



S PLAINFIELD
2484 PLAINFIELD AVE
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South Plainfield Observer

VOL 8, NO. 9

50 CENTS

OCT 17 2003

OCTOBER 17, 2003

Volunteers: All in a Day's Work

During last week's council meeting, Mayor Gallagher and the Borough Council recognized the emergency respondents to a near fatal accident involving resident Mary Weishaar, who was impaled by a fence post on Oak Tree Ave. on June 12. Weishaar had to be extricated from her vehicle.

Each individual from the departments mentioned here participated in the rescue in one form or another, and all those involved participated as a unit, working together toward a common goal. The result was the successful extrication, treatment and transport of the victim.

Miraculously Mary survived her horrific injuries, but suffered a stroke and died at JFK Hospital in Edison this past Sunday.

The following men and woman were awarded a unit commendation for their efforts:

South Plainfield Fire Department Chief Lawrence Del Negro, Deputy Chief John Mocharski, Captain Joseph Abbruzzese, Captain John Reed and Firefighters Mario Abbruzzese, Robert Capparelli, John Celentano, Robert Harding, George Hogan, Shayne Lugo, Edward LaFerrera, Michael Mazzelli, Eric Milstein and Michael Pellegrino.

South Plainfield Rescue Squad Captain Rob Sward and EMT Carol Grenier.

Muhlenberg Hospital Mercy 6 Paramedic Glenn Hagen and Paramedic Mike Seyler.



Members of the South Plainfield Fire Department, Rescue Squad and Muhlenberg Mercy 6 were recognized for professionalism in a June 12 auto accident.



A ceremony honoring deceased firefighters was held at firehouse before the department's annual open house last Saturday.

Town History Day This Sunday

The first annual South Plainfield Town History Day will take place this Sunday from 1-5 p.m. at the Senior Center on Maple Avenue. There is no admission charge.

The event will feature history programs and displays of rarely seen photographs and memorabilia of South Plainfield's past, as well as entertainment and refreshments. The venues where the programs and displays are located in the Senior Center will be named after defunct places, such as "Washington Hall," "Hollywood Gardens," "Mrs. Phillips' Candy Store" and "The Favorite Spot."

Scheduled events include "A Walk through Old Samptown" antique fashion show and a display of antique

clothing including several bridal gowns. A 16mm film of the 25th Anniversary (1951) of the Borough incorporation will be shown. Dr. Rich-

Our Lady of Czechochowa, Elks Lodge #2298, Rescue Squad and Fire Department.

The entertainment portion of the

For a schedule of the day's events, see page 11

ard Veit, author of the Arcadia Press pictorial on South Plainfield and Director of NJ History at Monmouth University, will talk about the town history. He will also present a slide program of old houses, some no longer standing.

Antique cars can be seen parked at the former Randolph-Brooklyn Grist Mill site next door to the Senior Center. Among those exhibited is a 1930 Reo "Flying Cloud" owned by Joe Nicastro, Sr.

South Plainfield community groups with displays include: the Police Department, Polish National Home, Senior Citizens Center, Lions Club, VFW,

day features, among others, a local Irish stepdancing group, dancers from Spotlight on Dance studio and jazz pianist Mark Stacio. Doors open at 12:30 for seating.

(Continued on page 4)

Fast Response, Paperless Reports Benefits of New Dispatch System

A new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system at the police department is up and running. Those attending last week's Council agenda session were invited to a demonstration of what the system does.

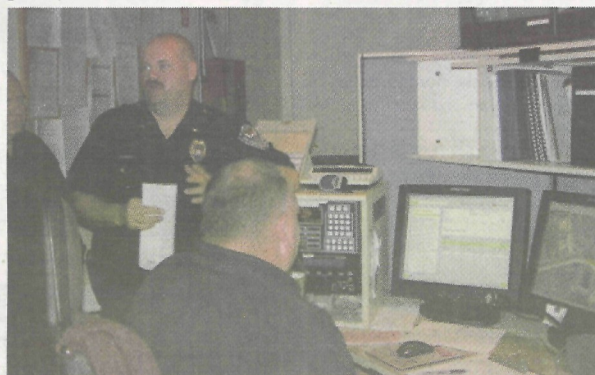
The CAD system is a totally automated program. When a call is received at police headquarters the screen automatically displays the caller's name and address, as well as the cross streets of the their location. The screen also shows a map of South Plainfield that beams into the neighborhood and puts an arrow on top of the location in question. The computer provides information as to what police cars are available and those in closest proximity. The dispatchers can use this information and decide which car to send to the call. Information on the number of calls this location has received in the last 12 months is also displayed. This information can be useful to police, EMS and the fire department. The dispatcher's screen keeps track of the status of the call until it is closed.

Police cars are all equipped with

computers that provide the same information, with the exception of the map location. When the call is completed, the officer can file reports from the computer in the vehicle and send it to headquarters, thus eliminating any paperwork.

The purchase of the new CAD system came last year after the old dispatch system crashed. Police discovered

that due to its age, updates and support were no longer available for the system. Mayor Gallagher and the council contacted Assemblyman Patrick Diegan to seek state assistance in funding the new system. South Plainfield ultimately received a grant of \$200,000 towards the new system. The cost to the borough was an additional \$12,000.



The police department welcomes the addition of the new CAD system, which will allow the department to spend less time on paperwork and work more efficiently.

Female Suspect Sought In Armed Bank Robbery

South Plainfield Police are looking for a woman who handed tellers a note demanding money at Fleet Bank on Oak Tree Rd. noontime last Saturday.

After responding to a hold-up alarm, police detained five customers along with bank employees who provided an account of the incident and a description of the lone robber. According to one teller, the suspect handed over a demand note to which they complied. The suspect then proceeded to another teller brandishing a black handgun along with a note demanding more money. The woman then fled the bank

on foot with \$1,998. No one was injured. The suspect, described as a black female, 30-35 years old, 5' tall with a medium build, was wearing a blue sweatshirt, a black hat, sunglasses and gloves. She may also have been outside Fleet Bank and Wachovia Bank across the street minutes prior to the robbery.

Anyone who observed someone matching the description at either bank is urged to call the South Plainfield Police Detective Bureau at (908) 226-7660 or the FBI in Somerset at (732) 469-7986.

Mark your calendars

Log on to
southplainfieldnj.com
for the latest
meeting agenda

council meetings

Meets twice a month on the first and third Thursday.
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. (New Time) • Questions? 908-226-7605
AGENDA MEETING **PUBLIC MEETING**
Monday, October 20 Thursday, October 23
Monday, November 10 Thursday, November 13
Monday, December 8 Thursday, December 11
All meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Avenue.

planning board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641
Oct. 28, Nov. 11 (no meeting) Nov. 25, Dec. 9, Dec. 23.

zoning board of adjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7641
Oct. 16, Oct. 30, Nov. 6, Nov. 20, Dec. 4, Dec. 18.

board of education meetings

Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Place unless otherwise noted
Committee of the Whole meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m.: Nov. 11, Dec. 9
Regular Board Meeting held Tuesdays at 8 p.m.: Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Dec. 16

taxpayers advisory group

The Taxpayers Advisory Group (TAG) meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at Borough Hall, 2480 Plainfield Ave. at 7 p.m. Questions? 908-769-0786.

site plans sub-committee

Meets once a month on the third Tuesday of the month, 8 p.m.
Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Dec. 16.

recreation commission

Meets once a month on the first Tuesday of the month, except July and August
PAL Building, Maple Ave. 7 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7716
November 11 (Nov. 4 is Election Day) and December 2.

environmental commission

Meets once a month (second Wednesday except August)
Borough Hall Conference Room, 8 p.m. • Questions? 908-226-7621

business advisory group

Meets once a month (first Wednesday)
Borough Hall Council Chambers, 5 p.m. • Questions? 908-757-8100

traffic safety advisory commission

Meets once a month (fourth Wednesday-no meeting August) at 7 p.m.
in the Conference Room, Borough Hall

IN YOUR OPINION

To the Editor,

I sincerely thank the residents of South Plainfield who have honored me with the privilege of serving as your mayor.

Our Borough government is a business dedicated to serving our residents, meeting their needs, providing police, fire and emergency medical services, enhancing our parks, providing open space, repairing our roads and keeping a lid on expenses.

As a taxpayer and a resident of our borough, you have an absolute right to expect and demand all of the above. You do not need individuals who surface every one, two or four years telling you that everything is wrong, bad, evil and when called to task, simply reply, "Oh, my numbers were wrong," or "I relied on misinformation."

We in South Plainfield who live here, work here, play here and raise our families here know the value of people who ask for our support for election to office and then deliver what is expected of them.

Working with Bob Cusick and Ray Petronko, one must admire their tireless efforts and positive results: Senior Housing, Senior Recreation Center, renovations to our library and Borough Hall, expanded P.A.L., new miniature golf course, our community pool, every park upgraded and soon-to-be completed Putnam Park, which will be beautiful. Ray Petronko has earned your respect and support.

Bob Cusick has spearheaded our program of repairing our roads with over 130 completed to date and thirteen more this year, all done without borrowing one dollar.

Under Bob Cusick, the annual cost of operating our compactor has been reduced by \$200,000. Eleven new pieces of equipment have been purchased for our Public Works department. Bob has introduced a plan to build a much-needed new library for our residents and our library board; Mayor and council have started the procedure to make it a reality.

Bob and Ray have been in the forefront when dealing with Borough expenses: a stable budget, no municipal tax increase for four of the last six years, over a nine million dollar reduction in debt service and for the first time in 30 years, Standard and Poor has raised the Borough's rating to AA resulting in substantial tax dollar savings. These are the results you expect and deserve from council members. Bob and Ray have earned your continued support.

While I am very pleased with the results and future plans Bob and Ray are responsible for, I would be remiss if I did not thank and ask for your support for two of South Plainfield's most productive public servants: Pat Diegnan, our assemblyman and John Pulomena, our freeholder. Together they have represented us well and provided untold benefits to our residents: total reconstruction of Hamilton Blvd., funding for open space, computers in every classroom, grants for Veteran's Park, Computer Aided Dispatch for our police, tree planting for our streets and an ever vigilant eye on South Plainfield.

Wherever you go in South Plainfield, you see the positive results of people who care and know what you want and need.

Let us keep South Plainfield moving in the direction you have come to expect.

