamic), smoke, algae — glacial residue. And mushrooms! Meanwhile, collaborators Caroline Hatfield and Patricia Yajero entered "Loon pooped," made of laser-cut paper and, *ohem*, slime mold.

See methods of printing (photogram or light exposure without a camera), cyanotype, steam, autotype or lichen dye) on paper and other substrates.

Stare in awe at Margaret LeCloux's "Watershed" triptych, a set of three bioluminescent photograms with dimethylsiloxane and USGS hydrology maps. Be amused and impressed by

Dana Michele Hemes' turf-covered Adirondack chair, "Fescue/Homo 2," made of wood, artificial turf and hardware. Gaze into Bonnie Bibson's "Hubble Ultra Deep Field" series, which gets skills, vinegar and rust playing together on cotton paper.

New LBIF member Brunella DeMarco of Whiting is just retired and eager to spend more time on artistic and intellectual pursuits. She

was so impressed by everything she had taken in Saturday, she was near speechless, her eyes wide as she savored a bite from the catered goodies from Foodies. The combination of the art on display and the juror talk had DeMarco feeling stimulated and looking forward to pouring new energy into her own passions, for painting, photography and food.

Photos by Jack Reynolds

LIFE CYCLES: (Clockwise from top left) Stacy Surock's "Lather" combines inks, water and Dettol on archival paper; Noreen Dean Dresser created "The Root Amidst Good and Evil No. 2"; Eric Millikan's bio art sculpture grown from mushroom and mycelium roots in tiles; "Prenatal Programming: Myophyllite," juror Linda Weintraub talks about her biophilic life.

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FIRST PLACE

Rick Mellerup The SandPaper

Surflight Theatre Presents ‘An American in Paris’; ‘Legally Blonde’ Enjoyable, if Flawed; ‘Chess’ Production is Total Checkmate; ‘Orient Express’ Honors Agatha Christie’s Brilliance

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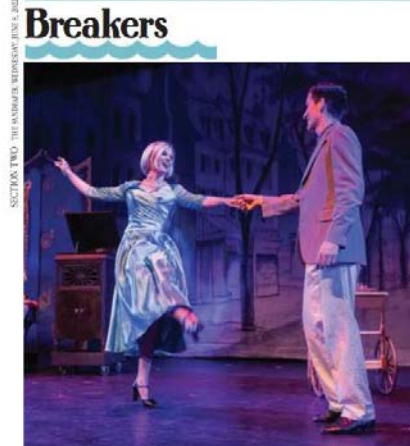


Photo by Pat Trotter Photography
UNREQUITED: Mia Davenport (Sophia Swannell) sure would like to trip the light fantastic with Jerry Mulligan (Hector Molina), but he would prefer to dance with another.

Surflight Theatre Presents ‘An American in Paris’ As Smooth as George Gershwin’s Music

Surflight Theatre’s current production of “An American in Paris” is smooth. As smooth as a baby’s butt, as just-Zambonized ice, as an unrefined cat’s fur, as smooth as... well, a Gershwin tune.

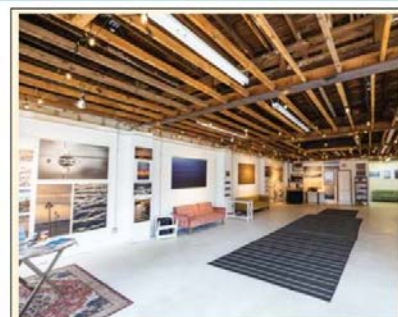
Director/choreographer Paula Hammons Sloan, a longtime Surflight favorite, has turned in perhaps her best effort with “An American in Paris.” It’s a musical inspired by the 1951 movie of the same name that starred Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron in her film debut, which won six Academy Awards including Best Picture. The stage musical’s 2015-2016 Broadway run also earned many honors, including Fred and Adele Astaire Awards nominations and wins. Does that give you an idea the show is dance heavy?

Like the movie, the musical is built around the music and lyrics of George and Ira Gershwin. The show has some fantastic dancing scenes, especially in its second act. One, “Fidgety Feet,” can fairly be called “a novelty number.” Another is tap. The third is the long “Paris Ballad,” based around George’s 1928 jazz-influenced orchestral piece titled, yes, “An American in Paris.”

I’ve been reviewing Surflight shows for decades and never have seen that much ballet performed by a cast in the Beach Haven landmark. I must admit I’m no ballet critic, but I was impressed.

The entire show seems like a giant dance scene, thanks to Sloan’s guiding hand. Its set changes are choreographed, much more than the simple moving of furniture and props. They flow like a gentle yet quickly moving stream, with seemingly frosted mirrors amplifying the impression that an early-morning sun is glimmering on the River Seine.

Sloan’s production was helped by the professionalism of scenic designer Chris Strangfeld,



Summer of Vistas, Gallery Gatherings ‘Ann Coen & Friends’ Pop Up in Beach Haven

Some pictures might be worth those thousand words, but micromerizing one’s dry description, Ann Coen’s photographs capture moments instead in lighting, line, form, feeling and power that immerse the viewer in a summerlong Ann Coen & Friends Pop-Up gallery in Beach Haven.

The stripped-down industrial backdrop inside 110 North Bay Ave. lends an understated tone that only makes the images stand out more. Back up and take it all in: there’s room. Eighteen years of successful experience brought Coen to Beach Haven to try something new on the south end of Long Beach Island where the sidewalk draws browsers by. Besides the gallery, it’s going to be a season for events that toast local artists and designers every Thursday night.

Sought after as a wedding photographer at upper-scale venues, Coen is equally cool while commanding shots from the waterline. On the north wall, a graceful vessel is captured at ease in Barbados from a watery vantage point. A startled fish arches for the camera in midair, in another frame.

Thinking big, Coen expanded on an already-vast sand dune for another approach – wallpaper. The life-size pathway to the beach in Barnegat Light is blown up into 10-foot-by-10-foot enticement.

After moving from a smaller gallery in Surf City, Coen saw an opportunity in the temporarily vacant storefront, and thought “how cool would it be if I got in touch with the landlord saying, could I rent it and do a pop-up gallery for the summer with local artists and local events?”

She said last week, “I don’t know what’s going to happen with this place in the fall, but knowing I have it from Memorial Day until Labor Day is perfect. I can just do the summer, power out events and see how it goes.”

Focusing on the Shore

“I majored in economics in college,” was the photographer’s surprising launch when asked how she started her profession. “I graduated from college and took a trip around the world. I was in Australia. I was in Australia, I brought a camera and just started shooting. I have only ever taken one black-and-white photograph, especially on a higher-end scale, demands a bold yet respectful approach to be at every right place at every appropriate time.”

The next summer she met writer Jon Coen and started shooting to accompany his stories. “Then Gannett offered me a job with the *Asbury Park Press* that fall, and I took it. Work-



Photo by Josh Kersham
VISIONS: The summerlong *South End* showing is a new horizon for Coen, who is thrilled to be also featuring friends’ work.

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Daily – Under 20,000

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WRITING PORTFOLIO

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Daily Under 20,000 — Scholastic Sports Writing Portfolio

THIRD PLACE

Bill Evans

South Jersey Times

Delran's Roskos Siblings Boy-Girl
Region Champs Now Look for Joint
State Goals; Debbie Schwartz on
Verge of Exclusive 700-Win Club;
Collingswood Wrestling's Townsend
S.J. Champs Emotional Leader

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Jane Allison Hausy

Daily Record

Portfolio

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Josh Friedman

Courier-Post

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Andrew Mendlowitz

Home News Tribune

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SECOND PLACE

Sean Farrell

The Record (Bergen)

Should HS Lacrosse Use a Shot Clock?; As Title IX Turns 50, We Caught Up With The Record's First Female Athlete of the Week; Identical Twins Go Head-to-Head When Bergen County Soccer Powers Square Off

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FIRST PLACE

Kevin Armstrong

The Star-Ledger

Camden Celebrates Hoops
Rebirth, But Critics Wonder;
Back on the Trail; To Beat
COVID-19 Pandemic, High
School Track Teams Take Their
Meets Outdoors

Camden celebrates a
hoops rebirth. But critics
wonder: Did they cheat
their way to a
championship?



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THIRD PLACE

Juliet Kaszas-Hoch Gina G. Scala

The SandPaper

Ship Bottom Officials Address Status of LBI School Sale; Board Votes to Sell LBIG Grade School to Local Architect For \$14 Million; Zoning Change Necessary to Finalize Sale of School; Housing, Open Space Part of Redeveloping LBI School Property

Few Beaches Guarded After Labor Day



The SandPaper/Wednesday, August 31, 2022

While September is usually warm enough to enjoy the beach, only a handful of beaches on Long Beach Island will have lifeguards following Labor Day weekend.

In Barnegat Light, guards will be on duty through Labor Day and the weekend following Labor Day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., reported Councilwoman Dottie Reynolds, chair of the beaches and parks committee. "No beaches will be guarded on weekdays after Labor Day."

The plan is for beaches to be manned by guards on weekends at Ninth, 22nd and 30th streets, with additional beaches open depending on availability of lifeguards, borough officials said.

Information on guarded beaches is posted on the electronic sign outside the post office on West 10th Street.

In Beach Haven, the Centre Street beach will be guarded Saturdays and Sundays through Sept. 18. Beach Patrol Chief Meghan Marro said updates will be posted on the borough website (beachhavennj.gov) — click on "government" and then "beach patrol" for the patrol's Facebook and Instagram pages.

In Harvey Cedars, the Middlesex Avenue beach will be guarded daily through Sept. 30 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The 80th Street beach will be guarded weekends, staffing and weather permitting. In case of any updates, people can visit harveycedars.org and click on "beach patrol."

In Long Beach Township, the 68th Street beach will be guarded seven days a week through September from 10 to 5, weather dependent. Updates will be available at lbtp.com.

In Ship Bottom, the only guarded beach will be 15th Street through September from 10 to 5.

Surf City beaches will not be guarded after the holiday weekend. — Staff Report

Ryan Merrill

SAFETY FIRST: After Monday, there are still some safe options for swimming. Make sure to choose a guarded beach.

CURRENTS

Ship Bottom Officials Address the Status Of LBI School Sale

School Board's Lawsuit Continues

When resident Nancy Henderson stepped up to the microphone in Ship Bottom's meeting room last week, she had news to share about the LBI Grade School and asked questions she sought clarification on from borough officials.

Her announcement that the LBI Consolidated Board of Education was, in her words, "actively negotiating the sale of the LBI Grade School," located three blocks south of borough hall, was met with a mixed reaction of eye-opening and unplanned awareness from the governing body.

"We're being sued by the school board," Mayor William Huelshornbeck said, adding he was "not 100%" aware of the status of the school sale, but he had heard rumors about the building and property.

"I know that there were some negotiations with a builder, and that was the last I heard," he said during borough council's Aug. 23 meeting, where Henderson brought the topic to the forefront during public comment.

At the school board's Nov. 16, 2021 meeting, its attorney, Anthony Sciarillo, reported the board was "currently in contact and negotiations with a potential buyer for the LBI School."

No additional details about the prospective buyer were provided during Sciarillo's update, which was given as the report from the building, grounds, transportation and finance committee. It's unclear whether that negotiation for the sale of the LBI School is the same one Henderson mentioned last week.

School district officials did not respond to a request for comment regarding the matter as of press deadline.

In the meantime, Huelshornbeck said, "They (district officials) did apply for an addition at the E.J. (Ethel A. Jacobson Elementary) School. Our engineer did look over the flood plan. Their architect, again, had the wrong flood plan."

The E.J. School is located on roughly 6 acres of land. Just over 25 acres of the E.J. School site are in Ship Bottom, with a little under 3 acres residing over the borough line in neighboring Surf City.

A majority of the school board in January 2021 agreed to sell the LBI School and use the proceeds to partially fund the proposed expansion of the E.J. School before merging all staff and students there. The rest of the funding would come from capital reserve.

Located between Central Avenue and Bay Terrace, the LBI School site was identified as school property nearly a century ago. When the borough began zoning practices roughly five decades ago, the 1950-era building and property were designated as public land.

The litigation is the result of the Ship Bottom Borough Council's approval of a zoning ordinance in April 2021 that reaffirms the intent and purpose of the public district designation of the LBI School, located in the P Public District. Such an ordinance was specifically recommended in the 2021 Mayor's Plan Report, a Planning Report, which the Ship Bottom Land Use Board unanimously adopted in March 2021.

The district and school board sued the borough of Ship Bottom, the borough council and the land use board in May 2021. The land use board counter-sued in September 2021, citing, among other arguments, an improper bid process to sell the LBI Grade School, including knowledge of the P Public Designation and land use claim lien for the property. Earlier this year, Superior Court Judge Marlene L. Ford dismissed with prejudice the land use board's counterclaim, finding the land use board lacked standing to file a counterclaim, among other determinations.

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Terrapin Champion Turns Front Yard Into Hatchery



Supplied Photo

Lisa Dolan, born on World Turtle Day, May 23, has spent her life immersed in the world of turtles. As a child, Dolan began collecting turtles from her neighborhood lake in upstate New York, where she grew up. As an adult, she has transformed her front yard in Barnegat Light into a diamondback terrapin nesting place and hopes to educate the public to help the species.

Dolan began volunteering to remove nests from people's properties on Long Beach Island in 2015. That same year, she volunteered at the Terrapin Nesting Project's lone hatchery, at High Bar Harbor, an organization founded by Kathy Lacey in 2011.

While volunteering to monitor for hatchlings at the Terrapin Nesting Project and remove nests from people's homes, Dolan realized the turtles began following her and building nests in her front yard, roughly a dozen.

That's when she realized she could create a hatchery right on her property.

"I asked Kathy Lacey what she would think if I put sand in the front yard, and I think she thought I was joking," Dolan said.

Eventually, she convinced Lacey it wasn't a joke, and in the spring of 2016, she established her hatchery with between 75 and 100 nests on her property in Barnegat Light.

Since she opened her hatchery, the number of nests has increased. There are currently between 190

and 220 nests. Some are physically transported to Dolan's property by residents of neighboring communities Loveladies and Harvey Cedars, while others are made by turtles on their own.

Because her property is across from the bay, about half the turtles cross the street to do so themselves — 92 of the 191 nests for the 2022 nesting season. When the turtles arrive on her property, she assists them by weighing and measuring them before sending them to be microchipped in their back legs for tracking purposes. The chips are similar to those put in the legs of dogs and cats and are not dangerous, Dolan noted. All the turtles are subsequently given names and are therefore identifiable.

The Terrapin Nesting Project's tagline is "Education is key to success; knowledge saves a species."

Dolan emphasized the most important thing the public can do to aid turtles is help them get where they're going, be it toward Dolan's property or toward the bay.

She also hopes drivers are more mindful of the turtles crossing.

The turtles are crossing Bayview Avenue, go a little slower," she said.

The Terrapin Nesting Project has launched a new public education fundraising effort "Foster a Female."

"It's a fun thing we do," Dolan said. "It's not scientific, but education needs to be fun."

The Foster a Female initiative led to the group's biggest fundraising event, the Adopt a Nest program, which allows people to release some of the hatchlings into the bay.

SLOW AND STEADY: Lisa Dolan, born on World Turtle Day, transformed her front yard in Barnegat Light into a terrapin nesting ground.

"A lot of people become addicted to turtles after that," Dolan said.

The Terrapin Nesting Project, along with Dolan and other volunteers on LBI, helps keep the terrapin population healthy and, in turn, maintain an ecological balance in the bay. Nature breeding is impeded by human density and new construction.

A decrease in terrapins means an increase in microorganisms and parasites in the water. After three years of microdredging, evidence of a cleaner Barnegat Bay is already visible, Dolan said.

"The site isn't going anywhere, and we're not going anywhere," she said. — Samantha Polombo

Continued on Page 56

Weekly — Ongoing/Extended Coverage

SECOND PLACE

Eric Englund
Gina G. Scala

The SandPaper

Another Summer Season for Coast Guard in Beach Haven; Coast Guard Ready for Busy Summer on Local Waters; Quick, Reliable: Coast Guard's Presence Keeps Boaters Safe Off Beach Haven

22
The SandPaper/Wednesday, March 30, 2022

CURRENTS Outdoor Seating Must Be Approved By Land Use Board

A Return to Pre-COVID in Ship Bottom

Ship Bottom officials are standing behind their decision to end dining al fresco without specific approval from the borough's land use review board, even as the state once again extended its own emergency-enacted guidelines into November.

The borough's temporary approval process for food establishments with indoor seating to create or expand outdoor seating areas without going to the land use board ended last fall.

Under an executive order precipitated by COVID-19, borough officials, like their counterparts in other island communities, relaxed outdoor dining restrictions at the height of the pandemic to help ease the burden on food establishments that had already been forced to close or offer only no-contact curbside pickup.

The executive order, which sought to protect public health, welfare and safety as well as support the seasonal economy of restaurants, was extended to last year among variant cases of COVID and a slow return to normal.

Prior to the pandemic, only the land use board could grant approval for outdoor seating. The executive order gave borough officials sole discretion to approve such seating.

Beginning in the summer of 2020 and continuing last year, restaurants and other food establishments with indoor seating were allowed to put seats outside their businesses for in-person customer service. Where there was onsite parking, businesses were permitted to use spaces to lay out their outdoor seating.

During a heat wave marred by thunderstorms in August 2020, borough officials extended outdoor dining hours until midnight in an effort to support restaurant owners during a summer truncated by the pandemic. The time had previously been 10 p.m.

"We could do a lot more under the emergency act. We don't have that anymore; neither does the state," Councilman Joe Vayo said, adding he didn't see a need for the borough to continue to relax rules for outdoor seating. "We were giving people relief because they couldn't do everything inside. Now that they are allowed to do everything inside," it's not necessary.

Councilman David Hartmann agreed. "What it sounds like to me is that anyone who didn't apply (for approval from the land use board) goes back to normal and will get everything they wanted from their business before COVID," he said, adding, "Feels like this summer will be back to normal."

Hartmann also said businesses were made aware ahead of time that the borough's terms for relief from going to the land use board was temporary and due to the pandemic.

"They (business owners) have the right to come before the land use board at any time to ask for it (ap-

proval for outdoor seating)," Councilman Robert Butkus added.

Vayo, who is the borough's emergency management coordinator, said he had recommended that several businesses apply to the board for approval of outdoor seating.

On March 16, the board granted approval to the Porthole Cafe, located on the Boulevard, for outdoor dining.

Mayor William Huelshbeck said the Porthole was just the latest of food establishments in the borough to appear before the land use board for permission to have outdoor seating. He mentioned several other food-related businesses that had made such requests at their own expense and were granted approval.

Huelshbeck brought the issue of outdoor seating to the table March 22, saying it came up at a meeting with other island mayors earlier that day.

The state's outdoor dining guidelines are in place until November. "From here south, they are going to allow outdoor seating," he said to begin the conversation. "They (restaurants and other food businesses) are not going to be allowed to add seats."

Huelshbeck said Beach Haven officials are going to allow outdoor dining if the food establishments have the land to do so.

In February, the Beach Haven Borough Council adopted an ordinance that lays out the rules, regulations

Continued on Page 40

Ukraine Firefighters to Receive Gear Courtesy of Beach Haven Company

Protective gear no longer used by the Beach Haven Volunteer Fire Co. is off to help firefighters in beleaguered, war-torn Ukraine.

Fire Chief Adam Ellender said the donation of expired gear consisted of 11 sets of bunker pants, 12 helmets, nine pairs of structural gloves, five Nomex hoods and 11 pairs of structural boots. The shipment also included two boxes of nitrile gloves and three C-Collars.

"At our March 2 monthly meeting, the members decided to aid with our contribution in a unanimous vote," said Ellender. "We just wanted to show how we are there to aid our community in their time of need, and we are also there to aid our brothers and sisters when they need it. We had fire departments coming to our aid during Hurricane Sandy, so now it is time to pay it forward."

The chief said that according to National Fire Protection Association regulations, any gear over 10 years old is no longer serviceable and must be retired.

"Some of the PPEs (personal protective equipment) we sent was as old as 2003," said Ellender. "We keep our old gear for training purposes and to outfit a new member until their new fire-compliant gear comes in from one of our vendors. Other pieces were from members that retired or resigned. Sometimes we've had to throw out the gear, but we're glad that it will be made to get use in Ukraine."

He said the campaign to help Ukraine firefighters began in February.

"I had heard through the grapevine that the Clifton Fire Department and Clifton FMBA Local 21 were going to be running a campaign, to get old sets of gear donated to send over to the Ukraine," said Ellender.

He said the company does fundraising throughout the year with



PUT TO GOOD USE: Protective gear no longer in use by the Beach Haven Volunteer Fire Co. will be worn by firefighters in war-torn Ukraine.

events such as the turkey dinner and block party to get donations for buying protective equipment, training and building maintenance costs. Current costs are \$1,400 for new bunker pants, \$2,220 for new bunker jackets, \$500 for new helmets, \$500 for new structural gloves, \$50 for a new Nomex hood and \$500 for new boots.

"The borough of Beach Haven also helps us with buying PPEs," he said. —E.E.

Crew, Boat Begin Watch May 1

Another Summer Season for Coast Guard in Beach Haven



SAFETY FIRST: A weekend crew of Coast Guard personnel from Station Barnegat Light will answer the call from Marducci Boat Basin, Beach Haven, after plans to cease seasonal operations were rescinded.

The U.S. Coast Guard stepped back from a proposal to eliminate a weekend crew and small rescue boat stationed in Beach Haven, beginning this summer, during the busy recreational season.

"After careful consideration, the Coast Guard removed Station Small Beach Haven from consideration as part of the fiscal year 2022 station consolidation proposal," Lt. Commander Katherine Blue, a public affairs officer for the Coast Guard Mid-Atlantic Region, said via email earlier this month.

Blue failed to address whether the decision was permanent or provisional, despite an inquiry about what happens after the upcoming summer.

Prior to the decision, Beach Haven Mayor Colleen Lambert and Councilman Dan Allen met with Congressman Jeff Van Drew to request the station stay open "for the safety of residents and visitors," according to Sherry Mason, Beach Haven borough manager. Allen owns Marducci Boat Basin, where Coast Guard personnel and the boat are stationed on weekends from May 1 to Oct. 1.

"However, we don't have authority over its operation," Mason said.

Van Drew is a member of the House Transportation Committee. Coast Guard and

Continued on Page 44

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Ongoing/Extended Coverage

FIRST PLACE

Talia Wiener
Montclair Local

Board New Eyes \$190 Million Referendum; Parents: Why Weren't Repairs Done Sooner?; School Officials Talk Oversight, Openness; Taking a Stand – Or Not; Overwhelming 'Yes!' to Repairing Schools

Page 10

Tell us what's up in the schools!
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Education

Thursday, March 31, 2022

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MONTCLAIR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Board now eyes \$190 million referendum

Estimated impact on average taxpayer: \$870 by the fifth year

by TALIA WIENER
wiener@montclairlocal.news

The Montclair Board of Education is now planning to ask residents this fall to authorize an estimated \$190 million in school repairs and upgrades — broken up into three bonds taken out over the next five years.

The tax impact to the owner of a home assessed at the township average of \$628,000 would grow over that time — ultimately reaching an estimated \$870 per year by the fifth year.

Even the most immediately prioritized upgrades now eyed go well beyond the \$15 million of heating and ventilation fixes described as "Phase 2" of a master plan by Parette Somjen Architects, encompassing projects in nine of the district's buildings. The district previously considered starting with a bond for that work, another \$37 million bond for projects identified as high priority the next year, and \$95 million in projects over the next decade.

Members of the board's finance and facilities committee said in recent weeks they were looking at more expansive work, but didn't put a number on a new proposal until a specially scheduled meeting Monday where the committee presented a long-range facilities plan.

The finance and facilities committee, chaired by Eric Scherzer, has been working for months to assess and prioritize the needs of the district, alongside schools Superintendent Jonathan Ponds, Parette Somjen and school principals. The \$190 million overall would be for work slated through 2029.

"Our buildings are one leg of a four-legged table, with the other three being our staff, our administration and our community," Scherzer said. "The table won't stand without the fourth leg. That leg has been worn down and frankly worn out over the years. This plan will put



Peter Keating, parent and member of the Montclair Neighborhood Development Corporation, said at Monday's meeting he supports a plan for \$190 million in repairs to Montclair's schools.

that fourth leg on a solid footing."

State aid would cover an estimated 28% to 34% of the total cost, Will Ross, Parette Somjen Architects associate, said Monday. But the aid would likely skew on the higher end of that range because about 90% of the district's proposed projects could be categorized as addressing safety, health, welfare and educational upgrades, the criteria used by the state to determine funding, he said.

The strategy, decided in conversation with the district's bond counsel, is to bond in three parts, Scherzer said Monday. The proposed plan lists an estimated \$70 million bond in year one, a \$60 million bond in year three, and another \$60 million bond in year five.

Using current interest rates and assuming an average level of state reimbursement, the owner of a home with the average assessment would pay an estimated \$320 more per year for the first bond, officials said. In the third year, when another bond is issued, the homeowner would pay an additional estimated \$275. Another estimated \$275

would be added in the fifth year. Each bond would be paid over a 20-year period.

After walk-throughs of each building with Ponds and school principals, Parette Somjen Architects identified more than 200 structural items to be addressed, Scherzer said. The cost of addressing every issue identified by the firm was estimated to be over \$500 million.

"Unfortunately, that's the cost of years or decades of lack of maintenance, attention and lack of investment," Scherzer said. "It didn't happen all at once."

The committee, along with Ponds, reviewed all the items, assessed priorities and identified what items could be addressed outside of the bond through routine maintenance, insurance and warranties, Scherzer said. Some items were deemed unnecessary or unaffordable, he said.

"The proposal that we are presenting in no way covers every item on everybody's wish list," Scherzer said. "It cannot do that and be fiscally viable for the taxpayers. And

all of us, all the Board of Education members, many of the people that work in the district, are taxpayers, and we're concerned about that as well."

