



NANCY ROKOS / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sam Muaddi, owner of Moorestown Auto & Boat Upholstery in Moorestown, examines a newly reupholstered 1953 Oldsmobile Super 88 convertible's front seat, done to original specifications.

# Sewing up a career

Classic car and boat interiors benefit from his touch.

**Editor's Note:** One in an occasional series about people and places in Burlington County.

By GAIL T. BOATMAN  
SPECIAL TO THE BCT

**MOORESTOWN** — In a busy workshop, tucked away behind an unassuming house on West Camden Avenue, Sam Muaddi is living the American dream.

Muaddi, who came to the United States from his native Palestine in 1967, is the owner of Moorestown Auto & Boat Upholstery, a small business that has flourished in the niche market of repairing and restoring the interiors of boats and classic and antique automobiles.

His tiny office is filled with scrapbooks that record his expert needlework on the automobile and

boat seats and carpets his devoted customers entrust to his care. He also works on convertible tops.

Besides his individual customers, Muaddi works for a number of area car dealerships, who contract out interior work.



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Ayman Muaddi of Philadelphia removes old fabric on a car seat. Muaddi also installed a new convertible top on the 1970 Oldsmobile Cutlass behind him.

A centerpiece in his crowded office is an antique Singer sewing machine, displayed as a symbol of his profession. "I love it," he said.

United States, he was following in the footsteps of an older brother who arrived 10 years earlier and whose sewing skills helped him forge a path to a career as an upholster-

**an upholsterer**