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\$1.50 SUNDAY October 7, 2012

The Record

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TODAY 56°/41° Cooler with rain TOMORROW 61°/40° Mostly sunny and cool

Report: TSA not getting it right

Screeners at Newark Liberty International Airport are properly executing standard pat-downs of passengers only 16.7 percent of the time...

Thomas McDonnell, a Pace Law School professor and author of "The United States, International Law and the Struggle against Terrorism," said the findings are unacceptable.

"There's that often-repeated phrase, 'We've got to get it right all the time,'" said McDonnell. "When it's under 50 percent, under 20 percent, that to me is very shocking."

— Complete story on A-3

8 critical in bus crash



AMY NEWMAN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

First responders moving injured passengers from the Toronto charter bus that toppled Saturday morning on Route 80 in Wayne.

Operator cited 4 times this year

By LINDY WASHBURN and BARBARA WILLIAMS STAFF WRITERS

Eight passengers remained in critical condition Saturday night after a chartered tour bus from Canada careened from a Wayne highway off-ramp and overturned...

The Brooklyn-bound bus, with 57 people aboard, was chartered from a Toronto company that has been cited four times this year for violations of federal "fatigued driving" regulations...

The violations included one in May for "requiring or permitting driver to drive more than 11 hours," the records show. The other violations cited in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's online database are paperwork deficiencies...

keep a drivers log.

In addition, the federal agency's online database shows that the company lacks operating authority.

Officials at the bus company - AVM Max 2000 Charter Services Inc. - did not return calls for comment on the federal records. A woman who answered the phone at the company's office early in the day said the bus was full and bound for New York City...

New Jersey state police said the cause of the accident was still under investigation. "It's just too early to tell anything," said Sgt. Adam Grossman, a state police spokesman.

The driver of the bus told police that he See BUS Page A-6

'Smart' solution to congestion

Meadowlands region officials are turning to a new sort of traffic signal that can sense traffic jams, communicate with other "smart" traffic lights and automatically clear up congestion.

The project - called Meadowlands Adaptive Signal System for Traffic Reduction - an innovative network that includes cameras, computerized radios and sensors that will adjust the timing of traffic signals - began construction last year in Secaucus.

Once the system is up and running, it should cut travel time on historically congested roads and save on fuel consumption.

"What this system does is optimize the signal timing at every signal all day long, every day," said David Liebgold, the Meadowland Commission's chief of transportation.

— Complete story on L-1

Tax appeal pays if done right

Like about 12,000 other Bergen County residents, I thought the assessment on my house was too high.

After a successful appeal, my assessment was reduced by more than 20 percent - about \$2,000 over each of the next three years.

But the appeals process is more complicated and time-consuming than I ever imagined. I won, so it was worth the effort. But many others will have their appeals rejected because they weren't over-assessed beyond the margin of error built into the law, or they didn't do their homework.

— Kevin DeMarras on B-1

'The Voice' of North Jersey

The big-haired girl who goes by the name Chevonne - the one who made us notice her with a rocking rendition of The Pretenders' "Brass in Pocket" on "The Voice" - is also Lauren Ianuzzi, the girl who timidly walked into a Northern Highlands Regional High School band room as a freshman to play the tenor sax.

Chevonne believes she was born to do two things: be an artist and a positive influence. The 27-year-old Upper Saddle River native, who now lives in Little Falls, has a chance to do both on the popular singing competition.

— Complete story on BL-1

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Pricy peace of mind

New helmets alone can't stop head injuries



TYSON TRISH/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bergen County Knights player Patrick Mayne, 11, of Teaneck adjusting his helmet Wednesday in Fair Lawn.

By COLLEEN DISKIN STAFF WRITER

The football helmet cost more than \$300, but its padded inner shell was a brand-new design that offered more protection against a concussion - or so its makers claimed. As Karl Kreshpane considered buying it, he walked into one of the biggest controversies in the game today - whether a helmet, no

matter how well designed, can protect against debilitating concussions.

