

A look at some weekend events and activities that reflect our region's civic pride, community spirit and our ability to have a good time together.

# No bogging down weekend's fun

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## Blueberries thrill at festival

**WHITESBOG VILLAGE** — Three hours. That's all it took for visitors to the 18th annual Whitesbog Blueberry Festival at Historic Whitesbog Village to snatch up more than 3,000 pints of blueberries.

"They were flying right out of here," volunteer Ian Rothberg said at about 2 p.m., two hours after the last of the berries disappeared at noon. "People were buying them by the flat."

Lucky for Bonnie Nichols, of Medford Lakes, the run on blueberries didn't affect the supply of blueberry pies.

"How could you come and not taste it?" she asked, digging into a gooey slice.

Within hours, the festival's blueberry supply was replenished and by 2:30 p.m., Rothberg and other volunteers were bagging pints for those who didn't get their fill with the blueberry sundaes, bagels, cakes and juices offered up Saturday on the Whitesbog Village grounds, off Route 530 near Brown Mills in Burlington County.

Whitesbog Village was founded in the late 1880s by Joseph J. White, the first grower to dig bogs and cultivate cranberries where they didn't grow naturally.

The village is best known as the home of Elizabeth White, Joseph's daughter, who worked with the United States Department of Agriculture to cultivate blueberries. By



Staff photo by Edward Lea

## Aiming for fun

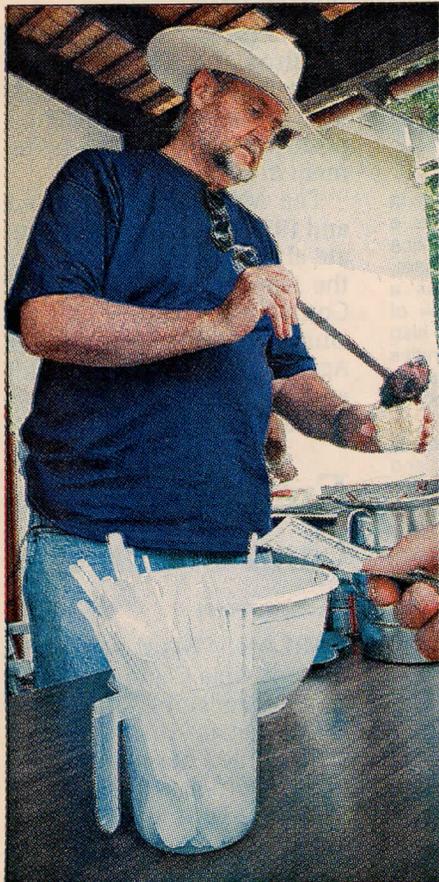
Demetrius Lawing, 11, of Atlantic City, gets Khilli Barabin, 4, before he reloads during a water-tag battle at the Greater Holy Trinity Baptist Church's carnival Saturday in Atlantic City.

1916, the farm was cultivating blueberries for sale all over the nation. Whitesbog, at its peak, had 90 acres of blueberries under cultivation.

The blueberry will be celebrated at Hammonton's Red, White and Blueberry Festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday on School Lane, just off Bellevue Avenue.

**Chris Klenk, of Brown Mills, left, whips up a blueberry sundae at the Blueberry Festival. Below, Jason Seaman, 5, takes a bite out of his doughnut — blueberry, of course.**

Press photos by Ray Cembor



## Rowing for swim

The deck at the Wonder Bar and Grill on Sunset Avenue, near the Albany Avenue Bridge in Atlantic City, overflowed Saturday evening as spectators gathered to watch the 2001 Wonder Bar Sprint Row Challenge.

During the event, eight men competed in a series of 500-foot single elimination duels for the title of best sprint rower in southern New Jersey. The winner took home the Calvi Electric Company Sprint Row Challenge Cup.

The goal of the race is to draw attention to the Atlantic City 2001 Around the Island Marathon Swim to be held Aug. 4, said organizer Sid Cassidy, who also serves as executive director for the marathon swim and as director of aquatics for the city of Atlantic City.

All proceeds of the event will benefit the 22.5-mile marathon swim, Cassidy said.

## SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE?

*The Celebrations team can't be everywhere, but if you would like an upcoming Saturday event considered, please send information at least one week in advance to Celebrations, The Press of Atlantic City, Pleasantville 08232. Fax: (609) 272-7224. E-mail: newstips@pressplus.com*

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# Region

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