

Women's Leadership Council to host 'Welcome Mixer'

The Women's Leadership Council will host its second annual "Welcome Mixer" on Sept. 25, 6 to 8 p.m., in the Palm Room at the Vanderbilt at South Beach.

Assemblywoman Janele Hyer-Spencer is expected to address the group.

Founded last year under the aegis of the Staten Island Economic Development Corp., the Women's Leadership Council was formed to motivate, educate inspire and guide women in business and non-profit organizations so that they may grow personally and professionally, while also strengthening their communities.

Cost for the event is \$10 for non-members. Reservations can be made by calling Paula Coyle at 718-477-1400 ext. 12.

BIGBIZNESS TRADE EXPO

A business networking/trade show "Bigbizness Networking Expo" will take place on Tuesday, 5 to 9 p.m., at the Staaten, West Brighton.

The event is expected to attract the "who's who" in Staten Island business as well as businesses from New Jersey, Manhattan and Brooklyn.



"Having this event in Staten Island is highly strategic and a much-needed economic booster," said Leo Gonzales, president of Image Interactive in Queens, and editor of B2Bnetevents.com. "Bringing in attendees, exhibitors and principals from the other shores to this new forum provides tremendous lead-sharing and partnership opportunities for everyone. ... There's so much business potential [among] these four areas that bridging the geographic rifts is such a worthy project and I have the absolute faith that Staten Island is ready to be that cohesive bridge."

Meiers Corners attorney Michael Menicucci will be honored as "Top Community Hero for Staten Island Economic Issues." Menicucci was chosen by a panel of representatives from real estate, legal and lending industries for his

work with business development on Staten Island and legislative battles against the foreclosures crisis. Tickets are \$15 per person. To register, go online at 321bizness.com or call 718-229-8953.

BUILDING AWARDS

The Staten Island Chamber of Commerce is accepting applications for the 2008 Building Awards program. Any structure on Staten Island may be submitted by the owner, or with the owner's consent, by the architect, engineer, interior designer or craftsman.

The program is open to the public. Awards will be presented only to individuals who have submitted an application for a winning structure.

In order to be eligible, projects must have been completed between Sept. 1, 2007, and Sept. 1, 2008. New residential and commercial structures as well as renovation projects may be submitted.

Judging will take place Oct. 10 and will be conducted by a panel with members from all areas of the building industry. Awards will be presented at a luncheon on Friday, Dec. 5, at the Hilton Garden Inn, Bloomfield.

To obtain an application, please call the Chamber at 718-727-1900. The deadline for submissions is Sept. 29.

OIL REBOUNDS IN ASIA

SINGAPORE — Oil prices rebounded today in Asia as traders viewed a two-day \$10 drop as overdone and driven more by market jitters than by fundamentals.

Sentiment got a boost on news that the U.S. Federal Reserve agreed to provide an \$85 billion emergency loan to rescue insurance giant American International Group, helping stabilize global markets rattled by the failure of U.S. investment bank Lehman Brothers.

Light, sweet crude for October delivery rose \$3.50 to \$94.65 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange midday in Singapore. Overnight, the contract fell \$4.56 to settle at \$91.15, after dropping \$5.47 on Monday.



John McCain, left, and Barack Obama center stage in the campaign.

Econom

Candidates trade barbed insults along with prescriptions for the financial sector

By TERENCE HUNT and GLEN JOHNSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

GOLDEN, Colo. — John McCain and Barack Obama traded increasingly barbed insults along with prescriptions for the ailing economy yesterday as financial fears shoved aside lipstick on pigs and every other political issue in a blink with just weeks left in the long presidential campaign.

An ad by Democrat Obama sneered: "How can John McCain fix our economy if he doesn't understand it's broken?"

Getting even more per-

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Train crash