



S. AMBOY COUPLE WINS GARDENING CONTEST

LOCAL B1



TREE CITY, N.J.

LOCAL LIFE D1

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2008

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"War should never be entered upon until every agency of peace has failed." — William McKinley

It's official: Barack Obama gets nod



N.J. delegation registers unanimous support

By GREGORY J. YOLPE
GANNETT NEW JERSEY

DENVER — Chanting and cheering, the country's Democrats officially nominated U.S. Sen. Barack Obama Wednesday, 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

See CONVENTION Page A7

GANNETT NEW JERSEY

Gov. Jon S. Corzine is shown on a large screen as he casts New Jersey's delegates to Barack Obama last night at the Pepsi Center in Denver, Colo., during the Democratic National Convention.

INSIDE

See more convention coverage on Pages A3, A4

ON THE WEB

For complete convention coverage, including a 'Convention Quickies' video, on-site local bloggers, live video stream of the action and more, visit MyCentralJersey.com/politics

VIDEO EXTRA



FIRE BELIEVED TO BE ACCIDENTAL



The remains of a condo unit destroyed by a fire in North Brunswick Tuesday, Aug. 26.

JOE McLAUGHLIN/INSIDIA photograph

Prayer ritual may have led to North Brunswick blaze

By JOSHUA BURD
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BRUNSWICK — A resident's praying ritual may have led to a fire that gutted most of a 24-unit condominium building Tuesday, Aug. 26, officials said yesterday.

The origin of the three-alarm blaze has been traced to a master bedroom on the lower level, where the occupant was using candles to engage in a daily prayer, police said. The cause is believed to be accidental.

Police said 18 of the building's two dozen

units were deemed uninhabitable after the blaze, which sent tall flames and black smoke billowing through the roof. The fire was reported shortly before 9 a.m. on the Dartmouth Way in Governor's Point complex.

Two police officers involved in rescues suffered smoke inhalation, while an elderly resident sustained a broken leg and possibly a broken pelvis when he jumped from his balcony. They were all taken to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.

Dozens of firefighters and police officers

were on scene as they contended with the fire for several hours. Emergency medical services personnel from North Brunswick and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital were also there to transport the injured and provided rehab for firefighters.

Relief efforts are under way to help the dozens of residents routed by the disaster.

The Red Cross of Central New Jersey has opened cases with tenants of the 17 of the 18 units that were badly damaged or destroyed in the blaze, a spokeswoman said. The 17

See RELIEF Page A7

Scarlet swarm set to hit Rutgers campuses again

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 students will take part in a fall convocation on Saturday, Aug. 30, at Rutgers Stadium in Piscataway. The event will wel-

come the new students and have musical performances from the school's marching band and the Queens Chorale singing group.

A festival will follow, including a laser light show, laser tag and an inflatable obstacle course. The whole event should run from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

See RUTGERS Page A2

Councilman off to Iraq for 4th tour

By SHARI GARRETSOHN
STAFF WRITER

SOUTH AMBOY — Third Ward Councilman Jack O'Connell is on his way to Iraq. Again.

This will be O'Connell's fourth tour of duty as part of U.S. military involvement in Iraq. A lieutenant colonel in the Air Force reserve, this time he is deploying to Baghdad to serve as a policy advisor on the staff of Commanding General David Petraeus, the U.S. commander of multi-national



See COUNCILMAN Page A7 O'Connell

S. Brunswick OKs bond to install new water lines

By CHRISTINE SPARTA
STAFF WRITER

SOUTH BRUNSWICK — A \$1 million bond issue to fund installation of municipal water lines in the Deans Pond Lane West section has been given final approval by the South Brunswick Township Council.

The project, approved at the council's meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 26, was prompted by tests

showing elevated levels of radium in some wells in that part of the township.

Mayor Frank Gambatese said that close to 40 homes are affected by the water problem.

Charles Carley, a Township Council member and an engineer with Delaware-Raritan

See BOND Page A7

CRASH CLOSES SOUTH AMBOY ROAD

Rescue personnel remove a woman from a car involved in a three-vehicle accident on Main Street in South Amboy yesterday. Main Street was closed while the incident was cleared up.



KEITH MCGILL/INSIDIA photograph



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Central Jersey
What makes your dog special? Tell us at 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.

WEATHER
HIGH 80
LOW 57
Mostly cloudy
COMPLETE FORECAST, A2

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