

# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 6, NO. 7

50 CENTS

OCTOBER 11, 2002

## Borough Denied "Extraordinary" Aid from State

South Plainfield has received notice that it will receive no "extraordinary" aid from the State of New Jersey.

Last week the state handed out over \$13M in "extraordinary" aid to 30 cities, but not one cent went to South Plainfield.

South Plainfield was the only town that had applied for aid and was refused, according to State Community Affairs Commissioner Susan Bass Levin. She said that South Plainfield could not show that it faced a property tax hike, which is one of the requirements for receiving the aid.

South Plainfield had asked for \$300,000 in state aid. CFO Glenn Cullen, who informed the council of the state's decision, said it would not affect the tax rate for 2003. The South Plainfield municipal tax rate will remain the same as last year at 8.61. The average assessed value of a house in South Plainfield is \$115,000, which reflects \$990.15 for the municipal tax portion of the residential bill.

Cullen said that the 2003 budget will be formally adopted at the Oct. 24 meeting.

## Annual Fire Department Open House

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department announced that its 2002 Fire Prevention Day will be held on Saturday, Oct. 12 from noon until 4 p.m. at Fire Headquarters, located at 123 Maple Ave.

Planned events include Smokey the Bear, The Saint Barnabas Burn House, P.S.E.&G. Co., apparatus and equipment display and much more.

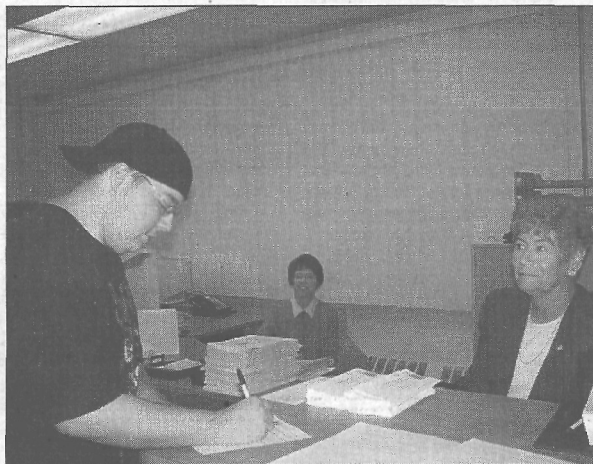
So plan to come on out and support our local fire department. The event takes place rain or shine.

## Mary Chapman Dies Long-time resident & volunteer dead at 82

Mary A. Chapman died on Thursday, Oct. 3, at her home following a seven-year battle with cancer.

Mrs. Chapman was a 54-year resident of South Plainfield. She was the school nurse at South Plainfield High School and a very active volunteer in the Rescue Squad here.

For Mrs. Chapman's complete obituary, see page 10.



**Vote**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Monday was the deadline for voters to register for the Nov. 5 election. Confidential Assistant Marie Dudeck (in background) happily reported that 25 new voters registered. Pictured registering is Harry Mowrey, 18, while Court Administrator Pat Vargo looks on.

## CME Updates Council on Latest Plans for the Hamilton Blvd. Project

Members of the Borough Council and the public were given an update on the latest plans on the Hamilton Blvd. Project during Monday evening's agenda session.

Greg Fodal from CME displayed charts and explained in detail how the plans for the project have progressed.

This project, which will be funded by Middlesex County, will mean a complete revamping of Hamilton Blvd., beginning where it enters South Plainfield on Stelton Rd. and continuing all the way to New Market Ave.

Plans call for two lanes in both directions the entire length of Hamilton

Bldv. from Stelton Rd. to the light at Durham Rd. This section will also get curbs and sidewalks. The traffic light at Durham and Hamilton remains, but will be optimized.

New traffic lights will be installed at Ryan St. and St. Nicholas Ave., with left turn lanes installed, helping with congestion in that area.

The intersection at New Market Ave. will be completely renovated, and additional turning lanes will be added on after the building on that corner is removed.

According to Fodale, the plans will be completed and presented to Mid-

## Who is Tony Romano? 'Not Me' Says Anthony!

South Plainfield Resident Claims Letter Writer Used His Name

During the "holy season" (political) letters flow into the *Observer* and other area papers. Some support candidates, some denounce them.

Anthony Romano of South Plainfield has apparently become the victim of a not so funny hoax, and he is trying to get to the bottom of it. He wants to find the Tony Romano who has written letters criticizing the police and former Councilwoman Darlene Pinto.

On Aug. 14, a letter to the editor appeared in the *Courier News* signed by "Tony Romano." The letter blasted the police department, charging it with incompetence, saying (among

other insults) "the police were out joy-riding around in their cars wasting tax dollars."

After reading the letter, Police Chief Robert Merkler felt compelled to write a rebuttal letter, which was published in the *Observer*, Aug. 23 issue.

Soon after, Anthony Romano received some anonymous phone messages which he thought were a joke since he hadn't read or written the letter, and just ignored the calls.

Last month, another letter to the editor appeared in the *Reporter* signed by Tony Romano. This one had some very nasty things to say about Darlene Pinto, including that she once owned a 'junk' store in town.

Pinto responded with a letter to all of the area newspapers and decided she would try to find out who this Tony Romano was and why he had written such nasty letters.

By now Anthony Romano was beginning to hear strange comments from his friends, getting dirty looks from strangers and receiving more anonymous phone messages. When he was told about the letters, he was both horrified and angry.

He called both the *Courier News* and *Reporter* asking how they verified the letters and didn't get any satisfactory answers. Both did, however, say they would investigate and get back to him.

Anthony was told that the entire police department, under the impression that he had written the letter, was very angry with him. He feels his reputation has been severely damaged and he wants to set the record straight. He started by submitting a letter to the *Observer* and the other newspapers who ran the letters from the now mysterious "Tony Romano," denying he authored any of the letters. (See his letter on page 2.)

Anthony is active in town, coaches for the Recreation Department and the Junior Baseball Club. He isn't even politically involved. He is challenging the person who used the name "Tony" to step forward and identify himself. He has personally contacted both Chief Merkler and Darlene Pinto and given them a copy of his letter.

He also told the *Observer* if he doesn't get satisfactory answers about who "Tony Romano" is, he will seek the advice of a lawyer.

## Columbus Day Ceremonies Set for Monday

Columbus Day ceremonies will take place in front of Borough Hall on Monday, Oct. 14 at 9 a.m.

The annual event, sponsored by the Plainfield Chapter of UNICO, is held each year to celebrate Columbus Day. The public is invited to attend.

## Ponytail Art Auction Reaps Sound System

Story and photos by Patricia Abbott

South Plainfield Ponytail Parent's Association held an Art Auction last Friday to raise funds for a much needed new sound system and a scoreboard for their "B" field at Pitt Street Park.

The art auction, conducted by Ross Galleries, was held in the South Plainfield High School cafeteria. Guests enjoyed assorted goodies as well as hot and cold drinks while they previewed the works of art. The event was organized by Debbie Boyle and Pat DeSantis.

Approximately 75 people attended the event. Assisting the gallery staff were students Kelly Downes, Mike Boyle, Rachel Senz and Stephanie Szeliga. The youths moved works of art as the auctioneer quickly went through the large assortment.

President Steven Senz and Vice President Mark Sutherland were pleased with the results of the auction. Because of the fundraiser, they will be able to purchase a new sound system and have a good start on the funds needed for the scoreboard.

See page 8 for additional photos.





# IN YOUR OPINION

## To the Editor,

On behalf of Pat DeSantis and myself, we would like to thank the South Plainfield Ponytail Parent's Association President Steven Senz, Vice President Mark Sutherland and everyone who purchased tickets and those who attended our art auction on Friday, Oct. 4.

Our Ross Galleries Art Auction was a huge success and will enable us to purchase equipment for the Pitt Street Park. We have already purchased an electrical scoreboard through donations and fundraising, which will benefit over 250 girls in the Ponytail program.

We thank everyone in the Ponytail Parent's Association who lent a hand to bring the first ever art auction to fruition. An enjoyable evening was had by all.

Thank you to Kathi Downes and Sherry Hardy for being with us all the way!

SINCERELY,  
DEBBIE BOYLE

## To the Editor,

I am sure by now it is common knowledge that I am running for President of the PTA of Roosevelt School. Because of this, I need to clear up a couple of things. It has come to my attention that there is an awful, distasteful slanderous rumor said about me that I made racist remarks about a by-racial couple from the school, and about their little daughter. I feel it necessary to stop this type of garbage before it steam rolls any farther. It is my opinion that the person (whom I know did this), is trying to not only create a problem between me and this couple, not to mention that they were my friends for many years, but also to discredit my character in hopes of swaying you, the PTA members, of making a decision on who you might vote for as President of the PTA.

This rumor is not the first spread by this same person. I have had an on

going problem of being constantly harassed and to list everything that this person has done to me and my family would take up a lot of space. I feel this specific attack needs to be addressed because it hit me straight in my heart. This person forgot to take into consideration that my niece is by-racial, so not only do I feel this was an attack against the couple and their daughter, but it was also an attack against my beautiful niece and that is something I WILL NOT let go by, as I have let all the past attacks rest against me by this very jealous person.

It has also come to my attention that I have been accused for the second time of verbally attacking this person's child. Again it was not taken into consideration before this out right, bold face lie was said that I have other people on my school bus, and there is a teacher who stands there to take the child I transport off my bus, and also stands there as I leave waiting for the other bus to come! She was out there in the morning and the afternoon, when I arrive and when I leave the school, where this supposedly happened. And one of the people on my bus is my son, whom I am proud to say is NOT a liar!

This child has also stated that I have yelled out my school bus window at her as she walks past my bus. This person has told a family member, she had to take her child out of the school because she is so afraid! **GIVE ME A BREAK!** Number one, I am at this school very early, and I have NEVER seen this child there, and don't you think if a school bus driver got out of her bus, at a school, in front of all the other children and teachers standing around and verbally attacked one of the students or yelled any kind of threatening statements at a child, that someone would have heard it and don't you think there would have been a complaint made against that driver by someone? Anyone? Well there was a complaint made and that was by me! I state now that I have never approached ANY child in a threatening manner in my life. It is not in my character to do such a thing. This person and her child are trying to paint me as a threat and a danger to children! And I hope they decide to come forward with the TRUTH voluntarily or the TRUTH will come out forced!

