Red Bank Register: 40 Photographs, 1976-1985

Exhibit at the
Monmouth County Library Headquarters
125 Symmes Drive
Manalapan, New Jersey
October 2011

Organized by
The Monmouth County Archives

Gary D. Saretzky, Curator
Eugene Osovitz, Preparer

Produced by the
Monmouth County Archives
125 Symmes Drive
Manalapan, NJ 07726
http://visitmonmouth.com/archives

Notes and Acknowledgments

The month-long exhibit in the lobby of the Monmouth County Library, "*Red Bank Register*: 40 Photographs, 1976-1985" was prepared with the encouragement and support of Monmouth County Clerk M. Claire French, without whom the exhibit would not have been possible. The exhibit coincides with Archives Week, an annual celebration since 1996.

These newspaper photographs were drawn from The *Red Bank Register* Negative Collection of the Monmouth County Archives. Most of the negatives were donated in 2008 by Donald Burden, Shrewsbury Historical Society, with a smaller number gifted in 2004 by the late George H. Moss Jr. who obtained them from the Shrewsbury Historical Society. Were it not for *Register* Librarian Olga Boeckel, who gave these negatives to the Shrewsbury Historical Society in 1987, they would have been destroyed.

Using the original negatives, silver gelatin prints toned with selenium for permanence were produced for the exhibition in the Archives' darkroom by the curator, using an enlarger donated by Timothy S. Corlis, Special Collections and University Archives, Rutgers University. Matting and framing were performed by Eugene Osovitz. Joya Anderson of the Archives staff digitized the prints for use in this catalog and publicity. Materials used in the exhibit were obtained through the efforts of Mark Pizza of the Archives staff. The exhibit was hung by the Monmouth County Art Department under the direction of Valería Pasko, who also designed and produced the Archives Week poster, with the assistance of Amanda Cupo and George Joynson. Editorial assistance for the exhibition catalog was provided by Patrick Caiazzo of the Archives staff. Archives volunteer Tad Shubert drafted one of the captions. Linda Barth, League of Historical Societies of New Jersey; William Heine, Monmouth County Public Information; Joanne McKinley, Delaware Valley Archivists Group; Patricia Tumulty, New Jersey Library Association; and Donna Mansfield, Monmouth County Library, helped publicize the exhibit. Monmouth County Library Director Ken Sheinbaum graciously made the exhibition space available.

In addition to photographers, writers, editors, and other staff, the *Register* could not have thrived without a small army of paper carriers, represented in the exhibit by a portrait of September 1985 "Carrier of the Month" Del Bobish of Union Beach. Archives staff member Chuck Steiner, who lives in Union Beach, contributed a 2011 portrait of Mr. Bobish to accompany his *Register* photo.

Research for the captions was enabled by the online version of the *Red Bank Register* on the website of the Middletown Township Public Library, http://rbr.mtpl.org/rbr/ as well as other electronic resources provided by the Monmouth County Library. The *Register* was searched online to determine if the frame, or other negatives in the same sleeve, had been published. This step was essential because the amount of information on the sleeves is minimal: just a brief topic, date, and file number. A related published image and caption, usually within a week of the date the photo was taken, was found online for about three-quarters of the prints in the exhibit, often with the photographer identified. Six photographers included in the exhibit were

located through Internet research and personal referrals. A brief biographical summary based on information kindly provided by the photographers is provided in this catalog.

The catalog was printed by the Monmouth County Information Services Department, with coordination by Shelagh Reilly of the Archives staff. Mary Ann Kiernan of the Archives staff arranged for the placement of this catalog on the Archives website, http://www.visitmonmouth.com/archives by the County's Information Services Department.

The *Red Bank Register* Negative Collection is being preserved and cataloged by Eugene Osovitz, Chuck Steiner, and the writer, with the help of, over the last few years, nearly three dozen enthusiastic and hard working interns and volunteers.

GDS

Introduction

This exhibit was conceived as a sampler of one of the jewels in the Monmouth County Archives, the *Red Bank Register* Negative Collection, which contains 35mm still camera film pertaining to nearly 15,000 different "shoots" covered by that newspaper's photographers, mostly between 1979 and 1987. During this period, the *Register* was published Monday through Friday, plus a Sunday edition that began in 1976. It covered national and state news, illustrated with photographs from the Associated Press and other picture agencies, but sent out its own excellent photographers for images to accompany local news stories. With few exceptions, only film shot by *Register* staff photographers is in the collection, most of it exposed in Monmouth County.

The forty photographs chosen are intended to show the breadth and quality of the negatives on file and to suggest the potential of the collection for education, local history research, family research, and other purposes. The photographs were selected mostly from the period, 1979 to 1982, because 1) most of the holdings are from 1979 forward; and 2) the Archives is still in the process of taking steps to preserve and index the chronologically arranged collection and the 1979-1982 negatives are more accessible. Although the collection does include a relatively small amount of color film, the exhibit is limited to black-and-white because the Archives has not yet begun organizing the color (it awaits our attention in refrigerated storage). Hopefully, there will be another exhibit in the future that will draw on as yet unknown collection resources.

To make the selection, the curator surveyed contact sheets of black-and-white negatives produced by Chuck Steiner of the Archives staff and looked for images that were strong visually, included a variety of subject matter, and touched on major recurring themes such as entertainment and recreation; disasters and other events; sports; nationally known celebrities, such as politicians and musicians; celebrations and holidays; local history and personalities; crime; religion; weather; and the natural environment.

Collectively, the forty images portray life in Monmouth County about thirty years ago, with a preponderance of views taken in the Eastern part of Monmouth, as that area was emphasized in the *Register*'s coverage. While three decades may not seem like a long time ago, viewers will find that some things have changed significantly since then. For example, as seen in these photographs, in the early 1980s, personal computers were still a novelty; CDs had not yet replaced vinyl records as the dominant music medium; the closing of Fort Monmouth was not on the horizon; and centenarians were much rarer than today. Naturally, some clothing and hair styles may seem rather out of fashion, at least for the moment. Some events depicted from this period had a long-lasting impact, including the opening of a five-mile stretch of Rt. 18 and the closest gubernatorial election in the history of New Jersey. Also documented here is the local awareness of national news, such as the Iran hostage crisis and the inauguration of Ronald Reagan in 1981. Other photos confirm that some of the best aspects of Monmouth County—its natural beauty, efforts to preserve the environment, opportunities for celebration and entertainment, commerce related to the proximity of the Jersey shore, the democratic political process, support for law enforcement, and educational opportunities—thankfully, have not changed. And we

are reminded by these photos that some regrettable events like fires, floods, and crime, are perennial problems.

Given the size of the collection, forty other photographs of equal or greater interest could have been selected. Nevertheless, we trust that those on view here, amounting to less than one-third of one percent of the collection, will serve as an indicator of the breadth, depth, and quality of what these photographers accomplished.

GDS

Photographers' Biographies

Carl Andrews

A native of Rumson, Carl Andrews began photography during high school, then majored in the subject at the Rochester Institute of Technology. He worked for the *Red Bank Register* from 1982 to 1984 as a stringer, except for three or four months when he replaced full-time photographer Don Lordi, when Lordi was disabled as a result of a knee injury. In 1985 -1988, Andrews lived in Jordan, where he worked at Yarmouk University as a photographer in the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology. Upon his return to the U.S., he was employed by the Semitic Museum at Harvard University as photographer and worked on archaeological excavations in Israel, Egypt and China. Later, Andrews obtained a computer science degree and now writes software for Massachusetts General Hospital. He and his family live in Boston.

James J. Connolly

Jim Connolly began his career as a lab assistant in 1979 for Jeff Martin and Joe Hall at "Photographic Associates" in Red Bank and was hired by *Red Bank Register* Chief Photographer Don Lordi in 1980 as a freelancer. In 1982, the *Asbury Park Press* hired him as a staff photographer and he was promoted to Chief Photographer in 1998 and Photo Editor in 2000. Connolly is currently the Regional Multimedia Editor for the *Asbury Park Press*, *Home News Tribune*, *Courier News* and *Daily Record*. He continues to shoot as a freelancer and his current work can be viewed at http://jamesjconnollyphotography.com

Carl Forino

Carl Forino started using a camera at age 14 and over time became a serious amateur photographer, doing his own film development and printing. At age 22, after taking a class at Brookdale Community College, his transition to professional began as a weekend staff photographer in December 1974 for the *Red Bank Register*; he went full-time in 1976. In 1985, after the departure of Don Lordi, Forino was promoted to Chief Photographer and Photo Editor and served in that capacity until February of 1987 when he left to join the photography staff of the *News Tribune* in Woodbridge. In 1991, Forino became Chief Photographer and Photo editor of the *News Tribune* and served in that capacity until October of 1995 when that paper was merged with the *Home News* of New Brunswick under new ownership. Forino then went back to school to learn computer networking and since then has remained active in the field of Information Technology.

Dave Kingdon

After college and a stint in the Army, in which he served as a tank commander, Fair Haven native Dave Kingdon started doing photography with his wife Joan. Becoming proficient in camera work, he put together a portfolio and presented it to Chief Photographer Don Lordi at the *Red Bank Register*. Lordi hired him as a stringer in 1978 and, after three months, Kingdon became a regular full-time employee until 1981, when he left to become a corporate photographer for Squibb (now Bristol-Myers Squibb) at its headquarters in Lawrenceville. Following about a year at Squibb, Kingdon opened his own photo studio at 1 W. Front Street in Red Bank that he maintained until 2007. There, for the first twenty years, he did mostly corporate, advertising, and sports photography but later specialized in weddings and portraits. When digital photography began to supercede film-based technology, Kingdon decided to switch careers and pursue a life-long interest in sailing. He became a yacht broker and currently manages Ocean Gate Yacht Sales, http://OceanGateYachtSales.com

Don Lordi

Born in 1941, Don Lordi began photographing when he was ten years old and started working at a camera shop in his native Irvington at the age of fourteen. After doing photography in the Navy, Lordi worked for another camera shop in Asbury Park that was called by the *Red Bank Register* when they needed to have a photo taken. In 1965, after doing some of this contract work for the *Register*, Lordi accepted the newspaper's offer of a full-time job as the firm's only full-time photographer. His responsibilities, as Chief Photographer, included hiring other photographers to shoot freelance jobs. Lordi continued in this role until 1985, when the *Register* was bought out by Capital Cities and the senior staff was laid off. Lordi then began his own photo studio in Howell, which upon his early retirement due to an accident in 1994, he turned over to his associate, Joseph Sharp. The studio continues today as All Is Sharp Photography.

Larry Perna

Larry Perna is a graduate of Long Branch High School, where he was interested in art and did an ink drawing of the school that was used in publications. He bought two cameras and began doing photography enthusiastically while in the Air Force, when he was stationed in Goose Bay, Labrador, between 1962 and 1966. A couple of years later, he joined the *Red Bank Register* staff, working for Chief Photographer Don Lordi. Perna recalls that he was getting a haircut when the *Register* offices on Chestnut Street near the Red Bank Railroad Station burned on Christmas Eve, 1970. He ran over to see the flames engulfing the structure and its contents, including the negative archives. Often working the evening shift, Perna continued on the *Register* staff until 1985, when many of the employees were let go following a change in ownership of the newspaper. Subsequently, he served as an instructor for Coast Driving School until his retirement. A seventy-one-year-old resident of Howell, Perna now expresses his creativity through needlepoint pictures derived from his imagination.