The committee made its decisions based on two guiding principles — safety and excellence in education — Scherzer said Monday. It also focused on providing equitable investment across the district, meaning some schools that have been historically neglected were allocated more funds than others, he said.

"We haven't gone about this in a way of comparing money at this school and money at that school," he said. "We've gone about it in a way of looking at what the needs are."

PLANS FOR REPAIRS

The proposal is separated into two categories — infrastructure and educational enhancements — and broken up into 11 project types: HVAC upgrades, boiler replacements, electrical service upgrades, roof replacements, other infrastructure repairs and upgrades, practical and performing arts facility upgrades, gymnasium renovations, science and classroom upgrades, technology upgrades, special education upgrades, and athletic facility and playground upgrades.

It also includes a construction manager position, to oversee the entire project.

Upgrades to HVAC are the most expensive project in the proposal — totaling \$77 million.

"The majority, if not all of the HVAC equipment in the district, is beyond its useful life," Ross said. "It's in disrepair, obsolete, not operable in some instances, not efficient. And parts are becoming difficult to source for repairs."

HVAC upgrades would take place in the administration building, Bradford School, Buzz Aldrin

See REFERENDUM, page 12

At this time, I would like to invite fellow editorial committee member, Vinessa Erminio, NJ Advance Media, to come up and continue with the editorial awards presentation.

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Editorial Awards

Weekly

**SPECIAL SUBJECT
WRITING**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Special Subject Writing

THIRD PLACE

Charles Toutant
New Jersey Law Journal

Courthouses in 2022

New Jersey Law Journal

STATEWIDE LEGAL AUTHORITY SINCE 1878

An **ALM** Publication

VOL. 228 NO. 51

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2022

LAW.COM/NJLAWJOURNAL

NJ Appeals Court to Trial Judge: Allowing Discovery Only for the Defense 'Hardly Seemed the Correct Course'

By Colleen Murphy

The New Jersey Appellate Division ruled that, while the plaintiff's handling of a personal injury matter "was hardly a model of diligence," the lower court erred in ruling that only the defendants were entitled to continue discovery.

Plaintiff Carmen R. Rodriguez De Collado allegedly tripped and fell on a broken sidewalk outside 265-267 Spring Street in Paterson, according to the appeals court's unpublished Dec. 9 opinion. Less than a year later, she filed a negligence complaint against Gardner Luciano and Paterson. On appeal, De Collado challenged four Law Division

Continued on page 8

'I Did Not See a Single Person': Things Have Changed at Courthouses

By Charles Toutant

With some trial courts rethinking how they operate in the aftermath of COVID-19, some litigators say the continued use of remote technology deprives them of an important element of their practice.

Lawyers who are accustomed to motion hearings or status conferences being held in person during pre-pandemic days say the chance to rub elbows with colleagues on trips to the courthouse is lost when pretrial hearings are conducted via Zoom.

Holding such hearings remotely even after the threat of COVID has lessened allows judges and litigators to operate more efficiently. No longer do lawyers have to travel an

Continued on page 10



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Special Subject Writing

SECOND PLACE

Elizabeth Wulforth

The Two River Times

Ladies, Start Your Engines! Middletown Native is Honda's First Woman First Woman Engineer On Indy 500 Winning Team

THE TWO RIVER TIMES

tworivertimes.com

VOLUME 32 NUMBER 30 THE WEEK OF JUNE 2 - 8, 2022 ONE DOLLAR



Towns across the Two River area honored military members who lost their lives in service this past Memorial Day Weekend. For more photos of celebrations in Fair Haven and Ramapo, see page 6.

Ahead of the MegaParcel Bids, Fort Monmouth Awash in Other News

By Laura D.C. Kolnoski

OCEANPORT - Two local residents poised to transform a prime 13-acre portion of the former Fort Monmouth are actively seeking tenants for their waterfront mixed-use development on Parker's Creek. As of May 30, businessmen Michael Abhoud and Chris Ivenito of Fort Mon-

mouth Business Center, LLC (FMBC), an assignee of TetherView Property Management, own the Allison Hall complex of six buildings in the fort's historic district off Oceanport Avenue. The firm paid the Fort Monmouth Econ-

Continued on Page 8

Ladies, Start Your Engines! Middletown Native is Honda's First Woman Engineer on Indy 500 Winning Team

By Elizabeth Wulforth

INDIANAPOLIS - When Nicole Rotondo got the green flag to work her dream job at Honda, she never really thought about being a trailblazer. But that's exactly what happened Sunday at the 105th running of the Indianapolis 500 - Marcus Ericsson crossed the finish line under the checkered flag and Rotondo became Honda's first woman trackside support engineer on a winning team.

Rotondo grew up in Middletown helping her dad fix almost every engine imaginable, "everything from cars, boats, jet skis, lawnmowers he picked up off the side of the road," she said. After graduating from Marine Academy of Science and Technology on Sandy Hook, Rotondo attended Rochester Institute of Technology and received her degree in mechanical engineering with an automotive focus.

She worked first as a body design engineer but knew motorsports was her passion. This is Rotondo's fourth season as a trackside engineer.



Nicole Rotondo, right, a Middletown native and trackside engineer for Honda, celebrated Marcus Ericsson's Indy 500 victory Sunday, May 29.

She trained on Graham Rahal's car for a year and then Honda assigned her to Chip Ganassi Racing's No. 8 in 2020. Every team that leases a Honda engine gets assigned an engineer to work on the timing stand with that team for race season. Honda

is one of the two engine providers for the IndyCar Series. Rotondo attends all the IndyCar events No. 8 competes in. A typical race sees her flying to the event site and working closely with the rest of the Honda team. "I get the car fired up in the morning,

and then I will be on the timing stand with them all weekend," Rotondo explained. "I'll be one of the nerds with the headsets and the laptop talking to Marcus and telling him the things that he needs

Continued on Page 10

Brookdale Plans New Reforms To Strengthen Student Success

By Sunayana Prabhu

LINCROFT - Brookdale Community College is in the process of a whole-college transformation with an all-campus infrastructure development underway and a new collaboration with "Achieve The Dream" (ATD) - an external guidance network serving more than 300 community colleges nationwide - to advance student equity, achievement and outcomes.

A growing number of educational institutions are turning to community college reform networks like ATD that support both students and systems to increase student retention, persistence and graduation. For example, ATD provides Open Educational Resources for students who cannot afford or access the high-cost textbooks required for coursework; this ensures student engagement and increases the chances of course completion and eventual certification.

Brookdale will benefit from ATD's 25 experienced coaches and advisors trained to troubleshoot socioeconomic, academic, personal and career concerns of students. Reaching out to nearly 4 million students nationwide, particularly low-income, underserved students of color, ATD's partnership will help Brookdale close equity gaps, build a culture of data-informed decision-making and maximize the student experience through high-quality teaching and learning.

"We are partnering with ATD to strengthen student outcomes, particularly for historically underserved students who have been impacted by the pandemic, and to be part of a national network that is leading transformational change in higher education," said David M. Stout, Ph.D., president of

Continued on Page 3

FIRST PLACE

Alex Parker-Magyar
Erin Flaherty
The Madison Eagle

'I am Not a Slave'; Immigrant Rights Group Moves Headquarters; Graduation Ceremony in Madison Celebrates Latino Immigrants

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'I am not a slave' Domestic workers march through town for labor rights

By ALEX PARKER-MAGYAR
MANAGING EDITOR

MADISON - More than 100 people marched through the streets of Madison Sunday demanding fair treatment and government protections for domestic workers.

The marchers, nearly all of them Latino immigrants, chanted slogans in Spanish and English such as "tenemos poder," or "we have power," as they marched from Madison Train Station to Dodge Field on International Workers' Day.

The group, which included residents of Madison, Morristown, Dover, Plainfield and other nearby communities, made its presence felt in the town.

Marchers held signs and made noise as they cut a winding path from Kings Road to Central Avenue. An organizer led call-and-response chants via megaphone while another kept time on a snare drum. Some passing motorists honked their horns in support.

Event organizer Wind of the Spirit, the Morristown-based advocacy group for immigrants' rights, hosted the demonstration to call on the state Legislature to pass the New Jersey Domestic Workers Bill of Rights, a proposed law that would ensure various protections for the vulnerable labor group.

"Domestic workers have been excluded from basic labor rights," said Gloria Blanco, advocacy and public policy coordinator for Wind of the Spirit, which also has an office on Green



A group of women lead a procession of more than 100 demonstrators marching down Waverly Place in Madison in support of the New Jersey Domestic Workers Bill of Rights on Sunday, May 1. Many of the marchers were household employees such as babysitters and cleaners.

>> RELATED CONTENT

Please see more photos on Page 6 and videos at madisoneagle.com.

Avenue at the Presbyterian Church of Madison. "Some have really good employers, but others cannot get any time to rest, they don't have lunch breaks, they don't have paid sick leave or days off. We're just trying to give them the basic rights that other workers have."

'We Are Essential' Many of the demonstrators Sunday were nannies and babysitters, house cleaners and caregivers for the elderly.

Several said they were initially hired for one job, such as cleaning or babysitting, but have since been exploited into working as de facto servants — taking

care of pets, cooking, gardening, washing clothes and more — without any increase in compensation.

Some fear they risk losing their jobs if they demand fair pay or treatment from their employers.

"It's more work for the same pay," said Nuvola Salazar, who said she has been a domestic worker for 20 years.

"I've had bad experiences," she said. "One person demanded I get down on my hands and knees while I cleaned their floor. I said you cannot make me do

my job that way I am not a slave. I am a domestic worker, and my work has dignity."

Beyond excessive labor hours and duties, domestic workers can also be vulnerable to wage theft, abrupt firing, sexual harassment and workplace abuse.

Salazar, for one, recalled an incident in which she had to fend off unwanted sexual advances from an employer, but never said anything for fear of losing her job.

PLEASE SEE MARCH, PAGE 6



Madison resident Allen Spatola speaks out against a pair of ordinances regulating medical marijuana dispensaries in Madison at a Borough Council meeting on Wednesday, April 27. Seated, from left, are Borough Council members Eric Range, Rachel Ehrlich and Debra Coen.

MADISON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Medical cannabis bill OK'd

By ALEX PARKER-MAGYAR
MANAGING EDITOR



ROBERT LANDRIGAN ROBERT CONLEY

MADISON - A medical marijuana dispensary would be allowed to open in select parts of Madison, should one ever decide to apply to the Planning Board.

The Borough Council voted 5-1 Wednesday, April 27 to adopt two ordinances allowing a state-licensed dispensary to open in permitted zones along the Main Street corridor, but outside the downtown area and at least

ley said, "It's been made clear: Not in Madison." Council President Landrigan said he understands the medical benefits of marijuana and supports medicinal use, but said he

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HEALTH/SCIENCE WRITING

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Health/Science Writing

THIRD PLACE

Judy O’Gorman

The Two River Times

Listen to Your Heart
– A Couple’s Tragedy

THE TWO RIVER TIMES
HEALTH & WELLNESS

THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 3 - 9, 2022

Listen to Your Heart: A Couple’s Tragedy

By Judy O’Gorman Alvarez

The morning of May 22, 2021, Liz Barrett and Michael Russano of Red Bank were looking forward to their long-awaited wedding day. COVID-19 safety restrictions had forced the couple to postpone their celebration twice.

As the bride and her bridal party gathered at her parents’ Middletown home to get ready for the day, Russano arrived to drop off his mother, carefully backing into the driveway so he wouldn’t risk a look at the house and possibly his intended bride. Tradition called for the couple not to see each other until Barrett’s walk down the aisle at nearby St. Agnes Church later that day.

But that never happened.

While Barrett was having her makeup applied, Russano decided to go for a prewedding swim at Anchorage Beach in Sea Bright. He never made it to the water, instead collapsing on the sand. His heart failed. Paramedics and EMTs were unable to revive him.

Some nine months earlier in late 2020 – in the midst of the pandemic – Russano had been diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy. After experiencing unusual fatigue and lightheadedness after exercising, he saw his primary care doctor at Johns Hopkins Medical Center in Baltimore who referred him to a cardiologist. (The couple had recently moved from Washington D.C.)

“It was uncommon for him to have such scarring on his heart as he was only 35,” said Barrett, 31, a program analyst for WIC (Women, Infants and Children nutrition program). “So because there was no other kind of underlying condition or reason for this, or family history, they did genetic testing. That’s how they found out that he had a mutated gene – the Desmin gene.”

Doctors recommended Russano get an implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD), surgically placed in the chest, an ICD is helpful in preventing sudden death in patients with known ventricular tachycardia or fibrillation. Studies have shown ICDs to have a role in preventing cardiac ar-

“With everything that goes on between work and life, we often put ourselves second, and that should never be done. If something’s not feeling right,” Ducean said, take the time to “get checked out and get the appropriate diagnostic testing.”

Ravi Ducean, M.D., Hackensack Meridian

rest in high-risk patients who haven’t had, but are at risk for, life-threatening ventricular arrhythmias.

The diagnosis was a condition not to be ignored, but Barrett said they both thought they had time.

“The doctors said it was out of an abundance of caution that he should think about the surgery, Barrett said. “There wasn’t a sense of urgency.”

In addition, amidst the pandemic, elective surgeries and EMTs were unable to schedule.

“We had just moved. We pushed off our wedding two times. So we thought, one thing at a time. Move into our first house, get married and then Mike was going to address his recently diagnosed heart condition,” Barrett said.

Although he was Russano’s physician and did not review that case, Ravi Ducean, M.D., a cardiologist with Hackensack Meridian, said, “Any (unusual symptoms) with exertion, is always concerning, whether that’s shortness of breath, classic chest pain, or dizziness with exertion.”

Ducean said those symptoms “should be an alarm for somebody to seek attention because when you’re putting your heart to a challenge and it can’t meet that challenge, usually that’s when you have a supply-and-demand mismatch and then matters arise. So, symptoms that occur with exertion should always be looked into.”

He confirmed the next step would be “echocardiography, EKG, stress testing and then further testing.” In Russano’s case, genetic testing held the key.

In cases like that, “We’re trying to get to the bottom

and see if there’s any structural abnormalities or flow of malades and coronary arteries and so forth,” said Ducean.

Barrett and Russano met in 2014 while both were working and living in Washington, D.C. After graduating from Loyola University, Russano, who grew up on Long Island, started working for the U.S. Navy, where he stayed for 15 years. “We met on a kickball team in D.C.,” Barrett said.

They were engaged on a trip to Paris. “He proposed at the Eiffel Tower,” she said. “That was so Mike. He made everything more fun. Even grocery shopping was fun with him.”

There is no room for second-guessing and “what if’s” for Barrett in her healing journey. After selling what she thought was “our forever home,” she moved in temporarily with her parents and works on dealing with her grief.

“I ran,” she said. “A lot.”

She also finds solace at St.eph’s Place, a grief counseling center in Red Bank, where people who have experienced the same kind of loss share their thoughts and comfort.

And she’s appreciative of the “kindness of others,” from the EMTs in Sea Bright who tried to save Russano to friends, neighbors in Red Bank and even strangers. Kind words and deeds and acts to help preserve her fiancé’s memory are treasured.

When he was a child, a friend of Russano’s died tragically at age 14 when he suffered a blow to his chest during a lacrosse game. That friend’s parents created the Louis J. Acampora Memorial Foundation



COURTESY ELIZABETH BARRETT
Mike Russano died suddenly from heart failure on the morning of his intended wedding day. His fiancé, Elizabeth Barrett, shares his story and the message to pay attention to your body. The couple was engaged in Paris.

which is now donating defibrillators to the Sea Bright beach to honor Russano. Barrett also takes care to fortify in the messages Russano

no shared at their rehearsal dinner the night before he died. In the speech, he told his parents and brothers how much he loved them and spoke to Barrett’s parents and sisters and friends.

“Then he turned to me and told me he finally figured out where he belonged in life, which was right next to me,” said Barrett. “It was really beautiful. If you’re looking for silver linings, he was able to stand up there with immediate family and close friends and be able to tell everyone how much he loved them.”

Even though Russano did everything suggested by his doctors, Barrett and Ducean want to remind people to listen to their bodies.

“With everything that goes on between work and life, we often put ourselves second, and that should never be done. If something’s not feeling right,” Ducean said, take the time to “get checked out and get the appropriate diagnostic testing.”



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Health/Science Writing

SECOND PLACE

Matt Enuco
The Retrospect

Rosen Eludes COVID's Death Grip,
Does Triathlon with Doc



Rosen Eludes COVID's Death Grip, Does Triathlon with Doc



DYNAMIC DUO: COVID-survivor Jon Rosen, left, and Cooper University Hospital intensivist Dr. Adam Green competed in the Atlantic City Triathlon in early August. Completing the race was a milestone for the patient-doctor team after Rosen survived a deadly case of covid early in the pandemic.

Whether you believe in high powers, energy or vibrations that oscillate throughout the universe, there's no denying personal experience. Collingswood resident Jon Rosen was a miracle patient at Cooper University Hospital early in the pandemic and since his recovery in July 2020, the 61-year-old has had a collection of mysterious and mystical dreams that seem to tie the universe together in ways hardly noticeable prior to his near-death experience. But he has also recovered enough to survive another physically grueling challenge: a triathlon.

Rosen and his doctor at Cooper, Adam Green, completed the Atlantic City Triathlon on August 12, a feat that seemed far out of reach two years ago. "Us doing it [the triathlon] marked a return to normal," Green said in an interview on Tuesday. "There was a sense of closure for us in completing this race." The proposition of completing a race as a pair wasn't on either Green or Rosen's radar until a meeting, for coffee with another one of Rosen's doctors. And given Rosen's path to recovery, a triathlon was a monumental undertaking after surviving COVID-19.

Rosen was one of the early patients in the pandemic, contracting the virus in April 2020. "I initially tried to recover at home, locking myself in a room away from my family and letting my body fight the virus," Rosen explained during an interview Tuesday. "My symptoms worsened over the course of 10 days and so I went to the hospital." At this stage in the pandemic, lockdowns were still widespread and treatments

(Continued on page 7)

Collingswood Lays Plans for New DPW Building

Collingswood mayor Jim Malley confirmed Tuesday that the borough is pretty far along on plans for a new Department of Public Works complex to be built on the other side of Route 130 near the town's composting facility on Harrison Ave. at the old M&E Marine property acquired by the borough years ago.

the permitting process to do that. Concepts are completed, and we're in the final engineering stage — it's all happening behind the scenes," the mayor said after a short commission business meeting. The borough's land use board will review the engineering plans, a "courtesy," according to Malley, far checklist items like stormwater management, since in all likelihood there won't be any

variances needed for the borough-designed building. Unlike the situation with the new public safety building, the commission chose not to subject the new DPW plans to intense public scrutiny. The mayor said that is "because that building (public safety) was in the middle of a neighborhood, and this is out by the composting facility."

(Continued on page 5)

PSE&G Road Work Called into Question

It's been almost a year since PSE&G started its gas main replacement project in Audubon, and the borough is concerned that temporary roadway patches will become problematic as winter approaches. Police chief Thomas Tassi shared in his report at Tuesday's work caucus that the utility company has three crews out working every day but they are still behind the original timeline.



CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES: Audubon residents are starting to complain about road conditions after temporary patches begin to fail throughout town as PSE&G's gas main replacement project is ongoing.

(Continued on page 2)

Popielek New Head of New Jersey Kiwanis

Kirk Popielek believes in public service. The local business owner and former Barrington council president was recently elected district governor for Kiwanis International, a benevolent group that aims to improve the lives and opportunities of children around the world.

several actions, not least of which was the journey back to Princeton from Hatteras Island in the Outer Banks while on a family vacation three weeks ago. "I really put a few miles on the odometer in a short period of time," Popielek said with a laugh. Fortunately, after being installed in office, he was able to hurry back down the coast to enjoy

(Continued on page 16)

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2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Health/Science Writing

FIRST PLACE

Bethany Mitros The Retrospect

DeAngelo Brings Reproductive Awareness to Millions



Stay Healthy,
Stay Safe
Friends.

Camden County's Finest Weekly Newspaper

The RETROSPECT

www.theretrospect.com

Volume 121, No. 5 Hometown News Since 1902 \$1 Friday, February 4, 2022

DeAngelo Brings Reproductive Awareness to Millions

by Bethany Mitros

Paige DeAngelo is no stranger to likes and views on social media, but even she was surprised at the outpouring of interest and support she received when she shared a rare diagnosis on TikTok. The Haddon Township High School alum has a congenital condition called septate uterus, meaning she has a septum running through her entire reproductive system, which was discovered when she went for a routine gynecological appointment at 18 years old.



SOCIAL MEDIA STAR: HTHS grad Paige DeAngelo is using her large following on social media to bring awareness to a condition called septate uterus by sharing her own diagnosis on TikTok in between videos of dance moves.

At the time, she was a freshman living on campus at Drexel University and in the city for the first time, so she was reticent to share the news with her new friends and roommates, who eventually started asking questions about why she had to head back across the river a few times a week for doctors' appointments.

"I didn't think I could tell my roommates because it felt too weird, but when I finally told

them, they did not judge or shame me for it," she explained. Sharing the news was a relief, so she didn't stop there. "I had a moment where I just started telling everyone," said DeAngelo. Though men sometimes offered "unfiltered" responses, she does not regret sharing her news. "That's the whole reason I had to share. I hate to sound cliché but due to societal norms, a lot of women are shamed if they talk about their bodies."

For DeAngelo, the diagnosis was a relief as well because it explained a variety of issues she thought were just simple bad luck as a young woman, in particular painful menstrual cramps and an irregular menstrual cycle. Her doctor explained she was experiencing those symptoms because her body was producing two completely separate menstrual cycles every month.

In May, DeAngelo posted a video docu-

(Continued on page 2)

County COVID-19 Cases Drop Dramatically, Unvaxxed at Most Risk

by Joan Buehler

On Wednesday, Dr. Samuel Weiner of Virtua Medical Group urged people not to subscribe to the rumor "the

omicron variant isn't as bad," especially if they haven't gotten any coronavirus vaccines or boosters yet.

(Continued on page 5)

On-Street Parking Poses Storm Danger in Audubon

by Bethany Mitros

On-street parking during snowstorms has long been problematic in Audubon. However, two incidents during the recent storm, one of which could have been serious, may bring stronger enforcement in

the future. Ord. No. 761-97 forbids street parking when snow accumulates on the road and any unoccupied vehicle parked on the street is deemed "a nuisance and menace to the safe

(Continued on page 5)

Oaklyn Eyes New Capital Spending

by Joan Buehler

The Oaklyn Council budget meeting in late January sounded a bit like a Christmas wish list, a month late. That is because items to be purchased in the coming year include a zodiac boat for the

fire department and twelve taser guns for the police department. Also, a new prefabricated building with a new dump truck parked inside, for public works.

(Continued on page 6)

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Editorial Awards

Weekly

**ENVIRONMENTAL
WRITING**

THIRD PLACE

Talia Wiener
Montclair Local

Plastic Bag Ban: Businesses Have Been Preparing for Years

Thursday, April 28, 2022

News

Page 3

PLASTIC BAG BAN

Businesses have been preparing for years

Many switching to paper or reusable bags

BY TALIA WIENER
wiener@montclairlocal.news

On Wednesday, May 4, a state law banning the use of single-use plastic bags will go into effect. Paper bags will be barred in large grocery stores as well.

But Montclair businesses have been preparing for the bans for years.

In September 2020, the state Assembly and Senate gave their approval to what would become one of the most stringent bans on plastic products and paper bags in the country.

The ban highlights the growth in plastic usage and its effects. Plastic production has increased from 2 million tons in 1950 to 367 million in 2020, according to Plastics Europe, a trade association that aims to reduce plastic waste. Eight million tons of plastic end up in the oceans annually, which is estimated to result in the mass of plastic pollution in the ocean exceeding the mass of fish by 2050, the World Economic Forum said in a 2016 report.

New Jersey retail stores, grocery stores and food service businesses will not be allowed to provide or sell single-use plastic carryout bags and polystyrene foam food service products. Single-use paper carryout bags will be allowed to be provided or sold, except by grocery stores equal to or larger than 2,500 square feet, which may only provide or sell reusable carryout bags.

A mandate signed into law in late March created an exception for food pantries and nonprofits — they can keep using plastic through Nov. 4, 2022.

But since December 2019, Mont-



TALIA WIENER/STAFF

clair resident Joe Walter brought a reusable bag to do his shopping at Kings Sunday. Walter said a Kings employee reminded him during his last trip to the store that a ban on plastic bags for all stores, and paper bags for large grocers, would soon go into effect.

clair has had its own ordinance prohibiting single-use plastic bags in large chain stores. Originally, Montclair's law was intended to apply to any store over 2,500 square feet, but it was amended to encompass only stores that are over 20,000 square feet. In Montclair, that includes ACME, Kings and Whole Foods, and the three CVS locations on Bloomfield Avenue, Claremont Avenue and Valley Road.

So for the big grocery stores in town, the plastic bag part of the May 4 ban is already being implemented. But the stores will have to eliminate paper bags as well.

ACME Markets and Kings have been working hard to prepare stores for the ban, Dana Ward, communications and public affairs manager for ACME and Kings, told Montclair Local. Both stores are subsidiaries of Albertsons.

"We are committed to offering our customers a wide variety of reusable bags for purchase and encourage our

customers to bring back their bags when they shop to further reduce the impact on the environment," Ward said.

ShopRite has also been preparing customers for the upcoming ban, with in-store signage and reminders to "plan for the ban," spokeswoman Karen O'Shea said.

"While our goal is to encourage customers to 'be the change' and bring their reusable bags to shop, we will also have a variety of reusable totes and options for shoppers who forget to bring their own bags after the state law takes effect," O'Shea said.

At Whole Foods, customers will have several reusable bag options to choose from if they forget to bring their own, according to a spokesperson for the company.

For the local businesses that did not fall under the township's ordinance, the past 18 months have been key to planning and preparing for the ban.

