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ABOUT YOUR LEGISLATURE

THE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT

The government of the State of New Jersey, like that of the United States, is divided into three coequal branches: the legislative, the executive and the judicial. The principal function of the Legislature is to enact laws. The Executive branch (the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and State agencies) carries out the programs established by law. The Judiciary (the Supreme Court and lower courts) punishes violators, settles controversies and disputes, and is the final authority on the meaning and constitutionality of laws.

LEGISLATORS

The Legislature consists of two Houses: a 40-member Senate and an 80-member General Assembly. Senators must be at least 30 years old and residents of the state for at least four years prior to election. Members of the General Assembly must be at least 21 years old and state residents for at least two years. All legislators must live in the districts they represent.

While legislators spend a considerable amount of their time on legislative matters, service in the Legislature is considered to be part-time, and most legislators also hold other employment.

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

Legislators are elected from 40 legislative districts of approximately equal population. The voters in each district elect one Senator and two members of the General Assembly. Every ten years, after the Federal census, the boundaries of the 40 districts are redrawn to maintain an equal population in each district.



LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS

Legislative elections are held in November of each odd-numbered year. Members of the Assembly serve two-year terms. Senators serve four-year terms, except for the first term of a new decade, which is only two years. This 2-4-4 cycle allows for elections from new districts soon after each reapportionment.

LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS

The New Jersey Constitution provides that each Legislature is constituted for a term of two years, split into two annual sessions. Because the Constitution also specifies that all business from the first year may be continued into the second year, the distinction between the two annual sessions is more ceremonial than actual. The two-year legislative term begins at noon on the second Tuesday in January of each even-numbered year. At the end of the second year, all unfinished business expires.



In recent years, each House has held an average of 50 sessions a year, usually on Mondays and Thursdays.

Members typically confer in party conferences prior to the voting sessions. The members also may convene for committee meetings, public hearings or quorums calls—an organizational procedure which allows for certain administrative activity to occur. The Senate and General Assembly occasionally meet in joint session, most often for an address by the Governor. Party conferences are closed to the public, and sometimes attendance at joint sessions is by invitation only. Otherwise, all activity is open to the public with no prior arrangements necessary.

LEGISLATIVE ORGANIZATION

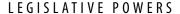
Each House elects a presiding officer from among its members—the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the General Assembly.

The President and the Speaker have broad powers within their Houses. They decide the meeting schedules and the daily calendar of bills to be considered, preside over the

sessions in their respective chambers, appoint committee chairs and members, refer bills to committees for consideration and direct the business of their Houses. The Senate elects a Secretary of the Senate and the General Assembly elects a Clerk of the General Assembly to supervise business operations.

Each party in each House also chooses party leaders: the Majority Leader, the Minority Leader, assistant leaders and whips. The party leaders help develop party policy on the issues before the Legislature.

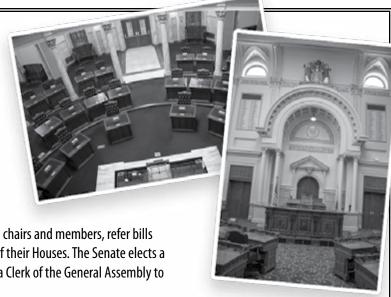
Each House establishes a number of standing reference committees to review legislation. Much of the discussion on the merits of a bill takes place in committee. Representatives of interest groups and members of the public are generally given the opportunity to present their views at committee meetings.



The chief function of the Legislature is to enact laws. A proposal to make a new law, or to change or repeal an existing law, is presented to the Legislature as a bill. To become law, a bill must pass both Houses by a majority vote and be approved by the Governor.

The Legislature can also propose amendments to the New Jersey Constitution. Such an amendment must be passed by a vote of 3/5 of each House (24 votes in the Senate and 48 votes in the Assembly). No action by the Governor is required. If passed, the proposed amendment is placed on the ballot in November for a public vote. An amendment may also be presented to the voters if the Legislature passes it two years in a row by a simple majority vote.





NEW JERSEY FIRSTS

0

New Jersey was the first state to ratify the...

