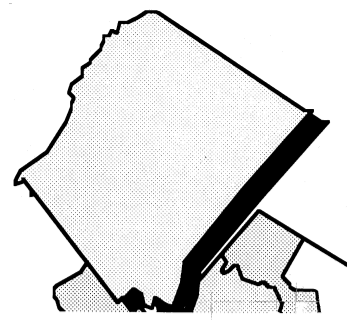


Local



Friday, May 4, 2007

A-7

Andover Borough • Andover Township • Branchville • Byram • Frankford • Franklin • Fredon • Green • Hamburg • Hampton • Hardyston • Hopatcong • Lafayette • Montague • Newton • Ogdensburg • Sandyston • Sparta • Stanhope • Stillwater • Sussex • Vernon • Walpack • Wantage

LOCAL BRIEFS

Church, Chamber plan Hackettstown Fiesta

HACKETTSTOWN — The Hackettstown Fiesta will be held along Main Street in front of Trinity United Methodist Church on Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. The event is free.

Trinity Church and the Hackettstown Business Improvement District are partnering to present the first-ever Hackettstown Fiesta, a celebration of the town's multicultural community. The fiesta will bring the best of Trinity's fourth annual multicultural celebration and ministry to Main Street and will run concurrently with the Hackettstown Spring Festival, sponsored by the Warren County Chamber of Commerce and held on the Centenary College campus. Trinity will sponsor various musical and creative arts, feature the flags of the world, and provide crafts for children and adults.

There will be sidewalk sales and more than 18 musical events, crafts and learning opportunities representing many countries of the people living in the Hackettstown area.

Crafts and cultural events will include crafts by the Heritage Clothesline Project, a crafts display from "What in the World," and storytelling about the Coqui of Puerto Rico, along with traditional Mexican pinatas for the kids. Pure Soccer Academy will provide a "head-and-feet-on" soccer demonstration.

A free trolley will run from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and will shuttle people between multicultural activities, parking, food stands on Main Street, and the festival activities on the Centenary College campus, with pick-up and drop-off at the Spring Festival, Hackettstown Ford, between Canine Cafe and Ken's Corner Cafe, and at the Skylands Bank parking lot.

At 6 p.m., everyone is welcome to attend Trinity's evening service with contemporary music and messages, videos and fellowship, including a team of musicians. For more information, call (908) 852-3020.

SCCC student art exhibit opens today

NEWTON — Sussex County Community College will celebrate its 16th annual Student Art Exhibition, which will remain on view through June 13, with a gala opening reception today from 6 to 8 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

This year a jury comprised of fine arts faculty and students selected more than 200 examples of student artwork from the 2006-2007 school year. The annual exhibition has become a tradition at the college and celebrates the combined efforts of students and faculty in the Fine Art Program.

Students at SCCC work in a wide range of media, including painting, drawing, photography, design, sculpture, fiber and ceramics.

The exhibition is free and open to the public. For more information, directions to the college or summer gallery hours, call (973) 300-2100 or visit the Web site at www.sussex.edu.

Northwest Christian sets auction, barbecue

NEWTON — The Northwest Christian School will be holding its annual auction and chicken barbecue Saturday afternoon.

The event runs from 1 to 5 p.m. and includes games and amusements, barbecue chicken dinner, a silent and general auction and a brownie judging contest.

The event is open to everyone and admission is free. Tickets must be purchased for the dinner. The meal tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children 12 years old and younger. Tickets can be purchased by calling the school at (973) 383-9713.

Lacrosse fund-raiser set in Jefferson

JEFFERSON — The Jefferson Township Youth and High School Lacrosse Program will hold a fund-raiser called "Falcons LAXFest 2007" on May 12 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Firemans Field, on Route 15 South, Lake Hopatcong.

A full day of lacrosse games, from third grade through high school level will be held.

A full day of events will consist of games, raffles, shooting contests, food and fun.

Hopatcong getting firing range

Must qualify twice a year

By BRUCE A. SCRUTON
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HOPATCONG — Hopatcong police will be firing their guns in the borough quite often soon, but it will be on the department's own firing range.

Up until now, officers have traveled out-of-town to meet the state requirement for officers to qualify twice a year and that has caused some scheduling and overtime problems, noted Chief John Swanson.

The borough council gave the

go-ahead for the town's engineer to draw up plans for the new range to be located on about seven acres of municipal land off Mohawk Trail. Currently, the parcel is served by an unimproved road — which would not be improved — and has a cell tower on it. Swanson said the plans would be presented to the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Adjustment to get them on the record.

Swanson told the council there would be only a little work

required since he was likely to get a donated trailer to use as a classroom and any electrical power would be provided with a portable generator. The topography of the land already provides the necessary safety backgrounds and building a wall to stop and collect the bullets would be relatively inexpensive.