Many small businesses in the Upper Montclair Business District have already phased out single-use plastic bags, Wendy Lacey, president of the Upper Montclair Business Association and owner of Cornerstone Montclair, said.

"The majority of our small businesses have already put environmentally friendly practices in place," Lacey said. "So it's nice to see that larger stores will also be implementing more environmentally friendly practices as well."

The Montclair Center Business Improvement District has been sending out emails about the ban to stakeholders for months, according to Executive Director Jason Gleason.

"We've tried to be really in an educational role and say, 'Here are the resources, here are the guides, here are the rules,'" Gleason said.

But the ban will be harder on some businesses than others, he said.

"If COVID has taught my office

anything, it's that there is no one-stop-shop, perfect solution that solves all businesses' problems perfectly," Gleason said.

Business owners will have to get creative to abide by the ban without acquiring significant additional costs for packaging and bags, he said.

"We've got a crafty bunch here," Gleason said. "I'm quite confident that everyone will find some solutions."

Businesses in Montclair's South End have been practicing for the ban, giving out paper bags and limiting usage of single-use plastic bags, Zina Floyd, president of the South End Business District and owner of Café Moso, said.

But switching to paper bags is not as easy as it may seem, Floyd said. Café Moso, located at 307 Orange Road, began by using wax-coated brown bags, but after putting two to three items inside, the bag would begin to rip, she said. So the restaurant switched to white paper bags, which seem to be holding up better.

"They are more expensive; however, we don't really have much of a choice," she said. "I don't want to buy food and have it drop out of the bag."

Floyd said she is wary of bags ripping because she's seen it happen — "the macaroni and cheese in particular is pretty heavy."

"It's gonna be a bit of a challenge, but I think that it's needed," she said. "I think patrons and businesses collectively will adapt as we have with everything else that's happened in the last few years."

At L&B Healthy Pet Markets, located at 15 South Fullerton Ave., preparation for the bag ban began months ago, according to founder and co-owner Marc Berube.

Berube has been reaching out to the store's distributors and food makers, many of whom have donated

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Environmental Writing

SECOND PLACE

David Biggy
The SandPaper

Nesting Piping Plovers In Barnegat Light Deliver Big Blow to Ocean Mile Swim

14 CURRENTS LBI Near-Drowning In Pool Is Reminder It Happens Anywhere

The SandPaper/Wednesday, July 6, 2022

Life-Saving Skills Can Prevent Tragedy

Water safety during the summer on Long Beach Island often focuses on rip currents, but a recent near drowning at a home in Surf City is another reminder of how quickly summer fun can turn dangerous and how being trained on basic lifesaving skills can prevent a tragedy from happening.

At approximately 12:45 p.m. on June 29, borough police responded to a North Fourth Street home after being notified of a drowning victim with CPR in progress, law enforcement officials reported last week.

A family friend was already performing CPR on the 11-month-old

child, who prior to the incident was in a Styrofoam pool float that was shaped like a guitar, when Officers Kyle Constable, John Boyne and Keyan Cusick arrived. There was a child set in the middle of the float, according to police.

The infant was on his back, breathing and crying when the officers first saw him. They immediately took over care of the child, positioning him so he could expel any excess water ingested or aspirated, law enforcement officials said.

Emergency medical personnel from the Surf City Volunteer Fire Co. and EMS, along with Beach Haven First Aid, arrived on the scene and along with the officers provided care under which the infant's condition continued to improve.

The Surf City EMS, along with paramedic units, transported the child to a waiting helicopter to be transferred to a trauma center.

On July 1, the child was recovering from the incident and was expected to return home from the hospital, though law enforcement was unsure of the timing of his release.

"I can't say enough about the family friend," Surf City Police Chief Jack Casella said Friday morning. "Takeaway: Learn CPR. This could have happened to any one of us."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention categorizes drowning as "the process of experiencing impairment or immersion in liquid. Drowning can happen in seconds and is often silent. It can happen to anyone any time there is access to water."

Still, the CDC said, not all drownings are fatal. An average of 22 non-fatal drownings occurred per day in the United States for a total of about 8,080 between 2010 and 2019, according to the CDC.

The highest risk location for a drowning to occur varies by age, the CDC said.

"Among infants under 1 year old, two-thirds of all drownings occur in bathtubs. Most drownings happen in home swimming pools among children ages 1-4," according to the CDC. "More than half of fatal and nonfatal drownings among people 15 years and older occur in natural waters like lakes, rivers, or oceans."

Preventing a drowning is in the details, such as always swimming with a buddy, knowing the risks associated with natural waters, and avoiding alcohol before or during water activities.



File Photos by Ryan Morrill
OUSTED: This scene is not going to occur in Barnegat Light this year. The Ocean Mile Swim, a fundraiser for the Barnegat Light Beach Patrol, has been canceled.



FOR THE BIRDS: Several pairs of piping plovers in Barnegat Light, like these shown hanging out on the beach last year, have forced the cancellation of Barnegat Light Beach Patrol's Ocean Mile Swim.

There's Just No Way Around Them

Nesting Piping Plovers in Barnegat Light Deliver Big Blow to Ocean Mile Swim

The warning went out on June 11. *Charadrius melodus* ultimately delivered the death blow three weeks later. And so, the Barnegat Light Beach Patrol's 13th Ocean Mile Swim will have to wait until next year.

"I always thought this might happen some year, and it's finally happened with Lucky 13," said John Schulze, BLBP captain and race director for the event, which serves as a fundraiser for the beach patrol.

"We get regular updates from the (New Jersey) Division of Endangered and Nongame Species about nesting progress," the announcement read. "Two occurrences this spring have pushed back the date when chicks will successfully fledge and leave our beaches. The coast experienced a strong storm in May that wiped out the season's first nests. Since it was early, re-nesting happened. More recently a nest in the vicinity of 16th Street succumbed to predators."

Continued on Page 16

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly — Environmental Writing

FIRST PLACE

David Nahan

Ocean City Sentinel

View from O.C. Music Pier: 612
Wind Turbines; Commenter: BOEM
Report Downplays Wind Farm's
Impact on Fishing, Tourism; Orsted
Asks BPU for Rights of Way in O.C.;
City Continues Fight;
Timeline: Orsted Split Evident

OCEAN CITY SENTINEL



View from O.C. Music Pier: 612 wind turbines
More planned projects to bring wind farms as close as 8.8 miles from coast

By DAVID NAHAN
Sentinel staff

OCEAN CITY — The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) runs 1,400 pages. For those who search through it, there is a lot of information, some far beyond the proposal for Ocean Wind 1, the electricity-generating wind farm planned 15 miles off the coast of Cape May and Atlantic counties with as many as 98 towering turbines.

Nestled deep in the DEIS is a little, three-paragraph section, N.3.1.3.5, labeled "Ocean City Music Pier, Ocean City, New Jersey." It notes that looking out from the Music Pier at 811 Boardwalk — which is a popular Jersey shore spot for gazing at the ocean and south at the island's beach and boardwalk — there may be something else on the horizon.

That something is as many as 612 wind turbines, some as close as 8.8 miles.

The DEIS report is about Ocean Wind 1, but it documents the myriad other proposed projects that would result in 1,370 wind-generating turbines up and

down the coast, including the closest, Ocean Wind 2 and an Ocean Wind X. The section includes other locations of "historic properties" as well as the Music Pier, one in Atlantic City and three in Ventnor City, saying that BOEM "has found the project would have an adverse visual effect" on them.

"The adverse effects on the viewshed of the above-ground historic properties would occupy the space for approximately 35 years, but they are unavoidable," the report said, citing reasons listed in another section of the report.

Ocean Wind 1's projected lifespan is 25 years, with the turbines being decommissioned and the towers removed after that, so the visual impacts listed in the report appear to include projects beginning after Ocean Wind 1 — and outliving it.

Barbara McCall, who owns property in Ocean City and vacations here, made note of that in her submission to BOEM during the public comment period on the DEIS.

She saw references to "Ocean Wind X," a project that hasn't been publicly

See View, page A6

O.C. loses football legend

Ray Rogers, one of best Red Raiders ever, dies at 41

By KYLE McCRAVE
Sentinel Sports

OCEAN CITY — The Red Raider family was rocked this past week with news of the sudden passing of Ray Rogers on Aug. 17.

Rogers, 41, was one of the best to ever play football at Ocean City High School.

He was a two-time state champion and still holds the school record for career interceptions.

Gary Degenhardt, who coached him at OCHS, shared his thoughts and memories.

"He was a special kid, a special player, a great teammate," Degenhardt said. "I just can't say enough nice things about Ray ... It's just very sad."

The circumstances of his passing are gut-wrenching.

"He's at his wife's funeral, who passed away a couple days earlier, and he has some sort of cardiac event there, and they can't revive him," Degenhardt said.

"It's just a sad, sad event. We lost a great kid who was also a very fine athlete." He leaves behind six children.

He carried himself with a quiet

intensity on the field.

"Ray didn't have a lot to say," Degenhardt recalled. "He just let his play do the talking. I can still see him making plays on the field — catches, defensive plays, interceptions. He just made us better coaches because you're as good as the people around you. Ray made the people around him better with the way he conducted himself and the way he was able to play."

That stands in stark contrast for anyone who knew him off the field.

"I think it's a different setting," Degenhardt said. "When he was on the field, he was all business. He was concentrated on his job at that time. When he was with



David Nahan/SENTINEL (File Photo)

Red Raider Ray Rogers fends off a Holy Spirit defender during a September 1998 game. Rogers was one of the best receivers and pass defenders to play football at Ocean City High School. He died Aug. 17 at age 41.

A bevy of highlights come to mind for anyone who got to see him play.

"Oh yeah, definitely," Degenhardt said. "We were playing EHT (Egg Harbor Township) and a ball gets thrown to him, and it should have been thrown to the outside. Instead he's looking at the outside and the ball is thrown inside, and he just turns around in mid-air and makes the catch. I can remember turning to (assistant coach) Skip Angelo and saying, 'Great coaching, right

See Ray Rogers, page A7

Linwood dedicates library to former mayor Vass
Hard Rock's Jim Allen donates \$100K to continue mayor's legacy

Editorial Awards

Daily – Under 20,000

GOVERNMENT

WRITING PORTFOLIO

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Under 20,000 — Government Writing Portfolio

THIRD PLACE

Teri West

The Jersey Journal

Portfolio

6 | NEWS *The JERSEY JOURNAL* Friday, October 14, 2022

www.nj.com/hudson

JERSEY CITY

A once thriving resource rocked by scandal, jobs program closes

BY TERI WEST
JOURNAL STAFF WRITER

At its core, the Jersey City Employment and Training Program set out to do one thing — help people get jobs — and for many years, it quietly did just that.

Perhaps that's why as it prepared to close for good today, people who got entangled in the chaos and upheaval within the program several years ago are lamenting it as a sad day for Jersey City. It was a program that they believed had been good for the community, and that's what they wanted to remember it as.

It's unclear whether factors such as funding or participation rates contributed to the decision to close the program. As the agency dissolves, Jersey City said it is intentionally pivoting its focus toward Hudson County's existing workforce development program, which it is partnering with instead.

"This aligns us with how other surrounding counties are structured that successfully operate on a county-wide basis rather than separate individual programs," said city spokeswoman Kimberly Wallace-Scalione. "The ultimate goal is to ensure our unemployed residents have access to the services they need to find employment and achieve this in the most efficient way."

City officials did not say how many people lost their jobs, or if they have been transferred to other departments. It was also unclear how much money the city will save annually. In 2020, the city budgeted \$918,000 for the jobs

program.

JCETP was designed to serve several core groups — recently incarcerated individuals, veterans, youth and anyone seeking help in finding employment.

It offered free employment training in fields like construction, computer technology and health care as well as workshops to help residents navigate the job search. It also partnered with local busi-



ETHAN PRITTING, 23, of Jersey City, outside the Jersey City Employment and Training Program office yesterday, which was closed when he arrived.



REENA ROSE SIBAYAN JOURNAL FILE PHOTO

U.S. Rep. Albio Sires, right, presented Mayor Steve Fulop with a gift — a U.S. flag that was flown over the White House — during the grand opening ceremony for Martin's Place on Sept. 15, 2014. With them are U.S. Rep. Donald M. Payne Jr., left, House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, and former Gov. Jim McGreevey, then-executive director of the Jersey City Employment and Training Program.

nesses, connecting job hunters with open positions.

Ethan Pritting, a 23-year-old Jersey City resident, walked to the JCETP office yesterday after he had been directed there by members of the city's police and fire departments, where he was inquiring about employment. He found the office was already closed.

Pritting is enrolled in an aviation maintenance trade school,

Luther King Dr., as a nonprofit affiliated with the city government. When it opened its MLK Drive location Martin's Place in 2014, not only was then-Gov. Chris Christie in attendance, but also House Majority Leader Nancy Pelosi, then the House minority leader.

That was when JCETP was newly overseeing a prisoner re-entry program in Jersey City and was headed by former Gov. Jim McGreevey — his first political appointment since his resignation as governor 10 years prior. Spirits were high.

Within six years, McGreevey was out and an exodus of long-time board members like Bob Knapp began.

"It was a great experience from 2001 to 2017," said Knapp, who served on the program's board throughout that period before resigning in 2019. "We were helping people, helping the residents with training and referrals for employment, etc., but then it became all discombobulated, unfortunately."

McGreevey was fired in 2019 after it was alleged that he mismanaged millions of dollars to benefit the New Jersey Reentry Corp., which he founded. McGreevey responded with eight audits of the two organizations that did not find wrongdoing and said all transfers between the organizations were thoroughly vetted.

But JCETP continued to tumble

after he left. Sudhan Thomas was appointed interim director and was charged with embezzling JCETP funds in his short tenure there. Thomas is also facing state charges related to campaign contributions.

As Thomas was being pushed out, board members Knapp, Mark Rowan and Rudolph Daniels resigned. Knapp said he told the Department of Labor that JCETP was in "upheaval" and in need of an intervention.

The COVID-19 pandemic began within the next year, and now JCETP is closing its doors two years later. As a sign on the door appeared announcing this month's closure, McGreevey called it "sad" and "unfortunate."

Still, his New Jersey Reentry Corp. continues to operate and helps recently incarcerated individuals seeking assistance.

On its website and in a posting on its door, JCETP is advising people to turn to the Hudson County Career Development Center, located on 48th Street in Union City.

Knapp said he couldn't attest to what the JCETP was like after he left, but during his time there he found it to be nothing but vibrant.

"I don't know at this point where the future will go," he said. "It's just very very sad to me, and I know to the community."

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — Government Writing Portfolio

SECOND PLACE

Joseph Smith

The Daily Journal

Portfolio

NJPA

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

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NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — Government Writing Portfolio

FIRST PLACE

Kyle Morel

Daily Record

Portfolio

NJPA

Editorial Awards

Daily – Over 20,000

**GOVERNMENT
WRITING PORTFOLIO**

Daily Over 20,000 — Government Writing Portfolio

THIRD PLACE

Ashley Balcerzak

The Record (Bergen)

NJ Counties Try to Count, Help Those Experiencing Homelessness; It's Tough for NJ's Homeless to Get IDs, But to Get Vital Services They Must Show IDs; Code Blue Helps Homeless When Temps Drop But Some Still Get Left

NJPA

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Government Writing Portfolio

SECOND PLACE

Kathleen Hopkins

Asbury Park Press

Portfolio

NJPA

Daily Over 20,000 — Government Writing Portfolio

FIRST PLACE

Riley Yates

The Star-Ledger

They Violated the Public Trust, Yet These NJ Officials Were Still Awarded Pensions; Lawmakers Move to Tighten NJ Pension Law to Exclude Officials Convicted of Crimes in Office; Accused NJ Cops Paid to Stay Home, Costing \$1M and Counting

They violated the public trust. Yet these N.J. officials were still awarded pensions.

Updated: Sep. 07, 2022, 6:11 p.m. | Published: Sep. 07, 2022, 8:00 a.m.



Editorial Awards

Weekly

BUSINESS/ECONOMIC WRITING

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Business/Economic Writing

THIRD PLACE

Jaimie Julia Winters
Montclair Local

Recreational Pot Sold ...
For About 3 Hours

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INSIDE


Dead animals found at Eagle Rock News • Page 4


Be our next editor at Montclair Local News • Page 8


Finney's legacy was a coach, mentor, friend Sports • Page 19

MARIJUANA BUSINESS

Recreational pot sold ... for about 3 hours

Township threatened to send code enforcement or cops

BY JAIMIE JULIA WINTERS
winters@montclairlocal.news

A few people were lined up on Bloomfield Avenue outside Ascend on Tuesday, June 7, as the medical marijuana dispensary opened its doors at 10 a.m. to its first recreational customers — without municipal approval.

But by 1:15 p.m., sales stopped after the interim Montclair Township attorney notified Ascend if it didn't stop recreational sales, the township would send code enforcement and police, Caitlin Fleishman, Ascend's director of public affairs, said.

Ascend had received both state and local approval to expand to recreational



KATE ALBRIGHT/FOR MONTCLAIR LOCAL

Emery Taylor and Siarra Marie are ready to check out customers on June 7 at Ascend on its first day of recreational marijuana sales. The sales were stopped at 1:15 p.m. after the interim township attorney told Ascend the sales were unlawful due to the lack of township approval.

See MARIJUANA, page 14

SECOND PLACE

Maria Scandale

The SandPaper

Pumped-Up Fuel Not Forecast To Stall LBI's 2022 Summer

22
The SandPaper/Wednesday, March 16, 2022

CURRENTS

Pumped-Up Fuel Not Forecast to Stall LBI's 2022 Summer

Island Placed in Good Position

Businesspeople wondering how the gasoline price uptick will affect summer tourism may take some encouragement from those who say LBI's easy reach is a plus in pulling people here.

Southern Ocean County Chamber of Commerce CEO Lori Pepenella's view comes from past experience in 2008, when gas prices approached \$5 per gallon. New Jerseyans still needed a summer.

"When I joined the chamber, I remember being very upset that gas was on its way to hitting \$5 a gallon and people could jump on planes to go other places. At the time, that was much cheaper," Pepenella said when asked by The SandPaper. "This situation seems to me very different. The way we work is so different now than it was before the pandemic. We have people who are down here already."

And those who hold an interest in LBI are not far away. "We are within range of such a large population within an hour and a half of major cities that it is still going to be economically viable," Pepenella pointed out. "In summer there are a lot of weddings and special events that people are committed to, rentals for vacations involving multiple family

members, so that this is where they are going to come together, so there is dedication," she noted.

"I don't think it's going to affect weekly rentals; I think it's going to improve it," predicts Duane Watlington, whose website vrbi.com (Vacation Rentals LBI) markets vacation homes for homeowners and for real estate brokers.

As people see gas prices go up, they may want to stay even closer to home, observers say.

A recent "staycation" trend is still in play, Watlington sees.

"The majority of our rentals come from New Jersey and New York, within a three-hour drive. What's that cost in gas compared to 'let's put the kids on a plane and fly'? That's going to cost big money ... we've got beautiful beaches here."

The gas price hikes today come at the same time that the shore is a fresh-air escape in what Watlington called "our third COVID bump" year.

Bookings have come in earlier since the pandemic, he said. Regarding bookings that were made months ago, "I still think the Omicron variant kind of scared a lot of people to vacation close to home again," he said. "And the scarcity of rentals the last



Ryan Morrill

Luck, in Lights

Shamrock Shines in Ship Bottom

GO GREEN: Each year, Ship Bottom lights up the symbol near its boat ramp to mark St. Patrick's Day, held on March 17 to commemorate the death of Ireland's primary patron saint in 461.

two summers made a lot of people plan early.

"Bookings are really strong already, and ahead of schedule. For the 10 summer weeks, we have about 8% of our rentals left. Some of the weeks the availability is less than 2%."

To be clear, many choices are still open, depending on the week. The most-available weeks left are June 25, when 18% of the choices are still open, and Aug. 27, with 32% available.

When a spring weekend warms up, it gives businesses a "sneak peek" at gauging interest.

"It warmed up 10 degrees, and that's all it took to get in the car and take a ride," Pepenella said. "The price of gas is high, but so is the value of where you're going. The trends we're seeing show maybe even longer stays, especially among second homeowners."

One other factor in favor of travelers is the better fuel efficiency of cars than in 2008.

"We are optimistic but always cautious," the chamber CEO summed up. "We want to make sure everyone when they come down feels the experience here is good and worth the trip, and we know that we always meet

First Responder Tax Deduction Aim of New Bill

For Volunteer EMS And Firefighters

Sen. Christopher Connors, Assemblyman Brian Rumpf and Assemblywoman DiAnne Gove

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Business/Economic Writing

FIRST PLACE

Eileen Moon

The Two River Times

Two River Cobbler Shops
Continue a Time-Honored
Tradition

THE TWO RIVER TIMES

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VOLUME 32 NUMBER 39

THE WEEK OF AUGUST 4 - 10, 2022

ONE DOLLAR



SPECIAL SECTION
HEALTH & WELLNESS
PAGES 17-18



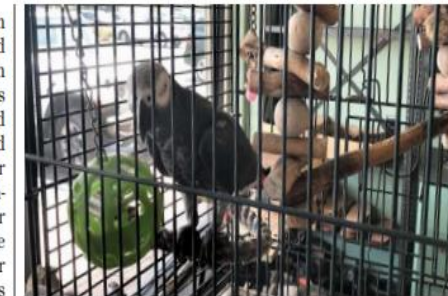
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TWO RIVER COBBLER SHOPS CONTINUE A TIME-HONORED TRADITION

By Eileen Moon

LITTLE SILVER - On Fridays at Barber's Grand Shoe Repair shop on Markham Place, a curious African gray parrot named Merlin watches the world go by from his cage near the picture window. Whether Merlin is aware of it or not, the world seems to be spinning faster and faster every day, and businesses like Barber's are working to keep their feet on the ground as their traditional



Merlin the bird watches the world go by from his cage at Barber's Grand Shoe Repair in Little Silver.

craft is buffeted by the forces of economic change.

Like many traditional cobblers, owner Ray Barbiero learned his trade by apprenticing with his father Raymond and grandfather Ernesto. Now 66, he considers himself semi-retired, but he's in no hurry to head off into the sunset.

"You can only play so much golf," said Barbiero,

Continued on Page 6

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

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Editorial Awards

Weekly

EDUCATION

WRITING

Weekly — Education Writing

THIRD PLACE

David Biggy
The SandPaper

Southern Middle School
Celebrating 50 Years
In Many Groovy Ways

36
The SandPaper/Wednesday, April 20, 2022



FLOWER POWER: Hadley Marti (left) and Samantha Klagholz show off their cool threads in celebration of the middle school's anniversary.



SET ON STONE: Southern Regional Middle School student Cooper Wolek signs the 50th anniversary mural near the cafeteria during the last day of the school's celebration week.

Golden Anniversary Is Far Out

Southern Middle School Celebrating 50 Years In Many Groovy Ways

Entering through the new archway at Southern Regional Middle School on April 15, it was clear a celebration was taking place. Once inside, the atmosphere was simply groovy, funky and out of sight.

"We did a lot this week to celebrate the middle school's 50th anniversary," said Principal Elisabeth Brahn, whose school of Rams went all fab and brought forth some good vibes for the entirety of last week. "Seeing all the pieces come together for this has been great. There were a lot of moving parts and everybody got involved to make this a unique experience for the kids. We didn't know what to expect, but it was a lot of fun."

After several days of wearing tie-dyed clothing and other hip concoctions, taking Flower Power to the next level and learning about specific characteristics of the 1970s, the half-day before spring break was reserved for the big and more fun activities: signing the 50th anniversary mural near the cafeteria, commemorating the 1971-72 school year when the building opened to students,

dancing to '70s hits in shorter physical education classes, and filling the time capsule with memorabilia from the 2021-22 school year.

"I didn't know much about the '70s until this week," said a completely Flower Power-dressed Violet Fischer, who was born three decades after the '70s in 2007. "I liked learning about some of the things that were made, such as 'Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory.' And I like some of the music."

During homeroom on April 15, "Once a Ram, Always a Ram" bracelets were given out, 50 "golden ticket" winners were announced, and students played "Guess That Staff Member" based on their 1970s photos. During their lab classes, students enjoyed '70s-themed photo booths and visited the now permanent 50th anniversary display in one of the hallways. It has the original lockers, articles about the school's opening, as well as photos and the original dedication program from 1971.

Science teacher Patti Dalon, totally jiving with some denim bell bottoms and roller skates, discussed in her classes some of the early arcade

games that were developed during the '70s, as well as the development of the Atari home gaming system — who didn't have one of those back then, playing "Pong" and other rad games? — and other technological "advancements."

"I was born in 1978, so I didn't experience much of the '70s," said Dalon. "But I love the music from

the '70s — George Harrison, Grateful Dead, Janis Joplin. It was a simpler time."

Of course, Madison Flatt wouldn't know. She's 13.

"I liked using the old tools in our wood shop," said Madison, sporting a colorful shirt and gold-rimmed shades her grandmother had stashed in her closet. "They're so old, but I really

liked the smell of cutting the wood with them."

Nor would Hadley Marti, whose super funky bell bottoms would have made J.J. Walker proud. She was born in 2008.

"The music and the whole vibe today were really cool," Hadley said of the culmination to the week's

Continued on Page 52



STAYIN' ALIVE: Southern Regional Middle School students (from left) Rhiannon Roddy, Madi Bonner and Kai Angelozzi dance to some 1970s musical gems during gym class on April 15.

SECOND PLACE

W. Jacob Perry
The Bernardsville News

Classroom Computer
Monitoring Supported;
Culture Wars Flare;
Election to Spur Changes

PAGE 8 Thursday, April 14, 2022

The Bernardsville News

bernardsvillenews.com

BERNARDS TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

Classroom computer monitoring supported

By W. JACOB PERRY
STAFF WRITER

BERNARDS TWP. – The days of district students using their school computer to view Netflix, TikTok or YouTube while in class may soon be coming to an end.

