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READER'S WRITE

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MONMOUTH COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION RESPONDS TO MIDDLETOWN VANDALISM AND DESECRATION

The Monmouth County Human Relations Commission was both saddened and angry to learn of the desecration at St. Catherine's Church and the surrounding neighborhood over last weekend. We commend Police Chief John F. Pollinger and the Middletown Police Department for their prompt and decisive action in arresting the suspected offenders.

We are sad to think what impulses possessed them to act out such examples of disrespect and even hatred of their neighbors. The decapitation of a sacred statue and the spray painting of racial and ethnic epithets have no place in a county whose population displays a wonderful diversity of faith and national origin.

Sincerely,

Linda Zucaro, Chairperson,
Monmouth County Human Relations Commission

POWER WHEELS

SENIOR WHEELS makes available electric wheelchairs to seniors citizens 65 years old and up, usually at no out-of-pocket expense if they qualify. No deposit is required. The electric wheelchairs are provided to those who cannot walk and cannot self-propel a manual wheelchair in their home or independent living quarters, and meet the additional qualifications of the program. This service may be available to people permanently disabled of any age. Call (800) 360-8765.

AUDDUBON KIT

RED BANK: Monmouth County Audubon is offering Audubon Adventures kits to fifth-grade teachers. Call (732) USA-BIRD or see www.monmouthaudubon.org.

EPILEPSY WORK

HELPING HANDS of the Epilepsy Foundation is seeking volunteers over age 35 in Ocean and Monmouth counties to work with families with special-needs children under age 12. Call (732) 262-8020.

POIKA PARTY

BRADLEY BEACH: Poika at 7:30 p.m. Saturdays from July 5 to Aug. 30 at Fifth Avenue Gazello on Ocean Avenue in Bradley Beach. Call (732) 477-0321.

HISPANIC WOMEN

ASBURY PARK: Hispanic Women's Resource Center of Central New Jersey, 913 Sewall Ave., helps women improve their employability by services such as counseling and assessment, workshops, training educational referrals and support services. The center is a program of Hispanic Affairs of Monmouth County. Call (732) 222-4473 or (732) 774-3282.

BIAS HOT LINE

FREEHOLD: Victims of bias incidents throughout the county can call Monmouth County Human Relations Commission's hot line. The 24-hour phone line is staffed with trained personnel from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and answered by a machine at other hours. The public is urged to report hate or bias incidents relating to age, race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender, national origin or other factors. All reports are confidential. Call (732) 303-7666.

ASBURY PARK PRESS
Community
July 3 2003

EDITORIAL & COMMENTARY

JULY 25, 2003

Monmouth County Human Relations Commission Responds To Middletown Vandalism

To The Editor:

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*Linda Zucaro
Chairperson, MCHRC*