I ask that you support Bob Cusick and Ray Petronko for Borough Council, John Pulomena for County Freeholder and Pat Diegnan for Assembly. Again, thank you.
DANIEL J. GALLAGHER, MAYOR

To the Editor,
On Oct. 8, the SPHS Field Hockey

team had a special night. It was there one game at Frank Jost field under the lights, Senior night and a tough game against Sayerville. If any group deserved a special night, it was this TEAM. They work very hard together and know how to have fun together. My wife and I had the pleasure of hosting the pre-game dinner. After they finished a couple of six-foot subs and 10 pounds of fruit salad, the house turned into a beauty salon with more hairspray and French braids than I've ever seen. The junior class then decorated the senior's cars and covered their windows with everything from names to tiger paws. It was truly a team effort!

I would like to thank Custom Creations for donating some special balloons to make the night a special one. I would also like to thank Quiznos who supplied the subs at a discount and also made a donation to the SP Field Hockey Assoc. Field hockey is best played on short grass, so the grounds crew in the district did us a favor and cut the football field shorter than normal to accommodate that special night. That was the best that field looked in 20 years—great job!

Just before the varsity game, Coach Flannery and her staff greeted each of the six seniors and their parents. This tradition started a few years ago and was really special for everyone involved. A special thanks to Bill Cochrane, "the voice of South Plainfield," for his introductions and commentary. I would like to congratulate the six seniors for all their hard work and dedication to SP field hockey over the last seven years. (They all started playing in sixth grade). The seniors are: Nicole Carlson, Tarryn Carlton, Catherine Flannery, Heather Loenser, Capt. Ngozi Okparaekwe and Capt. Amanda Rastelli.

After all the introductions, the Tigers got down to playing Tiger Field Hockey. A few weeks ago we were beaten (with the help of some bad officiating) by a very good Sayerville team, 3-2 in overtime. With all the seniors starting, the girls stepped up and dominated play for most of the game. When the 60 minutes were over, the Tigers won 2-0. Since it was senior night, of course seniors had to score and they did. Ngozi and Amanda each had a goal.

A special THANKS goes to the over 300+ fans who showed up to support the field hockey team. Thanks also to the SPHS Athletic Booster Club for opening the snack stand for all the fans, as well as feeding BOTH teams at the conclusion of the varsity game.

If you get a chance to watch this team, you won't be disappointed!
NORM LOENSER

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Joann Graf and all the seniors who attended the September 11 memorial service at the

Submit Letters to the Editor:

The October 24 issue is the last opportunity for readers to submit political letters regarding the Nov. 4 election. Any political letters published in the Oct. 31 issue will be in response to previously published letters. Deadline for submission is Monday, 5 p.m., no exceptions.

Senior Center.

It was a beautiful remembrance, made special by all who attended, including Reverend Campbell, Senator Barbara Buono, Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan and the Mayor and Council. Representatives from the Police Department, Fire Department, Rescue Squad and Emergency Management were also in attendance.

Thank you all.
MARION GALLAGHER

To the Editor:

Once again the Democrats are declaring their "no tax increase" proclamation throughout the land. This year, they're claiming four years without an increase. By their own admission in other campaign information, it's actually four-out-of-six years, so for two years, they're admitting taxes did go up.

These days, all costs are up. South Plainfield is not a magical island where every year costs go down. If the revenues don't keep up, then costs must be brought into check. If their claim of "no tax increase" is to be believed, then how are they keeping the borough running with the cost increasing every day?

Over the past few years, the borough has sold land to pay bills while promoting an "open space" policy paid for by tax dollars—yes, they are from the county, but they come out of your pocket just the same.

Borough services have been cut to keep the cost of government low to justify the Democrats claim of no municipal tax increase. The Public Works Department now has a fraction of the proud crew that once made our borough the jewel of Middlesex County. The current workers are doing the best they can, but the overbuilding the Democrats has given them more work to do with a smaller staff and limited equipment. Where are the plows, the salters, the street sweepers and the services, such as leaf collection and bulk pickups that used to be provided on a regular basis?

We now have no borough engineering department—talented and trained borough employees that oversaw every construction project in the borough. Now, we outsource at varying expense these services, or rely on the county's schedule to get these important projects done. Maybe if we had a

(Continued on page 8)

South Plainfield Observer

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NANCY GRENNIER
Publisher/Editor

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SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES

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

To get an article published in the South Plainfield Observer:

1. Type (double spaced) the article you wish published.
2. Mail, fax or drop it at: South Plainfield Observer, Editorial Department, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080 or drop it in the box at Mohn's Flowers on Plainfield Ave. or at (908) 668-8819 or e-mail us at spobserver.com or ggan@aol.com or 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: ggan@aol.com or fax 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. All letters must be submitted with name and phone number, for verification.

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(BY THE DARE BLDG.)

This ad must be presented at time of purchase.

To the Editor,
On Oct. 8, the SPHS Field Hockey

Police Officer, Local Landscaper Partner to Assist Elderly Resident

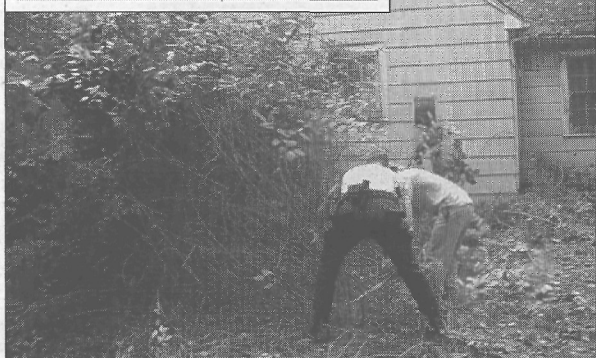
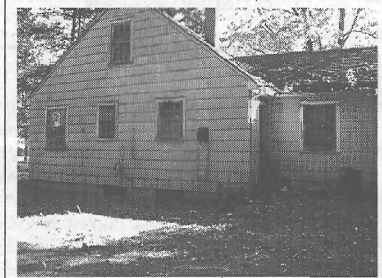
An 84-year-old woman who lives alone and cannot keep up with the maintenance of her property got help this week from a police officer and a generous landscaper.

Last year while on duty, Officer Dave Franchak answered a call from an elderly resident who heard noises in her backyard. Franchak arrived to

find a house that was literally surrounded with bushes, trees and weeds. The growth was so thick around all sides of the house that two homeless people had erected a tent in her backyard. Because of the dense growth, she was unable to see them. The woman lives alone and is still independent enough that she does not want to give

up the house. Her son lives in Trenton and helps her

A-Tech Landscaping generously donated their services to clean up the property of an elderly South Plainfield woman who was unable to do it herself.



clean the inside of the house and get her groceries, but he has neither the time nor the funds to clean up the property.

Franchak felt it was a dangerous situation for the elderly person to be living in. He said bushes and shrubs near the house needed to be cut back so the resident can clearly see outside of her windows in all directions. During the past year, Franchak has continued to make a point of visiting the woman and making sure she is safe, but he knew more needed to be done.

Franchak asked John Dean, owner of A-Tech Landscaping, to help him out. Last Friday, Dean brought out his crew to clean up the shrubs, bushes and trees and haul them all away. The crew worked most of the day and the results were stunning. The pile of cut trees and bushes filled the front yard, reaching six feet high before being hauled away.

In the home's backyard, prior to the cleanup, the growth was so thick, the windows and back door of the house were not visible. In fact, it was so high, a seedling from a tree had started growing on the roof.

The house is still in need of paint and some of the windows need repairing, so if any of South Plainfield's boy or girl scout troops would like to adopt this home as a service project, they can call Officer Franchak or the *Observer* to volunteer their services.

Cultural Arts Commission To Present Lecture on Violin



Stephen Wolosonovich

On October 19 at 3 p.m., Stephen Wolosonovich, violin maestro and recently retired violin teacher of Westfield, will present a lecture program on violin design and sound at Fellowship Hall of Wesley Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave. The program is sponsored by the South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission.

Wolosonovich will perform brief musical excerpts on his collection of over a dozen violins that span three

centuries of manufacture. (The violins will be on display after the program, as will Wolosonovich's collection of 19th and 20th century paintings.) Violins and paintings were acquired by Wolosonovich over the years from various antique shops in NJ and NY and the violins brought to concert standard by technicians Ira Kramer, Walter Kozowski, Igor Shablovski and Alex Baccelar.

At the conclusion of the demonstration, Wolosonovich and his former students will perform a number of classical pieces on the violin. They will be accompanied at the piano by the piano duo of Paul Keuter and Carole-Anne Mochernuk. Wolosonovich dedicates his program to Dmytro Didchertko and Walter Kozowski, master violin makers, without whom the program would not have been possible. The public is invited to attend the program. Admission is free due to funding by the Borough of South Plainfield.

For information: (908) 232-0737.

ALERT

MEETING DATE CHANGE

Board of Ed Meeting Rescheduled

Due to the NJSBA School Board Convention, the Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Ed., scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 21 at 8 p.m. in the Grant School Gymnasium on Cromwell Pl. has been changed to Monday, Oct. 20 at 8 p.m.

Judge's Decision Pares Down Pinto Lawsuit

One portion of former Councilwoman Darlene Pinto's lawsuit has been dismissed without prejudice, according to a court order by Judge Nicholas J. Stroumsos, Jr.

Pinto's suite against the South Plainfield Democratic Organization has been dismissed. However, according to Pinto's lawyer Dan Fleming, the suit against the Borough of South Plainfield, Mayor Dan Gallagher and members of Borough Council is moving forward, with depositions starting in the next few weeks.

Pinto filed suit in February saying she was promised a job in the tax office and did not receive it because she was a single parent. She also accused the Democrats of holding a secret meeting and discussing whether she should be hired or not.

AIDA SANTOS

ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT
BRANCH MANAGER

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Now Open in Heaven Mom's Market

Mom's Market, located on Durham Ave. just before Rt. 287, has been a landmark in South Plainfield for 25 years. Even after the construction of the Highland Apartments, Mom's Market remained situated just in front of the complex. Emma C. Bayer opened the market 25 years ago and residents (including this editor) used to stop by for the freshest corn and tomatoes, as well as a smile and friendly greeting. Sadly, Mrs. Bayer died last week. In her memory, her family opened the windows at the market and filled the area with flowers. A message on the front of the stand reads: "Mom's Market Closed, Will Re-Open in Heaven, Thanks for All the Years."

Mrs. Bayer will be missed and the *Observer* extends condolences to the Bayer family.