After hearing several teachers argue in a technology presentation that they need monitoring software to manage their students, the Board of Education agreed at its meeting on Monday, April 11, to back the request.

“I think this is a pivotal time and we have to support our educators,” said board member Karen Gray. “The teachers need our support, they need our understanding for their challenges in the classroom.”

The technology presentation, which involved 13 administrators and teachers, outlined the district’s steady shift toward the use of technology in class while citing both the benefits and the challenges.

Kristin Fox, assistant superintendent for curriculum, spoke of how the district initiated a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy back in 2011 and faced a new

reality in March 2020 when the pandemic imposed virtual learning from home.

The district had to provide devices for students who didn’t have one, then opted last June to initiate a new policy to provide a computer for every student beginning in the 2021-22 school year, Fox said.

In the process, the district ordered 4,900 devices to give grades 3-12 a 1:1 student/device ratio, while providing 15 devices per class in grades K-2.

Tom Misiak, supervisor of science and technology, said Ridge High School students retained the right to also bring their own device but that option will cease in the 2022-23 school year.

Allowing a class to have private devices increases learning inequities and security risks, limits controls over misuse and complicates district efforts to update and troubleshoot, Misiak said.

‘Many Distractions’

The board then heard from several teachers.

Everything changed with the pandemic, said Chris Swanson, a teacher at William Annin Middle School.

“We found innovative ways to bring classrooms into the locked down homes of the community”

Digitizing instruction allowed students to become better organized, while many teachers are now “realizing the benefits of digital lessons,” he said.

But there have also been challenges, with teachers often struggling to determine whether students have their attention, Swanson said.

In the past, all teachers had to do was say, “look over here” or “this will be on a test,” he said. “Getting students to stop, look and listen in a digital world is more difficult because there are so many distractions” like Netflix and TikTok.

“The bad student habits have blossomed,” Swanson told the audience. “Students are bragging about their ability to hide distractions. Even those trying to stay on task are distracted by others.”

“These are good young people who have picked up some bad distraction habits,” he added. He said the purpose of monitoring software is for students to “stop harming their own learning and impeding their own

growth.”

Jeff Stellitano, a Ridge High teacher, said that when students open their laptops, ostensibly to take notes, “you can’t see what they’re doing behind their laptops.”

Jennifer Kaltenbach, a Ridge High teacher, said just that day, she observed lights flashing on open laptops.

“When you’re taking notes, lights don’t flash on your face,” she said.

Such “bad habits” are “pervasive in all ages in all classes,” Kaltenbach added. “I’d hoped it would get better by May but if anything, it’s gotten worse.”

She said that with up to 35 students in a class, “I can’t be everywhere.”

Learning “really is more efficient on a computer,” she noted. “It’s a resource I want them to use but I want to control it.”

A video presentation showed the use of Insight monitoring software and its ability to project a single screen onto all classroom screens and to direct viewers to a specific type of assignment.

Insight, Securly, Hapara and GoGuardian monitor-

ing software are all under consideration and would carry a cost of \$20,000 to \$30,000 per year, according to Superintendent of Schools Nick Markarian.

Melanie DuPuis, a William Annin teacher and co-president of the Bernards Township Education Association (BTEA), expressed gratitude for having teachers in the presentation.

“It is a learning investment we spend in these technological programs,” DuPuis said. “Teachers especially since the pandemic have really jumped on board and are really transforming instruction.”

“We need an additional tool in our arsenal so we can capitalize on that investment,” she added. “We don’t want to get frustrated because we’re having difficulty managing it.”

Markarian expressed a similar view.

“We’re looking for some support for our teachers to manage the classroom environment a little bit better,” he said.

Also voicing support was resident, Frank Klausz of Owns Court, who said social media, websites and

apps all make money by drawing attention onscreen.

“That’s what we’re up against,” he said. “I’m all for monitoring and keeping the focus on learning in the classroom.”

Stella Perna of Tuxford Terrace offered a partial dissent.

“How about no technology in the elementary grades?” she asked. “Go back to pencil and paper and chalkboards. You’d eliminate a lot of problems.”

Board member Jennifer White, alluding to recent concerns that software programs would monitor student activity in the home, said the presentation made clear that the monitoring was targeted only to time in the classroom.

White also said the PTO presidents “are all very much supportive of having something.”

Gray said such a tool “can get everyone on the same page at the same time, and that saves valuable instruction time.”

Added White, “We need to trust that the people who are with our children all day long have their best interests in mind.”

FIRST PLACE

Talia Wiener
Montclair Local

Students, Parents Ask for Support on Grieving

Thursday, December 1, 2022

Tell us what's up in the schools!
>>> news@montclairlocal.news

Education

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MONTCLAIR SCHOOLS

Students, parents ask for support on grieving

Say assistance after loss is lacking

by TALIA WIENER
wienert@montclairlocal.news

When Diana Creaser walked through the Montclair High School doors for the first day of her freshman year, she did not yet know what the next four years would hold.

But she soon heard news that would shape her entire high school experience.

The same day, her mother received a diagnosis of stage 4 colon cancer.

"From 2019 to 2022, my life and schooling were defined and surrounded by my mother's cancer treatment," the senior said at the Nov. 14 Montclair Board of Education meeting.

Creaser's mother, Mary Curtin Creaser, died in May. And during those three years, as Diana Creaser balanced her mother's diagnosis and treatment with school, she did not receive "any meaningful support" from her teachers, she said.

"I left school for two weeks to care for my Mom in her last week of life and to grieve her death," she said at the meeting. "As I prepared for my return to MHS, I was an extremely different person, as are so many students when they return to school after a traumatizing experience. But when I walked through the doors of MHS, I've never felt more alone."

No teacher or counselor reached out to her upon her return to meet and talk with her, she said.

"My first class of the day, instead of being showered with condolences from my teachers and friends, I was

ignored and told to immediately create a plan with how I would make up my missed work," Creaser said.

She, her father, Thomas, and parent Montserrat Kim spoke at the Nov. 14 meeting in support of the district's working with Imagine, a Mountainside, N.J.-based grief support center for children and young adults.

The organization offers training for districts and schools to become "grief-informed," with curriculums for students, school staff and parents focused on recognizing loss, understanding coping skills and learning how to support students through their grief.

The district is not currently working with Imagine, but Maggie Shaver-Dock, the mental health/anti-bullying coordinator, has spoken with the organization, David Cantor, executive director of communications and community engagement, said.

"We hope to work together in the future," Cantor said. "We've also met and hope to work with trauma-sensitive therapy practices."

Earlier this school year, Montclair High School staff participated in a professional development session with Grief Speaks, and the district plans to hold additional workshops, Cantor said.

"It's always critical for a school district to be informed by and sensitive to the various needs of families and staff," he said. "The pandemic heightened that need, of course. More than ever, we've had to be attuned to the short and long-term



TALIA WIENER/STAFF

MHS senior Diana Creaser did not receive support from her teachers and school staff after the death of her mother in May, she said at the Nov. 14 school board meeting, where she advocated for teacher training to better support grieving students.

impact of isolation, loss and trauma."

While Montclair High School has nine school counselors, four student assistance counselors and one restorative justice teacher on special assignment, Diana Creaser did not receive help upon her return to school, she said.

"The lack of support for grieving students is unacceptable," she said.

By working with Imagine, the district could equip staff with the tools they need to support their students, Creaser said.

"The training provided by Imagine to make Montclair a grief-informed district could benefit so many students for years to come," she said. "Teachers would finally receive the training they need on grief and loss, along with strategies for how to support grieving students and co-workers, so that no student has to go through what I did upon my return to school after the death of my Mom."

According to the Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model, one in 13 children in the U.S. will experience the death of a par-

ent or a sibling by the age of 18. The model was developed by bereavement groups the New York Life Foundation and Judi's House/JAG Institute.

Studies have found that the death of a loved one can have a profoundly negative impact on academic performance, lowering a student's ability to concentrate and learn, and student mental health, leading to anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress.

"Grief is complicated," Thomas Creaser said at the meeting. "In our experience with cancer, grief began with the diagnosis, but then grief continues after a student loses a loved one."

Grief spans academic years, he said — his daughter's grief did not disappear at the end of her junior year after attending her mother's funeral.

And with each new year come new teachers without an understanding of a student's background. When Diana Creaser started school in September, her teachers were unaware of her mother's death four months earlier.

"It's extremely worthwhile for the district to invest in an initiative that trains teachers on how to more effectively interact and empathize with students grieving due to traumatic experiences in their lives," Thomas Creaser said.

"Had such a program been established in the past, Diana would have had much better support during an extremely difficult time in her life."

He also recommended a system where guidance counselors share a student's background with the student's new slate of teachers following a traumatic loss.

For Kim, instituting training for staff to learn how to help grieving students is essential.

In 2017 her husband, George, received a diagnosis of stage 4 colon cancer. At the time of diagnosis, their younger daughter, Nola, was 8 years old, and their older daughter, Kerala, was 12. Two years later, George Kim died.

Unlike Diana Creaser's experience, Nola and Kerala received support from their teachers.

"They were lucky, I think, because they had some exceptional teachers at that time," Kim said. "But I don't think students should have to be lucky. I think this should be something that is standardized across our district."

Many people think that grieving lasts only a year or two, said Nola, a seventh grade student at Buzz Aldrin Middle School.

"I know from my experience that it doesn't work that way," Nola said. "It would be great for teachers to be grief-educated so that

See SUPPORT, page 8

Editorial Awards

Daily – Under 20,000

NEWS COLUMN

THIRD PLACE

Joan Quigley
The Jersey Journal

Portfolio

■ IN THEIR OPINION

Hey, NJ: Find the money and fix Rte. 139

It was February 1994. I'd been elected to my first term in the New Jersey Assembly, and sworn into office a week earlier. That morning at work everyone was buzzing about the terrible tragedy that had taken place the night before.

A teenager had thrown a bowling ball over the railing down onto the lower level of Route 139 in Jersey City, unfondly called the Depressed Highway. The ball hit the back fender of a moving truck, bounced up and over the hood of the car behind, crashed through its windshield and killed the toddler strapped in her car seat in the rear of the vehicle.

The situation was horrible, awful, heart-breaking, everyone said. Quite a few remarked on how easy it was for someone to drop anything down onto the moving traffic and it was a miracle no one had been killed earlier.

I agreed with them and said, "Someone really ought to do something about it." My assistant looked at me meaningfully and said, "Yeah, Assemblywoman, somebody should."

It hit me that the area was within my legislative district and maybe I did have the power to do something about it. But, newbie that I was, I didn't know how.

This was before Google made directory assistance obsolete, so I dialed 411 and got the phone number for the Department of Transportation in Trenton. I'd looked up the department's details and learned Jeanne Fox had recently been appointed interim director. So I identified myself as an assemblywoman and asked for Jeanne Fox.

Somewhat to my surprise, she



TRASH LITTERS the area between the sidewalk and the lower roadway wall along Route 139 between Kennedy Boulevard and Collard Street in Jersey City.



IT'S A short distance in spots between the sidewalk and the exposed portions of the lower roadway along Route 139 between Kennedy Boulevard and Collard Street in Jersey City.



A DOWNED speed sign is among the items lying along the trash-laden strip.



TRASH COLLECTS near a gap in the concrete alongside untamed foliage along the highway.

got on the phone immediately. And when I explained the situation, she was as appalled as I was. She said although she, too, was new in her role, she was certain the department would have some unallocated money somewhere and she'd find it. She called back an hour later and said she'd found a million dollars or whatever it took.

The next day engineers were on Route 139 determining what was needed, and by the end of the month heavy netting was in place over the lower highway.

Of course, it had to be removed when Route 139 had its multimillion-dollar overhaul in

the past few years, and it's been replaced with stronger grating. But the opportunity for serious damage still exists. A small stretch of that highway is as dangerous now as in 1994.

There's a pedestrian walkway along the south side of the upper roadway from Kennedy Boulevard to Collard Street where any malicious or merely mischievous person could drop any object onto vehicles passing below.

And running alongside the roadway are acres of untamed foliage slanting down to the road below. It's littered with junk, including rocks and slabs of concrete, and what appears to be a

scatters camp. Anything or anyone could tumble down that craggy slope onto the road beneath. It's unsafe. Dangerous.

And lower 139 is certainly one of the ugliest stretches of road in New Jersey, beating out some really tough competition right here in Hudson alone. It's got crumbling concrete, peeling graffiti, potholes, constantly swirling litter, and several unworking overhead lights.

If you are driving east on it, it's the entry to New York City. If you are driving west, it confirms all those late-night jokes about New Jersey.

The teen who threw the

bowling ball years ago was emotionally disturbed, according to reports, and probably did not realize the harm he could cause. But I do know the State of New Jersey must be aware — or certainly should be — of the dangers of Route 139.

Someone in the state Department of Transportation ought to be able to dig up another few bucks today, eliminate the possibility of malicious or unintended harm, and save lives.

A former assemblywoman from Jersey City, Joan Quigley is the president and CEO of North Hudson Community Action Corp.

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — News Column

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Brad Wadlow

Courier News

Portfolio

NJPA

FIRST PLACE

Alexander Santora
The Jersey Journal

Portfolio

www.nj.com/hudson

Monday, April 11, 2022 **The JERSEY JOURNAL** OPINION | 3

■ AT THE BORDER

BEYOND THE WALL

Eye-opening visit to U.S.-Mexico border reveals life, struggles of migrants and aid workers

Driving an hour from the Tucson, Arizona, airport to the Mexican border, you go through miles of mountains and desert that in the dead of winter appear dark and ominous. Occasionally you see signs for a town — Rio Rico, Patagonia, Tubac — carved out of the terrain.

But for the hundreds of thousands of migrants from Central America and Mexico stuck in the state of Sonora, Mexico, the desert is often the only way out and into the U.S. And it can be treacherous.

In mid-February, I spent a week in Nogales, Arizona, with Jesuits who run the Kino Border Initiative in the other Nogales, across the border in Sonora.

Jesuit seminarian Kieran Halloran, 29, who just left St. Peter's Prep in Jersey City after two years of teaching, is spending his third year of regency, or apostolic work, at Kino working with migrants. Reading and hearing so much about issues at the border, I decided to visit him and see for myself.

The suffering and desperation — along with the daily heroism of those devoted to help — are real and ever-present. As an example, at dinner with the Jesuit community in Arizona one evening, seminarian Victor Yanez received a phone call from a border rescue group that they were on their way to retrieve a man from Mexico who was trying to get into the U.S. and became disoriented.

Nighttime temperatures in the desert are cold and although the stars are so bright you think you can reach up and grab one, the sky is very dark. The migrant was lucky his cell phone worked and he could reach his family, who called the rescue operation, and that they could locate him.



A HUGE painting on the Mexican side of the border wall depicts 16-year-old Jose Antonio Elena Rodriguez, who was shot and killed 10 years ago by a U.S. Border Patrol agent who fired into Mexico from the American side.

REV. ALEXANDER M. SANTORA PHOTO

He was also lucky he survived; many do not. Bodies and bones, KBI staff told me, are routinely discovered in the desert.

Against the wishes of the U.S. Border Patrol, activists regularly traipse through the desert in daylight and leave jugs and bottles of water along with blankets in what appear to be some well-traveled paths so migrants would have some relief.

But providing relief has become a monumental task. In the last 40 years, the U.S. government has been tightening immigration policies and millions of migrants, even those seeking asylum for life-threatening situations, have found themselves in limbo at the border. Then-President Trump, through White House immigration adviser Stephen Miller, enacted harsh measures, including Title 42, which requires that migrants seeking asylum remain in Mexico until their cases are heard, which

could take months or years. Perhaps as many as 200,000 people hoping to immigrate to the United States remain in the Nogales, Mexico, vicinity.

On April 1, the Biden administration announced plans to finally end Title 42 restrictions starting May 23. More welcome news had come last month when the Biden administration announced a new policy through which some migrants seeking asylum will have their claims heard and evaluated by asylum officers instead of immigration judges, cutting down the massive backlog of applications.

More than two-thirds of the 11,015 migrants who arrived at KBI last year reported violence or persecution as the main reason for migrating, the organization reports.

And the harshness of life on the Mexican side of Nogales was chronicled in a

remarkable 2021 book, "Voices of the Border" (Georgetown University Press), edited by Tobin Hansen and Sister Maria Engracia Robles, KBI Mexico's director of education.

Robles is the superior of the Missionary Sisters of the Eucharist in Sonora and spent years listening to and transcribing migrants' stories of wanting a better life but being stymied by U.S. policies going back to the 1980s. While Trump was a megaphone for hate, even President Obama was deporting people at record numbers.

"Maras," or gangs, rule much of Mexico and they demand payment to escape via train. But once on the train, migrants are targeted again for hundreds of U.S. dollars, which most do not have, to continue the journey. Those who refuse or cannot pay "would be thrown off into the train tracks, decapitated or attacked with a machete," the VOB book detailed.

From 1998 to 2020, the authors write, more than 7,500 people lost their lives while attempting to cross the treacherous U.S.-Mexico border due to heat stroke, dehydration, hyperthermia and drowning.

Some have been killed in incidents with Border Patrol. On the Mexican side of the border, Halloran and I stopped by a huge painting of 16-year-old Jose Antonio Elena Rodriguez, who was shot and killed 10 years ago by a USBP agent who fired into Mexico from the American side. The agent claimed the boy threw rocks at him, putting the agent's life in danger. Mysteriously the camera video disappeared and the agent was acquitted of murder at trial in Tucson.

FLEEING VIOLENCE

Among the 50 migrants in the shelter when I was there were people from Central American countries fleeing gang violence and threats on their lives. KBI protects them while providing legal aid to expedite their asylum claims.

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Editorial Awards

Daily – Over 20,000

NEWS COLUMN

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Daily Over 20,000 — News Column

THIRD PLACE

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The Philadelphia Inquirer

Portfolio

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Daily Over 20,000 — News Column

SECOND PLACE

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Asbury Park Press

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FIRST PLACE

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The Record (Bergen)

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Editorial Awards

Weekly

**FRESH APPROACH
TO ROUTINE REPORTING**

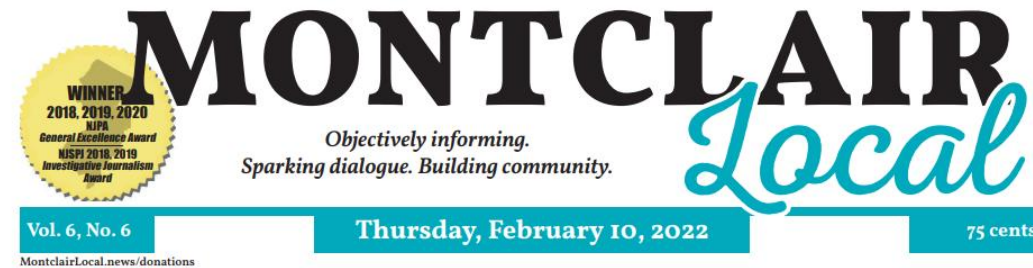
2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Fresh Approach to Routine Reporting

FIRST PLACE

Louis C. Hochman
Montclair Local

Plan Would Reshape
The Fourth Ward



INSIDE


Ascend marijuana dispensary unionizes
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Jane Do: Mask mandate proved too much
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How Olmsted designers left mark on Montclair
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'A CRACKED MIRROR'

Plan would reshape the Fourth Ward

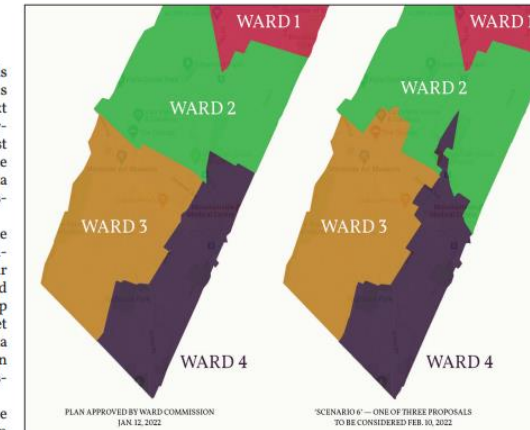
Montclair objects, saying it's bad for diversity

BY LOUIS C. HOCHMAN
hochman@montclairlocal.news

Nearly a month ago, Montclair officials thought they knew how the township's four wards would be shaped for the next 10 years — with a map that looked nearly the same as the one in place for the last decade. A quiet process had locked in the new boundaries, adjusted to account for a Census that showed about 2,000 more residents in the town than a decade before.

Little changed when, on Jan. 12, the Montclair Township Board of Ward Commissioners — a body made up of the four commissioners of the Essex County Board of Elections, plus Montclair's township clerk — approved the new map. They'd met just once before, the week prior, part of a process that usually gathers little attention and that occurs along with ward commission meetings for other communities.

Some blocks between Parkhurst Place and Claremont Avenue that had been in the Third Ward were set to move to the Second. The municipal clerk and the other commissioners signed off, and a notice of



GRAPHIC BY LOUIS C. HOCHMAN, STAFF
On Jan. 12, the Montclair Township Board of Ward Commissioners — four county election commissioners and the municipal clerk — approved new boundaries for Montclair's four wards, making few changes from the borders in place for the last decade. Now, the commissioners are considering new proposals that would significantly reshape the Fourth Ward, such as the one at the right.

See PLAN, page 13

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

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Weekly

HEADLINES

THIRD PLACE

Joe Dziublenski
Montclair Local

Eggstraordinary! There's a Peck of Chicken Farmers in Montclair; Catching Lightning in a Bottle and Other Joys of Firefly Season; Young Team + No Home Field: Recipe for 2 Championships?!

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Feature your arts or community group!
>>> arts@montclairlocal.news

Culture

Thursday, July 28, 2022

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Twitter: @MontclairLocal

SUSTAINABILITY

Eggstraordinary! There's a peck of chicken farmers in Montclair

Poultry find homes in backyards

by LUCY ABIGAIL ALBRIGHT
for Montclair Local

Jess and Rob Brennan talked about getting chickens for years, but during the coronavirus pandemic they took the plunge, deciding to go DIY and build their own coop.

During a virtual book club meeting early in the pandemic, a member mentioned a chicken coop that costs \$2,000.

"We thought that was absurd and crazy, and we thought it was hysterical," Jess Brennan said. "And so, we logged on and looked and we were, like, we could build something cheaper than that."

After some research, the Brennans went ahead and ordered some chicks online. Today they have nine chickens, which live in a coop in their yard.

"If I'm out there in the yard working all day, they will just follow us around all day and just talk with us and peck at us," Bob Brennan said. "But they really are nice little gentle creatures."

As for the level of care required, Jess Brennan said, "Once you have a good system set up for the birds, it's not much more work than a cat."

Montclair resident Gary Hill got his first chicken around 12 years ago, after his daughter's class hatched chicks as part of a science project.

Hill likes the eggs and enjoys watching the chickens.

"They're little dinosaurs," he said. "Their little heads, and their little feet, and their scaly legs. I have no doubt that this is where the dinosaurs went."

Montclair Animal Control Officer Michele Shiber said that the town has historically been lax about enforcing its chicken ordinance, which requires yearly \$5 licenses for Montclairians who own chickens. Shiber keeps a handwritten list of chicken coops in town, which she



Gary Hill with one of his chickens, a Rhode Island red named HennyPenny.

said comes in handy when a chicken flies the coop.

"I got a Rhode Island red running around town on Alexander Avenue, I'm like, hmm, where is that?" she said. "But if I have a list, I can look and go, 'Oh, who's got chickens here, who's on Alexander?'"

Luck of chicken coop registration enforcement could mean some chicken owners are not registered, Shiber said.

"Presently less than a dozen on record," she said.

Shiber said she's been working with the Humane Society of the United States to update Montclair's chicken ordinance. Once the draft is ready, it will be submitted to the Township Council.

"When approved, we will be using the revised ordinance to educate the public and to create a system for chicken coop registrations," she said.

Chicken ownership isn't all tasty eggs and cute "dinosaurs," and Jess

Brennan was quick to point out the risks involved.

"Chickens do fall prey to other animals, she said: "Everybody thinks chickens are delicious. Dogs, hawks, raccoons, foxes. It's sort of inevitable that at some point one of your beloved pet hens will meet a terrible demise."

Though they've seen animals try to get into the coop, the Brennans haven't lost any chickens yet, something they attribute to the sturdiness of their coop.

Hill has lost chickens to animal attacks over the years. The first time, he said, was the result of an animal getting into the coop. After Hill built a sturdier one, predators have not been able to get in. But Hill's chickens have been subject to animal attacks while they were outside, by hawks, foxes and dogs.

Accessing veterinary care can also pose a challenge. Shiber said that it can be hard for chicken owners to find vets who specialize in

chickens and that many people end up treating their chickens' illnesses at home. In the Montclair Backyard Chickens Facebook group, where Shiber is an administrator, she's seen people sharing advice on how to handle different ailments — and when to see a vet.

Jess Brennan said she and her husband have learned to be "DIY vets," though they did seek professional care when their beloved chicken Poppy got an infection called bumblefoot.

"We had to provide Epsom salt foot baths, and then we had to get anti-inflammatories and antibiotics," she said.

"And we had to give her medicine three times a day, and like really nurse this five-dollar chicken's foot — and the cost was, like, 250 bucks in medical care."

Chicken owners can also run into issues with neighbors. Hill's first chicken — a rooster — would crow at 1 or 2 a.m. An anonymous letter complaining about the noise persuaded him to give away the rooster and buy some female chicks instead, he said.

Kristen Kemp, another Montclairian with a small flock of backyard chickens, got complaints from neighbors as well, due to smell and noise. She said the family next door also worried about their young children catching diseases from the chickens, which Kemp said is unlikely to happen. Kemp said she's worked things out with the neighbors, and now keeps the coop farther back in the yard.

Coops must be 50 feet from the neighbors' doors and windows and 10 feet from the property line, according to Montclair's ordinance.

