



Dylan Harper brings New Jersey basketball to the NBA finals stage

SPORTS, 1B

Courier News

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2026 | MYCENTRALJERSEY.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Bernards moves to restrict data centers amid rising concerns

Mike Deak

MyCentralJersey.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

BERNARDS - The Township Committee, like neighboring Warren and other New Jersey municipalities, has introduced an ordinance that would re-

strict data centers within its borders.

The ordinance, introduced unanimously at the committee's May 26 meeting and up for a public hearing and final adoption on June 23, exempts data processing facilities operated by financial institutions, public utilities, hospitals, utility companies, schools and gov-

ernment entities.

Though data centers can bring "significant economic development," Mayor Ana Duarte McCarthy said the facilities also present "planning and environmental challenges."

See **CONCERNS**, Page 3A

Route 22 crash kills 91-year-old Bridgewater driver

Mike Deak

MyCentralJersey.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

BRIDGEWATER - Police are continuing their investigation into a crash on Route 22 that claimed the life of a 91-year-old township man Sunday afternoon.

Township police said the man, who has not been identified, was driving a 2002 Buick LeSabre on eastbound Route 22 near Grove Street shortly after 4 p.m. May 31 when it was involved in a chain-reaction crash.

According to a preliminary investigation, a Tesla whose driver was not identified came to a sudden stop in the center lane. That caused a 2018 Subaru Outback, driven by a 33-year-old Brooklyn man, to also stop abruptly.

The Buick, driven by the 91-year-old man, was unable to stop in time and struck the rear of the Subaru. The impact caused the Subaru to spin and come to rest in the left lane.

The Buick then lost control, veered

See **CRASH**, Page 3A



FanDuel Sportsbook at Meadowlands Racing & Entertainment. MICHAEL KARAS/NORTHJERSEY.COM

Slumping NJ casinos cast doubt on expansion

Daniel Munoz

NorthJersey.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

The paltry financial performance of all but one of New Jersey's casinos in the first quarter of 2026 could be a bellwether for how any new casinos in the Meadowlands and Monmouth Park might fare, analysts are saying.

Eight of the nine casinos in the state - all in Atlantic City - saw a combined 22.6% drop in profit in the first quarter this year, through March 31, data released by New Jersey gaming regulators showed.

The process for even approving two new Garden State casinos is drawn out. It requires legislative approval for a constitutional ballot question asking voters whether they want the two new gambling halls. A similar measure failed in 2016.

And net revenue was down 0.3%, as rising expenses heavily ate into any money the casinos might have made.

Only one New Jersey casino actually made money this past quarter, the Bor-

gata Hotel Casino & Spa, according to public filings with the New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement, which

See **CASINOS**, Page 3A

Hunterdon County keeps tax rate low in new budget

Brad Wadlow

MyCentralJersey.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

Hunterdon County has adopted its fiscal year 2026 budget, keeping the county tax rate at its lowest level since 2014 while maintaining a 12-year streak of operating debt-free.

The \$132,398,215 budget, approved by the Board of County Commissioners, sets the tax rate at \$0.306 and prioritizes affordability, strategic investment and collaboration with municipal partners.

Commissioner Shaun C. Van Doren, co-liaison to the Budget Committee, said the plan followed months of detailed review.

"Tonight's adoption of the FY26 budget reflects months of disciplined,

See **BUDGET**, Page 5A



BACHMAN'S
NJ#13VH13580200

**SUMMER IS HOT
Your Savings are Hotter!**

Beat the Heat with
\$1500 OFF
our Energy-Efficient Windows!
Affordable EZ-Pay Financing Options Available!

Schedule Your Free Estimate now! **908-441-8810**

Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to mycentraljersey.com/enewspaper or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!



Volume 143 | No. 2
Home delivery pricing inside
Subscribe 800-675-8645
©2026 \$3.00