Kreshpane was sold. His son was the starting quarterback and a safety on Mahwah High School's varsity team, positions that put him in the middle of a lot of hard tackles.

But when the back of Karl Jr.'s head smacked against the turf during a game three years ago, it was a type of blow that

even this top-of-the-line helmet wasn't able to cushion. It took about 10 months for the teen to fully recover from the speech and concentration troubles he experienced from the severe concussion that ended his football-playing days.

Kreshpane's younger son is playing now, but he wears the helmet his town's football league issued. That's because Kreshpane, a See HELMETS Page A-9

Campaigns exploit a turbulent week

Seek edge as race appears to tighten in swing states

By CHARLES BABINGTON and THOMAS BEAUMONT THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FISHERSVILLE, Va. - The presidential race enters its final month enlivened by two events with the potential to reshape the contest or perhaps negate each

other. Soon after Mitt Romney's strong debate performance came Friday's encouraging economic news, not a minute too soon for President Obama.

Strategists say the race is tightening, which was largely expected even before Obama's flat appearance on the debate stage Wednesday night, when his Republican challenger

had arguably the best 90 minutes of his candidacy thus far.

Republican volunteers and strategists in the nine most competitive states are encouraged as never before, saying Romney is squarely back in a contest that was threatening to slip away.

Thirty-six hours after the candidates' first face-to-face meeting,

however, Obama crossed a huge psychological barrier. The government reported that unemployment fell to 7.8 percent in September, down from 8.1 percent. It was the first time since the opening days of Obama's presidency in 2009 that the rate dipped below 8 percent.

Now, with one month left until the Nov. 6 election and millions of people already voting, the question is whether Romney can spin his 90 See ELECTION Page A-6

Orioles could be the new '69 Mets

Seaver sees another miracle in making

A sense of nostalgia washes over Tom Seaver every time he turns on the TV and sees the imperturbable Buck Showalter in the Orioles' dugout. "Calm as a mountain lake," Seaver said of Showalter, which is how the legendary Mets right-hander remembers his own manager, Gil Hodges.

It's been 43 years since the Mets stopped America's heartbeat by shocking Baltimore in the World Series, and now Seaver feels like he's watching the beginning of a replay. Both the A's and Orioles have rewritten the laws of probability this summer, but it's the Orioles - Showalter's gang of overachievers - who have his attention.

"I look at them and think, 'That's us.' The comparison to the '69 Mets is obvious," Seaver said by telephone on Saturday. "They do so many of the fundamental things correctly, and it starts with their manager. Buck reminds me of Gil - never too high, never gets down. He's the right manager for a team like this."

Seaver, of course, has the street cred to talk about miracles, having led the '69 Mets to a 100-win season after just 73 victories in 1968. Who can deny the spiritual link to the 2012 Orioles? The Birds were coming off a 69-win campaign in 2011, but instead of plunging into their 15th consecutive losing season, they somehow won 93 games.

Like the Mets, the Birds' regular-season rebound was unlikely, but getting to the postseason was downright impossible - or See KLAPISCH Page A-6



BOB KLAPISCH

CC Sabathia looks to make poor playoff history old news. S-1

INSIDE

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# The Record Local

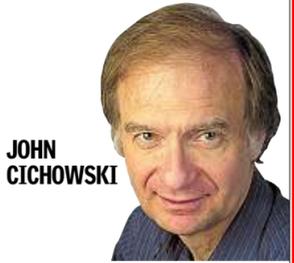


Valley National fundraiser takes in at least \$75,000 to cure breast cancer.



Some 100 artists put their work on display in competition at Van Saun Park.

ROAD WARRIOR



JOHN CICHOWSKI

## Funeral processions can easily be deadly

It might be time to consider revising the age-old American custom of allowing a rolling entourage to transport the dead through heavy traffic, stop signs and red lights, if Road Warrior mail and newspaper clips are any gauge.