Though some towns prohibit roosters, Montclair allows them. But that could change soon. The new ordinance, Shiber said, would likely ban roosters.

Among the proposed changes are an increase in yearly license fees and an updated policy on chicken runs — enclosed areas where chickens get direct access to the

See CHICKENS, page 21

SECOND PLACE

Joe Dziublenski
Montclair Local

Side By Side Over Sondheim;
This is What It Sounds Like,
When Doves Fly; Storming Back
After Weather Delays

Thursday, August 18, 2022

Culture

Page 21



What's in your backyard
Sanford Sorkin

Mourning doves are found just about everywhere in the United States. They are at home in our backyards and fields. Sometimes they are just looking for a meal, and other times for a safe place to nest.

They prefer to nest in dense foliage for safety and maybe a little privacy. But most of the nests I have encountered are nowhere near dense foliage: They are in hanging flower pots on a balcony or among the potted flowers on the patio.

They find most any place suitable for nesting because they completely lack the skills to create well-designed and well-constructed places to hatch and raise their young. They compensate by believing that any two sticks that happen to be touching constitute a nest, their ideal site to lay a couple of eggs and raise some young.

The owner of the flowerpot or hanging plant with resident mourning doves will be inconvenienced for a few weeks. The doves will probably not be too concerned if you water the plants now and then. The eggs will hatch in about two weeks.

The chicks will fledge in another two weeks but will remain with the parents to be fed milk. Sometimes called crop milk, this is secreted by the crop, the upper portion of the esophagus, of the parent birds, male and female, and regurgitated to feed the young. About four days later, the offspring's diet will change to seeds.

Though the chicks leave the nest, they are unable to fly for another three or four days. The entire five-week process of laying eggs and raising young may repeat itself

This is what it sounds like, when doves fly



SANFORD SORKIN/FOR MONTCLAIR LOCAL
If you happen to alarm a mourning dove in the yard, you will hear the characteristic sound its wings make as it takes off.

up to six times a year in a warm climate.

It would appear that with so many offspring, we might be inundated with mourning doves. The harsh reality sets in when you consider weather and predators. In any given year as many as half of the adults will not survive, and the mortality rate for chicks is even higher.

Another factor is hunting. New Jersey does not have a dove hunting season, but in neighboring Pennsylvania, doves are on some hunters' menus for three months each year.

Before the North American continent was settled by Europeans, there were mourning doves, but far fewer than we see today. Mourning doves like open areas, such as fields and farms — any place with a potential for seeds.

With more agriculture, we have more fields and more doves. Most of what we do to change the landscape to suit us, creating parks and suburban yards, pleases the mourning doves as well.

It is no surprise that we have

mourning doves in Montclair. They breed in every state, including Hawaii.

We typically have mourning doves in our yards year-round, but they are migratory birds. It's just that they don't all migrate. When they migrate, the young leave first, followed by the females.

The males leave last except for the ones that stay behind to struggle through the winter. But the males that make it through the winter are first in line to greet returning females.

It may not always be easy, but you can differentiate between the male and female mourning doves. Overall, the male is larger; its head is more iridescent than the female's, and the male's breast is rosier.

The extent of the bird's breast can be a bit variable. We watch doves grabbing seeds off the ground and logically assume they are eating them, but that is often not the case. The birds are instead stockpiling the food in the crop, which makes their breasts appear larger. They will probably then

retreat to a comfortable tree limb to digest the collected seeds.

Often, even when we don't see mourning doves, we hear them, especially in the morning. The song is distinctive: a rising note followed by woo-woo-woo. It isn't a wakeup call, but a male mourning dove doing its best to entice a female.

A little billing and cooing might follow. For those not familiar with billing and cooing, it refers to the birds rubbing their bills together. The pair will sit in a tree very close together and repeatedly touch bills. If you haven't seen doves do this, you might witness the behavior with other birds.

The mourning dove call may be confused with the call of the great horned owl. Until you've heard both, it may be difficult to distinguish between the dove's "woo" and the owl's "who." It is also unlikely that you will hear the owl calling during the day. The mourning dove's call is frequent and comes at any time of day in the search for a mate, and the mournful sound is somewhat haunting.

If you happen to alarm a mourning dove in the yard, you will hear the characteristic sound its wings make as it takes off. While they are in your yard, they will clean up after the messy birds at a feeder, but they are also helping out by eating all of the weed seeds they can find.

In "What's in Your Backyard," Sanford "Sandy" Sorkin and David Wasmuth alternate writing about the birds and beasts you may see around your house. Sorkin, a Montclair resident since 1978, is currently treasurer of the Montclair Bird Club. An experienced bird-watcher and accomplished nature photographer, he is the co-author with Rick Wright of "Watching Birds in Montclair," "Feeding Birds in Northern New Jersey" and "Watching Birds in the New Jersey Meadowlands."

See a bird or animal you want to know more about? Write to us at culture@montclairlocal.news.

Weekly — Headlines

FIRST PLACE

Jay Mann

The SandPaper

Driving Whale Sloshed is Just Fine With Goldfish;
That's a Bumblefish: Bees are Reassigned to Strange Category;
Visited By Smokey's Kin, County Gets Its Bearings

36
The SandPaper/Wednesday, June 8, 2022

THE FISH STORY *Jay Mann*

That's a Bumblefish: Bees Are Reassigned To Strange Category

Inshore, OffShore, Nearsore ... Unsure

Joining the list of things that will be larger than ever this summer is the mariner realm, as new highs in registered vessels and captain certificates point to our waters all but boiling with seafaring/bayfaring user groups, some bound for party shoals and others locked into trips to the canyons many a mile at sea. The prime user group will remain boat anglers of many breeds and temperaments.

As to the essence of summer's mariner realm, it's what you get when you combine the good, bad, ugly with the best of times/worst of times and a goodly sprinkling of one flew over the cuckoo's nest – a maritime smoothie, occasionally adorned with splashes of empowering beverages. Overall, though, a hugely good topwater time is to be had by all.

Right about here, I should go with the old "Be safe out there," but, for me, that has me simultaneously wondering, "As opposed to ...?"

BUMBLE WEIRDNESS: In a state never lacking for the weird, California recently outdid itself by legally establishing that its four species of rare bumble bees are ... fishes. Say what!?

First of all, anglers should not get all excited over the prospect of filleting bumble bees in the near future. Nor should they begin hand-tying flying flies. Cali's bumble fish are becoming profoundly rare, *endangered* being the buzzword – and the very reason these suspected insects somehow achieved fish status.

An ifscience.com article headlined "Great Day For Bumblebees As Californian Court Rules That They Are Fish" clarifies things a bit by explaining the state's Third District Court of Appeal has decided that "bumble bees can be classed as an invertebrate, offering them protection under the California Endangered Species Act (ESA)."

As might be guessed, it all comes down to legalese on the fly.

"The issue presented here is whether the bumble bee, a terrestrial invertebrate, falls within the definition of fish," the judges said in their summation.

Golden State's ESA emphatically covers birds, amphibians, reptiles, mammals and fish. Bees? Not so much. This exclusion was highlighted in a previous legal effort to gain extreme conservation measures for the bumbles. The courts initially said "nay" to bees as fish.

A whole new set of judges' ears and eyes recently perceived things differently. They determined the state's prevailing ESA legislation is worded ambiguously, to the point that "fish," as defined, did not only pertain to aquatic species. Per ifscience.com, the judges also saw a precedent set in the ESA already being applied to a terrestrial mollusk.

Long and short of it, the Cali bees have won the day ... for now, appeals being what they are.

My read: The "fish" classification came as a shock to the bumblebees, one bee being quoted as saying, "I'm a



Ryan Morrill

PEREGRINE PLACE: The Bonnet Island Falcon Tower, constructed by Ben Wurst, Habitat Program manager with Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey, attracts peregrine falcons that formerly nested under the nearby Causeway Bridge until ousted by construction work. With bridge work completed, the falcons prefer their new digs.

flying pollinator. I can't swim a lick, dude." A Sacramento bee smartly said, "This is taking the whole Bumble Bee Tuna thing way too far."

Overall, those out-west bumble bees should soon be soaring toward eco-recovery as profusely protected species, which wings things our way.

While this piece of flying fish wackiness merits recognition for its only-in-Californianness, I also see it as a precedent setter, whereby other states might legally conjure up wild ways to protect wildlife. While NJ is generally doing remarkably well at keeping its flora and fauna protected, many folks like myself are always looking to improve NJ's natural side, even if we wind up having "fish" cross-pollinating our cranberries and blueberries farms.

CAUSEWAY FOR CONCERN: For decades, we knew the big stone structures that graced the Island's

beachfront were technically called groins, not the colloquially-accepted *jetties* – a jetty technically being a rock structure marking the banks of an inlet, not anti-erosion devices up against an entire ocean.

By choice, we intentionally chose *not* to call the groins by their given name. The reason was obvious: the term "groins" bore a striking resemblance the word, uh, "groins."

Though our groins are currently sanded under, should they suddenly begin bulging forth, we'll surely persist in calling them "jetties." It's grandfatered in, making them grandpap groins. Which brings us to our "Causeway," which is neither a groin ... nor causeway. Explanation sorely needed.

The 3-mile connector of LBI and the mainland is not even remotely a causeway, despite being informally dubbed such from the day it was born. I vaguely recall once being lectured on the subject. I paid it no nevermind. It was the Causeway, our Causeway, enough said.

build a huge levee to connect Island and mainland. "Now, that-there is a Causeway, Sparky! Signal folks they can come on over."

QUICK E-BIKE REJOINER: I got a goodly mount of feedback after last week's gab about e-bikes. I had expected some solid sass from chronically snitty drivers, which are legion – and uninclined to peacefully share the road to any degree. Short of those duly imploring e-bikers to obey the rules of the road, including fully mandatory stops at red lights and such, there was instead solid support for the battery-powered two-wheelers

As expected, many folks realized the greater reason behind my advancing e-bikes. I see them as a way, albeit minute, to pare down internal combustion traffic on the Island. Anything that can lessen the over-traffic flow on LBI helps. Should e-biking – and e-scootering – gain ground, as it has done in many foreign countries, we might see a discernable backoff of high-pollutin' conveyances. I know

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

Editorial Awards

Daily – Under 20,000

SPORTS COLUMN

Daily Under 20,000 — Sports Column

SECOND PLACE

Bill Evans

South Jersey Times

After Just 5 Seasons, Softball
Tournament of Champions Gone
Before Its Time; Glory-Suriano
Highlights Huge Night for NJ; A
Gamble that Matched Up 2 Stars
was Good for Teams, Wrestlers
and the Sport

NJPA

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — Sports Column

FIRST PLACE

Brad Wilson

The Express-Times

Wrestling Columns

NJPA

Editorial Awards

Daily – Over 20,000

SPORTS COLUMN

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NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Sports Column

THIRD PLACE

Art Stapleton

The Record (Bergen)

Inside Kevin Burkhardt and Greg Olsen's Rise from North Jersey to NFL Broadcasting Stardom; Unique Bond has NY Giants Fan Rooting for Odell Beckham Jr. in Super Bowl; Inside a Hall of Fame Leg

NJPA

Daily Over 20,000 — Sports Column

SECOND PLACE

Steve Politi

The Star-Ledger

Days After His Wife Died, This 86-Year-Old NJ Ace Honored Her With a Championship; St. Peter's Tops Purdue as the Best Story in NCAA Hoops History Gets Even Better; How Grieving NJ Bobsledder Will Honor Her Late Sister at Beijing Olympics

How a grieving N.J. bobsledder will honor her late sister at the Beijing Olympics | Politi

Updated: Jan. 31, 2022, 4:36 p.m. | Published: Jan. 31, 2022, 7:01 a.m.



Daily Over 20,000 — Sports Column

FIRST PLACE

Bob Klapisch

The Star-Ledger

Yankees Legend and Jersey Guy Leaves Legacy That Goes Beyond Pinstripes; N.J. has a 'Dirty' Secret; MLB Lockout Brings Back Memories of 1995, When Yankees Asked Jersey Guys to Play

A Yankees legend and Jersey guy leaves a legacy that goes beyond pinstripes



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Editorial Awards

Weekly

BEST LEDE

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Best Lede

THIRD PLACE

Gina G. Scala
The SandPaper

Timing of Road Work, First Responder Access Called Into Question; 34th Exercise Tiger Remembrance Marked on LBI; Law Enforcement Lauds Connection With Community

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The SandPaper/Wednesday, April 6, 2022

CURRENTS Timing of Road Work, First Responder Access Called Into Question

During Final Phase of Causeway Project

After motorists emerge from a maze of orange and white barriers along Route 72 East in Stafford Township, the view from the 4-mile span connecting the mainland community to Long Beach Island is devoid of any traces of the final phase of the multi-year, federally funded Causeway expansion and rehabilitation project — until suddenly it isn't. As drivers approach Ship Bottom, the gateway to LBI, they are greeted by orange and white traffic barriers. On Ninth Street, the barriers block off a portion of the left lane. A quick look toward Shore Avenue reveals large pieces of road construction equipment lining the landscape with the bay in the background. An orange detour sign on Ninth



Ryan Morrill

DETAILS: Among the concerns arising during the final phase of the \$312 million Causeway expansion and rehabilitation project is the accessibility for fire trucks in the area of Hotel LBI (center of photo) as well as the timing of lane and road closures in Stafford Township and on the Island.

72 East, known locally as Ninth Street in Ship Bottom. Once in Ship Bottom, they are directed to turn left onto Barnegat Avenue before turning left onto Eighth Street, also known as Route 72 West. Motorists should stay in the left lane and take the U-turn onto Route 72 East, where they can access the north side of Cedar Bonnet Island by taking the ramp onto Third Street. Improvements to Circle Drive, initially expected to be performed last fall, should be completed by summer, state transportation officials said last month.

"It was supposed to be done (already)," Ship Bottom Mayor William Huelbeck told the borough council there during its monthly meeting in March, where he gave a report on the Causeway project. "It could be closed all summer."

Earlier this week, Stafford Township Mayor Gregory E. Myhre said he was hoping "they will be able to finish their work before Memorial Day." Just a few weeks before shutting Circle Drive, the NYDOT contractor reconfigured the traffic pattern on Eighth and Ninth streets in Ship Bottom. That pattern is expected to be in place through the summer as work continues on the Causeway project in the borough. As a result, mayors in all of the Island communities were expected to sign a letter to the DOT "because this is going to be a mess," Huelbeck said.

State transportation officials said the work in Ship Bottom, which is mostly underground, is expected to be done Monday through Thursday nights to minimize the impact to motorists. The lane closure and traffic shift on Route 72 East (Ninth Street) and Route 72 West (Eighth Street) are necessary for drainage work, traffic signal improvements and installing conduit and fiber optic cables.

"I talked to the DOT about a year ago, and they said if Atlantic City Electric and the gas company got (their work) done by last October, which they didn't," then the city to install a pipe from Long Beach Boulevard to the bay would begin, Huelbeck said.

"They needed nine months. It would be done by summer," he said, adding if the utility companies did not get their work completed, then the DOT contractors would hold off putting the pipe in until the end of this summer.



Photos by Pat Trotter

The Cherry On Top!
Washington D.C. Kite Festival Nets One of LBI's Own

EARLY BLOSSOM: Master kite flyer Lisa Willoughby of Surf City was at the Cherry Blossom Kite Festival in Washington, D.C. on March 26. She is internationally known for her abilities and plays a significant role in the annual LBI Fly International Kite Festival, now in its eighth year. The LBI Festival is scheduled for Oct. 7-9. Stay tuned for more info.

LBI Introduces Spending Plan, Announces New Courts Passes

The Long Beach Township Board of Commissioners has introduced the 2022 municipal budget, which sees the tax rate go from .195 per \$100 of assessed valuation last year to .199 this year, an increase of four-tenths of a penny. The average assessed home — \$1,245,379.71 in the township — will see an increase of \$49,822.

As Commissioner Joseph Lattanzi explained at the board's meeting last Monday, total general appropriations come in at \$50,493,000, with the local tax for municipal purposes \$20,908,442.85.

Lattanzi thanked Chief Financial Officer Lyda D'Amore for her work on the budget, which is online now at longbeachtownship.com/revenue-finance.

Also during the meeting, Mayor Joseph Mancini swore in new police officer Kevin Lyons Jr. The officer was pinned with the badge that belonged to his father, Kevin Lyons Sr., who retired from the township police after more than 25 years of service. "He's going to fit in well with our department," Chief Kevin Mahon said of the younger Lyons, who first worked as a summer officer for the township in 2018, then became a Class 2 officer.

Additionally, the board adopted, on first reading, an ordinance to introduce an annual pass for access to the township's tennis and pickleball courts. The cost would be \$80 per year, \$20 per week or \$10 for a daily pass — the same as Beach Haven's fees. "When we didn't match (Beach Haven), everyone came here" to play tennis and pickleball for free, leading to crowded courts, said Mancini. Passes will be available for purchase from the municipality's beach kiosks

which complained about southern cove section of Bayview Park, which they said contains unsightly and dangerous pieces of concrete. The couple, who reside on West Coughlan Avenue, would like to see the debris removed and the area bulkheaded, similar to the north side.

Mancini said the township has asked the state, which owns the spot, for financial assistance to bulkhead and otherwise address the area, as "it's not in the budget right now" for the municipality to pay for that on its own. The mayor said they will continue to pursue the matter.

Lastly, Commissioner Ralph Bayard announced that the statewide ban on single-use plastic bags and polystyrene foam food-service containers begins May 4. (See related story in this week's SandPaper.)

To help local consumers and businesses transition to the mandate, Alliance for a Living Ocean is launching a reusable bag recycling program. Anyone with excess gently used, fabric reusable bags can place them in ALO donation boxes at one of a few locations: the LBI Grade School in Ship Bottom, Farias Surf and Sport in Ship Bottom, Murphy's Market in Beach Haven, Reynolds Garden Shop in Manahawkin and the Old Causeway in Manahawkin. People who have started their own bag collection, whether individually or at a place of business, can also drop them all off at one of the participating establishments.

ALO will clean and sanitize the bags, and then return them to the same locations on May 3. Starting May 4, those who need a reusable bag are welcome to pick one up free of charge at one of the participating sites.

Weekly — Best Lede

SECOND PLACE

David Biggy
The SandPaper

Barnegat Girls Bowlers Just Miss on Division Title; Stafford Softball Player Takes Home Run Swing to National Junior Derby; Simon's Career at Southern Capped By D-1 College Signing



Photos by David Biggy
POWER-BALLER: Barnegat senior Madison Kubicz delivers a shot in the sixth frame of the third game during the Bengals' loss to Lacey on Jan. 27.



TOTAL PRECISION: Barnegat senior Joe Spagnola sends one of his many strike balls down the alley during the Bengals' loss to Lacey on Jan. 27. Spagnola finished the regular season with a division-best 230 average.

Barnegat Girls Bowlers Just Miss on Division Title

Anybody who really understands bowling knows that sometimes, for some reason, pins just don't go down. One day, you throw a great pocket shot and the 10-pin drops even if the 3-pin breezes by it. Other days, that stubborn thing flips you the bird.

Still, spares win big games, and that's entirely on the bowler. Unfortunately, the Barnegat girls bowlers missed a few too many spares in their final match of the regular season on Jan. 27 – a division-title slugfest with Lacey that the Bengals lost, 3-0.

"At the beginning of the season, I figured it would be us and Lacey battling it out for the division title," said coach Jon Gordon, whose squad finished 39-6. "In between that point and now, we had to take care of business to get here, and we did. Two days ago, we had to win against Lacey to set up this opportunity, and the other day things

went great and we won. Today, things didn't go our way and we fell short. These things happen. We were here, right where we knew we could be, so I'm not disappointed at all."

During an incredible effort on Tuesday, Jan. 25, the Bengals won two of the three games against the Lions to temporarily take over first place in the Shore Conference South B standings. Barnegat entered Thursday's grudge match with a 39-3 mark, with Lacey slightly trailing at 38-4, meaning the Bengals had to win just one of the three that day to at least share the division crown.

In the first game, the Bengals didn't bowl terribly. Four of the five bowlers tolled games right around or slightly higher than their averages, with Summer Burkle – who had two days earlier smashed 621 pins to

take over the top spot for the season's high series – registering a 167, while Madison Kubicz delivered a 164, Alexis Sugden whacked 161 pins and Camryn White ended with a 157. However, the Lions, led by Lauren Haynes' 236 and Zuzanna Misztela's 201, were 122 pins better to take the first game.

During the second game, that's when things got really shaky for the Bengals. Kubicz managed a 160, but everybody else in the lineup was well below their averages. Meanwhile, most of the girls on Lacey's side were well above their averages, again including Haynes, who blasted a 202 to lead the way to a second-game win, 845-689.

Still, the Bengals kept battling, and the final game of the season came right down to the 10th frame. Down by

just a few pins going into the ninth, a 3-10 split and a 7-10 split, along with a missed 10-pin, added to the woes, but the Bengals still had a shot to win heading into the last frame.

After White struck on her first two balls, she ended with a 177. Sugden finished at 139, before Burkle spared in the 10th to end up with 148. Tara Charland also spared and dropped seven to close out a 182, but as Kubicz stepped onto the approach for her first ball of the 10th, Misztela finished with a strike to seal the victory and the division title for Lacey. Even if Kubicz struck out, the Bengals were going to lose by a few pins – she threw a first-ball strike and then spared to finish with a 203. Haynes' 201 gave her a new high series for the season with a 639, as Lacey won by 14 pins, 863-849.

"We had a lot of 10 pins, and spares always win games," Gordon said. "We just didn't make enough

Continued on Page 40

BOWLING ROUNDUP

Weekly — Best Lede

FIRST PLACE

David Polakiewicz
Echoes-Sentinel

Pro Wrestling Returns;
Tree-mendous;
Green Sunfish

Echoes~Sentinel

echoes-sentinel.com

THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2022

\$2.50

Jordan Hartley wins 2 golds
in sectional track • 10



Subdivision plan spurs
stormwater concerns • 7



For election results, please
visit echoes-sentinel.com

PRO WRESTLING RETURNS WITH 'BRAWL' ON JUNE 18

By DAVID POLAKIEWICZ
EDITOR

LONG HILL TWP. – Muscular brawlers will administer headlocks, smack each other in the face and perhaps clobber their opponent over the head with a chair.

The police will be there, but they won't arrest the combatants. They're one of the melees' sponsors and will be laughing and cheering along with others in attendance.

Yes, professional wrestling is returning to Stirling after a two-year hiatus due to the Covid pandemic.

The Bernards Township Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Long Hill Township Policemen's Benevolent Association (PBA) Local 322 are sponsoring

"The Brawl at the Hall" at 7 p.m., Saturday, June 18 at the Long Hill Community Center, 1229 Valley Road.

Is it real or is it fake? It doesn't matter to pro wrestling devotees. The Coastal Championship Wrestling (CCW) title belt will be on the line that night.

The Brawl at the Hall lineup includes Crazy Ivan, Frankie Flow, the sinister Jimmy Jact Cash and the Russian Viktor Vanko. To some that might sound like a difficult family reunion. But it figures to be heaven for area wrestling fans, anxious for live bouts.

"It's a great night of family fun and entertainment," said Al LiCata, the chamber's president and execu-

PLEASE SEE BRAWL, PAGE 17



World Wrestling Entertainment legend The Patriot will be among the combatants at the Saturday, June 18 "Brawl at the Hall" at the Long Hill Township community center.

Verlezza leads in tight primary race

By NICOLE ZANCHELLI
STAFF WRITER

LONG HILL TWP. – The winner of the three-year Township Committee seat may be too close to call after polls closed on Tuesday night, June 7.

As of presstime at 10:15 p.m., Tuesday, incumbent Victor Verlezza had a 53-vote lead over Frank Liberato in the Republican primary contest.

Unofficial totals from in-person voting polls showed Verlezza with 470 votes and Liberato with 417. Mail-in ballots will continue to be counted if postmarked by the primary date and received by Monday, June 13.

Verlezza of Stirling is vying for his second three-year com-



VICTOR VERLEZZA
FRANK LIBERATO

>> WEB UPDATE

For more information on this story, please check our website at echoes-sentinel.com.

PLEASE SEE RACE, PAGE 17

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

Editorial Awards

Weekly

Packaging the News

EDITORIAL SECTION

LAYOUT/CONTENT

Weekly — Editorial Section Layout/Content

THIRD PLACE

Gail Travers Pattie McIntyre

The SandPaper

The SandPaper Editorial Pages

6
The SandPaper/Wednesday, September 14, 2022

SandBox

Been There, Done That

Women Rule: It May Be Time For a Female US President

By RICK MELLEBRUP

God save the king. He's going to need all the help he can get. Some British must slip up every once in a while these days, singing God save the queen by accident. After all, Elizabeth II was the longest serving British monarch, reigning for 70 years and 214 days. The vast majority of British subjects had never known a different ruler until last week. Indeed, the only king or queen in world history to sit on a throne for a longer period of time was Louis XIV of France, who reigned for 72 years and 110 days thanks to ascending to the crown at the tender age of 4.

The three most famous British queens, unless you have a fondness for a Bloody Mary on Sunday mornings, are Elizabeth I, Victoria and Elizabeth II. The first two had long reigns as well, 44 and 63 years respectively.

The first Elizabeth was ruler when Britain emerged as a major sea power, challenging Spain. Victoria reigned during a period when Britain was the world's most powerful nation both militarily and commercially; the sun never set on the British Empire thanks in large part to its navy. It isn't surprising that the periods of their reigns are simply known as the Elizabethan and Victorian eras.

It is unlikely that Elizabeth II will have an era named after her. Her namesake, thanks in great part to the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588, showed that England was knocking on the door of greatness. Victoria reigned during a period of supremacy. On the other hand, Elizabeth II oversaw the loss of colonies, economic might and prestige. Germany may have lost the world wars to Great Britain and its allies, but it won the future and became the strongest nation in Europe, thanks to bleeding Britain dry both financially and in the taking of its best and brightest youth.