Thank you for the opportunity to clear up these malicious attacks against me, and thank you to all the supportive people who have stood by me through all of this, especially to the wife of the couple this was said about. Thank you for coming to me with this and not just believing I would ever say such a disgusting thing.

BLESSINGS,  
MRS. DEBI ESPOSITO

## To The Editor,

My name is Anthony P. Romano. I am writing this letter to clarify to all parties involved that previous letters written by "Tony Romano," were not written by me, nor were they my views.

I am very involved in South Plainfield. I have two children and coach for the Division of Recreation as well as the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club and have good standings in this community. I have never had any negative dealings with anyone in this town. I have personally spoken to Chief Merkle and Councilwoman Darlene Pinto to try and rectify this problem. Unfortunately that wasn't enough. The phone calls continue to come.

I decided to do some research, and it seems that there IS NOT another Anthony Romano in South Plainfield.

## Submit Letters to the Editor:

Letters may be submitted to our office: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, by email at our website at [spobserver.com](mailto:spobserver.com) or faxed to 908-668-8819. Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. We reserve the right to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher.

While the Observer is a strong proponent of our readers' rights to express their opinions through submission of letters to the editor, we will not publish letters which accuse anyone of violating the law unless substantiated by a police report. Although it is political season in South Plainfield, and every individual has both the right and responsibility to support a candidate, the Observer will not be the vehicle through which rumours will be perpetuated.

I made a call to "The Reporter" and "The Courier News." Apparently, there is no real protocol for verifying whether or not "real" people actually submit letters. If the story is good, print it. I was told by Mike Deak from The Reporter, "well, we called his phone." I was told by Jim Flachsenhaar from The Courier News, "we couldn't verify."

Quite frankly, I am concerned and disappointed at the lack of responsibility that these newspapers have shown. Although I am sure that all parties who know me, know that I do not use "Tony," I continue to feel it is my responsibility to write this rebuttal. What a shame it is that someone could feel so strongly about something in their own town, however, not have the backbone to sign their own name, not to have the dignity to stand up and speak like a grown adult. Well, I DO.

Let me reiterate, all previous letters were not written by me. I don't know if this letter will ever make it to press in the Courier News and Reporter; however, a copy WILL be hand delivered to Chief Merkle and Councilwoman Darlene Pinto. I am also submitting a copy to the Observer.

In closing, my thanks to Chief Merkle, Councilwoman Darlene Pinto and my acquaintances at the South Plainfield Police Department for assuming, in advance, that these letters were not submitted by me. To the actual author of previous letters; have some dignity and sign your own name. Let me show you how it is done.

THANK YOU,  
ANTHONY P. ROMANO

## To the Editor:

I am writing this letter from the perspective of someone who has known Dan Gallagher for 25 plus years.

Of those years, I have had so many personal and professional interactions with him that they are too many to count. In 1980 I had the honor of running with Mr. Gallagher for an elected official.

On a personal level, I value his friendship and I feel privileged that he calls me friend. On a professional level, I have the greatest respect for his insights and willingness to serve the citizens of South Plainfield. Mr. Gallagher is a highly visible, dedicated and talented elected official.

If it is true that "Youth is South Plainfield's pride and greatest asset," then we are very fortunate to have Mr. Gallagher as a mayor guiding our town.

ANTHONY F. MASSARO

## To the Editor,

Each week I read several self-serving letters in the paper from the South Plainfield Democratic candidates and their friends. Aside from the snide remarks and grandiose claims, one thing strikes me: how they repeatedly claim they weaved "fiscal responsibility" out of "financial chaos." If only it were true.

The gimmicks these people use would make the executives at Enron

envious. For example, they've been selling off borough-owned land (assets) to prop up the budget for years. That's right, since they've been in power, they've sold builders millions of dollars worth of our property. Not long ago their party criticized Republicans for this practice, but apparently when Democrats sell land it becomes fiscally responsible. Hypocrisy aside, the bigger problem is that selling land now contributes to overbuilding. That's something that wasn't a problem years ago.

The Democrats also say they have pay-as-you-go government. But this is a slogan rather than a reality. They are simply leasing instead of buying. The debt is still there, but it doesn't show on the books.

The Democrats squandered their chance to show they could act in a fiscally responsible manner. They controlled the town during a booming economy and at a time when tax rates increased due to unprecedented building. They had an excellent opportunity to show us they could act responsibly. Instead, they relied on accounting gimmicks so they could sing their own praises in campaign slogans. Even worse, they sold off our assets to achieve their short-term goals, and at the same time, they passed out big paychecks and raises to their friends. This isn't cost control. The analogy to Enron is startling.

We need people in Borough Hall to watch over the mayor and his friends. That's why Jake Cataldo, Marge Reedy and I ask for your vote in November.

GEOFF CHAMPION

## To the Editor:

I follow politics closely in South Plainfield and for the past nine years have seen what every resident wants and deserves from their elected officials. This is our third year of no local tax increase, a very significant reduction in the Republican caused debt, a balanced budget, over 117 roads repaired, senior housing, a senior recreation center, a new PAL, a new skate park, a community police building, more open space free from development, every park improved and a police fire and rescue squad second to none.

We have a governing body that listens to us and works for us. South Plainfield is fortunate to have elected officials such as Dan Gallagher, Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral. On Election Day they deserve your vote.

CHERYL NAGEL-SMILEY

## To the Editor,

It's amazing how people still believe the Democrats have not raised taxes. Two weeks ago Charlie Haus wrote a letter to the paper in which he listed the municipal tax rates - the rate that does not include county and school board taxes. The list began in 1995, the year the mayor took office, and the figures came directly from the Middlesex County Tax Board. Actually, Mr. Haus was being gracious by only

## Mark your calendars

### council meetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Thursday.

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. (New Time) • Questions? 908-226-7605

AGENDA MEETING ..... PUBLIC MEETING

Monday, October 21 ..... Thursday, October 24

Monday, November 4 ..... Thursday, November 7

All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (NJSA 10:4-6 et seq) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Avenue.

### planning board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

Oct. 8, Oct. 22, Nov. 12, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, Dec. 24 (no meeting)

### zoning board of adjustment

Meets on Thursdays

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641

Oct. 17, Nov. 14, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Dec. 19

### board of education meetings

Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Place unless otherwise noted

Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. - Nov. 12, Dec. 10,

Jan. 14, 2003, Feb. 11, March 11, April 1.

Regular Board Mtg., held Tuesdays, at 8 p.m. - Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 17,

Jan. 21, 2003, Feb. 18, March 18, April 8.

## South Plainfield Observer

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## SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

We look forward to hearing from all of you and encourage you to send in your stories and photos. The South Plainfield Observer is your paper. Please let us know what you would like to see in it.

To get an article published in South Plainfield Observer:

1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
2. Mail, fax or drop it at: Editorial Department  
South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or drop it in the box at Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Ave. or at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us at [spobserver.com](mailto:spobserver.com) or [ggnan@aol.com](mailto:ggnan@aol.com) or [ngrennie@ix.netcom.com](mailto:ngrennie@ix.netcom.com). Include your name, address, telephone number.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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## Want to get noticed?

# The South Plainfield Observer

South Plainfield's official weekly news source

For advertising rates & information, call 908-668-0010.





Tammy Vincent, owner of the newest business in town, The Painting Station, is pictured in front of many of the ceramic figures available in her shop. Tammy reminds everyone that it is already time to start planning for the holidays. The Painting Studio is located at 2325 Plainfield Ave. (next to First Union Bank). For hours and information, call Tammy at (908) 757-4600.

From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

And here's the latest news from the South Plainfield Library:

The Library will be closed on Sunday and Monday in observance of Columbus Day.

We've got our normal schedule of children's Storytime programs set for next week. Each program is for children ages three and over; no pre-registration is needed. The programs are held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. We also have a Pumpkin Painting program coming up on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m. to 12 Noon. You must register in advance for this program, and there is a charge of \$1 towards the cost of materials. There's also a special musical program featuring "Robert the Guitar Guy" on Thursday evening, Oct. 24, at 6:30 p.m. For more information about these programs, please call (908) 754-7885 and ask for Miss Linda.

Oh, and don't forget about Miss Linda's request for donations of items for the Pumpkin Painting. She's looking for buttons, straight pins, old jewelry, lace and other related items. If you can help, please bring that stuff in sometime today.

We'll be featuring two displays throughout the month. Our main display case features a stamp collection provided by Reference Librarian Chris Grippo. And the area of our display wall features "Silent Victims", a display on domestic violence conducted by the South Plainfield Domestic Violence Educational Out-

### Domestic Violence Exhibit at Library

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The South Plainfield Library will have an exhibit on display during the month of October during regular library hours. A team member will be at the library to answer any questions every Wednesday evening from 7-8 p.m.



## Flu Shots Available

Flu shots will be available at the South Plainfield Senior Center on Maple Ave. on Tuesday, Oct. 15 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and Nov. 12 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

On Oct. 15 only Middlesex County residents 50 years of age or older or those who have chronic disorders of the pulmonary or cardiovascular systems and those with chronic metabolic diseases including diabetes mellitus, renal dysfunction, hemoglobinopathies or immuno-suppression may obtain a vaccine.

A second clinic to be held on Nov. 12 will offer flu vaccines to any Middlesex County resident age 18 or over. No one under the age of 18 will be vaccinated and proof of age will be required.

Pneumococcal vaccines will be given at both clinics by appointment only. They are available only to those residents 65 years of age or older who have not previously received this vaccine.

Please bring your Medicare card to the clinic.

## Elizabethtown Water Introduces "Beat the Freeze"

A flyer which was inserted in customer's Elizabethtown Water bills allows their customers protection from loss of water service due to non-payment.

The State of New Jersey has established regulations that permit customers to request a third party or telephone notification.

All residential customers have the right to ask Elizabethtown to send a third party, either a relative, friend, member of clergy or social service agency, a written notice before they discontinue service because bills have gone unpaid. While the third party has no obligation to pay the bill, the notification is helpful to customers who may not be at home to get their bills, senior citizens and the disabled. Customers may also request notification by telephone. Unlisted numbers will be kept confidential.

