

# TREE CITY, N.J.

LOCAL LIFE E1

# THE VINE ART OF TOMATO TASTING

LOCAL B1

A GANNETT NEWSPAPER

# Courier News

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2008

50 CENTS

## 3 kids hurt in day care crash

### Two hospitalized, one treated on scene

By BRANDON LAUSCH  
STAFF WRITER

**BRANCHBURG** — A Branchburg woman who, along with her husband, was touring a township day care center, lost control of her car yesterday as she was parking and veered into a fenced playground, injuring three children and one adult, police said.

A 2001 Nissan Maxima, driven by 40-year-old Trupti A. Gaonkar, tore through the fence shortly after noon at the KinderCare Learning Center on 212 Raritan Valley College Drive in the township's North Branch section, police said.

Police said Gaonkar was parking the car in the facility's lot when she lost control of the vehicle — perhaps hitting the accelerator instead of the brake — and jumped a curb into the playground as two employees watched over about 30 children.

After crashing through the white fence, the car slammed into a picnic table where two adult employees were sitting and three children were playing, Branchburg police Lt. William Halderman said.

In the immediate aftermath of the crash, police said Gaonkar's husband, 37-year-old Krishna Agasthya, and KinderCare workers instructed Gaonkar to back the car off a 7-year-old girl involved in the wreck.

The girl was flown to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick as a precaution for possible spinal injuries, police said. Halderman said the girl was able to move her arms and legs before she was airlifted to the hospital.

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Photos by BRANDON LAUSCH  
Courier News



### GALLERY

See more photos and video from the North Branch accident at [MyCentralJersey.com](http://MyCentralJersey.com)

### VIDEO EXTRA



■ Above, emergency services personnel transport a victim from the scene at KinderCare in Branchburg yesterday. At left, a Branchburg police officer talks with driver Trupti A. Gaonkar, right, and her husband Krishna Agasthya.

## Obama gets official nod

### N.J. delegation unanimous

By GREGORY J. VOLPE  
GANNETT NEW JERSEY

**DENVER** — Chanting and cheering, the country's Democrats officially nominated U.S. Sen. Barack Obama yesterday, capping a historic primary process that ended with the first black major-party presidential candidate in United States history.

Obama's nomination was made official when his chief rival, U.S. Sen. Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., asked to suspend parliamentary rules to dispense reading the delegate vote state by state. Obama was selected by acclamation shortly after Gov. Jon S. Corzine announced New Jersey's vote tally.

With a wink and a nod to the Super Bowl champion Giants, the Boss and the New Jersey attitude, Corzine announced that all 127 delegates voted for Obama, even though the state's Democrats in February had preferred Clinton.

The delegation had pretty much decided early on it would make the unified statement but hadn't made the decision official until Wednesday morning.

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GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

■ Jaladah Aslam, left, of Youngstown, Ohio, wipes tears from her eyes as Mitchell Artis, right, of Springfield, Ohio, nervously listens to N.Y. Senator Hillary Clinton speak during roll call yesterday.

### ON THE WEB

For complete convention coverage, including a "Convention Quickies" video, a blog from N.J. delegate Rashid Burney, live video stream of the action and more, visit [MyCentralJersey.com/politics](http://MyCentralJersey.com/politics)

## Millington Quarry hearing rescheduled

By LINDA SADLOUSKOS  
STAFF WRITER

### Resident: New time may reduce turnout

scheduled for 9 a.m.," Vogel said.

**BERNARDS** — The time of day at which a Superior Court judge is scheduled to hear arguments on whether to allow the township to ban potentially contaminated soil from being trucked into the Millington Quarry has been reset to 2

p.m., instead of the original 9 a.m. start scheduled for Monday, Sept. 8.

Although the day of the scheduled hearing remains the same, the shift to an afternoon session likely will reduce the number of resi-

dents attending, said Vann Vogel, one of the township residents calling for a stop to additional fill coming into the quarry off Stonehouse Road.

"We had anticipated a very large turnout when the hearing was

A mass e-mail sent out Sunday, Aug. 24, to members of Concerned Citizens for a Safe Millington Quarry urged residents to make arrangements to attend the hearing to present strong resident

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## Flemington shopping center grand opening set

By WALTER O'BRIEN  
STAFF WRITER

**FLEMINGTON** — The borough's retail presence will be even stronger when an all-new shopping center opens next month behind the Route

202/31 traffic circle.

The Shoppes at Flemington will add 113,454 square feet of street-scape-style fashion and home goods retail stores at its grand opening at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 13. The shopping center will be behind the TGI

Friday's restaurant.

Yesterday, Mayor Robert Hauck, Councilwoman Sandy Borucki, Clerk Diane Schottman, SAFE in Hunterdon Executive Director Kim Spangenberg and others did an early "hard hat" walking tour with

Mark Pottschmidt, founding partner of Columbus, Ohio builder Stanbery Development, LLC.

At the center's south end, East Tokyo Hibachi and Sushi is

See SHOPPES Page A6

■ From left to right: Kim Spangenberg, executive director of SAFE in Hunterdon, Flemington Mayor Robert Hauck, and developer MARK POTTSCHMIDT of Stanbery Development, LLC announce a gala to benefit SAFE in Hunterdon yesterday, marking the grand opening of the Shoppes in Flemington shopping center to open on Sept. 13.

WALTER O'BRIEN/Courier News

## Scarlet waves ready to roll into Rutgers housing again; festival to follow

By CHRISTINE SPARTA  
STAFF WRITER

**RUTGERS** — Rutgers University students are gearing up for the start of the academic year on Tuesday, Sept. 2, with freshmen due to arrive on Saturday, Aug. 30.

First-year and transfer stu-

dents will take part in a fall convocation on Aug. 30, at Rutgers Stadium in Piscataway. The event will welcome the new students and have musical performances from the school's marching band and the Queens Chorale singing group.

A festival will follow, includ-

ing a laser light show, laser tag and an inflatable obstacle course. The whole event should run from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Students began the ritual of moving in earlier this month.

While some students who live in places like Rockoff Hall, the apartment housing for upper-

classmen, began the move-in process on Saturday, Aug. 23, the majority of students, including many first-year students, will tote their belongings to school Aug. 30.

New Brunswick police Lieutenant J.T. Miller said that there may be more congestion

on certain streets including College Avenue, Seminary Place, George Street, Hamilton Street and Bishop Place.

Additionally, areas including Ryders Lane, and College Farm Road near the Cook and Douglas campuses might be more congested than normal, along

with River Road in Piscataway.

The Rutgers move-in guide said that students cannot move in on Monday, Sept. 1, because that is the date of the home opener between the Rutgers football team and Fresno State.

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### ON THE WEB

■ What makes your dog so special? Tell us at [MyCentralJersey.com](http://MyCentralJersey.com), and be entered to win tickets to the Somerset Patriots game Sunday.

For news updates throughout the day, visit us on the Web.  
[myCentralJersey.com](http://myCentralJersey.com)

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