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Breaking News Atlantic City casino losses slow dramatically in 2011

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Everyone Has a Story: Brigantine resident beauty queen accepted into Teach For America

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Lewis family photo

Brittany Lewis, 21, of Brigantine, wins the Miss Greater Reading (Pa.) Pageant in February. Her platform is domestic violence prevention, motivated by the personal tragedy of losing her sister to a shooting in Lindenwald, Camden County, in 2010.

Posted: Sunday, March 11, 2012 7:02 pm | Updated: 10:34 am, Mon Mar 12, 2012.

Brigantine's **Brittany Lewis** will graduate from Temple University in Philadelphia this May and has been accepted into the competitive Teach for America program. She also recently won the Miss Greater Reading, Pa. pageant, and will compete for Miss Pennsylvania in May.

Lewis is not worried about juggling her pageant responsibilities, teaching schedule and other interests, she said.

"I've always been good at time management," said Lewis, daughter of Brenda and well-known retired chef Willie Lewis, of Brigantine. "I like being busy. Idle time for me doesn't exist."

Part of what motivated her to enter the pageant was her platform on domestic violence prevention, and her concern comes from personal tragedy. In March 2010 her older sister, Gina Nicole Clarke Lewis, 27, also a Temple student, was shot and killed outside her apartment in Lindenwald, Camden County. The family believes the killer may be an estranged boyfriend, but no arrests have been made.

In June, Lewis will start an intensive six-week training program for Teach for America, and will start teaching English literature in the fall at a disadvantaged high school in Wilmington, Del. At the same time, she will begin a graduate program in secondary education at Wilmington University, she said.

She also plans to keep working with WMCN-TV/Lenfest Broadcasting in Egg Harbor Township, where she did an internship recently, she said.

At Temple, she doubled majored in broadcast journalism and African-American studies and held many leadership positions. She started the Black New Voice Newsletter, danced for four years on the Diamond Gem dance



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team, and was a McNair Scholar.

Alzheimer's outreach

Certified Dementia Practitioner **Rachel Parlman** is the new outreach coordinator for the Richard Simon Center for Alzheimer's at the nonprofit Seashore Gardens Living Center in Galloway Township.

Parlman will help community members deal with Alzheimer's disease, a center spokesperson said. She will co-lead support groups with social worker Robyn Ciangetti on the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 609-404-4848 or visit

www.seashoregardens.org

Host families needed

Five young adults from Israel will teach the history and culture of their country to campers at the JCC Camp by the Sea in Margate this summer, and host families are needed for two-to four-week intervals. Contact Josh Cutler at 609-822-1167, ext. 138, or email Camp@jccatlantic.org

Contact Michelle Brunetti Post:

609-272-7219

Michelle.Post@pressofac.com

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Posted in [Atlantic-city pleasantville brigantine](#), [Michelle post](#), [Atlantic](#) on Sunday, March 11, 2012 7:02 pm. *Updated: 10:34 am.*

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Kim Sutton

Congratulations to Brittany Lewis! She is a beautiful person inside and out! I have watched her grow up in Brigantine and I always knew she had the character and inner drive to accomplish great things. We are proud of her and look forward to her continued success!

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