Consider these examples:  
 ■ In his mother's funeral procession, John Strommer of Hackensack recalled being "cut off by a young man in a rush" on Route 17 in Paramus.

■ Kathleen Moran was "horrified" to see cars passing through the red light on Grand Avenue when she encountered a procession in Teaneck. "I almost had an accident," said the Bogota reader.

■ Mark Poland remembered pausing a few seconds after a traffic light turned green before crossing Route 25 in Butler. Smart move. Mark's hesitation probably saved his life. An SUV at the tail end of a funeral cortege sailed through the light in a "flash," he recalled.

Not everybody is so lucky. Sixteen people were hurt in Queens in March when a limousine in a similar procession hit the wall of a bodega. Two years ago, an off-duty motorcycle cop in Texas was killed while escorting mourners in cars — the second such death there in two years.

In Bergen County, four motorcycle cops were hurt the same way in 2009 — three of them while escorting a cortege after a funeral for the daughter of the Old Tappan police chief. One officer was hospitalized. The fourth was knocked unconscious and suffered a shoulder injury and broken ankle when his bike collided with an SUV in Carlstadt.

"Shouldn't people have courtesy?" asked Pequannock's Barbara Weir after three cars sped in front of hers in a South Jersey cortege last January.

Sure. Courtesy and reverence for the dead demand that we wait patiently until a cortege passes. But courtesy isn't spelled out in law.

It might come as a shock to some road warriors, but "no law in this state ... permits a member of a funeral procession to disregard a traffic signal unless directed to do so by a police officer."

That quote is from a 1978 New Jersey appeals court decision. It means every driver in a funeral entourage must obey traffic signals, even if a cop leads the parade. But cars can pass if an officer waves them through a signal, said Patrolman Tim Franco, president of the New Jersey Police Traffic Officers Association.

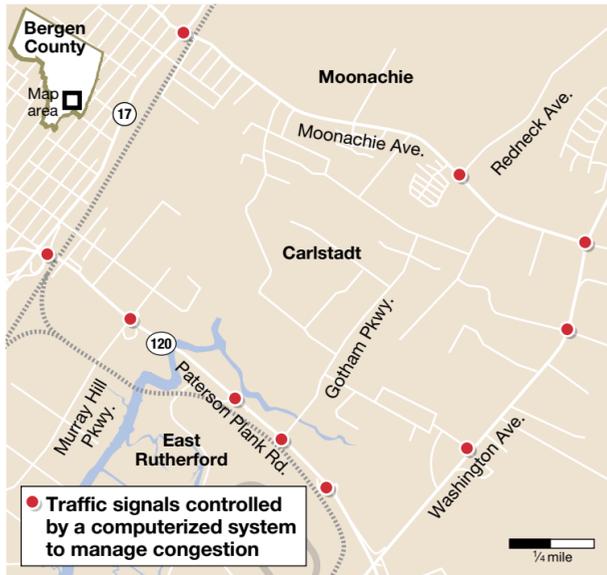
"Unfortunately, too many people have different understandings of the rules," added Franco, the traffic safety officer in Fair Lawn.

So, if widely misunderstood rules make processions so dan-

See ROAD Page L-2

LOCAL ISSUE: HIGH-TECH SYSTEM TO AID TRAFFIC FLOW

# Signaling a change



Traffic signals controlled by a computerized system to manage congestion



CHRIS PEDOTA/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Wireless devices being installed on traffic lights at Belleville Turnpike and Schuyler Avenue.

By JOHN A. GAVIN  
STAFF WRITER

Within a two-mile radius of where Schuyler Avenue and Belleville Turnpike intersect in North Arlington, drivers confront day-to-day traffic backups at stop lights and road-construction projects on roads built before World War II.

With bends and single-lane stretches, they are among the region's busiest roadways, passing industrial zones, strip malls and apartments, leaving little room for

widening or straightening to ease congestion.