Red Bank Register Projects at the Monmouth County Archives: A Chronology

1878, June 27. Founded by Henry Clay and John H. Cook, the *Red Bank Register* begins publication as a politically independent weekly. While Clay left after about a year, Cook remained with the paper until his death in 1930.

1881. *Register* offices consumed by fire, the first of two in its history.

1897. *Register* constructs and moves into new Register Building at 40-42 Broad Street.

1910. Cook incorporates the *Register* with himself as major stockholder.

1928. Cook sells controlling interest to Thomas Irving Brown, who runs the paper until his death in 1959.

1959. *Register* becomes a daily, issued Monday through Friday.

1965. *Register* sold to Toledo Blade Co. Arthur Z. Kamin, who started as a reporter in 1956, appointed as editor and adds president to his title in 1971. Don Lordi joins staff as the only full - time photographer, later joined by others.

1968. *Register* outgrows its Broad Street building and moves to 105 Chestnut Street, Red Bank.

1970, Christmas Eve. Fire destroys *Red Bank Register* facilities at 105 Chestnut Street with loss of newspaper's archives. *Register* thereafter operates in Tinton Falls and Shrewsbury. *Register* Librarian Olga Boeckel begins a new clippings and photo morgue. Clippings filed in envelopes in groups: Subjects (General), Monmouth County Regional School Boards, Monmouth County Government, Monmouth County Municipalities, New Jersey Government, and People. Negative envelopes assigned sequential numbers and filed numerically, which is also more or less chronological.

1976. *Register* thriving with increased circulation. Sunday edition introduced.

1982. Toledo Blade Co. sells *Register* to Capital Cities Communications, Inc. James E. McKearney Jr. appointed president and publisher.

1985. In January, McKearney resigns. Shortly thereafter, in what staff call the "Valentine's Day Massacre," twenty-four employees, including key personnel, are terminated. About this time, other staff also are laid off or leave voluntarily, including chief photographer Don Lordi and editor Arthur Z. Kamin. Later that year, Capital Cities sells *Register* to Price Communications.

1987. Between 1985 and 1987, circulation declines by 50%. Price Communications sells *Register* to Greater Media, Inc. Change of ownership at *Register* leads to disposal of archival material from the years 1970-1987. Portions of the newspaper clippings morgue, excluding the People file, donated to Monmouth County Library - Eastern Branch by *Register* Librarian Olga Boeckel. Boeckel divides negatives between Middletown Historical Society, 1970-1979, and Shrewsbury Historical Society, 1979-1987 (bulk). Monmouth County Historian and Rumson resident George Moss obtains 225 negative envelopes pertaining to Rumson and Sea Bright from Shrewsbury Historical Society. What was not transferred, including the photographic print archives and the People clippings file, was probably discarded.

1989. *Register* changes from daily paper to weekly tabloid. 103 full and part-time staff laid off.

1991, Nov. 13. *Register* ceases publication.

1996. Newspaper clippings morgue transferred from Monmouth County Library - Eastern Branch to Monmouth County Library Headquarters in Manalapan and stored in the Monmouth County Archives.

1999. *Red Bank Register* Clippings Collection acquired by Monmouth County Archives from Monmouth County Library.

2004. George H. Moss Jr. donates about 225 envelopes of negatives and film positives from the *Red Bank Register*, pertaining to Rumson and Sea Bright.

2005. The Archives exhibit in October on the history of photography in Monmouth County includes one photograph made from a *Red Bank Register* negative donated by George H. Moss Jr. Archives initiates PastPerfect database to index *Register* negatives and film positives, which are transferred to archival sleeves. Archives begins making contact sheets of the black-and-white negatives and scanning the contact sheets for use in the PastPerfect database.

2008. Approximately 15,000 envelopes of *Register* negatives and positive transparencies donated to the Monmouth County Archives by Donald Burden, Shrewsbury Historical Society. Archives begins transferring envelopes to archival sleeves, making contact sheets of the black-and-white negatives, and scanning the contact sheets for use in the PastPerfect database. The Middletown Township Public Library begins online access to the *Red Bank Register*, 1871-1991; the images are produced by scanning microfilm. The Archives exhibit in October on the history of sports in Monmouth County includes some prints made from *Red Bank Register* negatives.

2009. The Archives begins using volunteers on the *Red Bank Register* Negatives Project. In 2009, four volunteers worked 84 hours. A guide to the collection is prepared and added to Archives' web site.

2010. Twenty-two volunteers work about 525 hours on the *Red Bank Register* negatives project.

Jo-Ann Fabrics & Crafts, Shrewsbury, 1976

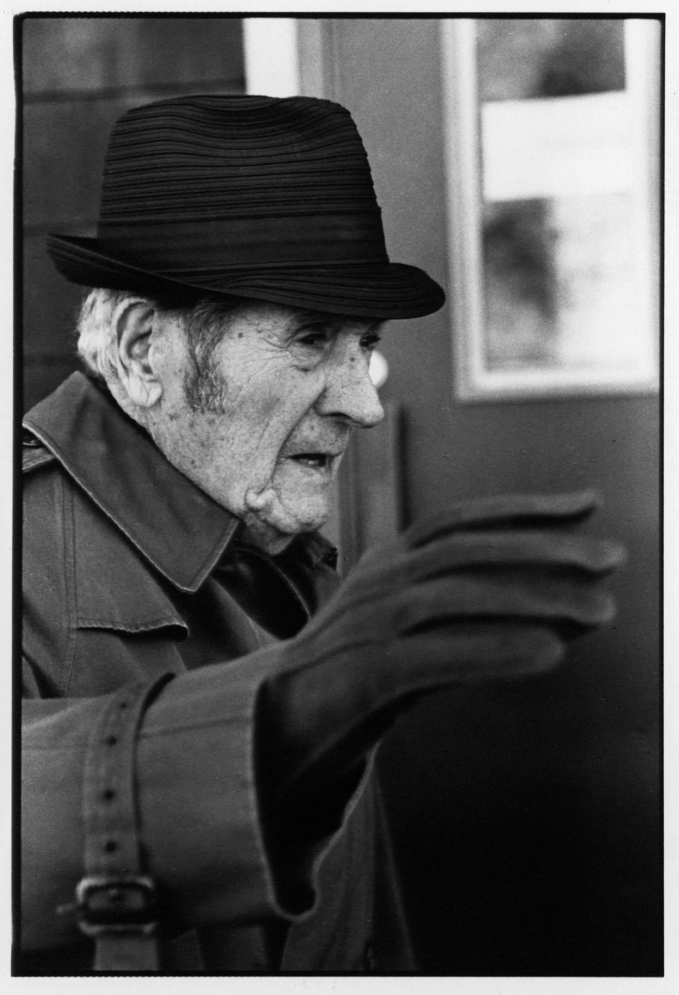
Most of the *Red Bank Register* negatives held by the Monmouth County Archives are from 1979 or later but this is an example of an earlier image. In an unpublished photograph taken in November 1976, four unidentified people examine a bolt of cloth at Jo-Ann's Fabrics & Crafts in the Shrewsbury Shopping Center. The photo captures fashions of the 1970s, including hair styles, eye glasses, the plaid sports jacket worn by the man on the left, and the woman's hat. It also shows some of the store environment. Jo-Ann's continues to operate both in Shrewsbury and Brick Township. [1976-11-002-2RBR]

Two Horses on a Foggy Day

This photograph is an example of the many images in the Red Bank Register Negative Collection that, as far as is known, was never published. Early one morning in December 1977, a staff photographer was driving down a rural road, probably in or near Shrewsbury, and paused to take this photo over a fence. The fog is hovering over the moist land, with trees reflected in the water in the foreground. Two horses stand close to each other, head to tail. Are they standing that way for security, so they can see in all directions, or for warmth? We don't know but we can empathize with their desire for companionship. Note that the photographer left much space around the horses, emphasizing their aloneness in the landscape. He didn't need to take this picture to complete an assignment but the peaceful scene was so compelling that he had to record it for posterity. So here it is. [1977-12-003-23RBR]

Santa Claus Arrives in Red Bank by Helicopter

Santa gave his reindeer the day off and arrived for a pre-Christmas visit via helicopter on December 15, 1979, as seen in this unpublished photo by *Red Bank Register* photographer Don Lordi. Dignitaries on hand to welcome him included Councilman George G. Ward, Fire Chief Arcato Forgione, Police Chief George Clayton, and Paul Morton, Executive Director of the Retail Trade Board. He then went for a ride on a fire engine through local towns, meeting with young children and learning their wishes for holiday gifts. [1979-12-002-7RBR]



Richie the Boot Emerges from Courthouse, December 17, 1979

Richard Boiardo (1890-1984), inspiration for the TV mobster, Tony Soprano, got his moniker because he liked to stomp on people. As caporegime in the Genovese crime family, Richie the Boot became the Newark, NJ, organized crime boss after working in Lucky Luciano's organization. At 5 feet, 7 inches, and 210 pounds, Boiardo deserved his reputation for toughness, having survived twelve bullet wounds from an ambush by his future partner, Abner "Longy" Zwillman. In this photo, a variant of one published in the *Red Bank Register* on December 18, 1979, the 89-year-old Boiardo is encouraging photographers to take more pictures as he emerges from the Somerset County Courthouse, along with other members of an alleged conspiracy, "This Thing of Ours." The court hearings were held to determine the admissibility of evidence of undercover audiotapes, in which Boiardo and others were recorded with the recently assassinated Anthony "Little Pussy" Russo, a major crime figure in Long Branch who reported to Boiardo. The tapes contained references to shakedowns, rubouts, and associates such as James Fyfe ("Jimmy the Brush"), Anthony Provenzano ("Tony Pro"), and Russo's brother John ("Big Pussy"). It is possible that the Boot ordered the hit on Little Pussy, carried out by three Genovese killers. [1979-12-015-30RBR]

"Anthony Russo (mobster)" Wikipedia (last accessed May 16, 2011).

Assassin almost became victim," *Red Bank Register*, December 21, 1979, pp. 1, 5.

"Defendants called to tapes hearings," *Red Bank Register*, December 16, 1979, p. 1.