Letters

Praise for Lifesavers

To the Editor:

On Monday, Sept. 5 at around 12:48 a.m., a group of five people crossed Route 72 at Marsha Drive (in Stafford Township). One of them, a 21-year-old girl, was struck by a car and badly injured.

I was driving for Lyft with a group of three people, and we arrived at the site. I think about a minute after the accident occurred. We saw the girl lying in the road, and one of her friends, an off-duty police officer, was trying to compress her chest and restart her breathing. He was working very hard on her, and was successful. One of my passengers had just graduated from the police academy and ran over to assist him. Another one of my passengers called 911.

The Stafford police were there in less than a minute. The officer ran over, made an assessment and the helicopter was on its way. All of this happened within seconds of the officer arriving on the scene. I don't know how the young lady is doing currently, but her chances

Continued on Page 8

Queen Elizabeth II did, however, allow Great Britain to psychologically withstand its decline. The Brits remain a proud people. Elizabeth II will be long remembered and revered. It is doubtful that her son will reach such high esteem.

How many British kings can you name? Sure, the new King Charles, although you may not realize he is Charles III. Henry VIII, thanks in part to the Herman's Hermits' hit "I'm Henry the Eighth, I Am." Maybe George III, considering he was the monarch from which the United States broke away. And...? Come on, and please don't play cute say-

ing Charles I and II or Henry I through VII.

The United States has had 46 presidents, actually 45 because Grover Cleveland served in two non-consecutive terms. Not one has been a woman.

It is clear Elizabeth II are their country's most famous monarchs, surpassing the kings. It is also interesting that Elizabeth II's final official act, two days before quickly passing away, was asking new British Prime Minister Liz Truss to form a government. The United Kingdom has had 79 prime ministers, three of them female: Margaret Thatcher, Theresa May and now Truss. The United States has had 46 presidents, actually 45 because Grover Cleveland served in two non-consecutive terms. Not one has been a woman.

Not for nothing was Thatcher known as the "Iron Lady." If you think women are weak when threatened with war, consider that when the ruling military junta in Argentina ordered the invasion of the Falkland Islands on April 2, 1982 a British fleet was dispatched on April 5 and by June 14 Argentina surrendered.

There have been many strong female leaders in other countries as well. Golda Meir, Israel's only female prime minister, was also tough, earning the "Iron Lady" moniker years before Thatcher. On Oct. 6, 1973 Egypt and Syria, assisted by expeditionary forces from nine other Muslim nations

and Cuba, attacked Israel on the Jewish holy day of Yom Kippur. Israel won out in a mere 19 days.

Indira Gandhi was the third prime minister of India from January 1980 to October 1984. Her first two years she also served as minister of defense.

Angela Merkel was the first woman to lead Germany, but she ended up as the second longest-serving chancellor in German history.

All in all, 70 countries have had female leadership, either elected, appointed, interim or other. One of them is Russia, where Catherine II earned herself quite a nickname when she ruled from 1762 to 1796. No, it wasn't the "Iron Empress" but rather Catherine the Great. Maybe it is time for the U.S. to have a woman president.

We've come close. Hillary Clinton earned 65,853,514 votes to Donald Trump's 62,984,828 in 2016 but lost in the Electoral College.

It seemed for a while that more female candidates were working their way up the ladder. Geraldine Ferraro was the Democrats' pick for vice president in 1984; the Republicans ran Sarah Palin for VP in 2008. Kamala Harris was elected vice president in 2020.

Continued on Page 10



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Continued on Page 10



MAXIE FUN: Ten-year-old Max Peck, seen here at Mr. Tee's Mini Golf in Beach Haven, has devised what he thinks is a better way to play the game of putt-putt. Read all about it.

Ampersand

A Hole in Zero?

To the Editor:

My grandson, Max Peck, has visited Long Beach Island every one of his 10 summers. He loves games of all sorts and is always on the lookout for a new way to play an old game — by changing the rules to make it more fun. Since one of his favorite LBI activities is mini golf, it is not surprising that this summer he came up with some twists to the game. You might enjoy them if you would like a game that is more exciting and unpredictable than mini golf.

We call his new invention "maxie golf." It is played on a regulation mini golf course, and it starts just like regular mini golf. You can have the youngest go first, or go alphabetically, have the oldest go first, whatever you like.

After the first round from the tee, however, things get more exciting. Each stroke from then on is taken by the person whose ball is farthest from the hole — not nearest, as in mini golf.

Continued on Page 10

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2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Editorial Section Layout/Content

SECOND PLACE

Andrea Bondy Montclair Local

Jan. 6; Sept 22

Thursday, January 6, 2022

Opinion

Page 25

TOWN SQUARE

Why I'm running for NJ Senate president

by **NIA H. GILL**
Special to Montclair Local

I am running for state Senate president because we must restore transparency and accountability to our legislative process.

The legislature has taken power over taxing and spending from the public and given it to a small, restrictive group of individuals and automatic processes. This has had the effect of denying public transparency and the opportunity to participate in the legislative process.

From automatic toll increases to the way federal COVID-19 relief funds have been prioritized and allocated, the public has been shut out time and time again.

As state Senate president, I would be committed to reversing this and restoring transparency and accountability for the public and legislature over these processes. We must change the statutes that place power over tax increases and the allocation and expenditure of billions in public funds to a small restrictive group of individuals with limited transparency and little accountability to the public. We cannot do this until we have independent and accountable leadership in the Senate presidency.

Our state has received more than \$48 billion in federal funding throughout the pandemic, yet New Jerseyans have experienced little relief for kitchen table issues. Much of this money has been spent, yet billions remain and we must take the opportunity for our legislature to put this money into relieving the burden on New Jersey families. I

am committed to enacting an economic recovery agenda with input from the public and senators from all 40 districts. We must allocate and prioritize this remaining money to service communities across the state in a more equitable manner and make New Jersey a more affordable place to live.

We must also reestablish legislative transparency and accountability. This includes ensuring the ability for all senators to be equally serviced by the staff and resources of the Senate. This includes guaranteeing the public has access to all proceedings. This includes giving legislators and the people ample time to review and provide input on proposed legislation before it proceeds for a vote.

I have said before: We cannot be tempted by the path of least resistance and perpetuate the same dynamics the voters so clearly rebuked. We must take this opportunity to embrace the change the voters have demanded. That demand includes a change to independent and inclusive leadership in the Senate. I am ready to meet this critical moment with the gravity it demands. I seek the support of my colleagues and the public to meet it together.

Nia H. Gill is a New Jersey state senator representing the 34th Legislative District.

Editor's note: In November, state Senate Democrats picked state Sen. Nicholas Scutari to be the next Senate president, in a closed-door, 21-0 vote; only Gill abstained. But the selection is not official until a formal Jan. 11 vote, and Gill plans to publicly challenge Scutari.



State Sen. Nia Gill addresses the crowd at a ceremony to honor Celess Young, June 5, 2021. KATE ALBRIGHT/FILE PHOTO



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2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Editorial Section Layout/Content

FIRST PLACE

David Nahan
Ocean City Sentinel

Opinion June 29;
Opinion Sept. 28

A8 SENTINEL WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2022
THE OCEAN CITY SENTINEL HAS BEEN WATCHING OVER THESE SHORES SINCE 1880
THIS IS YOUR FORUM. SHARE YOUR VIEWS WITH THE COMMUNITY

OPINION

OUR VIEW
Will the state BPU care about O.C.'s objections?
We believe the board is ready to steamroll the resort no matter what

Ocean City is continuing its fight against having transmission lines for the Ocean Wind 1 wind farm run through the island.
It looks more and more like the giant windmills about as effectively as Don Quixote, but it's not for lack of trying.
In May, New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Commissioner Joseph L. Floridiso, speaking at a public hearing, said city officials declined to comment on the diversion of Green Acres land on the island to allow for part of the transmission line's route between the wind farm 15 miles off the coast and the former B.E. England site in Hoesleys Point, Upper Township.
While technically true because city officials didn't actually "speak" at the hearing, that was misleading.
The city had responded via a letter from city solicitor Dorethy McCrosson, strenuously opposing using the Green Acres land. That letter was received by the BPU and entered into the record. Suzanne Hornack, of Protect Our Coast NJ (protectourcoastnj.com), challenged Floridiso and read part of the letter into the record. Ocean City Council President Bobby Barr, who was alerted to the hearing and tased in, attended at a May 17 Council meeting that Floridiso was indeed making it seem like the resort had no official comment on the issue.
That is another step that revealed the BPU is not going to be an impartial arbiter.
The clearest sign came nearly a year ago when the state Legislature stomped all over Ocean City's rights to decide what goes into the rights of way on the island. Knowing there was significant opposition from public officials to the wind farm, the Legislature quickly enacted a law, signed by Gov. Phil Murphy, that put specific decisions — such as those involving transmission lines for wind farms — into the hands of the BPU and out of the city's jurisdiction.
It was clearly meant to prevent Ocean City from being the cog in the wheel that stopped Ocean Wind 1 from becoming a reality.
That law means the state board gets to decide if Ocean Wind 1 gets to put its transmission cables under the highway at 25th Street and then bury them in the city streets (and on Green Acres land).
To be blunt, the Legislature and governor acted out of financial motives — they see an economic windfall. While they provide lip service about the benefits of wind power, they spend more time talking about jobs — construction jobs, maintenance jobs, jobs at the message facility being built on the Delaware Bay side of south Jersey, a facility that, not surprisingly, isn't waiting to hear if the wind farms will get final approval.
On Friday, McCrosson was back at it on behalf of the city during the latest BPU hearing, this time speaking about the city's opposition to the Green Acres portion and challenging the law that took the rights of way decision out of the city's hands.
This time, at least, the BPU can't claim the resort is a passive bystander to the plan for Ocean Wind 1, which is in the process of seeking state and federal approvals to bring the plot on the ocean off the coast of Cape May and Atlantic counties. There also is an Ocean Wind 2 in the planning stages along with other proposed wind farms along the Jersey shore.
As we have noted in the past, we are not opponents of wind energy or the proposed wind farm. We believe renewable energy must be a part of the future for New Jersey, the nation and the world. We are, however, waiting to see the analyses of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement released two weeks ago by the Board of Ocean Energy Management (BDEM).
What happens with that will go a long way toward deciding if Ocean Wind 1 — and other wind farms off the coast — will happen.
We asked to get more comment from officials for Ocean Wind 1, which is a joint venture of Danish energy company Ørsted and PSEG. We got turned down.
As they pointed out — quite fairly — the statement is some 1,600 pages and it will take time for the companies involved to go through it.
That impact — on sea life, including endangered North Atlantic right whales, commercial and recreational fishing, and the overall construction and operation of these massive offshore facilities with a shelf life of up to 25 years — will determine whether we and many others can support this project.
We like the idea it can provide renewable energy for up to a half-million homes and businesses in New Jersey, but will the cost be too high? That is not just what happens in the ocean, but here on land, including the badly demanded views about the view — what exactly will this look like off the coast and will it hurt the economies of the Jersey shore communities?
We don't know the answers to those questions. We do know that entities such as the BPU appear to have the minds made up, which makes the entire process look biased.



JUNE 24TH 2022: THE DAY AMERICAN WOMEN WENT TO BED WITH LESS RIGHTS THAN THEY WOKE UP WITH.

ANOTHER VIEW
By Craig D. Schoen

Graduation should recognize all students
Chief School Administrator Mark Marone has done an admirable job of leading multiple classes of students at Mansfield Regional High School through the tumultuous years of the COVID-19 pandemic, uniting the student body under his motto of One Family, One School, One Community and never missing a graduation ceremony.
He clearly cares about the students and their advancement from public novices to strong seniors prepared for the next step. Which is why it's surprising that he does not see that by singling out the best and brightest among the class during graduation leaves those whose achievements may not ring as loudly feeling less worthy of the honor being bestowed on them during the commencement ceremony.
I was a fringe member of the Class of 1968 — I'm a member of the C social group, at best. Having moved to Somers Point just weeks before high school made it even harder to fit in with any group. That's why I was a member of the Misfits Club.
I was intelligent but unstimulated. My parents didn't graduate from high school and my family did not value education. I was in the top 40 percent of my class — 113 out of 289, if I remember correctly — nothing to brag about. It was inevitable to teachers because I neither excelled nor failed. I also was smart enough to avoid getting caught and punished for many of my misdeeds, so even notoriety eluded me. My family was poor in Pennsylvania and remained poor in Somers Point. That's why I was a member of the Free Lunch Club.
I worked full time as a freshman and continued to do so all through high school because I was a member of the Forced to Buy Own Necessities Club. In fact, I started earning my own money at age 11 with a newspaper delivery route — no bikes, no cars, just walking up steep hills after school in all weather.
Working gave me little time to take part in sports or extracurricular activities. That's why I was a member of the Nobodies Club.
My parents often fought because the money wasn't there. There were underlying issues, of course, that don't need to be explained. That's why I was a member of the Dysfunctional Family Club.
I was also a member of the Plays Hockey Club in the Smoking Lounge Club — yes, the '80s were certainly a different time — the Smokes in the Bathrooms Club and the Curs Club. None of the many clubs that I was in was recognized during graduation.
I remember sitting there while members of championship sports teams were asked to stand and be acknowledged, as members of the

National Honor Society were asked to stand, as members of academic teams, mock trial, band and drama club were asked to stand. My sorry behind remained seated, without any special acknowledgment.
And that's sad, because simply graduating, for me, was a much bigger accomplishment than for the others.
I lacked support at home and also at school. That's why I was a member of the Paid for My Own SAT Exam and College Application Club. I had no transportation, but that didn't stop me from getting to Stockton State College because I was president of the Hitchhikers Club.
Despite my lack of excellence in high school, I later became a member of the First Person in My Family to Graduate College Club, the Award-Winning Journalist Club, the Father of the Year Club and the New Jersey Press Association (an actual club).
Last week, during his speech to the graduates and their families, Marone directed those who graduated summa cum laude to stand, those who graduated magna cum laude to stand, and on and on, in ascending descending order.
Not once did he direct those who struggled with mental health through the pandemic and graduated nonetheless to stand, those who did not have a great head start on life but graduated nonetheless to stand, those whose parents are drug addicts or deadbeats but graduated nonetheless to stand.
I don't think everyone "deserves a trophy," as those who win trophies always say about those of us who don't, but I could see disappointment in the faces of the students who knew they would not be standing, their heads slowly drooping as each group was recognized.
Had they not accomplished something worth note? Graduation is a day for everyone — simply to celebrate the culmination of all of the work necessary to get there.
The students had gotten their trophies and ribbons, the academics had gotten their scholarships and awards, the National Honor Society had held its dinner banquet. Why do they need to be singled out again on a day that is for the entire Class of 2022?
This is one tradition I wouldn't mind seeing end before members of the Class of 2022 are forced to hang their heads during what should be one of the happiest and most memorable times of their lives, their accomplishment diminished by the guy at the top.
Craig D. Schoen is an editor for the Ocean City Sentinel, Upper Township Sentinel and The Sentinel of Somers Point, Linwood and Northfield.

YOUR VIEWS

Editorial Awards

Daily – Under 20,000

BEST HEADLINES

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — Best Headlines

SECOND PLACE

David Blomquist
The Jersey Journal

Portfolio



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — Best Headlines

FIRST PLACE

James Moening

The Express-Times

Neighbors Say Restored Church
Bell Taking a Toll; Compost Plan
Draws Heaps of Residents;
Council Hears Shellfish Reason
to Remove 3 Dams

NJPA

Editorial Awards

Daily – Over 20,000

BEST HEADLINES

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NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Best Headlines

THIRD PLACE

Kevin Davis

Asbury Park Press

Portfolio

NJPA

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Best Headlines

SECOND PLACE

Scott Muller

The Record (Bergen)

The Plight of the Honeybee;
The Father and the Son;
Nose for Collectibles

NJPA

Daily Over 20,000 — Best Headlines

FIRST PLACE

Phil Cornell
The Star-Ledger

It Wasn't Calm and She's Not Carrying On; Bag Ban Curbs My Enthusiasm for Shopping From Home; Disco Fries and, Authorities Say, an Iced Cap

COMMENTARY

Bag ban curbs my enthusiasm for shopping from home

Walmart and Target's out-of-bag experience packs complications into pickup.

Jessica Beym *For The Star-Ledger*



I'm a mom of two boys and always looking for ways to make my life easier. Bringing them to the grocery store is NOT one of them.

Pandemic or not, curbside pickup has been incredibly convenient — until now.

Wednesday was the first day of New Jersey's plastic bag ban, and I put shop-from-home to the test at the two stores I frequent the most. Unfortunately, these stores are the ones that seemed the most problematic because they were going completely bagless: Walmart and Target.

Both stores have grocery sections larger than 2,500 square feet, so they are banned from giving out plastic or paper bags when customers check out. Most other grocery stores we talked to said they're charging



My Walmart grocery order was wheeled out to my car and left for me to bag up on my own with my reusable bags. But there was no reminder to BYOB and no option to buy bags online ahead of time. *Jessica Beym, for The Star-Ledger*

for reusable bags with every order — either worked into the cost, tacked on as a flat fee, or a price per bag.

Even that's not ideal because the cost will surely add up: 10 bags a week, at a lower end fee of \$1 a bag could mean \$500

or more a year. With no way to exchange the bags, it will end up being nearly as wasteful as single-use plastics.

But Walmart and Target's plans are, at minimum, inconvenient if you have a big order, and at worst, not practical for anyone who has mobility issues.

Neither solution seems great and maybe grocery stores and retailers can learn from each other to come up with something better.

On the eve of the bag ban, Walmart officials told us that customers doing grocery pickup "will see app reminders to bring their reusable bags and containers to their pickup appointment for easy transfer of their items into their vehicle. Customers can also add reusable bags to their grocery purchase."

Neither of these was true. Sure, there's a message at the top of the app saying "Per state law, from 5/4 NJ goes bagless" with an option to "shop containers." But those options aren't reusable bags. Instead, I was prompted to add 18-gallon totes or a 24-inch wreath storage box set to my order. Yeah, that's not going to work.

SEE BEYM, A22

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Weekly — Sports Section Layout/Content

THIRD PLACE

Andrea Bondy

Montclair Local

Sports Feb. 24; Sept. 15

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Thursday, September 15, 2022

Send us your sports highlights!
>>> kensik@montclairlocal.news

Sports

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MHS FOOTBALL

Mounties trounce Nutley for new coach's first win

Even record at 1-1 with 38-6 victory

by EDWARD KENSIK
kensik@montclairlocal.news

Montclair senior Jahaad Williams was proudly donning the Moose Cap after the Mounties dismantled Nutley on Friday night.

Williams had a couple of sacks and a fumble recovery to help Montclair to a 38-6 victory over the Raiders in Nutley.

The win was the first this season for Montclair and also the first for first-year head coach Jermain Johnson.

"It feels great to get the monkey off our back for the coaches and the players," said Johnson, whose team is now 1-1.

It was the fumble recovery that gave Williams the Moose Cap, awarded to a Montclair player who collects a turnover. The Moose Cap is named for Montclair defensive coordinator Bill Johnson, who has the nickname "Moose."

For Williams the recovery was a little anticlimactic, but it showed that he was using his head. "I just saw the fumble and the whistle did not blow, so I just jumped on it," he said.

The fumble came in the second quarter and led to senior Gage Hammond's hitting a 37-yard field goal to make it 31-0 going into halftime for the Mounties.

For the day senior running back Samaj Adams ran for three touchdowns while senior Justin Bernal added a rushing touchdown. Bernal led the rushing game with six carries for 51 yards.

Junior quarterback Drew Pfeifer clicked with junior wide receiver David Thom-Rogers on a 65-yard touchdown strike in the second quarter.

"We wanted to come out and show everybody that we are a good



Senior running back Samaj Adams looks for running room against Nutley on Sept. 9 on the road. Adams tallied three touchdowns as the Mounties won, 38-6.

team," Adams said after the game.

The Mounties were looking to erase the previous week's 15-7 loss to rival West Orange at Montclair State University.

In that game Montclair's running attack was stymied by the Mountaineers' defense.

"We wanted to run the ball and get into the end zone," said Adams, who carried the ball eight times for 40 yards and had the three touchdowns.

The team got the win for senior running back James Valvano, who suffered what appeared to be a serious leg injury late in the game.

"We wanted to win this game for James Valvano," Adams said afterward.

As it turned out, Montclair's

opening drive was the difference, as it was capped with Bernal easily going through the middle of the Nutley defense with a 23-yard touchdown run. Hammond kicked the point after, and the Mounties never looked back.

The biggest play came in the second quarter when Pfeifer hit Thom-Rogers at the Nutley 20, and he shook off the Nutley defender and ran into the end zone. Hammond would hit the point after, and Montclair led, 21-0.

But it wasn't only the offense that contributed to the win. The Mounties' defense, led by Williams along with seniors Richard Fortune and Nelson Claremont on the line, kept Nutley backs like senior Mitchell Mainiero from piling up yards on

the ground. The only negative came late in the third quarter when Nutley junior quarterback Nick Bello hit senior wide receiver Brandon Lucia on a 32-yard touchdown pass.

See MOUNTIES, page 46

Montclair High School football schedule

(Dates and times subject to change)	
Sept. 17	Union City, 1 p.m.
Sept. 22	at Livingston, 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 1	East Orange, 2 p.m.
Oct. 8	at Irvington, 1 p.m.
Oct. 14	at Ridgewood, 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 21	Columbia, 1 p.m.

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Sports Section Layout/Content

SECOND PLACE

Phil Nardone
The Madison Eagle

Sports March 10; Sept. 29

SPORTS

newjerseyhill.com MADISON EAGLE - FLORHAM PARK EAGLE - CHATHAM COURIER Thursday, September 29, 2022 PAGE 11



Chatham High School wide receiver John Turry, far right, turns up the field after avoiding a tackle during the third quarter against Randolph on Friday, Sept. 23 in Randolph. Photo by Claudia Crea

With heavy heart, Dodgers take a victory Madison mourns death of former coach Luppino

By MARK KITCHIN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER
MADISON — The Madison High School football team had a bruising back-and-forth game against Pequanock on Friday but they did it with heavy hearts.
Running back Jayson Candelario rushed for three scores and quarterback Repton Boyer connected on a 14-yard TD pass to Robert Ferris to provide the winning for the Dodgers (9-1).
Madison players and coaches were stunned after they learned of the sudden passing of former assistant coach Vito Luppino. Some of them saw him in the stands during their 14-3 loss to Mountain Lakes the week before.
"Thursday night we kind of found out coach passed away," Madison coach Chris Kubik said. "It was a sudden thing. No one expected it. It kind of shook everyone up a little bit. He coached with me for nine years."
Luppino was an assistant on the varsity level from 2009 to 2017 often coaching running backs and linebackers. Many athletes knew him as the president of Madison Junior Football or through his coaching and many years before coached varsity football at west Windsor-Holy Spirit High School.
"He was awesome," Kubik said. "He was definitely involved. He was a big part of the community. Everyone knows who he was."
Kubik said it was a weird feeling leading up to the game. However, the team defeated the victory and rest of the season to

Cougars fall in battle of unbeaten teams

By CLAUDIA CRE
STAFF WRITER
CHATHAM — In a battle of the unbeaten, the Randolph Rams football team emerged victorious over the visiting Chatham Cougars on Friday, Sept. 23.
"Coming off a close win at East Orange the previous week, Rams Head Coach Will Nelson said it was a credit to his players that they were prepared to regroup and battle against the Cougars.
"The fact that there was a 6-0 team coming here is a huge credit to the players and staff over there," he said. "That was a tremendously skilled team. They have a ton of weapons, but

him and the players came through on Friday with a determined focused effort.
"We did what we needed to do," Kubik said. "We kind of sucked it up a little bit. Some of the guys on the team still know him and some of their brothers were still coached by him. It was a tough day for us but we responded with a great game."
The contest against Pequanock which drops to 3-2 was largely a game between two teams interested in running the ball. The Dodgers had solid performances from all their backs. However, Candelario, who has a hard running style, was inspired. It was one of his best games since adding a team ACL and loss to Mountain Lakes last week before.
"The Old Candelario" "He had a couple of short runs when he just powered into the end zone," Kubik said. "The way he ran Friday night he looked like the old Candelario. It's tough. You are playing some good teams early on and it had to get a feel for where you are at. We have to look to give him a shot to do what he does as well."
Madison also had a key run play from Dante Ems who converted on a fourth-and-10 to keep a key drive going. The change of pace back gives the Dodgers another weapon in the back field.
"We game it to Dante Ems and he made a terrific run and he got a first down," Kubik said. "Greg Randall was great. (Anthony) Conte drove with big runs."
Pequanock scored on its second possession of the game and took an early 14-0 lead. Madison rallied to tie the game and took the lead.

Chatham falls to unbeaten Mt. Lakes

By JERRY DEL PIVRE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER
CHATHAM — It was a battle between two undefeated field hockey teams Chatham and Mountain Lakes to determine who would stay perfect early in the season.
The Lakers (7-0) used 11 new from Freshman goalie Arriana Fragomeni and a marker space from sophomore Kaylin Ory and junior Emma Baldi and Hannah Lee, with two assists from senior Claudia Florenzo, to spend the Cougars 3-1. Senior mariner on Senior Day at Hans Field in Chatham.
Things began well for Chatham (2-1), with senior Brooke Dillane finding the

Calvin Buckley said of Fragomeni's impressive performance against Chatham. "It's good to have a freshman step right in and not miss a beat. Her sister, Raphaela, was the starting goalie for us last year, and was great for us. But she was a big factor in the win for us today."
Cougars head coach Kathleen Layden concurred with Buckley on Fragomeni's amazing play between the pipes, while Fragomeni whose sister Raphaela starred in net for the Lakers with 200 career saves and is now at Division I Lafayette, without constant pressure from the veteran Cougars offense.
"She was awesome today," Lakers head coach

Chatham High School's Maddie Engelhardt sends a pass through an opening between Mountain Lakes defenders on Saturday, Sept. 24, in Chatham. Mountain Lakes won, 3-1. Photo by Glenn Clark

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly — Sports Section Layout/Content

FIRST PLACE

Phil Nardone

Bob Decker

The Citizen of Morris County

Sports Sept. 28; Nov. 16



Mountain Lakes High School goalie Julia Peterson holds up the trophy and celebrates with her teammates after the Lakers defeated Point Pleasant Beach, 5-1, to win the Group 1 state championship Saturday at Kean University in Union. Photos by Ed Ruying

STATE CHAMPIONS

Mountain Lakes soccer girls win Group 1 championship with 5-1 victory

PHOTOS ONLINE
For more photos from Mountain Lakes High School's Group 1 championship, please visit us online at demille.ctizen.com.