More Trees to Be Planted at Oak Tree Open Space Parcel

The South Plainfield Environmental Commission and Friends of the Woods will work with Motorola, Inc. to plant 250 tree seedlings on the Oak Tree Open Space Parcel (OTOSP). The site is next to the Oak Park Commons shopping center at the corner of Oak Tree and Park avenues. The planting party will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Oct. 24, and will continue until all the trees are in the ground.

The New Jersey Tree Foundation will provide the trees free. The foundation has given out thousands of trees for planting across the state. Motorola volunteers will work with local residents to plant the tree seedlings. Motorola, a member of the South Plainfield business community, has undertaken a number of community service projects in the borough, including plantings at the Senior Citizens Center. Friends of the Woods is inviting interested community members to come out and help plant a seedlings.

Sears Hardware, located in the Oak Park Commons shopping center, has generously agreed to provide water for the seedlings during the planting party.

The Environmental Commission will be on hand with gloves and plastic trash bags for a litter pickup at the same time. OTOSP's location next to a shopping center assures a steady supply of litter blown over the berm. Volunteers go out several times a year to clear plastic bags and shopping fliers from the shrubs and wildflowers.

The Oak Tree Open Space reforestation project began in 1999, with the first of two tree-planting grants from Middlesex County. The project will create a forest on the 10-acre parcel that was subdivided from the former ASARCO site when the shopping center was developed.

Call the Borough's Environmental Specialist at (908) 226-7621 for more information about the Oct. 24 planting party.

Traffic Safety Stop Reveals Violations

The Traffic Safety Unit, along with the New Jersey DOT Commercial Bus Unit, conducted a roadside inspection stop on vans on Durham Ave. recently.

A total of 10 vans were stopped and seven of those were inspected by the DOT team. One vehicle and three drivers were placed out of service.

New Jersey DOT cited 27 violations and issued 18 motor vehicle summonses. The summonses included unsafe vehicles, improperly licensed drivers and improperly registered vehicles.

Traffic Safety and NJ DOT conduct random safety inspections at that site periodically.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

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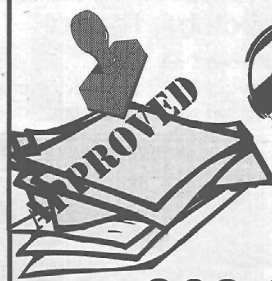
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Events

Bingo Night Fundraiser for Fire Department

October 17

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department will hold a Bingo Night at Sacred Heart School tonight at 7:30 p.m.

The Bingo Night is being held to help support the construction of the planned Firefighters Memorial next to the Senior Citizens Center. Refreshments will be available.

Sacred Heart is located on Sacred Heart Dr., off South Plainfield Ave.

Baked Chicken Dinner at VFW

October 17

VFW Post #6763 will hold a Baked Chicken Dinner tonight at the VFW, 155 Front St., from 5 to 8 p.m. Donation is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children under 14.

For more information, call (908) 668-9751 after 3 p.m.

Tournament of Bands Competition

October 18-19

The South Plainfield High School Marching Band will host a Tournament of Bands competition this Saturday at 7 p.m. The following high school bands attending are Raritan, Gateway Regional, West Essex, Red Bank Catholic and Jefferson Township. Tickets are \$7 for the competition.

They will also host the 22nd Annual Marching Band Festival this Sunday at 1 p.m. The high school bands attending the festival are Nottingham, Hackensack, Warren Hills Regional, Pompton Lakes, Dunellen, JFK and Saddlebrook.

Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$4 for students and seniors.

Trophies will be awarded to the bands in the Group I, II, III and IV categories. S.P.H.S. band parents will be selling various foods and craft items at both shows. All monies collected will be given to Music Boosters and Scholarships to graduating high school seniors in June. The two shows will be at the Frank R. Jost Memorial Field, located on Maple Ave.

Questions may be directed to Nanette Babinetz at (908) 753-9181 or by email at nanetteis@hotmail.com.

Seminar on Investing at SP Library

October 19

The Cornerstones of Investing, a free seminar, will be presented by Bridget Lupia, financial advisor of the UBS Financial Services, Inc., this Sunday at 2 p.m. No registration is required. This seminar will take place at the South Plainfield Public Library, on Plainfield Ave.

Any questions, please call (908) 754-7885.

AARP Chapter 4144 Meeting

October 20

The next meeting of AARP Chapter 4144 is Monday, Oct. 20 at 12:30 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Building, 90 Maple Ave. Guest speakers will be Senator Barbara Buono, accompanied by Dr. Ann Eckert, Director of Speech and Hearing, JFK Hospital.

We have very few seats left on our bus to the Sacred Heart Cathedral, backstage visit to NJCPA, lunch at the Essex House and a visit to the Newark

What's happening in OCTOBER

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 9:00 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

Senior Center EVENTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Flu Shots November 10 5:30-7:30pm ***** Halloween Dance Nov. 1, 7-11pm Wear a costume and join in the fun!				
Adult Crafts 9:30-11:30am 20 Yoga 10:30-11:30am Drawing Class 11:30-12:30 AARP Meeting 12:30pm	Bingo 10am-2pm Ladies Social 10am Computer Classes 10-11am or 2-3pm	Exercise 8:45-9:45 Line Dancing 10-11:30 Movie Time 11:30am AARP Crafts 1pm Computer Class 1-2pm Atlantic City Trip 9AM	Shopping Day 9am 16 Annie Get Your Gun Bus Departs at 9:30am Practical Crafts 10-11am Computer Class 1-2pm Decorative Painting 2:30-3:30pm	Bingo 10am-2pm 17 Pizza Lunch Computer Class 10am-11am
Shopping Day 9am 23 Video Exercise 9:30-10:30am Practical Crafts 10-11 am Computer Class 1-2 pm Decorative Painting Class 2:30-3:30 p.m.	Bingo 10am-2pm 24 Pizza Lunch Computer Class 10-11am			

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

Museum's over 80 stores and attractions. All costs are covered, including transportation, for the \$60 price. Call Lee at (732) 968-6613 or Mary at (732) 752-3764.

The November Drivers Safety Course is filled, but we will have a Saturday class in January and for details, call Mary at the above number.

Golf Outing to Benefit Education Foundation

October 20

The South Plainfield Education Foundation is holding its ninth annual Emil Leporino Memorial Golf Outing on Mon., Oct. 20 at the Copper Hill Country Club in Flemington.

Entry includes an 18 hole golf event, green fees and cart, lunch and a buffet dinner, with awards and prizes. Price per golfer is \$150. All gratuities are included.

For more information, contact Bob Hunter at (908) 756-2800 (work) or at (908) 769-0439 (home), or Rich Regan at (732) 249-4702 (work) or at (908) 756-4530 (home).

Ed Niemczyk to be Honored at Dinner

October 25

The South Plainfield Police Athletic League and the South Plainfield Recreation Commission will honor Edward Niemczyk as the first recipient of the "Cappy" Award at a dinner on Saturday, Oct. 25. This award is given to someone who has devoted countless hours to the community of South Plainfield, especially to its youth.

The event will be held at the Senior Citizens Center at 6:30 p.m. Entertainment will also be provided. Tickets are available at the PAL for \$15 per person.

For more information, call the PAL at 226-7713.

Roosevelt 1st Annual October Festival

October 25

Roosevelt Elementary School invites you to attend its First Annual October

Festival on Saturday, Oct. 25 at the new Roosevelt School from 12-3 p.m.

There will be hayrides, carnival rides, games, miniature golf, cotton candy, popcorn and a whole lot of fun!

Hope to see you there!

Pocono Getaway to Woodlock Pines

October 27-31

The South Plainfield Seniors will be running a trip to the Woodlock Pines Resort in the Poconos, Oct. 27-Oct. 31. The cost is \$475 per person based on double occupancy and includes transportation via private motor coach, four nights accommodation, all meals from lunch on Monday through breakfast on Friday, hotel tax and gratuities. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Mickie at (908) 755-2487 or the Senior Center at (908) 756-4135. This is a very popular vacation, so sign up today.

Ponytail Softball Association Meeting

October 28

The South Plainfield Ponytail Parents' Association will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 28 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 Oct. 28. New members are always welcome.

Senior Center Atlantic City Trips

Nov. 5

The South Plainfield Senior Center will sponsor two trips to Atlantic City on Nov. 5. The bus will depart from the Senior Center at 9 a.m. for the Taj Mahal. The cost is \$15 per person and you get \$13 back from the hotel. Stop by the Senior Center at 90 Maple Ave. to make your seat reservation. Reservations open up 30 days prior to the trip date.

For more information, call Joann at the Senior Center at (908) 756-4135.

Wine Tasting at Embassy Suites

November 15

The South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department invites you to attend a wine tasting, sponsored by Oak Tree Buy-Rite Liquors, located at Embassy Suites, Piscataway on Saturday, Nov. 15, from 6 to 11 p.m.

Tickets are \$40 per person. Price includes the wine tasting reception from 6-9 p.m. and a cash bar, DJ and dancing from 9-11 p.m.

There are special rate hotel rooms available for overnight stay.

For tickets or more information, contact Mike Gallagher, (908) 755-9874; John Celentano, (908) 757-5691 or Buy-Rite Liquor, (908) 51-0051.

— Out of Town —

4-H to Host Haunted House

Weekends through Oct. 31

If you're looking for a good scare this Halloween season, the 4-H Teen Council will sponsor a Haunted House every Friday and Saturday in October through the 31st. The haunting lasts from 7 to 10 p.m. each night.

Visit the Middlesex County 4-H Center on the corner of Cranbury and Fern Rd. in East Brunswick and be prepared to scream. Parking is located near the adjacent Fern Rd. entrance.

For more information, contact the Middlesex County 4-H office at (732) 745-3446.

SingleFaces Events

October 17, 19, 25, 26

•Friday Oct. 17 at the Clarion Hotel & Towers, 2055 Lincoln Highway (Rt. 27) in Edison at 9 p.m. Cost is \$12.

•Sunday Oct. 19 at the Hilton Garden Inn, 1100 South Ave. in Staten Island 8 a.m. to 12 a.m. Cost is \$12. Island Party.

•Saturday Oct. 25 at the Victorian Manor, 2863 Woodbridge Ave. in Edison at 9 p.m. Cost is \$12.

•Sunday Oct. 26 at the Historic Ol Bermuda Inn, 2512 Arthur Kill Rd. in Staten Island, 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. Cost is \$12.