All you need to do is contact customer service at 1-800-272-1325 or send a note to Elizabethtown Water Co., P.O. Box 788, Westfield, NJ 07091 or you can also log on to their website: [www.etownwater.com](http://www.etownwater.com).

### Elks Are Selling Entertainment Books for 2003

The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee is selling the Entertainment book for \$30.

Contact Lou Peralta at (908) 756-6406.

reach Program. On Wednesday evenings from 7-8, a Program representative will be available to answer questions about the exhibit and the subject.

Turning to our Circuit collections, we recently added a new group from the Large Print Circuit. Books in this group include *Gap Creek* by Robert Morgan (no relation), *Watership Down* by Richard Adams, *The Vendetta Defense* by Lisa Scottoline, *A Quiet Strength* by Janette Oke, and the non-fiction *Every Breath You Take* by Ann Rule. LPC books may be borrowed for two weeks.

Here at the Library, we rely on several criteria, including books reviews andatron suggestions, when it comes to selecting materials for our collection. Our aim is to provide as wide a range of information and entertainment as possible. While we do take certain community standards into account, we understand that we can't please everybody and that odds are someone will find something in the collection objectionable or even offensive. Therefore, we urge you, especially if you're borrowing something for your kids, to research beforehand whatever item you're thinking of borrowing, so you know what you're taking out. We can provide you with resources to do this more easily. And, if there is a problem, please don't hesitate to ask us for information or to tell us your opinions. And, as always, thanks in advance for your consideration.

That's about all for now, except for one correction: Your humble reporter mistakenly referred to the Library's Net computers as "terminals", when they are actually individual computers. My apologies.

See you next Friday.



Frank Sinatra impersonator Ernie Contra entertained a packed house at the Senior Citizen's Center on Sept. 24 courtesy of Unity Bank. He sang all of the "old favorites." Following his performance, the audience enjoyed sandwiches provided by Hometown Heros, located on Hamilton Blvd.

## Community Pool to Add Miniature Golf Course

The community pool may be closed for the winter months, but that doesn't mean nothing is happening. Last week residents who are members of the South Plainfield Community Pool received a letter explaining new activities planned for the pool starting next year.

The Recreation Commission has approved the construction of a miniature golf course where the handball court presently stands. The estimated cost is about \$16,000. Non-members will be able to use the putt-putt course at an undetermined cost.

Recreation Commissioner Mike

English was also directed to look into the possibility of adding a water slide to the pool complex. The slide would be located in the five foot area and contain two or three tube-like slides. Early estimates of the cost are about \$21,000.

This past season the pool introduced new activities for the children at the pool, restructuring the swimming lessons program and a Hawaiian party event.

If you are interested in joining the pool, contact Mike English at the PAL at (908) 226-7714.

## Recycling Center Closed For Columbus Day Holiday

The South Plainfield Recycling Center on Kenneth Avenue will be closed on Tuesday, Oct. 15, because of the Columbus Day holiday weekend. It will be open instead on Wednesday, Oct. 16, from 12 noon to 7 p.m.

The Recycling Center and the Yard Waste Site will be open as usual from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 12.

The Recycling Complex is on winter hours. The regular winter schedule at the Recycling Center is Tuesdays 12 noon to 7 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The regular winter Yard Waste Site

schedule is Saturdays 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For updates, call the Recycling Hotline at (908) 226-7620.

## Recycling Center Accepting Paint

The Recycling Center will be accepting paint for recycling next Saturday, Oct. 19, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. Keep oil based paint separate from latex. We also take thinners, stains and varnish.

### South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department

123 Maple Avenue  
South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080  
(908) 756-4701

## WINE TASTING

Sponsored by Oak Tree Discount Wines & Spirits

Saturday, November 9, 2002  
6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Embassy Suites, Piscataway, NJ  
Tickets - \$40 per person

Ticket price includes:

Wine Tasting Reception 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Cash Bar, DJ and Dancing 9 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Special Hotel Room Rates Available for Overnight Stay

For Tickets or More Information

Please Contact:  
Mike Gallagher (908) 755-9874



On the Road to Recovery?  
We Can Help Get You There.

Lynne Glasser-Sward P.T.

908-668-1951

Physical Therapy Center  
of South Plainfield & Woodbridge  
1110 Hamilton Blvd. • South Plainfield



South Plainfield Volunteer  
Fire Department  
**OPEN HOUSE**  
Saturday, October 12  
12:00 - 4:00  
123 Maple Avenue

# Events Around Town

## Roosevelt Plans Penny Sale/Auction

October 12

The Roosevelt School P.T.A. will conduct a "Penny Sale/Auction" on Oct. 12 at the South Plainfield Middle School.

Their goal is to raise \$12,000 for the fifth grade's two-day class trip to Stokes State Forest in Montague in November of 2002. This amount will cover meals, lodging, transportation and special educational programs for the 90 students projected to attend.

Top prizes include a Disney vacation for two, a television, a stereo, weekend getaway trips, power tools and much much more.

For tickets or information, please call Cindy at (732) 248-1596.

## Rainbow Academy Open House

October 12

Rainbow Academy Child Care Center, located at 2177 Oak Tree Rd., will hold an Open House on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Rainbow Academy offers a variety of programs to fit your child's needs, from ages six weeks to 10 years. There is limited space available for the infant, nursery, pre-kindergarten and Before & After care programs. Everyone who registers will receive one free month of ParentWatch, an internet viewing service.

You are also invited to visit the center for a tour during operating hours (7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday).

For directions and additional information, visit their website at [www.rainbowacademy.com](http://www.rainbowacademy.com).

## Dinner to Honor Former Police Deputy Chief

October 12

Tulio Caparelli, former South Plainfield deputy chief of the police department will be honored at a dinner on Saturday, Oct. 12 at the Senior Citizens Center, for his dedication to the youth of South Plainfield.

Cost of the dinner is \$15. Visit the PAL Building on Maple Ave. to purchase a ticket.

## SPHS Classes of 1972-73 Reunion

October 12

A joint reunion of the South Plainfield High School classes of 1972 and 1973 will be held on Oct. 12, at the Clarion Hotel and Towers Windsor Ballroom on Rte. 27, Edison.

If you are a member of either class, contact the organizers listed below.

For information, call the Clarion, (732) 287-3500; JoAnne Kaschak Catelli, (732) 286-4310; or Carol Garrubbo Boyer, (908) 771-0901.

## Summer Drama Workshop Reorganization

October 15

The South Plainfield Summer Drama Workshop will hold their reorganization meeting Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the high school cafeteria.

Anyone wishing to join the producing board or getting involved in the 2003 program, should contact the

## What's happening in OCTOBER

Daily Events  
9-11 AM Coffee & Cake  
9 AM-4 PM Cards & Pool  
(908) 754-1047

The Senior Citizens Center is open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
NOW OPEN SATURDAYS 8:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

## Senior Center EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>EVENTS</b>  Closed Columbus Day <b>Happy Columbus Day</b>	<b>Flu Shots Oct. 15, 10 am</b> <b>My Life Financial Services Seminar, Oct. 18</b> <b>Line Dancing Begins Oct. 30, 10 am</b>		Shopping at Pathmark 9AM Practical Crafting 10-11AM	Listening to Children 9:30AM-12:30 Bingo 10AM-2PM Pizza Lunch 11:30 AM
	Bingo 10AM-2PM Flu Shots 9-11:30AM	Walking Club 8:45 Movie 11:30 AARP Crafts 1 PM AARP Board Mtg. 2PM	Shopping at Pathmark 9AM Practical Crafting 10-11AM	My Life Financial Services Seminar 9AM Bingo 10AM-2PM Pizza Lunch 11:30 AM
	14	15	16	17
	14	15	16	17

TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER, VISIT THE PAL BUILDING ON MAPLE AVE.

Summer Drama Workshop at (908) 561-5255 or through their website [www.spsdw.com](http://www.spsdw.com).

## Republican Org. Meeting

October 15

The regular monthly meeting of the South Plainfield Republican Organization will be held Wednesday, Oct. 16, at the American Legion Hall on Oak Tree Rd. at 8 p.m.

All residents are invited to attend to meet and discuss their concerns with the Republican candidates for mayor and council.

## Trip to Broadway's 'Movin' Out'

October 16

The South Plainfield Recreation will sponsor a trip to see Billy Joel's new hit musical, *Movin' Out*, on Oct. 16. The cost is \$75 and includes transportation and orchestra seat tickets. Leave from PAL at 4 p.m.

For info, call the PAL at (908) 226-7713.

## Fall Harvest Festival At Franklin School

October 19

Franklin School will hold a Fall Harvest Festival on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Foods, games, vendors and flea market tables are all part of the festivities. Rain or shine.

Vendors, at \$15 per table, are still needed (no food). Contact Carolyn Relyea at (908) 754-0411 or (908) 256-6180.

Proceeds from the event go to the fifth grade stokes trip.

## Alumni Soccer Game Date Changed

October 19

The alumni soccer game date has been changed. The new date is Oct. 19, at 2 p.m. on the Varsity Soccer Field on Lake Street in front of the high school. If you have any questions, please call Millie at (908) 561-0349 or email [plumb7620@yahoo.com](mailto:plumb7620@yahoo.com).

## AARP Chapter #4144 Meeting

October 21

The October meeting of AARP Chapter #4144 will held on Monday,

Oct. 21 at the new Senior Center, starting at 12:30. We will have a *Show and Tell*. Members are asked to look in their attic, closets, basements and garages for that very special item which brings back old memories and tell us about it. This is going to be fun.

## Eighth Annual Charity Golf Classic

October 21

South Plainfield Education Foundation's 8th Annual Charity Golf Classic will be held on Monday, Oct. 21, at the Copper Hill Country Club in Flemington.

Come join us for relaxing day of golf. Fee includes lunch, golf and dinner with awards and prizes.

For more information contact Bob Hunter at (908)756-2800 (w) or (908) 769-0439 (h).

## St. Stephen's Fifth Annual Oktoberfest

October 26

On Saturday, Oct. 26, St. Stephen's Lutheran Church will celebrate its fifth annual Oktoberfest with authentic German food.

There will be two seatings, one from 5 until 6:30 p.m., and a second from 6:30 until 8 p.m.