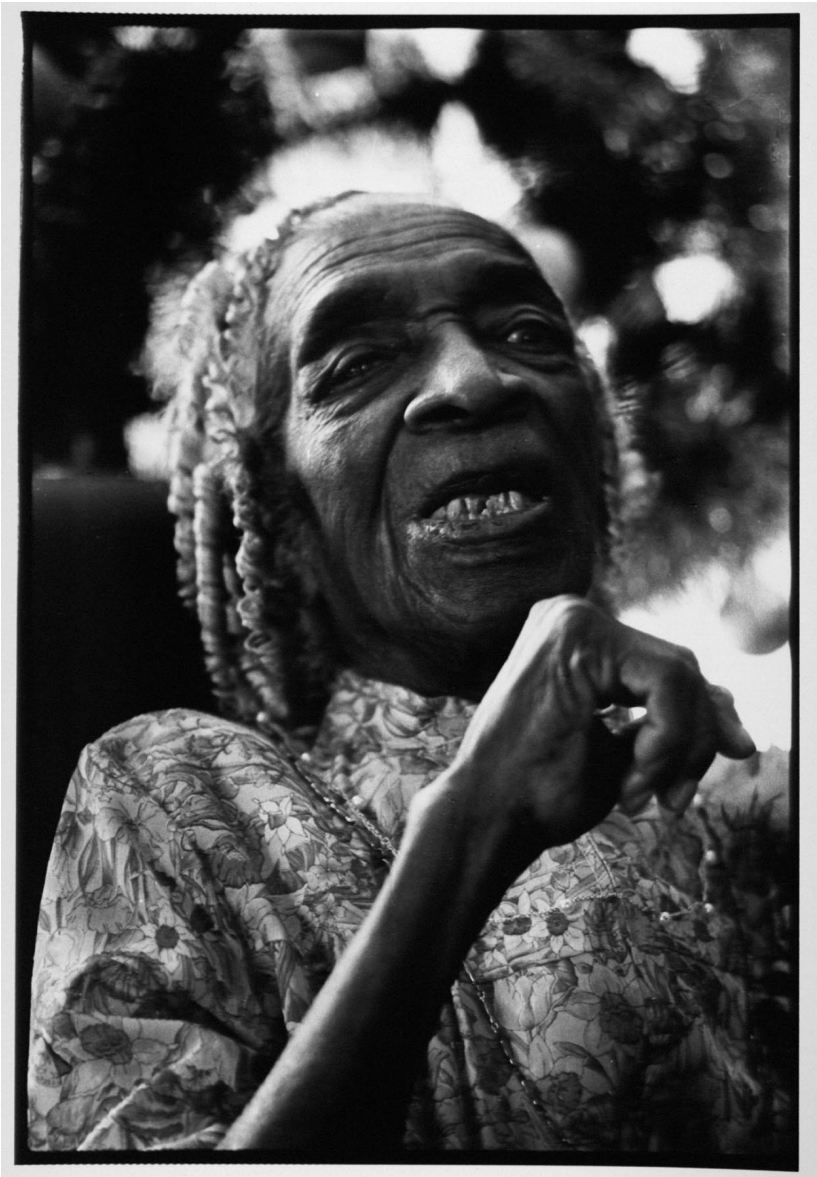
"The gangland tapes go on, and on," *Red Bank Register*, December 21, 1979, p. 5.

"Mobsters had plans to shake down businessmen," *Red Bank Register*, December 19, 1979, p. 5.

"Pair Linked to Murder," *Red Bank Register*, December 19, 1979, pp. 1, 5.

"Richard Boiardo," Wikipedia (last accessed February 8, 2011).

"'Richie the Boot', 6 others show up in court," *Red Bank Register*, December 18, 1979, pp. 1, 4.



Katie Smith Celebrates 105th Birthday

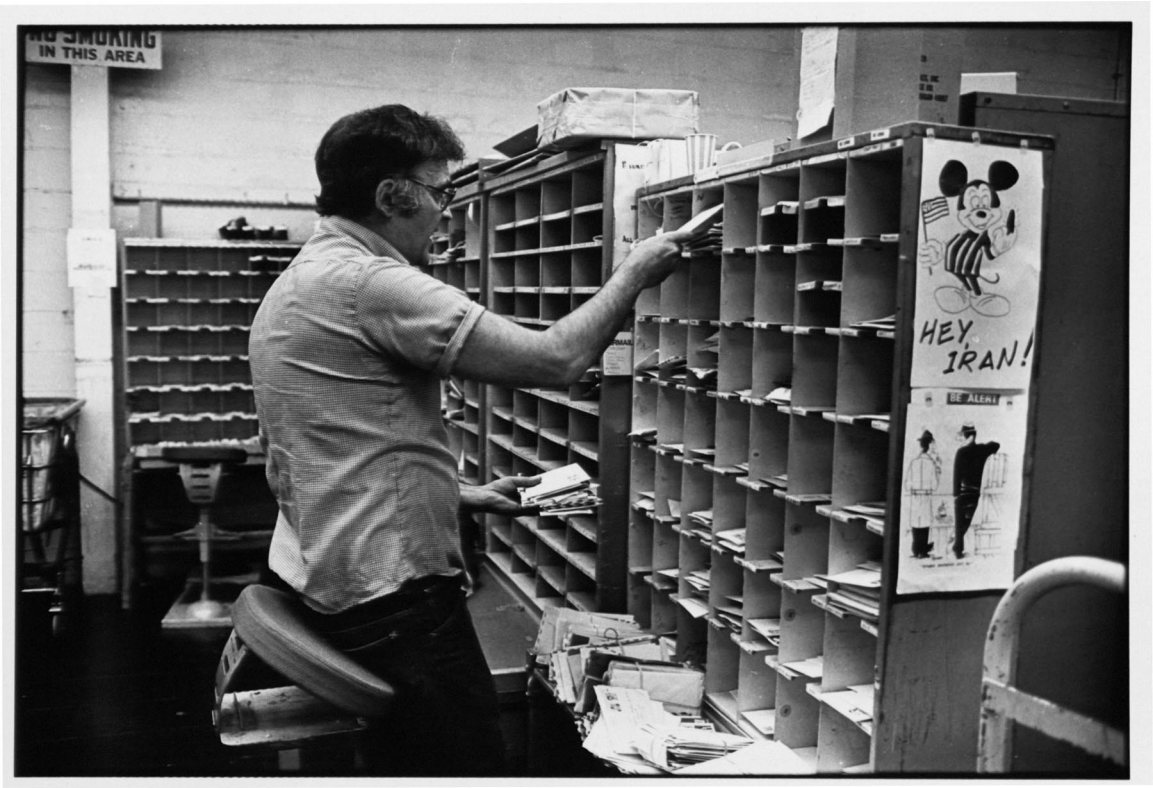
Life expectancy in the United States increased from 49 in 1900 to 76 in 1996, with a corresponding increase in the number of centenarians, the fastest growing age cohort in the U.S. Census in terms of percentages. In 1990, there were 4,402 people age 105 and older reported in the U.S. Census, of whom 1,104 were Black, well over their percentage in the general population. In the last twenty years, the number of centenarians has doubled. By 2050, there may be more than one million centenarians according to some estimates. 105-year-olds were still news in 1979, when this portrait was made by Don Lordi. Katie Smith of Monmouth County graced the pages of the *Red Bank Register* on December 24, two days before her birthday. She was born in South Carolina on December 26, 1874, and began living at the Red Bank Convalescent Center in 1976, when she was 102. During her long life, she worked as a housekeeper in Shrewsbury for thirty years. About four out of five centenarians today are female. [1979-12-028-27RBR]

Pinning Ceremony for Graduating Registered Nurses, 1979

The Brookdale Community College Nursing Program traces its origins to the Monmouth Memorial Hospital School of Nursing, established in 1955. After Brookdale opened in 1969, the hospital's school was moved to the campus, where the first nursing graduation was held in 1970. The National League for Nursing has continuously accredited the Brookdale program since June 1979. In this photo by Don Lordi, three members of the December 1979 graduating class of registered nurses get pinned at ceremonies at Brookdale's Center for Performing Arts by Delores Yars, right, director of nursing and allied health. From left are Regina Torres of Belford, who received an award for clinical and academic excellence; Brenda Tremolet of Little Silver, who won an outstanding service award; and Brenda Mayo of Long Branch, the keynote speaker who gave the farewell address. The photo was published in the *Red Bank Register* on December 21, 1979. [1979-12-35-003]

Governor Byrne Opens Five-Mile Stretch of Rt. 18 in Colts Neck and Tinton Falls

Route 18 has had a significant impact on economic development and quality of life in Monmouth County. Proposed in the 1950s, construction began in 1966 and has continued periodically ever since. In this photo by Don Lordi, Governor Brendan T. Byrne holds a key that symbolically opens a new five-mile section, extending the north portion from New Brunswick to Wayside Road and the Garden State Parkway. At center right is William F. Smith, chairman, New Jersey Highway Authority, and on the right, Louis J. Gambaccini, commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation. Immediately to the left of Byrne is Jim Crawford, who worked in DOT media relations. The man at the far left is unidentified. The *Red Bank Register* published a cropped version of this photo on December 23, 1979. Plans are underway in 2011 to extend Rt. 18 from Rt. 287 in the north to Brielle in the south. [1979-12-041-21A]



Holiday Greetings for Iran Hostages

Fifty-two US citizens were held hostage in Tehran for 444 days from November 4, 1979, to January 20, 1981. (Fourteen others were released before the others and six escaped.) According to some analysts, the crisis led to the defeat of Jimmy Carter in November 1980 and the election of Ronald Reagan, who gave his Inaugural Address on the day the hostages were let go. The Iran Hostage Crisis was still front page news on December 23, 1979, when a cropped version of this photo by Dave Kingdon of Thomas Marshall, air mail expediter at the Red Bank Post Office Annex in Shrewsbury, was published in the *Red Bank Register*. To cheer the Americans being held by militant Iranian students, who had taken over the U.S. Embassy, Red Bank residents sent numerous cards, letters, and gifts. Local postal officials estimated that, at the peak of the deluge, about one thousand letters per night were sent out. [1979-12-43-12A]

Blessed Bulletproof Vests for Long Branch Police

Although armor dates back to ancient times, the bulletproof vest came into use by the late 16th century in Europe and Japan. Protective vests became so popular during the gangster era of the late 1920s and early 1930s that police began using higher caliber bullets to penetrate them. In 1969, American Body Armor began to produce the Barrier Vest, made from quilted nylon and multiple steel plates. Marketed to American law enforcement agencies by Smith & Wesson, it was the first police vest to be used extensively during dangerous operations. Subsequently, vests manufactured of Kevlar, a synthetic fiber first used as a replacement for steel in racing tires, became the standard. In this December 1979 photo by Dave Kingdon, the last of fifty Kevlar bulletproof vests purchased for the Long Branch police force is accepted by officer Ann Samuels from Mayor Henry R. Cioffi and Freeholder Jane G. Clayton, the first female Freeholder in the history of Monmouth County and later County Clerk. The vests, blessed by Pope John Paul II, who was beatified on May 1, 2011, were the gift of St. Girard Chapel at 116 Chelsea Avenue. Alphonse Alfone, papal emissary for St. Girard's Guild, arranged for the papal blessing. [1979-12-050-23RBR]

Gospel Choir Honors Martin Luther King, Jr.