NJ Ski Council Plans Jamboree

October 17

The New Jersey Ski Council, currently has 40 Ski Clubs with about 10,000 members, is planning a Jamboree, part trade show, part trip planning and part membership drive featuring informative displays by New Jersey/metro New York Ski Clubs, local and national ski resorts and local equipment shops.

A buffet dinner will be available from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at \$25 per person, cash bars, door prizes and DJ music from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m.

For more information, call Claire Spingler at (201) 327-8482, or Pat Else at (718) 720-1660.

Open House at Pingry School

October 19

The Pingry School will open its doors to families interested in the co-educational, K-12 independent country day school. Families can also find information about Pingry at the school's website, www.pingry.org.

The Pingry Upper and Middle School Open House will take place on two Sundays: Oct. 19, with emphasis on the Middle School and Nov. 16, with emphasis on the Upper School. Both sessions will begin with tours at 2 p.m. For more information or directions, call Sara Bojsvert, director of admission, at (908) 647-6419.

Woodbridge Area WOWs Dance

October 19

The Woodbridge Area Widows or Widowers (WOWs) will host a dance on Sunday, Oct. 19, from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. There will be a live band and refreshments will be served. Price per person is \$8. The dance will be held at the Elk's Hall, 665 Rahway Ave., Woodbridge. For more information, please call (732) 297-1775.

Tricky Tray at 4-H

October 24

The Middlesex County 4-H Leaders will hold their sixth annual Tricky Tray on Friday, Oct. 24, at the 4-H Center, 645 Cranbury Rd. (the Log Cabin), East Brunswick. Doors open at 6 p.m.; first call is at 7:30. Advance admission is \$3, at the door \$4, which includes refreshments. There will be over 200 table prizes, specials, baskets, 50-50s and door prizes. No one under 18 is permitted. Proceeds go to fund 4-H youth scholarships.

For more information, call (732) 254-8385.

Lindamood-Bell to Host an Open House

October 25

Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes, an internationally-renowned leader in educational instruction and research, will host an open house at its Morristown Learning Center on Saturday, Oct. 25, 10 a.m.-noon.

The event is open to the public and refreshments will be served. Please call Lindamood-Bell at (800) 300-1818 to RSVP for this special open house.

Send Us Your Events:

Mail or drop off stories and photos to
South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ
07080, fax (908) 668-8819;
or email to ggnan@aol.com.

Can Bob & Raymond Come to California & Help Me With Our Budget?



No Municipal Tax Increase
For the 4th Year...And Counting!

CUSICK & PETRONKO
For Borough Council



Knights of Columbus Install Officers for 2003-2004

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus held their installation of officers ceremony on September 27 to install the incoming 2003-2004 officers. The ceremony was held at Our Lady of Czesstochowa Church, followed by a dinner at the Knights hall.

The 2003-2004 officers are as follows:

3rd Degree Officers are Chaplin - Father John Paul Alvarado, Grand Knight - Pat Bonaventura, Deputy Grand Knight - Joe Scudato, Chancellor - Steve Belenger, Recorder - Tony Moskal, Financial Secretary - Larry Makowski, Treasurer - Bob Walker, Lecturers - Andrew Provenza, Fred Brisebois and Mark O'Brien, Advocate - Gene

Baker, Warden - Bill Hartmann, Inside Guards - Rich Panzarella and Mike Butrico, Outside Guards - Frank Dominguez and Jim Vokral, 1 Year Trustee - Paul Grzenda, 2 Year Trustee - John Weakley and 3 Year Trustee - Lenny Kleczkowski
4th Degree Officers are Friar - Father J. Maciej Melaniuk, Navigator - Pat Bonaventura, Captain - Bob Walker, Pilot - Joe Scudato, Admiral - Don Baymen, Scribe - Larry Makowski, Purser - Gene Baker, Comptroller - Frank Dominguez, Inside Sentinel - Tony Moskal and Jim Vokral, Outside Sentinel - Andrew Provenza and Tom Elko, 1 Year Trustee - Paul Grzenda, 2 Year Trustee - Lenny Kleczkowski and 3rd Year Trustee - Al Musmanno

From the Republicans

Reedy and Rusnak: We Need to Get The Most from Our Tax Dollars



One of the most-asked questions by residents when Borough Council candidates Marge

Reedy and Ray Rusnak go door-to-door is about taxes: "Why are the Democrats advertising no tax increase when my taxes have gone up every year?"

"The answer is that the Democrats are only giving you part of the story," Reedy explained. "While they are focusing on one small part of your tax bill, they ignore the rest. For example, even though they approved building hundreds of new houses, condos and apartments, they refuse to accept responsibility for the rise in school taxes from building a new school. Their policies created the problem, but they blamed the school board for the tax increase."

The same is true at the county level according to Rusnak. "We've cut services and closed departments in South Plainfield and have asked the county to take them over. Of course, these services aren't free. So county taxes go up," Rusnak

added that every home in South Plainfield saw a tax increase this year. "A recent *Star Ledger* article confirms that South Plainfield property taxes have indeed gone up."

"The council is also engaging in the very short-sighted policy of selling borough-owned land to prop up the budget and make it look like they're keeping costs under control," said Reedy. "We're selling assets to pay the bills and yet the Democrats keep bragging about their so-called fiscal responsibility."

"Selling borough land to builders hurts South Plainfield in other ways, too," added Rusnak. "The land gets built on, depleting our open space. While we've purchased open space in some areas of town, which is good, we've sold other land to builders. It's like robbing Peter to pay Paul. We're not getting anywhere if we spend millions of dollars to buy open space and at the same time sell millions of dollars in land to builders."

Reedy went on to explain how stopping "pay to play" is one way to control costs. "We

need to cut costs without cutting services or selling assets and one way to do that is to get competitive price quotes. Right now, contributors get no-bid contracts when they fork over money to the Democrats' campaign fund. That money rightfully belongs to the taxpayers, because if contractors didn't have to donate to get jobs, they'd charge the town less. By enacting limits on 'pay to play' and bidding out many of these contracts, we'll save tens of thousands of dollars each year."

"We have to start being honest about taxes and the budget," Reedy added. She summed up the feeling of both candidates when she explained, "the Enron-like accounting gimmicks, like selling assets and shifting costs, have to stop. Putting two Republicans on the council can provide the much-needed oversight that is lacking today. Please consider this when you vote on Nov. 4."

From the Democrats

Cusick, Petronko Encourage Democrats And Republicans to Support Hometown Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan



Councilpersons Bob Cusick and Ray Petronko put their own campaign on hold to stress the importance of re-electing South Plainfield's hometown Assemblyman, Patrick Diegnan. Councilperson Cusick commented, "I know I'm not a political

person, but why can't the local Republicans cast part of their political

aside and support Patrick, who has done tremendous things for South Plainfield during his two years in the Assembly? Everyone tells me that it's just politics when last year's Republican mayoral candidate writes a letter supporting two guys from East Brunswick and Spotswood, just because they are Republicans. Do the Republicans realize that Assem-

bliman Diegnan, with the support of Senator Buono and Assemblyman Barnes, obtained over \$1 million dollars in state grants for South Plainfield over the last two years? That equals 10 tax points for every homeowner in our borough. Can't the Republicans just do the right thing and forget about what the big wigs in GOP headquarters will say?"

Raymond Petronko added to his running mate's statement. "Patrick Diegnan was born and raised in South Plainfield. He and his wonderful family have been a part of this community for over 50 years. Long before he ran for the Assembly, he served on our Zoning Board, Environmental Commission and Senior Citizens Advisory Board. He also served two terms as the president of the Sacred Heart Parish Council. Heck, he's a member of the South Plainfield High School Hall of Fame. It's no wonder Patrick cares about our borough. Just last week we unveiled our new Computer As-

sisted Dispatch Center in the police department which was purchased with a \$200,000 grant arranged by Assemblyman Diegnan. We are receiving \$200,000 in extraordinary state aid to offset any local tax increase, we received over \$200,000 for the sidewalks on Belmont Ave., \$250,000 for the clean up of Veterans Park and over \$300,000 in various other state grants this year alone. Does anyone think we would have received these grants without our hometown Assemblyman fighting for them?"

Bob Cusick and Ray Petronko summed up their position by making a simple request of the Republican candidates. "President Kennedy once said 'sometimes party loyalty can demand too much.' Don't worry about what the big shot state Republicans are telling you to do. Just do the right thing and put party labels aside. Come out and support South Plainfield's own, Patrick Diegnan, for Assembly. The residents of our borough will respect you for it!"

2003 VOTE

LEGAL NOTICES

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE 1631

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ord. 1631 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 48 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED: "POLICE DEPARTMENT" was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield at 7:00 p.m. on October 9, 2003 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST: Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$20.00 October 17, 2003

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE 1632

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ord. 1632 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1337A ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FEES FOR THE USE OF THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD OUTDOOR FIRING RANGE" was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield at 7:00 p.m. on October 9, 2003 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST: Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$20.00 October 17, 2003

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE 1634

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ord. 1634 entitled: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE ON AGING IN THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield at 7:00 p.m. on October 9, 2003 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST: Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$20.00 October 17, 2003

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE 1633

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ord. 1633 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 135 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD ENTITLED: "NOISE" was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield at 7:00 p.m. on October 9, 2003 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST: Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$20.00 October 17, 2003

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE 1635

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Ord. 1635 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE #1440N ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES AND THE METHOD OF PAYMENT FOR THE YEARS 2003 THROUGH 2005" was presented for adoption after a public hearing was held thereon by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield at 7:00 p.m. on October 9, 2003 in the Municipal Building, South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080.

ATTEST: Vincent Buttiglieri/Municipal Clerk
\$20.00 October 17, 2003

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Fire Dept. Celebrates Fire Prevention Week With Open House

by Patricia Abbott

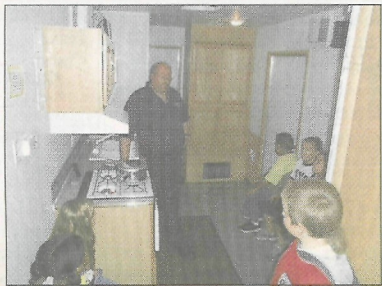
The South Plainfield Fire Department recently held an open house to celebrate National Fire Prevention week. The annual event has been held each October for over 40 years. Opening ceremonies were held at 11:30 and the fun began at noon.

