



Having fun is secret to Eagles' success

SPORTS, 1C

Judge orders Bayshore restaurant owner freed

Man was detained by ICE agents three-and-a-half weeks ago

Jerry Carino
Asbury Park Press | USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

Three-and-a-half weeks after being detained by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the head chef and co-owner of a popular restaurant in Atlantic Highlands is on the verge of being released after a judge's ruling in his favor.

During a Nov. 13 bond hearing with the Justice Department's immigration court in Elizabeth, Judge Ramin Rastegar set bond for Ruperto Vicens at \$7,000, his attorney Steven Lyons told the Asbury Park Press. The Department of Homeland Security has one busi-



Vicens — a Mexican national, Middletown resident and father of three young children — co-owns Zoe's Emilio's Kitchen, a Mexican restaurant on Center Avenue in Atlantic Highlands.


He was picked up Oct. 19 while on his way to the restaurant and incarcerated in the Delaney Hall Detention Facility in Newark.

Since that time, Lyons and Atlantic Highlands

ness day to appeal the ruling, after which Vicens may be released from custody.

The judge "found Ruperto to be neither a danger to the community nor a flight risk," Lyons said.

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‘OCEAN WARRIOR’



Contender, the largest male great white shark tagged by OCEARCH, is seen here during its brief capture off the coast of Florida and Georgia on Jan. 17. PROVIDED BY OCEARCH

Great white is largest male tagged by OCEARCH

Dan Radel
Asbury Park Press | USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

Contender, the largest male great white shark ever tagged by OCEARCH, surfaced several miles offshore of the coast of Atlantic City late Wednesday, Nov. 12.

Contender measured 13 feet, 9 inches and weighed 1,653 when it was tagged 45 miles offshore in waters between the border of Florida and Georgia on Jan. 17 of this year, during OCEARCH's field research this passed winter. OCEARCH calls Contender "the ultimate ocean warrior."

OCEARCH named it Contender after the sport-fishing boats of the same name, one of the sponsors of OCEARCH's research of the one of the ocean's top predators. The shark, like all of OCEARCH's tagged sharks, is carrying a satellite tag, called a SPOT tag, on its dorsal fin that will provide real-time data for approximately five years, helping scientists track his movements and understand his migration patterns.

Additionally, OCEARCH collected biological

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Watchdog criticizes ‘power grab’

Folding comptroller's abilities into another agency considered

Michael L. Diamond
Asbury Park Press | USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

TRENTON – With New Jersey lawmakers floating proposals to strip away power from the Office of the State Comptroller, the head of one of New Jersey's few watchdog agencies fired back on Nov. 13 by defending it against what he said was a "naked power grab."

In a rare public move by a watchdog chief, Kevin Walsh outlined his belief of what might be motivating such a consolidation. He said one idea being considered to fold the Office of the State Comptroller's investigative powers into the State Commission of Investigation would weaken accountability and shield the powerful from scrutiny.

"As my reports and the reports of my predecessors have shown, there is no shortage of corruption to uncover," Walsh said in a statement. "It's hard to see how reducing independent oversight would benefit anyone, except the powerful politicians and interests that OSC has investigated."

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Berkeley man accused of killing bulldog faces charges

Kathleen Hopkins
Asbury Park Press | USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

BERKELEY TOWNSHIP – A 56-year-old township man is facing weapons and animal cruelty charges after an investigation revealed he fatally shot a one-year-old French bulldog left in his care, police said.

Jeffrey Lentz was charged in a complaint Nov. 3 with animal cruelty, possession of a firearm for an unlawful purpose and possession of a large-capacity magazine, police Capt. Peter Larocca said in a news release.

The charges stem from a call placed to police on Oct. 3 by the owner of Ruby, the young French bulldog, the news release said.

The caller reported that Ruby had been dropped off at a relative's house on Lyford Court for Lentz to watch, the release said. The dog's owner later received a call that Ruby had been injured and succumbed to her injuries, it said.

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