- a. Bill of Rights
- b. Emancipation Proclamation
- c. Equal Rights Amendment



All of these food inventions had their first home in New Jersey. Can you put them in order of the earliest to the most recent?

- a. M&M's®
- c. Minute Steak
- b. Campbell's® Soup d. Oyster Crackers



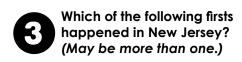
This "stop" on the
Underground Railroad was
the first African-American
community to become a
municipality. Can you name it?

- a. Batsto
- b. Camden
- c. Lawnside



The first trans-continental telephone call originated from...

- a. the State House (Trenton)
- b. Bell Labs (Holmdel)
- c. Newark City Hall



- a. Baseball Game
- b. Inter-collegiate Football Game
- c. Pro Basketball Game



Margaret Gorman was crowned as the first Miss America in Atlantic City in what year?

- a. 1908
- b. 1921
- c. 1932





Thomas Mundy Peterson was the first African-American to cast a vote. Where did he do it?

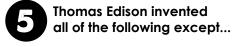
- a. Perth Amboy
- b. Elizabeth
- c. New Brunswick



9

In 1925, New Jersey was the first state to use a traffic circle. Where was it located?

- a. Freehold
- b. Pennsauken
- c. Trenton



- a. the Lightbulb
- b. the Refrigerator
- c. the Moving Pictures
- d. the Phonograph



Can you put these New Jersey-based products in order of earliest to most recent according to when they first became available to the public?

- a. Colgate® Toothpaste
- b. Band-Aids®
- c. Pepcid® AC
- d. Listerine®

JEBSEL JOWBTE

Unscramble the jumbled words, one letter to each square.

Arrange the letters in the circled boxes to answer the question below.

BESSAMLY
CRITIDST
TEANES
HLFCGNDOI
OEBHEYNE
ERD KAO
CLOITIPS

What do banks and government have in common?



County

CROSSWORD

	1															2							
	3	4																					
						5		6				7				8		9			10		
								11		12				13									
		14					15																
			,			16								17							18		
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				21										22									
	23					24														25		26	
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			28																	29			
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					32		33																
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			37			38		39	40		41		42					43					
	44										45												
								46												47			
								48		49													
50					51	52	53					54		55							56	57	
						58															59		
		60								61													
																	62						
							63																

ACROSS

- 2. County home of Rutgers University
- 3. The 1664 Elizabethtown Purchase in this county led to the first English settlement in America.
- 5. County made famous by the Lindbergh Case
- 8. County home of the State capital
- 11. Commercials
- 13. 1930s Atlantic City inspired board game

- County named for a revolutionary war hero and doctor
- 16. Letter closing: Sincerely -----
- 17. Lapel item of identification
- 20. County name same as site of Massachusetts witch trials
- 21. Center of a storm
- 22. Possess
- 23. Nudged aside

- 24. County where Newark Liberty Airport is located
- 25. In a hurry
- 27. State cultural organization: Council on the ----
- 28. Victorian seashore resort
- 29. --- money: start-up funds
- 30. Consumed
- 32. County named for NJ Governor
- 35. County by the sea
- 38. War of US independence
- 44. US form of government
- 45. Famous pirate captain who visited Northern NJ
- 46. Slang for "overtime"
- 47. NJ folklore character: The Jersey -----
- 48. Not found
- 50. Taxi fare calculator
- 51. Expression of preference in an election
- 54. County home of NJ's historic glassmaking industry
- 58. A fishing ---
- 59. Computer memory abbr.
- 60. One of the four original counties in colonial NJ
- 61. County name derived from Native American word meaning "valley"
- 62. Official State bird
- 63. Capital of NJ

DOWN

- County home of Clara Barton and James Fenimore Cooper
- 2. 1973 Assemblyman Francis ----- introduced legislation to establish the State bug
- 4. Frequent source of family discord
- 5. Official NJ insect that uses flowers to make a syrup

