

# South Plainfield Observer

VOL. 6, NO. 10

50 CENTS

NOVEMBER 1, 2002

NOV 01 2002

## South Plainfield Mayor and Two Council Seats to be Decided Tuesday



Jake Cataldo

*"This election is about whether South Plainfield is happy with the Gallagher administration and the skyrocketing taxes, higher crime, and unprecedented building it gave us. The Democratic party has absolute power. By getting back to two-party government and electing Republicans, residents will have people to watch over the Democrats. In fact, not too long ago Mayor Gallagher's own ads criticized one-party rule. We agree with him on that. One-party rule hurts South Plainfield."*

— Jake Cataldo, Republican Candidate for Mayor



Mayor Dan Gallagher

*"Although I've been involved in South Plainfield government for over 20 years, I am still excited about the great opportunities for our Borough's future and I want to be part of making it happen. Much has been accomplished over the last nine years, but there are always new challenges. I have enjoyed this year's campaign very much and I believe that Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral are directly responsible for starting the process that turned South Plainfield around. The only thing I ask every registered voter is to cast a ballot next Tuesday. Don't take your right to vote for granted."*

—Mayor Dan Gallagher

### Exercise Your Right to Vote Next Tuesday

Voters in South Plainfield will go to the polls next Tuesday to elect a mayor, fill two seats on the Borough Council, and cast their ballots for U.S. Senator, House of Representatives, Surrogate and two Freeholder positions.

Running for Mayor are Democratic incumbent Dan Gallagher, and Republican challenger Jake Cataldo.

Four candidates vie for the two available Borough council seats. Democratic incumbents Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral and Republican candidates Marge Reedy and Geoff Champion, who are challenging them.

The polls are open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.



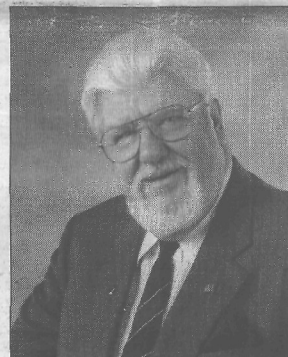
Marge Reedy



Geoffrey Champion



Jim Vokral



Ed Kubala

Daniel Gallagher, a 30-year resident of South Plainfield, and his wife of 39 years, Marion, have two sons, Daniel Jr. and Michael. He retired after working 39 years in the telecommunications field and is presently a

partner at "Here's The Scoop" in South Plainfield.

Dan is a member of the Knights of Columbus, an Honorary Member of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department, a member of the New

Jersey Planning Officials, the Telephone Pioneers of America and the Traditions Homeowners Association.

Dan was as a Councilman from 1983-1986 and 1992-1994. He was elected Mayor from 1987-1990 and was elected again as mayor in 1995.

Jack Cataldo, a life-long resident of South Plainfield, served in the U.S. Army from 1954-1956, was a South Plainfield Police Officer from 1961 to 1986, worked in the Middlesex Co. Prosecutor's Office, participating in several law enforcement investigations.

Jake was involved in the Jr. Baseball Club, on the PAL Board of Trustees and helped with its construction. He managed a PAL baseball team, was a member of the Jaycees, a member and former president of PBA Local #100, a volunteer for the Spina Bifida Foundation, Metuchen Chamber of Commerce and the South Plainfield American Legion Chaumont Post.

He is also active in a family business with his wife, Lois, in Metuchen.

Geoffrey Champion and his wife Tamaro and have two daughters, Andrea and Vanessa.

A graduate of the University of Miami, he has spent 20 years in marketing-mangement experience with Fortune 500 companies. He is currently self-employed as a financial-insurance consultant.

Geoff is involved as a head 'buddy

ball'coach and a volunteer at the Catholic Charities Family Shelter.

Ed Kubala has been a resident of South Plainfield since 1977, is a member of Our Lady of Czestochowa R.C. Church, Co-Financial Chairman, as well as a participating member of various church societies.

Ed worked for the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, retiring in Sept. of 1992, then started the consulting firm of E.D. Consultants Enterprises, Inc.

Ed Kubala commented, "I always enjoy campaigning because it gives the candidates an opportunity to go door-to-door throughout our great Borough. I want to thank all our residents for their courtesy as Dan, Jim and I came to their homes. I always learn about things that need to be done by listening and this year was no different. You have my word that I will work my hardest over the next three years to do the best I can for South Plainfield. In particular I want add what a pleasure it was campaigning with Mayor Gallagher and Jim Vokral, two of the finest people I know."

Ed has served on the Borough Council since 1994, been involved and supported the Helen Street Project and the Senior Housing, has chaired the Finance and Administration Committee since 1999, chaired

Continued on page 3



South Plainfield Middle School Human Relations Students recently held a fundraiser to buy a brick for the new Firemans Memorial on Plainfield Ave. next to the Senior Center. They presented a check to members of the South Plainfield Fire Department. Students participating were Amber Hartman, Christine Schuetz, Shannon Kertes, Kory McGovern, Danielle Lennon, An Q. Vo, Mike Tran, Esteban Rodriguez, Kristina Cersi, Daria McCall, Katie Yon, Mike Nguyen, Crystal Hanam, Kevin Gurman, Ian Bristol, Chris Fould, Joey Ragno, Karla Di, Chris Bizup, Ashley Alvarado, Danielle Heilmann Danielle, Jack Duong, Diana Naser, Michael George, Caylee Ross, Tianna Ward, Cherise Turner, Kayla Quadrel, Julie Garbousky and Austin Lynch.



# IN YOUR OPINION

# Vote

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

## 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, 5 p.m. Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. Please limit letters to no more than 500 words. 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 rumors are perpetuated.

## Dear Editor:

On behalf of South Plainfield PBA Local 100, it is my privilege to announce our endorsement and support for Mayor Dan Gallagher, Councilmen Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral.

Historically, it has been the position of this Local to abstain from the political arena, refraining from expressing our endorsements for candidates. However, we have come to realize that by not sharing our experiences with these candidates it would be a disservice to the community in which we serve.

As PBA president since 1996, I have had the occasion to work closely with these men on many issues over the years. While we have not always seen eye to eye, Dan Gallagher, Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral have always been honest and sincere in their efforts to provide a safe and thriving environment to the citizens of South Plainfield through their unwavering support of

the men and women of the emergency services of this town. They have always stood by their word and exhibited integrity beyond reproach. It is our belief that on Nov. 5, Gallagher, Kubala and Vokral are the right choice for the Borough of South Plainfield. They have earned not only our vote, but also our respect.

**SINCERELY,  
DETECTIVE JIM FORAN,  
PRESIDENT, PBA LOCAL 100**

## Letter to the Editor:

The South Plainfield Education Foundation (SPEF) would like to thank all those involved with our annual golf outing this year. We had quite a number of sponsors who helped us achieve one of our goals this year.

We have also renamed the annual golf outing to the Emil Leporino Memorial Golf Outing. Mr. Leporino had been instrumental in ensuring the success of the Education Foundation since it was founded and this is a fitting tribute to a wonderful, dedicated man. We would also like to thank his family for attending the dinner that was held that evening, so we could let them know how much he meant to all of us.

**Sincerely,  
MARJORIE REEDY  
PRESIDENT, SPEF**

## To the Editor,

On behalf of the South Plainfield Business Association I would like to thank the nearly 200 people who attended or participated in our Eighth Candidates Debate. The SPBA sponsored this event to give residents a chance to hear the candidates speak on the issues. Much time and effort go into a debate and I may be a little biased when I say I feel this one was exceptionally well done.

First I would like to thank our debate Chairperson Nancy Grennier for all her planning and preparation. Of course there would have been no debate without the candidates so a special thanks to the party chairs, Assemblyman Pat Diegnan for the Democrats and David Gouth for the Republicans as well as Democratic incumbents Mayor Dan Gallagher, Council President Jim Vokral, Councilman Ed Kubala and Republican challengers Jake Cataldo, Geoff Champion and Marge Reedy. Also volunteering much of their time were Democratic representative Darlene Pinto and Republican Bob Jones. Also thanks to Bill Seesselberg for providing the sound system.

The night began with Webelos 2 Den 7 of Roosevelt School leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Student volunteers handed out index cards for residents to submit questions, first to the council candidates and then to our candidates for mayor. Ann Armstrong from The League of Women Voters did an excellent job of keeping the candidates on time and on the subject. Many thanks Ann, you are a true professional. Thank you to Rich Durso and SPHS Graphic Arts students for the signs. Hometown Heroes did a great job of preparing the refreshments.

We hope those of you who attended found the night informative. We hope it helped make up the minds of those of you who were undecided. We are proud to have brought this debate to you and plan to bring many more. For more information on the SPBA please check our website at [www.spba.biz](http://www.spba.biz) or call us at 757-8811. We welcome all types of South Plainfield businesses as well as the opinions of our residents

## AIDA SANTOS

ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT  
BRANCH MANAGER

**Valley National Bank**

Durham Ave. & Hamilton Blvd  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

(908) 757-5868

Fax (908) 757-0494

## It's Time to Make Up YOUR Mind and VOTE!

Since I started publishing the *Observer* six years ago, it has been my policy not to write an editorial nor endorse a candidate. So far, I have not compromised in either case.

It would be an insult to voters for me to suggest who anyone should vote for. Your vote is a precious right, for which we have fought many wars to maintain. You alone should be the one to choose for whom you cast your vote—not the editor of a newspaper.

For the past several weeks we have been printing letters from residents who felt compelled to write us. We hope that you have taken time to read the letters and the literature from all of the candidates and researched their claims. The debates this year offered voters the opportunity to hear the candidates' views on some of the various issues.

Keep in mind how important each individual vote was in the last presidential election. Local and state elections are just as important. Each and every vote does count!

The polls are open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Nancy Grennier**  
Editor-in-Chief

and officials.

**SINCERELY,  
JACK PEDERSEN, SPBA PRESIDENT**

## Dear Editor,

It infuriates me each week to read how so many residents have such blind faith in a man who has no intelligent solutions to anything that has to do with our town. Just because Jake Cataldo is a life-long resident or a former police officer does not qualify him for the job of mayor.

People keep writing letters with no just reason for casting their vote for him other than "needing a change." A change from what? Remember if it ain't broke, don't fix it. Keep in mind voting for Mr. Cataldo may not be a change for the better.

The Republicans are still trying to convince us that our taxes have gone up. The figures they presented in last week's *Observer* are the same figures that were published the previous week, which were supposedly biased, according to Mr. Guoth. I hope everyone caught on to this. There has not been an increase in the municipal tax in the last three years. Of course, the rest of our tax bill did go up. That is a fact of life.

It is in ALL of our best interests to vote for the man who has the knowledge and support system to get the job done. Please join me in voting for Dan Gallagher, Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala on Nov. 5.

**JANE DALEY**

To All the Roosevelt School Classes, Parents and Supporters of our P.T.A., Local Businesses and Corporate Sponsors, Middle School and Custodial Staff, Board of Education Staff, Borough Hall Clerks, and any other personnel who we may have unknowingly omitted,

We would probably fill this entire

page plus some, if we listed every financial supporter of and gift donor to our Penny Sale/Auction held on Oct. 12 at the Middle School. Our goal was to raise \$12,000 for the Fifth grader's three day class trip to Stoke's State Forest. We appealed to the generosity of our loyal businesses, as well as corporate sponsors, for their support in our fundraising efforts. What we received was a grandiose outpouring of support in the form of donations of funds, products, gift certificates, admission tickets to theme parks and other events, Broadway show tickets and more, in excess of 320 prizes, not including "door-prizes!" WE DID IT!!!

We sincerely thank you for your support, and we will once again reiterate how important it is to patronize our "hometown" businesses, as well as our corporate sponsors. Without them, and our great team of parents on the Fifth Grade Project, we would have never met our goal!! Actually, our children are the one's who will truly benefit from your generosity, as this will be a trip that they will remember for years to come, coupled with the knowledge that they gain from it!

**SINCERELY,  
LYNN LOALBO, ROOSEVELT SCHOOL  
PTA 5TH GRADE PROJECT**

## Letter to the Editor:

A tradition that should have never ended will be resumed this Thanksgiving, Nov. 28. The North Plainfield and South Plainfield High School football teams will meet on the gridiron for a 10 a.m. game at Jost Field in South Plainfield.

This traditional game was played from 1957 until 1983. Many times a State Championship would be on the line for the winner of this game in the past. This rivalry evolved into many friendships that still exist today. Hope-

(Continued on page 9)

## 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, 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

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

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.- Nov. 19, Dec. 17,

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

## South Plainfield Observer

The South Plainfield Observer is published every Friday

G&G Graphics, Inc.  
1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

(908) 668-0010 • FAX (908) 668-8819

Web page:  
[www.spobserver.com](http://www.spobserver.com)

For subscriptions, advertising or information, call (908) 668-0010.

The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors.

NANCY GRENNIER  
Publisher/Editor

WAYNE GRENNIER  
Associate Publisher

SUSAN KANEPS  
Art Director/Associate Editor

PATRICIA ABBOTT  
Staff Writer/Photographer

CAROL GRENNIER  
Editorial Assistant

CATHLEEN FODOR  
Production Assistant

KENNETH MORGAN  
Correspondent

ROXANNE CORTESE  
JANE DORNICK, WILLIAM TUTHILL

Advertising Sales

## 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 Mohr'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

Letters may be submitted by mail to South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Dept., 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. Letters should not exceed 400 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. It is the editor's discretion to limit the number of letters submitted by one individual on the same subject. The opinions expressed in "Letters" do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Observer. Letters must be submitted with name and phone number, even if they request their name be omitted when published.

## Twin City Pharmacy

Tel. (908) 755-7696 Fax (908) 755-6003

1708 Park Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080 (Next to Farmer's Market)

Today's Modern Pharmacy with Old Fashioned Values

**POWER-LIFT  
CHAISE  
RECLINERS**  
personalized just for  
you and your  
best years!!



Up to 50% Reimbursable from Medicare if qualified.

**DME Provider for US Healthcare/AETNA & CIGNA**  
**Medicare and Medicaid Provider**  
**Solaris In-Network DME Provider**

- Ostomy Supplies including Hollister & Convatec
- Full Line of Diabetic & Wound Care Products
- Hospital Beds - Commodes
- Wheelchairs - Walkers
- Enteral Feeding Supplies & Supplements

Haven Hospice Provider for JFK & Muhlenberg Hospitals

24 Hour Emergency Care Service - Free Delivery





Attending the ribbon cutting at the Great Farmers Market are Police Chief Bob Merkler, Councilmen Dennis Cerami and Charlie Butrico, Mayor Dan Gallagher, owner K. Yun and Councilman Ray Petronko.

## Fresh Start for the New Great Farmers Market

Last Thursday a new produce store, Great Farmers Market, located at 1620 Park Ave., held a grand opening celebration. The store is where the former Acme Supermarket was located.

The Great Farmers Market has everything from soup to nuts...literally. When you first enter the store, there are aisles of fruits and vegetables, what the store is actually noted for.

Owner K. Yun prides himself on having the biggest and the freshest selection around. He feels one of the keys to his success is that he packs away all of the produce every night in refrigeration units and then cleans them they are put on display the next day, unlike grocery store chains. This ensures that older items can be disposed of immediately, thus ensuring a quality product at all times.