At the Pilgrim Baptist Church of Red Bank on January 20, 1980, the St. Paul Gospel Choir led a racially mixed congregation of 300 local residents in song to mark the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Gospel hymns included "O Lord, Bless Me" and "Going to Ride That Glory Train." Ministers from four local churches took part in the service, followed by Dr. Marcus A. Pierce, former lead minister of St. Paul's Missionary Baptist Church. Pierce, who according to *Register* reporter Andrew Sheehan, "started slowly but gained momentum and steam like the churning pistons of a railroad engine," had been instrumental in persuading New Jersey to make Dr. King's January 15th birthday a state holiday in 1975, before it became a federal holiday in 1983. In his remarks, Dr. Pierce traced the history of the civil rights movement and averred that no comparable leader had emerged since Dr. King's death as a consequence of the selfish ambition of politicians. By comparison, King, stated Pierce, was a servant of God whose actions stemmed from his "uncontained sense of gratitude." [Photo by Carl Forino, 1980-01-137-10ARBR]

"300 pay tribute to King," *Red Bank Register*, January 21, 1980, p. 3.

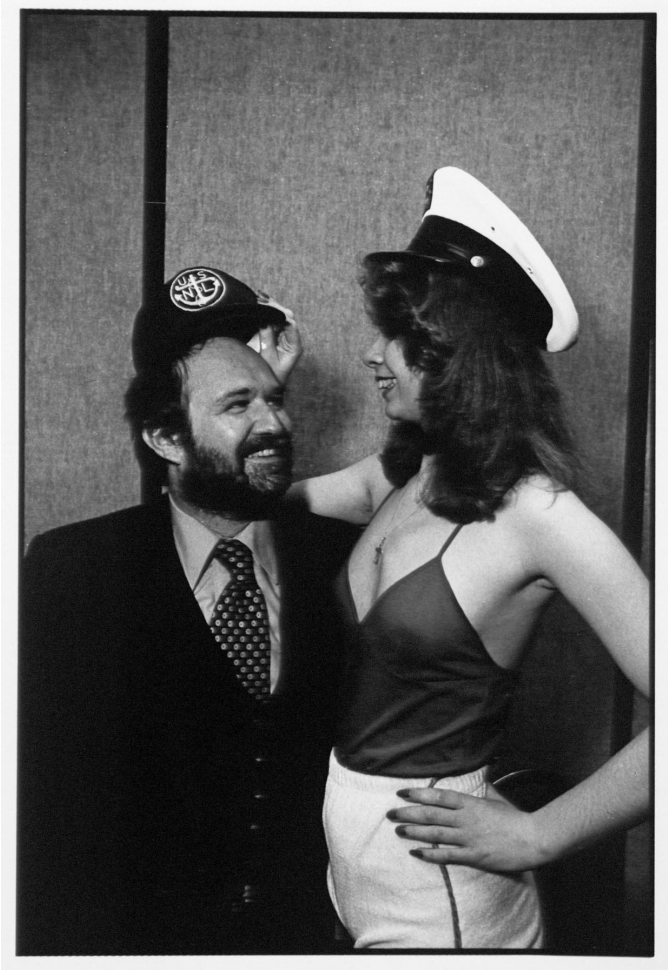
Teens Examine Vinyl Record Albums at Jack's Music Shop

Teens visit a music store at the end of the vinyl era, which began in 1948, when Columbia introduced the 33 1/3 rpm LP. By the end of the 1950s, it had almost completely superceded the 45 and 78 rpm formats for albums, although 45s for singles continued as a standard. By 1980, the LP's heyday was about to terminate. The Compact Disc (CD) had already been demonstrated but would not be available until October 1, 1982, when Billy Joel's *52nd Street* was released on CD in Japan along with Sony's CD player. CD sales far outpaced LPs by 1990, although LPs continue to be popular today with audiofiles and those who prefer the larger packaging of records. In Carl Forino's photo, Andrea Kaplan, 16, and Karen Rabin, 15, of Rumson peruse record albums at Jack's in Red Bank, where the largest selling titles were by Tom Petty, Neil Young, Styx, Led Zeppelin, and Fleetwood Mac, with some of these appealing to older buyers. The accompanying article in the *Red Bank Register*, January 27, 1980, noted that, with rising inflation, 14- to 18-year-olds were being more cautious in their purchases; music, clothes, and movies accounted for most of their expenditures. [1980-01-104-24ARBR]

Bimbo Imbimbo Dispatches Jokes Along with Cabs

Photographer Dave Kingdon of the *Register* staff caught George "Bimbo" Imbimbo hard at work at his Yellow Cab desk in this photo published on February 10, 1990. Bimbo, according to reporter Andrew Sheehan, was a night dispatcher who "turned an ordinarily mundane job into a great late night talk show." From his office next to the Red Bank train station, Bimbo humorously orchestrated the movements of taxis, known as "Bimbo's Nighties," throughout Monmouth County, from "Liverview Hospital" to "Dead Bank," from 7pm to 3am. His drivers, none of them "altar boys," went by nicknames such as "Baron Von Alehouse," "Sweet William," "The Wandering Jew," "The Bayshore Bandit," "Lester the Molester," and "Mellow Yellow." An ex-bartender from the Bronx, Bimbo had a "spiderweb network of county streets forever floating in his head," and, in a voice some thought sounded like disc jockey Wolfman Jack, gave instant directions in an era before satellite navigation systems and Internet maps. [1980-01-166-6ARBR]

"He dispatches jokes along with cabs," *Red Bank Register*, February 10, 1980, p. B12.



Karen Anderson, "Captain" of the Jersey Coast Power Boat Show

The Jersey Coast Boat show, held at Convention Hall in Asbury Park, was an annual boat sale that began in 1954 during the Eisenhower era when gasoline was inexpensive. Power boats became very popular in the 1950s but during the 1970s, the huge increase in fuel costs caused a significant decline in motorboat recreation. Nevertheless, the boat show continued to draw large crowds. This unpublished promo shot by Carl Forino was intended to publicize the expo to be held February 16-24, 1980. Karen Anderson of Bradley Beach was selected as "Captain" of the event, along with First Mate Cathie Wood of Wall Township and Second Mate Angel Montefusco of Hazlet. In this photo, Captain Anderson is having fun with Tom Gasque, show director, who is wearing a United States Navy League (USNL) cap. Founded in 1902 with headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, the USNL is now the Navy League of the United States (NLUS), with more than 50,000 members. It informs politicians and the public about the need to fund sea services in the interests of national security; provides support for active duty personnel and their families; and conducts educational programs for youth. [1980-01-178-5RBR]

"Captain and Mates," *Red Bank Register*, January 28, 1980, p. 17.

"The NLUS Story," http://www.navyleague.org/ (last accessed May 6, 2011)

Laura Wisham Turns 109 Years Old

Born on a farm in Jamesburg on Christmas Eve in 1871, Laura Wisham enjoyed exceptional longevity and in May 1966, attended the christening of her great-great granddaughter, Kimberly Roslin, at which five generations of the family were present. At that time, she lived with her great-granddaughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Robert James Roslin, at 9 Yard Avenue in Freehold. Her birthday was celebrated annually in the *Red Bank Register* for the decade after she turned 100 in 1970, when she resided at the John L. Montgomery Medical Home operated by Monmouth County. That year, she went Christmas shopping with a volunteer to the Manalapan Mall and her bowling average was a very respectable 159. Mrs. Wisham seemed very pleased with her life at Montgomery, where she enjoyed weaving small baskets and working in ceramics. For the next decade, a photo of Mrs. Wisham, one of the County's oldest residents, appeared annually in the *Register* to mark her birthday. In 1976, Freeholders Ernest G. Kavelek and Jane Clayton attended her 106th birthday celebration. The following year, she successfully recovered from hip surgery at Freehold Hospital. The last photo of Mrs. Wisham in the *Register* was in 1981, to mark her 110th birthday. A variant of the image on view here by Carl Forino was published in the *Register* on December 23, 1980. [1980-12-083-14RBR]

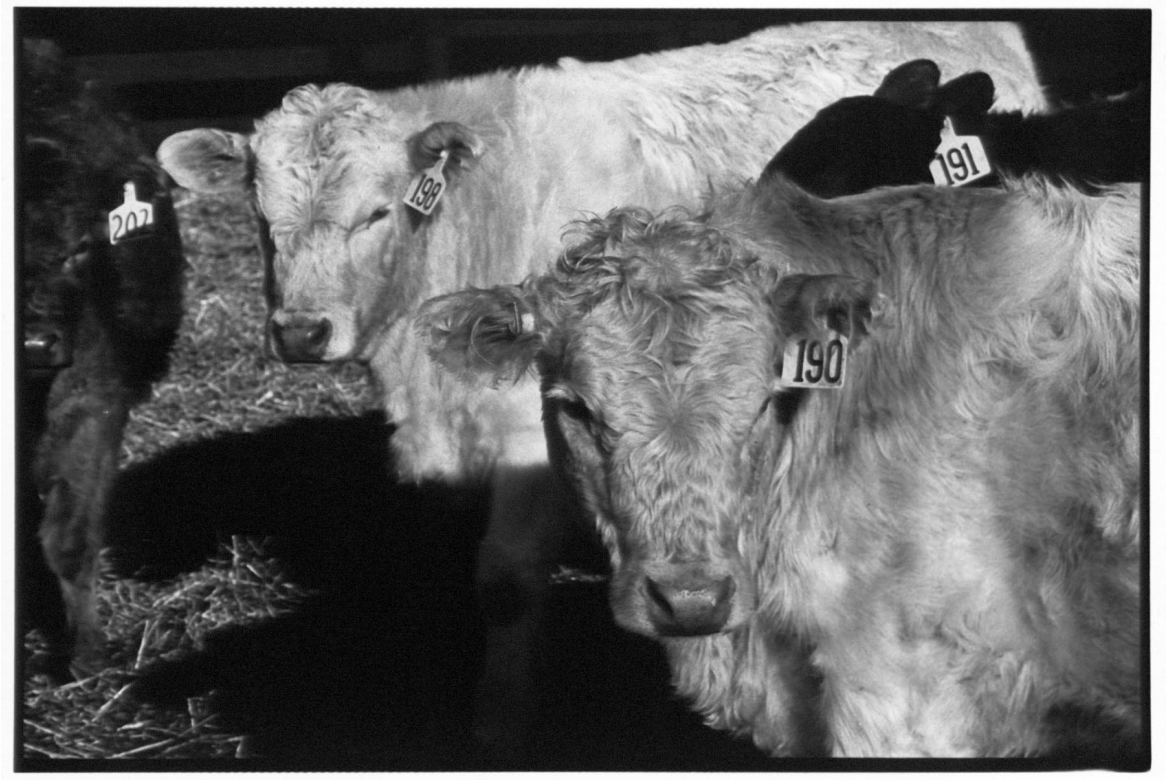
"5 Generations at Christening," *Red Bank Register*, May 4, 1966, p. 19.

"A very happy 109th," Red Bank Register, December 23, 1980, p. 1.

"Christmas Eve Babe Marks 100th Birthday," *Red Bank Register*, December 24, 1971, p. 2.

"Woman to mark 110th birthday," Red Bank Register, December 18, 1981, p. 16.

"Yule Birthday," *Red Bank Register*, November 16, 1977, p. 10.