- 6. Association for gun ownership
- 7. Coin collected to restore the State House dome
- 9. One of the two major political parties
- 10. Beam of light
- 12. Northernmost county
- 13. Shore county home of the Sandy Hook lighthouse
- 15. Opposite of "yes"
- 18. Southwestern county and NJ's chief food producers
- 19. Official State tree
- 26. County named after a colonial explorer
- 27. County home to a famous gaming destination
- 31. Famous red NJ "fruit"
- 33. Abbr. for rhetorical
- 34. --- off: sleep
- 35. "--! That hurt!"
- 36. County home of the WWII New York shipyards
- 37. County location of the Duke Estate
- 38. "You dirty ---"
- 39. Official State flower
- 40. Prefix: eight
- 41. Abbr. for Britain
- 42. Form of validation
- 43. Term for annually
- 49. Cease
- 52. The first number
- 53. Doctrine widely held to be true
- 55. Military abbr. for missing person
- 56. Write legislation
- 57. End to a Christian prayer

TRIVIA & TEASERS

Captain Kidd's treasure is rumored to be buried in the marsh areas near...

- a. Belmar
- b. Cape May
- c. Sandy Hook

In Margate, you can climb inside Lucy, a 65-foot, 100-year-old house, built to look like...

- a. an elephant
 - b. a seashell
 - c. a whale

How many exits are there on the **New Jersey Turnpike?**



- a. 16
- b. 24
- c. 31



General George Washington encamped here twice during the Revolutionary War...

- a. Morristown
- b. Titusville
- c. Stanhope

All of these writers were born in New Jersey. Can you match them to their famous works?

- a. Dorothy Parker
- b. James Fenimore Cooper
- c. Allen Ginsberg
- d. Joyce Kilmer

- 1. Howl
- 2. The Last of the Mohicans
- 3. Trees
- 4. Big Blonde

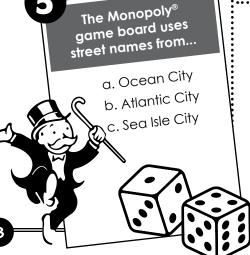


Can you match these famous New Jersey performers with their nicknames?

- a. Bill Basie
- 1. The Boss
- b. Sarah Vaughan
- 2. Old Blue Eyes
- c. Frank Sinatra
- 3. Sassy
- d. Bruce Springsteen 4. The Count

- Where is the home of the "New Jersey Devil"?
- a. the Meadowlands
- b. the Pine Barrens
- c. the Watchung Mountains
- What is the State motto?
- a. Jersey is the Jewel
- b. Goodness from the Land
- c. Liberty and Prosperity
- New Jersey has an official one of each of the following except...
- a. Dinosaur
- b. Animal
- c. Song
- d. Dance

- The Monopoly® game board uses
- All of these celebrities are from New Jersey. Can you match them to their famous works?
- a. Jack Nicholson
- b. Meryl Streep
- c. Susan Sarandon
- d. Danny DeVito
- 1. Sophie's Choice





(WORD)

Т SEARCH Х G

Find the following hidden words:

AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS

AUTOMOBILE

BUDGET

BUSINESS COMMERCE

COMMUNITY

ECONOMY

EDUCATION

ENERGY

ENVIRONMENT

GAMBLING

GOVERNMENT

HEALTH CARE

HOUSING

INSURANCE

INVESTING

JOBS

LABOR

OPEN SPACE

PENSIONS

PRESCRIPTIONS

PROPERTY

PUBLIC SAFETY

RESOURCES

SECURITY

SHORE

TAXES

TOURISM

TURNPIKE

Z

D Ι G В

Ι

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Z Ε

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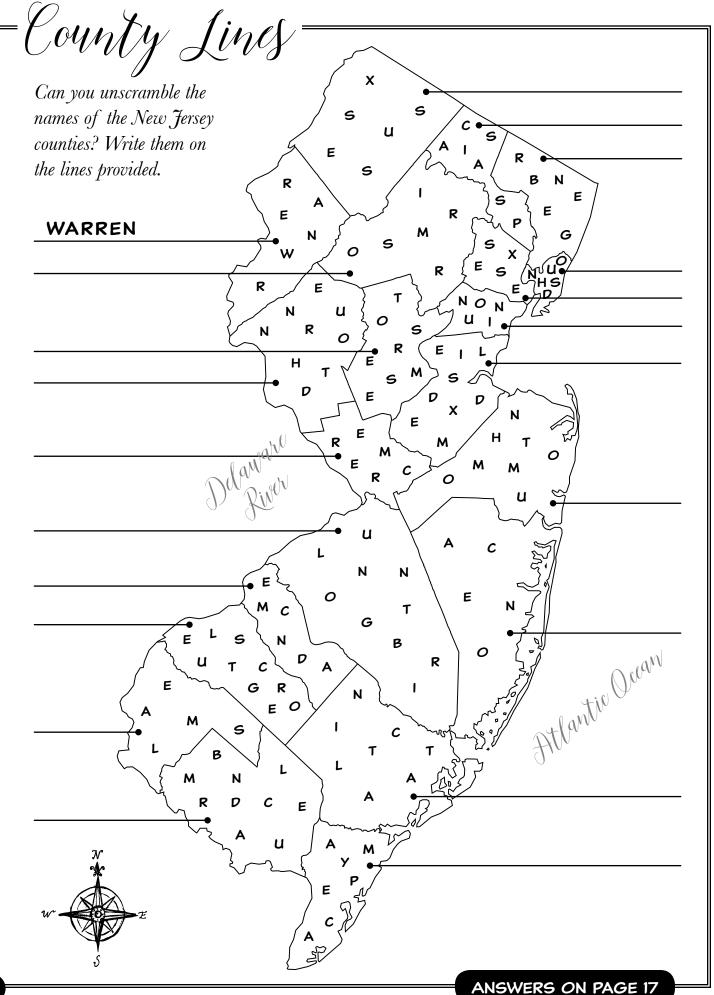
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S C

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BIG NEWS

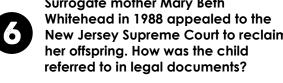


On Christmas night in 1776, George Washington's troops defeated enemy soldiers garrisoned at...

- a. Princeton
- b. Trenton
- c. Jockey Hollow



Surrogate mother Mary Beth Whitehead in 1988 appealed to the New Jersey Supreme Court to reclaim her offspring. How was the child referred to in legal documents?



- a. Baby X
- b. Baby Doe
- c. Baby M





Which two of these presidents hailed from New Jersey?

- a. Wilson
- b. Taft
- c. Cleveland
- d. McKinley



Charles A. Lindbergh's infant son was kidnapped from their Hopewell home in...

- a. 1932
- b. 1936
- c. 1942



The Hindenburg exploded as it arrived for a landina in...

- a. Lakehurst
- b. Hoboken
- c. Newark





Which New Jersey native was a chief strategist for the women's suffrage movement and author of the Equal **Rights Amendment?**

- a. Alice Paul
- b. Bella Abzug
- c. Clara Barton



What was the capital of the country when the **Continental Congress** sat in session in 1783?

- a. New Brunswick
- b. Princeton
- c. Trenton



What famous **Revolutionary War battle** gave rise to the legend of Molly Pitcher?

- a. Monmouth
- b. Fort Lee
- c. Morristown



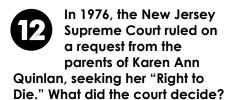
Which New Jersey native and Apollo 11 crew member walked on the moon on July 20, 1969?

- a. Neil Armstrong
- b. Michael Collins
- c. Buzz Aldrin



Orson Welles' radio broadcast of the War of the Worlds had Martians landing in what NJ town?

- a. Vineland
- b. Grovers Mill
- c. Belle Mead
- While doing research at Princeton University. Albert Einstein wrote **President Roosevelt** about "extremely powerful bombs of a new type." He was predicting the invention of...
 - a. Germ Warfare
 - b. The Atomic Bomb
 - c. The Stealth Bomber

