



Staten Island Advance

BREAKING NEWS ALL DAY ON SILIVE.COM

PUBLISHED SINCE 1886 | 75 CENTS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2011

INSIDE YOUR ADVANCE



PUFF PRESSURE

Students at Curtis and Tottenville high schools encourage elected officials to take a walk in their shoes to see how easily children and teenagers can be influenced by advertisements for tobacco companies.

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HOUSE CHALLENGE

Saying he wants to fight GOP Rep. Michael Grimm's "radical agenda," a self-admitted "political novice" announces he will run for Congress in 2012.

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WEATHERWATCHER

SUZANNE VENTI, TOTTEVILLE



PARTLY SUNNY, BREEZY AND COOL
HIGH OF 62° PAGE B 8

Cheapest gas on Staten Island

North Shore: \$3.63
Gulf 470 Vanderbilt Ave., Stapleton.

South Shore: \$3.64
Costco 2975 Richmond Ave., Greenridge.

East Shore: \$3.69
Hess 951 Bay St., Clifton.

West Shore: \$3.67
Mobil 1680 Richmond Ave., Bulls Head.



SOURCE: NewYorkGasPrices.com listing of prices per gallon of regular unleaded gas at midnight.

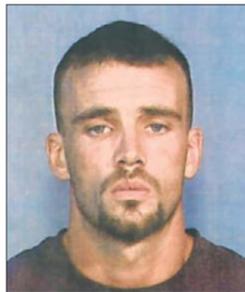


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PHOTO COURTESY OF DCPI

Police say following their pursuit of Grimes, they recovered the suspected weapon, a .380 caliber semi-automatic handgun.



Police say Michael Grimes was wounded after trying to rob a Greenridge diner and later admitted to five stickups.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DCPI

Cops also recovered a Yankees baseball cap and \$179 that Grimes had allegedly stolen in another robbery yesterday in Perth Amboy.

Cops dish hot lead at diner

Armed robber shot by officers at their 3 a.m. meal in Golden Dove; felon corralled at dead end

By JOHN ANNESE
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

An all-night Greenridge diner erupted into Hollywood-style gunplay yesterday — when a masked man tried to rob the place, only to get shot by two police officers who were eating inside.

Michael Grimes, 41, wanted the contents of the cash register of the Golden Dove Diner on Richmond Avenue near Arthur Kill Road but instead fled with a bullet hole in his leg, police said.

He made it almost two miles, but was captured when he crashed his stolen getaway car into a fence on a dead-end street in New Springville, according to police.

Grimes, who in 2004 ranked as one of the borough's most wanted fugitives after sticking up a business in Meiers Corners, has a long criminal history.

After his arrest, he ad-

SEE DINER, PAGE A 12



Police cordoned off the Golden Dove Diner in Greenridge, where gunplay erupted when a masked man tried to rob the establishment at about 3:10 a.m. yesterday.

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE/IRVING SILVERSTEIN

Gov. shows Lhota love with MTA pick

The man who deep-sixed the dump gets the keys to regional transit agency

By MICHAEL SEDON
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Joseph Lhota was the Giuliani administration's point person behind the scenes for

the closure of the Fresh Kills landfill. Now that he has been tapped to head the MTA, hopes are high that he'll apply a similarly deft touch to another bane of the borough: Mass transit and bridge tolls.

The Bronx-born Lhota, who currently lives in Brooklyn, will be taking over for out-going Metropolitan Transportation Authority Chairman and CEO Jay Walder, whose last day is this week.

Given Lhota's long involvement with New York City operations, this announcement is "potentially good news for Staten Islanders as we attempt to get transportation equity," said MTA Board Member Allen Cappelli.

"Jay Walder is leaving big shoes to fill and I believe the governor has found somebody with the credentials and experience to fill those

SEE MTS, PAGE A 12

"He died the way he lived, by violence"
— JOHN JERMYN OF ANNADALE, WHOSE SISTER WAS ABOARD PAN AM FLT. 103



This image from video broadcast on Al-Arabiya television shows the bloody body of Moammar Gadhafi in Sirte, Libya, after he was killed when revolutionary forces overwhelmed his hometown.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dictator dies like a dog in desert

Gadhafi's catalog of crimes included Lockerbie bombing, in which three Islanders were killed

By KIM GAMEL and LEE KEATH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TRIPOLI, Libya — During nearly 42 years in power, Moammar Gadhafi ruled with an eccentric brutality. He was so mercurial, he turned Libya into an isolated pariah, then an oil power courted by the West, then back again. At home, his

whims became law and his visions became a warped dictatorship, until he was finally toppled by his own people.

The modern Middle East's longest-reigning figure, Libya's 69-year-old "Brother Leader" became the first ruler killed in the Arab Spring uprisings that swept the region this year.

After rebels overwhelmed the capital Tripoli and drove him into hiding in late August, Gadhafi vowed in messages to fight on until "martyrdom or victory" and to "burn Libya under the feet" of his enemies. And indeed, he met his end yesterday

alongside his last heavily armed supporters, cornered by revolutionary fighters in Sirte, the fishing village where he was born and which he transformed during his rule into a virtual second capital city.

In the last images of him alive, a wounded Gadhafi staggered and shouted at fighters dragging him away after they pulled him out of a drainage tunnel where he took refuge trying to flee Sirte with loyalists. His goat-eared face was bloodied, his head balding after the loss of

SEE GADHAFI, PAGE A 10

Pastors to yield reins of schools

Island named 'pilot region' for the Archdiocese of New York's shift from parish to regional control

By JILLIAN JORGENSEN
STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

Staten Island's Catholic schools will get a big management makeover next year. The borough has been named one of three "pilot regions" for the Archdiocese of New York's shift from parish to regional control of schools.

Training for the switch will begin in January, with the new system becoming operational here in September 2012. The rest of the archdiocese's schools will follow the pilot regions a year later.

"This transition to a regional system should really be seamless for families and students," said Fran Davies, associate superintendent for communications and marketing. "They shouldn't notice any difference in the way the school is operating. It really is a behind-the-scenes governance and finance model."

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Timothy McNiff laid out his plans for regionalization



McNIFF

SEE CATHOLIC, PAGE A 6