*Aside from their enormous produce*

selection, the market also carries milk, eggs, bread, refrigerated fresh flowers, a bakery, fresh seafood, a deli department, a salad bar and fresh sushi. You can also find condiments, cereal, soup, gourmet items and other quick pick-up items.

The South Plainfield store is the fourth in New Jersey owned by Yun. His family is on hand to help out. He opened his first store in 1996 in

Hamilton Twp. and has similar stores in North Brunswick and Lindenwold. He currently resides in Lawrenceville, but is moving to Middlesex County this week to be closer to his stores.

Great Farmers Market is open Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. and Sunday from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. For more information call (908) 769-4144.

## School District Appoints Butler As Interim Superintendent

South Plainfield School District Appoints Dr. Thomas F. Butler As Interim Superintendent of Schools.

At the Board meeting of Oct. 15, the South Plainfield Board of Education approved the appointment of Dr.

Thomas F. Butler of Martinsville, as Interim Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Butler will begin his service on Nov. 1. It is anticipated that Dr. Butler will serve as Interim Superintendent for about four months while the Board of Education conducts a search for a new superintendent.

For the past eight years, Dr. Butler has served as Interim Superintendent for a variety of school districts. He recently served in that role with the Watchung Hills Regional School District. In prior years, he has worked with the Livingston School District in Essex County, West Windsor-Plainsboro School District in Mercer County, the Long Hill, Denville, Wharton and Chester School Districts in Morris County, the Manchester Regional High School District in Passaic County and the Branchburg, Bridgewater-Raritan, Montgomery and Somerset Hills School Districts in Somerset County.

He has extensive administrative and teaching experience at all levels, from Pre-K to Grade 12. He is also an adjunct instructor at Union County College, teaching the Emergency Medical Technician certification course.



During a recent wind/rain storm, a tree blew over and landed on a car, causing extensive damage. Virginia Palmer, the car's owner, said that thankfully her house was spared.

## Borough News

### Council

- Absolute Fire Protection was awarded the bid to purchase a rescue vehicle for the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department at a cost of \$399,088.30.

- Jersey Ambulance Sales & Service has won the bid for a new rescue squad ambulance at a cost of \$124,048.16.

- Mary Beth Khidre has been hired as a clerk transcriber for the Planning Board/Zoning Board of Adjustment effective Oct. 16.

- Jesse Cribb has been hired as part-time recycling groundskeeper.

- Senior Citizen Coordinator Sue Mischka will retire effective Nov. 1.

- Deputy Tax Collector Maryellen Grabarz will retire effective April 10, 2003.

- Philip DeGennaro has been hired as an attendant at the Recreation Department.

- Janine Calvey has been hired as a clerk typist starting Nov. 4.

- The Borough has introduced an ordinance to sell two parcels of land near Roosevelt School to the Board of Education.

- The Borough is asking the Department of Transportation for an extension for awarding a contract to construct sidewalks along Belmont

Ave. The original bid was rejected because it was deemed too high.

- The Borough is requesting funds from the "Livable Communities Grant" to purchase and install decorative lighting on Front St. and Hamilton Blvd.

- Lordina Builders, Inc. has been awarded a contract to perform the renovations in the Emergency Management Building at a cost of \$47,600. The building was formerly used as the Senior Center.

- The Borough will purchase a new mower and a trailer to transport it from Storr Tractor at a total cost of \$23,778.75.

- A lien in the amount of \$1,2878.48 and \$742.20 were placed on two properties to abate a public nuisance.

- CME has been authorized to prepare a drug-free zone map, which includes day care centers that provide a Certified Kindergarten Program, at a fee not to exceed \$1,950.

- A Hamilton Blvd. Redevelopment Committee will be formed to oversee and coordinate the redevelopment efforts. The committee will be made up of a member from the Planning Board, Zoning Board and a Councilperson who will serve as the committee chair.



Mayor Dan Gallagher presents a Certification of Appreciation to Jeffrey Wood on behalf of South Plainfield. Wood created memorials of the World Trade Center using various pieces from the building, and donated them to our local police, fire, rescue squad and emergency management personnel.

## OPEN FOR BREAKFAST

Egg Sandwiches • Donuts • Pastry • Coffee • Flavored Coffee

OPEN  
6:30 A.M.  
8AM-SAT 10 AM-SUN

•Homemade Salads

•Subs

•Deli Sandwiches

•Grilled Chicken Heros

FAT BOY SPECIAL

2 eggs • Sausage • Ham

Cheese • Potatoes

on a roll

\$1.99

Valid thru 11/7/02

"Quality Food For The Everyday Hero"

HOMETOWN HEROS

340 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield

(908) 755-HERO (4376)

Lowest Prices  
Highest Quality  
Large Assortment

**Fresh!**

Fruit • Fish • Dairy  
Vegetables • Salad Bar  
Sushi • Baked Goods  
Deli • Cut Flowers



908-769-4144

Fax 769-4167

OPEN

M-S 8-8

Sun 8-7

**FREE**

Minimum purchase \$10

Extra Large Eggs or  
5lbs. baking potatoes

**\$3 Off**

Purchases Over \$30

**GREAT FARMERS MARKET**

1620 Park Avenue (formerly Acme) South Plainfield

TAX RETURNS PREPARED • WILLS, CLOSINGS  
INDIVIDUAL AND BUSINESS • PERSONAL INJURY  
WORKERS COMPENSATION

**PAUL W. GRZENDA**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

HOUSE CALLS AVAILABLE

SO. PLAINFIELD OFFICE Tel.: (908) 769-8602



# Events

## 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.

## St. Stephen's Choir Concert

November 2

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, located at 3145 Park Avenue, will be holding a choir concert on Saturday, Nov. 2, at 7:30 p.m. The director of the choir is Thomas Baker, and he will be accompanied by guest pianist Kenneth Forziati, and guest guitarist Robert Freda. Donations will be accepted to benefit the organ fund.

## SPHS Music Boosters Fundraiser

November 2

The South Plainfield High School Music Boosters are holding a Fall Fundraiser and Bake Sale on Saturday, Nov. 2, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the High School cafeteria.

Avoid the holiday rush and shop early. Craft items from local boutiques and vendors, including Tupperware, Discovery Toys, Pampered Chef and many other home party demonstrations.

For information, call (908) 791-0294.

## Rescue Squad Plans Fun Night

November 2

The South Plainfield Rescue Squad Ladies Auxiliary is sponsoring another night at the races. The event takes place on Saturday, Nov. 2 at the Holiday Inn on Stelton Rd. Fun Night begins at 7 p.m.

Cost is \$20 per person. Refreshments include hot dogs, tacos, ice cream, soda, chips. Plenty of fun will be provided from the horseracing, raffles and door prizes.

All proceeds benefit the South Plainfield Rescue Squad. For tickets call Joan (732) 424-3661.

## VFW Country Breakfast

November 3

VFW Post 6763 at 155 Front St. will hold a country breakfast on Nov. 3 from 8 a.m. until 11 a.m. with an assortment of food. Adult price is \$5.

For more information, call (908) 668-9751 after 3 p.m. daily and after 12 noon on weekends.

## DARE Walk-A-Thon

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!

## What's happening in NOVEMBER

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

The Senior Citizen's 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
Nov. 14 - Twin City Pharmacy Generic & Brand Name Prescription Medicine, Related Topics			31	1
Dec. 23 - Openings Available- Christmas Show-Hunterdon Hills Playhouse			Shopping at Pathmark 9AM Practical Crafting 10-11AM	Bingo 10AM-2PM Pizza Lunch 11:30 AM
4 Exercise & Walking Club 8:45-9:45 AM Adult Crafts 9:30-11:30 Yoga 10:30-11:30AM	5 Bingo 10AM-2PM	6 Exercise & Walking Club 8:45-9:45 Movie 11:30 AARP Crafts 1 PM	7 Shopping at Pathmark 9AM Practical Crafting 10-11 AM	8 Bingo 10AM-2PM Pizza Lunch 11:30 AM

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

## Czestochowa Holding Election Day Supper

November 5

Our lady of Czeschowa will be holding an Election Day Supper on Tuesday, Nov. 5 at the parish Hall on Hamilton Blvd. from 4 to 8 p.m. For take-out orders, call the OLC Hall on Nov. 2 at (908) 753-4077.

## Music Boosters Meeting

November 6

There will be a meeting of the Music Boosters on Wednesday, Nov. 6 at the high school band room starting at 7 p.m. Topics include a wrapup of the Band Festival, upcoming ACC's and concerts.

Please come out and support our program. All parents of students in the music program are encouraged and welcomed!

## Seniors Going to Taj Mahal

November 6

It's time to win some money at the Taj Mahal in Atlantic City. Join the bus trip 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.

## Suburban Woman's Club Meeting

November 7

The November meeting of the South Plainfield Suburban Woman's Club will be held on Thursday, Nov. 7 starting at 2 p.m. at the American Legion Hall on Oak Tree Road.

This month's speaker will be Ann Flood. Her topic will be "Buttons: Miniature Works of Art."

Women interested in attending should call (908) 754-7410 for further information.

## 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, con-

tact Rosanne Demico-Ilardo at (732) 878-9877. For reunion information, log onto [www.classmates.com](http://www.classmates.com).

## Polish Home Sponsors Atlantic City Trip

November 10

The Polish Home on New Market Ave. is sponsoring a trip to Atlantic City Caesar's Palace on Sunday, Nov. 10. Bus leaves the parking lot at 11 a.m. and returns at 8 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person with a \$13 coin return.

## Historical Society Mtg.

November 12

The next regular meeting of the Historical Society is Tuesday, Nov. 12, at 7:30 p.m. in SPHS library.

Nominations for new officers will be taken. The public is invited. For info, call Bill Tuthill at 756-9654.

## Christmas in the City and a Play

December 15

South Plainfield Recreation Department is sponsoring trip to New York City on Sunday, Dec. 15 to see the Broadway show "Chicago." There will also be time to shop in the city.

The cost is \$70 per person. Only 44 tickets are available. Purchase your tickets at the PAL located on Maple Ave. The bus leaves the PAL at 10 a.m. and returns around 5:30 p.m.

## St. Stephen's to Hold Chinese Auction

November 16

St. Stephen's Orthodox Church, 609 Lane Ave. will hold their First Annual Chinese Auction on Nov. 16. The doors will open at 6 p.m. for browsing and the auction calling will begin precisely at 7:30 p.m.

Admission charge is \$5, which includes dessert, coffee and door prizes. Join us for a fun evening and shop for your holiday gifts. There will be beautiful theme baskets, small appliances, jewelry, toys, bed and bath items, sundries and much more. Advanced tickets only. Call Rosemary-(973) 635-2797 or Beba-(908) 654-4914.

## SPHS Athletic Booster Sports Auction/Raffle

November 16

The SPHS Athletic Booster Club will be holding a Sports Auction-Raffle on Saturday, Nov. 16. Doors

open at 6 p.m.; the auction begins at 7 a.m. Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door and include 25 tickets. Prizes include, Giants and Rutgers tickets, autographed balls, sports theme baskets, bicycle and television.

For tickets call (908) 753-1341 or (908) 757-5691.

## Chaumont Post 243 Bus Trip to Resorts

November 17

On Sunday, Nov. 17, Chaumont Post 243 will sponsor a trip to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City.

Bus leaves the Post at 9 a.m. sharp. The cost is \$20 with \$13 back from the casino.

Beer, soda, sandwiches, prizes.

## Knights of Columbus Open House

November 19

Knights of Columbus and Cumbiettes of South Plainfield Council #6203 cordially invite you to an Open House on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Knights of Columbus Hall located just off Hamilton Blvd. (across from Pizza Stop) 1 block from New Market Ave.

We are looking for families for membership in the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization. Have fun, make friends and support your church and community. What could be more rewarding? Refreshments will be served.

For more info, please call Zig Sutor at (908) 755-9708.

## Sacred Heart Advent Wreath Workshop

November 22

The Sacred Heart HSA invites all students and families of our school and parish to come and begin their holiday by making an advent wreath for the coming Christmas season on Nov. 22, 7-8:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart School cafeteria. The cost is \$15 per wreath (all supplies included).

## — Out of Town —

## Calvary Baptist Celebrates 105 Years

November 1-3

The Calvary Baptist Church of Plainfield will continued their celebration of their 105th Church Anniversary with a Fellowship Service on Friday, Nov. 1 at 7:30 p.m. Rev. Tracy

Brown, Pastor of Ruth Fellowship Ministries of Plainfield will be the speaker.

Calvary continues the celebration with a Banquet on Saturday, Nov. 2, at its Monroe Ave. location. Tickets are \$30. The celebration ends on Sunday, Nov. 3, at the 11 a.m. Worship Service. The speaker will be Calvary's Pastor, Rev. Dr. William Gerald Howard, D. Min. For more information about the celebration or any other services at Calvary, please call the church office at (908) 561-5187.

## Antique Road Show At Autumn Woods

November 2

How much do you think your antiques are worth? Find out at the second annual Autumn Woods Assisted Living Antique Road Show on Nov. 2. It will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. at Autumn Woods Assisted Living, 680 Route 202/206N in Bridgewater.

The cost is a \$3 donation which is given to the Spina Bifida Association.

For reservations or directions, call (908) 252-3400. Each person who attends is asked to bring only one item.

## Tricky Tray Auction

November 8

Koinonia Academy, 1049 Plainfield Ave. in Plainfield will hold a Tricky Tray Auction on Friday, Nov. 8 starting at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$8 and includes 25 tickets and dessert.

For info, call (908) 754-8505.

## Open House At Union Catholic High

November 6

Union Catholic Regional High School will be hosting their Fall Open House on Nov. 6. All interested seventh and eighth grade students and their parents are invited to attend this highly informative session. Early bird tours start at 6:45 p.m. A formal program begins at 7:30 p.m. Parents and students will have an opportunity to examine the curricular and extracurricular programs, investigate transportation, meet with administration, technology and faculty members and follow a scheduled tour of classes.

Our 20-acre campus is located at 1600 Martine Ave. in Scotch Plains. For information contact the school office at (908) 889-1600. Visit our website at [www.unioncatholic.org](http://www.unioncatholic.org).

## Union Catholic Holiday Craft Fair & Gift Market

November 9

The holiday craft fair and gift market sponsored by the Parent Guild of Union Catholic High School will be held on Nov. 9, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the UC campus at 1600 Martine Ave. in Scotch Plains.

More than 125 vendors bring quality crafted, handmade items as well as new merchandise for the coming holiday season celebrating Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Light refreshments will be available.

Vendors interested in participating may call the school at (908) 899-1600 for an information packet with a contract listing and costs for display area.

Ample parking is available on the UCHS campus. The building is handicapped accessible at gym entrance.

## Holiday Gift Auction at Resurrection Church

November 10

Resurrection of Christ Church, 649 Bound Brook Rd., Dunellen will hold a Holiday Gift Auction on Sunday, Nov. 10. Doors open at noon. Drawing begins at 2 p.m. Donation is \$5. Variety of items include, toys, perfume, jewelry, holiday items, etc.

For information, call (732) 873-1731 or (732) 752-5741.