Purchase tickets in advanced tickets at the church office. Prices are adults, 13; children 5-12, \$6. Seniors are \$11. Reservations are encouraged.

For further information, call the Church office, (908) 757-4474.

Takeout dinners will be available. All proceeds to go to charity.

## American Legion Pancake Breakfast

October 27

Come enjoy eggs, sausage and bacon with the American Legion (Post 243) at their Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, Oct. 27, 8 a.m. to 12 noon at the Post Home at 243 Oak Tree Ave.

Tickets for adults are \$5, children are 3. Under 6 are free.

For more information call (908) 668-9414.

## Seniors' Trip to the Woodlock Pines

Oct. 28-Nov. 1

South Plainfield Senior Citizens are planning a trip to Woodlock Pines from Oct. 28 through Nov. 1.

If you are interested or have ques-

tions, call Leader Mikie Panzarella at (908) 755-2487.

## Halloween Party at Polish Home

November 2

The Polish National Home will be holding a Halloween Party on Saturday, Nov. 2 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

The cost is \$25 and includes an open bar, buffet and prizes. Costumes preferred, so dress to impress.

## DARE Walk-A-Thon Planned

November 3

The first annual DARE Walk-A-Thon is planned on Nov. 3 at Spring Lake Park. Ceremonies begin at 11 a.m. All children in South Plainfield will benefit from this program.

If anyone is interested in walking and/or donating, please contact ATA Blackbelt Academy's Tiffany Lewis at (908) 755-5440. Help make the DARE program Walk-A-Thon a Success!

## Seniors Going to Taj Mahal

November 6

It's time to win some money at the Taj Mahal in Atlantic City. Why not join the bus trip is planned to the Taj Mahal on Nov. 6. The bus leaves the senior center at 9 a.m. and returns at 7 p.m. The cost is \$15 per person. Sign up at the PAL building.

## SPHS Class of 1982 Reunion

November 9

South Plainfield High School Class of 1982 announced that plans are underway for their 20 year reunion. The date is Saturday, Nov. 9.

If you have a new address or know of other classmates' whereabouts, contact Rosanne Demico-Illardo at (732) 878-9877. Please log onto [www.classmates.com](http://www.classmates.com) for more reunion information.

## Christmas Show at Hunterdon Playhouse

December 23

The Senior Center is sponsoring a trip to the Hunterdon Playhouse's Christmas Show.

The cost is \$50 per person. Bus leaves the Senior Center at 10 a.m. Register at the PAL.

## — Out of Town —

## Middlesex WOWs to Hold Dance

October 11

Middlesex East WOWs Carteret Chapter will hold a dance for widows and widowers on Friday, Oct. 11, at St. Demetrius Community Center, 681-691 Roosevelt Ave., 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. in Carteret. Admission is \$8. Live music and refreshments.

For more information, call (732) 969-1123 or (908) 757-0515.

## Frentchtown Businesses To Hold Open House

October 12-13

The Frentchtown Business and Professional Association will hold their Annual Fall Open House Weekend on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 12 and 13. Special events include horse drawn carriage rides around town, scarecrow making (\$10 donation) at Schneiderwind Farm just across the Delaware River bridge. Puppet shows by River Union Stage at noon, 1:30, 3 and 4:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Several business members will be sponsoring give-a-ways, raffles and sales. Check [www.frentchtown.com](http://www.frentchtown.com) or call 1-800-989-3388 for updates or additional information.

## Belleville UNICO Columbus Day Dinner

October 14

The Belleville Chapter of UNICO Nation will celebrate its Ninth Annual Columbus Day dinner and dance on Monday, Oct. 14, at 7 p.m. at the Branch Brook Manor, 13 Washington Ave., Belleville.

Honored guests will be Assemblyman Paul DiGaetano and Frank Vespa-Papaleo.

The price is \$45 per person and includes antipasto, full course dinner with wine, beer and soda, assorted Italian pastries, coffee, espresso bar and music by Jerry Tolve.

Tickets must be purchased in advance through Vice President Savino Balducci (973) 751-7003. Make checks to Belleville UNICO and mail to Savino Balducci at 65 Fairway Ave., Belleville, NJ 07109.

## Barefoot in the Park at Union Catholic

Oct. 25-26

Union Catholic High School, located in Scotch Plains, will present *Barefoot in the Park*, Neil Simon's Tony Award-nominated comedy on Friday, and Saturday, Oct. 25 and 26 at 8 p.m. at the school.

*Barefoot in the Park* will mark the Union Catholic directorial debut of Cheri Addison. Addison, a professional actress whose credits include *The Trip to Bountiful* with Ellen Burstyn, teaches English and acting at the high school and holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from Florida State University.

Seniors Tino Cerimle and Gabby Conforti head the cast as the young married couple whose misadventures are at the heart of the play. Supporting them are Junior Elizabeth Morasso of Westfield, Sophomore Vinny Napolitano of Union and Junior Eddie Hernandez of Hillside.

Tickets are \$7 (\$5 for students and senior citizens) and all seats are reserved. For ticket sales and more information, call Union Catholic High School at (908) 889-1600. Union Catholic is located at 1600 Martine Ave. in Scotch Plains.

## Send Your Events to:

South Plainfield Observer,  
1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B,  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080, fax (908) 668-8819; or email [ggnan@aol.com](mailto:ggnan@aol.com).



## southplainfieldpeople Milestone

### Montefusco and Ford Are Engaged

Denise Lynn Montefusco and Robert Anthony Ford of Bedminster announce their engagement.

Denise is the daughter of Ronald and Regina Montefusco of Roseland, NJ. She is a graduate of Montclair State College with a Bachelors Degree in Education. She is currently employed as an executive secretary for Cendant Corporation in Parsippany.

Robert, son of Carmela and the late James Ford of South Plainfield, received his Bachelor's Degree in Marketing from Ramapo State College and is currently employed as director of Integrated Marketing at Cendant Corporation in Parsippany.



Denise Montefusco and Robert Ford

A December 2002 wedding is planned.

### Sara Thompson, Steven Seiz Are Married



Mr. and Mrs. Steven Seiz

Sarah Thompson, daughter of Ray and LeeAnn Thompson, was married to Steven Seiz, son of Tom and Linda Seiz, on July 6. Dr. Jeffrey Hayes Wildrick officiated at the marriage, which took place at the First Presbyterian Church of Dunellen. A reception followed at Forest Lodge in Warren.

Rachel Schleich was Matron of Honor for her sister and Eric Seiz was Best Man for his brother. Bridesmaids were Heather Mines, Melissa Normann, Kristen Normann, Kristen Seiz and Pamela Keppel. Groomsmen were Martin Seiz, Danny Yuill, Dave Schleich and Michael Bradshaw.

The bride and groom are both graduates of South Plainfield High School. Mrs. Seiz graduated from Rowan University and teaches in Westfield. Mr. Seiz attended Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston and graduated from Rutgers University. He is employed by Anadigics in Warren.

After a honeymoon in Hawaii, the couple will reside in South Plainfield.

## Local Resident to Compete For Miss New Jersey USA

Magdalena Zaremba, 18, of South Plainfield will compete for the title of Miss New Jersey USA Nov. 1 through 3 at the Hyatt Regency on the Hudson in Jersey City.

Magdalena is the daughter of Stefan and Kasia Zaremba. She attends Rutgers University as a Pre-Med major. Her hobbies include dancing, performing arts, attending theatre shows, playing volleyball and spending time with children and her family.

Magdalena has been living in Europe for the past five years and enjoys every moment of it. While in Europe, she learned Italian, Polish and Ger-



Magdalena Zaremba

man. In each country she tried to become part of the local dance company to get a broader view of what dance is and to have fun at the same time. She has done many charity shows, as well as shows for local theater. All the while she has managed to keep her grades up, receiving numerous academic awards.

If chosen as Miss New Jersey, she will go on to represent the State of New Jersey in the 2002 Miss USA competition.

Magdalena is looking for sponsors to help offset the costs of competing. If you would like to be a sponsor call (908) 769-0691.

### From the Democrats

## Democrats Committed to "Pay As You Go" in South Plainfield

Mayor Dan Gallagher, Council President Jim Vokral and Councilman Ed Kubala affirmed their commitment to 'pay as you go government' in South Plainfield. Mayor Gallagher said, "Of all of the things that have been accomplished over the last nine years, I'm most proud of putting fiscal responsibility into place in the Borough and 'pay as you go' is an essential part of that process. In the last nine years, since the new Democratic majority started preparing the Borough budget, 117 roads have been repaved without borrowing one penny to do them. But we didn't just apply 'pay as you go' to road projects... Borough Hall has been totally renovated, a new heating and air conditioning system was installed at the library, the public works building was renovated, every single park in the borough was improved, including new playground equipment, and a new skate park and hockey rink were installed behind borough hall, all 'pay as you go.' Of course the crown jewel of 'pay as you go government' is the new 10,000 square foot Senior Recreation Center on Lakeview Avenue. That facility alone would have cost over \$1 million to build."

Councilperson Ed Kubala expanded on the Mayor's comments. "Pay as you go" will always be a part of the borough budget as long as Dan, Jim and I have anything to say about it. Next year, 12 more roads will be repaved and we will be starting a curb restoration project without borrowing money to do them. Soon a new jogging trail will be installed at Putnam Park, along with bathroom facilities and a new parking area. Next year, a soccer field will be installed. Our Freeholder, John Pulomena, is working with Freeholder Director Dave Crabiel to secure grant money from Middlesex County to upgrade our sports complex including the installation of lights and parking. More parking will be installed at the senior housing complex and more open space will be preserved, all on a 'pay as you go' basis."

Council President Jim Vokral summed up the Democrats position saying, "there is a reason South Plainfield's debt has been reduced by almost \$10 million. Running the borough government is not unlike running your household budget. When Ed and I joined Dan Gallagher on the Borough Council on January 1, 1994, we put a stop on borrowing. In effect we cut up the borough credit card. We now do what we can afford and pay for the job when it's done. That in turn has led to the incredible shrinking of the borough debt. In fact, if we stay the course, the debt will be reduced by another \$5 million in the next three years. In fiscal year 2007 our annual debt service will be reduced by \$1 million per year. That equates to almost ten tax points. I always remember the quote by a Republican councilman that 'you can't have pay as you go in government.' Well, for the last nine years, Mayor Dan Gallagher and Councilperson Ed Kubala and I have proven that not only can you have it, but it works. You have our word that if you elect the team of Gallagher, Kubala and Vokral, 'pay as you go government' will continue to be an essential part of South Plainfield's financial plan."