By AMIT BATRA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

MOUNTAIN LAKES - The Mountain Lakes High School girls soccer team had a never-ending run in the Group 1 state final Saturday, Nov. 12, at Kean University in Union. Last year, the program came just short of winning the title, falling to Shrew in the title game in an overtime thriller. This time it was about seizing the opportunity. Mountain Lakes did just that in a 5-1 victory over Point Pleasant Beach in the Group 1 final.

The team started early and set the tone and scored three first-half goals. Elliana Caporusso and Abigail Hawes scored two goals apiece. Sydney Sater also scored. Daria Duda had three assists and Mountain Lakes' Sydney Roy made 12 saves in net.

Duda is three assists and a state record.

"Through the state run of games, we embraced our opponents 20%, most of which was done in the first half of each game," said Mountain Lakes head coach Sean Maurizi. "We have had success with early goals all seasons, but have sometimes struggled to keep the lead, even losing a game after a strong lead. We knew we had to create a strong and play smart to keep the lead."

It was a sweet feeling for Mountain Lakes after having a two-goal lead disappear against Shrew in last year's 6-



Lindsay Weiner of Mountain Lakes High School goes airborne after the second goal was scored in the first period Saturday. Mountain Lakes defeated Point Pleasant Beach, 5-1, to win the Group 1 Championship at Kean University.



Mountain Lakes High School coaches Sean Maurizi and Jena Lee look at the scoreboard ticks off the seconds of Saturday's Group 1 championship game. Mountain Lakes defeated Point Pleasant Beach 5-1, to win the girls Group 1 Championship at Kean University.



Far left: Elliana Caporusso, right: Mountain Lakes High School and Point Pleasant Beach defender get tangled up in the first half in the Group 1 championship game Saturday at Kean University in Union. Left: Maya Ritchie, left, of Mountain Lakes High School, and Point Pleasant Beach's Lilly Hesse battle for the ball. Mountain Lakes won the Group 1 championship, 5-1.

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

Editorial Awards

Weekly

Packaging the News
SPECIAL ISSUE

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

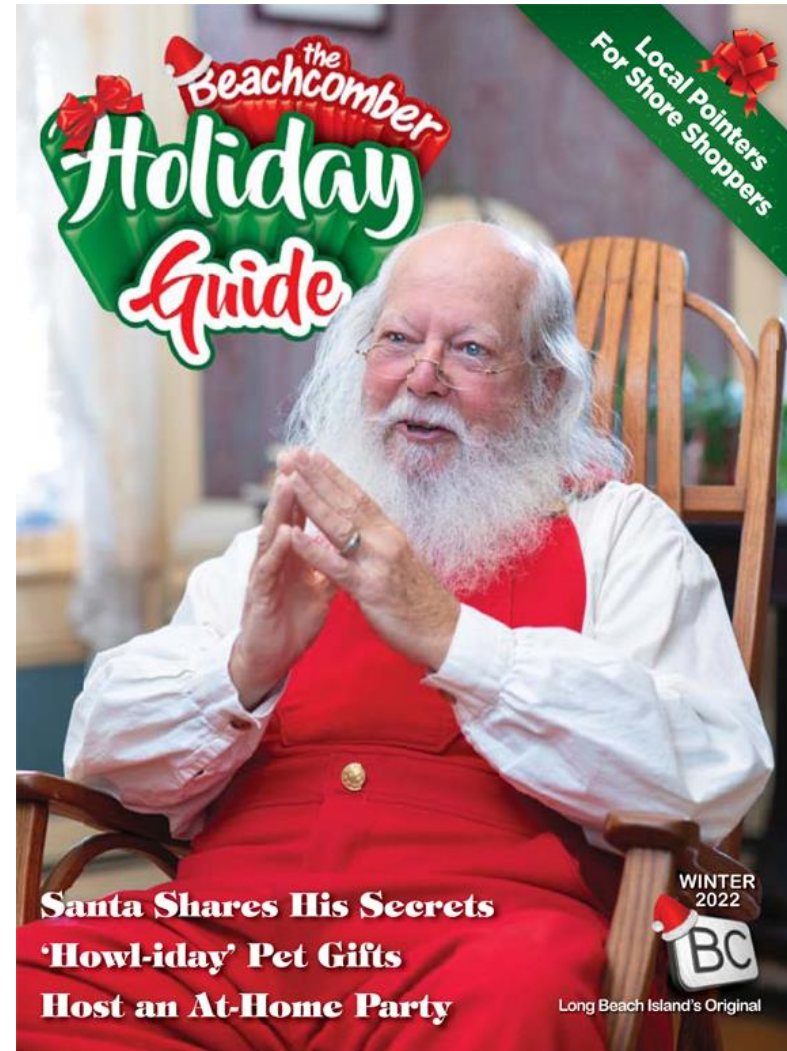
Weekly — Special Issue

THIRD PLACE

Staff

The SandPaper

The Beachcomber
Holiday Guide



Weekly — Special Issue

SECOND PLACE

David Nahan, Rachel
Shubin, Sam Hutchins,
Craig D. Schenck

Ocean City Sentinel

10-Year Anniversary
Of Hurricane Sandy



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

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NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Weekly — Special Issue

FIRST PLACE

Philip Nardone

The Bernardsville News

Football 2022



**PRIZE
TIME!!**

**ONLINE
RESULTS**

Online Awards

Daily – Under 20,000

BEST WEB PROJECT

Daily Under 20,000 — Best Web Project

SECOND PLACE

Nick Falsone
Kathleen Parrish
The Express-Times

Voices of the Lehigh Valley's
LGBTQ Community

News

Valley's LGBTQ find unique ways to fill void left by closure of Stonewall, other gay bars

Updated: Jun. 27, 2022, 11:30 a.m. | Published: Jun. 27, 2022, 7:01 a.m.



By [Lehighvalleylive.com Staff](#)

Editor's Note: The following is part of a series on LGBTQ issues in the Lehigh Valley that coincides with Pride Month. [Lehighvalleylive.com](#) and a Lafayette College journalism class collaborated on the series, which was made possible through a Journalism for Underheard Stories grant from the University of Wisconsin and Cortico's Local Voices Network. [Read more about the series here.](#)



Drag performer Enigma entertains guests at Sports & Social. The Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center kicked off Pride Month 2022 with its monthly Werk It Wednesday event at Sports & Social in Allentown on Wednesday, June 1, 2022. Donna Fisher | [lehighvalleylive.com](#) contributor Donna Fisher | [lehighvalleylive.com](#)

By **Sabrina Sicilia**

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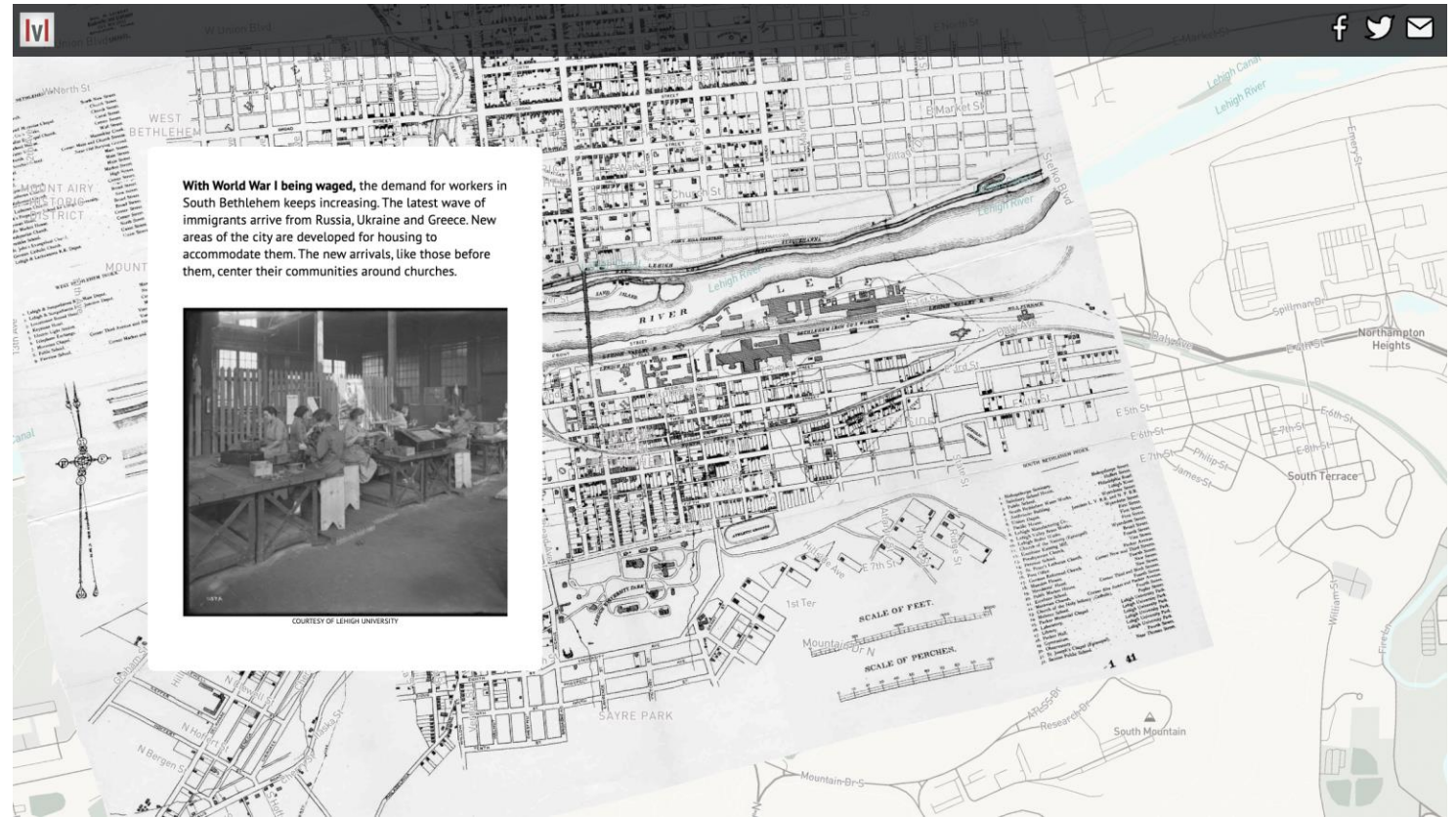
FIRST PLACE

Sara K. Satullo

Nick Falson

The Express-Times

Built to Last,
Bought to Bulldoze



Online Awards

Daily – Over 20,000

BEST WEB PROJECT

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Best Web Project

THIRD PLACE

Staff

Asbury Park Press

My Hometown: Tour the Jersey Shore Spots that Bruce Springsteen Made Famous

'MY HOMETOWN'

In honor of Springsteen's birthday, join us for a tour around the Jersey Shore to discover sites that shaped his career

'H'appy Birthday, Bruce Springsteen! To celebrate the Boss turning 73, the Asbury Park Press created "My Hometown," a tour of 13 Monmouth County spots that helped shape his career – and that he made famous. • There's the Stone Pony, Madam Marie's, Jersey Freeze – and some places you may not know about. • You can see many of the sites today in Life, but you can see all the stories, photos, galleries, videos and an interactive map on [app.com](#). • Whether you are a serious fan or a casual listener, we think you'll have as much fun exploring the project as we had putting it together. • So take some time and immerse yourself in the local environment, from nightclubs to beaches to hot dog eateries. • This is the Jersey Shore world of Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band. • The fun begins on [Page W1](#).

Sabrina Castello, granddaughter of Madam Marie, talks about her grandmother's first meeting with Bruce Springsteen at Madam Marie's in Asbury Park. TANVA BREEN/ASBURY PARK PRESS

TOP: Mike Ness of Social Distortion fame is joined by Springsteen at the Stone Pony in May 2008. ASBURY PARK PRESS ARCHIVES

LEFT: The Upstage Club in Asbury Park played a large roll in Springsteen's career. DOUG HOOD/ASBURY PARK PRESS

urged to keep Columbus Day holiday

Toms River leaders say move to shorten year, not end lessons

Jean Mikle
Asbury Park Press
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

TOMS RIVER – No, Toms River Regional leaders insist, they are not "canceling" Columbus Day by removing it as a holiday from this year's school district calendar.

Leaders of some Italian-American organizations have strongly criticized the move, even after being told by Superintendent Mike Citta that lessons about Christopher Columbus and Italian heritage will continue to be taught in district classrooms.

They say that eliminating the holiday for students helps feed the growing nationwide controversy that has surrounded the commemoration of the day in 1492 that explorer Christopher Columbus made landfall in the "New World."

Andre' DiMino of Brick, communications director for the Italian-American One Voice Coalition, said the district "said goodbye to Columbus," sending a message that Columbus Day is "out" in Toms River schools. The coalition includes nearly 40 organizations, he said.

See [COLUMBUS DAY](#), Page 5A

Pants undone, heroin suspect's appearance led cops to his arrest

Kathleen Hopkins
Asbury Park Press
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

FREEHOLD – As flames consumed a 6,000-square-foot home on Winnapecko Drive in Ocean Township the morning of Sept. 12, 2019, detectives had one clue to the possible whereabouts of the woman unaccounted for in the blaze.

Jacqueline Terrulli's phone pinged off a cell tower some 60 miles away in Paterson around 9 a.m. that day, sending detectives to North Jersey to drive around looking for her white Jeep Cherokee, Ocean Township police Sgt. Jesse Orbach told a jury Thursday in the trial of Ronald Teschner, the man now accused of murdering Terrulli, burying her in her backyard, setting her house on fire and fleeing in her car.

Late in the day, Orbach, then a detective, and Ocean Township Detective Michael Legg grabbed some White Castle to eat on the car ride up to Paterson to look for the missing woman's Jeep, Orbach said.

See [SUSPECT](#), Page 2A

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Best Web Project

SECOND PLACE

**Adam Clark, Andre
Malok, Michael
Mancuso, Carl Roberts**

The Star-Ledger

The Rise and Fall of
The Jersey Seagull



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Over 20,000 — Best Web Project

FIRST PLACE

Staff

The Star-Ledger

The Pay Check



THE 
PAY
CHECK

Online Awards

Weekly

BREAKING NEWS

SPORTS STORY

Weekly Online — Breaking News Sports Story

SECOND PLACE

David Biggy
The SandPaper

Southern Regional Clamps Down in Fourth Quarter to Win Second Straight Sectional Crown

The screenshot shows a news article on the website 'The SandPaper'. The article title is 'Southern Regional Clamps Down in Fourth Quarter to Win Second Straight Sectional Crown'. The author is David Biggy. The article includes a photo of the Southern Regional boys lacrosse team celebrating their victory. The article text describes how the Rams defeated Lenape 7-4 in the NJSIAA South Jersey Group IV final on May 28. A quote from Jack Kolbe is included, along with a paragraph about the team's performance and a mention of their previous success. The article is dated May 28, 2022. The website header includes a menu icon, the logo 'The SandPaper', and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram. The right sidebar contains three advertisements: Riviera Realty, Coastal Living Real Estate Group, and Key Harbor Marina.

Menu ☰ **The SandPaper** f t y i

Southern Regional Clamps Down in Fourth Quarter to Win Second Straight Sectional Crown

NJSIAA Boys Lacrosse
May 28, 2022
By David Biggy

f t e s +

AT THE TOP: For a second straight year, the Southern Regional boys lacrosse team shows off its championship trophy after beating Lenape, 7-4, in the NJSIAA South Jersey Group IV final on May 28. (Photos by David Biggy)

Prior to this year, Jack Kolbe had always hoped to be a part of a boys lacrosse squad good enough to win a state sectional championship. Upon transferring to Southern Regional from Robbinsville, Kolbe received his wish. After all, the Rams were the defending NJSIAA South Jersey Group IV champs.

"When I moved here, the only thing these guys talked about was winning this game again, and if we didn't accomplish our goal this season would be a failure," said Kolbe, who ultimately scored the game-winning goal with 27 seconds left in the third quarter as top-seeded Southern went on to defeat Lenape, 7-4, to secure a second straight sectional title on May 28. "For me, it's been a goal of mine throughout my high school career, so it was finally nice to get that checked off my list."

However, Kolbe and the other 18 seniors in the program – most of whom were part of last year's team that dominated Monroe to win Southern's third sectional title – had some checking of a different kind to do at halftime of Saturday's clash with the Indians, the section's third seed.

After the Rams (16-3) took a 2-0 lead into the second quarter, thanks to goals by Zach Washco with 3:22 left in the first and Ryan Sininsky's only goal with 12 seconds to go in the period, Lenape started to turn the momentum a bit. Kolbe hit the post with a shot just over two minutes into the quarter, but the Indians controlled a vast majority of the possession time and eventually broke through the Rams' defense for a pair of goals during the final four minutes of the period, tying the game, 2-2, by halftime.

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2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Online — Breaking News Sports Story

FIRST PLACE

David Biggy
The SandPaper

Barnegat Girls Bowling Squad
Captures School's Third
Sectional Championship

The screenshot shows a news article on the website 'The SandPaper'. The article title is 'Barnegat Girls Bowling Squad Captures School's Third Sectional Championship' with a 'Free Access' tag. The author is David Biggy, dated February 05, 2022. The article includes a photo of the girls' bowling team holding a trophy and a quote from coach Jon Gordon. The article text describes the team's victory at the NJSIAA South Jersey Group II championship. On the right side of the page, there are three advertisements: a real estate agency for Haven Beach, NJ; Van Dyk Insurance Services offering flood insurance; and Coldwell Banker Riviera Realty, Inc. At the bottom right, there is a calculator for rental costs.

Menu ☰ **THE SANDPAPER** f t v i

Barnegat Girls Bowling Squad Captures School's Third Sectional Championship Free Access

NJSIAA Girls Bowling
February 05, 2022
By DAVID BIGGY

f t e u +

THIRD ONE IN HAND: The Barnegat girls bowling team gathers around the NJSIAA South Jersey Group II trophy on Feb. 5. The Bengals tallied 2,398 pins at 30 Strikes Lanes in Stratford to become the third team in school history to win a sectional championship. (Photo courtesy of Jon Gordon)

Last week, Barnegat High School girls bowling coach Jon Gordon sent a photo to the young women on his squad.

"Every time I walk into the gym, I see the banner for when the boys swim team won a sectional title and now there's the volleyball banner from when the girls' team won in the fall," he said Saturday, Feb. 5, after the Bengals knocked down 2,398 pins to capture the NJSIAA South Jersey Group II championship at 30 Strikes Lanes in Stratford. "I knew this team had a chance to do it, so I sent them a picture with the blank space next to those banners and told them, 'We're next!' And now we are."

Behind big efforts from senior Madison Kubicz and junior Summer Burkle – both of whom qualified for the individual state tournament later this month with 558 and 508 series, respectively – the girls bowling team became the third squad in school history to snatch a sectional trophy.

Emily Cherry's boys swim team secured the first in 2019 and Karla Jennings' girls volleyball team won the second one this past fall. Interestingly, sophomore Tara Charland, part of the girls volleyball team during November's title run, rolled a 461 series to help the bowling team win its championship, becoming the first athlete in school history to be a part of two sectional championship squads.

"I'm still kind of in shock about that," Charland said. "It really hasn't set in yet, but it'll probably hit me later today. I just know I never would have been in this position without the rest of my teammates. It's really awesome."

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Daily – Under 20,000

BEST VIDEO

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NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — Best Video

THIRD PLACE

Chris LaChall

Courier-Post

Moorestown Freshman DJ
with Autism Provides Music,
Inspiration to School's
Basketball Team



Daily Under 20,000 — Best Video

SECOND PLACE

Chris LaChall

Courier-Post

VETMOTO Nonprofit Teaches
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2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Under 20,000 — Best Video

FIRST PLACE

Saed Hindash

The Express-Times

Lehigh Valley Pound 4 Pound Boxing is Giving Kids a Fighting Chance to Stay Off the Streets



Search



Lehigh Valley Pound 4 Pound Boxing is giving kids a fighting chance to stay off the streets

Online Awards

Daily – Over 20,000

BEST VIDEO

Daily Over 20,000 — Best Video

THIRD PLACE

Chris Pedota

The Record (Bergen)

Exxon Executive Kidnapping

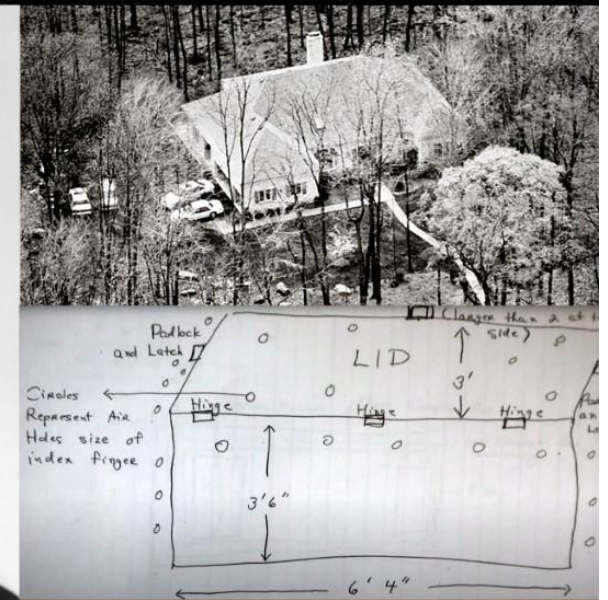
Reso reported kidnapped

'Terrorists' take credit for Exxon ransom try

By **CHRISTINE FEDERICO**
Daily Record

Speculation has intensified that environmental terrorists have kidnapped Exxon executive Sidney Reso.

A group calling itself the Rain-



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Best Video

SECOND PLACE

Michael Karas

The Record (Bergen)

Targeting Retaliation



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Over 20,000 — Best Video

FIRST PLACE

Brian Johnston

Doug Hood

Thomas P. Costello

Asbury Park Press

Documentary: Roadside Memorials in New Jersey and Why People Make Them

The screenshot shows a mobile news application interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with categories like Sports, Monmouth, Ocean, USA TODAY, Obituaries, eNewspaper, Legals, and a search icon. The main content area features a video player with a man in a black hoodie and sunglasses standing in front of a roadside memorial. The video title is "Documentary: Roadside memorials in New Jersey and why people make them". Below the video, there's a brief description: "Brian Johnston looks at why people make roadside memorials for victims of auto accidents and explores some of their stories in this documentary film." The author is listed as "Brian Johnston, Asbury Park Press" and the publication date is "Published 5:02 a.m. ET May 19, 2022 | Updated 2:13 p.m. ET May 19, 2022". To the right of the video player, there are three article teasers with play buttons and titles: "Bring your infant to work? For a Neptune employer, it's encouraged MONEY", "Adventure Golf & Entertainment opens to the public MONEY", and "Man charged in Oceanport murder released from jail NEWS". At the bottom right, there's an advertisement for WynnBET Casino & Sportsbook.

