



Peyton's Peek at the Week In Politics

By Paul Peyton of The Leader/Times

Stender, Kean Seek Hastert's Removal

Republican United States Senate candidate Tom Kean, Jr., a State Senator, and Democratic Congressional hopeful Linda Stender, an assemblywoman (LD-22, Scotch Plains), both have called for the resignation of House of Representatives Speaker Dennis Hastert.

"Having the perspective of a mother, I am disappointed that the GOP leadership did not take action to protect vulnerable children from a sexual predator. It's time for some accountability and for some commonsense change in Washington. Speaker Hastert has lost the moral authority to properly run the business of the people and should resign," Mrs. Stender said.

Mr. Kean said, "Hastert should resign as speaker. He is the head of the institution and this happened on his watch. I urge House leaders to go further by appointing an outside panel to review the matter immediately."

Feds Subpoena Rutgers For Bryant's Records

Federal prosecutors last week subpoenaed Rutgers University payroll records concerning State Senator Wayne Bryant (LD-5, Camden), who was paid \$35,000 a year as an adjunct professor, according to a Star-Ledger report.

Mr. Bryant is under investigation for public positions he held while serving as chairman of the powerful State Senate Appropriations Committee.

A report by federal moderator and retired judge Herbert Stein found that Mr. Bryant held a \$38,000 "no-show" job at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey while increasing state funding to UMDNJ by millions of dollars.

Prosecutors also subpoenaed documents from the Camden Redevelopment Agency, City of Camden and the Gloucester County Board of Social Services concerning Mr. Bryant's law firm, Zeller & Bryant.

Menendez Building Was Sold to Embezzler

Gannett News Service reported Friday that U.S. Senator Robert Menendez sold a building he owned in Union City to convicted felon Lourdes Lopez. Lopez served a federal prison term for helping Union City Treasurer Leonard Grazeola steal hundreds of thousands of dollars in public funds in 1989 and 1990, when Mr. Menendez was mayor and Lopez was assistant branch manager for a branch of National Westminster Bank.

Lopez reportedly paid \$500,000 for the building, which houses the North Hudson Community Action Corp. Authorities are investigating \$300,000 in rent paid by the non-profit paid to Mr. Menendez over nine years when he owned the building and during which time he served in Congress and helped garner federal grants for North Hudson.

Serving As Super, Asm. A Conflict for Epps

Republican Assemblywoman Alison Littell McHose said the apparent conflict of interest that exists with Democratic Assemblyman Charles Epps, serving in the Legislature while simultaneously serving as the superintendent of schools for Jersey City, shows that a ban on dual office holding is needed.

Kean Joins Elizabeth DEMs at Event

U.S. Senate candidate Tom Kean, Jr. attended an event in Elizabeth last week with Elizabeth Councilman Bob Jaspán, Board of Education President Rafael Fajardo, President of Families United for Students of Elizabeth Daisy Vega and Assemblyman Eric Munoz (LD-21, Summit). Mr. Jaspán recently lost his reelection bid in the Democratic Primary for the Elizabeth City Council.

Ex-Publisher Accused Of Phony GOP Website

Rahway Republicans have filed a complaint with the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELECT) alleging that former Rahway News-Record and Clark Patriot Publisher James Devine, a Democratic campaign worker, created a website intended to misrepresent the GOP.

The website, rahway2006.net, no longer in operation, included negative information about GOP City Council candidates and did not contain a disclaimer. The actual GOP site is rahway2006.com. Mr. Devine called the GOP claim that he did not properly register the site "baseless," saying that he had taken proper steps to set it up.

Mr. Devine came under scrutiny last

State Says Retirement To Cost UC \$9.3 Mil.

Early retirement for 183 employees last summer has cost the County of Union \$9.3 million instead of saving \$8.5 million over five years as originally thought by county officials, according to a report in *The Sunday Star-Ledger*, which quoted a study commissioned by the state Division of Pensions and Benefits.

County Manager George Devanney called the report "flawed." The county's own study, he said, determined the program would save \$15 million over 20 years.



SADDLE UP... Riding under the banner Guys and Dolls, a septet of Westfielders will pedal the perimeter of Manhattan on Sunday to benefit the Multiple Sclerosis Society of NYC. The 35-mile ride attracts more than 5,000 participants each fall. Team captain Scott Gleason, a local realtor, and wife Nancy are riding for their 11th year. They are joined by Leslie Dickstein, Mitch Slater, Greg Rood, Marci Fisher and 13-year-old Julia Fisher, all of Westfield. So far, the Guys and Dolls team has raised \$3,385 toward a goal of \$10,000 for this worthy cause. For a secure donation link, visit westfieldlife.com.