## 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).





# The Home News Tribune Knows....

Page 12

HOME NEWS TRIBUNE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2002

## OPINION

# Gallagher deserves nod

South Plainfield's mayoral race is first and foremost a referendum on municipal spending and taxes. By that measure, Mayor Daniel Gallagher is an easy choice for a fourth term in office. Republican challenger Anthony Cataldo has blamed Gallagher, a Democrat, for driving up local taxes 89 percent since the mayor took office in 1995. But in an editorial board meeting with the Home News Tribune on Tuesday, Cataldo conceded his calculations go back to 1993, the final year of Republican control of the Borough council, and two years before Gallagher took office in his second go-around in the job. The figure for the municipal tax increase during Gallagher's eight-year tenure is really 63%. That may sound high, but it includes repayment on \$10 million borrowed in the final year of Republican leadership to change the borough from a calendar to a fiscal-year operation; the \$565,000 annual payments on the bond began in 1995 and inflate the mayor's tax record through no fault of his own. In truth, Gallagher has put his thumb down on municipi-

pal coffers with a steady "pay as you go" philosophy. This year was the third in the last five that the municipal-tax rate did not change, and South Plainfield's rate is fourth lowest in Middlesex County. Gallagher has also eliminated the borough health board and engineering department because county or private services can perform those tasks just as well but less expensively. All told, the mayor's fiscal plan is on track to yield budget surpluses again in four years – no small feat. Gallagher has a clear grasp of the borough's future needs. While Cataldo would like to open a road over the railroad tracks to bring in more motorists, Gallagher wants just the opposite; a pedestrian friendly and less congested commercial center. The mayor would push "traffic to the side" into a new parking lot off Hamilton Boulevard and create a footbridge over the railroad tracks to the downtown and a farmer's market that is on the way. His plan not only creates a more alluring commercial atmosphere, it is safer. Gallagher's savvy and financial smarts earn him another term.

# Gallagher Kubala & Vokral



## From the Republicans

# Election to Decide if Democrats Retain Absolute Power

"Next week's election will determine whether South Plainfield remains a one-party-controlled town," said Jake Cataldo, Republican candidate for mayor. "The Democrats have absolute power, and there is nobody looking over their shoulders. By electing the Republican ticket, residents can change this. We've got to stop one-party rule because it's dangerous for South Plainfield."



"Actually," added candidate Marge Reedy, "the mayor used to be against one-party rule. When he ran for council with Bill Thomas, his signs around town said 'STOP one party rule.' I have the picture to prove it. Talk about hypocrisy: now that he's in control we see how much he really believed what he was saying."

"We see the horrific results of one party being in control," added council candidate Geoff Champion. "For example, they bungled the Helen Street project. In fact, a few weeks ago we pointed out how they promised it would be done in 2002. Recently, I found a campaign flyer where Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala promised completion by 1997. Five years later the traffic is still here and not one ounce of concrete has been poured. Nevertheless, they tout the project as if it were a success. One-party rule simply isn't working."

Cataldo agreed, "The Democrats refuse to address certain issues, but with another party acting as watchdogs they won't be able to get away with that. For example, they let our kids play in the park for over a year even though they knew about potentially-toxic chemicals. Then they tried to act like heroes when they finally closed the park. Unfortunately though, they only closed the park because of media scrutiny."

"They've also gotten away with promising a tax cut they never delivered on," added Reedy. "The mayor promised a tax cut this year. Where is it? And while they say they haven't raised taxes, the figures in last week's paper show taxes have soared under the Democrats."

"What really bothers me is the arrogance," said Cataldo. "At last week's council meeting, a Borough councilman started telling everyone in attendance what a great job his party is doing and how the mayor and his running mates should be re-elected. That takes nerve. He was on our time being paid by our tax dollars and making a political speech. In fact, when a resident told him the speech was inappropriate, the councilman ignored him. This is what happens when one party has absolute power."

"We've got to get back to looking after the residents," Champion added. "The Democratic party is bought and paid for by the builders. All those little green signs around town weren't free. Builders are giving thousands in contributions to the Democrats. And we wonder why these builders get *carte blanche*."

With only several days to go until Election Day, Cataldo summed up everyone's feelings, "We end this campaign where we began it, talking about taxes, crime, and overgrowth. Under the Gallagher administration, taxes have skyrocketed, the crime rate is too high and we've been inundated with apartments, townhouses and condos. School taxes are going up because the school board has to seat all the kids brought in by this tidal wave of building. We need to send a message to the Democrats by cleaning house. Remember, even if the Republicans win this year, the Democrats will still be in control. But at least you will have a voice. If we win, you win."

## From the Democrats

# Democrats Reflect On Campaign

Mayor Dan Gallagher, Councilpersons Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral reflected on this year's local campaign. Mayor Gallagher said, "It seems like yesterday that we were marching in the Labor Day parade. As always the nine weeks of the campaign have been invigorating and informative. Nothing beats going door to door. I can say without hesitation that South Plainfield residents are the nicest people you could find anywhere. I am proud of the positive campaign that Ed, Jim and I have run. We have talked about our record and our plans for South Plainfield's future. We have refrained from a negative campaign because that is not a way to win an election."



Ed Kubala expanded on the Mayor's comments. "We want this election to be decided on our positions not on name calling. We encourage the voters to look at the record over the last nine years that the New Democratic majority has been in control. If the voters favor 'pay as you go government' and they believe that no municipal tax increase

# 2002 VOTE

**Your Vote Counts!**  
**Get Out and Vote**  
**Nov. 5, 2002**

in three of the last five years is an accomplishment to be proud of, then Dan, Jim and I are the candidates for them. But we also think that a candidate's vision for the future is more important than resting on his or her record. The Democrats are committed to keeping taxes under control again next year, continuing to cut the Borough debt, acquiring 50 more acres of open space and starting the process for more senior housing. Without trying to be mean, I have not heard one proposal for South Plainfield's future from the Republican team."

Jim Vokral agreed with his running mates saying, "There is no other town in New Jersey that can boast that there was no municipal tax increase in three of the last five years, that debt has been cut in half, that has built senior housing and a senior recreation center and improved every recreational facility within the municipality. South Plainfield is a model of a fiscally conservative, well-managed borough and I respectfully believe that Dan, Ed and I have accomplished much for all of our residents. If re-elected, we will work to have more roads repaved, to have the improvements completed at Putnam Park, to improve our community pool facility, to completely reconstruct Hamilton Boulevard and to complete Helen Street. As the old expression goes 'you ain't seen nothing yet!'"

Mayor Gallagher summed up the Democrats thoughts. "Regardless of how you vote, just get out and vote. Too many have given too much to keep this country of ours strong and free, to ever take it for granted."



## Girl Scouts "Survive" Encampment

During the weekend of Sept. 20 the South Plainfield Girl Scout Community participated in their bi-annual encampment at Camp Lou Henry Hoover in Middleville, NJ.

The majority of the girls left Friday night from the SPHS parking lot, along with their leaders, while the younger Brownies and their leaders joined them on Saturday morning. The "tribes" first gathered on the Commons with their Survivor tee-shirts and bandanas for a flag ceremony, then it was off to horseback riding, pony rides, the birds of Raptor Trust, and a visit to the camp store.

Although the Brownies had a snack upon arrival, lunch could not come soon enough. Weekenders cooked at their sites and day-trippers ate in the dining hall. After lunch it was back to horseback riding, ice cream making, fishing (every girl caught at least one and one girl caught seven), boating, candle making, hiking, and just plain fun.

Before the girls knew it, it was dinner-time followed by a camp fire for the day-trippers (there had been one

for everyone else upon arrival at camp on Friday night). After the day-trippers were safely on their buses and on their way home, the dining hall really started rocking with the sounds of an awesome D.J. (even the leaders and adults were hula hooping and doing YMCA).

Sunday brought a beautiful Fall-like day. It was great to have a leisurely breakfast and finish cleaning and packing for the trip home. Six buses arrived at 11 a.m. Where had the weekend gone? What stories would everyone have to tell? With a final clean-up of the dining hall and a final check by Ranger John, it was time to go. And, unlike on the T.V. show, "Survivor," no one got kicked out of camp.

In two years, it will be time for another encampment. What will be the theme? What exotic place will the campers travel to? What adventures will they find? If you want to find out, join Girl Scouting in South Plainfield... Where girls grow strong! After all, it's not just cookies anymore!

—Submitted by Wayne J. Ostrowski

## Register for Youth Wrestling

The South Plainfield Recreation 2002 Youth Wrestling Program will be holding registrations on Saturday, Nov. 2, 2002. Participants will be able to register between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. at the PAL.

Registration is open to all chil-

dren in South Plainfield between ages 5 and 11. The fee is \$25 per participant, no refunds will be available. In order to register, a birth certificate and proof of residency is required, and a parent must be present.

## Aiello Chiropractic Center, P.C.

Your Hometown Source for Health & Wellness

2201 South Clinton Avenue, Suite H  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080-1471

On the corner of New Market and South Clinton

**755-2289**

## FAST APPROVALS...GREAT RATES...PERSONALIZED SERVICE

We Specialize in No Cost Refinancing

Free Pre-Qualifications

Purchases • Refinance • Debt Consolidation

Past Credit Problems Understood

No Income Verification Loans

Borrow up to 125% of Value • Loans

Mixed Use and Commercial Properties

Mike Dixon  
President



Se Habla Espanol

**908-822-0090**

2325 Plainfield Ave. Suite 2E South Plainfield, NJ

**A Special Invitation  
For You To Join Us  
At**

**Wesley United Methodist Church  
For Contemporary Praise Service**

**Thursday Evenings from 7:00 pm - 7:45 pm**

**Enjoy Scripture Readings, Skits and Testimonies  
Sing With Us As We Lift Up Our Voices In Praise**

**Please Join Us On Thursday  
at 1500 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield**

**This Is A Non-Denominational  
Program For All Ages**



From the South Plainfield Library

## Bookmarks

By Kenneth Morgan

Well, now it's time to put away the costumes, take down the cobwebs and arrange for candy-inspired dental appointments. But, just like before Halloween, we're sure you can spare a moment to check on news from the South Plainfield Library.

We're between groups on the Video Circuit today, but the titles for November should be available sometime next week. We're also between groups on the CD Circuit today. New titles from that group will be available later this month.

Don't forget about the special program this Sunday from The Seeing Eye. This hands-on program will look at how Seeing Eye and service dogs are trained and help those in need. It'll be held on Sunday afternoon from 2-4 p.m. There's no fee for this program and everyone is welcome.

The Library will be open normal hours on Tuesday, Election Day. Before heading out to the polls to exercise your right to choose your elected representative, feel free to stop by the Library. You can use our resources to examine the issues, review the candidates' positions, and, thus, make an informed choice. (Or at least try to.)

We're going to stay with our usual schedule of children's Storytime programs next week. The programs are for children ages three and over; no pre-registration is required. The programs are held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. If you'd like more information, please call us at (908) 754-7885 and ask for

Miss Linda.

We'll be continuing our Job Information classes in November. The next class is called "Job Searching on the Internet". It's scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 9, at 10:30 a.m. There's no fee for this class, but space is limited, so you must pre-register. We're also continuing our classes on basic computer usage. For more information on these classes, please call and ask for Allan or Marcia.

Here's a reminder about the big price reduction at the Friends of the Library Book Sale. All Sale books are priced at 15 cents each, 2 for 25 cents, or 10 for \$1. Also, sale videos will go for 50 cents apiece. Please come in and take advantage of these ridiculously low prices, because they'll only be here for November. (The Friends are generous, but only to a certain point.)

Finally, here's a bit of advice. When you check out items here at the Library, you also get a receipt listing what you borrowed. Be sure to read this receipt carefully. It also lists when each item is due back. Since items have different loan periods (and differing overdue fines), it's best to keep track of when each item has to be returned. You don't have to return the receipt along with the items, though. It's mainly for your information. If you see something on the receipt that's incorrect, or that you don't understand, don't hesitate to ask us for details.

That's about all for now. See you next Friday. Now, perhaps you should start looking for those Thanksgiving decorations.

## southplainfieldpeople

### Milestones

#### Pamela Cianfrocca Graduates from Basic Training

Dan and Terry Cianfrocca would like to congratulate their daughter, Pamela Lynn, on her graduation from Basic Military Training in the United States Air Force. Pamela is a 2002 SPHS Honors graduate. She entered boot camp on Sept. 4, 2002 and graduated on Oct. 18.

Pamela is stationed at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. She will be attending technical school at Lackland, studying Missiles and Space Systems.

Along with her grandparents and sister Jena, we wish her the best of luck in all her future endeavors. Way to go Airman Cianfrocca!



Airman Pamela L. Cianfrocca



Mr. and Mrs. Henry Collins

#### Mr. and Mrs. Henry Collins Celebrate Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Collins of South Plainfield celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary on Oct. 12. A party was given in their honor by the couple's children at the Pines

Manor in Edison.

Guests included the couple's children, grandchildren, sisters, brothers, sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

#### St. Joseph High School Announces Fall Honors Convocation

St. Joseph High School, Metuchen, held their Fall Honors Convocation on Wednesday, Oct. 23. Several South Plainfield students were presented with certificates for Honor Roll and High Honor Roll.

Students who attained a 3.8 or better GPA in at least three academic quarters during the 2001-2002 school year were presented with a certificate for Honor Roll. Those honored from

South Plainfield were Calvin John Smiley, Kevin Ciampi, Daniel Eckhardt and Jonathan Liebl.

Students that attained a 4.0 or better GPA in at least three academic quarters during the 2001-2002 school year were presented with a certificate for High Honor Roll. Those honored from South Plainfield were Daniel Stallone, Adrian Agbanlog and Roy Sorenson.

### Subscribe to Observer to Help DARE Fundraiser

The South Plainfield Police Department DARE Program is running a fundraiser so they can obtain a photo ID card machine. The machine will be used to make photo ID cards for the children of South Plainfield.

In order to aid in this fundraiser, we will contribute \$5 for every subscription to the *Observer* we receive during the month of November.

Any businesses that would like to make a contribution should call, (908) 226-7688. All donations should be made out to the South Plainfield DARE

### Local Pharmacist to Speak to Seniors

Bill Ashnault Jr., RPH, registered pharmacist at Twin City Pharmacy, will be the guest speaker at the new South Plainfield Senior Citizen Center on Nov. 14, at 1 pm.

His topics will include geriatric drugs, senior gold and PAAD pre-

scription discount programs, generic and brand prescriptions and other related topics of interest to seniors.

Ashnault, a graduate of North Eastern University in Massachusetts, is a member of the Lions Club, the South Plainfield Recreation Committee and is active in youth sports. A pharmacist for 19 years, Ashnault has been with Twin City Pharmacy for the past 14 years. He has worked in other pharmaceutical areas including 24 hrs. hospice, nursing home, retail pharmacy

and home care provider. He has counseled on diabetic, pulmonary, and pain medicine. Mr. Ashnault has worked in many aspects of Senior Citizen programs, both in South Plainfield and Plainfield.

He was a guest of the Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield in February and was well received by its members.

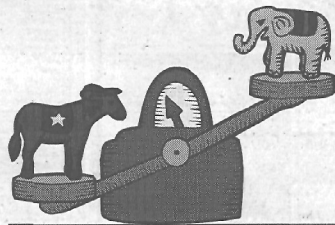
All seniors are invited to attend and hear his program. Please sign up to attend at the senior citizen center.

## Yes Mr. Gallagher, We Agree.

STOP ONE PARTY RULE!  
vote  
GALLAGHER  
THOMAS

Mayor Gallagher's signs when the tables were turned.