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Online Awards

Weekly

BEST VIDEO

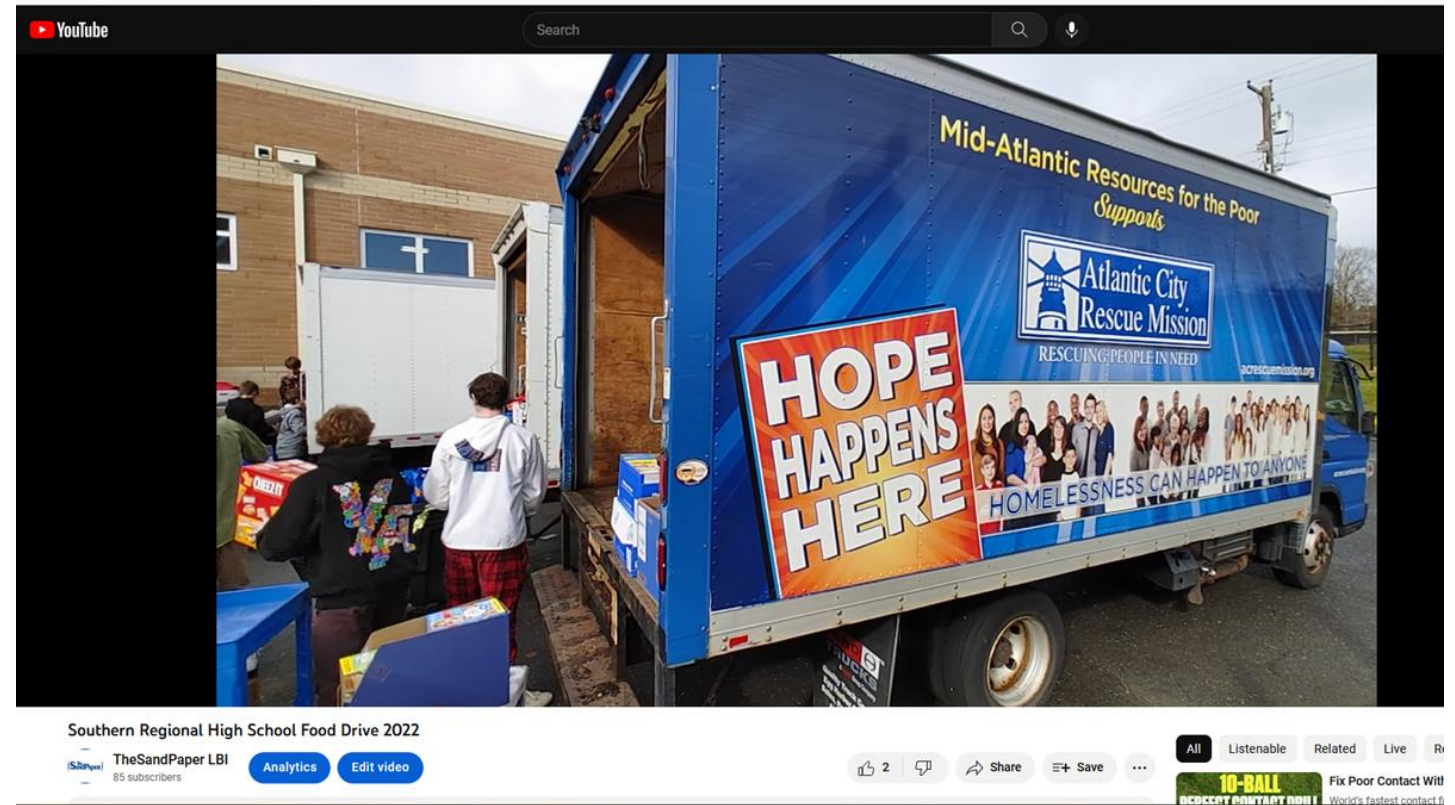
2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Online — Best Video

SECOND PLACE

David Biggy
The SandPaper

Southern Regional
Food Drive 2022



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Weekly Online — Best Video

FIRST PLACE

David Biggy
The SandPaper

Southern Regional Memorial
Day Field of Flags 2022

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SRHS Memorial Day Field of Flags 2022

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Online Awards

Daily – Under 20,000

ONLINE BREAKING NEWS

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

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NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — Online Breaking News

SECOND PLACE

Sarah Cassi

Tony Rhodin

Kurt Bresswein

The Express-Times

Mass-Casualty Incident
At Charter School

NJPA

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Under 20,000 — Online Breaking News

FIRST PLACE

**Sarah Cassi, Steve
Novak, Tony Rhodin,
Nick Falsone**

The Express-Times

Shooting a Musikfest

NJPA

Online Awards

Daily – Over 20,000

ONLINE BREAKING NEWS

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Online Breaking News

THIRD PLACE

Nicholas Katzban

Kristie Cattafi

The Record (Bergen)

American Dream
Mall Shooting

NJPA

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

Daily Over 20,000 — Online Breaking News

SECOND PLACE

Eric Conklin

The Press of Atlantic City

Investigation Into
Police-Involved Shooting
In Absecon Continues

The screenshot shows the top portion of a news article on the website 'THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY'. The page features a dark header with a search bar, navigation links (E-Edition, News, Obituaries, Opinion, Sports, Entertainment, Lifestyles, Jobs), and a weather widget showing '50° Partly Cloudy'. A red banner at the top reads 'JUST IN Microsoft cuts 10,000 jobs, about 5% of global workforce'. The main headline is 'Investigation into police-involved shooting in Absecon continues' by Eric Conklin, dated May 25, 2022. Below the headline is a photograph of a Dollar General store in Absecon with police officers and yellow crime scene tape. A caption below the photo reads: 'Police work the scene of the Dollar General in Absecon after a shooting there Tuesday morning. Edward Lea'.

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Online Breaking News

FIRST PLACE

**Scott Fallon, Gene
Myers, Katie Sobko,
Steve Janoski**

The Record (Bergen)

Qualco Fire Coverage

NJPA

Online Awards

Weekly

**BREAKING
NEWS STORY**

Weekly Online — Breaking News Story

SECOND PLACE

Gina G. Scala
Juliet Kaszas-Hoch
The SandPaper

Board Votes to Sell LBI Grade School to Local Architect For \$14 Million



The screenshot shows a news article from 'The SandPaper'. The title is 'Board Votes to Sell LBI Grade School to Local Architect for \$14 Million'. It includes a 'Free Access' badge, the date 'September 20, 2022', and the authors 'Gina G. Scala and Juliet Kaszas-Hoch'. There are social media sharing icons for Facebook, Twitter, Email, Print, and a plus sign. The article features a photo of a public meeting in a media center. The text of the article describes the board's decision to sell the school and property to Michael Pagnotta for \$14 million. A quote from Board President Colette Southwick is included, along with a 'DECISION' section and a caption for the photo.

Board Votes to Sell LBI Grade School to Local Architect for \$14 Million

Free Access

September 20, 2022

By Gina G. Scala and Juliet Kaszas-Hoch

f t e p +



DECISION: It was a full house at the Sept. 20 Long Beach Island Consolidated Board of Education meeting as members of the public showed up to learn more about the sale of the LBI School to architect Michael Pagnotta. (Photo by Juliet Kaszas-Hoch)

Sitting in the media center of the LBI Grade School at its Sept. 20 meeting, the Long Beach Island Consolidated Board of Education agreed to sell the school and its property in Ship Bottom to Michael Pagnotta for just over \$14 million.

"I am pleased to announce that the district is taking a step forward towards the consolidation and improvement of our school facilities," Board President Colette Southwick said. "After reviewing and evaluating the effort to consolidate the schools into one building to meet the needs of our student population, both present and future, on Tuesday, the board adopted a resolution to approve the sale of the Long Beach Island School to Pagnotta Architecture. This resolution was the hard work of previous boards of education going back to 2010 when the first feasibility study was completed."

She cautioned the resolution is only one step, noting there are still many obstacles the board faces before the building finally could be sold. Among those challenges, Southwick said, are numerous

approvals from local officials in order for the property to be able to be developed.

Weekly Online — Breaking News Story

FIRST PLACE

David Biggy
The SandPaper

John Kaszuba Lived to Build Up Southern Regional Community And Everybody In It

The screenshot shows a news article from 'The SandPaper'. The title is 'John Kaszuba Lived to Build Up Southern Regional Community and Everybody in It' with a 'Free Access' badge. The byline is 'By David Biggy' and the date is 'November 04, 2022'. Below the byline are social media sharing icons for Facebook, Twitter, Email, Print, RSS, and a plus sign. The main image shows three people at an event: John Kaszuba Sr. on the left, former student Connor Morgan in the middle, and Southern teacher Leaha Lukas on the right. The caption reads: 'FOREVER A RAM: When it was time to celebrate John Kaszuba's retirement in 2021, former student Connor Morgan had to be part of the sendoff, along with Southern teacher Leaha Lukas. (Supplied Photos)'. The article text begins with: 'A few minutes before leaving his office amid the Southern News Network studio to head to the auditorium on June 17, 2021, for the last staff appreciation ceremony he'd have to attend, John Kaszuba Sr. talked about some of the students he had taught while at Southern Regional High School and how proud he was of them.' A quote follows: '"The most rewarding part of teaching here at Southern has been to see our kids go out into the field," said Kaszuba, who two weeks later retired from the district after 10 years of service as a TV production, film-making and broadcast instructor. "It's a really nice thing to hear a former student say, 'I wouldn't have taken this career path if it wasn't for you.' The industry is tough, and we have some kids just scratching the surface, but if they stay in it, some of them are going to do some big things. To have been a part of their development is something I cherish."' Another quote is attributed to Jimmy Ward: 'Jimmy Ward was one of the students Kaszuba was talking about. "No matter what your dream was, he was your cheerleader, somebody who always encouraged you to dream big, and it was easy to draw confidence from him," said Ward, a 2015 Southern graduate now working in Los Angeles as a TV producer for Warner Bros., who took time on Friday, Nov. 4 to talk about Kaszuba, who passed away Wednesday, Nov. 2, at age 63.'

Warner Bros., who took time on Friday, Nov. 4 to talk about Kaszuba, who passed away Wednesday, Nov. 2, at age 63.

Online Awards

Daily – Over 20,000

BEST VIDEO PORTFOLIO

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

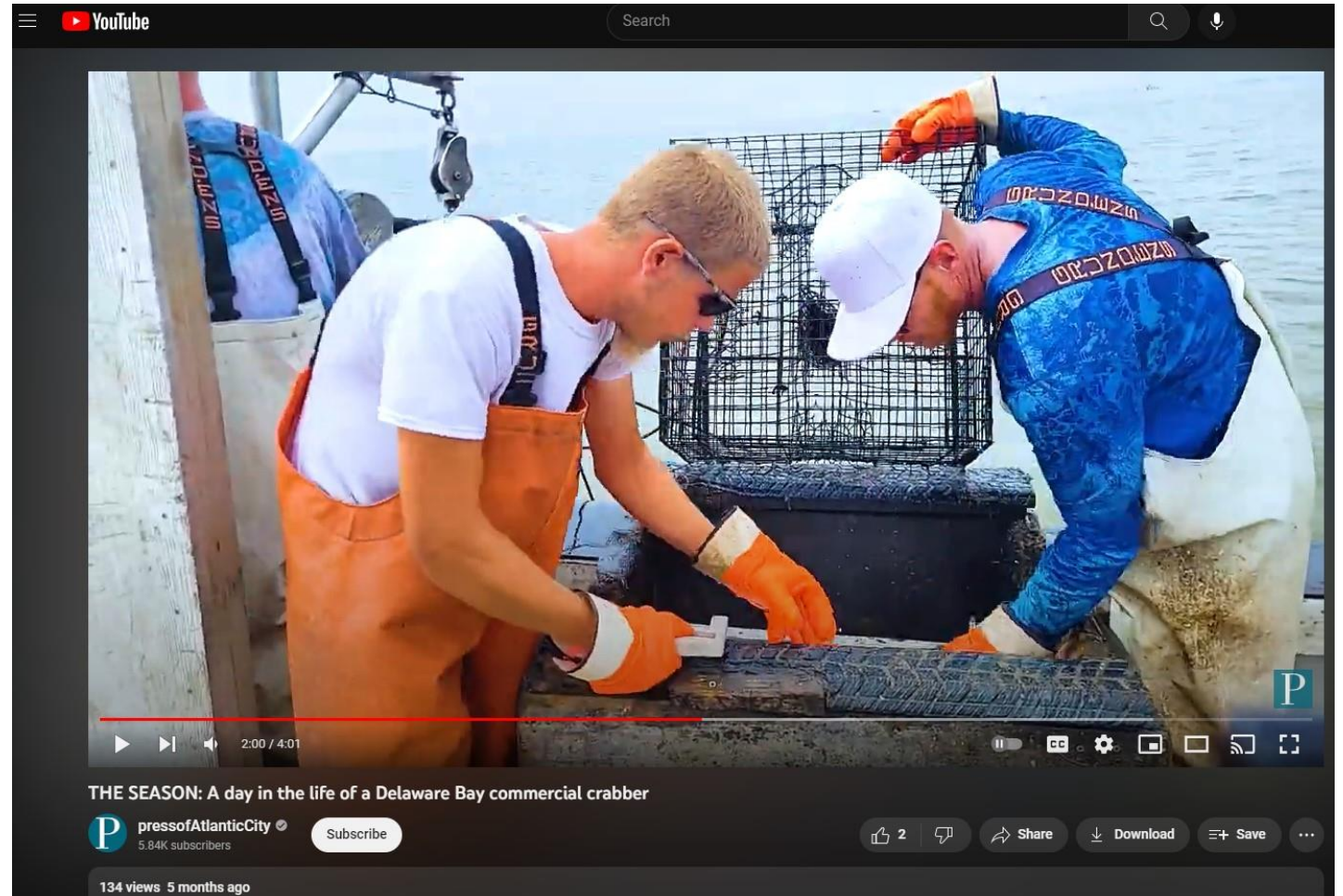
Daily Over 20,000 — Best Video Portfolio

THIRD PLACE

Joe Martucci

The Press of Atlantic City

The Season



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Best Video Portfolio

SECOND PLACE

Andre Malok
The Star-Ledger

Portfolio



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

Daily Over 20,000 — Best Video Portfolio

FIRST PLACE

Michael Karas

The Record (Bergen)

Portfolio



Online Awards

Daily – Over 20,000

BEST AUDIO PORTFOLIO

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

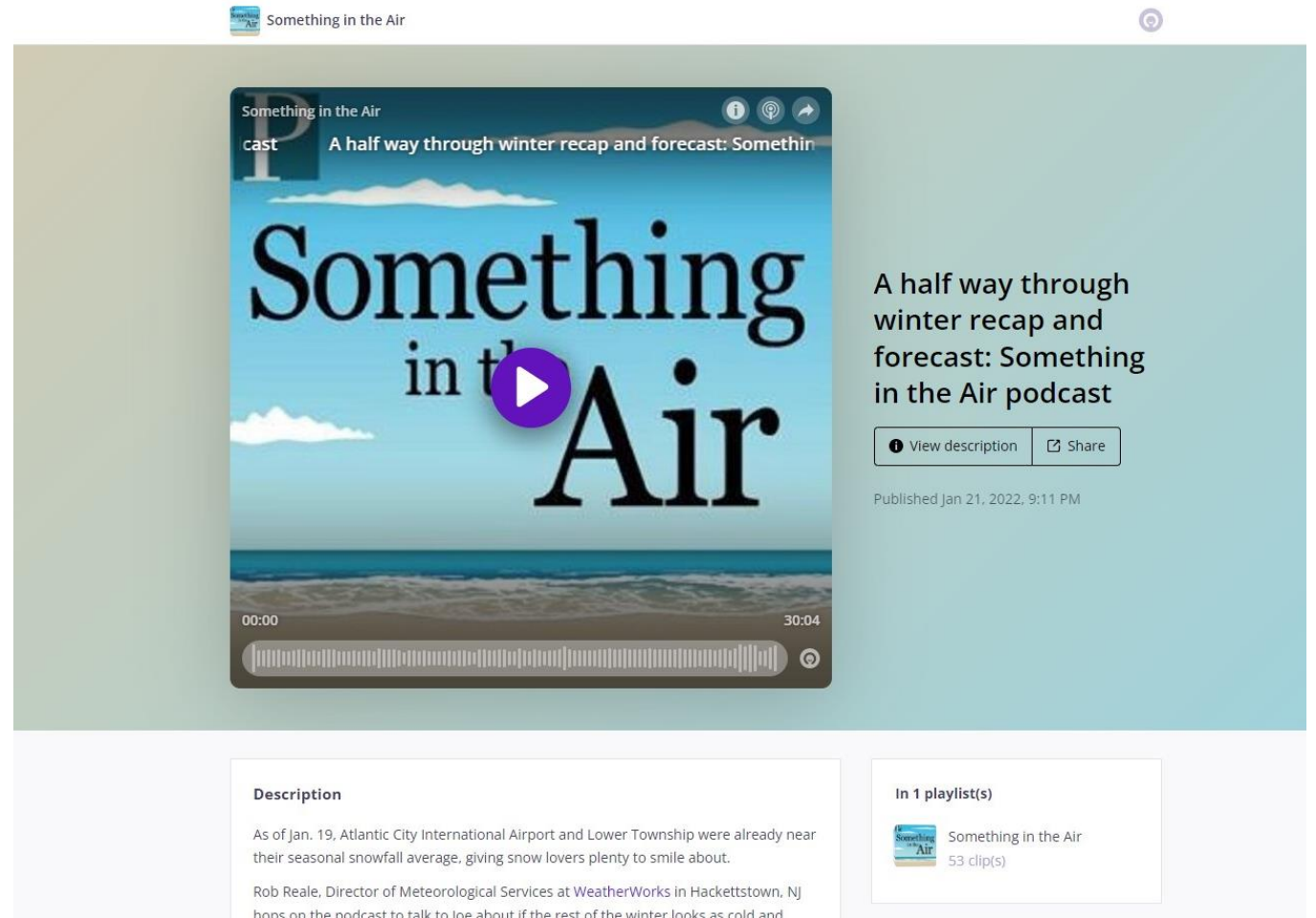
Daily Over 20,000 — Best Audio Portfolio

THIRD PLACE

**Mott Holiner, Kirsten
Lang, Sean Sublette,
Joe Martucci**

The Press of Atlantic City

Across the Sky Podcast



The screenshot shows a podcast player interface for 'Something in the Air'. The main visual is a cover image with the text 'Something in the Air' and a play button. To the right of the player, there is a description: 'A half way through winter recap and forecast: Something in the Air podcast'. Below the description are buttons for 'View description' and 'Share'. The publication date is 'Published Jan 21, 2022, 9:11 PM'. At the bottom, there is a 'Description' section with text about Atlantic City International Airport and Lower Township, and a 'In 1 playlist(s)' section showing the podcast in a playlist with 53 clips.

Description

As of Jan. 19, Atlantic City International Airport and Lower Township were already near their seasonal snowfall average, giving snow lovers plenty to smile about.

Rob Reale, Director of Meteorological Services at WeatherWorks in Hackettstown, NJ hops on the podcast to talk to Joe about if the rest of the winter looks as cold and

In 1 playlist(s)

Something in the Air
53 clip(s)

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

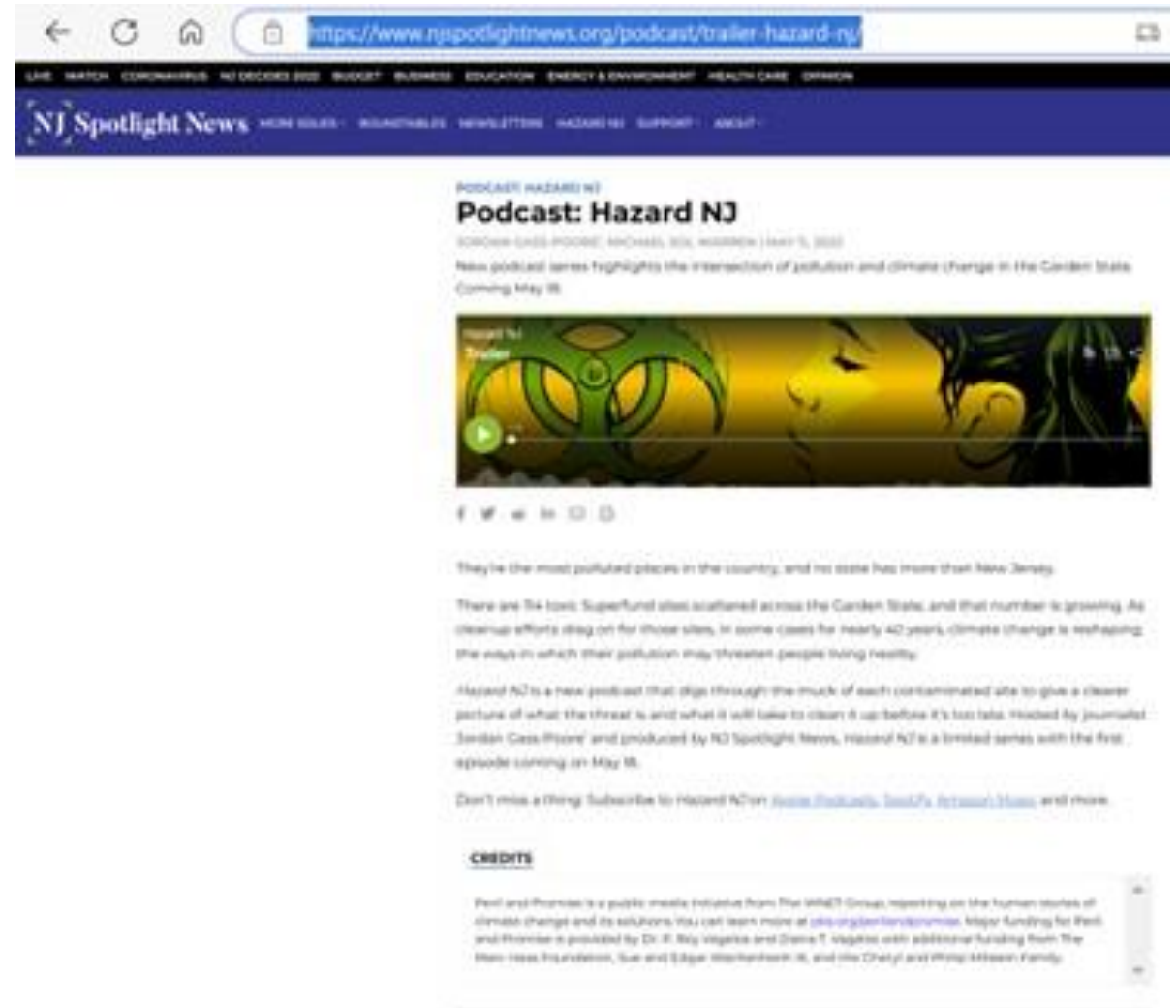
Daily Over 20,000 — Best Audio Portfolio

SECOND PLACE

Jordan Gass-Poore,
Michael Sol Warren,
James Kraft, Chris Pandza

NJ Spotlight News

Hazard NJ Podcast



2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

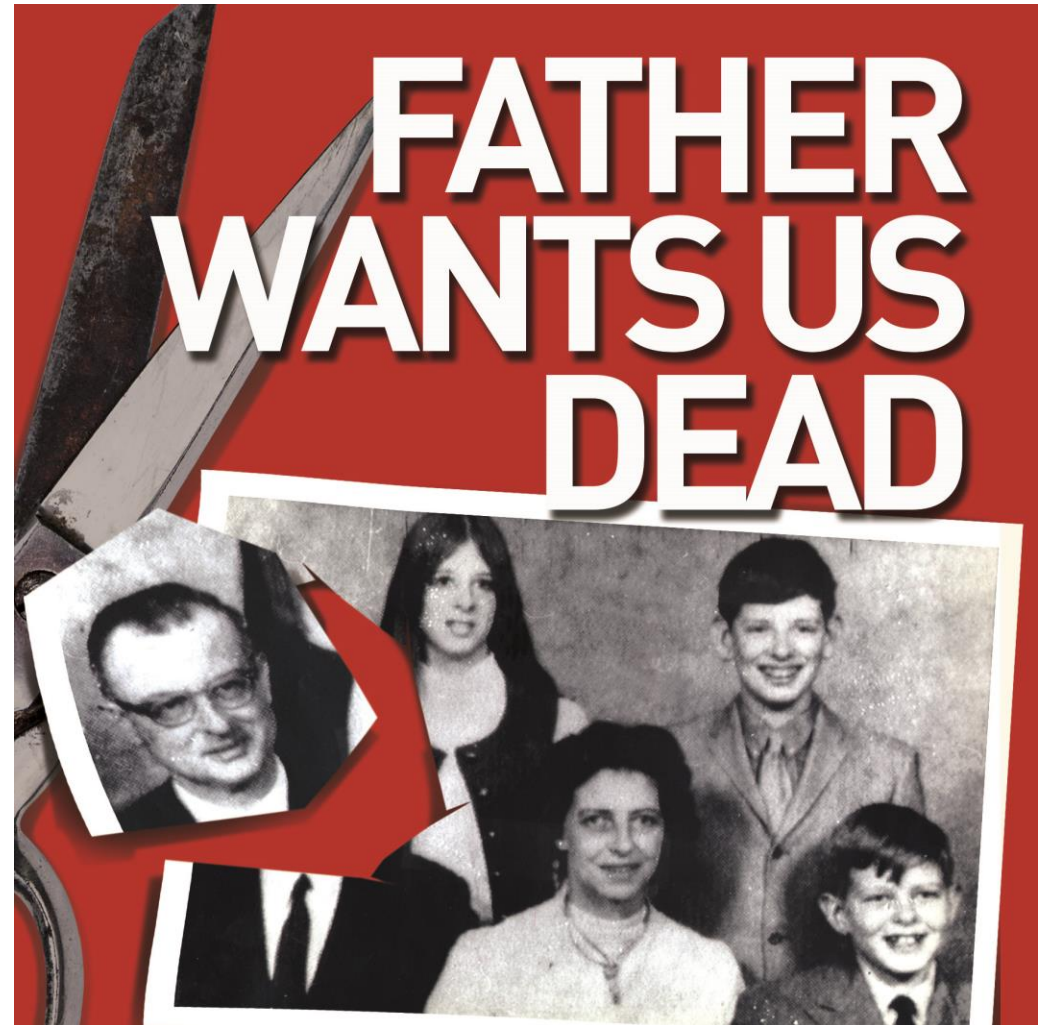
Daily Over 20,000 — Best Audio Portfolio

FIRST PLACE

Rebecca Everett
Jessica Remo

The Star-Ledger

Father Wants Us Dead



- **At this time, I would like to ask President Brett Ainsworth, to come up and continue with the editorial awards presentation.**

2022 Better Newspaper Contest

NJPA
NEW JERSEY PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Big Finale

GENERAL

EXCELLENCE

The Big Finale

Daily General Excellence Criteria

Two General Excellence winners are awarded – one in each circulation division.

This year, winners are chosen by tallying points based on each award won in the following Editorial and Online categories: Public Service, Enterprise, First Amendment, Breaking News, News Writing Portfolio, Specialty Portfolio, Features Portfolio, Sports Portfolio, Scholastic Sports, Business, News Column, Best Video, Best Online Breaking News and Best Video Portfolio, as well as all photography categories. First place earns three points. Second place receives two points. Third place gets one point.

The newspaper with the most cumulative points in each circulation division wins the award.

Weekly General Excellence Criteria

The weekly General Excellence winner is awarded according to which newspaper receives the highest cumulative total for first-, second- and third-place awards in all categories, including photography.

First place earns three points. Second place receives two points. Third place gets one point.

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Daily – Under 20,000



GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Daily – Under 20,000

The Express-Times



GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Daily – Over 20,000



GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Daily – Over 20,000

The Star-Ledger



GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Weekly



**GENERAL
EXCELLENCE**

Weekly

The SandPaper



**PRIZE
TIME!!**

**PRIZE
TIME!!**

**Thank You
For Coming!
See You Next Year!**