County GOP Head at Ewing Law Phil Morin Joins Newark Law Firm

CRANFORD — Phil Morin of Cranford has joined the law firm of Saul Ewing as special counsel in the real estate department, where he will concentrate his practice in real estate, land use and redevelopment law.

Mr. Morin represents clients in transactions involving industrial and commercial properties and negotiates leases on behalf of commercial landlords and tenants. He has appeared before land use boards and redevelopment agencies on a variety of residential, retail, commercial and industrial development and redevelopment projects.

Mr. Morin has experience in real estate and land use litigation mat-

ters, including litigation involving the designation of redevelopment areas, eminent domain proceedings and disputes over master deed and by-law provisions of condominium associations.

Mr. Morin is Chairman of the Republican Committee of Union County. He has served as a member of the Township Committee in Cranford, and he also served a term as mayor.

He received his Bachelor of Arts degree, cum laude, from Drew University in 1991, and he earned his law degree from Rutgers University School of Law in Newark in 1994. He is licensed to practice law in New Jersey and New York.



Phil Morin

SHOPRITE Cellar SELECTIONS

Prices effective through Nov. 7. Many items are in short supply, please shop early.

ShopRite Wines & Spirits has always been synonymous with great prices, variety and service. We also carry the finest wines for the most discriminating palate at impressive prices.

FEATURING WINES WITH RATINGS OF ... 90 Points or More... for \$20 or Less!

<p>Ridge Ponzo Zinfandel 2004 Exhibits a dark ruby color along with notes of sweet vanilla (from new oak barrels), black raspberries, blueberries, and currants. Velvety-textured, broad, rich, full-bodied and seductive, it should drink well for 5-6 years.</p> <p>\$19.99</p>	<p>Ruffino Modus 2001 In 1913 the Folonari family purchased Ruffino and started on a nearly century-long pursuit to develop a collection of estates in Tuscany, which all matched the standard of quality and uniqueness which was the trademark of Ruffino's wines. Lots of new wood yet rich and fruity, with loads of plummy, toasty oak and meat character. Full-bodied, soft and round, with a long finish. Sangiovese, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot.</p> <p>\$19.99</p>	<p>Ferrari Carano Chardonnay 2004 Offers a lively beam of rich fruit supported by crisp acidity and layers of pear, apple, nutmeg and hazelnut flavors that are intense and concentrated, gaining richness with a long firm finish.</p> <p>\$17.99</p>	<p>Antinori Péppoli 2003 Péppoli Chianti Classico DOCG is the archetypal modern Chianti Classico. It combines the complexity and structure of a well-aged riserva with the fruity fragrance of a young wine. Intense red fruit aromas with hints of vanilla. A well-balanced wine with good structure and nice length with fruity flavours.</p> <p>\$17.99</p>
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VINTAGE RATING SCALE:

95-100	Classic
90-94	Outstanding
85-89	Very Good
80-84	Good
75-79	Average
60-69	Below Average