Murray Greys: A Select Breed of Cattle

Although much of Monmouth County had suburbanized by January 18, 1981, when this photo appeared in the *Red Bank Register*, farming was still an important element in the local economy. For four years at 500-acre Dorbrook Farm in Colts Neck, John Gerow had been one of the few raising and breeding Murray Grey cattle: Ten of the five hundred in the United States were managed by Gerow for owner Murray Rosenberg. Considered "one of the premier breeds of beef cattle in the world," according to *Register* journalist Pam Abouzeid, the Murray Greys earned top prizes in November 1980 at the Eastern National Murray Grey Sale in Louisville, Kentucky, including Erncliff Louise, the top-priced female in the show, which sold for $2,600. Some of Dorbrook's cows weighed 2,000 pounds and were particularly well developed in their hindquarters, which produce prime cuts of finely marbled beef, as contrasted to most cattle with big forequarters that are used for chuck that is often used for hamburger. In this photo, the Murray Greys seem to be enjoying their moment in the sun without a thought of how future diners would be enjoying them in a steakhouse. [1981-01-026-9RBR]

"Murray Greys: A select breed," *Red Bank Register*, January 18, 1981, p. 4.

Charter Fishing Boats in Atlantic Highlands

Atlantic Highlands developed in the 1880s when its pier became an important destination for ferries from New York. In the 1930s, assisted by federal WPA funding, a breakwater and harbor were constructed with space for numerous craft, including fishing boats. Deepwater fishing in the Atlantic Ocean near Monmouth County may have begun with Vikings based in Newfoundland in the 11th century. Today, commercial fishing dominates the collection of seafood, but recreational salt water fishing from charter boats continues, albeit on a reduced scale. The fuel costs to run these boats became much higher in the 1970s and, along with increased government regulations, have led some captains into early retirement. This unpublished photograph by a *Register* photographer shows the harbor at Atlantic Highlands in January 1981 with a number of charter boats, including the *Satellite*, the *Falcon*, and the *Sea Horse*. The Captain of the *Sea Horse*, which is still operating out of Atlantic Highlands, was Ed Bunting, Jr., known as Captain Bunt, who was aided by his father Ed after his retirement from the Coast Guard. Currently, Ed Bunting III, who began his career at age five going to sea with his father and grandfather, is the *Sea Horse's* Captain. [1981-01-030-27ARBR]

Gabrielan, Randall. *Images of America: Atlantic Highlands.* Dover, NH: Arcadia, 1996.

Schaefer, Henry, "Light Tackle Best. . . .," *Red Bank Register*, July 19, 1981, p. C6.

"About the Sea Horse," http://www.seahorsepartyboat.com/about_us.htm

Judy Azzolina Dressed for Inauguration of President Ronald Reagan

"Sheer and Chic" was how the *Red Bank Register* described Judy Azzolina's dress when this photo was published on January 11, 1981. Ms. Azzolina, along with her parents, Joseph and Roselyn Azzolina of Middletown, and her aunt and uncle, Grace and Louis Scaduto, also of Middletown, were looking forward to inaugural activities in Washington, DC. Judy Azzolina worked in her family's business, the Foodtown supermarket chain. Her father Joseph (1926-2010), the president-chairman of Foodtown, was also a philanthropist and public official, serving both in the New Jersey State Assembly and the New Jersey State Senate. While Assemblyman, he was chairman of the *U.S.S. New Jersey* Battleship Commission and is credited for his leading role in bringing the ship to New Jersey in 1999 to become a floating museum in Camden. [1981-01-035-22RBR]

Beachview Rest Home Fire, January 9, 1981

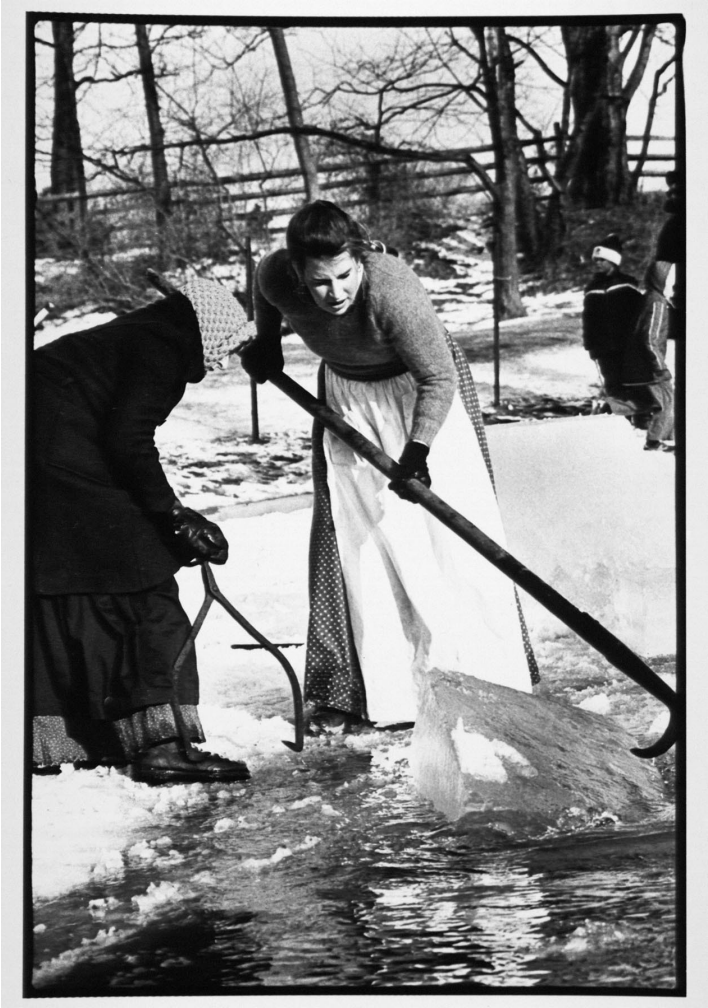
As a city newspaper, the *Red Bank Register* covered national, regional, and local news but most of the *Register* negatives at the Monmouth County Archives depict local stories, including disasters. A tragic boarding house fire, described by County Prosecutor Alexander Lehrer as "the most serious tragedy Monmouth County has ever endured," is documented in both this unpublished dramatic photograph by James J. Connolly as well as in others that appeared in the *Register* in January 1981. Thirty-one of 110 elderly residents of the wooden-frame Beachview Rest Home in Keansburg died in this blaze on a frigid winter night despite valiant efforts by Keansburg's volunteer fire department. There were no sprinklers in the facility, which had formerly been a hotel and tavern; sprinklers were not required for boarding homes although they were mandatory in nursing homes. "It is truly a tragic scene," said Governor Brendan Byrne when he viewed "the ice-coated charred timbers littering the gutted structure" on January 10. The Beachview fire, plus the 1980 Brinley Inn fire in Bradley Beach that resulted in 24 deaths, led to the enactment of the New Jersey's Uniform Fire Safety Act on November 12, 1983. [1981-01-047A-11RBR]

"Two die, 35 missing in fire," *Red Bank Register*, January 9, 1981, p. 1

"Fire up to 24 dead, six missing" and "Changes Suggested in Sprinkler Rules," *Red Bank Register*, January 11, 1981, p. 1, *et seq*.

"Death toll hits 29; fire county's worst," Red Bank Register, January 12, 1981, p. 1.

"New Jersey Uniform Fire Code,"
http://www.jacksonfiredist3.org/FIRE%20SAFETY%20MAIN%20page/Fire%20Safety%20Forms/fire-new-jersey-uniform-fire-code.pdf (Last accessed May 11, 2011)



Ice Cutting at Longstreet Farm, Thompson Park

On January 30, 1981, chunks of ice eighteen inches thick by three feet square were cut from the pond at Longstreet Farm at an ice-cutting demonstration attended by 250 people. After the snow was cleared from the surface, the block to be taken was marked and then cut using an antique ice saw. The block was then pulled from the pond with tongs, placed on a sled drawn by two horses, Jack and Patches, and taken to the ice house, where it would last until autumn. The ice house, still used at the park when winters are sufficiently cold for ice harvesting, has a double-walled construction with saw dust insulation. The *Red Bank Register* published seven photographs of the event by Don Lordi on February 1, 1981, but the one on exhibit here was not used. In this view, Anna Harmyk (right) is using a tool to pull a floating iceberg toward Laura Klein so she can grab it with the tongs. Both women were hard working park interpreters. [1981-01-129-19RBR]

"Ice-cutting: A 19th Century chore," *Red Bank Register*, February 1, 1981, p. B8.

Ice Boats on the Navesink River, Red Bank, January 30, 1981

Ice boating, a concept created by the Dutch in the mid-1600s, was brought to the United States in 1790. Originally, ice boats were sailboats fitted with ski-like runners and set on a strong cross plank under the hull near the bow. Eventually, the boats became sail powered sleds. The North Shrewsbury Ice Boat and Yacht Club, one of the first ice boating clubs in the country, was formed on December 20, 1880, on the Navesink River in Red Bank. 1981 provided some excellent weather for ice boating; unfortunately, not all winters have enabled long racing seasons because the river rarely freezes to the six inches required for safety, and even with solid ice, sometimes snow on the ice or lack of wind makes racing impossible. In this unpublished photo by Don Lordi, several of the Club's antique giant "A" boats are getting ready to race on perfect ice in front of the Molly Pitcher Inn. [1981-01-215-2RBR]

"Ice boat enthusiasts finally have their way," *Red Bank Register*, February 1, 1981, p. C2.

"North Shrewsbury Ice Boat and Yacht Club," http://www.monmouth.com/~nsnj/nsibayc.htm, last accessed July 10, 2008.

"Timeline of North American Iceboat History," http://www.iceboat.org/ice%20boat%20timeline.htm, last accessed June 30, 2008.

Male Witches Appear at Court to Face Charges

Self-proclaimed witches Lance Rakowski and Charles Vanderveer arrive at court for their arraignment hearing on February 23, 1981, in this photo by Carl Forino. The men were arrested on charges of extortion, theft by deception, and animal cruelty. A third suspect, Florence "Kitty" Gorman (not pictured), was also arrested. Prosecutors alleged that the group accepted approximately $5,000 from a Cherry Hill resident in return for curing her diabetes using occult practices. With the publicity surrounding the case, Gorman claimed to fear for her safety. A week after being arrested, her home was burned down by vandals. Charges against Vanderveer were later dropped, while Rakowski and Gorman were found guilty and sentenced to seven years in prison. [1981-02-141RBR]

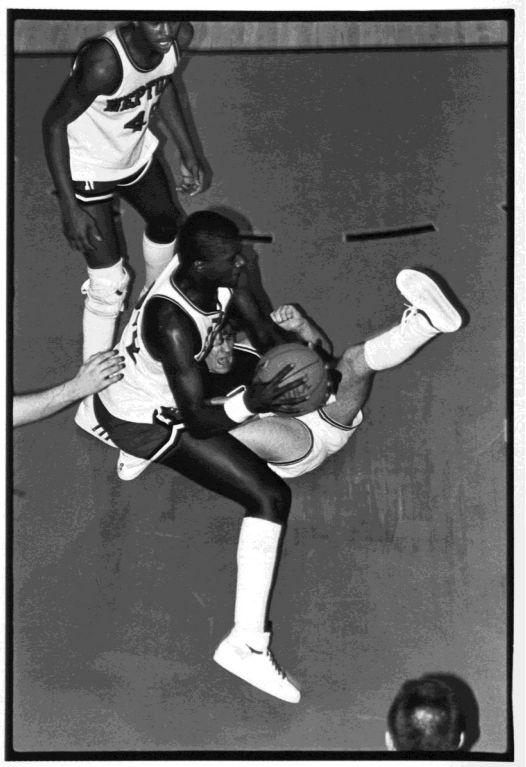
Caption by Tad Shubert

"Religious freedom is witches' defense," *Red Bank Register*, Feb. 23, 1982, pp. 1, 8.