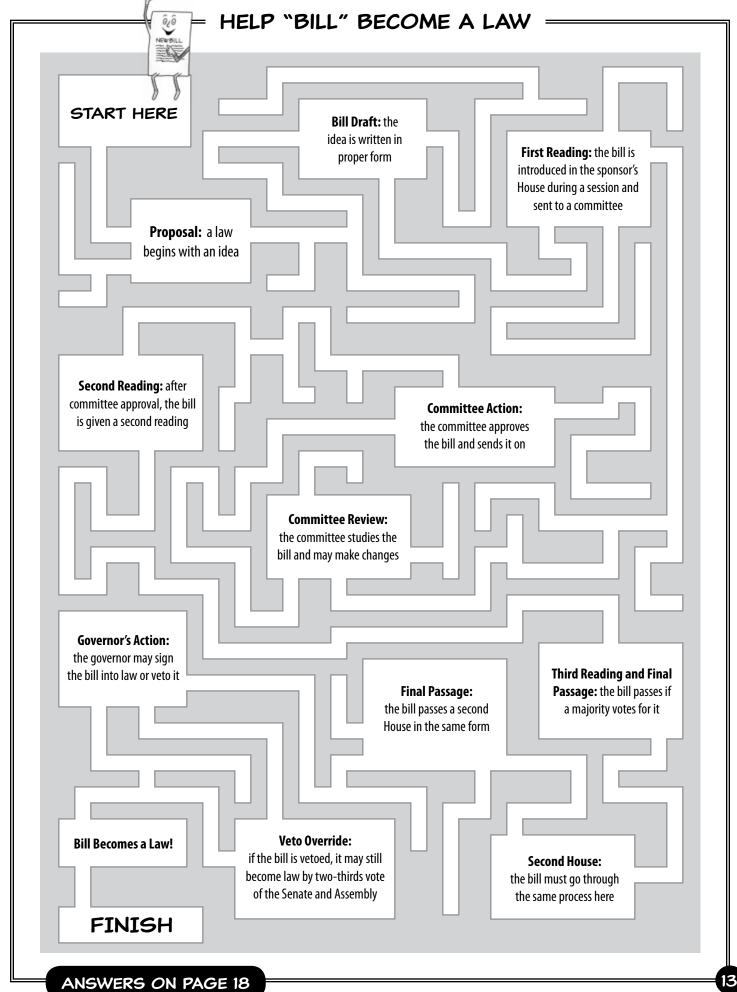


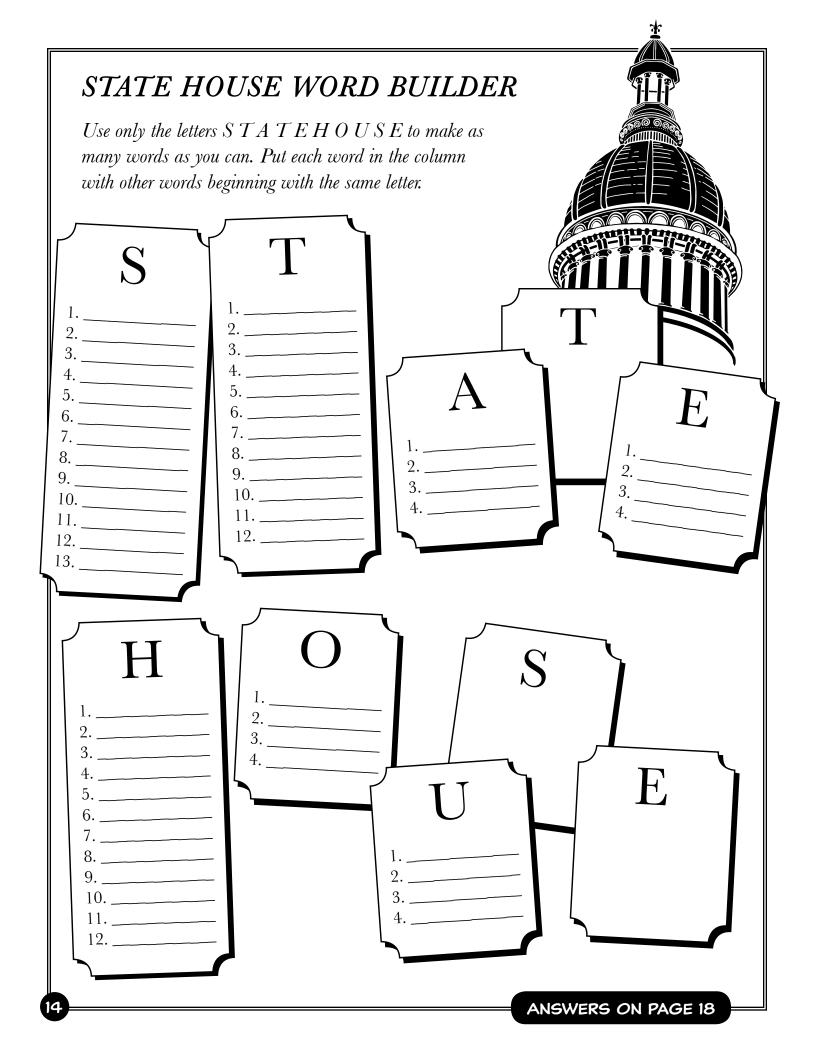
- a. The life-support system could be stopped.
- b. The life-support system had to continue.