### From the Republicans

## Cataldo Calls for Land-Sale Moratorium

South Plainfield mayoral candidate Jake Cataldo this week asked the borough's mayor and council to institute a moratorium on the sale of borough-owned land to builders. According to Cataldo, a Republican, "the temporary freeze would help slow unprecedented residential and commercial growth." "A recent building boom" he said, "has led to overcrowded schools, traffic congestion and infrastructure problems." "While a moratorium is only a partial solution, it would help slow some of the building until the town can reassess how and where growth should occur."

Cataldo pointed out that most residents don't realize that South Plainfield owns acres of land and sells some of it through public bidding each year. Under state law, municipalities can also sell land directly to neighboring property owners. According to Cataldo, a temporary moratorium is one way to slow things down while the town gets back to planning growth in a sensible way.

Council candidate Marge Reedy supports the plan. "It makes sense. As a former school board president, I saw the results of all the building. Enrollment kept rising, and eventually we began running out of space. The board



# 2002 VOTE

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November 5, 2002

had no choice but to ask voters to approve a new school. But unless South Plainfield applies the brakes, even that may not be enough."

"We have to do something to slow things down," added council candidate Geoff Champion. "Condos, townhouses and apartments are springing up all over town." "If we stop selling land to developers, we can at least slow some of the building until the town gets a grip on ways to control what's going on," he added.

According to Cataldo, the new apartment complex near Rt. 287 is a good example of borough-owned land that was sold and eventually turned into a large housing development. South Plainfield owned the property for years and then sold it. Eventually a developer purchased the site and turned it into an apartment complex.

"I call upon the mayor and council to support the moratorium," said Cataldo. "In fact, when Mayor Gallagher was in the minority on the council years ago, he criticized Republicans for selling borough-owned land. Yet his administration has sold off millions of dollars in land as a means to prop up the budget. For example, in 2001 the Gallagher administration sold \$700,000 worth of our land to builders. Putting a land-sale moratorium in place is the right thing to do, and I ask the mayor, as well as the members of the council, to publicly commit to it."

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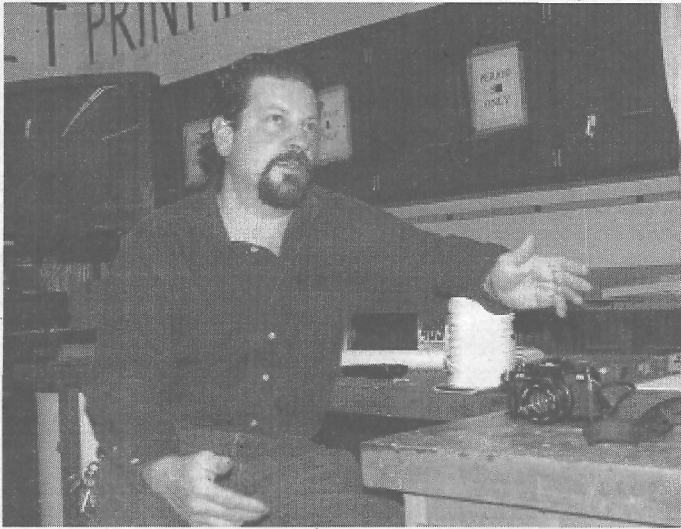
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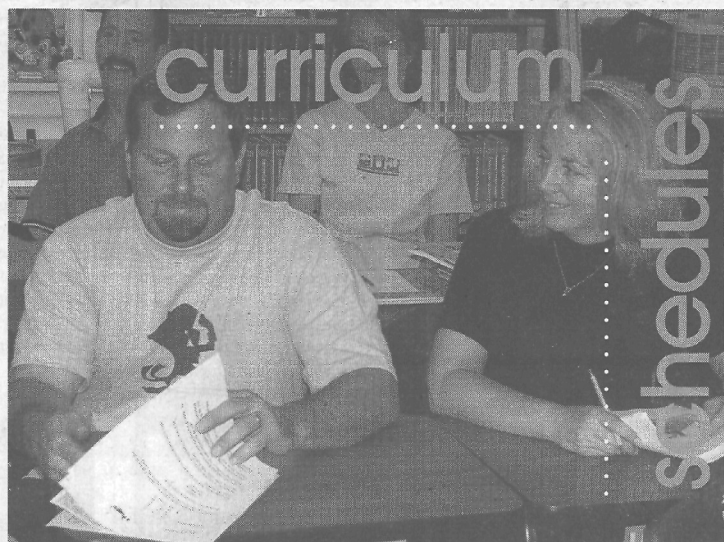
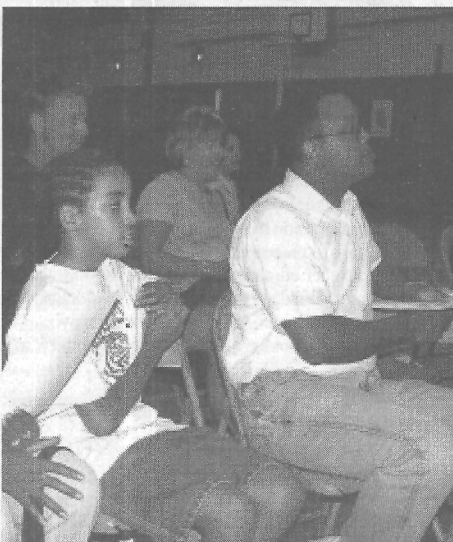
## BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT



homework



teachers

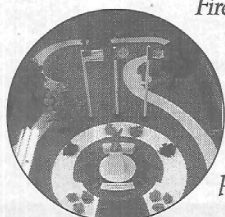


schedules



### Have You Purchased Your Brick Yet?

Show your support for our local firemen. Your purchase of a brick will help fund the South Plainfield Firemen's Memorial to be built



next to the Senior Citizen Center. Your brick will be engraved with the name of your choice and placed on the path to the memorial. Bricks can be purchased for only \$75 for individuals or \$175 for businesses.

CALL JOHN COTONE AT 908-756-4761 TO PURCHASE YOUR BRICK

Please show your support for our local volunteers!

### WANTED: PIANO STOOL

The Senior Center is very grateful for the donation of a piano, but we are now in need of a piano stool. If you can help, please call Sue Mischka at 908-754-1047.

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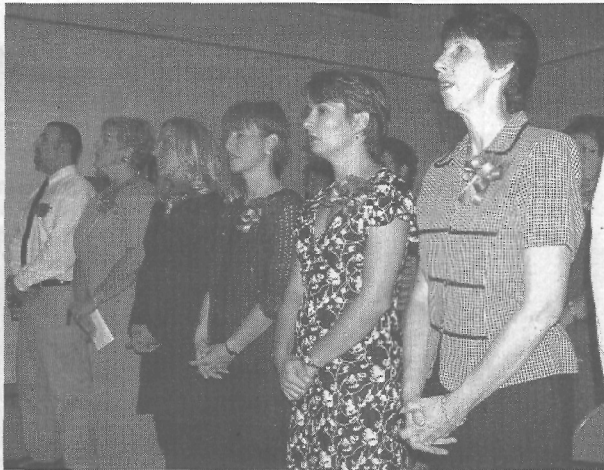
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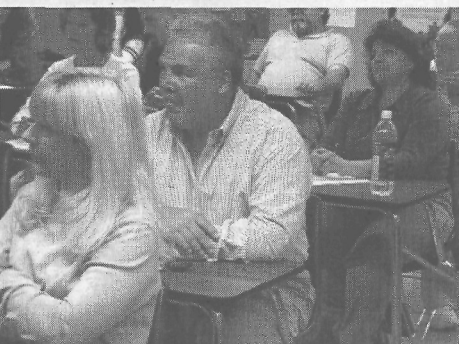
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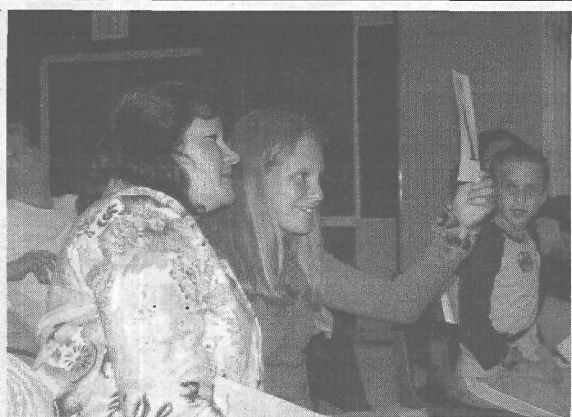
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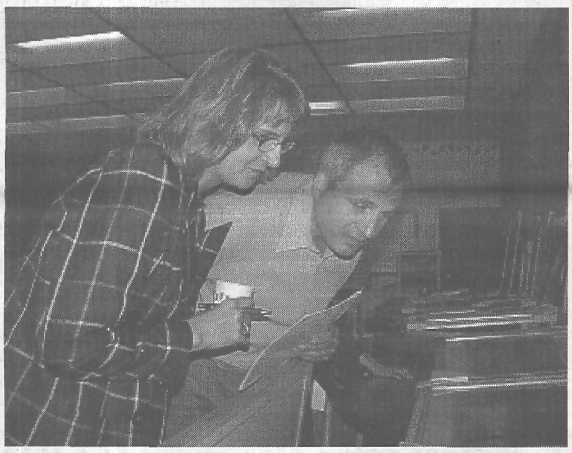
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## Scenes from Friday Night's Ponytail Art Auction



The Community of South Plainfield is invited to a

## Mayor and Borough Council Candidates' Debate

on Wednesday, October 23  
at Roosevelt School, Hamilton Blvd.  
7:30 p.m.