"Right now, we are at the pleasure of other departments, other towns for range time," Swanson said. Already, the department, for a variety of reasons, has lost use of one town's range and Sparta, which owns the range currently being used, is asking for rent.

But more than that, Swanson said having a range in town will give him greater flexibility in scheduling and allow for more time on the range. With an in-town range, officers can be sent to the facility while they are on-duty, subject to being dispatched to an emergency call.

With an out-of-town range, officers have scheduled for normal off-duty days and paid overtime, plus mileage.

Swanson said he has put emphasis on officers becoming familiar with a variety of weapons, not just their sidearm, as well as situational training.

"When one officer said once 'I've been doing this for 15 years,' I realized they probably weren't getting anything out of it. Now we do more, cover more situations," he said.

Training has even gone into the schools where officers have simulated various types of emergencies. "The officers are getting more training and becoming familiar with places like the schools," Swanson said. "If an officer uses a weapon, the question becomes: Was it appropriate or not appropriate?" he said. "Accuracy is almost meaningless."

HIGH POINT HIGH SCHOOL

Architects building bridge to students

Cooperative program gives area teens experience

By ROBERTA FUGATE
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Students at High Point Regional High School are getting paid and obtaining work experience in a variety of careers such as day care, marketing and architecture, and doing it all before they graduate from high school.

Students work all over the county in conjunction with the work study cooperative program, said Janet Hayzler, High Point business teacher and work study coordinator.

She said students participating in the program work a minimum of 15 hours a week, a maximum of 33, and are paid at least minimum wage for their time.

As part of the co-op program, students spend part of their day taking classes and the other part of the day earning real world experience with local businesses.

The co-op program also includes a life skills class that teaches students lessons in managing money, income taxes and how to write a resume.

Hayzler said there are currently 28 students participating in the program and include co-ops in child care, marketing, architecture and business.

Students who participate in the program leave school with a job manual and resume, and more importantly real world experience.

Benjamin Kaepler, High Point architecture teacher, said the program really gives the students a chance to see if this is what they want to do in the real world.

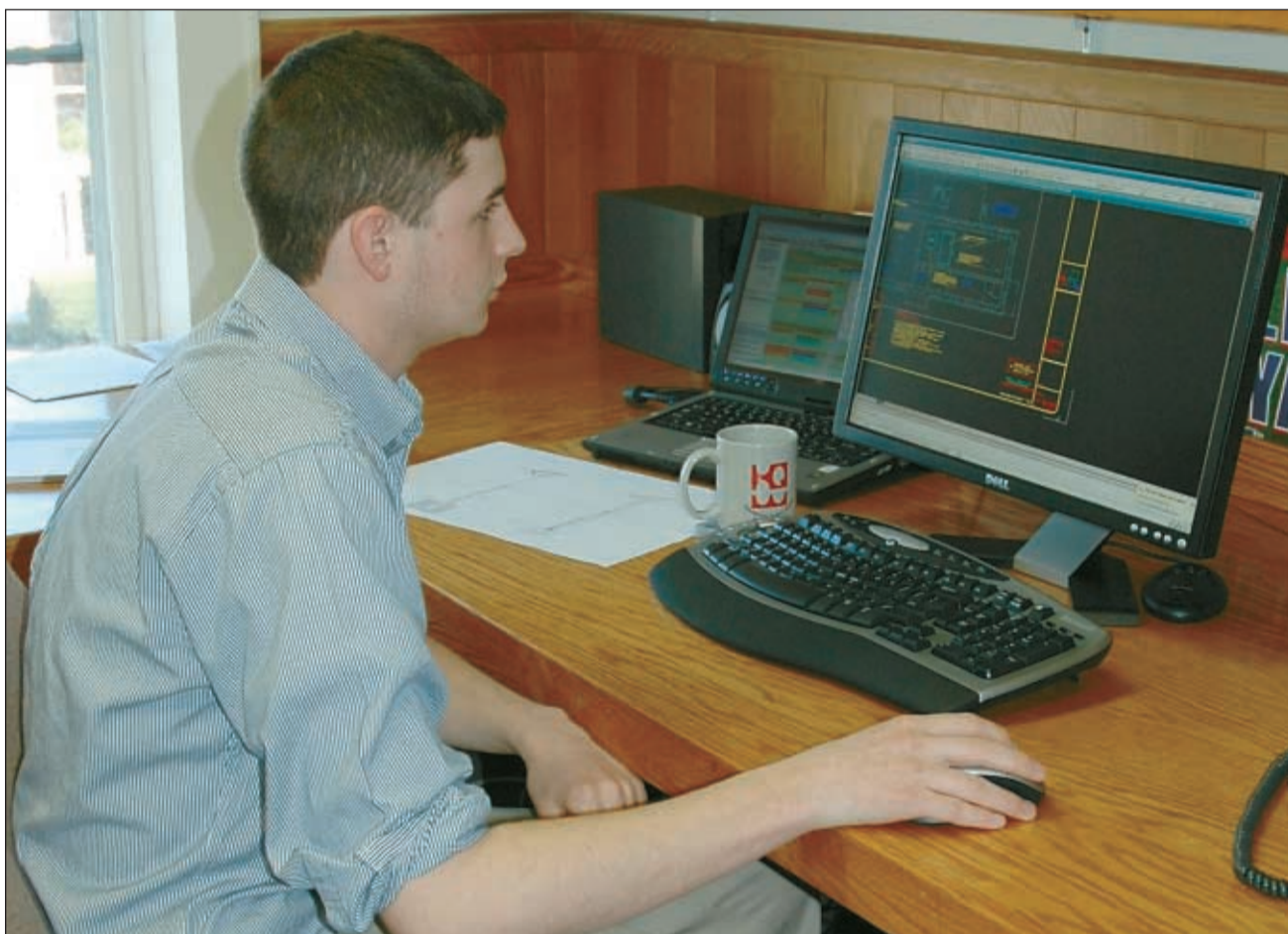
"It's the best exposure they can get," he said. "They get to interact with the real world."