To improve flow, Meadowlands region officials are turning to a new sort of traffic signal that can sense traffic jams, communicate with other "smart" traffic lights and automatically clear up congestion.

The project — called Meadowlands Adaptive Signal System for Traffic Reduction — an innovative network that includes cameras, computerized radios and sensors that will adjust the timing of traffic signals — began construction last year in Secaucus.

Once the system is up and running, it should cut travel time on historically congested roads and save on fuel consumption.

"What this system does is optimize the signal timing at every signal all day long, every day," said David Liebgold, the Meadowlands Commission's chief of transportation. "So if there are any changes in traffic flow, such as an increase in one direction but not the other, the signal can automatically adjust its timing and provide more green time where the demand is."

See TRAFFIC Page L-6

**"It's got economic and environmental benefits. When cars flow more freely and trucks are moving, it makes commerce more efficient."**

BRIAN ABERBACK, MEADOWLANDS COMMISSION SPOKESMAN

## Waldwick library back in full swing

By ALLISON PRIES  
STAFF WRITER

WALDWICK — Belly laughs from youngsters and the sounds of Buddy Holly helped to inaugurate a new meeting room at the Waldwick Public Library on Saturday.

The 1,100-square-foot addition to the building on Franklin Turnpike was unveiled after nearly a year of construction, which had limited lectures, entertainment and gatherings at the typically bustling library.

"We were very anxious to get programming going again," said the library director, Patty Boyd.

The new meeting room can accommodate 110 people, an improvement from the old room that could fit just 70.

After a ribbon-cutting on Saturday morning, the new room hosted a comedian/magician, a balloon sculptor and Rave On! a Buddy Holly Tribute band.

"It turned out nice," said Lance Acanfrio, with his daughters, Grace, 8, and Charlotte, 4, in tow. "I'm pleased with it," he added, glancing at the beige walls, earth-toned geometric print carpet and crisp lighting that adorn the new space.

The architect Jesus Mones of Enironetics in Englewood Cliffs said he was given a wish list by Boyd for a large meeting space and a place to display local history. Money was budgeted to make the space functional.

"When you're showing a movie, you

See LIBRARY Page L-6



ALLISON PRIES/STAFF

A \$400,000 renovation will allow the Waldwick library to offer more programs for children and adults.



KATE COLLINS/SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

Audience members applauding filmmakers Mark Hillringhouse, left, and Kevin Carey.

## Film honors poet who grew up here

### Dozens attend documentary premiere

By JOHN A. GAVIN  
STAFF WRITER

About 80 people paid tribute to poet Maria Mazziotti Gillan at Pasaic County Community College Theater in Paterson on Saturday, an event highlighted by the first screening of a documentary dedicated to her works, her contributions and life growing up in the city.

During the 55-minute film, Mark Hillringhouse, a professor at the college, and Kevin Carey, a professor in Salem, Mass., used interviews, poetry, photography and

music to narrate Gillan's humble beginnings growing up in an Italian-American family in the 1940s and '50s to her achievements as an award-winning author and poet.

"We wanted to have [the event] here because it is a Paterson story," said Hillringhouse, who's also a poet and still photographer. "Maria grew up in Paterson plus she knows a lot of people here and she has a large circle [of friends]."

After the showing, which included images of her childhood home, her father's machine shop and School 18, many of her

See FILM Page L-3

See BOGOTA Page L-7

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## Continued from previous page

### SARRACINO

Frances (nee Kellenberger), age 89, of Wayne, NJ, died on Saturday, October 6, 2012 with her loving family at her bedside.

Frances graduated from Clifton High School with the class of 1941 and completed business school in Newark shortly thereafter. She has been a Wayne resident since 1955.

Frances was a loving, caring mother of four, a wonderful cook, great seamstress and an avid reader (Gone with the Wind was her favorite book.) Frances was a parishioner of Our Lady of the Valley RC Church in Wayne, and for many years headed up the decorating committee.