Light refreshments will be served

# 2002 VOTE

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# Sports



**2002 SPHS Field Hockey Team**—Seniors Kristina Cweikalo, Christina DeMatos, Michelle DeSantis, Nicole Esposito, Marianne Hebreo, Meghan Mecurio, Meaghan Schweers, Danielle Skoba; Juniors Nicole Carlson, Tarryn Carlton, Catherine Flannery, Heather Loenser, Ngozi Oparaeke, Amanda Rastelli; Sophomores Cassandra D'Urso, Kim Gaub, Lauren Haus, Jamie Jakubik, Katie Kelliher, Jessica Manning, Jessica Miller, Jacqueline Muglia, Jessica Senz, Kelly Thomas; Freshmen Dana Chepulis, Kristen Dabrio, Samatha Deffler, Courtney Eustice, Breanne Fore, Katie Koury, Brittany Patrusevich, Courtney Sacco, Melissa Szeliga, Heather Thompson, Rebecca Watts, and Megan Wilson.

## SPHS FIELD HOCKEY CORNER

By Sharon Miller

### Week of October 13

The varsity team is having a spectacular season with a 9-0-2 record (as of Oct. 7). The first game of the week takes place on Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 3:45 p.m. against Old Bridge in Old Bridge.

The must-see game of the week takes place at home Thursday, Oct. 17 at Jost Field at 7 p.m. when the team faces a tough competitor, Piscataway. Please note the JV game will be played at home on the Carol Espinosa Field at 3:45 p.m. This year's team is currently (as of Oct. 3) ranked as Number 1 in Middlesex County. Please come out in support of a wonderful team of players. The best of luck to both players and coaches for a great season.

### Rutgers Clinic—October 13

Reminder to all players: The Rutgers 2002 Mid-Season Field Hockey Clinic takes place on Sunday, Oct. 13 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the "Bubble" located on the Busch Campus across from the stadium. The cost is \$25. Please submit your money and application as soon as possible. You will need to bring your stick,

shinguards, mouthguard, running sneakers, goalie equipment (if applicable) and water.

### Senior Night—October 17

If you can only see one field hockey game this season, this is the game to see as our varsity team faces a strong Piscataway team. This game will take place at home on Jost Field Thursday,

Oct. 17 at 7 p.m.

In addition to an exciting game, this night is a memorable one for seniors as they are honored in a special ceremony. Good luck to players and coaches. Congratulations to a great group of seniors. The best of luck in all of your future endeavors. We will miss you next year.



## Ponytail Softball Batters Box

By Sharon Miller

**Ponytail Softball Association Meeting—October 22**  
The South Plainfield Parents' Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 22 at 7:30 p.m. in South Plainfield Middle School library. If you are interested in becoming a member and being involved in girl's Ponytail softball, join us on Oct. 22. New members are always welcome.

### Ponytail Softball Website

Visit Ponytail Softball online anytime at our website... [SPONYTAIL.com](http://SPONYTAIL.com). You will find the latest news/events, team rosters/schedules, game highlights/pictures, information on the Parents' Association and All-Star teams. Feel free to contact me by keying on the email link Webmasters [pnytail.com](mailto:pnytail.com) found on our home page.

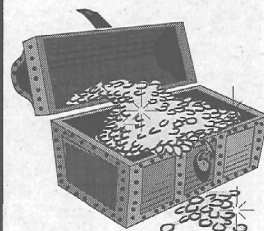
**ob·serve** (v.t.): 1. to celebrate ceremonially // 2. to notice (something), to pay special attention to // 3. (a) to look at with attention // 4. to perceive, notice, come to know by seeing // 5. to comment, to note attentively

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# Sports

## SOCCER

### Three In A Row For Blaze U-14 Girls

Oct. 6—So. Pfld, Blaze vs. Cougar United Spirit

The South Plainfield Blaze U-14 Girls traveling soccer team won their third game in a row, edging out Cougar United Spirit 2-1.

At home this past Sunday, South Plainfield Blaze continued their winning streak with another excellent performance with solid defensive play by our fullbacks Tiffany Smith, Jackie Miller, Ashleigh Gaspari, Allison Harty and Megan Boyle.

Keeper Becky Keller had another great day in the net with 21 saves.

Midfielders Jenna DeLillo, Lauren Fry, Joy Maszczak and Elizabeth Flannery all were persistent in controlling the middle while relentless attacks from our strikers Katie Hardy, Kim Marin and Dorian Bishop kept the defense on their heels. Blasting in the first score of the game for Blaze in the 16<sup>th</sup> minute came on a breakaway ball at midfield from center striker Jennifer Copeland. The second score in the 38<sup>th</sup> minute came off a deflection from a Cougar United defender who was overwhelmed by a surging attack from our strikers.

This win clearly was a total team effort both on the field and off the field as midfielder Ashley Little, who is out with an injury, did a great job helping keep stats for the team. Congratulations girls and well done!

Visit the South Plainfield Soccer Club web site at [www.sopfldsoccerclub.com](http://www.sopfldsoccerclub.com).

Submitted by Coach Hardy



Recreation Soccer is underway each Saturday at the PAL, and at Franklin and Kennedy schools/

### SP Sonics U-10 Tie Piscataway Condors

Sunday Oct. 6, the Sonics U-10 Soccer team traveled to Piscataway to take on the Condors.

The Sonics scored in the first quarter on a perfectly executed direct kick by Danny Sticco. Defenders Shaun Alers, Luke Goitandia and Danny Sticco along with keepers Danny Hunt, Will Mott and Nick Ross held the Condors to one goal in the second quarter. The Condors scored on a loose ball in the box to make the half time score 1-1.

Midfielders Ryan Billich, Charlie Huber, Danny Hunt, Will Mott, Nick Ross and Nick Tupp put forth a tremendous team effort throughout the game. The second half saw many shots on goal by the offensive team players. Mike Dispenziere, Dana Hunt, Steve Lanza and Nick Okosko. Both teams hung tough in the scoreless second half.

A superb save by Nick Ross late in the fourth quarter preserved the 1-1 tie, making the Sonics record 3-0-1.

### Fire Defeat Princeton Rangers 8-0

On Sunday Oct 6, the South Plainfield boys traveling soccer team played its second home game of the season against the Princeton Rangers. After two previous ties and one loss, Fire came away with a resounding 8-0 victory.

Fire pulled together as a team and presented an unrelenting offensive and defensive effort which the Princeton Rangers could not waiver.

Congratulations to Coach Bal-dassarre, Coach Bishop and the entire Fire Team. L. Acosta, A. Bal-dassarre, S. Bishop, J. Deoliveira, L. Green, G. Herbster, J. Llerena, K. Pompilio, D. Porzio, M. Santos, J. Rafael Simones, R. Szeliga, B. Villamarin, D. Wilhelm

"Keep the FIRE burning" — Way to go team.

Submitted by A. Santos

### Middle School Lady Tigers Remain Unbeaten, But Shutout Streak Snapped at 262 Minutes!

September 30—The Lady Tigers found themselves in a battle of undefeated teams when they squared off against the Lady Chiefs of Piscataway. A well played game saw the Tigers almost gain the victory, but had to settle for the tie when neither team could score. Katie Reichart earned her second shutout of the season and the entire team should be proud of their effort.

October 2—The Lady Tigers took out their lack of scoring frustration out on the Lady Rams of South River. Five different players (Meagan Boyle, Stephanie Szeliga, Jen Copeland, Clare Kelly and Jennifer Capparelli) were involved in scoring the five goals. With strong play in the middle by Jenna Delillo, Jackie Miller, the defense, looked fantastic.

Help from Ashleigh Gaspari, Rachel Senz, Bitsy Flannery, Brooke

Denitzio and Lauren Fry helped Becky Keller to preserve the shutout.

October 3—A very big and physical West Orange team arrived in South Plainfield ready to play. With two goals by Jen Copeland and one by Katie Hardy, the Lady Tigers took an early 3-0. With only eight minutes remaining in the half, a controversial hand ball was called against the Tigers. Taking the shot from about 19 yards out, the Lady Lions scored the goal, ringing the post and ending the Tigers shutout streak at 262 minutes. The Tigers would shut down the Lions for the remainder of the game. Jen Copeland would complete her hat trick by scoring once more in the second half from an assist from Joy Maszczak. Strong play from Victoria Plasse, Becky Miller and Katie Reichart helped keep the Tigers on their winning way.

### Power U-10 Wins Again!!

The girls played a great game Sunday! The Power played Berkley Heights and defeated them with a great shutout.

Our goalies Jasmine A. and Britany Plasse T.T. kept it a solid no scoring half. The defense played a great half with keeping the ball out and helping the goalies. On the other hand our offense was on fire! At the end of the first half the Power already had a 4-0 lead. The goals were scored by Jasmine S., Kerri, again Jasmine S. and

Samantha!! The second half was pretty much the same with our goalies in the Jasmine A. and Samantha.

The offense also scored another two goals by Jasmine S. and Kerri. Nice hat trick Jasmine S.!! The game could not have been played as well as it was if it wasn't also for Shyanne, Jayme, Vanessa and Karla.

For a fairly new team the girls are doing great, with a record of 3-1. Keep up the good work and great work girls!

### Bullets Fell Wolverines, 3-2

On Sunday, Oct. 6, the South Plainfield Soccer Club boy's U-9 Bullets got back on the winning track with a 3-2 home victory over the North Plainfield Wolverines.

The Wolverines owned the first quarter of play, taking a 1-0 lead on a breakaway goal by attacker Dan Zamora. The second quarter found the Bullets on the offensive, with attackers Ryan Marcoux, Daniel Lyew, and Steven Bichler missing several excellent chances. The Bullets finally struck late in the second with Marcoux hitting from just inside the box. The goal was set up by Zachary Noll's throw-in to Albert Vill deep in Wolverine territory. The first half closed with the scored tied 1-1.

The third quarter saw both teams converting on a penalty kick: John Selvia for the Wolverines, and Marcoux for the Bullets. The fourth quarter of play was dominated by the Bullet's midfielders Kevin Flanagan, Nick Pleeter, Nicko Rivera, and Zachary Noll, who time and again rejected any offense by the Wolverines. With four minutes left in the match, Marcoux completed a hat trick by stealing a Wolverine pass and striking for his team-leading ninth goal of the year.

Tony Franczak and Steven Bichler shared goaltending duties for the Bullets. On Oct. 13 the Bullets travel to Kenilworth to face the Blue Dragons in a 11:30 a.m. match.

