N.J. could see a tax revolt

By MICHAEL BUSLER For the Courie-Post

A couple of recent and very significant events occurred here in New Jersey that could lead to a national trend. Overtaxed New Jersey residents may be ready to revolt because of extremely high taxes. They appear ready to elect officials who promise to reduce their tax burden regardless of consequences.

In November, incumbent Gov. Jon Corzine lost his bid for re-election. New governor Chris Christie campaigned on many issues, but he consistently stated that he would not raise any taxes and would do his best to reduce them.

Perhaps more significantly was a recent happening in Wildwood. Both the mayor and a councilman who promised to keep property taxes under control and then raised them by more than 18 percent were recalled by voters. Wildwood's organized tax revolters said "no more," and both officials were booted from office. Could this be a national trend?

"Look, I am not a revolutionist," a tax revolter may say, "I am just an average hard working guy. But I am tired of working four hours a day for the government and only four hours for my family and me.

"I pay more than 6 percent of my income to Social Security (actually more than 12 percent if you count my employer's contrigefpn ciale in the union. In addition, I pay special hidden taxes on gasoline, tes. Meanwhile, my wife and kids just don't seem to have what a person with my byoide. What do you expect me to do?"

t appears as if the majority of the people in Wildwood and in maybe in all of New

In our system a person is paid according to the value of their output. The more a person contributes, the more he or she is paid. That means if, for whatever reason, an individual does not contribute