

# THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY

Strait of Hormuz reopens off Iran. **NATION & WORLD, A5**



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## EAST COAST GAMING CONGRESS

# Executives offer dire forecast for AC

If casinos open both in NYC and North Jersey, more than half of resort could shutter

**WAYNE PARRY**  
Staff Writer

ATLANTIC CITY — For years, Atlantic City's casino industry has

been dreading the arrival of three new casinos in New York City, but no one had estimated just how bad things might get.

Until now. Speaking at the East Coast Gaming Congress at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Atlantic City, executives put numbers on the nightmare for the first time Wednesday: The three New York casinos could cost Atlantic City 25% to 30% of its

annual gambling revenue, according to Jim Allen, chairman of Hard Rock International.

And if a revived push to seek casinos in North Jersey results in one or more new casinos in Monmouth or Bergen counties, things could get much worse, they said.

"If you put casinos in North Jersey, you'll still have casinos in Atlantic City," said George Goldhoff, president of Atlantic City's

Hard Rock casino. "But now there would probably be three or four at best in the market. It'll go down by \$600 million or \$700 million."

The shocking projections exceed those made by Atlantic City's casino leadership in 2016 before voters overwhelmingly rejected a proposal to allow casinos in unspecified locations in North Jersey.

But those projections were made

for a market in which New York City had no casinos.

Resorts World Casino at the Aqueduct Racetrack in Queens is about a month away from opening its full-blown casino. Kevin Jones, chief strategy officer for its owner, Genting Americas, called the anticipated effects of his facility "a tremor, not an earthquake."

Please see **CASINOS**, Page A2

# PRESERVING OUR HISTORY

Volunteers maintain Revolutionary War-era gravestones in South Jersey

**CONNOR LONG**  
For The Press

As America approaches its 250th anniversary, volunteers in South Jersey are restoring Revolutionary War gravestones, carefully cleaning centuries-old markers to preserve the region's earliest history.

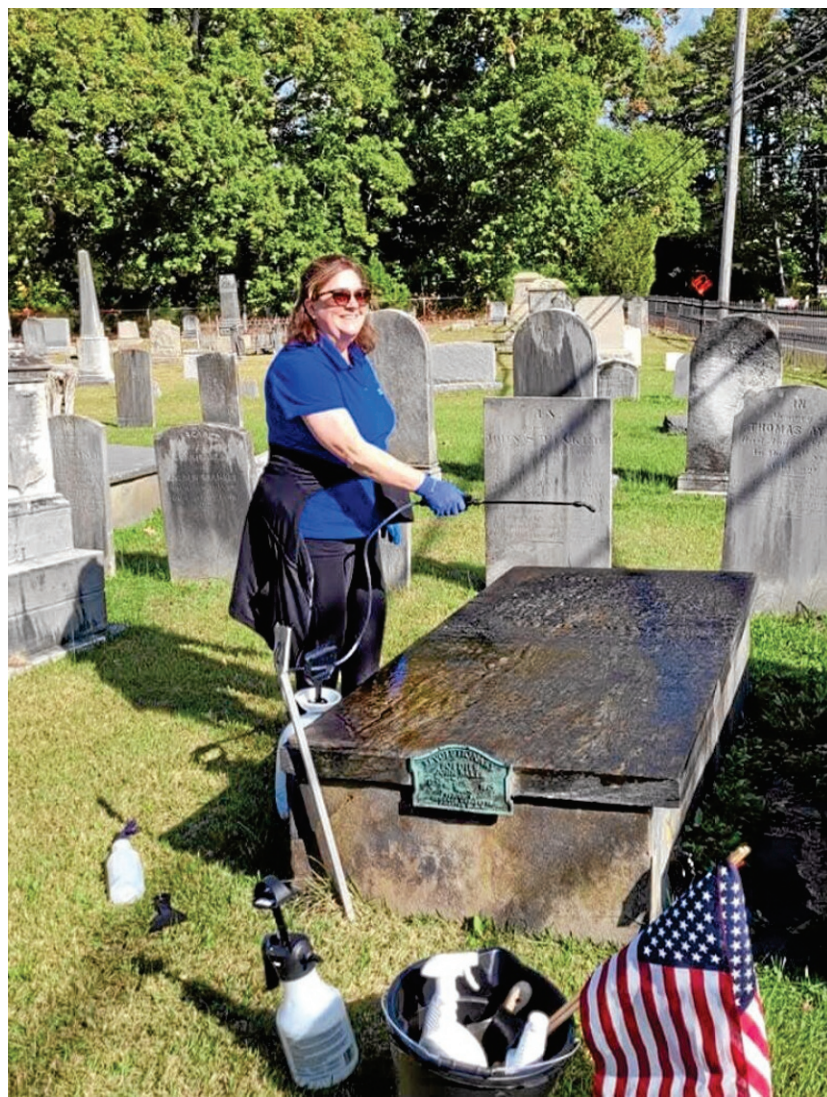
Across cemeteries in Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland counties, including Head of the River Church in Upper Township, Zion United Methodist Church in Egg Harbor Township and smaller burial grounds in Port Republic, members of the Daughters of the American Revolution are taking on the slow, methodical work of cleaning headstones that in many cases have not been properly maintained in generations.

Please see **GRAVES**, Page A3



**America at 250:  
The story still unfolding**

This story is part of an ongoing series exploring the 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026. Visit our website to read other stories in the series and share your own.



PROVIDED

Cheryl Knabe, of Galloway Township, cleans a Revolutionary War-era headstone at Zion United Methodist Church in Egg Harbor Township.



Buena softball off to a red-hot start.

SPORTS, B1



Still kicks to find on Route 66.

360, C1

# Flag football prepares for '27 varsity debut

**PATRICK MULRANEN**  
Staff Writer

John Tierney was there from the beginning.

High school girls flag football started as a club sport in 2021 and became a pilot program last

season under the guidance of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association, which governs most high school sports in the state.

Tierney helped start the Pine-lands Regional program, one

of the first of only 35 teams in the state, and one of seven in the Shore Conference. Now, 30 squads compete out of the conference.

Please see **FLAG**, Page A2

**VIEW:** For more photos of local girls playing flag football, point your smartphone camera at the QR code, then tap the link. **NEWSVU**

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## Weather

COOLER  
High 65 • Low 53  
Forecast • A10



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