"Witch case suspect held for grand jury," *Red Bank Register*, Feb. 24, 1981, pp. 1, 5.

"Charges dismissed against one witch," *Red Bank Register*, Feb. 25, 1982, pp. 1, 10.

"Two witches moved to prisons; attempted suicides reported," *Red Bank Register*, Apr. 25, 1982, p. A8



Neptune vs. Middletown South in Basketball, February 25, 1981

Local sports, including high school basketball games, constitute one of the major categories in the *Red Bank Register* Negative Collection at the Monmouth County Archives. Typically, a *Register* photographer would make a number of exposures at a game and only one or two would be used in the newspaper. This dramatic unpublished photo of a Neptune Scarlet Flier stealing the ball from a Middletown South Eagle was shot by James J. Connolly. The Scarlet Fliers dominated the game with superior height, including 6-8 Kevin Thomas who upon graduation was signed by Howard University. With two minutes to go, the Fliers led 58-40. They then began stalling and, although the Eagles managed five unanswered points, the Fliers won their 23rd in a row, 58-45, to reach the finals of the Shore Conference boys basketball playoffs. A few days later, at Monmouth College, Neptune decisively conquered Long Branch's Green Wave, 59-28, for the Shore crown. They then finished the season undefeated, winning the Group IV state championship. The 1981 Fliers is one of the few teams in the Neptune High School Athletic Hall of Fame. [1981-02-159-17RBR]

"Fliers look to make title game 24th win," *Red Bank Register*, February 26, 1981, p. 29.

"Neptune High School Starts Hall of Fame," September 26, 2009 http://blogs.app.com/bleacherbanter/2009/09/26/neptune-high-school-starts-hall-of-fame/
(last accessed May 12, 2011)

"Neptune pulls of repeat of Holiday Jubilee final," *Red Bank Register*, March 1, 1981, p. C1.

"Neptune's long, long wait is over," *Red Bank Register*, March 22, 1981, p. C1.

"Recruiting: the Faces of '81," *Washington Post*, June 16, 1981 [via *NewsBank*].

Rumson-Fair Haven High School Students
Protest Teacher Layoffs

In this unpublished photograph, students at Rumson-Fair Haven High School protest the decision by the Board of Education to terminate three teachers in order to stay within its state-mandated spending limit. The students, who said the Board's decision showed "callousness and disdain for teachers as individuals," argued that the school should have waited for older teachers to retire instead of firing younger ones with less seniority. Tora Doremus, Board president, stated that the quality of education at Rumson-Fair Haven would be maintained and that "I don't think this walkout served the students' purpose." More than 300 students participated in the demonstration on Friday morning, March 13, 1979. [1981-03-001-24RBR]

"Walkout's impact still must be assessed," *Red Bank Register*, March 15, 1981, p. B1.

Teresa McNamara, St. Patrick's Day Parade Queen, 1981

An annual event since 1873, the Belmar St. Patrick's Day Parade has become an extravaganza celebrating Irish culture. Teresa McNamara beams after her induction as parade Queen in this Larry Perna photo published in the *Red Bank Register* on March 16, 1981. Thirteen thousand spectators watched the march of "well dressed statesmen, the dance of high stepping young ladies, the shiny horns of several marching bands and the smiles of hundreds of ruddy-faced marchers" in a "carnival-like atmosphere." Among the politicians in attendance were Governor Brendan Byrne, Representative James J. Howard, State Senator Brian Kennedy, Assemblyman William Dowd, and former County Sheriff Paul Kiernan, as well as future governor, Representative James J. Florio. But "the crowd, which watched from behind police barricades or atop store porticos, seemed less interested in the politicians than one another. The eye could not escape the sight of the green sweater, the laughing red face and the pitcher of beer, surely the main attractions of St. Paddy's." [1981-03-083-28ARBR]

"St. Paddy's parade watched by 13,000," *Red Bank Register*, March 16, 1981, p. 1.

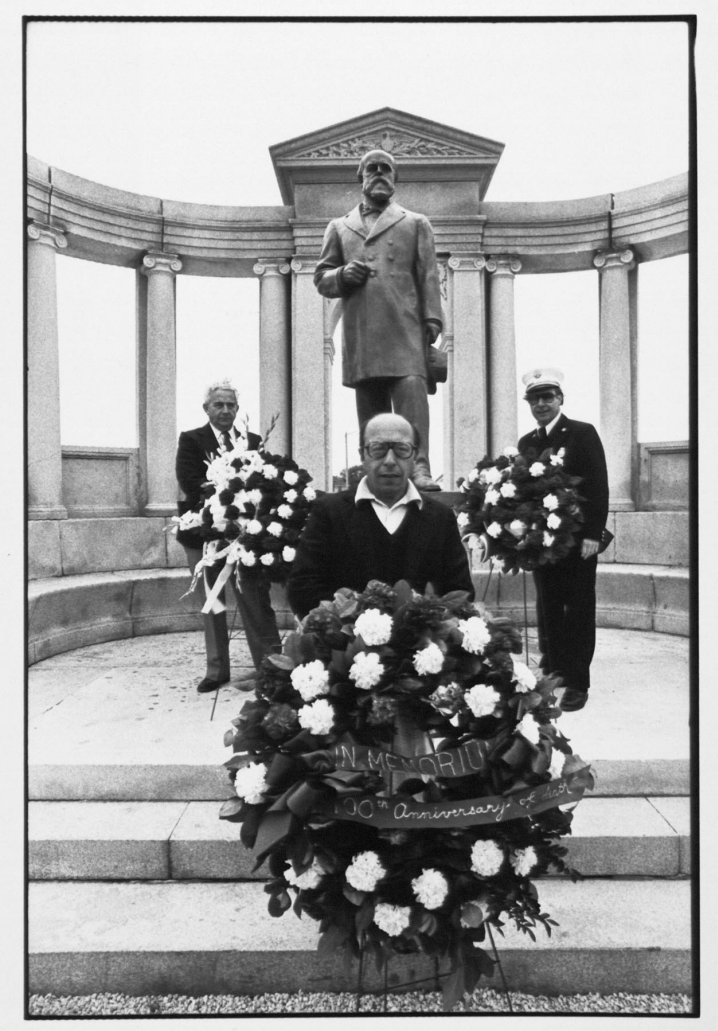
Liberace Displays His Famous Rings at Press Conference

"The King of Bling," Wladziu Valentino Liberace (1919-1987), was in the midst of a week-long engagement at the Garden State Arts Center in Holmdel when this unpublished photo was taken by *Red Bank Register* photographer Don Lordi (a variant accompanied an article on September 2, 1981). With flamboyant flair, "Mr. Showmanship" averaged more than $5 million per year earnings for twenty-five years. Twice-voted, "Best Dressed Entertainer," his million-dollar wardrobe could be viewed at the Liberace Museum in Las Vegas, which closed in October 2010. On tour with "The Glitter Man" in 1981 was his 23-year-old Scottish protégé, the multi-talented vocalist and instrumentalist Domenick Allen (to the right of Liberace in the photo), who toured with him for four years. In 2011, Allen sang and played guitar in a classic rock show, "VINYL," at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas. [1981-09-003-13RBR]

"Domenick Allen Returns to the Suncoast Showroom Memorial Day Weekend with Classic Rock Show VINYL, May 28-29," Las Vegas Online Entertainment Guide [Internet, last accessed May 17, 2011]

Barron, James. "Liberace, Flamboyant Pianist, Is Dead," *New York Times*, February 6, 1987.

"Liberace hails America," *Red Bank Register*, September 1, 1981, p. 11.



President James Garfield Honored a Century after his Death, September 19, 1981

On July 2, 1881, President Garfield was shot at a railroad station in Washington, DC. Garfield was assassinated by Charles Guiteau, an attorney who had supported Garfield's campaign for president and was incensed about not being rewarded with an embassy position in Paris. The injured Garfield was brought to the Elberon section of Long Branch, where he died on September 19 as a consequence of mismanaged medical care. In 1918, a monument with a 7-foot statue facing the ocean was erected in his honor in Ocean Park (now Garfield Park). A century after his death, Garfield was honored in a ceremony thinly attended by a handful of dignitaries and local residents at the memorial, as seen in this photo by James J. Connelly. Long Branch Mayor Henry R. Ciotti holds the wreath, flanked by George Savoth, first vice president of the Chamber of Commerce, and First Assistant Fire Chief Savey Pedone. The statue was subsequently relocated to Presidential Park, now adjoining the Ocean Place Resort & Spa, and rededicated in July 1997. Another move was unauthorized: In 1965, for reasons unknown, vandals rotated the one ton statue 180 degrees so Garfield faced west. Authorities pivoted it back. [1981-09-123-35RBR]

"100 years after his death, Garfield still honored by city," *Red Bank Register*, September 18, 1981, p. 7.

"Brief Rite honors Garfield century after his demise," *Red Bank Register*, September 20, 1981, p. A2.

Gabrielan, Randall G. *Long Branch: People and Places* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia, 1998), p. 111.

"Garfield Statue at Long Branch, N.J.," *Annual Report, American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society* (Albany, NY: J.B. Lyon, 1919), p. 194. [Via Google Books]

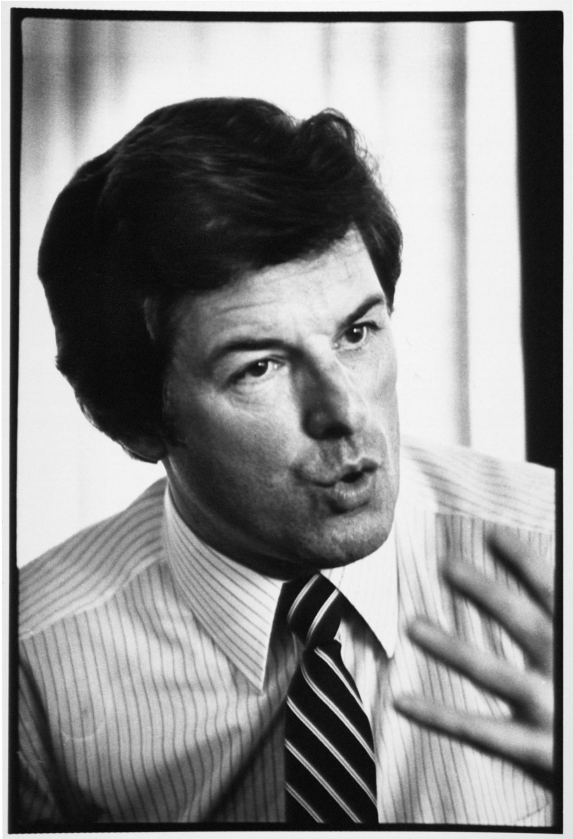
"Statue Does About Face," *Red Bank Register*, November 15, 1965, p. 3.