Fire trucks in the parking lot were available for kids to climb on and explore. There was a 50/50 drawing. The younger set had fun with a giant puzzle, free juice, popcorn and Italian ices. Firefighters' pants, boots and helmets were available to try on. Cadets manned tables offering free toy helmets, balloons, frisbees, balls and fire prevention and safety literature.

In the afternoon, the Middlesex County Safety trailer arrived. Half the trailer contained a fireproof demonstration room. Through the glass, people viewed how quickly a fire can start and spread. The other half of the trailer taught kids how to escape a smoke-filled room via a window and safety ladder.

The Italian ices was donated by Ralph's, the loan of the popcorn machine by Sacred Heart, the puzzle by the Plainfield Fire Department and Sparky was compliments of the Fanwood FD.

The successful day ended with the drawing of the 50/50 ticket worth \$600. The winning ticket belonged to firefighter George Hogan, who donated his prize back to the department.



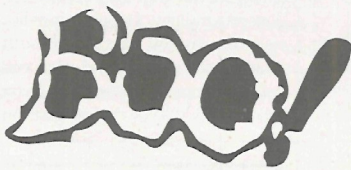
A highlight of the day was the appearance of "Sparky the Firedog." Children crowded the tall Dalmatian, sporting a fire coat and yellow helmet.



Haunted Tour at Putnam Park

The Almost Famous Players will offer South Plainfield a different kind of Halloween entertainment: a Haunted Woods Tour around Putnam Park on October 28, 29 and 31. The tour's interactive shows feature actors set up at various sites along a pre-planned route. As a 'guide' brings the audience to each encounter, the action happens around them. Proceeds will be donated to the South Plainfield Lions Club. Supporting the endeavor are the Mayor and Council, as well as numerous residents of Revere Rd. and many others.

Most of the performers and volunteers are from South Plainfield Middle and High schools, although there will be a number of surprise performers from throughout the area. The experienced staff are mostly homegrown. Patricia Abbott, founder of Almost Famous is directing/producing the show. Dan Dvorak of Piscataway is Production Manager, Debi Esposito is doing tickets, programs and publicity,



Lory Jackson Alcaro will handle finances and Allison Katla will do makeup and effects. Jonathan Bergman of Hillside is stage manager, Dan Nigro of Revere Rd. is helping with sets/park prep and SPHS students Christopher Abbott and Jake Levine are fight choreographers.

You are invited to join Almost Famous in a fight that pits good against evil. In her first step to rule the world, an evil sorceress turns fantasy into dark reality in the park. Well-known villains roam the woods. It is up to the tour guides and their brave audiences to stop this madwoman. Visitors should be prepared for the unexpected!

Tours will run October 28, 29 and 31. On the 28 and 29 gates open at 7

p.m. and run until 9-9:30 p.m. On the 31st, gates open at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$2 for children accompanied by an adult. Advanced ticket sales are available and recommended. No refunds will be offered. Each tour accommodates 15-20 people. The PG-13 show is not suggested for preschool or early elementary, but participation is left to the parents' discretion. There will be face painting, balloons games, card readings and a real casting of a Wiccan witches circle. Refreshments will be sold.

For tickets or information call (908) 756-8011 (press # after machine picks up to bypass message). Leave a message and be sure to include a name and phone number along with ticket requests. The show is still in need of donations and or materials. The cast needs heavy-duty flashlights, lanterns, burlap, hay bales and costumes. If you can help, please call the number above.

BOROUGHNOTES

Council Notes

- A new floor will be put down in the weight room at the PAL Building in the near future.
- A new ordinance just passed makes it illegal to start construction machines before 7:45 a.m.
- The tax office will have a mailbox installed outside of Borough Hall for easy access to taxpayers. The box will be a drive-up and allow taxpayers to drop off their payments when the tax office is not open.
- Grant money will be used to make the rear door of Borough Hall handicapped accessible.
- A new Meals on Wheels van will be purchased with grant money.
- The Senior Center will be asking businesses to help in the cost of constructing a new sign in front of their building.
- The Recreation Commission is looking for volunteers to help coach the Youth Basketball League.

- Ray Petronko says he is exploring the possibility of a dog park in town, after receiving several requests. He is also looking into new tennis courts and may approach the school board on this matter.
- The South Plainfield Business Association will be replacing the flags in the downtown area with new ones.
- Bob Cusick reported that two new vehicles will be arriving soon at the Borough Garage. Both will have snow plows and four wheel drive.
- Jeffrey A. Courtney is the newest member of the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department.

➔ **Mark Your Calendars**

Your Vote Counts!
Get Out & Vote Nov. 4

IN YOUR OPINION

(Continued from page 2)

tant projects done. Maybe if we had a local engineering department working for us full-time, rather than part-time consultants and councilmen, projects such as Helen Street would be in service by now.

The Board of Health is also a memory in our town, outsourced to the management of administrators whose primary job responsibility is NOT to the Borough of South Plainfield.

What's next? They can claim "no tax increase" all they want, but to pay for it, more services will have to be cut. Maybe their proposed "new library" will have reduced staff and hours. Maybe the senior citizens van will go a few more years before needed replacement, or maybe its regular schedule will be reduced to irregular or inconvenient hours, if it runs at all. The new Senior Citizens Center may also have its hours reduced to help fund their "no tax" pledge. Dangerous intersections may not get a needed traffic light, or the Putnam Park of today could become the Veterans Park of tomorrow.

And don't be fooled—costs that the all-Democratic council pass along to the county are paid for by the county taxes—that are paid by YOU. Your tax bill reflects every tax—municipal, county and school. The overbuilding and cost-shifting by this mayor and council is paid for out of your pocket—it doesn't matter who gets the dollars; the bill for their mismanagement comes to your door.

Republicans Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnak, when elected to the council, will work towards making sure South Plainfield serves the needs of its residents—and doesn't become something on the "to-do" list of Middlesex County.

KATHERINE SESSELBERG

Letter to the Editor:

This is truly starting to become the silly season! Last week's *Observer* contained so many false accusations by the Democrats that it's hard to know where to begin correcting them. Unfortunately I must. A line from the movies says it best: "We are mad as heck and we aren't going to take it anymore."

First, contrary to what the Democratic candidates said, we support new library facilities. Why the Democrats would tell you otherwise is a mystery, especially since we told them our views at a public meeting on Sept. 29.

We are also on record saying that decisions on how and where to build a library should be made responsibly. I questioned where the money was in the budget for the upcoming year. The mayor told us that the borough owns the land and that they will deal with the rest as it comes. That's not respon-

sible. While we realize all the building in town has increased the need for the library's services, as well as other services, we should be forthright with the public about the costs.

Secondly, I find it hard to believe the Democrats would take a pot shot at me for missing a council meeting, especially when I missed the meeting because of a death in my immediate family. Since declaring my candidacy, I've attended all but two regular meetings (only missing another when I helped at Project Graduation). My running mate has also been there time after time, only missing a meeting for vacation and a work commitment. During those meetings, I've noticed quite a few empty seats at the head of the room where the Council sits. But despite their glass houses, the Democrats would rather throw stones.

Not that the meetings are worthwhile, quite frankly. The Democrats spend half the time patting one another on the back and telling each other what a great job they're doing. Rather than discussing business, they turn the meetings into one big PR event. Nevertheless, we have regularly attended meetings, have asked questions and will continue to do so.

We are addressing the issues residents tell us are important—traffic, overcrowding, diminishing services and lack of open government. Apparently our opponents don't like this, because they accuse us of "negative campaigning." I guess that's shorthand for saying that we're raising issues they're embarrassed to discuss. It's probably also why the Democrats turned down the opportunity to debate us on Oct. 22.

Please, keep your eyes and ears open—we are visible, we will continue to address the issues you say are important and we are looking for your support on Nov. 4.

**MARGE REEDY
CANDIDATE FOR BOROUGH
COUNCIL**

Dear Editor,

Two candidates running for Borough Council this year deserve our votes. They are Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnak.

One-party rule hasn't been good for South Plainfield. I'm concerned about the ever-increasing traffic, cuts in services, those horrible billboards that are going up and the non-stop construction in town. Marge and Ray are talking about these issues every week, but unfortunately their opponents have ignored these concerns, both as candidates and as council members.

Marge's experience on the Board of Education will serve us well if she's elected to the council. We know what

a great job she can do—that's why she was reelected to the school board three times and why her fellow board members elected her president twice. In addition, her commitment to the youth in our town is legendary. Combined with Ray's business experience, these two will be an unstoppable team—working hard for all of us.

I plan to vote for Marge Reedy and Ray Rusnak. They are the best choice for South Plainfield.

CHUCK GOVER

Dear Editor:

In the midst of the New Jersey Legislature's budget negotiations in July, funding for the NJ State Council on Arts, the NJ Historical Commission and the NJ Cultural Trust faced complete elimination. Fortunately, common sense prevailed and \$19 million was restored to the 2004 budget. In part, this restoration was due to the efforts of three state-elected public servants—Senator Barbara Buono, Assemblymen Peter Barnes and Patrick Diegnan.

Following the Governor's proposal to eliminate all funding to the arts, I wrote letters and sent emails to these legislators informing them of the catastrophic effect this proposal would have on both our state economy and the cultural awareness of all New Jersey residents. To their credit, Buono, Barnes and Diegnan heeded these calls and fought to restore funding to the arts.

Consequently, at the conclusion of budget negotiations, New Jersey arts organizations saw an increase from the proposed \$0 in funding to close to \$19 million. To offset future funding problems, these legislators proposed the creation of a hotel/motel occupancy fee. In short, this legislation imposes a 7% fee on the rent paid by transient guests at hotels and motels. Most importantly, however, this new revenue will provide a permanent, dedicated source of funding for future arts and history budgets.

Lastly and perhaps most importantly, this measure also calls for increased funding for the Council, Commission and the Trust Fund for the fiscal year of 2005.

When Election Day arrives, I will remember the efforts Buono, Barnes and Diegnan made on behalf of the New Jersey Arts.

ANTHONY PETITO

Dear Editor,

People who know me will probably be surprised to see me supporting a candidate for public office. But it's not hard for me to support Ray Rusnak for Borough Council. I've known Ray for quite a while, and I have no doubt he will do an outstanding job representing us.

We need a change in South Plainfield. Ray's been talking about issues that make a difference in our quality of life: things like traffic, overdevelopment and diminishing services. These things have been overlooked and we can't continue to ignore them.

Ray has a good grasp of what needs to be done and even more important, he has the type of good judgment we so desperately need. He's someone you and I can trust to work hard and do what is right.