ANSWERS ON PAGE 17









Your legislators represent you, and the laws enacted by them are intended to foster the health, safety and welfare of all New Jersey citizens. As active participants in the legislative process, we can truly make State government one for and by the people. Here's what you can do:



LOOK, LISTEN AND LEARN

Stay informed of public policy issues. Read the papers. Watch the news. Legislative sessions and major speeches are often televised. Check out weekly television shows on State issues. Hear other opinions — there are always two sides to an issue. Start or join a current events discussion group.

GET SPECIFICS

The New Jersey Legislature makes its information available free of charge. Even the call is free for residents! The non-partisan staff of the Legislative Information and Bill Room can answer questions about legislative activity and supply copies of bills, a legislative calendar and many helpful publications. Legislative information also is available from the Legislature's web site. www.nileg.state.nj.us



WRITE A LETTER, CALL OR E-MAIL

Your legislators value your opinions, but it's up to you to contact them. Phone numbers and addresses for your three representatives are available from the Legislative Information and Bill Room and the Legislature's web site. Address letters to "Honorable (first and last name)." The salutation should read "Dear Senator (last name)," or "Dear Assemblyman/Assemblywoman (last name)."

JOIN FORCES

Join a group with similar concerns as yours. If none exists, start one! Sign or start a petition. Attend rallies and public demonstrations to show support.



VISIT THE SITE OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

Public hearings and committee meetings are the best opportunities to observe and participate in public policy debates. Most bills are reviewed by a legislative committee during an open meeting at the State House Annex. You can learn more about the lawmaking process during a free State House tour. Get a group together and come visit. Call 609-847-3150 for scheduling help.



VOTE!

Elections are a chance to express approval or dissatisfaction. Contact your county election office for registration and absentee ballot information.



New Jersey Firsts (pg. 4)

1. a 6. a3, b2, c4, d1

2. c 7. a 3. a, b, c 8. b 4. a 9. b

5. b 10. a1, b3, c4, d2

Jersey Jumble (pg. 5)

1. **A**SSEM**B**LY 5. **H**O**N**EYB**E**E

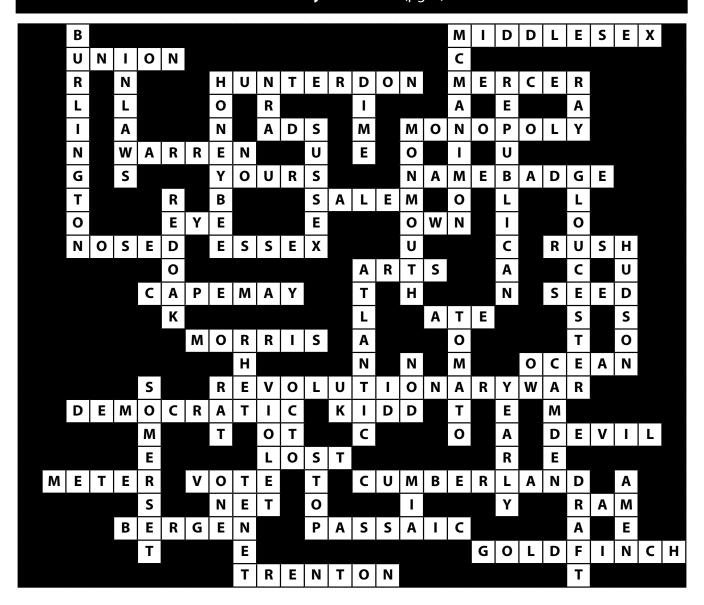
2. DISTRI<u>C</u>T 6. R<u>E</u>D OA<u>K</u>

