

THURSDAY
September 29,
2011

COUNT ME IN

Eagles QB Vick says he's ready to play. **SPORTS, B-1**



POPULAR VOTE

Christie riding high as speculation swirls over '12 candidacy. **STATE, A-4**

Gloucester County Times

114th year: No. 235 Copyright 2011 Gloucester County Times Woodbury, N.J. http://www.nj.com/gloucester SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

Abandoned cat highlights tough times

By Gina Bittner
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DEPTFORD TWP. — When a family is forced out of their home, they may lose more than their house. Early Tuesday morning an anonymous person left Princess, a 7-year-old calico cat, outside of a popular pet supply store in a box, accompanied by a handwritten note from her newly homeless family.

“My family lost their home and could not take me or my brothers with them,” the letter — in Princess’ voice — reads. “Please don’t think bad of my mommy for leaving me here, she didn’t have any other choice and is completely heartbroken.”

Because the store was not equipped to take the cat, store management called a volunteer from Furrever Friends Rescue and Volunteers, Inc., a non-kill cat rescue based in Woodbury.

According to Furrever Founder Jennifer Andersch, dropping off an animal like Princess’ family did is not uncommon.

“This is our second one this month,” she said. Though the letter indicates the cat owners thought the store would be the cat’s best chance at survival, Andersch said it was dangerous.

(See CAT, Page A-5)

GLASSBORO

Group fights parking rules

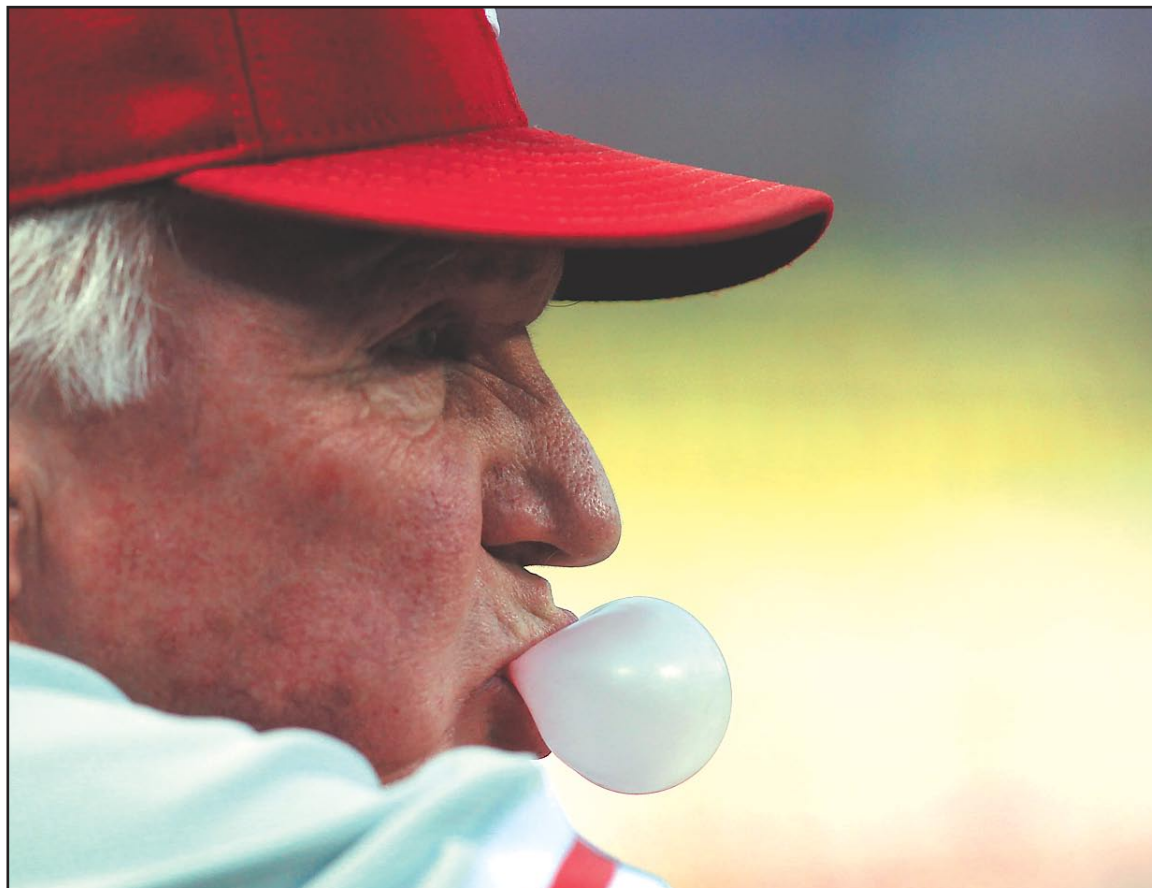
By Jessica Driscoll
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GLASSBORO — The Glassboro Guardians — a non-profit organization comprised of individuals who own rental properties within the borough — have filed a civil suit against Glassboro which alleges that a section of its parking ordinance pertaining to rental properties is “arbitrary, capricious and unreasonable.”