I support Ray Rusnak and on Election Day, I hope you will too.

BOB BORS

To the editor:

I hope South Plainfield does not pass up the chance to elect Marge Reedy to the council. Marge really cares. She cares about our town. She cares about us. And she cares about our kids. She's always doing something for

the kids in town—raising money for scholarships, helping the band and any one of a dozen other projects. I don't know where she gets the time and enthusiasm, but I can only imagine the fantastic things she'll do as South Plainfield's only councilwoman.

Good luck Marge. I'm pulling for you.

LINDA TOWNE

To the editor:

Sometimes people just don't get it. In their release last week, the Republican candidates for Borough Council proposed that the Borough should open the compactor and yard waste sites on Sundays. They also suggested that So. Plainfield hire more workers to help residents unload their leaves and other yard debris at the yard waste site. Don't these people live in the real world? Having workers standing around waiting for cars to drop off debris and paying workers double time for working on Sundays has to be the biggest proposed waste of money ever in South Plainfield. Why don't we just have parking valets to drive the cars into the waste site?

In addition, the Republicans propose paving the yard waste site. They complain that there are too many ruts and potholes. Here's a suggestion—put up a sign that says "Drive Slowly" or "Reduce Speed." Paving a dump yard—what a great idea. Do the Republicans know how much the fully-loaded costs (wages/salary and insurance) of an employee are in 2003? Perhaps they would understand this if they bothered to attend the budget meetings of the Borough Council. In these tough economic times, we need ideas on how to save money. Throwing money away needlessly should not be the objective of our elected officials.

That's why I'll be voting for Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick for Borough Council. Their top priority has been keeping costs under control and our property tax rate down.

KATHY THOMAS

Dear Editor,

As hard as it is to believe, the campaign season is upon us. I am certainly enthused knowing that Democratic council candidates Bob Cusick and Ray Petronko are running for re-election.

Every week I read the *Observer* with anticipation to see what their vision for our borough is, what programs they would like implemented and/or what improvements they want done. On the other hand, all their opponents seem to be able to come up with criticism. For once, I would love the Republicans to share their vision with the voters. You are running for a very important office and with it comes tremendous responsibility. I would at least like to know why you want to hold such an important position and what you will do to improve this borough if you are elected. Until you do, I suggest you

let those with a proven track record of accomplishments continue to work hard for all of us.

I urge you to cast your votes for the candidates with a vision; a proven record of accomplishment. I urge you to vote for Councilman Bob Cusick and Councilman Ray Petronko.

JOHN BUSH

Dear Editor,

Have you ever heard the expression "a stranger is a friend you haven't met yet?" Well, that's how our Councilman Ray Petronko treats everyone. He presumes they are his friend and works for them like he would for a friend.

As councilman, he has been the liaison to Recreation and has done a fabulous job with our parks! Even though his council position takes up a lot of his time, he also works as a volunteer firefighter in his "spare time." It's because of people like Ray Petronko that South Plainfield is such a caring community and why we can consider each other friend. Even if you haven't met Ray yet, rest assured he is a friend to every resident of South Plainfield.

Be sure to go out to vote for Ray Petronko and his running mate Bob Cusick.

FRAN MARRA

Dear Editor,

It is so nice to see that every year, more and more of our roads are being paved. As head of the Public Works Department, Councilman Bob Cusick has made sure that each year a number of borough roads are paved on a pay-as-you-go basis. Not only has he been getting the road paving done, he has also been a key player in reducing the costs to run the compactor and yard waste centers. Join me in supporting Bob Cusick for councilman.

BOB KUCHERA

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 10 years. Think about all that has been accomplished, such as 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 Councilpersons Ray Petronko and Bob Cusick.

ANTHONY PALMER

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Sports

First Annual Preseason Wrestling Tournament A Success

The South Plainfield Wrestling Club successfully hosted their first Fall Classic Wrestling Tournament at the Police Athletic Building with the help of the Police Athletic League and Mike English, recreation director. Over 250 wrestlers in the tri-state area tested their skills in four divisions from five years old through high school. Thanks to the many donations and volunteers, the Wrestling Club helped raise the money for the High School Wrestling team end of season banquet and awards.

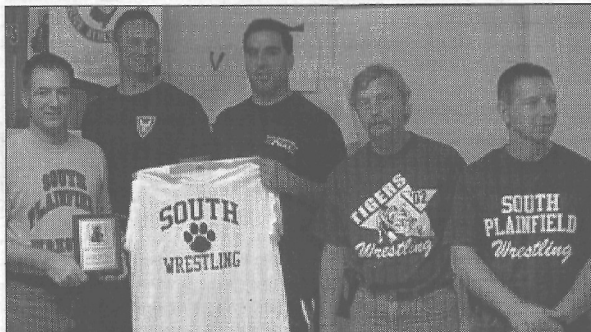
The competition was good considering it's only preseason. Tiger wrestlers had a good day with 26 overall medal winners. Winning medals in the third Grade and under division were Bobby Kolvites 50lbs. fifth-sixth, Tyler Smith 55lbs. fifth-sixth, Scott Whalen 60lbs. third and Kyle Brady fourth. Troy Heilmann 65-70lbs. first place, Corey Strasenko third and Inan Sikel 75-80lbs. third place.

In the fourth, fifth and sixth grade division medal winners were Tyler Hunt 65lbs., second, Ritchie Szeilga 70lbs. fifth-sixth, Nick Heilmann 75lbs. first, Ryan Sacco second. Corey Hay 80lbs. first, Stephen Petriello fifth-sixth, John Wylam 85lbs. first, Ryan Billich fourth and Shaun Gorman 95-100lbs. fourth place.

Medal winners in the seventh and eighth grade division were Nick Heilmann 75lbs. second, Patrick Hunter 90lbs. first place and Jacob Rosocha fourth, Mike Wagner 100lbs. fourth place, Jake Smithline 105lbs. second and Justin Smith 110lbs. third place.

High School wrestlers placing were Billy Ashnault 103lbs., Jimmy Conroy 112lbs., Matt D'Alessandro 119lbs. and Guy Severini 160lbs.

Special thanks go out to the South Plainfield PBA Local 100 for donating T-Shirts and outstanding wrestler



From the left: Bill Ashnault, SP Officer, Chris Colucci, Det. Gary Cassio, Jim Conroy and Jim Sacco.

plaques. Thank you for your continued support. A special thank you to the following people and companies: Joe Romer Trophies, Pepsi Corp., Mr. Boyle at Roma Foods, Designer Bagels, Hometown Heros, Pizza Stop, Sal's Spirit Shoppe, Connie Besser,

Doug Doerr, The Recreation, Middle School and High School wrestlers, families and coaches for their help and time volunteering. A very special thanks to our Central Chapter referees who generously provided their expertise. —Bob Hunter and Bill Ashnault

Freshmen Boys to Host Soccer Tournament

The SPHS boy's freshmen soccer team will play two night games next week in a four-team tournament at Jost Field. The Tigers will compete against North Brunswick Oct. 23 at 7 p.m. The second match will be against either Spotswood or Colonia on Oct. 25 at a time yet to be determined.

The team is having a very successful season. The forwards include Nicholas Baldassarre, Kevin Bolivar, Jamal Idrissi and John Lopez. The midfield consists of Matthew Doell, Stephen Dvorak, Christopher Herbster and Anthony Moretti. The defense is anchored by Jack Duong, Garrett Gianneschi, Matthew Gross, Jose Hernandez, Billy Hodge, Daniel Hubner and Toan Tran.

The team is excited about playing under the lights for the first time and are hungry to play against some very good opponents.



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The South Plainfield Football Eagles were away Oct. 4 and 5. On Oct. 4 the Junior PeeWee and Junior Midget teams were hosted by West Orange under the lights. The Junior Midget team lost to West Orange 13-6. Michael Burton was responsible for the Eagle's only touchdown of the game. Offensive standouts were Kyle Hughes, Corey Hay and Tareek Watkins. On defense were Patrick Millard, Michael Jefferys and Robert Scott.

Our Junior Midget Cheerleaders showed spirit throughout the game. Highlighted cheerleaders this week are Lauren Annetta, Chelsey Colucci, Paige Herriott, Megan Makowski and Kimberly Pham.

Junior Pee Wee won over West Orange 30-12. Nick Heilmann and Mike Wagner racked in two touchdowns each. Brandon Downes was responsible for the fifth touchdown of the game. Alex Liszewski was credited with the extra point and Dylan Papa for three sacks. This was an exciting game that ended near midnight. Providing excellent offense were Ryan Aguiar, Robert Alexander and Shawn Gorman. Terrific defenders were Stephan Petriello, Anthony Torchia and Kevin Smith.

The Mighty Mites played in Allentown, Pa., winning 18-6. Tyler Hunt was responsible for two touch downs, one on a 40 yard run. Troy Heilmann, breaking many tackles was responsible for the third touchdown. Troy Heilmann while on defense, continued to haunt Allentown in the backfield breaking up many plays. Kyle Brady had several good runs, gaining the Eagles important yardage.

Offensive standouts were Dominic Gruver, Bobby Kolvites and Nick Papianni. Providing excellent defense were Jared Agee, Ricky Zekas, Claude Payne and Cory Harrell.

Junior PeeWee cheerleaders highlighted this week are Nina Barvosa, Taylor Donato, Lauren Hill, Bianca Lobosco and Kelly Outerial.

Our Flag Players had a bye for this week.

On Sunday Oct. 12 South Plainfield hosted Maplewood. The Flag team is really showing great understanding of the game and although no score is

kept, our boys are winners every week. Highlighted this week are Jules Carone, Frank Ferraro, Matt Gallant, Connor Skelly, Jordan Mandel and Justin Counts.

Our Flag Cheerleaders are preparing for their exhibition at the Mountain Valley Conference cheering competition on Oct. 18. Highlighted this week are Alyssa Capone, Mary Dudek, Kyrsten Grabinsky, Courtney Maino and Amy Grene Ramjatau.

Mighty Mites won over Maplewood 12-0. Eric Burham had beautiful run for a touchdown. Tyler Hunt was responsible for the second touchdown of the game and made several saving tackles on defense. Malik Cisson breaking tackles had a great run gaining the Eagles important yardage. Kyle Brady recovered a fumble and on defense tackled in the backfield for a loss of yards for Maplewood. Defensive leaders were John DiDolce, Ryan Harris, Tyler Lewis and James Agee. On Offense Tyler Lewis, Joseph Miller, Nick Brinks and Matt Gruver were outstanding.