"Garfield Statue Stays," *Red Bank Register*, February 27, 1986, p. 3.

"Garfield Statue to Be Relocated," *Red Bank Register*, November 26, 1958, p. 13.

Robertson, Archie, "Murder Most Foul," *American Heritage*, 15:5 (August 1964), 90-104.

"Troops for Unveiling; Plans Under Way for Unveiling of President Garfield Statue," *Red Bank Register*, September 21, 1918, p. 12.



U.S. Representative James J. Florio Campaigns for Governor in 1981

Democratic nominee Jim Florio, born in 1937, was interviewed at the editorial offices of the *Red Bank Register* on October 16, 1981, while campaigning for the New Jersey gubernatorial election. *Register* photographer Don Lordi took this unpublished photograph (two others were used) during the one-hour interview, at which the candidate ate numerous chocolate-chip cookies baked by *Register* bookkeeper Ann Crawford. Beginning in 1970, Florio served four years in the New Jersey State Assembly. He then moved up to the U.S. House of Representatives, serving until 1990. While in Congress, he authored the Superfund legislation to clean up the nation's most toxic waste sites. Florio's 1981 attempt to become governor failed in the closest gubernatorial election in New Jersey history, when he lost to Tom Kean, but in 1989 he ran again and won. While governor from 1990 to 1994, to address a $3 billion deficit, Florio balanced the state budget through a huge tax increase and a cut of 1,500 government jobs, and his popularity declined precipitously. Florio then lost his bid for re-election to Christine Todd Whitman, New Jersey's first female governor. More recently, Florio has worked as an attorney and has taught public policy at Rutgers University. [1981-10-139-8RBR]

"Florio outlines his opinions," *Red Bank Register*, October 18, 1981, p. 3.

"Jim Florio: A chip off the old cookie," *Red Bank Register*, October 18, 1981, p. 3.

"Florio: State needs a 'Stockman,'" *Red Bank Register*, October 18, 1981, p. 1.

"James Florio," Wikipedia (last accessed May 19, 2011.

Monmouth County Hunt Club Season Opens, October 17, 1981

In this unpublished photo by *Red Bank Register* photographer James J. Connolly, a group from the Monmouth County Hunt Club rides in their season opener at the Assunpink Wildlife Management Preserve in Clarksburg. The club traces its origins to 1885 when Peter F. Collier, founder of *Collier's Weekly* and other publications, built a mansion with a kennel. Later Club leaders included his son, Robert F. Collier, the publishing magnate and aviation pioneer, and Amory Haskell, first president and chairman of the Monmouth Park Jockey Club. Opening day in 1981 began with the traditional blessing of the hounds given by club president Richard A. Wroncy Jr. Then, with a "Tally Ho!" the group took off after the scent. As traditional with the Club, the men wore dark green coats with maroon collars piped in gold and the women usually were attired in black jackets. In the 1990s, the staff began to wear scarlet but the gentlemen members still wear green. The Club continues to be active today. [1981-10-146-1ARBR}

"Club goes 'Geographic,'" *Red Bank Register*, October 21, 1981, p. 10.

Monmouth County Hunt, http://monmouthcountyhunt.com/history.shtml
(last accessed May 23, 2011)

Future Governor Thomas H. Kean Visits the Red Bank Register Office

A few days after his Democratic opponent for the office of New Jersey governor, Jim Florio, made news by munching on chocolate-chip cookies during his interview at the *Register*, Republican Tom Kean got his turn on October 21, 1981. The resulting article was accompanied by a different photo by Don Lordi but a cropped version of this image appeared on November 1. Six hundred Italian cookies in twenty-five boxes sent by his supporters greeted Kean, who exclaimed, "Good Heavens! I love Italian cookies! Oh, boy!" Kean, who had served as Speaker of the New Jersey General Assembly in 1972-1973, went on to win in November, serving two terms as governor from 1982 to 1990, during which he gave the keynote address at the 1988 Republican Convention. Subsequently, Kean served as president of Drew University for fifteen years and, in 2002, succeeded Henry Kissinger as chair of the 9/11 Commission, which issued its final report in 2004. Kean is now active as a member of corporate boards. [1981-10-172-28RBR]

"Italian cookies for Tom Kean sweeten the campaign trail," *Red Bank Register*, October 22, 1981, p. 23.

"Thomas Kean," Wikipedia (last accessed May 19, 2011).

Colonel David S. Twining Cuts the Cake with a Saber at Fort Monmouth

Why use a cake knife when a sword is at hand? Colonel David S. Twining, the ranking Marine at Fort Monmouth, cuts a cake commemorating the 206th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps on November 10, 1981, after outdoor ceremonies in honor of the nation's war dead. Major General Donald M. Babers, Fort Monmouth commander, and a Marine honor guard stand by. Fort Monmouth began on May 16, 1917, when the Army rented portions of the old Monmouth Park race track, which had been abandoned in the 1890s when the State of New Jersey made gambling illegal. Fort Monmouth was originally called Camp Little Silver, then Camp Alfred Vail in September 1917 after the industrialist who worked closely with Samuel Morse to develop the telegraph. The base was renamed Fort Monmouth in 1925. The military base was well established when betting on horse races was legalized again, so the new Monmouth Park had to be built elsewhere. [1981-11-003-30ARBR]

CECOM LCMC Historical Office. *A Concise History of Fort Monmouth, New Jersey and the U.S. Army CECOM Life Cycle Management Command.* Fort Monmouth, May 2008.

"Lest We Forget," *Red Bank Register*, November 11, 1981, p. 9.

Volkswagen Beetle Braves Flood in Sea Bright

Sea Bright is only four feet above sea level and is protected on the seaward side by an 11-foot stone wall which, while essential to protect the town, has been a continuous maintenance issue. In this dramatic photo, Ocean Avenue is under water as Sea Bright's damaged sea wall allowed the Atlantic Ocean to move inland. It was taken by an unidentified photographer and published in the *Red Bank Register* on November 16, 1981. The accompanying article reported that local officials, including Sea Bright Mayor Cecile Norton and neighboring Monmouth Beach Mayor Louis P. Sodano, were worried that the flood occurred after high tides and a twenty mile per hour wind; if a bad storm occurred, the situation would be much worse. The mayors looked to the state or federal government to pay for sand and construction of new jetties, for Norton believed it would take $7.5 million just for the Sea Bright portion alone. In the Spring of 1983, a severe storm caused further damage. [1981-11-006-30RBR]

"Sea wall fund snag seen," *Red Bank Register*, June 9, 1983, p. 9.

"Storm batters sea wall," *Red Bank Register*, November 16, 1981, pp. 1, 5.

Count Basie Swings at Roller Skating Rink in Marlboro

William James "Count" Basie (1904-1984), the eminent jazz musician, grew up on Mechanic Street in Red Bank. At what may seem like an unlikely venue, Basie brought his 17-piece jazz band to the Sport 9 Roller Skating Rink in Marlboro on November 17, 1981, for a three-hour concert. Basie, seen here in an unpublished photo by James J. Connelly (another appeared in the *Red Bank Register* on November 18), played "Sweet Georgia Brown," "April in Paris," "A Train," and other favorites but he may also have included numbers he had just recorded on November 1 in the penultimate album of his career, "Count Basie – Kansas City 6," which featured Eddie "Cleanhead" Vinson on saxophone and four other musicians. Robert Wright, the *Register* reporter at the Marlboro concert, commented that Basie "seems to bear an uncanny resemblance to God—or , at least, to what God would probably look like if he suddenly assumed the form of jazz pianist. He has large, heavy eyes that look at once wise and compassionate . . . he sometimes seems to rise above it all, smiling down benevolently on his players. . . ." [1981-11-118-17RBR]

"Count Basie." Wikipedia (last accessed May 20, 2011)

"Count Basie – Kansas City 6 (1981), April 4, 2010, by Raz
http://jazzismylife.wordpress.com/2010/04/04/count-basie-kansas-city-6-1981/
(last accessed May 20, 2011)

"Jazz buffs don't mind waiting for the Count," *Red Bank Register*, November 18, 1981, pp. 1, 5."

Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey's Clown College

On November 20, 1981, Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey held an audition at the Meadowlands for a tuition-free, nine-week "clown college." Rob Reinalda, a *Red Bank Register* reporter, tried out "under cover" with the other hopefuls. Scott Koop and Jim Vogelsong, the professional clowns conducting the audition, were not told of his true identity until just before the selection was made. Two unidentified participants are seen in this unpublished photo by *Register* photographer James J. Connelly. [1981-11-143-29RBR]

"Clowning is work, hopefuls learn," *Red Bank Register*, November 22, 1981, pp. B1, B3.

Former President Gerald Ford Hails Spirit of Individualism

As seen in this unpublished photo by *Register* photographer James J. Connolly, ex-president Ford spoke on December 2, 1981, at the dedication ceremonies for the Deborah Heart and Lung Center in Browns Mills. According to reporter Jon Healey, Ford "hailed the spirit of volunteerism and charity epitomized" by the hospital and praised all private hospitals "for providing the diversity and competition needed to keep medical horizons expanding while controlling health care costs." About 700 people attended the event to mark the opening of an outpatient wing and extensive renovations to the existing structure, with the entire project costing $14 million. Seated next to Ford in the photo is Sergius Gambal, the hospital's vice president in charge of administration. [1981-12-10-24A]

"Ford hails spirit of voluntarism," *Red Bank Register*, December 3, 1981, pp. 1, 5.

Anniversary of First Transatlantic Radio Transmission Celebrated at Camp Evans

Guglielmo Marconi claimed that on December 12, 1901, he received the letter "S" by Morse code in Newfoundland from his transmitting station in Cornwall. Although some believe that this event could not have been accomplished with the equipment he then had available, he has been honored ever since for having been the first to transmit wirelessly across the Atlantic. Marconi, who in 1899 had transmitted news of the Atlantic Cup races off Sandy Hook (the first radio demonstration in the United States), has often been honored in Monmouth County for his pioneering achievements, including at the Camp Evans section of Fort Monmouth which has a long history of innovation in telecommunications. In this photo by *Red Bank Register* photographer Don Lordi, published on December 14, 1981, a commemorative wreath marking the 80th anniversary is placed at the foot of an antenna tower by Colonel John Chesbro, project manager, Firefinder—REMBASS. At left is John Schoening, director of combat surveillance and target acquisitions lab. At right are Frank L. Innacelli, President, Giuseppi Garibaldi Mutual Benefit Society of Red Bank and CECOM Procurement Director, with his wife Victoria. [1981-12-078 -17RBR]

"1st transatlantic radio achievement marked in county," *Red Bank Register*, December 14, 1981, p. 20.

