



**MEET THE CANDIDATES**

**LD-20; Sen. Raymond Lesniak, Asm. Neil Cohen and Joseph Cryan**

Working middle-income residents are urged to check their mailboxes to see if they have received one of the 1.1-million property-rebate checks mailed by the state last week. The state mailed the rebates two weeks ahead of the usual fall mailing date for the second and final round of annual property-tax-relief checks.

"When it comes to property-tax relief, the annual rebate checks can never come too soon," said Assemblyman Cryan. "This year's property-tax relief will provide non-senior homeowners with record levels of relief. This year's average rebate check is worth nearly \$1,000 - three times the size of the average rebate check in the past."

We supported the measure earlier this year when the legislature appropriated roughly \$2.2 billion for the rebate program. Mostly senior citizens and disabled residents received a mass-mailing of checks in late July. Now, eligible non-senior, non-disabled homeowners who filed their applications by the original August 15 deadline can expect to receive their rebate checks this week.

The average check will be \$966, an increase over last year's average \$285 non-senior check. Individuals who requested direct deposit will have their rebates deposited directly into their bank accounts.

"These rebates represent a dramatic property tax cut for middle-class families," said Assemblyman Neil Cohen.

"This is the latest installment of results from our two-pronged effort to deliver immediate property-tax relief coupled with long-term reforms," said Senator Raymond Lesniak.

Under the rebate-expansion program that the legislators supported, working families with incomes of \$250,000 or less are eligible to receive a rebate check based on a percentage of the first \$10,000 of their property-tax bills. Senior citizens are entitled to receive checks based on last year's rebate formula or the new one - whichever pro-

duces the most savings. Homeowners with incomes of \$100,000 or less will receive rebate checks that are the equivalent of 20-percent off their property tax bills, up to a maximum of \$2,000.

Homeowners with incomes between \$100,001 and \$150,000 will receive 15 percent in savings, up to a maximum of \$1,500. Those with incomes between \$150,001 and \$250,000 will receive 10-percent off their property-tax bills, up to a maximum of \$1,000.

Checks for rebate applications filed between August 16 and the state's extended deadline of October 17 will be issued as quickly as possible but may not be included in this latest distribution.

Homeowners and tenants who have not yet applied for their rebates still have until October 31 to file their applications. Homeowners may file by phone (1-877-658-2972) or online at state.nj.us/treasury/taxation. Tenants can complete and file a paper Homeowner Rebate Application, Form TR-1040. Copies of Form TR 1040 and instructions are available on the Division of Taxation's website at state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/prntgit.htm. Tenants also can use NJ WebFile, the division's free Internet filing system, which is available at njwebfile.com.

Residents who have already filed can check on the status of their rebate by calling 1-877-658-2972, or online at state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/homestead/06hrintro.htm.

Senator Lesniak and Assemblymen Neil Cohen and Joseph Cryan encourage all residents from the 20th Legislative District to reach out to their district office for any concerns regarding the rebate application to ensure that all residents who are potentially eligible for the rebate program are able to take advantage of this year's relief by the October 31 deadline.

More information is available on the web at state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/relief.htm or call 1-888-238-1233.



CARE...The new Medical Arts Center at Overlook Hospital in Summit is open.

**Overlook Hospital Opens Medical Arts Building**

SUMMIT - Overlook Hospital opened its new 78,000 square foot, four story medical services building adjacent to the hospital at 11 Overlook Road on Tuesday, September 25.

Referred to as the Medical Arts Center II, the new facility includes a full-service breast center, pain management center, wound healing center with hyperbaric oxygen therapy,

and women's center with classrooms for pre- and post-natal classes, parent education, and services in integrative medicine, maternal-fetal medicine, and plastic and reconstructive surgery.

The building also has 35,000 square feet of physician office and conference space. Space is available for lease in the Medical Arts Center II through Colliers Houston and Co.

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**UMDNJ Inducts Local Doctors into Guild**

AREA - Recently, the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) celebrated its accomplishments in research, clinical care and education over the past year at the 23rd-annual University Day Celebration, held at the Cancer Institute of New Jersey.

During the day, Drs. Patricia Casaccia-Bonnelil of Westfield and Lois Grau of Scotch Plains were inducted into the UMDNJ Master Educators Guild, which recognizes exceptional faculty who demonstrated gifts for teaching and serve as mentors to university students.

Dr. Casaccia-Bonnelil, an associate professor in the Department of Neuroscience and Cell Biology at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, is a faculty member of the UMDNJ-Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and a member of the Cancer Institute of New Jersey;

Dr. Grau, an associate professor and chairman in the Department of Health Systems and Policy, is a co-director of the dual MPH/MBA program between UMDNJ and the School of Management at Rutgers and an associate member of the Center for Health and Aging Research at Rutgers.

**Fanwood Recreation Fall Programs**

The Fanwood Recreation Department fall programs will begin Monday, October 1. There will be "Mommy and Me Art" (ages three to five plus adult) and "Mommy and Me Belly Dancing" (three and up plus adult). For adults only, belly dancing and ceramics classes will be available.

For all, "Art Club for Kids" (ages six to nine); "Digital Stop Motion Animation Workshop Club" (grades

2 to 4); "Robotics and Control Systems Workshop Club" (grades 5 to 8); "Video Game Creation Workshop Club" (grades 3 to 8); "Junior Jazzercise" (ages six to 11); "Fashion Illustration" (ages 11 to 18), and "Comic Book Illustration" (ages 11 to adult).

For more information about these programs, schedules, fees and how to register, see visitfanwood.com/recreation or call (908) 370-7092.

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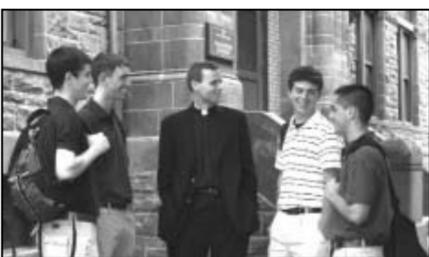
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WL 9/27/07