The Mighty Mite Cheerleaders are also preparing for exhibition at the MVC Competition; highlighted this week are Samantha Christilles, Tara Dunn, Nicole Jones, Alyssa Kelly, Emma Slotterback, Tatian Lea Smith and Brittany Titus.

Junior PeeWee provided the home crowd with an exciting game against Maplewood winning 26-12. Brandon Downes had two touchdowns while playing excellent offense. Nick Heilmann had a touchdown and was busting up plays in the backfield while on defense. Mike Wagner had a 60 yard return from the kickoff resulting in a touchdown and also the extra point. Randy Jakubik was responsible for an extra point and an interception. Jarell Watkins had many tackles in the backfield and continued throughout the game busting up plays for Maplewood. Dylan Papa also made many tackles in the backfield. On defense Mike Molinaro, Mike Tangorra and Dylan Dorey kept Maplewood on their toes. On offense providing great blocking Shawn Gorman, David Smith and Charles Gruver.

The Junior PeeWee Cheerleaders are also preparing for exhibition. Highlighted this week are Kendall Christ, Jessica Dicinsio, Kansas Harmon, Maggie Jainarine, Natalie Madurski and Kimberly Petronko.

The Junior Midgets had an exciting game - a nail biter until the end. The Jr. Midgets held Maplewood with a 13-6 lead. The final score was 14-13, a loss for South Plainfield.

Michael Burton had a touchdown and Matt Kopchak in his new role as running back had the second. Seth Yocum stepped up as center to quarterback Tim Gaughan.

Providing great offense were Vikash Budhar, Brian Babinetz and Tareek Watkins; on defense were John Wylam, Jimmy Gorman and Andrei Williams were standouts.

The Junior Midget Cheerleaders are the only squad in South Plainfield that will compete in our conference competition. We would like to wish the girls the best of luck in next week's competition; we know how hard you have worked and you are all winners in South Plainfield!

The Junior Midget Cheerleaders are Rachel Alexa, Lauren Annetta, Laurie Ascencio, Samantha Barthel, Chelsey Colucci, Dina Douras, Amanda Fritze, Elizabeth Gratta, Paige Herriott, Caitlyn Hogan, Samantha Hogan, Tori Huber, Brigitte Kelly, Megan Makowski, Nicole Molinaro, Kimberly Pham, Amanda Plum, Cassi Prender-

gast, Deanna Ranger, Kimberly Relyea, Jessica Rosocha, Julie Rosocha, Jessica Scarpitto, Alyssa Scudato, Stephanie Sherwood, Nicole Slaky, Amanda Steger, Jennifer Urruria, Caitlyn Whalen and Danielle Yulick. Good luck girls!

On Saturday, Sept. 27 South Plainfield Eagles & Mountain Valley Conference held the NFL Pepsi Punt, Pass & Kick Competition. We had a total of 28 boys and one girl competing.

SOUTH PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL From Sharon Miller

Field Hockey Corner Weekly Wrap-Up

The team is having a very successful season as they go 11-1-2 after defeating Sayreville (2-0), South Brunswick (5-0) and Old Bridge (4-0). They tied ALJ Regional, Clark (2-2) for their first tie of the season.

Congratulations to the team as they advance to take the number one spot in Middlesex County and in the 10th spot in Group Three.

Week of October 19

It's hard to believe, but this is the last week of regular season games before the start of the GMC's and the States.

10/20 Monday - East Brunswick home at 3:45 p.m. This is the must-see game of the week.

10/22 Wednesday - Metuchen home at 3:45 p.m.

Special Events: GMCs take place on 10/28 and 10/30. South Plainfield will once again host the GMC Championship game on 11/01 at 2 p.m. at the Carol Espinosa Field. Come out and support a wonderful team of players. Go Tigers!



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Obituaries

James J. Nolan, 40

James J. Nolan died on Wednesday, Oct. 8 at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center in Plainfield, after suffering a heart attack.

Born in Elizabeth, Jim grew up in Old Bridge, where he graduated from the Madison Twp. High School in 1981. He later lived in Piscataway and for the past 10 years has resided in South Plainfield.

Five years ago, Jim graduated on the Dean's List from the DeVry Institute, where he earned his Associate Degree in Computer Technology. For the past four years, he was employed by the Steris Corporation as a Specialized Lead Technician for the New York City Hospital System, working at various hospitals in NYC.

Jimmy was a member of the BPO Elks Lodge 2298 in South Plainfield and the American Legion Post 261 in Piscataway. He was a former EMT and member of the New Market Vol. Fire Co. in Piscataway, where he was also a member of the New Market Exempt Firemen's Assoc. and the NJ State Exempt Firemen's Assoc. He was a member of Sacred Heart Parish in South Plainfield.

A musician at heart, Jimmy loved to play the keyboards and during the 1980's and 1990's, he had been a DJ in the Piscataway area.

Jim's beloved daughters, Devynn and Gina, will miss him tremendously. They vividly remember joking around with him and watching cartoons on their Friday pizza nights together. They love their daddy very much and will miss the silly voices he made. Jim's girls were his pride and joy.

He is survived by his wife, Vera Nolan; two daughters, Devynn Nicole and Giovanna Marie Nolan, both at home; his parents, James T. and Joanne (Sirois) Nolan of Old Bridge; a sister, Mary Beth Edwards of Alpharetta, Ga. and a brother, Patrick E. Nolan of Allentown.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial donations to the Jim Nolan Children's College Fund, c/o McCriskin Home For Funerals, 2425 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080, would be greatly appreciated.



James Nolan

Emma C. Bayer, 89

Emma C. Bayer died on Thursday, Oct. 9 at her home.

Born in Bronx, NY, she resided in Dunellen and the Arbor section of New Market before moving to South Plainfield 57 years ago.

Emma was the owner of Mom's Market on Durham Ave. in South Plainfield for the past 25 years. Emma's produce stand was small in size, but was extremely important to her and her family. She has made endless friendships as a result of all her efforts and time spent at her stand.

Emma was a member of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church in South Plainfield.

Family was her life devotion and she will be sadly missed by her husband, Richard L. Bayer; two daughters and sons-in-law, Cathy and Joe Cribb of South Plainfield and Dorothy and Al Traxler of Allentown, Pa.; a son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Patricia Bayer of South Plainfield; ten grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Antonio Spallieri, 66

Antonio Spallieri died on Tuesday, Oct. 7 at his home in South Plainfield.

Born and raised in Maddaloni, Italy, Antonio sold and delivered food and vegetables for many years before moving to the United States in 1968. From Italy, Antonio and his family moved to Plainfield, where they had resided for 20 years before moving to South Plainfield in 1985.

An avid gardener, Antonio had been employed for Roma Foods, previously of South Plainfield and currently of Piscataway, for eight years. He was a hard worker and dedicated to his family, which he loved.

Surviving are his wife of 44 years, Italia (nee Palmiero); a daughter, Julia Spallieri of South Plainfield; a son and daughter-in-law, John and Vincenza of South Plainfield; a sister, Mariagrazia Muno and two brothers, Angelo and Mario, all of Italy. Also surviving are three grandchildren, Antonio, Rosa and Italia.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Adam J. Haggerty, 89

Adam J. Haggerty died on Tuesday, Oct. 7 at his home in South Plainfield.

A resident of South Plainfield for over 50 years, Adam was born in 1914 and raised in East Mauch Chunk, Pa. He attended and graduated from East Mauch Chunk Catholic High School in 1932. Upon his graduation from high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served with distinction as a Master Sergeant in France during WWII. He was employed as a freight claims agent for the Central Railroad of New Jersey and Conrail for 42 years, retiring in 1981.

Adam was a former communicant of Sacred Heart Church in South Plainfield, a former member of VFW Post 6763, also in South Plainfield and a former member with the Transportation Communications Union.

He is predeceased by two sisters, Ellen and Margaret and three brothers, Thomas, Joseph and Leo.

Surviving are his beloved wife, Helen (nee Moran) Haggerty; two daughters and their husbands, Maureen and Richard Dailey of Bridgewater and Kathleen and Larry Kelly of Plymouth, Mass.; a son and his wife, Michael and Janna of North Plainfield; a brother and his wife, Gerald and Margie of Jim Thorpe, Pa. and four grandchildren, Kevin, Kathleen, Mark and Erin.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Haven Hospice JFK Medical Center, 65 James St., Edison, NJ 08818.

Anita Marie (Porcello) Metrokotsas

Anita Marie (Porcello) Metrokotsas died on Wednesday, Oct. 8 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick.

Born in Plainfield, Mrs. Metrokotsas was a lifelong resident of South Plainfield.

She was a 1941 graduate of Plainfield High School.

Mrs. Metrokotsas was employed by the Piscataway Board of Education as a secretary in the high school for five years, then later transferred to the Administration Office, where she became

secretary for Tony Orcini and Dr. Dorothy Lief for 10 years before her retirement in 1977.

She is a former communicant of Sacred Heart RC Church in South Plainfield.

She is survived by two daughters, Melissa Weber-Johnson of Pa. and Debra Stasik of Edison; five sons, Nick of Bridgewater, Mark of Kansas, Anthony of Edison, Eric of Piscataway and Michael Metrokotsas of Piscataway; two sisters, Dorothy Marcus of Plainfield and Marjorie Murray of Glen Gardner and her fifteen grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Michalina Dabrowski, 73

Michalina Dabrowski died on Tuesday, Oct. 7 at her home.

Born in Karwowo, Poland, she came to the United States in 1964 and lived in Arbor and in Plainfield before moving to South Plainfield, where she has lived since 1965.

Michalina had worked as an assembler for the Modulium Co. in South Plainfield for over 15 years before retiring over ten years ago.

Her husband, Tadeusz Dabrowski, died in 1970. She was also predeceased by all of her brothers and sisters.

Surviving are her daughter and son-in-law, Barbara and Paul Cybulski; two sons, Tadeusz Dabrowski and Kazimierz (Kaz) Dabrowski, all of South Plainfield and four grandchildren, Ashley and Matt Cybulski and Tara and Bonnie Dabrowski.

A blessing was given for her at the McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Robert T. Bukovec, 47

Robert T. Bukovec died suddenly on Thursday, Oct. 9, at Hackensack University Hospital in Hackensack after suffering an apparent heart attack.