Stop  
One-Party  
Rule!



Democrats, Builders, Campaign Contributors	7
Republicans, Watchdogs, South Plainfield	0

Vote Republican and Elect

Cataldo • Reedy • Champion

Paid for by the So. Plainfield Republican Org., Ed Lyons, Treas.

#### Sewing Classes for Kids & Adults

NOW AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME

www.bunchis.com

Open 7 Days

Mon.-Sat.

9am-7pm

Sunday 11am-4pm



All About Arts & Crafts  
"Bunchi's"

Gifts, Home Decor & Custom Painting

179 & 175 Front St., South Plainfield

FREE

\$10 Gift Certificate with any

Craft Party

booking with this coupon

FRIDAY NITE SPECIAL

3 Hour-

One Stroke

Project

7 p.m.

with this coupon

FREE

\$5 Gift Certificate with any

Kids Craft Class

registration with this coupon

(908) 755-4049

Where you are always treated like one of the family  
Carousel

Hair Salon

Want a New Look?

Stop in at Carousel Hair Salon for an appointment.

We're always happy to see you!

307 Oak Tree Ave. 908-668-8397

Wed.-Fri 8am-4pm, Sat 6:45am-3pm, Closed Sun/Mon/Tues



# SP Wrestling Club Plans Clinic

The South Plainfield Wrestling Club will hold a pre-season clinic on Saturday, Nov. 9, at the PAL Recreation Center, located at 1250 Maple Ave.

Guest clinicians include Rutgers Head Coach John Sacchi, who has over 400 career dual meet wins and three undefeated seasons, Andre Brenner, head coach at Bullis Prep in Maryland and a two-time Ukrainian National Champion, and Lehigh University's head coach Greg Strobel, a two-time NCAA Champion at Oregon State.

The clinic will be open to all third year wrestlers and up. Pre-registration by mail is due no later than Nov. 4. Registration will be accepted at the door on Nov. 9 from 8 to 9 a.m. Cost is \$25 for residents and \$50 for non-residents. If you have any questions, please call Jim Conroy at (908) 754-6489, Bill Ashnault at (908) 753-1712, Jim Sacco at (908) 757-1073, or Joe DeBiase at (908) 769-4197.

By Kevin Lykes

## juniorbaseballclubnotes

**MAJOR FALL FIELD RENOVATIONS SAT NOV 2**—This coming Saturday, Nov. 2, we will again be undertaking some major renovations on the Small Fry Fields. Work has already begun on the Field 2 base paths. The minimal crew that came out last week accomplished quite a bit, removing the ridges that were along the basepath edges and laying new sod. We are hoping to finish this and do the same on Fields 1 and 3. We will be starting at 8 a.m. rain or shine. Any potential managers/coaches for next season are strongly urged to come out and pitch in even if only for an hour or two.

**FALL REGISTRATION NOV 14-16**—Early registration during the Fall sign-up period is highly recommended as both dates and fees will be changing from what they used to be in the past. This upcoming season will bring major changes in the club's registration process. In addition, late registrations will be significantly more expensive and will be treated a little differently from past years.

Registration periods and fee schedules for the 2003 season are as follows:

- Fall: Thur., Fri., & Sat., Nov 14-16, 2002  
Fee: \$75 single, \$105 double, \$125 for 3 or more
- Winter: Thur., Fri., & Sat., Jan. 16-18, 2003  
Fee: \$95 single, \$125 double, \$145 for 3 or more

After these dates all late registrations will be a single per player fee (as yet to be set) with no multiple discounts, if openings remain! Also at this time late registrants will be placed on a waiting list and assigned onto teams following the March draft, but prior to the beginning of the season. Our reasoning is quite simple; each year a few kids decide that they don't want to play at the last minute, resulting in some teams going into the season with as few as 10 players, while other teams have 12. The pool of late registrants, from which we can assign replacements, will help with this problem.

# Sports

## SOCCER

### Bullets Split the Weekend

The South Plainfield Soccer Club U-9 Bullets kept busy this past weekend, losing a close, hard fought game against North Plainfield, then scoring a decisive victory over North Brunswick.

On Saturday, Oct. 26, the Bullets traveled to muddied Stony Brook Park in North Plainfield to face a tough Wolverine squad. The poor field conditions made it difficult for either team to pass the ball effectively and play was mostly confined to midfield. The Bullets managed three shots on goal, with their best chance at scoring coming on Daniel Zwatschka's breakaway in the second quarter. The attempt was smothered

by the Wolverine goalie. Then late in the same quarter, a handball in front of the Bullets goal yielded a Wolverine penalty shot, which was converted for a 1-0 lead. That goal proved to be the final score. Daniel Lyew and Tony Franczak were outstanding in goal for the Bullets, with Lyew stopping six shots and Franczak turning away another three.

Sunday's fair skies promised a better result for the Bullets, and they delivered big time with a 4-0 win over the North Brunswick Avalanche. The Bullets defense, having yielded a meager 10 goals all season, proved too much for the Avalanche as Nick Pleeter, Zachary Noll, John Corone, Daniel Lyew and Albert Vill turned away every attack by the Avalanche. For the Bullets offense, the excitement was non-stop as Daniel Zwatschka, Steven Bichler, Kevin Flanagan and Ryan Marcoux hammered the Avalanche defense throughout the match. Flanagan had played defense all season for the Bullets, and his move to offense for this match proved to be the spark that the Bullets needed. The big story of the day, however, was Ryan Marcoux's four goals. With assists from Corone and Swatschka, Marcoux opened the scoring in the second quarter. His aggressive play led to two more goals, both unassisted, in the third quarter. In the final quarter, Flanagan pushed a perfect pass to Marcoux, who closed out the scoring with his fourth goal of the game, giving him 15 on the year. Tony Franczak and Steven Bichler shared the shutout in goal for the Bullets.

With this victory the Bullets moved to 4-3-1 on the season. Next Sunday, Nov. 3, the Bullets will attempt to avenge an early season loss when they travel to Metuchen for a 1:30 p.m. match.

## SPHS FIELD HOCKEY

By Sharon Miller

Week of October 27—In what can only be described as truly spectacular, this year's regular season has come to an end. But, what an end as the varsity team once again adds two additional wins against Metuchen (1-0) and Westfield (1-0) to bring their record to an incredible 16-0-1. The team is now in the middle of the Greater Middlesex County tournament. As of this writing, the results of the Oct. 31 semifinal round are not yet known. The must see game of the season, the GMC Championship game, takes place on Sat. Nov. 2 at 2 p.m. at home on the Carol Espinosa Field.

This year's team continues to be 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 in the GMC's and State's. Rankings are as of Oct. 30.

The varsity team will also be participating in the State Championship games. Schedules for these games are not yet available.

## Ponytail Softball Batters Box

By Sharon Miller

**New Executive Board Elected**—A new Executive Board and Trustees were elected at the October meeting held last Tuesday. A great deal of work goes along with each position held. To everyone elected, thank you for your continued support and all of the time you devote to Ponytail softball. Congratulations, these positions are well deserved.

**Executive Board-President** Mark Sutherland, **Vice President** Steve Senz, **Secretary** Rosa Szeliga, **Treasurer** Pat DeSantis and **Public Relations Officer** Sharon Miller. **Trustees** are Don Alexa, Fred Reichert and Kevin Schwers.

**Franklin School Gym, November 8**—Friday nights starting Nov. 8 through the end of the school year, the Franklin School Gym will be available from 7:30 to 9 p.m. for softball practice to any girl who played on an All-Star team. This includes the 16's, 14's, 10's and both 12's teams. Each girl must be accompanied by an adult, who will remain with her the entire time they are at the gym. This is not an organized, pre-arranged practice session. Coaches will not be available to work with the girls. This is a place for them to practice the skills they have on their own. Girls must bring their own equipment.

**Snack Bar Closing/Shed Cleanup & Inventory—November 16**—The date for the snack bar closing is Saturday, Nov. 16. Please meet at the snack stand area at 9 a.m. At the same time, work will also begin on cleaning up the shed. This involves conducting an inventory of the equipment and organizing and labeling it. We will need the help of many volunteers, both association members and non-members. Snack stand and field maintenance committee members should try to attend. If your daughter played either Recreation and/or All-Star softball, we would appreciate your assistance. Please come out and join us in support of the Girls' Ponytail Softball League.

**Ponytail Softball Association Meeting—November 26**—The South Plainfield Parents' Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the South Plainfield Middle School library. If you are interested in becoming a member and being involved in girl's Ponytail softball, please join us on Nov. 26. New members are always welcomed.

United States Postal Service			
Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation			
1. Publication Title South Plainfield Observer	2. Publication Number 0 1 8 2 2 5 3	3. Filing Date 10/28/02	
4. Issue Frequency Weekly except Thanksgiving	5. Number of Issues Published Annually 51	6. Annual Subscription Price \$25	
7. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP + 4) 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080		Contact Person Nancy Grennier Telephone 908-688-0010	
8. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)			
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) Nancy Grennier, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080			
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Same as above			
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address)			
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)			
Full Name Nancy Grennier		Complete Mailing Address 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080	
Wayne Grennier		1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080	
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None			
Full Name		Complete Mailing Address	
None			
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)			
13. Publication Title South Plainfield Observer	14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below 11/10/00		
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months		No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	2627		3000
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation			
(1) Paid Through Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541, (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)	70		87
(2) Paid In-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)	928		1107
(3) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution	1045		1000
(4) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS			
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))	2043		2234
d. Free Distribution by Mail (Samples, complimentary, and other free)			
(1) Outside-County and Stated on Form 3541			
(2) In-County as Stated on Form 3541			
(3) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS			
e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carrier or other means)	500		600
f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d and 15e)	500		600
g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)	2593		2834
h. Copies not Distributed	84		156
i. Total (Sum of 15g and 15h)	2627		3000
j. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c divided by 15g times 100)	77		73
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publication required. Will be printed in the 11/01/2002 issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.			
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager or Owner Nancy A. Grennier Date: October 28, 2002			
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).			
Instructions to Publishers 1. Complete and file one copy of this form with your postmaster annually on or before October 1. Keep a copy of the completed form for your records. 2. In cases where the stockholder or security holder is a trustee, include in items 10 and 11 the name of the person or corporation for whom the trustee is acting. Also include the names and addresses of individuals who are stockholders who own or hold 1 percent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities of the publishing corporation. In item 11, if none, check the box. Use blank sheets in more space if required. 3. Be sure to furnish all circulation information called for in item 15. Free circulation must be shown in items 15d, e and f. 4. Item 15h, Copies not Distributed, must include (1) newstand copies originally stated on Form 3541, and returned to the publisher (2) estimated returns from news agents (3) copies for office use, leftovers, spoiled and all other copies not distributed. 5. If the publication had Periodicals authorization as a general or requester publication, this Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation must be published; it must be printed in any issue in October or, if the publication is not published during October, the first issue printed after October. 6. In item 18, indicate the date of issue in which this Statement of Ownership will be published. 7. Item 17 must be signed.			

**"Party with the Spirits"**

**HALLOWEEN "TERRORTHON"**

**THURS. THRU SAT., OCT 31 THROUGH NOV 1**

**908-753-0290**

**"As seen in the Sept. 27 issue of the Observer"**

**Cash prize each night for BEST COSTUME**

**Draft Specials! • Drink Specials!**

**Shot Specials!**

**SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY RENOWNED Psychic & Ghost Hunter Jane Doherty on Halloween night**

**Ghost tours starting at 10 p.m.**

**118 NEW MARKET AVE. SOUTH PLAINFIELD**



## IN YOUR OPINION

(Continued from page 2)

fully the 2002 teams also will have memories and lasting friendships because of this game.

We have a trophy that will be presented by the mayors of the two towns to the winning team each year; bonfires and other festivities are planned.

On Wednesday night, Nov. 27, a Pizza Night Reunion will be held at the Italian American Club in North Plainfield beginning at 6:30 p.m. All former players, cheerleaders, and alumni of the schools are invited for a minimal charge. A video of past games will be shown and many of the past coaches of both teams will be attending this event.

Tickets should be purchased in advance and are available at South Plainfield High School, the South Plainfield PAL building, Caruso's, and from South Plainfield Recreation Director Mike English or me at 227 West End Ave. in Green Brook.

I look forward to a large turnout at Pizza Night and the game on Thanksgiving Day.

**STEVE NOVAK, JR.**

### To the Editor:

The time is right for a change in South Plainfield. Three stellar candidates are running for mayor and council this year, and they are Jake Cataldo, Marge Reedy and Geoff Champion.

I've been talking to Geoff and he has some great ideas for getting things back on track in Borough Hall. Marge and Geoff have the energy and enthusiasm to get the job done, and they will also be assets to our town government.

Jake Cataldo knows our town and sees the problems that need fixing. He's been in charge of the Recreation Commission, he was a Little League coach for 17 years and he helped build the PAL building. I'm not going to list all

Jake's activities and accomplishments, because this letter would run for pages. But put it this way, the Democrats are way off base by suggesting Jake is not committed to our town.

Plus, everyone knows Marge. She's been there for our kids (or in my case grandkids) and now it's time for us to be there for her! She is all over town putting together fundraisers, transporting equipment for the band, and getting things done. Under her leadership, South Plainfield's came to be known as one of the top school districts in the state.

We need some new blood on the council and it is well past time for a new mayor. Taxes are too high, and the traffic in town is out of control. I can't think of a time when we needed a change more than we do now. Please support Cataldo, Reedy and Champion on November 5.

**KATHERINE SEESSELBERG**

### Dear Editor,

First, let me thank you for giving me the opportunity and honor to serve as your mayor.

The last nine years have not been easy for me; the tremendous debt left by the previous Republican administration, the lack of no action on senior housing, senior recreation, on the PAL, fire department, rescue squad, our parks and many roads needing repair were all issues left unattended when the new Democratic majority took office on January 1, 1994.

On behalf of our Democratic Administration, I am very pleased to report to you on the progress we, together, have made since we took office. Our debt service is repaying the borrowed money and has decreased the debt by almost \$10 million. Our 100 units of affordable senior housing are fully occupied, the first ever in South Plainfield. Our state-of-the-art senior

recreation center is open and being enjoyed by our seniors every day. Our PAL has been doubled in size to meet the growing recreation demands of our resident. Our volunteer fire department and volunteer rescue squad received a new truck and ambulance respectively this year. We have improved all of our parks and Putnam Park will soon have a jogging trail, restroom facilities and a soccer field.

We have repaved 117 Borough roads and for the third time there will be no municipal tax increase for 2002/2003. South Plainfield now has the fourth lowest tax in Middlesex County.

Our budget is sound, using no one-time revenues to balance it. I am proud to say that there will be no municipal tax increase again next year.

We have continued to acquire land to dedicate for open space. We are now close to 100 acres and we will continue this project.

Again, I am very proud of the opportunity you have given me. I have always strived to work with professionalism and dedication. I want to continue my service to you. I respectfully ask for your vote of support for myself, Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral on Nov. 5.

Thank you and I am looking forward to our continued success.

**DAN GALLAGHER, MAYOR**

### To the Editor,

South Plainfield needs a change. The Democrats have simply been in charge too long and have too much power. I've been reading the paper each week and it amazes me how they promise things and then don't come through. As someone wrote last week, they promised a tax cut. It didn't happen. They promised Helen Street several times. Nothing. They promised Hamilton Boulevard would be rebuilt

by 2001—another broken promise.