### Youth Basketball League Sign Ups Underway

Sign-ups for the Ed Niemczyk Youth Basketball League are now underway. The league is open to all South Plainfield youth ages 7 to 14 (as of Oct. 1, 2002.) The fee is \$35 per child. There are no refunds. Registration ends Oct. 21. Bring a birth certificate and proof of residency when registering at PAL.

### Sign up for HS-Age Basketball League

The South Plainfield Recreation Department is sponsoring a high school age basketball league.

All games will be played on Tuesday, nights at the PAL starting Dec. 3. All teams must have 10 players. Entrance fee is \$400 per team.

Register at the PAL Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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# IN YOUR OPINION

(Continued from page 2)

listing the tax rate since 1995, because the Democrats took control of the town a year earlier when they became the majority party on the council. They raised taxes that year too.

The figures from Mr. Haus undisputedly proved that taxes skyrocketed under the Democrats. I waited a week to write this letter, because I wanted to see if the Democrats would challenge the listed rates. For obvious reasons they did not. The Republicans have listed the tax rates since 1995 in the paper several times now, but the Democrats refuse to do the same.

Given the choice between believing Mr. Haus or the people who claim municipal taxes have not gone up, I'll choose to believe Mr. Haus. Not only is he the former CFO and tax collector for the town, he was president of the New Jersey Tax Collectors and Treasurers Association. He was certified by the state, and he even taught tax courses at Rutgers University. More importantly, he showed us the numbers.

Rather than telling tales, the mayor and his friends should own up to hiking taxes. In fact, as one gentleman pointed out in the paper last week, Mayor Gallagher promised us a tax cut this year. I didn't get it. Between the phony tax claims and phony tax prom-

ises, the Democrats can't be believed. That's why I plan to vote for Jake Cataldo and his team in November. I hope you will too.

**KENNETH M. KITLASZ**

**Dear Editor,**

Week after week the Republican candidates have called for an issue-oriented campaign. I think that they need to realize that an issue-oriented campaign requires more than simply complaining about the things they see as being problems for the Borough. Anyone can do that. What do these candidates have to offer in the way of solutions to their issues? What do they have to offer the people of South Plainfield besides empty rhetoric?

Dan Gallagher, Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala have consistently shown their ability to not only identify the problems facing our Borough, but also to work tirelessly to solve them. Their vision, focus and dedication to the residents of this town have yielded positive results in many areas. They have instituted programs to control spending and reduce debt. They have committed to improving the quality of life by preserving open space, building a new senior center, a skate park and upgrading the PAL building.

There will always be issues that the borough and its residents need resolved. What we need is insightful, hardworking individuals to solve them. We need Dan Gallagher, Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala to be re-elected on Nov. 5 because actions speak louder than words.

**KATHY THOMAS**

**Dear Editor,**

In last week's *Observer* Mayor Gallagher promised to totally reconstruct Hamilton Blvd. "from the overpass all the way to Stetson Rd., with new curbs, sidewalks, a traffic signal at Hollywood Blvd. and four lanes from Valley Bank to the Home Depot."

It sounded great, but I felt like I'd heard it before. I did. Gallagher made the same promise in 2000. In the Jan. 7, 2000 *Observer* he promised that his administration and the county would "totally reconstruct Hamilton Blvd. from the Lakeview Ave. overpass to the overpass at Valley Bank. As part of this project new curbs will be installed and trees will be planted along the entire length. Every effort is being made to complete the project this year. If not this year it will be done in 2001." This is a direct quote from the paper.

The only difference between the promise in 2000 and the promise now is the size of the project. It grew. I wonder if that's because he is up for re-election this year. Bad enough he didn't do what he said he would, but now he's promising to do even more. On top of that, he's making it sound like it's the first time he said he would do it.

We need some watchdogs to keep an eye on the Democrats. This way, instead of making promises and patting themselves on the back, our government might actually do some work for us. I'm voting for Cataldo, Reedy and Champion.

**ED LYONS**

**Dear Editor,**

Candidates for office love to say that they want to have a campaign of ideas. Well, would someone like to tell me when Jake Cataldo, the Republican candidate for Mayor, is going to offer any ideas? The man complains bitterly about everything. The Democrats, the Borough's new CFO, the police department and the new senior center have all faced Mr. Cataldo's incoherent complaints. Yet the man offers no suggestions on how to improve the Borough. When he complains about the police department, the police chief writes to correct all of Mr. Cataldo's errors and misstatements. When he complains about the zoning board, the zoning board chairman writes to show how Mr. Cataldo completely misstated the facts about a zoning board case.

Maybe Mr. Cataldo could find some ideas if he actually offered to serve on some of those same Borough boards and agencies that he complains about. However, Mr. Cataldo does not serve on a single volunteer board in our town. Instead of complaining, Mr. Cataldo should get to work alongside the dozens of men and women who volunteer their time every month for South Plainfield.

On the other hand, the Democratic ticket has many ideas such as open space projects and improving traffic by completing the Helen St. extension. The Democrats have put their ideas into action and South Plainfield is much better for that. On Election Day

re-elect Dan Gallagher, Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala.

**ANTHONY P. PALMERI**

**Dear Editor,**

This week I asked the mayor and council to join me in committing to a temporary moratorium on the sale of Borough-owned land. Each week more and more residents tell me how overgrowth is destroying South Plainfield's small-town atmosphere. If we can stop selling Borough land to builders and developers, we can at least slow the pace a little, and at the same time, work on plans to manage growth in a sensible way.

The constant building adds to traffic, school overcrowding, and other problems we now face. It also hits residents in the pocket book. My taxes—both municipal and school board—have shot up. Part of it is the new school construction, but not all of it. Still, it's hard to blame the school board, because it has no choice but to seat the kids swept in by this building tidal wave.

Most people have no problem with planned growth, but condos, townhouses and apartment buildings are popping up at an alarming rate. So are shopping centers and strip malls. Unfortunately, there's no end in sight. It seems the builders, rather than the people of South Plainfield, set the rules. Developers have *carte blanche* to build what they want where they want.

I hope our mayor and council get the message you are sending: They have crammed too much development into what has always been a small, relaxed community. Regrettably, though, they've been told this before, and the message is not getting through. Yet even at this late date I hope they realize the harm that's been done and join me in taking steps to reverse it. I call upon the Mayor and Council to support the moratorium. It's the right thing to do, and I ask the Mayor, as well as the members of the council, to publicly commit to it.

**JAKE CATALDO, CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR**

**Dear Editor,**

Whether it's in our personal lives, the business world or in government, controlling expenses and reducing debt are smart things to do. As a member of the Finance Committee, which oversees the Borough budget, I couldn't be more pleased to see that we've kept our tax rate flat for the third time since 1999. This was done while reducing the borough debt from 20 million dollars in 1994 to 10 million dollars today.

In the early 1990's, our taxes were on the rise and the borough debt was out of control. The reason for this was that the prior administration preferred to borrow money instead of managing the money we had. Our Mayor, Dan Gallagher and Councilpersons Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala introduced the pas-as-you-go approach to spending tax dollars and this approach has allowed us to keep taxes low while paying down the enormous debt.

As a businessman with over 20 years experience managing budgets, I know this doesn't come easy. It takes hard work and innovation to be able to offer increasing levels of services to the people of the community while at the same time keeping expenses down. Our success is evident in that we've continued to pave roads, improve our

parks and make other improvements throughout the community while keeping our tax rate one of the lowest in Central Jersey.

Dan Gallagher, Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala are committed to maintaining a fiscally sound government by managing spending, controlling taxes and reducing our outstanding debt. Please join me in supporting them for re-election this November.

**COUNCILMAN CHARLES BUTRICO**

**Dear Editor:**

I was SHOCKED!, SHOCKED! to hear that our mayor has been accused of going around town intimidating business owners who dare to display his opponent's campaign sign on their premises.

Freedom to express one's choice is an American right which should not be tampered with by anyone, much less an elected official who should be upholding that right. Shame on you Mr. Gallagher! If your mentality is such that you don't believe someone has a right to oppose you than you have been in office too long and it's time for you to go. My vote is going to Jake Cataldo on election day.

**VERY TRULY YOURS, TAMARA BUADZE**

**To the Editor,**

Of all the things that have taken place so far in the election campaign, the thing that shocks me most of all is the Republican candidates' opposition to "pay as you go" government in South Plainfield.

Last week they dismissed it calling attention to the lease/purchase of police vehicles. I am amazed that anyone would criticize a program that secures state-of-the-art equipment for our police without requiring bonding. Here's how it works: all the towns in the county purchase their vehicles at the same time. We pay for them over three years with the final payments being one dollar. We then get title to the vehicles. Under this arrangement, the county does all the work, gets the best deal and allows us to pay over time. The Republican claim this isn't "pay as you go." What is it then? If Mr. Cataldo, Mrs. Reedy and Mr. Champion are elected, would they really stop this excellent arrangement for our taxpayers and our police? Every member of the council supports "Pay as you go" government. I can assure you if Dan Gallagher is re-elected as our mayor and Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral are returned to the council, three new police vehicles will be purchased through Middlesex County next year on a "pay as you go" basis.

**COUNCILMAN DENNIS CERAMI**

**Dear Editor,**

I chuckled as Councilman Raymond Petronko tried to give us a vocabulary lesson in his letter to the editor. Maybe before consulting a dictionary Petronko should purchase a math textbook, because he seems to have a problem with statistics.

The councilman's letter to the paper contained two fact mistakes. First, he said "South Plainfield's crime rate has gone down every year." He doesn't supply the figures, so I checked on the Internet. It hasn't. We were seventh in overall crime in 1998, fourth in 1999, fourth in 2000, and eighth in 2001.

Petronko also says we have one of the lowest crime rates. Middlesex County has 25 towns. We've been hovering between fourth-highest and eighth-highest. Maybe the councilman's confused. For crime we want the lowest rate, not the highest. We are actually in the top half of the list when, we should be in the bottom half.

The Democrats must be getting worried. Now that people can check their claims on the Internet, they can no longer make up the figures as they go. Hopefully they'll begin checking the numbers before they start making these types of statements in the future.