Born in South Amboy, he grew up in Sayreville and had graduated from St. Mary's Grammar School and was a 1974 graduate of St. Mary's High School in South Amboy. He lived in Plainfield for 10 years before moving to South Plainfield 18 years ago.

He had attended Wagner College in Staten Island and earned an Associate Degree in Chemistry from Middlesex County College in 1977.

Robert had been self employed, working as a computer consultant for the past four years at the J.P. Morgan & Chase in Carlstadt. Prior to that, he had worked as a computer technician for over five years with the Lisc Co. of Rutherford.

He was a member of the New Life Gospel Church in Piscataway.

Surviving are his wife, Rose (Diana) Bukovec; a daughter and her companion, Debra Guarraci and John Sickle of South Plainfield; a son, Nicholas D.A. Bukovec at home; a sister, Mary Bukovec-Pritting of South Amboy; three brothers, Peter of Mystic Island, Steven of Sayreville and John of Oakland and his two grandchildren, Michael and Ashley Guarraci.

Funeral services were held in McCriskin Home For Funerals.

Memorial donations may be made to the Nicholas Bukovec School Fund, c/o Mary Pritting, 52 Pupek Rd., South Amboy, NJ 08879.

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policereport

- On Oct. 10 a Brennan Ct. resident reported that someone had kicked their apartment door. This is the second time in a week.
- On Oct. 11 an Edison resident reported being assaulted by another shopper at the A&P on Oak Tree Ave.
- On Oct. 12 a New Providence resident reported being assaulted by four black males outside of Liquid Assets on New Market Ave.
- A Crescent Parkway resident reported that the passenger side tires on her vehicle had been slashed.
- A Hopkinson St. resident reported that license plates were missing from the bed of his pickup truck.
- A Garfield Ave. resident reported that something had been thrown at his garage door causing damage.
- A Lakeview Ave. resident reported that he had been jumped by three black males in the parking lot between Dunkin Donuts and White Star Diner on Maple Ave. He sustained a two inch gash on his head and minor scratches.

Town History Day This Sunday

(Continued from page 1)

Varied photographic displays will take visitors on a journey through South Plainfield history. Through a generous donation by the South Plainfield Elks Lodge #2298, a picture gallery of Hadley Field planes, pilots and airport hangers recapturing its glory days before it became Middlesex Mall will be featured. A rare photo, taken on July 1, 1925, records some of the crowd of 15,000 who witnessed the first night airmail flight in aviation history, will be on display.

Photographs of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, which had a tremendous impact on the development of South Plainfield and rare photographs from glass negatives dating from 1895 depicting what was once called the world's largest coal storage facility on Metuchen Rd. will be on display. Lehigh Valley Railroad memorabilia is on loan courtesy of local resident Robert Bengivenga.

In addition to many historical photos, "Your Loving Son, Jack"—a binder of letters written by John (Jack) Ball to his mother who lived on the family farm on Metuchen Rd. while he was stationed in Bordeaux, France with the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe in 1918-1919. An authentic

WWI uniform, truck and other military equipment of the time period are on loan from Maryann Veit.

A gallery of photographs, "Houses by J. Lloyd Grimstead," is on loan from the Miele family. Grimstead, a local photographer, recorded many structures in the 1920s and 30s from the impressive I. Boice house on Montrose to the dry rotted and dilapidated homesteads of many early settlers. "Cedarcroft Estate," a recent donation of photographs and architectural renderings from David M. Mashas, will spotlight another spectacular local residence that has succumbed to development.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- 1:00 Proclamation of Town History Day: Mayor Dan Gallagher
Entertainment: Master of Ceremonies, Tulio Capparelli
1:45 "A Walk through Old Samptown"—Antique Fashion Show w/Alice DiNizo, announcer
2:30 "History of South Plainfield" with Dr. Richard Veit
3:15 "25th Anniversary (1951) Movie", Ken Morgan, projectionist
4:00 "Down Memory Lane" slide show of houses: Dr. Richard Veit
4:15 Entertainment

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

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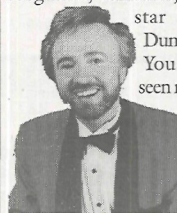
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"Wonderful World of Christmas" at Sacred Heart

The Sacred Heart Rosary Altar Society will be presenting Cahal Dunne's "Wonderful World of Christmas" show at Sacred Heart Church. Cahal Dunne is a singer, songwriter, comedian, pianist and



star of Cahal Dunne's "Thank You America" seen nationally on PBS! The show will take place on Sunday, Dec. 7 at 3 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church. Admission is \$20 and \$15 for seniors and students. For ticket information, please call (908) 756-0632, ext. 10, (908) 755-6416, or (732) 549-9633.

Cahal Dunne possesses that certain quality that entertainers rarely have. He transcends talent and training and has something that comes deep within a great entertainer and washes over an audience, captivating them.

Dunne's first album in America was in 1982, followed by a nationwide tour. He then became a permanent resident of the U.S. and wrote many songs including "Life The First Time," "Peace In My Land," "Take My Hand," "The Journey" and "Angel for Sarah." He performs year round along the East Coast and the Mid-Western states.

As a composer, pianist, comedian and story-teller, he combines his talents to bring an atmosphere of audience participation and laughter. He can sing an Irish ballad, go to a Billy Joel song and then to a Mozart concerto. He resides in Pittsburgh with his wife Kathleen and son Ryan.

LEGAL NOTICE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Frank and Ruth Ferraro requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit front porch to be renovated which lacks the required 30' front setback, 21.92' being proposed and exceeds lot coverage by 32 sq. ft. or 3; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 224 Warren St. Block 108, Lot 7 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 30, 2003 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, at 8:00 p.m.

The maps and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Building Inspector's Office, South Plainfield Borough Hall, Monday through Thursday, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

\$35.00

October 17, 2003



Senator Barbara Buono and Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan help raise the Italian flag at Columbus Day ceremonies held at Borough Hall on Monday. The SPHS Marching Band also performed.

NOTES FROM The Senior Center

The South Plainfield Senior Center announced the following calendar of events for the remainder of 2003:

- Saturday, Oct. 25-*Caddy Awards Dinner* at Senior Center

- Thursday, Oct. 30-*Fall concert* and lunch, Noon at So. Plainfield High School

- Saturday, Nov. 1-*Halloween Dance*, 7-11 p.m. at Senior Center

- Thursday, Nov. 6-*Miss Saigon* trip to NJ PAC

- Sunday, Nov. 9-*Cultural Arts Tea* at Senior Center

- Monday, Nov. 10-*Flu Shots*, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Senior Center

- Thursday, Nov. 20-*Thanksgiving Luncheon*, Noon at Senior Center

- Thursday, Dec. 11-*A Christmas Carol* at Madison Square Garden

- Saturday, Dec. 13-*Christmas Luncheon and Sing Along*, 11:30 a.m. at Senior Center

- Monday, Dec. 15-*Christmas Show* at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse

- Wednesday, Dec. 31-*New Year's Eve Dinner Party*, 6 p.m., Senior Center

Seniors Wanted

Do you have a talent you would like to share with our middle school students? A new after-school program is being developed by the middle school and we are looking for senior citizen volunteers to teach their special talents to our youth. What skills are we looking for, you ask? We are totally open

to suggestions. Crocheting, knitting, needlepoint, cooking, painting, creative writing, travel topics, gardening, etc. are just some examples.

If you're interested in volunteering your time and talent to our middle school students, please call Joann Graf at the Senior Center, (908) 754-1047.

Fall Concert Planned

The Annual Senior Center Fall Luncheon and Concert will be held on Thursday, Oct. 30 at SPHS at 12:15 p.m. with performances by the Band, Choir and Orchestra in the auditorium. Lunch to follow in the cafeteria. The event is planned by the student organization and Family, Career Community Leaders of America (FCCCLA).

Any senior wishing to attend may make a reservation with Joann Graf at the South Plainfield Office on Aging, (908) 754-1047. The cut off date for reservations is Friday, Oct. 24.

From the South Plainfield Library Bookmarks

By Linda Hansen

Summer Reading may be over, but there are still plenty of activities going on at the South Plainfield Public Library! (A reminder to all those who participated in the Summer Reading Club - certificates may be picked up at the library at any time!)

Our Storytime schedule remains the same. The program consists of stories and crafts and is intended for children ages three and up. Programs are held on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday afternoons at 1:15 p.m. We explore a different theme each week and children make a small craft at each session. No registration is required, so stop by and join in the fun!

Books-n-Babies is our newest program designed for our youngest patrons and their caregivers. Join us each Friday to sing songs, listen to books and make new friends! This program is for children up to three years old (Older siblings are always welcome!). No registration is required.

We also have some special Halloween programs scheduled for this month. Kidcraft will be held this afternoon at 4:30 p.m. We will be making a cute and creepy Halloween craft. This program is for children ages six and up.

On Saturday Oct. 18, the library will be hosting its annual Pumpkin Painting program. There is a fee of \$1 to cover the costs of materials. Space is limited and registration is required! This program is presented in conjunction with the Friends of the South Plainfield Public Library.

On Wednesday Oct. 29, Joe Fischer will be here to entertain and amaze us

with a Halloween Magic show. The program will begin at 6:30 p.m. Costumes are encouraged, but not required!

On Sunday Oct. 19 at 2 p.m. the library will host a seminar "Cornerstones of Investing," presented by Bridget Lupia. This program is free and registration is not required.

The Friends of the Library will be hosting a "Mad Hatter's Tea Party" on Sunday Oct. 26 at 2 p.m. The program will be presented by local food historian and tea expert Judith Krall Russo. She will discuss the history of tea parties and guests will sample different kinds of teas. It is requested that everyone wear a hat and prizes will be awarded for the prettiest, most unusual and the funniest. Registration is required for this program. If you are interested in attending, please call the library at (908) 754-7885 and reserve your space today!

The Friends are also still selling raffle tickets for the quilts that are on display in the library's main room. Tickets are \$1 and may be purchased at the library. The drawing will be held on Oct. 26, so stop by and get your ticket today!

The Friends of the Library provide funding for many children's programs, as well as supplies and materials. They also volunteer in and around the library, as well as act as library advocates. They meet the first Tuesday of every month at 11:30 a.m. If you are interested in becoming a member and helping to make the library a better place, please visit our website at <http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us/friend.htm> or stop by and pick up information on joining the FOL!

Elks Selling Entertainment Books

The South Plainfield Elks Veterans Committee is selling the 2004 Entertainment Book for \$30 each. For more information, please call Lou Peralta at (908) 756-6406.



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