While the Democrats keep boasting, they only brag about things every town has. Towns are supposed to have paved roads. What are we paying taxes for if not to pave the roads? Pretty soon they'll be boasting about providing police protection. They're so busy patting themselves on the back, they fail to see the problems that need addressing.

The Republicans candidates deserve your vote. I support Cataldo, Reedy and Champion. I hope you will too.

**BRUCE MADDEN**

### Letter to Mr. Frank Mikorski,

Here we go again watching you search for a new Superintendent. Good thing you have an inordinate amount of free time to comb the land looking for the perfect "no frills" but not too cheap candidate. By the time you put your thumb-print on their forehead at the coronation, we will still feel like we're watching an Austin Powers movie with Dr. Evil and his clone, Mini Me. It would be nice to have a "man" with class and a doctorate who speaks well publicly and will wear a decent suit. It would also be nice if we didn't hire someone else's problem person from another district. But most of all, it would be nice to have someone with loyalty to the South Plainfield Community.

Just think how much time, money and energy could be saved by hiring an insider. We have strong leaders who are qualified and certified and LOYAL to South Plainfield, leaders like Massaro, Erickson, Czech, May, Savage, Beegle, Flamini, Povall or Munger. All have paid their dues.

Not that you would ever ask me, but I vote for Dr. Ken May, Ed.D. Not only does he meet all your posted qualifications, but he is a great communi-

cator and excellent in any crisis. He is respected by staff, admired by students, and works extremely well with parents as well as community leaders. He has the one ingredient you haven't been able to get from anyone since Len Tobias and that's loyalty to South Plainfield.

Oh, he does have a fault. As a man of conviction he won't be easily manipulated and he's too tall for you to turn him into Mini Me.

**DEIRDRE FALATO, COOPERATIVE EDUCATION SPHS**

### To the Editor,

It seems like the Democrats have started an "Edison Residents for Gallagher" club. I keep seeing Edison's elected officials and others from that community writing to the paper to throw their support behind the mayor and his friends. I guess since the people in town are starting to catch on, the Democrats are going outside South Plainfield looking for people to sign their letters. But what happens when those people catch on? Will we next see letters from Florida Democrats supporting the mayor and his friends?

**PATRICK J. MANN**

### To the Editor:

As you know, I am running for reelection to the Borough Council in South Plainfield. Since my first election in November 1993, I have tried my hardest to work honestly, fairly and productively for the people of our town. Jim Vokral and I have been through three elections during those nine years and we are proud of the work we have done and our accomplishments during that time. You have put your trust in us and I believe we have done everything in our power to keep that trust and hope that we have

(Continued on page 10)

# The South Plainfield Policeman's Benevolent Association Endorses Candidates **DAN GALLAGHER, ED KUBALA, JIM VOKRAL**



*They have been honest and sincere in their efforts to provide a safe and thriving environment to the citizens of South Plainfield*

*"Because they have always stood by their word and exhibited integrity beyond reproach. It is our belief that on November 5<sup>th</sup>, Gallagher, Kubala & Vokral are the right choice for the Borough of South Plainfield. They have earned not only our vote, but also our respect."*



# IN YOUR OPINION

(Continued from page 9)

Gallagher is running with us and our team is once again asking for your support to continue to the work we have done to make South Plainfield an even better place to live, work and play.

Over the last nine years, we have lowered the municipal debt by over 10 million dollars, by doing what we promised in 1993 and since "Pay as You Go Government." We told South Plainfield that our priorities were senior housing and a recreation center. Our seniors now have a complex in which they can live in dignity and a recreation center for their daily needs. We told South Plainfield that our children needed clean and safe parks and playgrounds. Every park in town has been upgraded and we've added a roller hockey rink and a new skate park. We've doubled the size of Putnam Park through a grant from the Middlesex County Freeholders and soccer fields, a jogging trail and comfort facilities have all been designed and are now starting to be constructed. Over 100 streets have been repaved and 17 more are now being done. We've done this and still significantly lowered the debt load we inherited from the last Republican town administration.

We have done all those things by working together as a team, which keeps watching what has to be done while focusing on the taxpayers and their budgets. Again, this year the municipal tax rate has remained flat...and that means no increase in the municipal portion of your taxes.

Not only do you know who I am and what I stand for, but I hope you know that Council President Jim Vokral and Mayor Dan Gallagher, along with the rest of the Democratic Borough Council team will continue to work for you, your neighbors and friends to make South Plainfield an even better place to live. I would appreciate it if you would talk to your family, friends and neighbors in South Plainfield and ask them to support us as you have for the last nine years. We're not done yet. But we need your support to continue our work for you.

Thank you again for your past and continued support.

**ED P. KUBALA, COUNCILMAN**

**To the Editor:**

This year's race for Mayor and Council pits a slate of energetic new candidates against a slate of stale ideas, broken promises and big talk. Jake Cataldo, Marge Reedy and Geoff Champion impressed me because they tackled the issues. They haven't attacked anyone personally and they focused on the things that people care about: taxes, crime, and traffic.

On the other hand, their opponents are ducking these issues. And instead they make more promises

they probably won't keep. Where is this Helen Street project they've been talking about? And I thought Hamilton Blvd. was supposed to be redone in 1991. Roads are another thing. If we can't expect our town to pave the roads, what do we pay taxes for? The way these people talk about paving a few roads - a little over a dozen a year - you'd think we were the only town in the nation with paved roads.

Please vote on Election Day, and when you do, please vote for Jake Cataldo, Marge Reedy and Geoff Champion.

**DAVID GUOTH**

**Dear Editor,**

Over the past few weeks, I have seen an increasing number of letters from people criticizing the work the Mayor and Council have been doing. In my opinion, the Mayor and Council have done an excellent job running our borough over the last nine years. Think about what has been accomplished, roads paved, open space preserved, PAL expansion, senior housing and the senior recreation center. All this was done by watching our tax dollars and because of that we have one of the lowest tax rates in Central New Jersey. Sounds to me like the Mayor and Council are doing exactly what needs to be done.

On the other hand, I can remember a time when the Republicans were in control and our taxes were going up and spending was out of control. I, for one, don't want to live through that again, so I hope you will cast your vote this November to re-elect Mayor Dan Gallagher and Councilpersons Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala.

**PAULA DICK**

**To the Editor:**

Election time brings out the bizarre and the absurd. The most bizarre things I've seen so far are the letters written to the paper by those supporting the Democrats. These people must walk around with blinders on. For example, one woman recently wrote that her taxes haven't gone up since the Democrats took over. I wonder whether this woman is even a taxpayer, because it's impossible to miss all the increases if you pay your own tax bills.

Even more absurd are the letters from the Democratic councilmen. Hmmm...does anyone really think they would support a ticket other than their own. And that letter from the borough attorney takes the cake. If someone paid me hundreds of thousands of dollars for a part-time job, I'd be happy to support them for elected office too.

The article last week by the Democrats might be the most entertaining though. In it, candidate

James Vokral said, "Ground breaking for Helen St. should start in the latter part of 2005." Now, in and of itself that's not a bizarre statement. But this is the same man who promised years back the project would be complete in 1997. I don't think I would have the gall to mention the topic—let alone make another promise about it—had I broken a promise like that.

Reading the Democrats' letter is like reading the tabloids: Just when you think you've seen and heard everything, they come out with a new one.

**LINDA TOWNE**

**Dear Editor,**

I am writing you today to ask for your support this November 5 and to cast your vote to re-elect our Mayor, Dan Gallagher and Councilpersons Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala.

Over the past nine years, a lot has been accomplished in South Plainfield. The Democratic team has controlled spending and kept taxes under control. We introduced the "pay as you go" approach to managing tax dollars and in doing that we've reduced our debt considerably. In addition to these cost savings measures, we've also completed the following projects, over 100 roads paved, senior housing opened, brand new senior recreation center, Putnam Park expansion, PAL expansion and a commitment to open space by preserving many acres of land.

Besides these accomplishments, there are also a number of projects in the works including: Hamilton Blvd. widening, more roads to be paved, installation of sidewalks around town, additional open space purchases and the Helen Street project.

All of these projects are the result of a governing body that cares about South Plainfield. As a resident of South Plainfield for over 43 years, I have the same stake in this town as many of you. When you go to the polls this year, think about what is the right thing for the Borough of South Plainfield. You can decide to elect people who have no knowledge or track record of running this borough or you can re-elect Dan, Jim and Ed who have proven over the last nine plus years that they have what it takes.

Thank you for your support.  
**CHARLES BUTRICO**

**To the Editor:**

Last week's paper included a letter from a woman asking what the Republicans planned to do if elected. Apparently she had not read our press releases, and she never bothered to listen to what we said at the debate.

Even without the benefit of pub-

lic office, we've gotten some good things accomplished. For example, we helped stop 59 condos from going in on Oak Tree Road. As most readers know, the builder trashed his plan after he saw the opposition from residents. We were part of that group.

In addition, the town recently honored the families of Veterans with new street signs. Jake Cataldo suggested this last time he ran and only now the Democrats got around to doing it.

While we only played a minor role in these things, just think what we can do if we actually have some authority. For example, I spoke at the debate about looking into an alternative to the Helen Street project. Actually, alternative might not be the right word. We should be taking additional steps to decrease traffic in addition to pursuing that project. I'd like to study extending Hollywood Ave. as an option. What good are all the Helen Street promises if we still have 15 years of traffic to tolerate?

Similarly, when asked about what we can do about youth gangs, Marge Reedy at the debate suggested an intervention task force. The problem is all around us. The *Star-Ledger* recently exposed how gangs are starting to take hold even in the suburbs. This is the time to attack the problem - before it takes hold. While Marge presented the idea at the debate, Jake Cataldo (her running mate) hatched the idea. Marge ran with it because she knows from the school board that we need to tackle problems early. A task force composed of police officials, school leaders, and experts makes sense.

Republicans also proposed a temporary moratorium on the sale of borough-owned land. The mayor never responded. Yet he criticized selling borough land when he was in the minority on the council years ago. Nevertheless, his administration is selling it hand over fist as a means to prop up the budget. This wouldn't be that bad if builders weren't buying the land for more construction. It always amazes me how the Democrats brag about preserving open space, while at the same time, they are selling land to builders. It makes no sense. How is that preserving open space?

We also want to make this town business-friendly. The mayor's downtown plan, as pointed out by the *Star-Ledger* recently, is a failure. We need to get more people there. Re-routing some traffic through the center of town (but not allowing trucks) might help. This is something we should study in consultation with traffic experts. The key, however, is to make sure we don't affect residential areas.

My fellow candidates and I have spoken - to use the words of last week's writer - *ad nauseam* about the

need to reassess the master plan and zoning ordinance. This is another priority of a Cataldo administration.

The writer from last week's paper wanted to know what the Republicans were in favor of. Well, we've been talking about these things for months. Apparently some people only hear what they want to.

**GEOFF CHAMPION,  
CANDIDATE FOR COUNCIL**

**Dear Editor,**

As you may know, I am running for re-election this November. I can't believe that I have been a councilman for nine years already. I will be running with Ed Kubala and Dan Gallagher.

We have been able to accomplish many things over that period of time. The budget-over the last five years we have aggressively worked with the department heads to control expenses. *Municipal taxes* over the last five years we have been able to hold them flat for three out of the last five years. As a matter of fact we have the fourth lowest tax in Middlesex County. *The debt* we inherited a financial mess! Over borrowing was rampant. We owed an enormous amount of money. However, over time we were able to manage the debt so that by this year we have paid off over 40 percent and we now have a five year plan to manage the rest. We did this by implementing "pay as you go." What that means is that we would not start most projects until we had the money in place without borrowing it. This was done by saving or by applying for grants.

As a result of our financial program, Standard and Poors, a world renowned financial institution, has rated South Plainfield's financial position as AAA (triple A) and described it as "stable." This is no small task for us and we are very proud of this accomplishment.

Major projects that were accomplished were; the PAL was expanded to double its size, there was a serious need for senior housing. We went to work and developed a project that resulted in 100 units being built. Seniors also needed someplace to gather for recreation. Again we went to work and built a state-of-the-art senior recreation center. I can remember Hadley Rd. was the first of many roads that we were able to pave. As of today, we have over 100 roads re-paved and we established a progressive annual road paving program where we pave several roads each year. We are committed to open space! We have increased our inventory to over 100 acres and will continue to add to this and preserve our open space. Our children needed safe places to play. Our parks needed improvements so we reviewed our needs and devised a plan

(Continued on page 11)

## ARE YOU AT LEAST 65 YEARS OLD?

**Do you have cardiac (heart) or pulmonary (lung) disease?**

Anderson & Collins Clinical Research, Inc. is currently seeking individuals to participate in an investigational drug study evaluating an investigational vaccine in conjunction with an approved flu (influenza) vaccine.

**Study-related medical care is free of cost (including flu vaccine). Qualified participants may also receive compensation for their time and travel.**

Also recruiting for the following:

- WEIGHT LOSS • INSOMNIA (Trouble Sleeping)
- (OSTEO)ARTHRITIS, OSTEOPENIA (Bone Loss) • HIGH CHOLESTEROL

For further information call:

Anderson & Collins Clinical Research, Inc.

908 Oak Tree Road, Suite H • South Plainfield, NJ 07080

[www.centerwatch.com/pro230.htm](http://www.centerwatch.com/pro230.htm)

**(908) 561-5445**



## IN YOUR OPINION

(Continued from page 10)

to update all of our parks. Today each of our parks has been upgraded.

We did all of this on "Pay as You Go" and there are many other projects that are in the works and we haven't been able to complete yet.

This is the main reason for my letter.

Sadly, some political campaigns have gotten to the point where candidates simply make things up or twist the facts to get themselves elected. They will take good things and try to make them seem to be the result of some secret plan or hidden agenda. Don't let them fool you.

We know you realize how very important our democratic process really is and that the quality of our elected officials is extremely important. We have no hidden agenda. Ed, Dan and I are proud of our accomplishments over the last years. We are anxious to continue our progress in town and we are honored that you have given us the chance to serve you as your elected officials. We would like to continue to work for you and would again seek your support so we can continue to improve our great town.

I am asking each of you for your personal support and please get out to vote on Election Day for Ed, Dan and myself. Thanks!

**JIM VOKRAL**

**To the Editor:**

Since this is the last week before the election, I want to thank everyone for making this campaign so enjoyable. People stop me on the street and call my house constantly to offer support and encouragement. It's been an honor to run for mayor and I hope you will give me the opportunity to serve you in that role for the next four years.

I am proud of my running mates, Marge Reedy and Geoff Champion. They've conducted an honorable campaign, have stuck to the issues, and have worked hard to tell the voters our thoughts and ideas. It wasn't easy. When Marge first proposed a campaign of ideas, we knew the Democrats wouldn't go for it. But we've kept our promise and haven't attacked anyone personally.

We started this campaign talking about three issues: taxes, crime, and overgrowth. Our article in this week's paper brings us full circle. We continue to talk about these key issues – the ones you've told us you care the greatest about. While we plan to address many areas of borough government, these must be the areas we focus our energies on the most.

