

US, Iran agree to halt strikes after early Sunday incident. **A3**

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HAMMONTON

JERSEY BLUES



JOHN RUSSO PHOTOS, STAFF WRITER

Aiden Pearl, 2½, of Cherry Hill, closely guards his bundle of blueberries Sunday at the Red, White & Blueberry Festival in Hammonton.

Red, White & Blueberry Festival draws thousands to fruit's capital

JOHN RUSSO
Staff Writer

HAMMONTON — The Greater Hammonton Chamber of Commerce held the 40th annual Red, White and Blueberry Festival, a celebration of the city's famous little icon and a jumpstart on the country's upcoming 250th birthday.

The free-to-attend family event brought thousands of guests out on a cloudy Sunday to Hammonton High School, where music and the smells of food and baked goods filled the air.

Craft and food vendors, kids games, food trucks and more lined the school's parking lot and fields. But the longest lines of the day stood in front of where the blueberry-themed foods and desserts were sold.

The Kiwanis Club of Hammonton hosted a blueberry pancake breakfast. The Chamber

of Commerce sold a wide variety of blueberry baked goods. Mannino's Cannoli Express sold a countless amount of their blueberry cannolis, and Tomasselo Winery brought its IncrediBlu 0.0% non-alcoholic line of drinks.

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director John Runfalo has said in the past about 10,000 people come through the festival over the course of the day. He once estimated that vendors at the festival go through 900 crates, each of which contained 12 pints with 200 blueberries per pint — good for more than 2 million total blueberries sold.

Hammonton isn't called the "Blueberry Capital of the World" for nothing.

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Middle: Mannino's Cannoli Express went through countless blueberry cannolis Sunday.
Bottom: Rob Bowman, of Newfield, enjoys a po' boy while his daughters Claire, 4, and Caroline, 6, snack on their chicken tenders and hot dog.

Ah, rats!: OC's new visitors a real pest

LOGAN MONTELEONE
For The Press

OCEAN CITY — There's a new type of tourist in America's Greatest Family Resort, and it's got four legs and an appetite for every type of food item in the trash.

Residents have been sharing concerns about rodents on their properties in recent weeks, taking to social media and City Council meetings to voice their concerns.

Many say overfilled dumpsters at local businesses and unlidged trash cans at neighbors' homes are drivers of the problem.

Colleen King, a homeowner at 11th Street and Asbury Avenue, spoke during public comment at the June 11 council meeting. King's initial post about her rat concerns on a public Ocean City Facebook community group garnered more than 100 comments from residents sharing similar stories and proposing solutions.

King said during the meeting she has spent hundreds if not thousands of dollars to address the "extensive and alarming" rat problem on her property, including replacing her grass lawn with

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MARGATE

Teen injured in electric scooter crash

It's latest incident as newest safety law strengthens

JOHN RUSSO
Staff Writer

MARGATE — A 16-year-old boy was injured after he crashed his electric scooter into the side of a car Saturday afternoon, police said.

About 12:30 p.m., police responded to Adams and Winchester avenues for an accident involving an electric scooter. Police said the Atlantic City teen was traveling the wrong way on Adams when he entered the intersection.

Brooke Hochman, of Holliston, Massachusetts, was traveling west

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NEW JERSEY

Hispanic job program a victim of gov's cuts

ALIYA SCHNEIDER
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Consensa Francisca Silva Silva moved to Camden from Costa Rica more than two years ago knowing nobody.

She lived on the street for two months, she said, and then was bouncing from house to house when a young man in the neighborhood told her to check out the Hispanic Women's Resource Center in Camden, one of several such centers in the state.

She went. With help from the program, Silva received food, obtained a work permit, put a down payment on a studio apartment, and started a job at McDonald's.

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