The upper level classes in the program are honors classes and the students have to put in a lot of time, Kaepler said.

Only seniors are allowed to participate in the co-op program, and they must apply to get in.

Mike Remner, a student in Kaepler's upper level architecture class, is currently participating in the work study program with Houghton, Quarty and Warr (HQW) Architects in Newton.

"Mike Remner is a pretty unique guy, I think architecture is his niche,"



Photos by Roberta Fugate/New Jersey Herald

ABOVE: High Point Regional High School student Mike Remner is shown getting architectural plans ready for printing. Remner is working at the Houghton Quarty and Warr architectural firm as part of a work study program. BELOW: High Point Regional High School students Taylor Klemm, Mike Remner, Joey Tofaneli, Nick Esposito and Chris Cartagena pose with their architectural model that garnered the group a first place award at the Technology Student Association competition. Not pictured are Michelle Vroegindewey and Nick Mussilli.

Kaepler said. "He puts everything he has into it."

Glenn Gorlich, HQW project architect, said Remner is getting a broad range of experience while he's at the firm.

Steve Skorski, HQW project architect, said this is the first year the firm has participated in the work study program.

Skorski said it has been a good experience for the firm and they hope to expand it to other schools.

Frank Warr, HQW founding partner, said, "We've been very happy with Mike and we like the idea of bringing in students from the county."

Remner said, "I've learned a lot about architecture."

Kaepler likes the idea that Remner is doing his co-op with a local firm that

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Broadcasting Club at SCCC honored

By ELISA D. KELLER
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NEWTON — Shortly after starting the school year, Sussex County Community College's Broadcasting Club spent two days putting together a music video for comedian Stephen Lynch's song "Halloween." Though this was their first project as a group, they decided to enter the musician's nationwide contest, and to the club's surprise, they received a call on Halloween announcing their production had won.

"We've got some really amazing students," commented Tony Selimo, coordinator of the Broadcasting Department and club adviser. "They're like hidden gems."

A Tony-nominated performer for his lead role in "The Wedding Singer," Lynch selected their video — in which trick-or-treaters are captured and eaten by an old woman until they are rescued by

a S.W.A.T. team — out of over a dozen submissions from across the country. It can currently be seen on the video sharing Web site, youtube.com.

According to club president Dan Pytell, who also directed and produced the video, they were offered a prize of either two tickets to see "The Wedding Singer" on Broadway, or a plaque featuring the certified gold-selling DVD of Lynch's "Live at the El Rey" performance. They selected the plaque, which just arrived at the college this week.

"We figured it would last longer than his Broadway show," smiled Pytell. "Only two tickets would've been hard to split."

The Broadcasting Club, which consists of around 12 members, will be celebrating their achievement, along with other student projects in video, film and graphic design, at the college's first annual Student Academy Awards on Wednesday night.



Photo by Elisa Keller/New Jersey Herald

The Sussex County Community College Broadcasting Club received a plaque, featuring comedian and musician Stephen Lynch's gold-selling DVD "Live at the El Rey." From left, actor Scott Lunneely, technician Tim O'Connor, actor Paul Schuchert, director/producer Dan Pytell and Tony Selimo, coordinator of the Broadcasting Department.