"Marconi's First Transatlantic Radio Transmission," http://www.scansite.org/scan.php?pid=161 (last accessed May 25, 2011

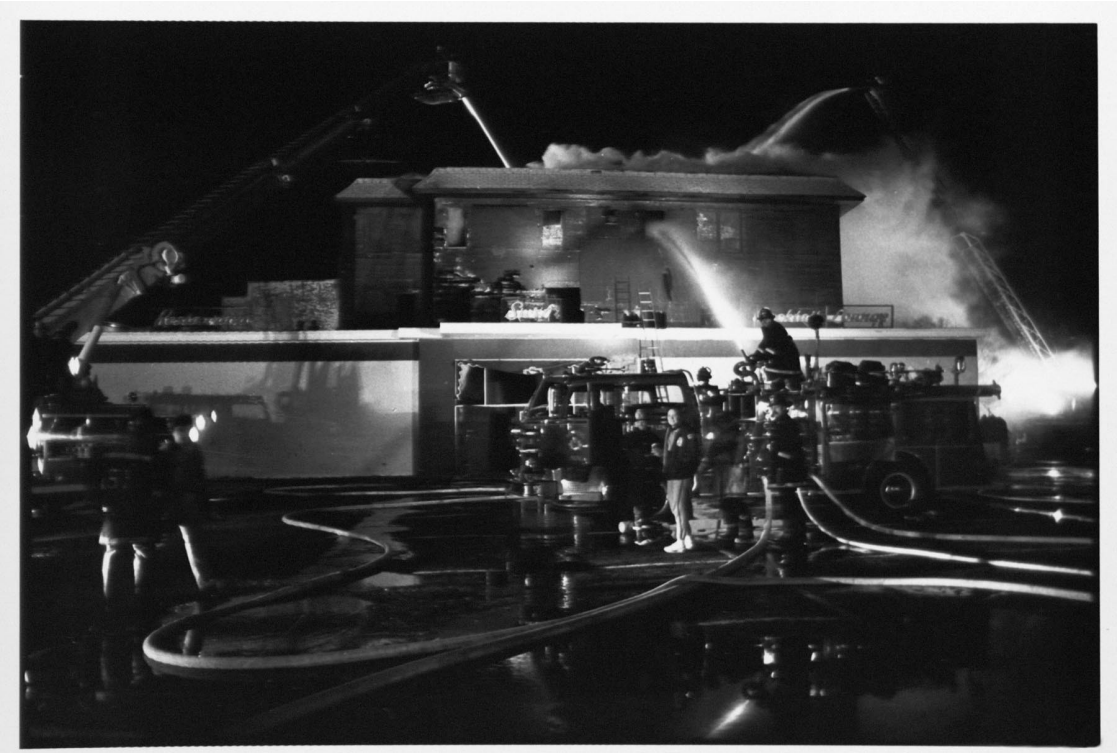
Rumson Gifted and Talented Program, March 1982

In this unpublished photo, a teacher and five students in the Rumson Gifted and Talented Program gather around a Tandy TRS-80 Model 3 on March 13, 1982. Possibly, the photo was taken in connection with a forthcoming conference on gifted students for elementary school teachers and administrators to be held at Brookdale Community College on March 26. The Model 3, released in July 1980 and sold at Radio Shack, featured a 2.03 MHz processor; it predated by more than a year the first IBM PC, introduced in August 1981. (Personal computers today are available with processors operating at more than 3GHz, more than one thousand times faster.) Since 1982, PCs have revolutionized education, the workplace, and the home. Back then, they were still a relative novelty but Monmouth County educators were excited about their potential. One indication of the interest in the topic was "Computers for the Gifted," a session at the New Jersey Secondary School Conference on Gifted and Talented Education held at Monmouth College on March 17, 1982. [1982-03-002-6RBR]

"Conference aims to aid good student," *Red Bank Register*, March 21, 1982, p. 5.

"Gifted and talented education is subject of special sessions," *Red Bank Register*, Marc 16, 1982, p. 15.

"TRS-80," Wikipedia (last accessed May 25, 1982).



Fire Destroys Surf Lounge in Long Branch, March 14, 1982

After being closed for six months, the notorious Surf Lounge on Ocean Avenue went up in flames in an arson fire, as seen in this photo by *Red Bank Register* photographer Carl Forino; a variant was published the following day. More than 170 fire fighters from fourteen fire companies, twenty first aid squad members, and eleven pieces of fire fighting equipment were active at the scene and helped keep the flames from spreading to a nearby apartment complex, where 120 residents were evacuated. Long associated with local gangsters, the restaurant had been owned by Anthony "Little Pussy" Russo, the local boss of the Genovese crime family who continued to use it as a hangout after he sold it in 1965, until his mob hit murder in 1979. On one FBI tape, the illiterate Pussy boasted to "Gyp" De Carlo, "I got the chief of police. I got the five councilmen. I got the city manager. . . . We can do anything we want." A prototypical gangster with bejeweled hands, he drove a pink Cadillac convertible around the Jersey Shore, carrying large amounts of cash. Pussy was predeceased by Lounge owner Joseph Agnellino, who was bludgeoned with a brick and shot five times in 1977 while on his way home from work. A former chief waitress at the Lounge, Frances McKee, recently wrote a sympathetic memoir, *Mobsters I Have Known and Loved* (Wasteland, 2009), that attempts to show the humorous side of the Mafia. [1982-03-100RBR]

"Detectives determine fire at Surf Lounge was arson," *Red Bank Register*, March 23, 1982, p. B6.

"Fire destroys Surf Lounge," *Red Bank Register*, March 15, 1982, pp. 1, 4.

"Four Shots end Russo's Life," *Red Bank Register*, April 27, 1979, p. 1, 5.

"Russo: You name him, I got him," *Red Bank Register*, April 27, 1979, pp. 1, 5.

Dredging Sandy Hook Bay, November 1982

Storms and erosion have altered the configuration of Sandy Hook many times over the last few centuries. Indeed, for much of the period between 1778 and 1900, it was an island. In this photo by *Red Bank Register* photographer Don Lordi on November 6, 1982, sand spews from the mouth of a 600-foot dredging machine being used to transport a million cubic yards of sand from Sandy Hook Bay to the Atlantic Ocean side of the Hook. The $6 million project was part of a three-step, $18 million program to restore the eroded beachfront to where it was in the 1930s. The erosion was so bad by 1982 that storm tides had forced sand across Hartshorne Drive, the Hook's main access road, and the beach had become largely unusable. Another of Lordi's photos taken the same day was published on the front page of the *Register*. [1982-11-003-1RBR]

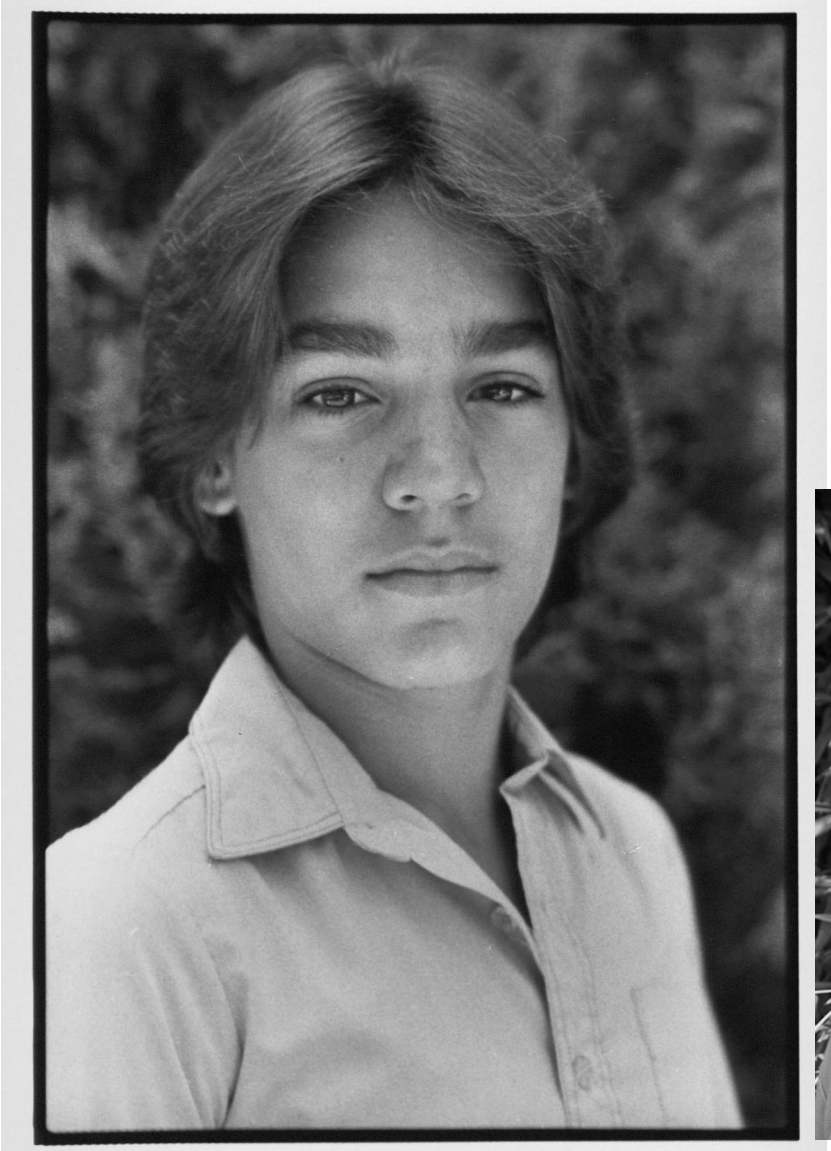
"Big Job," *Red Bank Register*, November 7, 1982, p. 1.

Moss, George H., Jr. *Another Look at Nauvoo to the Hook.* Sea Bright, NJ: Ploughshare Press, 1990, pp. 140-141.

Unseasonably Warm Temperature Lures Beachgoer, December 1982

"Weather" was a topic regularly addressed by *Red Bank Register* photographers, who often used the opportunity to make scenic views of Monmouth County. For weather shots, photographers tried to show how local residents were either enjoying or suffering from summer days, drenching downpours, blizzards, or other atmospheric conditions. In this photo by Carl Andrews, published on December 6, 1982, a dog owner and pet enjoy an unusually balmy winter day on a deserted beach in north Sea Bright, while record-breaking rains were causing floods and homelessness in the Midwest. [1982-11 -007-15RBR]

"Offseason Visit," *Red Bank Register*, December 6, 1982, p. 1.



Newspaper Carrier Del Bobish of Union Beach

Del Bobish, who appears in this photo, was honored as an "outstanding carrier" by the *Red Bank Register* on August 4, 1985. In September, he was named Carrier of the Month and other photos of him were published several times in the Sunday *Register*. Del took over his route in 1984 at the age of 11 and in one year expanded his deliveries from 15 to 41 customers. With the extra money he earned, he bought the bicycle he used to deliver the paper. An eighth-grade student at Memorial School, Del was a member of the Union Beach Soccer League and the Pirates, a Union Beach Little League baseball team. In his spare time, he wrote software for his Commodore '64 computer and lifted weights. Currently, Del Bobish is Yard Operations Manager at the Port Newark Container Terminal. A recent photo of him by Chuck Steiner is included in this exhibit. [1985-07-098-43ARBR]

"Carrier of the Month," *Red Bank Register*, August 4, 1985, p. 3C.