<p>Fernleaf Sauvignon Blanc 2004 Produced from grapes grown in New Zealand's key wine growing regions: Marlborough, Hawke's Bay and Gisborne. Fresh fruit flavors, zesty herbaceous tones, and mouthwatering acidity that Sauvignon Blanc lovers treasure.</p> <p>Wine Spectator: 92 \$7.99</p>	<p>Kendall Jackson Grand Reserve Merlot 2003 Black plum, boysenberry, and cherry flavors with violet, chocolate and cedar notes. This wine is smooth and the tannins are refined and round. This wine caresses the mouth and lingers beyond each sip.</p> <p>Wine Enthusiast: 91 \$17.99</p>	<p>Summers Napa Andrianna's Cuvée Cabernet 2003 A deep and complex Cabernet that is a signature of its extraordinary terroir. Barrel aging and judicious use of new oak make this wine enjoyable young. Firm tannins make for a wine worthy of cellaring. Serve with roast chicken, London Broil or simply indulge with dark chocolates.</p> <p>Wine Enthusiast: 91 \$18.99</p>	<p>Tenuta I Muracci Fortediga 2004 Delicious, excellent value! 40% Syrah, 30% Cabernet Franc, and 30% Cabernet. This elegant, deep ruby/purple-colored effort exhibits plenty of crunchy, delicious, black currant and cherry fruit, smoky, spicy characteristics, a hint of new wood, and loads of charm and texture. A hedonistic, seductive mouthful of wine.</p> <p>Robert Parker: 90 \$14.99</p>		
<p>Sebastiani Sonoma County Cabernet Sauvignon 2003 Very dark garnet color, with ripe, opulent black cherry fruit. This wine has finesse, elegance and intoxicating aromatics akin to a Bordeaux from the Medoc. Brown sugar, blackberry aromas topped with coconut and vanilla in the nose. Blackberry continues on the palate to the finish.</p> <p>Wine Spectator: 91 \$13.99</p>	<p>Kendall Jackson Grand Reserve Chardonnay 2004 Elegant and tropical with hints of lemon and other citrus fruits. Fuji apple notes carry through this beautifully balanced, delightful wine. Lushly layered, enchanting creamy texture and a finish that lingers on and on.</p> <p>Robert Parker: 91 \$13.99</p>	<p>Nino Franco Prosecco Rustico NV Scents of talc balance ripe melon and lime flavors, ending on a brisk, mineral note. The flavors last, rich but not sweet, ready for fresh crab.</p> <p>Wine Advocate: 90 \$10.99</p>	<p>Allegrini La Grola 2001 Outstanding blend dominated by Corvina with small quantities of Rondinella, Syrah and Sangiovese. A dense ruby/purple-tinged color is followed by heady aromas of black cherry liqueur, smoke, roasted meats, licorice and espresso.</p> <p>Robert Parker: 90 \$14.99</p>		
<p>Concha Marqués Chardonnay 2003 Shows the great recent progress in the viticultural/vincicultural art in Chile. Rich but very stylish, with lush flavors of Jonagold apple, fig, hazelnut, and honeysuckle. Fine acidity drives the long finish.</p> <p>Wine Spectator: 90 \$14.99</p>	<p>Girard Petite Sirah 2003 Chewy, inky, extracted yet elegant wine with grapey, peppery plum, wild berry, herb and spicy floral notes. The tannins are what you might expect from a wine of this size—mouthcoating. Still, it's a delightful wine to drink.</p> <p>Wine Spectator: 90 \$16.99</p>	<p>Catena Malbec 2004 Great aromas of crushed blueberry and raspberry, a juicy texture and well-integrated toast and mineral notes. Nice blast of pure fruit on the finish. Drink now through 2009.</p> <p>Wine Spectator: 90 \$13.99</p>	<p>Punto Final Malbec Reserve 2004 Bright medium ruby. Pure blackberry, black raspberry, licorice, graphite, minerals, chocolate and coffee aromas. Very suave on entry, then youthful, with highly concentrated, sweet dark berry flavors and lovely inner-mouth perfume and terrific viscosity. Finishes juicy, sappy and very long, leaving the palate refreshed.</p> <p>Stephen Tanzer: 91 \$12.99</p>		
<p>Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc 2005 Tangy in style, with plenty of fresh green apple character adding depth to the grapefruit and guava flavors, lingering nicely.</p> <p>Wine Spectator: 90 \$12.99</p>	<p>Turkey Flat Butchers Block Red 2003 Dense purple-tinged wine (76% Mourvedre, 21% Grenache, and 3% Shiraz) boasts a big, sweet nose of blueberries, flowers, and earth. Structured, linear, and tightly knit, this is surprisingly voluptuous (for a Mourvedre-based wine), it will drink well for 5-10 years.</p> <p>Wine Advocate: 90 \$17.99</p>	<p>Catena Chardonnay 2004 Full yellow-gold. Exotic aromas of apricot, orange, honey and smoky oak. Then sweet but firm, with intense apricot, peach, kiwi and mineral flavors. Among the elite of Argentina, as few other producers capture this much freshness of fruit.</p> <p>Stephen Tanzer: 90 \$11.99</p>	<p>Falesco Vitiano Rosso 2004 A wine with lovely balance and clean plum, berry and chocolate character, medium body and polished tannins. The perfect house wine—a great value. Sangiovese, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink now through 2010.</p> <p>Wine Spectator: 90 \$7.99</p>		
<p>SPECIAL Value OF THE MONTH</p> <p>Di Majo Norante Sangiovese 2004 One of the world's best values in Sangiovese! Aged six months in large foudres, it offers up aromas of strawberries, black cherries, damp earth, spice box, and fruit cake. This expressive, medium-bodied, fleshy Italian red is meant to be drunk over the next 1-2 years. Buy by the case!</p> <p>Robert Parker: 90 \$6.99</p>				<p>Benton Lane Pinot Noir 2004 Light and immensely appealing delicacy and suppleness, offering pretty raspberry and strawberry flavors with hints of white pepper and fresh mushroom as the finish sails on. Drink now through 2009.</p> <p>Wine Spectator: 90 \$15.99</p>	<p>Falesco Sangiovese 2005 Outstanding! Makes a mockery of many of the over-priced Sangioveses emerging from other areas of the world. A stunning value, it boasts a beautiful bouquet of sweet cherries, strawberries, bay leaf, spice, and blacker fruits. Full-bodied with superb length, good underlying acidity, and a beautiful texture.</p> <p>Robert Parker: 90 \$9.99</p>

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