Frances is survived by her loving husband of sixty-two years, Michael A. Sarracino of Wayne; her four children, Michael W. and his wife Gail of Rockaway, NJ; Peter and his fiancée Wendy, of Jefferson, NJ; Amy and her husband John of Lincoln Park, NJ; John and his wife Julie of Danville, CA; and five grandchildren, Christine, Ashley, Linda, Stefanie, Kelsey; and one great-granddaughter, Lana.

A memorial service will be planned soon. For a photo and more information visit [www.vandermay.com](http://www.vandermay.com)

### SHIER

Lenore (Pomranz), a life-long resident of Passaic, Woodcliff Lake and Park Ridge, NJ passed away, on Monday, October 1, at the age of 91.

Mrs. Shier was a graduate of Montclair State Teacher's College and a veteran English teacher, in the Passaic School system. She is fondly remembered, by many graduates, who never forgot the impetus and inspiration provided by her unique brand of teaching skills.

Lenore gave her time and energy to many causes including being a life member of Hadasah. She also was a member of the National Council of Jewish Women, Israel Cantor Family Society, Simon Wiesenthal Center, National Holocaust Museum and the YM-YWHA of Bergen County. In addition she was a member of NEA and NJEA Retired.

Lenore will be deeply missed by her three children David and Susan Shier, Jessica Shier Speck and her two grandsons, Joshua Adam Speck and Jonathan David Shier, her brother Irwin, his wife Ray Pomranz and family, as well as by many friends, neighbors and colleagues.

A ceremony and burial for family and friends was held on Wednesday morning at Beth Israel Cemetery in Woodbridge, NJ.

Memorial donations may be made to the ADL or by planting a tree in Israel.

### IN MEMORIAM



### MARY BETTY CHEEVERS

Happy Birthday to a wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, teacher, creative free thinker, and champion of nature. You are desperately missed everyday by all those who love you. Your strength, determination, sheer will, humor, warmth, and positive outlook shepherded so many of us for so many years. We miss you, we love you, be at peace Mom.

### Should children attend funerals?

Yes. Attending the funeral allows the child to be part of the family at a time when they need love and attention the most. If the child is leery of the funeral, perhaps you can arrange a private moment before or after the service to say goodbye. The important thing is that the child is with friends and family and not isolated from the situation.

Information courtesy of [www.NJSFDA.org](http://www.NJSFDA.org).



### SOKALSKI

Guy. A private memorial was held for Guy Sokalski who entered into eternal rest on Friday, September 7, 2012. Guy Sokalski is the son of George and Anna Sokalski of Spring Lake, NJ.

Guy was born in Paterson 55 years ago. He graduated from St. James of Totowa, Don Bosco of Paterson and attended St. Leo's College in Florida.

He lived in Totowa for about 30 years, was active as an EMT for Totowa and later for the Paterson Fire Dept. Ambulance.

He is survived by his sister Reyne Brady Gallo and her husband Dave, of South Carolina; a brother David and his wife Tamara of Totowa, NJ, a brother Wayne and his wife Dawn of Tampa, FL; a sister Thadine Clifton of Mountain Lakes of New Jersey, and a sister Theamarie Martorana and husband Anthony of Butler, NJ; six nieces Kelly Brady of Pennsylvania, Emily Brady of South Carolina, Georgeann Sobotka Gray and her husband Michael of Pine Beach, NJ, Rachel Sokalski Golden and her husband Andrew of North Carolina, Hailee Clifton and Madison Clifton of Mountain Lakes, NJ; two nephews T.J. Brady of South Carolina and Matthew Sokalski and his wife Laura of Tampa, FL; two great-nephews Landon and Lucas Gray of Pine Beach, New Jersey; a brother-in-law Scott Clifton and his wife Connie of Bricktown, NJ, a brother-in-law, retired Captain of the Paterson Police Dept. Ted Sobotka of Lyndhurst, NJ.