I leave you with one final thought before Election Day. The Democrats have total control of our town and there is nobody keeping them honest. We all know what they say about absolute power. Even if you elect Marge, Geoff and me, the Democrats will still control things. Our role will be two-fold: to work with them as best we can and to be your watchdogs. Please give us that chance, and for once I will make a promise. We won't disappoint you.

**JAKE CATALDO,  
CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR**

**To the Editor:**

On Election Day, the voters of South Plainfield need only to look at the facts to see why Dan Gallagher deserves to be re-elected as Mayor and Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala deserve to be re-elected to the Borough Council. For the third time in the last five years under the leadership of these gentlemen, there has been no increase in the municipal tax rate. The Pay-As-You-Go fiscal strategy adopted by the Democrats has kept our tax rate as one of the lowest in Middlesex County. It has also cut our Borough's debt by over \$10 million. This is a remarkable change in the way our borough government is run when you consider that the previous Republican administration borrowed million of dollars for everyday expenses. These prudent fiscal policies demonstrate that government can provide excellent services without mortgaging our child-

ren's future. Just look at all of the improvements around town that have been accomplished without massive borrowing – over 100 roads repaved, new senior housing, a new senior recreation center, the expansion of the PAL, the new skate park and improvements to all of our parks.

When residents have voiced concerns, Dan, Jim and Ed have acted decisively. When people expressed concern about development, the Democrats preserved over 100 acres of land as open space – again without putting us in debt. When residents asked for a greater voice in the Borough's budget process, Dan, Jim and Ed created a Taxpayers Advisory Group to advise the Mayor and Council on the annual budget. When residents expressed con-

cern over the lack of a safe place for kids to skate board, the Democrats investigated and then built the new skate park behind Borough Hall.

The Gallagher-Vokral-Kubala record of accomplishment demonstrates what I have known for years – Dan, Jim and Ed are dedicated public servants who put the interests of the residents of So. Plainfield first on every issue. They have shown the creativity needed to allow our borough government to provide top rate services on a lean budget. They have also shown the courage to make the tough decisions on cutting the budget. In short, they have earned your vote through years of selfless and tireless work. On Election Day, look at the record and vote for Dan Gallagher for Mayor and Jim Vokral

and Ed Kubala for Borough Council.  
**BILL THOMAS**

**To the Editor,**

I've known Jake Cataldo for years and I can say he will do a fantastic job as our new Mayor. Jake's the type of person who can get things done. He doesn't just talk about it. I know because I'm his neighbor.

It constantly impressed me how Jake could always be found helping out his fellow residents. He wasn't always looking for limelight like some people. He helped people because it was the right thing to do. A few weeks back someone wrote a letter listing some of the many things Jake's done for South Plainfield. It didn't surprise me that

someone else wrote the letter, because Jake's not the type to brag or pat himself on the back. We need someone like that as our Mayor.

Good luck with the election Jake. South Plainfield couldn't make a better pick.

**LOIS SNOWFIELD**

**To the Editor:**

On Sunday, Oct. 20, the South Plainfield School Music Boosters sponsored their 21st annual Marching Band Festival. Under sunny skies, the Music Boosters once again provided an exciting afternoon of marching band music to the residents of South Plainfield. We successfully raised several thousand dol-

(Continued on page 12)

# Totally Free Checking with Free Cash!

**Just Fill Out and Bring in This Coupon and We'll Deposit  
\$15 in Your Account When You Open a New Totally Free  
Advantage Checking Account for \$250 or More!**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Unlimited Checkwriting • No Minimum Balance Requirement**  
**First Check Order is Free**

This Bonus is a cash offer valid only at the office shown below. One cash gift per account. Accounts opened with funds transferred from existing Columbia Bank accounts are not eligible for the free cash offer. To receive free cash, new accounts must be opened with required minimum deposit. Free cash offer may be discontinued without prior notice. Limit 3 free cash gifts per household. Free cash gift will be deposited directly into your new account at opening.



Convenient Offices Throughout New Jersey

**620 Oak Tree Avenue & Case Drive • South Plainfield, NJ 07080**  
**(908) 757-1055**

[www.columbiabankonline.com](http://www.columbiabankonline.com)

**Count on Columbia.**



Member FDIC



# IN YOUR OPINION

(Continued from page 11)

lars to support our Senior Music Scholarships and this could not have happened without the continued support of local businesses and parents generously donated items: Burger King, A&P, Home Depot, Hostess, 1-800-Flowers, Stanley Florist, Mohn's Florist, the PAL, Nancy Pullmen, Ann Lammi, Julie Yon, Gerry Levendusky and Nanette Babinetz.

I'd like to also thank the tireless efforts of several key people who helped plan and organize this festival for months previous to the event: Marge Reedy, Mariella Bubnick, Kathy Basile, John Roesch, Bob Publik and Julie Yon.

I'd like to also thank our Band Director, Mark S. Tweed and his supportive staff, Kathy Petrocilli, Angela Gallagher, Kara Georgio, Kevin Adams, Brian Toth, Bob Publik, Charlie Bubnick, Scott Carey and Maggie Temple.

Many thanks to the High School Choral Director, Mr. Murray and his chorus for performing the Star Spangled Banner and also to the Rescue Squad, Marriott Staff and the Athletic Boosters for all their help.

I'd like to also thank the many, many band parents who supported us that day with their donations of soda and baked goods, and for the many band parents that worked the festival from set-up, serving the public and cleaning up. A festival of this size needs many hands and, once again, our High School band parents showed tremendous support. A special thanks to all the Marching Band students of all the bands involved, including our own South Plainfield High School band students for their continued dedication and hard work as they continue to strive for musical excellence. We are all so proud of them!

**PAT PUBLIK, CHAIRMAN,  
MARCHING BAND FESTIVAL**

## Letter to the Editor:

This is the final week before the election. It is with great pride that I write this letter. You can look high and low, but you will not find any three people who deserve your vote more than Jim Vokral, Ed Kubala and Dan Gallagher.

South Plainfield has become a beautiful and fruitful place for our children and families to reside. They have dedicated themselves to help make our

town a place to be proud of. From one end of the town to the other, you can see their and the other Council members hard work being done on a daily basis.

They have represented us with respect and compassion. As a registered Republican who is aware of the facts, I feel we owe ourselves the best representation available. Jim, Ed and Dan have shown us this year after year. They are professional and caring and have always put the people of our town first. Please come out and vote on Nov 5 for Jim Vokral, Ed Kubala and Dan Gallagher. Thank You!

Sincerely,  
**DEBORAH VOKRAL**

## Dear Editor,

My name is Gwenn Kurilew and my father, Anthony "Jake" Cataldo, is running for mayor on the Republican ticket in South Plainfield. My father has worn many hats during his life. Besides being a police officer, he initiated and help build the PAL and brought Little League to our town. Those are just a few of the things my father has done. I think his best hat is the one he wears as a father.

My father taught me the meaning of change. Yes change! He encouraged me to try to change the things I felt weren't right. As human beings, we don't adapt to change well. We lock ourselves in our own worlds and let somebody else do our bidding for us.

It's time for the citizens of South Plainfield to make a change. We have to do it as a community. We need to address our traffic problem now. It's a shame when it takes you twenty minutes to get across town. We all dread leaving our house during the morning or early afternoon to try to beat the traffic and find it's still there.

We need to put a moratorium on building in this town. Yes, our school taxes did go up because of all the new construction that has been going on. Kennedy School has received at least sixty students since June, which is an over flow from Roosevelt. We have to work with the Board of Education to make sure all this new construction can handle more children.

Our town needs to save more land for open space. There is new construction all over and it's having an impact on everything. Do we really need two more strip malls on New Durham Rd.?

What a nightmare! It's sad to say, but our community is starting to resemble it's neighbor! These are just a few of the issues my father wants to correct.

We need a two party system back in this town. We need a little variety and input from not just the Democratic party.

I haven't said much during this campaign and deservedly so, this is my father's race. But there are a few things that have come to light in this campaign that I just can't stand to let go by. I also have come to realize I am very naive about politics.

Verbally attacking my father is hurtful and childish and belongs on a playground. Stealing my father's signs is something a juvenile might do on a dare. I thought we were all supposed to be grown-ups. I guess some people still like to play childhood games!

Marge Reedy is tops in my book. She served the town as a school board member for nine years, and she is active in tons of special projects that benefit the children of South Plainfield. I trust her judgment and I know she will be an awesome councilwoman - and the only woman on the council.

I have two children in the school system and I consistently hear accolades for Marge for her outstanding job with the Board of Education and for her exemplary work as a band parent.

So on Nov. 5, when you go out to cast your vote, vote for Cataldo, Reedy and Champion. If you don't change the lead dog, the scenery will still be the same.

**GWENN KURILEW**

## Dear Editor,

Election day is just around the corner. It is important to elect those that are and have been involved with our fine community. It is quite easy to sit back and criticize and say if elected I would... but it is extremely difficult to deliver the promise.

Dan Gallagher, Jim Vokral & Ed Kubala have constantly delivered. They have kept their promises...Senior Housing, Brand New Senior Recreation Center, Pal Expansion, roads paved every year, preservation of many acres to Open Space, safe parks and playgrounds for our children, the list

goes on and on...What is important to keep in mind, all of these accomplishments have been achieved while cutting the borough debt in half and keeping taxes and spending under control.

Dan, Jim & Ed are caring, productive and contributing members of society. I have witnessed these qualities in these fine gentlemen 365 days of the year. Not just during election time!

Time and time again they continue to impress me, they listen and have earned the respect of the people. They are experienced and intelligent but most important they possess the vision to continue to make South Plainfield an even better place to live.

On election day, please cast your vote for Mayor Dan Gallagher, Councilmen Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala, they have what it takes to make the future of South Plainfield one we can be proud of.

**SINCERELY,  
DARLENE M. PINTO**

## Dear Editor,

To the Democrats that still want Bob Torricelli as their Senator here is the solution.

Picture a small back room at the Democratic State headquarters. In this room are Bob "dropout" Torricelli, Frank "I'll do it" Lautenberg, Bill "loverboy" Clinton and Jim "the puppet" McGreevy.

The conversation runs like this; Bill, "Bob you're going down in the polls, so I want you to drop out." Bob, "I told the people that I'll see this through." Bill, "I said that you're to drop out!" Bob, "Yes sir, I'll obey." Bill, "Frank you'll take Bob's place on the ballot." Frank, "Hey, I retired and want no part of the Senate." Bill, "Frank I said that you'll take Bob's place!" Frank, "I'm sorry sir, I'll obey your order." Bill, "OK now Frank, if you win and get sworn in, you'll just have to spend a couple of months in office and then become ill. You'll then resign from office and Jim, as Governor of NJ, will have to appoint your replacement. I wonder who that would be? Torricelli?"

**TED ZYCHKLINSKI**

## To the Editor:

The one fact that everyone should know about the Borough Council election is that Dan Gallagher, Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala have worked hard to manage our expenses. Over the last few years, we have not had any significant tax increases. If you read the local papers, you see that many surrounding towns have introduced municipal budgets with large increases, but not here in South Plainfield. The municipal tax rate has not increased this year.

In addition to this, the Mayor and Council have managed to accomplish a lot. Their list of accomplishments is unmatched! Senior housing and senior center both long awaited programs, are now a reality at virtually no cost to the tax payers! Many acres were dedicated as never to be developed for open space and Highland Avenue Woods preserve. This preserve is used to provide education for our children in important environmental issues. They do all of this without raising taxes!

Dan, Jim and Ed have helped restore the confidence of residents in our borough government. Reorganizing several departments and hiring solid professional people have helped make the government process work more efficiently. They have shown that they trust the people of South Plainfield and want the people of South Plainfield to participate in the governing of our borough. Voters should support the people who trust the voters. Vote for Dan Gallagher for Mayor and Ed Kubala and Jim Vokral for Borough Council on Election Day.

**BARBARA WALSH**

## Dear Editor,

Although I am not a political activist by any stretch of the imagination, I have to take a few minutes of your time to speak about this year's local election. The Democratic team of Mayor Dan Gallagher, Council President Jim Vokral and Councilman Ed Kubala are running for re-election. They unequivocally deserve your vote. Let me explain.

When I first started dating Vinnie  
(Continued on page 13)



**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

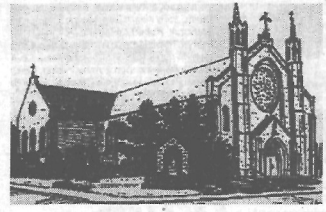
**Sacred Heart Church**

149 South Plainfield Ave.  
South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor

**Mass Schedule:**  
Saturday Evening Mass 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.  
Weekdays 9:00 a.m. (church)  
Monday Eve. Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers 7 p.m.  
Holy Days 7 p.m. (Vigil); 7 and 9 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7 p.m.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
Saturday 10-11 a.m., 4-4:45 p.m.  
and after 5 p.m. Vigil Mass



**Don't Miss Another Issue of the**  
**South Plainfield**  
**Observer!!**



**There's so much going on in South Plainfield! Don't miss any of it!**  
**Enjoy the Observer every week mailed to your home.**

**Subscribe Today!**

Send a check or money order for \$25/one year (out-of-town-\$30) payable to: South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080. Or order your subscription via email ggnan@aol.com and send your check to the above address.

☒ **I would like home delivery of the Observer.**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_



## IN YOUR OPINION

(Continued from page 12)

Buttiglieri in 1995, he was just beginning the first of two terms as your councilman. Having never been involved in politics, I didn't realize the time and effort that each member of the governing body dedicates to this position. I was very fortunate to be able to view these efforts through the entire six years that Vinnie served the Borough. When we decided to get married in 1999, the first choice we had to make was where we were going to live. That was very easy for us. I knew that South Plainfield was the perfect place for us. I saw first hand the type of leaders Dan Gallagher, Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala were and I also knew that the Borough was headed in the right direction with them at the helm. They certainly haven't disappointed me. I can't believe that they have been able to accomplish so much in such a short period of time. Vinnie, in his capacity as the Borough Administrator and Municipal Clerk, comes home almost every night and fills me in on what's been happening around the Borough.

When I hear what Dan, Jim and Ed have been able to accomplish, it just amazes me. These improvements include a brand new senior recreation center, a new senior housing complex, smooth new roads to drive on and new and improved parks just to name a few. Knowing Dan Gallagher, Jim Vokral and Ed Kubala as well as I do, I know that they will not rest on their laurels. I know that you will never find three more dedicated and committed people to make this borough even better. I would be honored to have them represent me for another term.

I respectfully ask all of you to support Mayor Dan Gallagher, Council President Jim Vokral and Councilman Ed Kubala for re-election on Nov. 5. They have worked very hard for the Borough and deserve our vote. Thank you.

RAY JEAN BUTTIGLIERI

### To the Editor:

Over the past few weeks I have been reading everyone's comments on the upcoming election, and I decided I wanted to make people aware of a few points which I consider to be important. I am a resident of South Plainfield for the past 15 years. I relocated from Scotch Plains because my brother moved here, and he had great results with his children in both the school system, and the community.

Anyone who does real estate knows that the prices of homes in Scotch Plains-Fanwood are much higher than ours, along with their taxes. In fact the taxes in Scotch Plains have increased \$800 this year, so believe me, our taxes going up the amount that they did are fair by comparison. It is unrealistic to say taxes will never go up because inflation is everywhere. However, our taxes have remained pretty much the same and at least our town is investing it back into the community.