**DAVID GUOTH**

## Obituaries

### Mary A. Chapman, 82

Mary A. (nee Anderson) formerly Williams, Chapman died on Thursday, Oct. 3, at her home following a seven year battle with cancer.

Born and raised in Wheeling, West Va., Mrs. Chapman served in the Army and returned to South Plainfield in 1948.

She attended the Ohio Valley Hospital School of Nursing and earned her registered nursing degree. Later, after the death of her first husband and children, Mary began commuting, with a colleague, to Trenton State College at night to earn her Bachelors of Science degree.

Mary served in the US Army under General Patton's Third Army. She served as a first lieutenant with the Nurses Corps during WWII in the European Theater. She was part of the "D+10" (D-Day Invasion) Nurses Corp that served all across Europe, including The Battle of the Bulge.

Mrs. Chapman had been the South Plainfield High School nurse for 25 years, as well as the chief nurse for the school district, retiring in 1983. Mrs. Chapman was a member of the NJ School Nurses Association. She had previously served as an ER nurse in Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield for 10 years.

Mary's desire to help led to her extremely active membership in the South Plainfield Rescue Squad where, in 1968, she was one of the first female members. She also served as their recording secretary and on the banquet committee for more than 23 years, as well as obtaining the honor of becoming

ing a Life Member. Mary was a member of the 14th District NJ State First Aid Council and had been their secretary for over 20 years. She was recently awarded for her 25 years of perfect attendance.

She was a member of the Middlesex County Office of Emergency Management, Emergency Medical Services Bureau and an active member of the Muhlenberg Rescue Squad Council. She is a member of the South Plainfield Board of Health and was recently made an honorary member of the So. Amboy First Aid Squad on Memorial Day. The South Plainfield Senior Citizens and AARP local chapter were also two groups Mary had been active with.

In addition to her civic groups, Mary is a 40-year member of the Willow Grove Presbyterian Church in Scotch Plains and the treasurer of the Woman's Circle.

As her husband Chappy stated, "Mary was always going above and beyond."

She is predeceased by her children, Catherine, Mary, Gary and William and her first husband, Coy Williams.

She is survived by her husband, William A. "Chappy" Chapman; a daughter, Deborah (Spizzo) Aurora of San Antonio, Tx.; her sister and brother-in-law, Marion Rosa and Arthur B. Chapman, both of South Amboy and her dear friend, Gloria Valentine of Rahway.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Donations in her memory may be made to the Haven Hospice, c/o 65 James St., Edison, NJ 08818 or the South Plainfield Rescue Squad.

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## Brush Stop Hosts Author

Story/photo by Patricia Abbott

Catherine Dixon Leigh was all smiles at the book signing for her first novel, *Lost in the Flood*. The book signing was the icing on the cake of her dream come true. The event was held at The Brush Stop co-owned by her mother Anna Dixon and uncle Albert Quarentiello.

Family and friends were among the 50 plus people who visited the Brush Stop to have their book signed. While some guests brought books with them, others purchased a book at the salon. By the end of the afternoon all copies of the book had been sold out.

Those attending enjoyed champagne and hors d'ouevres. Catherine's proud mother Ann said, "I always knew she could do this!" Catherine credits the unwavering support of her family with helping her through the years from the book's conception to publication. *Lost in the Flood* is the first in what Catherine hopes will be a trilogy.



## policereport

• On Oct. 1 a Tompkins Ave. resident reported the theft of a lawn mower and leaf blower.

• On Oct. 2 John Dominick Galliccio, 38, of South Plainfield was arrested for theft and deception out of Springfield Twp.

• A & A Trucking on Hollywood Ave. reported the theft of 12 tires from a storage shed. The gate lock had been cut and the trailer was unlocked.

• On Oct. 3 Evan M. Werrlein, 20, of South Plainfield was arrested at Liquid Assets on New Market Ave. for disorderly conduct.

• Nicholas Maltese, 22, of Fords was arrested for DWI and improper parking during a motor vehicle stop.

• A Robert Pl. resident reported that tenants that were evicted returned to the residence and changed the locks.

• An employee of Able Labs on Hollywood Ct. reported that his tire had a nail screwed into it. This has been an ongoing problem.

• A student accused a Grant School employee assault.

• An Evergreen Ln. resident reported that three unknown youths, who he was giving a ride to, took off in his 1996 Toyota Tacoma when he left them unattended with the engine running.

• On Oct. 4 Jeffrey Rd. Dubose, 40, of Plainfield was arrested at a motor vehicle stop for possession of a controlled substance.

• Marty's Shoes on Stelton Rd. reported that an employee had confronted a shoplifter. When he ran away, a backpack was retrieved containing a pair of mens shoes valued at \$94 and a narcotic substance.

• An employee of Motorola on

Durham Ave. reported the theft of a 1998 Accura. There was no evidence.

• The PAL reported their candy machine had been vandalized.

• On Oct. 5 Janette Marie Roane, 40, of Plainfield was arrested at Burlington Coat Factory for attempting to shoplift \$469.70 worth of youth clothing.

• On Oct. 6 a Hopkinson Ave. resident reported that the screen of their ground floor window had been cut and removed and access to the property was gained through the unlocked window. Missing from a bedroom where a Pioneer navigating unit, a DVD player, a VCR, a stereo and cash.

• Oct. 7 Burger King on Park Ave. reported that someone had painted on their menu board.

• The High School reported a theft from the boys locker room.

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## Buono's Telemarketing Bill Passes Senate Committee

Senator Barbara Buono, D-Middlesex, a prime sponsor of legislation which would create a universal "no-call" list for New Jersey telemarketers, issued the following statement regarding the Senate Commerce Committee approval of the bill:

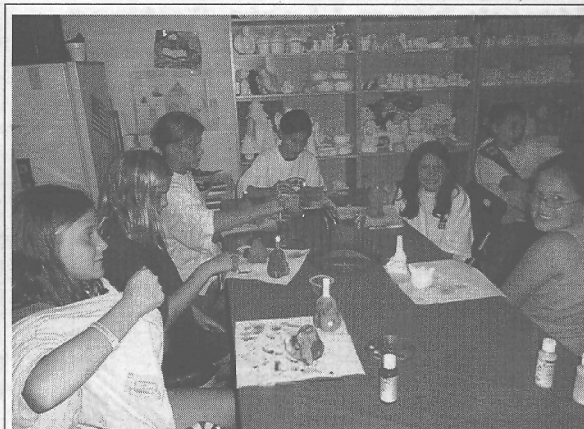
"I commend the Commerce Committee for its thoughtful consideration

of the telemarketing bills and the creation of a fair substitute which incorporates the strengths of the many different bills introduced to them."

"Today, New Jersey families are one step closer towards reclaiming a dinnertime free of harassing and intrusive telemarketing calls. It's a day that was long overdue."

"The legislation that was passed by the Senate Commerce Committee is an amalgam of many different efforts by New Jersey's Senators, Assemblymen and Assemblywomen to regulate telemarketing. These efforts had to be reconciled into one comprehensive measure, and though the process was long, I believe it has produced legislation that both parties should be proud of."

"This is just a step in the process. I await quick passage of this bipartisan supported legislation and an equally quick signing by Governor James McGreevey. Soon, New Jersey's families won't have to rush to answer the phones, but can sit and savor their meals and dinnertime conversations not involving reduced APRs and changing long-distance service."



Custom Creations owner Donna Siepmann hosted a ceramic painting party for Kennedy School's fifth grade Girl Scout Troop #222 on Sept. 24. This project helped the girls qualify for their Ceramics Badge. The store also has many other projects available needed to obtain badges for all kinds of scouting.

## Notes from Recreation

- An attendant has been hired to patrol the new skateboard park, making sure all skaters are from South Plainfield, have purchased a decal and placed them on their helmets and are wearing the required safety gear.

- Sue Mischka will be retiring as Senior Coordinator as of Nov. 1. Mike English will be interviewing for the job.

- Putnam Park redesign work has started and residents should begin to see the changes soon. The first stage of the redesign includes, a volleyball court, a retention basin, new parking and a running track.

- Recreation Commissioner Mike English reported there are 26 teams participating in soccer this year.

- Signups for Youth Basketball has started. A coaches clinic is planned in October. An all girls league is a possibility if enough girls sign up, but until signups are over, no promises could be made.

- English also reported that he is working on a code of conduct for parents. It is still in the planning stages and when finished, a seminar will be held with the officials and coaches. Parents will be asked to read and sing the code when they register their children.

## An Evening of Philippine Music And Dance

Sacred Heart School and the Filipino-American Association of Sacred Heart Church will present an "Evening of Philippine Music and Dance" at the Union Catholic High School Auditorium, located at 1600 Martine in Scotch Plains on Saturday, Oct. 19 at 7 p.m.

Opening the concerts will be the "Youth Pops String Ensemble" and its music director-mentor-arranger, Divinagracia Montalban-Lagua." The concert will also feature the Performing Arts Philippines, Inc., a dance troupe presided over by Remy Savellano.

Information or tickets are available by calling Regina Romero at (732) 572-3427 or David Aguinaldo at (908) 753-5667. Or you can call the Sacred Heart School Office or Sisters Convent (908) 756-0632 or (908) 756-0631.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED AERONAUTICAL FACILITY LICENSING

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are hereby advised that the Division of Aeronautics, of the New Jersey Department of Transportation, has received an application from the Public Service Electric and Gas Company for a license to establish a new RESTRICTED USE HELISTOP to be located at 4000 Hadley Road SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY.

Accordingly, the Division of Aeronautics invites written comments or objections regarding this license. All comments or objections must address the issue of the effect of the proposed license upon public health and safety.

Upon receipt of written comments or objections, and a determination by the Division of Aeronautics that the proposed licensing is a "contested case," as defined by the N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq., this matter may be scheduled for a public hearing.

The above named application and all related documents are available for public inspection by appointment between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM at the Division of Aeronautics, New Jersey Department of Transportation, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey. Telephone (609) 530-2908.

Any person may submit questions or comments, in writing, no later than 30 days from today.

All submissions regarding this matter should be directed to:

Office of Community Involvement  
New Jersey Department of Transportation  
1035 Parkway Avenue, PO Box 600  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Gregory M. McDonough, Chief  
Bureau of Inspections and Aircraft Operations

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