He will be missed by family and friends whose lives he touched over the years. We Love Him Very Much and He Will Be Missed.

### TERRITO-JOHNSON

Julia M., 98, of Lancaster, PA passed away on Wednesday October 3rd, 2012. Born in Passaic, NJ she resided in Toms River prior to moving to Lancaster. She was a parishioner of St. Maximilian Kolbe, R.C. Church and a member of the Rosary Altar Society and volunteered many hours at church functions especially bingo. She was predeceased by husbands Joseph Territo and Edward Johnson and her brothers, Emory, Michael, Joseph, Frank Einreinhof and sister Mary Stickelberger. She is also predeceased by her son in-law Anthony Cardella. Surviving are her daughter Joan Cardella, son James M. Territo and wife Lillian, six grandchildren Joseph Cardella and his wife Michelle, Michael Cardella and his wife Judy, Kathy Cardella and her partner Debbie Straka, James Territo and his wife Dorene, Jenifer Territo Stasik and her husband Daniel, Stephanie Territo Deloreto and her husband Ronald, nine great grandchildren and two great great grandchildren along with many nieces and nephews. Julia enjoyed family, friends, travel, crocheting and trips to Atlantic City.

Visitation will be Monday, October 8th, 2012 from 2-4 PM and 7-9 PM at Quinn Hopping Funeral Home, 26 Mule Road, Toms River, NJ. Mass of Christian Burial will be offered on Tuesday, October 9th, 2012 at St. Maximilian Kolbe R.C. Church in Toms River. Entombment will follow at Ocean County Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hospice of Lancaster, P.O. Box 4125, Lancaster, PA 17604 or St. Jude's Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Pl., Memphis, TN 38105. Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting [www.Quinn-Hoppingfh.com](http://www.Quinn-Hoppingfh.com).

When handling an estate, your county surrogate's office can guide you through the probate process and answer many of your questions.

Source: [www.njsfda.org/help](http://www.njsfda.org/help) (New Jersey State Funeral Directors Association, Inc. does not provide legal advice.)



### WALLINGTON

Alexander F., age 87, of Hawthorne, NJ on Saturday, October 6, 2012. Beloved father of Alex W. Wallington of Hawthorne, loving brother of Joseph Wallington of Denver, CO and dear uncle of many nieces and nephews. Born and raised in Paterson, AI moved to Hawthorne in 1954. He was employed in the textile industry with Hudson Finishing, Paterson for 25 years and Bomont Industries, Totowa. AI served his country in the Navy during World War II on the USS Warren APA-53. He was a parishioner of St. Anthony RC Church, Hawthorne where he was a past Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus 5920 and a Faithful Past Navigator for the Msgr. Stein Assembly, a member of the Holy Name Society and St. Vincent de Paul Society and an usher. AI was past Post Commander and past District Commander of VFW Post 1593, a volunteer on the Hawthorne Ambulance Corp. and a Hawthorne Auxillary Policeman for 48 years. Funeral will depart 9 AM Tuesday, October 9, 2012 for a 9:30 AM funeral liturgy at St. Anthony RC Church, Hawthorne. Interment in Calvary Cemetery, Paterson. Visitation at the funeral home Monday 2-4 and 7-9 PM. Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, c/o St. Anthony RC Church, 276 Diamond Bridge Ave., Hawthorne, NJ 07506. ([browningforshay.com](mailto:browningforshay.com))

### IN MEMORIAM



### ANN E. BOGERT 1959-2006

In Loving Memory of  
Annie on Your Sixth  
Anniversary in Heaven

LOVING SISTER,  
DAUGHTER, AUNT,  
WIFE & FRIEND

"Mourn not for me, for I have known the light, and looked on beauty, and lived in peace and love.

Grieve but for those who go alone, unwise, and die in darkness, and never see the sun."