That was one point I wanted to make, the second was this, in regards to the Bradlees near which I live, our neighborhood was very concerned about The Brunswick Bowling Alley going in there for more than one reason. Our street is a cut through, even though it is a light traffic street, certain times of the day people avoiding the light at Oak and Park tend to come down our way. We felt that this would bring in more traffic and of course a bowling alley, from what I've been told, can have an automatic liquor license, so my children would also be in jeopardy if people were to drink at the bowling alley and cut through our neighborhood! I emailed the mayor and he immediately went to work and even took the time to call me personally to let me know he was going to find out all he could. A few days later he called to tell me the good news. On Oct. 10 a zoning law was being passed prohibiting the bowling alley from moving in without a public hearing, which the residents could voice their opinions on whether or not it should be allowed. In addition, the mayor had

to take a lot of heat because the bowling alley and bowlers from the league showed up to voice their opinion. However the Mayor stood his ground and the zoning law was passed. I have to say, I was very happy to hear that, along with my neighbors as well.

Therefore, I hope on Election Day, the residents will really take a look around at all the good things our town has to offer, one being a Mayor who really cares about the future of our town and they takes the time to make it all come together, one step at a time. Remember, "Rome wasn't built in a day!"

LORI TANGORRA, REAL ESTATE AGENT

### To the Editor:

This year the choice for Mayor and Council is easy, Jake Cataldo, Marge Reedy and Geoff Champion are working hard to bring back two-party government to South Plainfield. Jake and Marge know this town and have the good judgment to make hard choices. Their running mate brings something else to the table: a business background Borough government is sorely lacking.

Please join me in voting for Cataldo, Reedy and Champion on Nov. 5.

JERRY W. HARRIS

### To the Editor:

I'm writing to support Geoff Champion for town council. I talked with

Geoff recently, and I think he is someone who can identify problems and offer solutions. We need this type of person in Borough Hall. Over the past few years, things are getting worse instead of better. Geoff's business background will prove valuable, and it's something the current council lacks.

Again, I think Geoff will make a great councilman, and I hope the residents of South Plainfield will elect him on Nov. 5. South Plainfield will be all the better for it.

SILVANA GOVER

### To the Editor:

Marge Reedy is one of the pillars of our community. Not only did she serve on the Board of Education, the other members elected her president. She's always there for our kids. Whether it's helping the band, serving on P.T.A. committees, or heading Vision 2001, you can always count on Marge.

On November 5, we should be there for her. Please vote for Marge Reedy and her friends. I know I will.

JOAN ELLIOTT

### Dear Editor:

South Plainfield government is going down the tubes. The mayor and council forget that the builders who donate to their campaigns didn't elect them, we did. It's a double standard. The little guy has to follow every rule and regulation to the letter, while at

the same time, the big builders get away with whatever they want.

From what I've read, I can see that Jake Cataldo and his crew want to get a handle on these problems. I support them and you should too. They'll bring about the changes South Plainfield needs.

ANITA HOGAN

### Dear Editor:

I attended last week's debate, and it reinforced my decision to vote Republican for mayor.

Not that the Democratic candidate did poorly. Just the opposite: Mayor Gallagher would have done Bill Clinton proud. The only problem is it's difficult to believe anything the Mayor says. Quotes from him and his party over the last few years aren't true (e.g., tax claims, claims about Helen Street, etc...). How do we believe what he says now?

Jake Cataldo made a few gaffes, but then again, he does not have two decades of public speaking experience like the Mayor. In fact, I have to give Jake credit. He did his best and fought through some obvious nervousness to deliver his answers. I'd like to see his critics, many of whom are probably writing letters this week, get up there and do as well. It's easy to criticize from the back of the room.

I must give the Mayor his due. He speaks well. But that does not mean we should overlook the lack of truth-

fulness of his statements or the arrogance with which they are made. We all saw how he ignored the rules of the debate and interrupted Jake during an answer. Kudos to the moderator for admonishing the Mayor's rudeness.

Given the choice between a first-rate public speaker who can't be trusted and a sincere, albeit unpolished, person giving his all, I'll choose the latter. I hope you will too.

BOB JONES, JR.

### To the Editor:

I have been a resident of South Plainfield for nineteen years and a former councilman in a neighboring community. I have closely watched the current administration's programs and found them to be aggressive, one that benefits all residents of South Plainfield. The accomplishments of the current administration included programs from your to senior citizen. It includes preservation of open space, road resurfacing, excellent police and fire departments, new addition to the PAL Building, honoring our hometown heroes with street signs and numerous other successful accomplishments.

I am proud to be a resident of South Plainfield and for a continued progressive administration VOTE - Democratic column "A" for Daniel Gallagher, Mayor and Edward P. Kubala and James Vokral for Borough Council. I am.

RUSS CEMBROLA

# Opportunity Knocks...

Expand your customer base,  
increase sales, get your message out.  
Use it however you want.

On Nov. 22, we're mailing the *Observer* to  
over 7,000 homes in South Plainfield.

*It's your opportunity to reach  
every household in South Plainfield.*

Call 908-668-0010 to reserve your space.

Deadline to reserve space is Nov. 14

South Plainfield  
**Observer**

**Don't miss this  
opportunity—it only  
comes twice a year!**



## Obituaries

### Barbara A. Messler, 40

Barbara A. Messler died on Friday, Oct. 18 in her home.

Born in Trenton, she resided in South Plainfield for most of her life before moving to Somerville five years ago.

Her mother, Constance Guoth, has predeceased her.

Surviving are her father, James Guoth and her brother, David Guoth, both of South Plainfield.

Funeral services were held at the McCrisky Home for Funerals.

### Jeanette M. Fatuross, 86

Jeanette M. Fatuross died on Monday, Oct. 28 at the Genesis Elder Care Center, The Woodlands.

Born in Plainfield, she resided there most of her life before moving to South Plainfield in 1988.

Mrs. Fatuross, in the early 1940's, was employed by Sealtest Farms, formerly of Plainfield, as a cashier and bookkeeper.

She was a member of Sacred Heart Church in So. Plainfield.

Her husband, Chris Fatuross, died in 1974. Her sisters, Antoinette Sarte, Frances Urciuoli, Elsie Cornetta, Angelina Mormile, Edith Stuftert and her brothers, Charles Naples, Adolph and Cesar Laratta also predeceased her.

Surviving are her daughter, Julie A. Anderson of South Plainfield and her two devoted grandchildren, Mark Anderson and Allison and her husband, Brian Tighe. Also surviving are many loving nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at the McCrisky Home for Funerals.

### Thomas Francis Costante, 49

Thomas Francis Costante of South Plainfield, died on Wednesday, Oct. 23 at the Muhlenburg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield.

He was born in Hoboken and was a former resident of Weehawken before moving to South Plainfield 37 years ago.

Thomas was a moving assistant for the Able Metro Moving and Storage Company in South Plainfield for the last 10 years.

He was an avid sports fan and especially loved the New York Yankees and the New York Giants.

He was predeceased by his father, Gerald Costante, who died in 1994.

He is survived by his mother,

Harriet Berkowitz Costante; three brothers, Gerard Costante and his wife Barbara of South Plainfield, James Costante of Easton Pa. and Michael Costante of North Plainfield; two sisters, Mary Knapp and her husband Joseph of Haledon, Patricia and her husband Greg Yanick of South Plainfield; also his seven nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at the James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

### Elizabeth Warner Wargo, 75,

Elizabeth Warner Wargo of South Plainfield, died on Sunday, Oct. 27 at her home.

She was born in Hometown, Pa. and was a former resident of Piscataway before moving to South Plainfield 45 years ago.

Elizabeth was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church. Her favorite pastime was crocheting.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Wassel Wargo, who died in 1987; three sisters, Anna Stevens, Lizzie St. Claire and Magdalena Kiczula and a brother, James Warner.

She is survived by her daughter, Diane Wargo of South Plainfield and her fiancé Michael Handley; a sister, Josephine Smulligan of Dunellen; two nephews, Tom Kiczula and his wife Vicky of South Plainfield, Bud Hutchinson and his wife, Dawn of South Plainfield; two nieces, Jeannette Everett and her husband George of Greenfield Twp. Pa. and Marge McKenzie of Mahanoy City, Pa.; three great nephews, Tommy Kiczula, Ryan and Sean Hutchinson.

Funeral services were held at the James W. Conroy Funeral Home.

### James J. Supinski, 81,

James J. Supinski died on Wednesday, Oct. 23, at his home.

Born in Moosic, Pa., Jim lived in Newark before moving to South Plainfield, where he lived for most of his life. He moved to Woodbridge in 2001.

Jim was a self employed painter for 20 years, retiring in 1976. For most of his career, he painted for Thul's Stirling. Previously he painted for Osbourne Company.

He served in the U.S. Army during WWII, serving in five campaigns. He was discharged in September of 1945 after serving three years. Jim was a member of the Piscataway VFW Post #7504 and a life member of the So. Plfd. Polish National Home.

His wife, Helen M., died in 1999.

Surviving are his daughter, Patricia Badovinac and her husband Michael of Woodbridge; two sons, Thomas E. and his wife, Kelly of Syracuse, NY, James J., Jr. and his wife Kathy of Coca Beach, Fla.; four brothers, John of Maryland, Ed, Joe and Francis, all of Pennsylvania; three sisters, Helen, Viole, and Staia, all of Pennsylvania. Also surviving are seven grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the McCrisky Home for Funerals.



Remaining shipmates of the USS HAYTER. Joe Bergen, second from left, who drives the senior citizens bus in South Plainfield, organized the reunion.

## USS Hayter Shipmates Hold Reunion

By Patricia Abbott

The USS Hayter DE212/APD80 recently held its annual reunion at the Holiday Inn on Stelton Rd. The ship was a destroyer escort known for the rescue of 66 sailors from the USS F. C. Davis. The Davis was hit by a German submarine on April 24, 1945. The reunion, the 19th in the past 20 years, was organized by shipmate Joe Bergen. Joe a Piscataway resident, is a familiar face in South Plainfield, he drives a Senior Citizen bus for the Recreation Department and he is a substitute crossing guard.

The reunion was a jovial affair and the veterans, all senior citizens, enjoyed every minute with a zest for life that belied their age. While embellished war stories were traded the event was not a morbid trip into the past but a reuniting of old friends. Seventeen original shipmates attended the event. Other guests, 45 in all, represented ten states and included spouses, children as well as some of the survivors from the F.C. Davis. Special guests included Marjorie Hayter Masek, daughter of Commander Hubert M. Hayter the

ship's namesake, Masek's daughter Helen Masek and Hayter's grandson, Commander Ian Townsend.

The group began their weekend on Friday evening socializing in a hospitality room provided by the Holiday Inn. Over the three days they were kept busy. They took in a dinner show and were entertained at the hotel by the tap dancing senior citizens, the 'Franklin Hi Steppers.' With only a few days to catch up with the latest news from those attending, there were no idle moments for this active gang. The weekend concluded with the reunion banquet. The evening began with "Chaplain" Lenny Crowle of Pennsylvania, as he led a moment of silence for three recently deceased former shipmates.

After dinner the floor was opened for speakers. Marjorie Hayter Masek, wearing a Navy Cross on her dress spoke proudly of her father. The remainder of the speeches ran the gamut from fond memories to hysterical escapades.

In the early 1950's attempts were made to reunite but the young men were busy rebuilding their lives, working and raising families. The years



Front Marjorie (Hayter) Masek, daughter of the USS Hayter namesake, reunion organizer Joe Bergen and Lt. Commander Helen Masak, granddaughter of namesake, BACK- Commander Ian Townsend, grandson of namesake.

turned into decades before they met again in 1982. Time may have grayed this group of senior citizens, but a youthful sparkle returned to their eyes as they retold stories they know as well as they once knew the decks of the Hayter.

## policereport

### Police Make Arrest in Car Vandalism

Between Friday, Oct. 18 and Sunday, Oct. 20, several motor vehicles were damaged when thieves pried off the emblems of parked cars in and the high school parking lot. The thieves did not target any particular make or model of vehicle.

As a result of an investigation by the Detective Bureau led by Det. James Parker, eight juveniles, ages 13 and 14, were arrested and charged with the thefts of the emblems and criminal mischief to the vehicles. A total of 60 emblems were recovered. Many were returned to their owners.

The juveniles were also responsible for similar thefts in Edison and the complaints were referred to the Middlesex Co. Prosecutor's Juvenile Div.

There is no total estimate of damage.

- On Oct. 7 Khalcel Butts, 24, of Piscataway was arrested for robbery and possession of a weapon in connection with the Holiday Inn robbery.

- On Oct. 22 Tracy L. Martin, 22, of Belvidere was arrested for possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia and a outstanding warrant.

- A Plainfield resident reported the theft of her wallet from her purse,

which was left in her unlocked car in front of the New Life Christian School on New Brunswick Ave.

- On Oct. 23 Kalpna N. Sheth, 47, of Piscataway was arrested at Macy's for shoplifting two pair of earrings, two necklaces, two hats and a sweater worth \$187.98.

- An employee of Holiday Inn reported the theft of her laptop computer from her office.

- A Foster Ave. youth reported riding his bike in front of his home when he was struck in the face and his bike taken by four black youths.

- On Oct. 25 Alberto Brens, 31, of

New Brunswick was arrested at the Division of Motor Vehicles for forgery and having a fictitious birth certificate.

- Joseph Orin Chapman, 36, of Franklin Park was arrested for possession of a controlled substance and two outstanding warrants.

- Lube Express on Stelton Rd. reported damage to several oil fill drums.

- On Oct. 28 Kimmiley R. Morre was arrested for aggravated assault out of Essex County.

- Anilkumar Raman Patel, 47, of Piscataway was arrested at Kohls for shoplifting an \$80 sport jacket and shoes worth \$69.99.

- An employee of NB Rex Transportation on Roosevelt Ave. reported the theft of a Pioneer radio and a Cobra CB from his locked vehicle.

- On Oct. 29 Anthony Joseph Prince, 39, of Plainfield was arrested at Pathmark for shoplifting 45 cans of Good Start baby food valued at \$105.16.

- H K Truck Service Inc. on Hamilton Blvd. reported that the accounting manager's office had been broken into and \$110 was missing from a locked filing cabinet.

- An East Orange resident reported the theft of her purse out of a shopping cart at Pathmark.

- Jersey Oil on Hamilton Blvd. reported that the soda vending machine had been pried open and smashed. It was undetermined how much money was taken.