The section of the ordinance the suit pertains to says that every rental facility should provide a minimum of one off-street parking space for each authorized occupant 18 years of age or older.

(See PARKING, Page A-5)

Record-breaking season in the books



Philadelphia Phillies manager Charlie Manuel looks on from the dugout during the first inning of a baseball game against the Atlanta Braves in Atlanta on Wednesday. The Phillies beat the Braves 4-3 in extra innings to sweep the series, eliminate Atlanta from the playoffs, and break the club record for wins in Philadelphia for a total of 102. For complete story, see Sports Page B-1.

E. GREENWICH TOWNSHIP

Builders pose plans for retail growth

By Rebecca Forand
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EAST GREENWICH TWP. — The township committee heard presentations from three separate parties looking to bring expansions to the town Wednesday, including two mixed use development zones that will add both commercial and residential areas.

Two mixed-use development zones were discussed, one of which would bring 64,000 square feet of retail and commercial space and 92 townhomes to a zone along Berkley and Cohawkin Roads.

The committee was posed a resolution naming Berkley Square Developers as the master developer for the project and authorize the township to negotiate a long-term tax financial agreement with the developer, however with questions about the project prevalent, the five-member committee decided to table the resolution until its next meeting.

The project — that would include office space, retail space and a restaurant — caused issue with some members of the committee as to why any new residential development would be necessary, especially 92 new townhomes, in a town that has felt the pains of growth in its schools and infrastructure.

“I thought this was going to be a commercial development. I wasn’t expecting 92 new townhomes,” said Committeeman Bill Bumbernick. “It’s doubling down on houses that I don’t see the need for.”

The developers argued that in order to bring such a large commercial development to the area, additional residential space is needed.

“If you’re going to have areas of growth, you need to have a mix of uses.”

(See GROWTH, Page A-7)

Mullica Hill plays host to founder’s kin

By Rebecca Forand
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HARRISON TWP. — The Mullica Hill section of the township will be hosting some special visitors this weekend as Asko and Sinikka Vuorinen, descendants of the town’s founder Eric Mullica, come to speak.

Mullica — or Erkki Mulikka in Finnish — came from the village of Mullica Hill in Finland and lived in the original Mulikka Houses in his native country.

Asko Vuorinen has traced his family history back centuries and has written a book, “Family Book of Soldier Tuomas Tjader,” which explains the family line and ownership of the original Mulikka House, which has been called Hokkala since 1863.

The property was established in Finland in 1564 by Anita Mulikka, the great-grandfather of Eric Mullica, and is the basis for the replica house in New Jersey, which was built in 1704 and currently sits at 20 North Broad Street, Mullica Hill.

“We’re excited to have someone from the original village in Finland in which the entire town is based on,” said Lisa Rysinger from the Harrison Township Historic Preservation Society.

(See MULLICA, Page A-7)



The oldest house in Harrison Township, built in 1704, will get a visit by the great-grandson of the man who built it.

Flood threat renewed in wake of Irene aftermath

By Richard Khavkine
Star-Ledger staff

In Morris County, a woman waited for rescuers on the roof of her car as an overflowing creek in Flanders breached its banks.

In Warren County, the floodwaters gushed so suddenly they ripped up the asphalt along Schooley’s Mountain Road in Washington Township.

In Sussex County, Sparta High School students learned a new term — flood day — when they were dismissed early because of inundated roads.

Across western and central New Jersey Wednesday, already water-weary communities faced a new round of flooding. Just a month after Hurricane Irene drowned parts of the state, overnight rainfall caused waterways to swell and overtake their banks. Residents once again faced road closures, detours and water rescues.

The dangerous conditions are expected to continue today. Last night, the National Weather Service issued flash flood watches for Morris, Somerset and Hunterdon counties through this afternoon.

Flanders resident Bill Gaffney said a flash flood inundated his Bartley Road neighborhood.

“I’m 6-feet tall and it was to my neck when it was receding,” Gaffney said. “This all happened within 15 minutes. A wall of water came crashing down on Bartley.”

Meteorologists said the heavy rains pummeling New Jersey could bring a second successive month of record precipitation.

The totals are nothing short of epic, said David Robinson, the state climatologist. The average statewide rainfall — about 22 inches since August 1 — appears to be a once-in-a-millennium epochal event.

(See FLOODS, Page A-7)

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INDEX

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Bridge..... D-2 | Dr. Gott.....C-2 | Six.....A-3 | Television...B-6 |
| Classified.. D-3 | Economy....C-5 | Sports.....B-1 | Towns.....C-3 |
| Comics..... D-2 | Nation..... D-1 | State.....A-4 | Viewpoint..A-6 |
| Dear Abby..C-2 | Obituaries..A-7 | Sudoku.....A-2 | Wall St.....C-4 |

WEATHER Thunderstorms. Highs in mid 70s. Lows in lower 60s.

DIAMOND FURNITURE

LOOK FOR OUR AD IN TOMORROW'S PAPER FOR GREAT DEALS THIS WEEKEND!