Always Loved, Deeply Missed, Never Forgotten,  
Family and Friends

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### WARNER

Dorothy Snare, 94, resident of Dorset, VT, died peacefully at her home on September 13, 2012 in the loving company of her daughters and caregivers.

Born on January 3, 1918 in Newton, MA, Dorothy Stanwood Snare was the daughter of Edith Rutledge Dulles and Frederick Snare Jr., of Englewood, NJ. She attended Dwight Englewood School and completed her high school education at Dana Hall School in Wellesley, MA, in 1935. She attended Sarah Lawrence College and Katherine Gibbs.

At the First Presbyterian Church of Englewood on April 30, 1938, she was married to Beverly Walden Warner, graduate of Princeton, Class of 1937. Beverly was the son of Frederick Thorne Warner of Teaneck and Englewood, and Madeleine Katherine Walden.

Dorothy and her husband resided in Greenwich, CT during the '60s and '70s where they were members of the Round Hill Club, the Field Club, and the Stanwich Club. Dorothy, a prize-winning flower arranger, was active in Hortulus and the Garden Club of America.

Before retiring to Dorset, Vermont in 1978, Dorothy and her husband, who was an executive with Corn Products Corporation of Englewood Cliffs, NJ, lived in Buenos Aires, London, and Brussels in the '50s and '60s.

They also maintained a residence in Port Royal and the Wilderness of Naples, FL for 40 years, where Dorothy and her husband were active members of the Port Royal Club, the Hole in the Wall Golf Club, and the Naples Yacht Club.

Dorothy was a member of the Naples, FL chapter of The Colonial Dames of America. Her ancestry traces to British born colonist, Kenelm Winslow, of Droitwich, England born on April 30, 1599, who died in Salem, MA in 1672. He was Deputy of the Plymouth General Court from 1642-1644.

Dorothy leaves her daughters, Lynne Averill of San Francisco, and Anne Warner Linville of New York City, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. In addition to her parents and husband, she was predeceased by a daughter, Pamela Warner Miller of Princeton, NJ in 2005. She was also predeceased by her sister, Marjorie Rutledge Chapman, and her brother, Frederick Snare III, both of Dorset, VT. Dorothy's brother, William Dulles Snare, lives in Denver, CO.

Dorothy's memory will be memorialized at a family summer place in Averill, VT in the Northeast Kingdom.



### WHORLEY

Elsie M., age 71, of Paterson, NJ on October 5, 2012. Director of The Paterson Ecumenical Day Care Center. Services: Sat. Oct. 13th 9 AM at The Faith Chapel Reformed Church 618 Broadway, Paterson, NJ. Friends may visit Fri. Oct. 12th from 5-9 PM at The Carnie P. Bragg Funeral Home 256 Rosa Parks Blvd., Paterson, NJ. [braggfuneralhome.com](mailto:braggfuneralhome.com)

## Alternatives to Cashing Out Life Insurance

If you are considering cashing out a life insurance policy to prepay a funeral, ask your local funeral director about alternative options available to you through the New Jersey State Funeral Directors Association.

Source: New Jersey State Funeral Directors Association, [www.njsfda.org](http://www.njsfda.org)



## GEMS GET ATTENTION



AMY NEWMAN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

History teacher Sarah Woodbury of Brooklyn and her mother, Janet Woodbury of Ho-Ho-Kus, touring Lambert Castle during the second-annual Passaic County History Fair Saturday afternoon.

## Traffic: Signals

From Page L-1

Passaic County planning officials said no plans for upgrading to smart signals are yet on the horizon for county roads. Major highways are under state jurisdiction, but officials with the state transportation department could not be reached for comment.

Construction is in four stages, including a command control center staffed by transportation engineers. The project is expected to be completed by December 2013, Liebgold said.

Last month, Phase II, which includes North Arlington, Kearny and Lyndhurst, began at the Schuyler Avenue-Belleville Turnpike intersection, where traffic often bottlenecks in all directions.