3. **S**EN**A**TE 7. POLITI**CS**

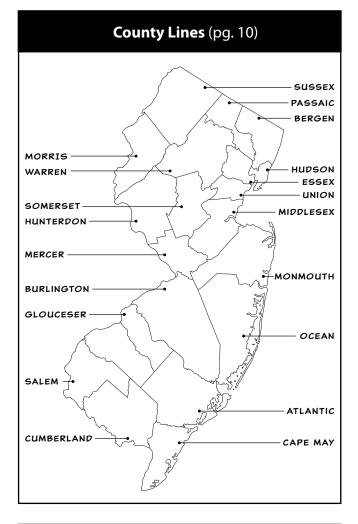
4. GOLDFINCH

GHEGKS AND BALANGES

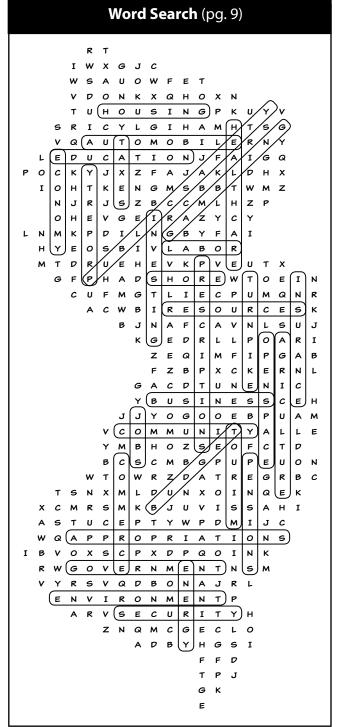
County Crossword (pg. 6)



Trivia & Teasers (pg. 8)						
1. a	7. c					
2. a	8. a4, b2, c1, d3					
3. b	9. a4, b3, c2, d1					
4. b	10. c					
5. b	11. c					
6. a	12. a3, b1, c2, d4					



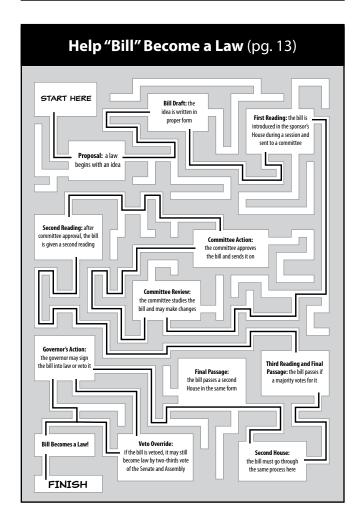
Big News (pg. 11)						
7. a						
8. b						
9. a						
10. c						
11. c						
12. a						



ANSWER PAGE

Greetings from New Jersey (pg. 12)

- 1. Atlantic City Boardwalk, Atlantic City
- 2. Lucy the Elephant, Margate
- 3. New Jersey State House, Trenton
- 4. Ellis Island
- 5. Battleship New Jersey, Camden
- 6. Great Falls, Paterson
- 7. Nipper Building, Camden
- 8. Barnegat Lighthouse, Barnegat



State House Word Builder (pg. 14)									
	S								
sat sate/sates seat/seats see/sees set/sets	she sheet/sheets shoe/shoes shot/shots shout/shouts	shut/shuts so south stash stout							
	T								
taste/tastes tea/teas tease/teases tee/tees teeth test/tests	that the thee those thou thus	to toast/toasts toe/toes tot/tots tote/totes							
A									
as ash/ashes		at ate							
	E								
ease/eases	eat/eats	estate/estates							
	Н								
has haste hat/hats hate/hates	he heat/heats hoe/hoes hose/hoses	host/hosts hot hue/hues hut/huts							
	0								
oat/oats oh		out/ousts out							
	U								
us		use/uses							