### Beauty

Hillside Cemetery's gentle slopes are dotted with stately trees and evergreens. The serene landscape is meticulously attended and renowned for its care and upkeep. All lots are in fully developed areas and include perpetual care. Located on Woodland Avenue in Scotch Plains, a non-profit organization. 908.756.1729

**Hillside Cemetery**  
www.hillsidecemetery.com



**McCriskin**

**HOME FOR FUNERALS**

2425 PLAINFIELD AVENUE  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080  
FAX (908) 561-6744

RICHARD W. MCCRISKIN, Pres., Mgr.  
NJ License No.3147

(908) 561-8000



## Help Xtreme Car Wash Make a Wish Come True

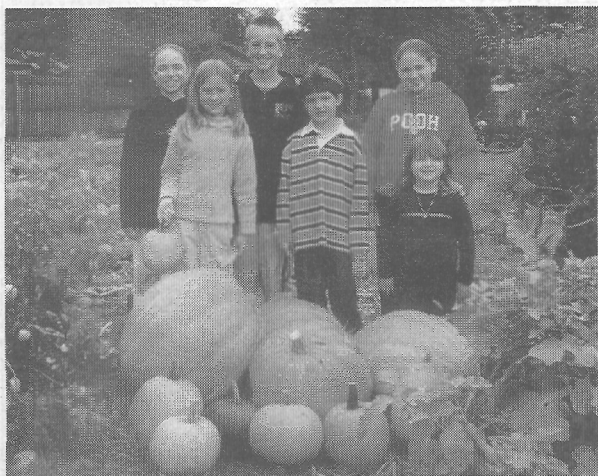
On Nov. 2, professional car washes across the country will join together to implement "Wash U.S.A.," an event to benefit the Make A Wish Foundation.

Locally, Xtreme Clean Car Wash is excited to be participating in this exceptional event. On Saturday, Nov. 2, Xtreme Clean will contribute one dollar to the Make-A-Wish Foundation for every car they wash. Raindate is Nov. 9. They have set a goal of raising \$350 for the foundation and they encourage the residents of South Plainfield to visit them on Nov. 2 to help them

achieve their goal.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation is a nonprofit organization that grants the wishes of children with life-threatening illnesses. The foundation has been making children's dreams come true for more than 20 years. Xtreme Car Wash hopes to help them create more moments of magic for a very special child in the So. Plfld. area and across the country.

More information about the Make-A-Wish Foundation is available by calling 1-800-722-WISH or visiting the foundation's web site at [www.wish.org](http://www.wish.org).



Joe and Lucille Rea's grandchildren pick pumpkins from their grandparents' garden. The largest weighed over 100 lbs. Grandchildren are (front, left to right) Amanda Pesta, Joey Rea and Rachel Rea. Pictured back, left to right, are Kerry Yorkanis, Nicholas Pesta and Kristen Yorkanis

# Classifieds

Rates -- \$11 for 3 lines (min.) \$1 ea. additional line

### HELP WANTED

**RECEPTIONIST FOR SALON OPENING** in South Plainfield in mid-Nov. Hours 10-2, Mon-Fri. Call 908-872-3577.

**EXPERIENCED LADY PRESSER** for a new dry cleaners in Inman Plaza in North Edison. Call (201) 392-9595.

**P/T SECRETARY 10AM-2PM** Computer knowl. a plus, willing to train. Call Cyndi (908) 561-1656 8am-4pm. SP Area.

**NANNIES, HOUSEKEEPERS, Companions, top salaries.** Live-in/live-out. Caregivers Maid in Heaven Inc. (609) 730-1555.

### FOUND

**LADIES WATCH AT SPRING LAKE PARK.** CALL 668-8493.

*Your trash  
is another's  
treasure!*



*Advertise your Garage  
Sale in the Observer.*

**908-668-0010**

### ROOFING

**COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, Residential,** (908) 753-4222.

### COMPUTER

**UPGRADES, HARDWARE/SOFTWARE** Installation, in-home services. (908) 769-0709.

### MORTGAGES

**FAST APPROVALS, GREAT rates,** personalized service, (908) 822-0090.

### CONTRACTORS

**Builder/Contractor, Additions, Kitchens, Baths, Off. Renov.** (908) 753-3850.

### LAWN MAINTENANCE

**Landscape design, shrub, tree pruning, hydroseeding, sod, etc., mulch/stone/topsoil, etc.** 756-7272.

## GARAGE SALE

**715 Sampton Ave.**

**Friday &  
Saturday  
November 1 & 2**

**10 a.m.-3 p.m.**

**Classified Deadline:  
Monday, 5 p.m.  
908-668-0010**

## Business & Professional Services

### PRINTING/TYPERSETTING

- Invitations
- Brochures
- Resumes
- Flyers

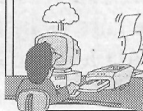
### G&G GRAPHICS

1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080  
**908-668-0010 • Fax: 908-668-8819**  
email: [ggnan@aol.com](mailto:ggnan@aol.com)

### COMPUTERS

### Need Help With Your Computer?

Is your computer operating too slowly?  
Are you getting error messages?  
Can't get things working right?  
Do you want to upgrade your computer?



### Call Ken

**908-757-1963**

Reasonable Rates

### MULCH/TOP SOIL/STONE

### Call

### KLK Trucking for:

Top Soil, Mulch, Sand, Infield  
Mix, Decorative & Crushed Stone

Sanding • Salting • Snowplowing

Pick up or Deliv., Mon. thru Sat

**908-757-4434**

265 Ryan Street  
South Plainfield

### CONTRACTORS

### BUILDER & GENERAL CONTRACTOR

NJ DCA LIC #019771

Since 1981

### Lordina Builders

**908-753-3850**

ADDITIONS-KITCHENS -

BATHROOMS-

Office Renovations

**FREE ESTIMATES**

### LANDSCAPING

### SilverCreek Landscaping

### COMPLETE LAWN MAINTENANCE

- LANDSCAPE PLANTINGS
- SHRUB & TREE PRUNING
- HYDRO SEEDING & SOD
- MULCH / STONE / TOPSOIL
- RETAINING WALLS
- BRICK PAVERS
- RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
- FREE ESTIMATES -

**908-756-7272**

### MORTGAGES

**FAST APPROVALS...**

**GREAT RATES...**

**PERSONALIZED SERVICE...**

**APPROVAL**

**Colony Mike Dixon,**

**President**

**Mortgage**

**Licensed Mortgage Broker - NJ Dept. of Banking**

**908-822-0090**

2325 Plainfield Ave. Suite 2E

South Plainfield, NJ

Se Habla Español

### COMPUTERS

### ST Computers

Stan Wilkinson

- New Computers/Upgrades
- Hardware/Software Installations
- In Home Service
- Some Used Computers Available

Phone: 908-769-0709

Cell: 732-423-3504

Email: [stcomputers@comcast.net](mailto:stcomputers@comcast.net)

### ROOFING

### J.T. PENYAK ROOFING CO.

COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL  
RESIDENTIAL

**908-753-4222**

FAX 908-753-4763

124 CAMDEN AVE.

SO. PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080

### SPIRITS

### Sal's Spirit Shoppe

1645 Park Avenue,  
South Plainfield  
**791-9463**

Cavit (1.5 liter)

Pinot Grigio ..... \$9.99 Mon.-Sat.

Estate Cellars 9am-1am

White Zinfandel ..... \$3.49 Sundays

(750ml) ..... 1am-7pm

(1.5 liter) ..... \$5.49

Bring in this ad for 10% off on wines

### SNOW REMOVAL



### NuScape Property Maintenance

### SNOW PLOWING

Commercial • Industrial • Residential  
Lawn Maintenance & Landscaping  
Stone • Mulch • Topsoil

**908-668-0093**

**GUARANTEED LOW PRICES**

### TREE SERVICE

### LINDLAW TREE CARE CO. INC.

Full Service Tree & Shrub Care

Stump Removal

Free Estimates

Senior Citizens Discount

Residential & Commercial

**908-233-9491**

10% off with this ad

### LANDSCAPING

### A-TECH Landscape Design

"From Concepts to Creation Your  
Complete Landscape Designer"



- Brick Pavers, Walks,  
Patios & Driveways
- Designer Block Walls &  
Railroad Ties
- Computerized  
Landscape Designs
- Landscape Lighting

Sales Consultant: Jon Dean

(908) 769-9698 • Fax: (908) 668-4438

Receive 20% Off with this Ad

### MASSAGE

### CENTRAL JERSEY

Holistic Health Center and Spa

MASSAGE REFLEXOLOGY

HYPNOSIS REIKI

DOULA LABOR ASSISTANT

Roxanne Cortese, CD, CHP, CMT

2701 Park Ave. So. Plainfield, NJ 07080

(908) 561-1511

By Appointment Only

GIFT CERTIFICATES AND GIFT BASKETS

### SNOW REMOVAL

### SilverCreek Landscaping

SOUTH PLAINFIELD

### SNOW REMOVAL

PLOWING - SANDING - SALTING

• Office Buildings

• Apartment & Condo Complexes

• Retail Stores

• Schools & Churches

COMMERCIAL ONLY

- Sign up now for 24 hour service -

**908-756-7272**

**Advertise your business for \$15 a week. Call 908-668-0010 for details.**



# SPHS Hosts 21st Annual Band Festival



By Patricia Abott

Mother Nature smiled on the 21st Annual South Plainfield High School Marching Band Festival gracing them with a perfect Autumn day. Six bands participated in the event.

The SPHS chorus opened the festival with the Star Spangled Banner. Announcers for the day were Carol Provaire and Mary Pfeifer, both



alumni band parents. The first band on the field was Shore Regional High School from West Long Branch. Their Blue Devils Marching Band was there for an exhibition only. Competing bands were: Hackettstown High School, Tigers, from Hackettstown; Warren Hills Regional High School, Blue Streaks from Washington, JFK High School, Marching Mustangs from Iselin, Lackland High School, Lancer Band from Wanaque, and Nottingham High School, Nottingham Northstar Marching Unit from Hamilton. As host the SPHS Tiger Marching Band did not compete but did perform prior to the awards. Their repertoire included music from Frank Wildhorn's The Civil War. The Civil War uniforms worn by Drum Majors Chris Baron and Brian Publik added a special touch to the show.

There were two divisions in the competition. Division II, band with 36-55 musicians and Division III for bands with 56-80 musicians. They are judged in several categories, Best

Band, Best Front, Best Percussion and III Best Music Awards. Each band front and percussion is judged against groups in their own division. The are rated Superior for 85-100 points, Excellent for 70-84 points and Good 50-69 points.

Awards were as follows: *Best Band Managers*-South Plainfield, *Exhibition Trophy*-Shore Regional, *Division II*: Hackettstown HS-Excellent, Warren Hills HS-Excellent, *Best Percussion*-Warren Hills, *Best Company Front*-Warren Hills, *Best Band Div II*-Warren Hills

*Division III*: JFK HS-Good, Lackland Reg.-Excellent, Nottingham HS-Excellent, *Best Percussion*-JFK HS, *Best Company Front*-Nottingham

*Best overall Div III* -Nottingham, *Presidents Trophy*-Nottingham HS, presented by SPHS Band Director Mr. Mark Tweed.

In between bands there was a flurry of activity. The concession saw non-

stop business throughout the day. Tables of vendors lined the walkway offering everything from candy and flowers to jewelry to blankets. Visitors could send wishes to their favorite students via an air gram; a note from family or a friend read over the air while the band set up on the field. Also available were candy grams and flower grams, which were delivered to the students at the end of the day.

Marge Reedy, president of the SPHS Music Boosters said, "Our band festival is an annual event that benefits all the students in the music program. The revenue that is generated by this event is what supports our scholarships for the graduating Seniors. Our festival has become a wonderful tradition in South Plainfield. We have quite a few alumni that return to help out that day, as well as alumni parents. We truly enjoyed the day and the bands that took part in our festival. Our thanks to all our sponsors and to all those that helped with the day. It was a huge success!"



# Exercise Your Right to Vote Next Tuesday, Nove. 5

Continued from page 1

the Recreation Committee, served on the Economic Development and the Department of Public Works Committees, helped to create the Tax Payers Advisory Group and the Businessperson's Advisory Group.

Marge Reedy has been a resident of South Plainfield for 26 years and has been employed at Lynn/Hudd Steel Corporation for the past nine years.

Marge and her husband, Mike have three children, Sandra, a senior at Westminster College; James, a sophomore at Five Towns College and Patrick, a sophomore at South Plainfield High School.

She served on the South Plainfield Board of Education for nine years, four years as it's president and was treasurer for Riley School. She is currently the president of the SPHS Music Boosters, recently served on the Project Graduation Committee, is president of Vision 2001 Education, a member of the South Plainfield Historical Society, a member of the SPHS PTA and a member of the Cultural Arts Commission.

"The Democrats won't answer our questions. They won't say why they waited a year to close the park even though it contained potentially toxic materials. They won't say why they broke their promise of a tax cut this year. And they won't say why they went back on their word to have the Helen Street project done by 2002. This is the problem with one-party rule—questions don't get an-

swered," say Geoff Champion and Marge Reedy.

Jim Vokral and his wife Debbie have lived in South Plainfield since 1978. They have two married children and eight grandchildren.


Jim was instrumental in initiating Project Graduation and participates in many organizations and functions at Sacred Heart Church.

Most recently, Jim worked as the worldwide Manager of Corporate Security for Agere Systems, a spin off of Lucent Technologies.

He has been a councilman since 1994, serving as the head of Economic Development, liaison to the Planning Board, Land Management and the Business Advisory Group. He was also a member of the Middlesex County Economic Development Commission and currently is the Chair of Health, Welfare and the Environment. He has also been the Council president since 1998.

"This is the third time that Ed and I have run together, but it is the first time we have had the opportunity to run with the Mayor. It was a pleasure. Dan Gallagher is more than a good Mayor; he is a good person and Ed Kubala is one of my closest friends. We are all committed to keeping South Plainfield on the right track. I honestly believe that the Democratic team has done great things for our borough and I can't wait to get to work on new projects to make our town even nicer than it already is," Vokral commented.

# The Democrats say they haven't been raising taxes.



**MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF TAXATION**  
42 PATERSON STREET, P.O. BOX 871  
NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08903  
TELEPHONE: 732-3550 FAX: 732-3767  
TAX ADMINISTRATOR  
IRVING VEROSLOFF

September 11, 2002

Mr. Robert J. Jones  
2044 Perry Street  
South Plainfield, N.J. 07080

Dear Mr. Jones:

In response to your recent request please find enclosed the municipal tax rate from 1993 to the current year for the Borough of South Plainfield.

Very truly yours,

Fall 1998 – "No tax increase this year and next year!" - ads for Gallagher campaign

10/15/99 *Observer* – Taxes are the same rate as in 1997 – Democrats Kubala and Vokral

1/7/00 *Observer* – No municipal tax increase "for two years in a row" – Mayor Gallagher

1/12/01 *Observer* – No municipal tax increase in "four out of the last five years" – Mayor Gallagher

1/11/02 *Observer*– No municipal tax increase in "three out of the last five years" "We can and will reduce taxes this year!" – Mayor Gallagher

## LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

### LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Thomas J. Cassio requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit the erection of an 86 s.f. storage room and 78 s.f. Bilco door, proposed addition exceeds lot coverage; and other variances that may be required. Applicant will further seek any other variances or relief as required by the board. Site Plan approval required. Said property being located on Block 97, Lot 4 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, November 12, 2002 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 7:00 p.m.

The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Zoning Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, any weekday between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

\$35.00 1T November 1, 2002

## SOUTH PLAINFIELD LOCAL GOVERNMENT TAX

YEAR	TAX
1995	.59
1996	.66
1997	.72
1998	.76
1999	.75
2000	.80
2001	.861
2002	.861



2325 Plainfield Ave.  
South Plainfield  
(908) 561-2808  
Corporate Accounts Welcome

**Mohr's**  
Flowers & Fancy Foods  
Gourmet Gift Baskets  
Teleflora.

# The County Tax Board disagrees.

Elect

Cataldo • Reedy • Champion