As workers installed cameras on traffic lights, signal software in traffic cabinets and wireless communications devices on poles, Liebgold said signal lights will "literally talk to each other" helping to eliminate unnecessary long waits at lights that snarl traffic flow.

### Other cities use system

Two miles north in Lyndhurst, where traffic grinds to a halt at Orient Way and Page Avenue before being funneled onto Schuyler Avenue, the thought of improved traffic is welcome news.

"It should help some," said Lyndhurst Mayor Richard Giangeruso. "There's no traffic light and traffic builds up."

Several years ago, Lyndhurst officials voiced objections to Meadow Crossing, a massive residential complex now under construction on the corner, because of traffic concerns. Plans were downsized from a 374-unit proposal to a 296-unit project.

Part of a \$10 million federal grant awarded in 2010, the 128 traffic signals in the 14-town region will make commutes more bearable along Routes 1 and 9, 7, 17, 120 and other roadways, local officials say.

"It's got economic and environmental benefits," said Brian Aberback, a spokesman for the regional agency. "When cars flow more freely and trucks are moving, it makes commerce

more efficient."

Aside from relieving congestion, transportation experts say that fine-tuning traffic controls reduces air pollution, cuts accidents at intersections and saves five tanks of gas annually per household, according to the National Transportation Operations Coalition, an alliance of federal, state and local traffic departments.

Similar regionalized traffic management systems are already running in Seattle, Milwaukee, Denver, Miami-Dade County and the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area with positive results, traffic expert say.

In Delaware, where more than 700 "smart" traffic lights have been installed to ease traffic in and around Wilmington and reduce summer drives to the beach, police use its cameras to monitor accident scenes and help reroute traffic, officials said.

In the Meadowlands, where a state-of-the-art control center will be set up at the agency's headquarters in Lyndhurst, the state Department of Transportation will give it authority to regulate traffic signals in the region. This month, the Meadowlands Commission will award bids for Phase III of the project, which will include Rutherford, East Rutherford, Moonachie, Teterboro and a section of Route 17, Liebgold said.

A segment to come later, Phase IV, includes North Bergen and Ridgefield, along with sections of Routes 1 and 9.

In Secaucus, where adaptive traffic signals have been installed throughout the town, officials look forward to alleviating the snares that stall traffic on Paterson Plank Road to and from Route 3.

With the lighting system's target date just a month before the region hosts the Super Bowl in February 2014, locals say they're ready.

"Hopefully, the smart technology can help," David Drummer, the town administrator said about traffic. "The mayor and council look forward to flipping the switch."

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## Library: Waldwick

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want to make sure that stuff works," he said. "The three walls and the roof are the easy part."

The \$400,000 renovation includes a local history gallery in a corridor leading from the main library to the new meeting room.

The project was spurred by a \$100,000 bequest from the library's former director, David Kamykoski, who retired in 2001 after 25 years of service.

Another \$200,000 was raised through donations from 850 patrons and groups; \$100,000 was provided by the borough.

"I'm very proud of this town to have done this, especially during this terrible economy," Boyd said.

Mayor Tom Giordano said it was a "great investment."

"The library is the center of every community," he said. "It's not just our library. People from other towns come, too. It's a building for knowledge ... a place to assemble and meet."

Large black and white prints in fancy frames dot the walls of the local history room.

In one, Julia Traphagen, a teacher who founded the borough's first library in the base-

**The \$400,000 renovation includes a local history gallery in a corridor leading from the main library to the new meeting room.**

ment of a school, stands among a group. Others depict the Waldwick train station and the Orvil Hotel from the 1920s.

Artifacts are displayed in a double-sided glass case that separates a smaller meeting room with a conference table that will be used for quiet study, Boyd said.

Paul and Brunilda Sutherland of Waldwick perused books just outside the new space on Saturday.

"We don't come here that often," Paul Brunilda said. "But it's really amazing what they did. I think we'll be here more often."

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