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SPORTS, 1B

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Affordable housing plan faces 12 legal challenges

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HILLSBOROUGH – A dozen challenges to the township’s affordable housing plan have been filed, including 11 by developers whose proposals to build multifamily housing were not in-

cluded in the plan. Together, the 11 developers have proposed more than 1,200 residential units – both apartments and townhomes – throughout the 55-square-mile township with a population of more than 43,000. The remaining challenge was filed by the Fair Share Housing Center, which

brought the statewide litigation that resulted in the new round of affordable housing goals. Hillsborough has a goal from the state Department of Community Affairs of providing zoning for 565 affordable housing units in the next decade. **See CHALLENGES, Page 3A**

Trump deportation policy faces setbacks

Lauren Villagran
USA TODAY

President Donald Trump recently has suffered three major legal setbacks that experts say could put his plans for mass deportation at risk – at least until a higher court steps in. Federal judges in separate cases have ruled against the president’s immigration enforcement tactics and sided with immigrant advocates who have challenged their legality. Judges blocked the deportation of some migrant children who crossed the border alone, forbade the rapid removal of immigrants who have been in the country for more than two years, and stopped the administration’s use of an arcane law to deport people accused of being gang members without due process. Trump administration officials and supporters have slammed the decisions of so-called “activist judges” who they say are overstepping their authority to prevent the president’s enforcement of the nation’s immigration laws. The combination of three judicial punches could put at risk the president’s plans to deport as many as 1 million people per year. **See POLICY, Page 2A**

Electricity costs fuel fight in NJ race for governor



Many Republicans blame Democrats for New Jersey’s high utility bills. Many Democrats blame PJM Interconnection, the regional energy operator. GETTY IMAGES

Senior activists protesting Trump

Many motivated to fight immigration policies

Lauren Villagran
USA TODAY

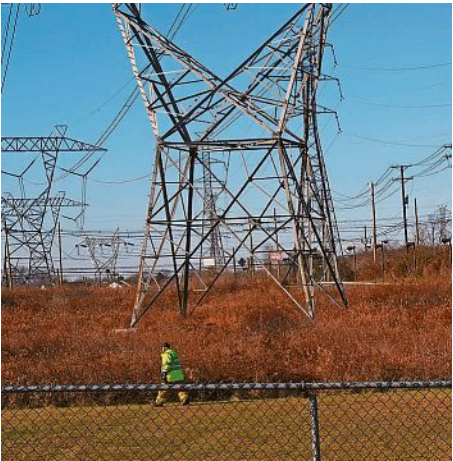
EL PASO, TX – Bonnie Daniels and Dee Anne Croucher didn’t expect to spend their retirement in the florescent-lit halls of immigration court, facing down masked ICE agents. But that’s where they head daily to quietly challenge President Donald Trump’s crackdown. They warn immigrants what awaits them. They hand out Sharpies so each can write an emergency contact phone number on their forearm. They hold the immigrants’ hands, walking shoulder to shoulder with them into the crowd of agents blocking the exit. Like other seniors on the front lines of resistance to the Trump administration, Daniels and Croucher are old enough to have protested the Vietnam War and to have not trusted anyone over 30. Now they and a number of their peers are spending their golden years standing outside the White House **See ACTIVISTS, Page 10A**

‘Utility costs are out of control’

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Electric bills are squarely in the middle of Trenton politics just as New Jersey heads into the height of campaign season, and the timing could reshape the race for governor. In June 2025, New Jersey households saw electricity bills rise between 17% and 20% depending on their utility, according to state energy analysts. For a state already carrying some of the nation’s highest power costs, the increase added significant strain for residents and businesses and rattled older voters who said in a spring poll by AARP New Jersey and the Siena College Research

Institute that rising utility bills were as pressing as property taxes and health care. Republicans, namely gubernatorial candidate and former Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli, have pointed to the higher bills as proof that one-party control over the state Legislature and the governor’s office has failed. In a recent op-ed, Ciattarelli tied “skyrocketing” energy costs to New Jersey’s broader affordability crisis, saying they were part of why families and businesses are leaving the state. Democrats, meanwhile, have tried to deflect blame to PJM Interconnection, the regional energy operator, which manages the grid for **See ELECTRICITY, Page 2A**



In June 2025, New Jersey households saw electricity bills rise between 17% and 20%. CHRIS PEDOTA/NORTHJERSEY.COM

